

# **The Mighty Dragons Are Dead #Chapter 271: 0271: Dulu Miqita's Pursuit (Third Update, 2200 Monthly Votes Additional) - Read The Mighty Dragons Are Dead Chapter 271: 0271: Dulu Miqita's Pursuit (Third Update, 2200 Monthly Votes Additional)**

Chapter 271: Dulu Miqita's Pursuit (Third Update, 2200 Monthly Votes Additional)  
Another round of grandiose sweet nothings.

The shivering siren finally relaxed again, but she still hesitated for a good while, not until almost dawn did she make a sound.

If it wasn't for Liszt constantly observing her with the Eye of Magic, he might not have known she had spoken.

"You... hello..."

The voice was extremely soft.

But it was very pleasant and lively, as if just listening to this voice could dispel all troubles and leave only a good mood. Liszt felt this way too, instantly cheered up: "Hello, my name is Liszt Tulip, what's yours?"

It took a while for the siren to speak again: "Tanaxistie Ulapapni Selaino Liukateya Forekus Buniseis... Cassandra Akerloydes."

"Pfft!"

Liszt almost couldn't hold back, the siren's name was a good hundred letters long, and particularly tricky to pronounce. It made his head spin, and he didn't remember a thing.

He only remembered the last name, which seemed to be Akerloydes.

"Um, I'll just call you Ake, if that's okay. You are a siren, aren't you, Ake?" Liszt chose to forget that long string of names and asked gently.

"Ake..." The siren had stopped trembling inside the shell, but she was still curled up in a ball, her voice still as fine as a mosquito's, "Human, Ake is... a sea sprite... who sings."

A sea sprite?

Liszt raised an eyebrow, if he wasn't mistaken, sea sprites and sirens referred to the same species in some knight novels. However, those called sea sprites were generally

evil creatures, while those referred to as sirens were generally benevolent. But this siren in front of him didn't seem evil.

Probably siren was just a misnomer for sea sprite amongst humans.

Regardless, he had gained the initial trust of the sea sprite Ake, so he continued the conversation: "Ake, may I know why you have ended up here? Your song sounded very sorrowful, what happened to you? You can tell me. I'm a powerful warrior, and I can help you."

Ake was in the shell.

Looking up, as if sizing up Liszt, after a long wait, she said, "Ake was... chased by... Dulu Miqita... It wants to... eat... Ake, Ake is scared... scared to go back to the sea." Her voice was very pleasant, but her Serpent Script was somewhat nonstandard and faltering.

"What is Dulu Miqita?"

"Dulu Miqita... big sea monster... six-headed sea serpent, it eats sea sprites... Ake is scared of it."

A six-headed sea serpent?

That sounded quite terrifying. Liszt thought that the strongest fighter he had by his side was Paris, followed by Douson. Paris was still in Fresh Flower Town, and Douson was left at the harbor town; he had no one to fight by his side. Moreover, facing a sea monster at sea was not a wise choice.

So after a moment's thought, inspiration struck him, and he immediately said: "Ake, stay here. What will you do if Dulu Miqita finds you?"

"Ah..." Ake curled up all at once, "Ake is scared... Dulu Miqita wants to eat Ake... Ake hides... Dulu Miqita will find Ake..."

"Yes, Dulu Miqita could find you at any time. Sea monsters are very dangerous in the ocean."

Hearing him mention Dulu Miqita repeatedly and bringing up the possibility of it finding her, the sea sprite grew even more scared, shaking with fear, almost to the point of crying: "Ake... scared..."

Feeling the time was ripe.

Liszt said loudly: "Don't be afraid, I, Liszt Tulip, the Landlord of Fresh Flower Town and Black Horse Island, will not allow any sea monster to harm a sea sprite here. To ensure your safety, Ake, I'll take you to my territory to find you a suitable refuge."

"Ake... scared..." The sea sprite still did not have complete trust in Liszt.

Undaunted, Liszt continued: "Ake, do you know about the glory of a knight?"

"The glory of a knight, Ake knows, the honor of man... is like... the spirit of the sea... The sea serpents are children sheltered by the spirit of the sea," she said.

What the spirit of the sea was, Liszt did not know, but since the other party understood the glory of a knight, this would be easy to trick, no, to communicate with.

"I, Liszt Tulip, swear by the knight's honor, I will protect Sea Sprite Ake from the harm of the sea monster Dulu Miqita!"

Without any hesitation, the vow was made.

Liszt never intended to harm the sea serpent; it was a precious gift awarded to him for completing the Smoke Mission, and he was more than ready to cherish it. How could he allow her to be injured, "Ake, I'll take you to refuge first. One day, I will slay Dulu Miqita, so you can safely return to the sea, okay?"

In this world, humans always talk about the glory of a knight, as if it's an inviolable honor.

But there are no shortage of knights that boast about honor and perform sordid deeds in secret.

However, for Sea Sprite Ake, this conduct was full of justice and sincerity, and unnoticed, she slightly opened a crack in the shell. Crouching inside, she twisted her body and stealthily peered out through the gap.

Liszt was half-kneeling on a rock in the water.

His clothes were wet from seawater, and his light golden hair bathed in the first glimmer of dawn, with a faint smile on his face that could melt all ice.

His sapphire-colored eyes, as if they contained countless rotating stars, could captivate any woman's heart.

Ake observed for a long time, quietly closed the shell, and spoke, "Human, Ake thanks you."

"Call me Liszt."

“...Liszt.”

“So, Ake, can you swim to the ship yourself, or shall I call my subordinates to help you aboard?”

“Ake can swim,” said Ake. The giant white scallop floated up from the water, slowly surfacing like a small boat.

Faint magic power could be seen swirling around the scallop, driving the currents.

Liszt held back his pride and stood up, saying, “Ake, I’ll lead the way, follow me onto the ship. I will take you to Fresh Flower Town, which is very safe.”

The sea serpent gave no response.

But the scallop slowly followed behind him.

Kostor and the others, who stood a hundred meters back, watched with wide-open mouths as Liszt brought back the enormous shell, but didn’t dare to speak.

When Liszt drew closer, he simply said, “Row the boat, slowly.” He boarded the wooden boat, looked back, and saw that the scallop seemed hesitant, not daring to come closer.

He reassured her gently, “Ake, come here.”

Only then did the scallop slowly approach and stayed beside the wooden boat, this sea serpent was indeed very timid. Liszt did not tell the sailors what “Ake” was, he merely urged them to row, and soon they had brought the scallop alongside the Fresh Flower Vessel.

Touching the smooth surface of the shell, he said, “Ake, I will get you onto the Fresh Flower Vessel. It’s very safe on the ship, don’t be afraid.”

There was no response from inside the shell, but it did not leave either, which was as good as consent; it seemed the sea serpent was reluctant to speak in front of other humans.

Only then did Liszt relax.

He directed the sailors to cast the cargo net, allowing the scallop to swim into it, and they pulled hard to lift the scallop aboard. One could see the sea serpent inside the shell, curling up immediately after leaving the water surface and shivering with fear at the sight of these strangers.

He had not planned to let anyone know what was inside the shell.

Liszt instructed the sailors in their tasks; once the shell was hoisted aboard, he ordered directly, "Take the shell to my room, and let's set sail."

Chapter 272: Merging with Seawater (Fourth Update, 2400 Monthly Votes Plus)  
Liszt stroked his chin.

He was considering how to conceal the existence of Sea Sprite Ake. Sea sprites were different from magical beasts and sea monsters; they were miraculous creatures that, if discovered, would undoubtedly become targets of a scramble.

Their charm may not match that of dragons, but it wasn't far off.

Dragons were real creatures, whereas sea sprites were beings of legend, imbued with various malevolent or benevolent fantasies. One should not underestimate the nobles' curiosity, nor the magicians who sought truth.

"So, I must disguise Ake's identity, flawlessly. Fortunately, Ake hides in the shell and hasn't spoken; no one knows of her existence. I can announce that I found a shell-like sea monster, which should keep people from paying any attention to Ake."

Sea monsters and magical beasts were similar, the difference being that magical beasts lived on land while sea monsters lived in water.

Like the pearl oysters bred by the Sapphire Family in Tranquil Lake, which were a type of sea monster, it wouldn't be surprising for Liszt to catch a shell-like sea monster.

Having clarified this, Liszt felt at ease.

He glanced into the shell again; Sea Sprite Ake had stopped shivering, but was still curled up, never relaxing her vigilance.

"Ake."

Liszt tapped the shell, a giant clam with a three-meter diameter that took up most of the room on the Fresh Flower Vessel.

"...Liszt."

"Can you live without the sea?"

"Ake... there is seawater in the shell."

“You speak Serpent Script. Where did you learn it? Have you ever been to places where humans live?” Liszt was curious, and he also saw conversation as a way to open up Sea Sprite Ake’s heart.

So far, he still didn’t know what Sea Sprite Ake looked like. From the vision of the Eye of Magic, it seemed she had a form not unlike a human’s but with additional fins and wings. She might be a bit shorter than an average woman of one meter sixty, roughly the height of a one meter fifty-five woman.

But her figure was shapely.

According to the golden ratio, with a slender waist, full breasts, prominent buttocks, and long limbs.

He remembered in knight novels, some authors described sea sprites as having the beautiful upper body of a woman and the hideous lower body of a giant sea serpent, others wrote that sea sprites had blue-colored skin, and there were knight novels depicting sea sprites with scale-covered green skin.

Liszt was very curious.

But he wouldn’t ask so directly for a look; after all, he already had the sea sprite in hand and could look whenever he wanted in the future.

“Ake likes... listening to the talking on passing ships... on the sea. Ake knows a lot... about the Sapphire Kingdom... there’s a very, very big... Sapphire Dragon.” Ake’s tone was filled with joy when she spoke of the Sapphire Dragon; clearly, even sea sprites couldn’t resist the charm of dragons.

“Yes, the Sapphire Dragon is the symbol of the Duchy of Sapphire. My father has seen the Sapphire Dragon with his own eyes; it is a magnificent dragon the color of sapphires, as flawless as a crystalline blue gemstone. Just one distant glance was enough for him to feel the incredible power of the Sapphire Dragon.”

“Ake likes... dragons, dragons are the most beautiful...”

Upon hearing this,

Liszt smoothly transitioned to talking about dragons. He knew of many, Elemental Dragons, Gemstone Dragons, Metal Dragons, and even Sacred Dragons. He spoke so engagingly that Sea Sprite Ake, completely forgetting her fear, could not help but sneak a peek outside through her shell’s crevice multiple times, glancing at Liszt before closing the shell again.

When the dragon topic was nearly exhausted, Liszt added, “By the way, Ake, I’ve heard many sailors say that sea sprites’ singing can guide those ships lost at sea. Is it true?”

“Mm... Ake has guided some... by singing, singing human songs... hehe.” Ake appeared to recall something and even laughed.

This was a very good sign.

Proof that Sea Sprite Ake was gradually opening up.

“Sea sprites are indeed kind creatures, just like Ake’s singing that brings joy to the heart... Ake, are you hungry now, would you like something to eat?”

“Ake is a little hungry.”

“What do you like to eat?”

“Ake likes... fruit from the trees by the sea... falling into the sea... Ake loves picking them up to eat.”

Liszt had plenty of fruit, his Gemstone Space was stored with fruits, where everything was static, and there was no worry about food spoiling. That’s why he would stock up on a lot of supplies, to prevent the inconvenience of not finding good food when outside.

Right away, he took out apples, raspberries, grapes, peanuts, oranges, and other fruits from the Gemstone Space: “Ake, I have a lot of fruit here for you to eat.”

By this time, it was already daybreak, and the rising sun slowly brightened the cabin.

With an expectant heart, Liszt saw Ake hesitate for a moment then opened the shell. No longer just cracking a crevice, but slowly opening up completely, the light shining in, revealing Sea Sprite Ake’s appearance fully before Liszt’s eyes.

What a beauty it was!

First to catch his eye was the white skin tinged with a delicate pink, smooth as if that of a newborn, as pure as the ocean, and as flawless as a fragile gemstone. It was mermaid skin with human traits, but its delicateness and whiteness far surpassed that of humans.

Just seeing this fair skin, Liszt couldn’t help but want to bite into it, to taste the flavor.

Then, his gaze was attracted to her exquisite face.

Dainty features, full of exotic charm, accompanied by waist-length sapphire blue hair and a pair of sapphire blue eyes. Such beauty was beyond the reach of humans, and Liszt could only crudely rate her an eleven out of ten.

The most peculiar was her ears, not shaped like human ears, but from the root of the ear gradually turning from flesh-colored to water-colored, then sprouting spiny fin-like pale blue ears.

These ears were not solid, but actually made of water.

Liszt could clearly see that her sapphire blue hair played over these fin-like ears. Similarly, there was a pair of spiny fin-like wings growing out of her back, probably at the shoulder blade position, small in size, more like fins than wings.

His eyes moved away from the fins, and Liszt noticed her neck, pale and slender.

Then his gaze fell upon her chest.

Round and firm.

The most marvelous thing was she wore no clothes but had ribbon-like water flowing in front of her chest, which was clearly water but didn't look transparent, perfectly concealing her bust.

Below that was a flat belly, with a waist that could be gripped in a handful, and a delicate navel.

From the navel downwards, another ribbon-like water flow concealed, blocking the most mysterious triangle area from Liszt's reveries.

She glanced shyly at Liszt and slowly stood up. In the shell was pale blue seawater, and those water ribbons covering her vital parts extended from the seawater in the shell, wrapping around her body.

Her legs were long and straight, without a single flaw.

The seawater slowly flowed down.

Liszt couldn't help but follow the droplets, from her thighs to her knees, then looked towards her calves. Where there should have been bare feet below the calves, like her ears, the color gradually shifted from flesh to water, blending entirely into the seawater. It looked as if she had no feet, as if grown into the water.

"Irresistibly beautiful!"

Chapter 273: Ach at Forty-One (First Update)

"A sight too beautiful to behold!"



Facing the true form of Sea Sprite Ake, Li Si Te couldn't help but express his amazement.

Of all the magical creatures he had encountered, the ones that had profoundly touched his soul were the Formless Dragon, composed of magic power, and the Tulip Great Sprite Xiang Xiang at Tulip Castle.

In terms of beauty, the Formless Dragon probably didn't count, for it possessed the beauty of strange strength, or perhaps... fierceness.

Only Greater Elf Xiangxiang could compare with the Sea Sprite in beauty. But the Greater Elf did not have a human figure, just a human-like form; its beauty was a pure kind of beauty. The Sea Sprite, almost indistinguishable in appearance from humans, had a beauty that was more breathtaking.

It was the kind of beauty that resonated from the soul, devoid of any eroticism... At least Li Si Te was certain that at this moment he truly had no such thoughts.

He didn't feel any disrespect, nor did he entertain any such ideas.

He even felt that the Sea Sprite's beauty was surreal, or was a kind of beauty that should not be sullied by the mortal world. Any profane thought would be an unforgivable sin.

As they admired each other.

Sea Sprite Ake glanced again at Li Si Te, and he understood her look.

He slowly composed his emotions and showed a warm smile, then pushed the plate of fruits on the table towards the side closer to the seashells, "Eat whatever fruit you like, they are all washed and very clean." Saying so, he himself picked up an apple and took a bite.

Eating alone is not as comfortable as eating together, and Li Si Te's gesture was very considerate.

After seeing Li Si Te bite into the apple, Ake boldly reached out with her slender arm and picked up a raspberry with her long fingers. After another glance at Li Si Te, she placed the raspberry into her dainty mouth and began to eat.

"How does it taste?"

"Mm... delicious."

"If it's delicious then eat more, I have lots of fruits here. In my domain Flower Town, there are many fruit trees; you can eat fruit every day, just so you don't get tired of it."

“No... Ake likes fruits... likes them most.”

As they chatted and ate fruit, the atmosphere gradually relaxed.

The Sea Sprite seemed not to be very old and still possessed a pure innocence. Within a short conversation with Li Si Te, she opened up her heart simply and laughed away her previous tension and fear.

However, as they conversed, Li Si Te discovered a very awkward problem.

Although Ake's key body parts were covered by water currents, she still seemed very exposed, hardly different from being unclothed. He had thought that he wouldn't have any improper thoughts, but when he looked down, he realized that he had unintentionally pitched a tent, which meant that he did, in fact, have some respect.

“Ake, do you need to wear clothes?”

“Humans... wear clothes, Ake does not... Ake is a child protected by the spirit of the sea,” Sea Sprite Ake seriously replied.

Perhaps for Sea Sprites, clothing was merely a human thing, and they had no need for them.

They are the sprites of the sea, much like Minor Elves and Greater Elves; elves also do not need to wear clothes... Of course, elves neither have chests nor figures, nor reproductive organs, so it doesn't matter if they wear clothes or not.

“Uh.”

Li Si Te paused for a moment.

He said nothing more; if she didn't wear clothes, then so be it. He was planning to hide Sea Sprite Ake away from others anyway, so there was no need for her beauty to be concealed by clothes—not that he liked to see her unclothed, but he didn't want to constrain Ake's nature.

After Ake had finished a raspberry, he asked, “Ake, how old are you?”

Ake tilted her head, as if pondering, “I was born... not long ago... I have seen forty-one snowy winters... I should be forty-one years old, yes, Ake is forty-one years old.”

Forty-one years old?

Are you calling that not long after being born?

“So how long do you guys live?” Li Si Te asked, feeling uncomfortable without understanding this, “We humans have a lifespan of less than a hundred years, and I’m only seventeen this year.”

“Seventeen, so young, hee hee.” Ake first “mocked” Li Si Te’s age, then pondered seriously, “I don’t know... I haven’t come of age yet... Sea serpents... can grow legs when they mature.”

“Does that mean you truly don’t have legs right now?”

“Mhm.”

“That’s so magical, I can’t imagine how beautiful you will be when you grow legs.” Words of praise never tire a lady, even if she’s a sea serpent.

Ake was quite pleased.

She had a bit of a small appetite, seemed to really like eating raspberries, but stopped after only a few, “I’m full, Li Si Te.” Then she yawned comfortably.

“Are you tired?”

“A little.”

“Then you sleep for a bit. This vessel will dock at Black Horse Port to resupply, then head straight back to Fresh Flower Town. You can settle down in Fresh Flower Town for a long time, the town has a very beautiful beach, and calm bays.”

Li Si Te had many questions he wanted to ask.

But he didn’t think bombarding her with all of them at once was a good way to communicate.

Now that they had found the sea serpent Ake, there was no need to rush. Building a relationship takes time—it was different from the fiery passion he had with Duniko, and not the kind aimed at building the bonds of trust—Li Si Te hoped to keep the sea serpent Ake by his side forever.

“Mhm, Ake... sleep for a bit.” Saying this, the sea serpent Ake sat down, her body soaking in the seawater inside the shell.

This seawater was not ordinary seawater. In the vision of Li Si Te’s Eye of Magic, it emitted a faint Magic Radiance. It could be said that the entire seawater and shell were part of the sea serpent Ake.

It was similar to how cordyceps are part of an elf.

The shell and seawater were probably like the sea serpent's cordyceps, similar to a personal magical treasure.

"Rest assured and sleep. In my domain, Dulu Miqita cannot harm you." Li Si Te said with a smile, watching the shell slowly close and completely encase the sea serpent Ake inside."

...

The Fresh Flower Vessel docked at Black Horse Port in the morning sunlight.

Li Si Te disembarked and quickly instructed Marcus on some matters before directly sailing back to Fresh Flower Town. He had no desire to linger any longer; he just wanted to return to the castle and settle down the sea serpent Ake.

The ship sailed on the vast sea.

Douson stood guard outside the cabin, while Li Si Te stayed in the room.

Looking at the pristine large shell, he pondered silently, "Where should I place Ake? Judging by Ake's condition, she seems able to stay on land for extended periods, just needing to go into the sea regularly to replenish the shell's seawater."

Li Si Te definitely didn't want to leave the sea serpent in the sea. Not to mention the sea monster Dulu Miqita, whose whereabouts were unknown—if someone were to scare off the sea serpent, he'd be devastated to the point of spitting blood.

But keeping the sea serpent in the castle felt like a form of imprisonment, and he couldn't possibly stay in the castle all the time to accompany her.

"It's a pity I can't take Ake with me..."

Shaking his head, he decided to take off his shoes and lie down on the bed to rest as well. Staying up all night wasn't too exhausting for an Elite Earth Knight, but since there was nothing to do: "When we get to Fresh Flower Town, I'll ask Ake what she thinks before making arrangements."

## Chapter 274: The New Residents of the Castle (Second Update)

Upon waking up, they had already arrived at Fresh Flower Port.

Stirred by the noise of the Fresh Flower Vessel docking, Sea Sprite Ake woke up from her shell, stretched lazily, and then quietly cracked open a slit, "Li Si Te, have we arrived?"

“We have. I will take you to visit my castle first.”

“Castle... The place where landlords live... I’ve heard of it, with many princes and princesses dwelling in the castles, and there’s beautiful... love.”

Hearing that Li Si Te would take her to the castle, Ake felt somewhat uneasy but also filled with excited anticipation, wondering about the stories of castles she had heard in the past. Perhaps they were the beloved fantasies of commoners, filled with the poignant and elegiac, emotive love stories between princes and princesses.

“There are no princes or princesses in my castle, only myself as the landlord, the male and female servants, and many Elf Bugs and the mischievous Thorn Minor Elf Jela.”

“Minor elf... so pretty, I have seen them... a long, long time ago, by the seaside.”

“Which seaside?” Li Si Te’s eyes lit up as he inquired.

“I do not know; it must be far away... I was chased by Dulu Miqita and ended up here... I have forgotten... where that was.”

What a pity.

If Sea Sprite Ake could provide the exact location, Li Si Te would certainly have set sail to try to capture a seaside minor elf – in this world, there are many wild Elf Bugs, but wild minor elves are extremely rare, for evolving from an Elf Bug into a minor elf requires an abundance of pheromones.

With the Elf Bugs alone, it’s hard to gather enough pheromones to overcome other difficulties and evolve.

...

The workers at the dock had already begun unloading the cargo.

Captain Kostor came to ask Li Si Te about how to transport the large shell.

“Let me think for a moment, Captain Kostor, please wait for a while,” Li Si Te said, sending Kostor away before questioning the sea sprite again, “Ake, can you make your shell a bit smaller? It’s too large, there are no suitable carriages to transport it.”

“Ah, Ake cannot... The shell has been this size since Ake was born, it has always protected Ake... from being eaten by sea monsters.”

Ake had the ability to control water currents, allowing her to swim through the sea in her shell. However, once on land, the shell couldn’t move at all.

As for Ake herself, before she grew legs, she couldn't leave her shell.

Because she and the special seawater inside the shell were one and the same, just like an Elf Bug that has yet to mature and fall from cordyceps.

"Then I will command people to dismantle the carriage body and transport the shell. After you have visited my castle, I will find a way to settle you in safely, away from the threat of Dulu Miqita."

From within the opened shell, Sea Sprite Ake revealed a sweet smile, "Hmm... thank you, Li Si Te."

Li Si Te bowed gracefully, "It's my honor to protect the beautiful Ake."

He turned and left.

He immediately ordered his subordinates to dismantle a valuable carriage body, retaining only the carriage frame. This way, the three-meter diameter shell could be placed on the frame and secured with ropes.

Under the curious gaze of officials like Goltai who hurried over, Li Si Te rode Douson, personally escorting the large shell along the gravel road, securely transporting it to the castle.

"Continue with your own work, do not gather here; it's just a large shell picked up from the sea, similar to the previous Tridacna," Li Si Te scolded those officials like Goltai whose curiosity got the better of them.

He had the shell placed in the great hall of the castle.

Now a new problem arose – the three-meter diameter shell was light in weight – the shell, along with the seawater inside and Sea Sprite Ake, were not much heavier than two or three people – but due to its large size, it was very difficult to move into the second floor of the castle.

"Sigh, I neglected many problems earlier, my mind has turned to mush... Accommodating Ake in the castle is quite challenging, my castle is too small."

If it were Tulip Castle, it would be very easy to prepare a special room for the sea sprite on the upper floor.

But the castle in Fresh Flower Town was just a nameless small castle, with only two stories, and the passages and stairways were extremely narrow, so the large shells simply couldn't fit through.

Putting it downstairs and living on the same floor as the servants was even less appealing to Liszt.

It was selfishness that made him lose his reason, wanting to monopolize Ake's beauty, and of course, Ake did indeed need to be kept secret. Once faced with the issue, he regained some semblance of rationality after calming down.

He let Carter take the servants out of the hall first, then he knocked on the shell.

The shell opened, and Ake, filled with curiosity, carefully observed the castle's hall: "Liszt, this is a castle... such a beautiful castle, Ake has arrived at a human castle."

"Actually, the upstairs is even more beautiful, that's where I live. This floor is for the servants. But the stairway is too narrow; I can't get you up there."

"Oh."

Ake looked disappointed.

Liszt's heart softened and suddenly, he had a bright idea, "How about this, I'll build a two-story wooden house outside the castle. You can live in the upper part, and I'll break through the wall between the wooden house and the castle. That way, you can visit the second floor... Yes, let's do that."

As someone who was action-oriented, Liszt didn't hesitate to call Isaiah over and issued his orders.

He pointed to the north side of the castle's Worm Room, "Isaiah, arrange for the workers to build a two-story wooden house at this spot, connected to the castle."

"My lord, are you planning to keep the Shell Sea Monster on top of the wooden house?" Isaiah asked curiously, as it was hard to ignore the immense shell.

"Yes, it's a very interesting shell. I think there might be pearls inside, so let's raise it for now and see."

"Aren't shells supposed to be kept in water?"

"If it stays in water, it might run away. I still need to do some research. We know too little about sea monsters. It's a great opportunity for observation, don't you think?" The advantage of being a noble landlord was that his word was law. Once Liszt made a decision, no matter how peculiar it was, his subordinates would faithfully carry it out.

Isaiah bowed respectfully, "As you wish."

...

During the construction period, the shell parked in the hall never opened. It only opened when Liszt brought fruit for Ake.

Using construction as a reason, the castle stopped hosting banquets.

Liszt still dealt with official duties, practiced Dou Qi, and went out on inspections every day, but he had stopped writing “Dragons Fight in the Wild,” the history book series of his lifetime. This period demanded soothing the Sea Sprite Ake, who was somewhat uneasy about the new environment, to make it feel more at home.

The beauty of the sea sprite was one aspect, but more importantly, with a sea sprite, one would not get lost while sailing the high seas.

Besides, after questioning, he also learned that sea sprites can predict storms, sense sea monsters, and perform some water attribute magic. Therefore, the significance of Sea Sprite Ake was immense, having strategic value.

Three days’ time.

The illegal construction of the Shell Wood Tower—was completed successfully, and the large shell was smoothly hoisted up. The passage that connected to the Worm Room was opened, and Sea Sprite Ake and Minor Elf Jela became neighbors.

“Wu wa!”

Jela was very irritable towards strangers, but towards Sea Sprite Ake, it showed intense curiosity and a cordial affinity.

It circled around the shell.

When the shell opened, it stared curiously at Sea Sprite Ake: “Wu wa, wu wa!”

“Hello, Jela... My name is Ake, I’m a sea sprite.” Ake extended her hand, and Jela, tilting its head and making a few meaningless sounds, landed in her palm.

The sea sprite cradled the elf.

Liszt watched this scene from the side, feeling quite regretful that he didn’t have a camera to capture this beautiful moment.

Chapter 275: Six Heads, Four Types of Magic (Third update, bonus chapter for 2600 monthly tickets)

The sea sprite Ake moved into the castle and, with Thorn Minor Elf Jela’s company, she



found the new environment agreeable. Although she preferred the ocean, it was home to Dulu Miqita, the six-headed sea monster sea serpent.

The castle was safe.

“When I find a way to deal with Dulu Miqita, you’ll be able to return to the ocean,” Liszt comforted her.

Enjoying delicious fruits and the company of minor elves and Elf Bugs, Ake was very happy, “Liszt, thank you... you are a good person.”

He was handed a good-guy card.

Liszt didn’t mind, everything was in order, and he felt at ease and cheerful.

Now, the news of the most noble Landlord of Fresh Flower Town adopting a Shell Sea Monster gradually spread. However, the news did not cause much of a stir, Goltai and others had seen the shell before, as it lay in the castle’s hall for a full three days, a pure white giant clam.

At first glance, it was considered a novelty, but after seeing it frequently, it wasn’t much of a sensation.

After all, everyone in Fresh Flower Town had eaten shellfish seafood; aside from its size, they found nothing special about the Shell Sea Monster that Liszt had come to possess.

Not to mention, they had initially seen that huge Tridacna shell that produced Black Pearls.

As long as Ake did not open the shell, it was impossible for ordinary people to witness the sea sprite’s beauty, nor would they associate the shell with a sea sprite.

“Baron, I think that Shell Wood Tower is truly unsightly, it doesn’t match the castle’s style at all,” said Paris, who occasionally visited the castle and no longer carried a roll bag, to Liszt.

“When the enterprise of Fresh Flower Town is on the right track, I will build a bigger castle; then, we can discuss the aesthetics of the castle,” he replied.

He said so, but he would not build a castle in Fresh Flower Town, at most patching and mending.

The castle of the future would be built on Black Horse Island; he had previously considered placing it on Ice Grass Hill. But now it seemed best to choose a location with

cliffs by the sea, allowing direct access to the ocean, more suitable for the residence of a sea sprite. It wasn't right to keep a sea sprite locked up in a room forever.

But Black Horse Island had no real cliffs, only some rocky coasts.

"Forget it, don't think about it for now, the time for building a new castle is still far off... at least wait until the port town on Black Horse Island develops, then there will be financial support for building my castle."

A castle worthy of a name, the construction cost would definitely be in the thousands of Gold Coins, and it would require a large labor force and a lot of time to complete.

The matter of the castle was far away.

Right now, the pressing issue in front of Liszt was a huge problem that urgently needed resolution—the sea monster Dulu Miqita.

If had come from distant seas chasing after the sea sprite Ake and clearly was now lurking in the waters between Coral Island and Black Horse Island, without assurance that it wouldn't suddenly attack the Fresh Flower Vessel.

Liszt inquired carefully of Ake.

Ake showed another one of her abilities, controlling the seawater inside the shell to create the likeness of Dulu Miqita, forming a six-headed sea serpent made of water.

The realistic form of the six-headed sea serpent had short and stout bodies with six slender heads.

It released four types of magic with its six heads, and through Ake's demonstration with seawater, Liszt had determined they were Water Arrow Barrage, Water Wave Shield, Water Whirlpool, and Strong Water Column. The magic Water Arrow Barrage and Water Wave Shield were also used by the Purple Sand Crocodiles on Coral Island.

There were four magics, each of moderate strength.

"So, Dulu Miqita could generally be classified as an intermediate sea monster," Liszt made the determination with a serious expression.

If an Intermediate Magical Beast like the Purple Sand Crocodile could roam freely on Coral Island, then the intermediate sea monster Dulu Miqita could naturally do the same in the sea.

Not to say that Liszt had no way to deal with it, even his father Li Weiliam would have been unable to handle it as well.

He could only sigh inwardly: “I can’t beat it, even if I lure it into a small river, it would be difficult to deal with an intermediate magical beast that can release four types of magic... I can only hope that it won’t find the sea sprite Ake and will leave this area on its own... I have to tell Captain Kostor to be as careful as possible when sailing.”

At this moment, he sorely wished for the lost Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique of the Magic Goat Family.

But alas, after flipping through the magic book “To Prince Annuette—The Truth of Curtis”, reading all the content carefully, there was no record of the Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique.

“

“I wish we had managed to extract the Dragonbone Stabilizer Technique from Curtis before killing him,”

it’s too late for regrets.

We can only ask Goltai to be extra careful and minimize the number of sea voyages wherever possible.

Regaining his composure, he asked again, “Ake, what magic can you perform?”

“Ake can... control the shape of seawater and the flow of seawater,” she said, capable of only these two magics, which might not even be considered magic. Similar to how an Elf can manipulate plants, this is likely an innate power, “When Ake reaches adulthood... I can gain incredible abilities.”

“What kind of incredible abilities?”

“I don’t know... but every Sea Serpent, upon reaching adulthood... has magical abilities. We are born from the sea... the Spirit of the Sea shelters us as we grow... granting us these abilities.”

“Have you seen any other Sea Serpents?”

“No... but Ake... can sense them... in the vast ocean.”

Sea Serpents are born and raised by the sea, without parents or any social gathering instincts. However, Ake is an underage Sea Serpent, and the information she can get from the sea is limited. All alone, she vaguely lived on the seas, avoiding Sea Monsters, listening to ships, and softly singing.

If not for the destiny laid out by the Smoke Mission, Liszt might have never been able to encounter such a beautiful creature.

One could only imagine the Siren's song like those sailors.

But now, she is living in the Castle, more beautiful and magical than in the legends.

...

The eight little Blizzard Beasts were eagerly drinking milk, growing nicely though it would still be a while before they could open their eyes.

"They consume so much, sir, your share of the milk is about to be depleted by them," Mrs. Morson took great care in making sure the Blizzard Beasts were drinking the milk.

The maid Maisie was diligently cleaning the rooms.

"If there's not enough fresh milk, use the powdered milk we have in storage,"

"We can buy fresh milk from North Valley City, sir. Can we feed the little Blizzard Beasts with it?"

"No, we will only use the milk produced by Fresh Flower Town's cows. Mrs. Morson, you must ensure strict control. I require milk only from Dahua, Dahuang, Dahei, Little Hua, and Little Black, these five cows. Only their milk is qualified to feed the Blizzard Beasts, understand?"

When the Formless Dragon invaded, Fresh Flower Town had eleven cows; two ageing cows were eaten.

Among the remaining cows, Zhuangzhuang is a bull and it is hard to say whether or not he was infected; Naihua, Naihuang, and Naihei are not yet mature, and this year they might just be ready for breeding; Little Hua and Little Black are young dairy cows with modest milk production, but just about meeting the standard for Dragon Breed Milk quality.

The main producers of the bountiful Dragon Breed Milk are the mature cows: Dahua, Dahuang, and Dahei.

"Understood, sir," Mrs. Morson nodded but then voiced her concern, "However, Dahuang, Dahei, and Dahua are in the later stages of pregnancy, and their milk production is starting to decrease."

According to the dairy farmers' predictions, these three cows are expected to give birth around May.

As they need to ensure the health and survival of the calves within their wombs, these cows are secreting less and less milk, with the milk production expected to pick up again once the calves are born.

After giving it some thought, Liszt gritted his teeth and said, “First, use the powdered milk in storage for feeding. If that’s insufficient, my share of milk will be allocated to the Blizzard Beasts — feed them with it until they open their eyes.”

At most, half a month more.

These Blizzard Beasts would open their eyes soon. By then, with a more stable foundation, there would be no need to continue feeding them Dragon Breed Milk. He decided to endure for a while — the appetites of these little Blizzard Beasts are astonishingly huge!

---

In this new week, for those who have monthly tickets or recommendation tickets, please cast them for Old White~

Chapter 276: Can’t Afford the Blizzard Beast (Fourth Update, 90,000 Recommendation Tickets Bonus)

Liszt had calculated his daily consumption and found that just for his personal meals, he would need more than thirty silver coins a day. This did not account for consumables like Dragon Breed Milk and Magic Potions, which were produced within his own domain and, being hard to value, were not included in these calculations.

Various types of white bread were his staple food, milling the flour and baking the bread himself saved him some money, costing only about three silver coins a day for materials.

The consumption of various fruit wines and rice wines could be covered by the Brewing Workshop, but they had not yet reached the capability for beer and liquor. Lacking hops for beer and needing improvement in Fresh Flower Brew techniques—since he didn’t drink much, the cost of these was negligible, about one silver coin a day.

The various barbecued meats and steaks had to be purchased — about five silver coins a day.

The consumption of various eggs, vegetables, and fruits, had basically been self-sufficient within his domain, with the Castle buying them at low prices — about two silver coins a day.

Last but not least, was the daily consumption of Magical Beast Meat, which he had to have with every meal, no matter how little — roughly twenty silver coins a day.

When factoring in the costs of hosting luncheons and dinners for his subordinates and the meals for the servants, the Castle's daily food expenditure was at least forty silver coins.

After tallying the costs, just eating and drinking for a month would amount to twelve Gold Coins. This was roughly equivalent to the annual tax income of Fresh Flower Town before there was a Landlord. It was only Liszt who, with the help of the Smoke Mission and with a bit of knowledge as a transmigrator, dared to live so lavishly.

Still, the sight of the Little Blizzard Beast guzzling milk made him shiver.

During his bloodline evolution, Douson would frequently consume Magical Beast Meat, calculating his meals by the Gold Coin. Even now that he could eat normal meat, his daily consumption of meat, eggs, and milk alone was equivalent to the food consumed by everyone in the Castle.

Raising one Intermediate Magical Beast cost ten Gold Coins a month, a stable expenditure.

But in the future, he would have to support no fewer than nine Intermediate Magical Beasts.

"Judging by the Little Blizzard Beast's appetite for milk, when they grow up, their appetites won't be smaller than Douson's. Can I really sustain them with Fresh Flower Town's output?" the more he thought about it, the more he doubted life, "Should I send a few away... Impossible, even if I have to break the pot and sell the iron, I must raise them!"

An Intermediate Magical Beast, even if someone offered a Dragon Coin for it, he would not sell!

Besides, he didn't need to resort to desperate measures like breaking the pot and selling the iron, as just part of the Mithril, Crystals, and Jade in the Gemstone Space was enough — the Earl would certainly be willing to help liquidate these valuable items.

"Once my Fresh Flower Brew technique is perfected, wealth will flow in continuously. The current difficulties are temporary; once we overcome them, I'll see the light!"

Leaving the kennel, he returned to his study.

Liszt took out the heavy paper and reviewed his schedule, which included an item to invite Elkerson True to make him a new Calming Sea Pearl.

Considering his current financial difficulties and nearly being unable to afford milk, he reluctantly crossed out this plan, not willing to waste any more money. Anyway, he

wouldn't be setting sail any time soon, and the Fresh Flower Vessel already had a Calming Sea Pearl; it wasn't an urgent need.

Just then.

Mr. Elkerson True, who had come to Fresh Flower Town to make Magic Potions, hurried to the Castle: "Baron, the Magic Medicine Thorns you provided have been made into the first batch of Magic Potions, please inspect their effectiveness."

He took a Crystal tube, one by one.

Liszt finally perked up, "Mr. Elkerson has worked hard."

"Winter in Fresh Flower Town, with its beautiful public baths, enjoying hot water soaking every day, is simply more delightful than the nights in Coral City. Working here is a pleasure."

That said, Elkerson still didn't want to move to Fresh Flower Town — the nightlife in Coral City was too tempting for a single Magician to resist.

...

The castle's banquet, since the Shell Wood Tower was completed, had resumed.

Tonight, there was to be a grand banquet.

Liszt's friends, in a group, hastened from Coral City to Fresh Flower Town, ready to join him. Two Earth Knights, Rick Trace and Griffin Haystack, along with Nemo and other Apprentice Knights, all came together. There were a total of seven people who had already agreed to this in Coral City.

Liszt warmly received his friends and handed over their job arrangements to Goltai.

Although they were all friends in the past, once they came to work in Fresh Flower Town, their relationship automatically shifted to a hierarchical one. If they decided to follow Liszt, it was akin to establishing a master-servant relationship.

"Rick and Griffin, I plan to assign to Marcus for leadership; they can serve as reserve members of the Knight Squad. Nemo and the other five will start as assistants to officials; they are still very young and don't have much capability in managing affairs," Goltai reported to Liszt.

"You're the town's counselor, and managing personnel is within your jurisdiction; I won't interfere lightly."

"Thank you for your trust, sir."

Goltai showed a grateful expression, but whether he had any internal complaints was unknown—while Liszt generally didn't like to meddle in mundane affairs, he had, on numerous occasions, arbitrarily interfered in the affairs of Fresh Flower Town. Sometimes, he would just act on a whim, without reason.

It seemed quite “capricious.”

Yet, the earth-shattering changes in Fresh Flower Town, as well as the grand development of Black Horse Island, had already given Liszt enormous prestige.

No official in the town would complain about Liszt's whims—either verbally or in their hearts, he was recognized as the Son of Glory.

Even if he acted absurdly, it would still not shake his reputation.

After all, everyone knew the unlimited future of Fresh Flower Town and Liszt.

The numerous letters of cordiality recently received by Goltai proved this point. After the end of the Pioneer Mandate, many Earth Knights who had retired from the battlefield had contacted Goltai, hinting at their desire to join Fresh Flower Town. Even an Honored Knight whose land management was poor had written a letter to Goltai.

After Goltai took his leave, Isaiah came looking for him: “Sir, I was wondering if you had made other arrangements for your guard, Paris?”

“What's the matter?”

“Old Geronte alone cannot complete the teaching of Serpent Script. Currently, there are a large number of serfs in the territory who speak Wind Language, which is quite inconvenient to manage. With the arrival of the next batch of two thousand five hundred serfs, the problem will become even more severe. Your guard, Paris, can speak both Serpent Script and Wind Language. I have noticed she hasn't been busy lately, and I hope to ask her to serve as a teacher of Serpent Script.”

“Indeed, she's been idle all day; I should find some work for her.” When Liszt didn't go out, Paris didn't need to be a personal guard, essentially a person with nothing to do.

Unlike knights, knights' training, once interrupted or slackened, will quickly deteriorate in strength.

Her power came from the Black Dragon Wraith, and as long as she didn't become too fat to move or forget how to strike, she could always quickly recover her strength.

Calling over Paris, Liszt said directly, “Paris, Fresh Flower Town lacks teachers who can instruct the serfs in Serpent Script, and I hope you can help out.”



I had thought that Paris would take the opportunity to negotiate a price.

To my surprise, she agreed promptly: "I've been itching doing nothing all day; finally, I have something to do!"

---

I'll announce two groups here, those who want to join can add them. One is a QQ group, 736318688, for casual chatting and bragging; the other is a WeChat group, first add WeChat bai123yh, and I'll pull you in, for when you're bored. I'll post some character design images and the like in the groups.

Chapter 277: Getting High on the Scientific Method (First Update)  
Night.

Basking in the warmth of a Fire Dragon Brand Air Conditioner, Liszt took out a Flame Magic Potion and a Thorn Magic Potion from the Gemstone Space.

The Flame Magic Potion was a magic potion made from Flame Mushrooms, and the Thorn Magic Potion was made from Rapid Growth Magic Thorns. To facilitate differentiation, he used simple and clear terms.

First, Liszt consumed the Thorn Magic Potion, waited a moment, and then consumed the Flame Magic Potion.

He then closed his eyes and began to circulate his Dou Qi, mobilizing the strength of his limbs and bones to absorb the magic power of the potions. At the same time, he was constantly reflecting on the different effects brought about by the different consumption methods of the two potions—the difference in physique caused even the same potion to have different effects and consumption methods for different knights.

To find the most suitable method of consumption is to be twice as productive with half the effort.

How to find the best way?

This requires time and continuous experimentation.

Liszt had already consumed three doses of the Thorn Magic Potion and had some preliminary understanding of its effects. He was adjusting the dosage and interval of consumption between it and the Flame Magic Potion to carry out the correct testing of the potions.

After about twenty minutes.

Liszt slowly opened his eyes and sensed the total amount of Dou Qi inside his body, which had quietly climbed another notch, and he revealed a relieved smile. The refreshing feeling of sensing one's strength improve every day is something most people would find hard to experience.

"The cultivation of an Elite Earth Knight is like a 'pharmacology study,' constantly trying out different methods of consuming magic potions to make the body absorb the magic power more easily and to break through the total amount of magic power that cells in various body parts can hold," he thought and had already taken out paper and a pen to start filling in a chart.

This chart recorded different effects resulting from different dosages and intervals of magic potion consumption.

Once he had consumed it multiple times, by turning the data in the chart into a curve graph, it would be very easy to determine the optimal method for consuming magic potions.

This was a scientific approach.

Science is about induction and summarization.

In contrast to the average knight who haphazardly tries out potion consumption methods, taking more some days and less on other days, Liszt's scientific approach was simple, quick, efficient, and accurate: "Even though I don't understand the fundamental principle behind Dou Qi cultivation, as a transmigrator, my knowledge and mastery of cultivation are definitely far beyond that of the natives."

He believed that not even the emperor's son could necessarily find a suitable potion consumption method faster than he could.

"My confidence in advancing to a Sky Knight before the age of twenty-two is solid."

The quill did not stop.

Liszt then took out another piece of thick paper, also with a chart, which was a comparative data chart, comparing the differences between consuming potions in rooms with air-conditioning and those without.

Because of the cold weather in winter, when Liszt consumed the potions, he chose to do so in his study, enjoying the warmth of the Fire Dragon Brand Air Conditioner.

However, on the first day, he noticed some problems—his potency seemed somewhat increased when consuming the potions. At first, he didn't pay much attention to it, as the effect was always good whenever he consumed potions in the study. But when he

visited Tulip Castle and then Long Taro Castle, he clearly felt that consuming potions outside was not as effective as at home.

This comparison made him aware that the environment must have played a role.

He easily thought of the Fire Dragon magic power present in the study.

So he began to record the different effects of consuming potions in environments with Fire Dragon magic power and those without. Over the past few days of observation, he had recorded quite a bit of data, and there were clear differences between consuming potions inside and outside the study.

“With the bonus of Fire Dragon magic power, the effect of my Flame Magic Potion consumption increases by about 6.5% to 9.2%... I have only consumed the Thorn Magic Potion three times so far, so I cannot yet determine the increase, but there should be an effect... I guess the benefit of Fire Dragon magic power is to stimulate my Fire Attribute Dou Qi.”

He could feel that within the radiation range of the Magic Little Fire Dragon, his Dou Qi inside his body seemed more lively.

At the same time.

The size of the Magic Little Fire Dragon also determined the effect of the amplification. Under the premise that it wouldn't burn people to death, Liszt had once made a Magic Little Fire Dragon as big as a water tank, using up an entire Fire Dragon Jar's capacity of magic power. The result was that when he consumed a Flame Magic Potion, the effect was amplified to about 10.4%.

Compared to the palm-sized Magic Little Fire Dragon, which could achieve a 7% amplification, the water tank-sized Magic Little Fire Dragon, with twenty times the magic capacity, only increased the amplification effect by one point forty-eight times, making the improvement not very significant.

Moreover, the water tank-sized Magic Little Fire Dragon could almost cook him alive, making it impossible to concentrate on consuming the potion.

Therefore, after considering everything, he still chose to consume the magic potion in his study room. The temperature was just right, and it wouldn't cause him to be distracted while taking the potion, so he could remain focused and calm from beginning to end.

...

The potion consumption continued, and the records were kept in a chart.

In a flash, two weeks had passed since he returned to Fresh Flower Town on January 9th, and it was now January 24th. The eight Blizzard Beasts had grown robust, grabbing and fighting over milk during feeding times, and their eyelids often twitched, which was a sign they were about to open their eyes. Liszt started to feed them himself and prohibited others from entering the room.

Sea Sprite Ake lived in the castle, playing with Minor Elf Jela and enjoying the fruits, not appearing too gloomy, except for the occasional replenishment of seawater.

That just meant taking her to the seaside and letting her soak in the seawater for two hours.

At that time, there was only Liszt by the seaside, standing on the snowy rocks, watching Ake dive and frolic in the ocean; his mood was as bright as the sun in the sky. Over the past week and more, he had already inquired all information about Sea Nixie Ake.

Sea-bred and sea-nurtured, the sea nymphs, rightfully called the elves of the ocean, have a birth process that is ingeniously similar to that of elves.

One is the essence of plants condensing, and the other is the essence of seawater condensing.

One can manipulate Cordyceps and affect the growth of plants; the other can manipulate their own shells and the seawater within them, as well as control the surrounding seawater.

However, elves need to evolve from Elf Bugs, growing until they reach a Greater Elf with the intelligence of an adult human; sea nymphs start with nearly adult intelligence. The growth of legs below their knees over time signifies maturation, with the appearance of two feet indicating adulthood, although their lifespan is unclear.

Ake is just an underage sea nymph, growing up alone in the ocean, where the “sea would tell” her some information; the rest she learned by listening to human ships.

Forty-one years allowed her to learn Serpent Script.

But she still retained the innocence and pure goodness of elves.

“Ake’s habitat may be between Golden Island and Newland Island; she has seen many ships with flags that appear like wheat sheafs. Those are the flags of the Golden Wheat Sheaf and Golden Grain Families.”

The Golden Wheat Sheaf is a Marquis Family with Golden Island as its territory, while the Golden Grain is an Earl family with Newland Island as its territory.

The two families split a few generations ago, with both having flags featuring a curved wheat sheaf that looks quite similar. Liszt's brother, Levis, seems to have started a relationship with Marquis Roderick's daughter, Loria Gold Wheat Ear... He hadn't gone out of his way to learn about it, and most of the time, he was only concerned with his own matters.

After swimming in the sea for two hours.

Sea Sprite Ake obediently came ashore, although recently there had been no sightings of Intermediate Sea Monster Drumla Miktita, but he couldn't guarantee it had left the area.

"Liszt, I've replenished my seawater; let's hurry back, Jela must be getting impatient," said Ake, now speaking Serpent Script more fluently and showing a livelier personality, with no reservations towards Liszt.

Stretching languidly, her elegant curves and pale skin dazzled Liszt's eyes.

He composed himself, "Let's go, home."

Chapter 278: The Ultimate Fresh Flower Brew in Wine (Second Update)  
The time for the Blizzard Beasts to open their eyes was drawing near.

As if to celebrate the upcoming arrival of the Blizzard Beast Legion, the head of the Brewing Workshop, Frank Dregs, ran all the way to the castle roaring with excitement, to report to Liszt.

"Lord Landlord, we've distilled pure white spirits!"

"Distilled?" Liszt rejoiced inwardly but remained composed on the surface, "How is the quality of the Fresh Flower Brew?"

"Compared to the Juniper Wine you left in the brewing workshop, there might be some differences in taste. The Fresh Flower Brew isn't as strong but is smoother on entry, each has its own merits."

"Softer than Juniper Wine, if it truly meets the standards, I will reward you handsomely."

A group of people quickly made their way to the Brewing Workshop, where Frank had the apprentices bring out the freshly brewed white spirits. Several large barrels full, each containing white spirits more valuable than silver. There was no faking the white spirits inside the barrels; it no longer had that foul or sour smell.

“We adopted pot distillation, and found while the first distillation was strong, the taste wasn’t good; not until we refilled the ingredients and started the second distillation did we produce white spirits with a very pure taste, free of impurities, reaching a quality suitable for sale.”

Liszt tasted the white spirits from the second distillation.

He found that upon entry, it reached the spiciness of white spirits. After tasting for a moment and recalling the taste of Juniper Wine, he instantly felt each had its own merits, unable to say which was better or worse.

“Go call for Goltai.” He turned and commanded Servant Thomas.

Shortly after, Goltai hurried over: “Lord, is the Fresh Flower Brew ready? Oh my, I can hardly wait to taste it!”

Seeing Goltai’s drunken demeanor, Liszt reprimanded him unsatisfiedly: “Aren’t you tasting the Fresh Flower Brew every day?”

The town’s advisor’s greatest passion in life was to drink and boast.

Before the success of the Fresh Flower Brew, the poor quality of the spirit was evident, but still, he would head to the Brewing Workshop after work every day to scrounge some low-quality spirit, drinking himself into a stupor before heading home to sleep.

“Heh heh.” With an awkward laugh, Goltai offered no rebuttal.

Pointing to the newly brewed high-quality spirit, Liszt spoke: “You are an expert in tasting, try this and compare it with the Juniper Wine, and give me a comprehensive analysis.”

“As you wish, Lord!”

Goltai eagerly grabbed a jug, tilted his head back, and took a swig of the Fresh Flower Brew’s raw spirit, then swayed back and forth with his eyes closed. After some moments, he opened his eyes, sparkling with excitement: “Lord, by the knight’s glory! The Fresh Flower Brew can certainly match the Juniper Wine, offering a completely different taste that is just as intoxicating!”

Following that, he took a sip of the raw spirit to compare the differences between Juniper Wine and Fresh Flower Brew.

One was strong, with a spicy taste but a heavy kick that was quick to go to one’s head; the other was slightly less intense, but had a smoother taste, lesser kick, and didn’t go to the head as easily.

“I think, once the Fresh Flower Brew is on the market, it will sell better than Juniper Wine because it doesn’t give as much of kick and allows nobles to drink from before the banquet until after it has started. Juniper Wine can’t last that long; the Fresh Flower Brew can suit more nobles, even those noble ladies!”

In the end.

Goltai was already half-drunk, holding the jug with his thumb raised: “To me, the Fresh Flower Brew is one notch below the Juniper Wine, but for more nobles, it’s a cut above, truly top-notch!”

Listening to his extensive analysis.

Liszt gained a rough understanding that Juniper Wine was akin to Russian vodka, strong and pungent; Fresh Flower Brew was similar to Beijing’s erguotou, not quite as strong but soft. An old drunkard might choose vodka for the sheer kick, but more people would accept erguotou, suitable for family banquets.

“Erguotou? It seems Fresh Flower Brew is made using the second distillation, could this be its true meaning?” Liszt pondered for a moment.

Not being a frequent drinker, he had too little knowledge of spirits.

He turned to ask Frank, “Is there a grading for Fresh Flower Brew, according to my method, divided into several grades?”

“Following your idea, we set the pure second distillation as the highest grade; the blend of the first distillation and the second distillation is the second grade; the first distillation alone is the third grade; the blend of the third and the second distillations is the fourth grade; and the third distillation alone is the lowest grade.”

Frank and others divided the grades meticulously, obviously after Liszt’s previous scolding, they strived to do their best work before daring to report back to the castle.

“Bring out the lowest grade Fresh Flower Brew, let Consultant Gao Ertai have a taste.”

Having had too much of the highest grade from the second distillation, when Goltai tried the lowest grade from the third distillation, he almost spat it out, “The taste is too complex. It’s just a little better than the previous Fresh Flower Brew, it should not hit the market.”

After that, Goltai tasted the other grades as well, with mixed reviews. The first three grades could be sold as liquor, while the last two were not up to standard.

Liszt understood now.

With the top three grades of liquor, Fresh Flower Brew was a huge success, and the Brewing Workshop would become the largest source of gold coins for Fresh Flower Town, as well as a cornerstone for Liszt's career development.

"From now on, the Brewing Workshop is a top secret of Fresh Flower Town; no idle persons are permitted to enter at will. Patrol members are dispatched to guard the area 24 hours a day, isolated from other workshops. The brewers with technical know-how must be strictly protected... Consultant Goltai, can you hear me clearly?"

"Rest assured, my Lord, I'm just slightly tipsy, I heard your instructions very clearly, I'll certainly give the Brewing Workshop the utmost priority... \*hic\*." Goltai swayed a little and ended the conversation with a hiccup.

Upon seeing this.

Liszt, not trusting him, summoned Administrative Officer Isaiah and handed over the tasks to him.

Subsequently, Liszt began offering rewards, "I promised you that as long as the Fresh Flower Brew meets the standards, there would be gold and silver coins. Now, Frank Dregs, Bording, and Huntera, I will reward each of you with a Gold Coin, and each apprentice involved in the brewing will get twenty silver coins!"

"Praise Lord Landlord!"

"We thank Lord Landlord for your generous reward!"

The brewers and apprentices, receiving the gold and silver coins, proceeded to thank him excitedly.

Liszt continued with encouragement and reminders for them to work diligently; future benefits would not be lacking. Brewing was simple, but creating a qualified spirit was much more challenging than one might imagine. Fortunately, under his guidance on "distillation technology," the brewers finally produced real spirits.

"Actually, I should be the most rewarded... Ah well, let's just keep my contribution concealed. Why bother competing for a little honor with a few serfs?"

Having praised himself internally, Liszt immediately took action to prepare the launch of Fresh Flower Brew.

First, he sent someone to notify Levis.

The Fresh Flower Brew business needed substantial support from Levis to quickly expand production capacity, open sales channels, and rapidly recoup investments.



As the town's landlord, he was in dire need of money!

Chapter 279: Chapter 0279: Wooden Bottle, Pottery Bottle, and Jade Bottle (Third Update, Celebrating 10,000 Coins Reward)

This chapter is sponsored by "Feeding Sheep with My Horse" for the massive reward update.

---

Levis not only sent his family tutor Frank, he also personally rushed to Fresh Flower Town, "Liszt, has the Fresh Flower Brew successfully improved its technique?"

"Of course, you can taste it yourself."

"I can't miss that."

Three marketable grades of Fresh Flower Brew had already been delivered to the castle in abundance, so Levis was able to taste the Fresh Flower Brew right there in the castle.

The first one he tasted was the third grade, the lowest quality of Fresh Flower Brew, a clear spirit. His eyes lit up instantly as he took a sip, "Hmm, not bad, it's already pure without any off-flavors, sellable indeed!"

Then he tasted the second-grade Fresh Flower Brew: "This one has a better taste, though the alcohol kick is a bit soft."

Finally, the highest grade Fresh Flower Brew. After drinking it, he savored the taste for a full three minutes before he exclaimed excitedly, "This is a great wine! Liszt, we're going to be rich, the quality of the Fresh Flower Brew is no less than Juniper Wine. This is a different kind of clear spirit with a distinct taste, more suitable for noble banquets!"

His assessment was not much different from Goltai's; both saw the vast market potential behind the Fresh Flower Brew.

"So next, we should discuss how to expand the brewing scale, as well as how to bring it to market." Liszt did not like drinking, but he was well aware of the booming market for spirits.

Alcohol might not be a panacea, but while it takes effect, it can numb a person's senses, alleviating all sorts of pain and stress. It allows one to escape from all sorts of difficulties and disappointments in reality, fully enjoying the moment of haziness and tranquility as if the soul is being elevated.

Levis picked up his teacup, trying not to seem too eager.

But his anxious gaze still betrayed his thoughts, “Leave the sales to me, Fresh Flower Brew will completely dominate Coral Island, and it will also dominate Red Crab Island. I can even sell it to Golden Island... But how do you plan to arrange the production of the Fresh Flower Brew?”

“We need to expand the scale of the Brewing Workshop, recruit more Brewers and Apprentices. Fresh Flower Town doesn’t have enough hands, big brother, you need to support me, sell a batch of your Brewers to me.”

“I will give you ten Brewers directly!” Levis gestured generously, “But none of them know how to brew clear spirits; you’ll have to teach them the skill.”

Liszt got straight to the point, “If you send their families too, I’m willing to teach them the brewing technique.”

Levis glared at him, “You actually don’t trust me... Fine, their families will come along as well!”

“And don’t forget about the materials, clear spirits can be brewed from a wide range of ingredients: grains, fruits, taro, sweet potatoes, all can be used for brewing. However, Fresh Flower Brew mainly uses sorghum, and I won’t be changing the main brewing ingredient for a while. Later on, we will see how it goes and consider other grain brewing techniques.”

“There isn’t much sorghum grown at Tulip Castle, but we consume little of it, so I’ll send it all to you!”

“Just the sorghum from Tulip Castle isn’t enough. You’d better expand the sorghum cultivation this year and also purchase some from other places.”

There’s an old saying: liquor is the essence of grains.

The alcohol yield from grain is between 25% to 45%; one pound of grain does not produce half a pound of alcohol. In ancient times, when there wasn’t enough food, the authorities would ban private brewing to prevent wastage of food and the exacerbation of famine.

It was precisely because sorghum was not the main food staple on Coral Island that Liszt chose to brew with sorghum—he might have become a noble, seated at the rulers’ side, but his nature was still kind. He did not want to take away the little bit of grain the serfs on the island had because of the liquor business.

However, no matter how considerate he was, ultimately, some of the serfs’ grain would still be diverted for brewing.

“

He could only try his best to remind him, “Brother, winemaking will waste a lot of food, I hope to purchase sorghum from the outer islands as much as possible, or give the serfs who plant sorghum some tax relief.”

Levis dismissed the idea with a wave of his hand, “Don’t worry about such trifles. The affairs of the serfs will be appropriately arranged by the officials, I will ensure that there is an adequate supply of sorghum for your brewing, and it won’t delay the production of Fresh Flower Brew.”

Seeing this, Liszt could only sigh inwardly.

He then brushed aside these sympathies and said, “Iron, I also need a batch of iron, at least ten thousand jin, for the production of brewing equipment.”

“Didn’t you just get thirteen thousand jin of iron from Tulip Castle?”

“That was a personal purchase. The Brewing Workshop is provided with raw materials according to our agreement by you.”

“A little less, I can’t take out that much iron; it has to be drawn from the Tulip Castle’s warehouse. In that case, the profits from the white spirits will surely be taken by others,” Levis frowned.

“Brother, it’s only fair that others share in the profits. Fresh Flower Brew might be a trade between the two of us, but if we leave others out, father might not say it, but he’ll hold a grudge in his heart,” Liszt replied.

“That’s cold!” Levis was unhappy, “I provide the materials, I handle the sales, and only take a sixty percent share of the profits, while you provide the technique, and even the brewers were sent by me, yet you take forty percent. Now, even for the mouths of other people at Tulip Castle, I have to fend, don’t you think that’s too cruel?”

“If it weren’t for my technique, Brother, you wouldn’t be able to do the white spirits business at all. Think about it, once Fresh Flower Brew takes off, how much in Gold Coins it will bring in profits each year, how many Magic Potions you can acquire... Maybe within a year, you could become a Sky Knight.”

Levis is twenty-four this year, and will be twenty-five the next year.

If he really could become a Sky Knight at twenty-five, it would at least prove that his talents are no less than the Earl’s.

These words hit a nerve with Levis, he scratched his hair and gritted his teeth in agreement, "Alright, thirteen thousand jin of iron, I'll come up with it. But the Fresh Flower Brew must be produced on a large scale as soon as possible!"

"Of course, the technique is already perfected, just waiting for the materials to be ready," Liszt finished discussing the brewing materials and suddenly remembered the issue of packaging, "How do you plan to sell the Fresh Flower Brew?"

"The same way Juniper Wine is sold. There will be only Fresh Flower Brew in the white spirits market on Coral Island; I will talk to my cousin on Red Crab Island, it's easy to take over there; Loria can handle sales on Golden Island, she should be able to secure both Golden Island and Newland Island."

Liszt became interested, "Is Loria certain to become my sister-in-law?"

Levis chuckled fancifully, "Do you think I spent the Pioneer Mandate just fighting wars? My dear brother, there's much you have yet to learn... Marquis Roderick has already approved my union with Loria, I'm going to Golden Island in March to settle things."

It seems that matter is already clear.

Liszt gave a thumbs up and brought the conversation back to the topic, "Fresh Flower Brew comes in three grades, have you thought about how to package it?"

"Package? Just like Juniper Wine is fine, I will have the pottery workshop produce a batch of ceramic jugs as wine bottles," Levis replied directly.

"That won't do, Fresh Flower Brew should be distinguished from Juniper Wine, making it immediately recognizable to Nobles."

Liszt vetoed Levis's idea, saying, "Ten-year Fresh Flower Brew should be packaged in wooden bottles, engraved with a yellow Tulip, priced between five to fifteen silver coins, to capture the minor Noble market; fifty-year Fresh Flower Brew in ceramic bottles, engraved with a red Tulip, priced between fifty to eighty silver coins, to occupy the middle-class Noble market; Hundred-year Fresh Flower Brew in Jade Bottles, engraved with a Black Tulip, as expensive as possible, limited quantity, targeting the upper echelons of Nobility."

"Where are you getting ten-year and hundred-year aged brews from?" Levis voiced in surprise.

"Don't worry, they can be brewed shortly..."

"^"

Chapter 280: Chapter 0280: Three Skies of One Family (Fourth Update, 2800 Monthly Votes Plus)

“So you’re saying all those ‘decades-old’ and ‘century-old’ wines are a hoax?”

“Not a hoax, but a marketing tactic.”

“But Fresh Flower Brew is just freshly made liquor, it hasn’t gone through any aging process.”

“How much do you think Fresh Flower Brew’s taste differs from Juniper Wine? Since there isn’t much difference, why can Juniper Wine be called a multi-year aged cellar wine?”

“Because it really is a wine that’s been aged in a cellar for many years.”

“Uh...” Liszt suddenly felt like Levis was really naive, “The quality of Juniper Wine forms because of cellaring and aging, and Fresh Flower Brew’s quality is not inferior to it, so it can also be considered cellared and aged. There’s no conflict. Moreover, we’ve clearly defined three distinct grades to reflect the difference in status, which will solidify the standing of nobles at all levels.”

“Do you really think this is better?”

“Of course, no one knows how we brewed it, we say it’s a century-aged wine, and so it is!”

“Wooden and ceramic bottles are simple enough, but jade bottles, might they be too expensive?”

“You could make fewer jade bottles of Fresh Flower Brew, factor in the value of the jade bottle into the sales price, or you could use crystal bottles for packaging, all to reflect the class of Fresh Flower Brew. You could even carve a bottle out of gemstones and have father give it to the Grand Duke for promotional purposes.”

“Give it to the Grand Duke?”

“Of course, if the Grand Duke drinks Fresh Flower Brew, what grounds would the nobles have to refuse it?”

“The Grand Duke has his own liquor industry, he doesn’t need our liquor as a tribute.”

“It’s just to have the Grand Duke taste it. As long as Fresh Flower Brew isn’t sold on Blue Dragon Island, it won’t threaten the Grand Duke’s liquor industry. Wouldn’t the Grand Duke give father some face?”

As a Sword Saint and the founder of the Tulip Family, Li Weiliam Tulip was definitely one of the high-level individuals in the Duchy of Sapphire. The Grand Duke would certainly want to win over such a rising power to balance the old Marquis Families. As long as Li Weiliam made clear the distribution range of Fresh Flower Brew, there would be no conflict at all.

If the Grand Duke is greedy and doesn't want the Tulip Family to encroach on the liquor market of the Duchy of Sapphire.

It's not a big deal — they could just sell Fresh Flower Brew to the Steel Ridge Kingdom or even the Eagle Kingdom. Smuggling liquor is a common business for many fleets and caravans.

It's just a matter of how much they sell.

Levis was still pondering.

On this end, the family tutor, Mr. Frank, reminded, "Levis, offering tribute to the Grand Duke, whether successful or not, won't affect our interests; using Baron Liszt's packaging suggestion would only cost a little extra. If it fails, we can simply return to selling Juniper Wine. It's acceptable."

"If that's the case, let's give it a try."

At this point, Liszt and Levis had discussed the Fresh Flower Brew business thoroughly; the rest was up to their respective subordinates to manage and operate.

Landlords need not get their hands dirty.

"When I came here, I heard your Dorson produced offspring, eight Little Fierce Earth Dogs?" Levis quickly shifted his focus, "Let me see them quickly, these are offspring of an Intermediate Magical Beast!"

"Sorry, brother, they haven't opened their eyes yet, and it's not suitable for them to see people."

"They haven't opened their eyes yet!" Levis exclaimed, "They haven't opened their eyes? Liszt, are we really brothers? I've never let you down, brother!"

There was no need for further words.

Liszt already understood Levis's meaning, who wanted a Little Blizzard Beast. But he would definitely not give one, even if the other party offered to buy it, he would not sell.

"Brother, although these are offspring of an Intermediate Magical Beast, their mother is just a common Fierce Earth Dog, and Dorson hadn't fully evolved at that time. So,

there's a high probability that this batch of offspring will be Low-Level Magical Beasts... Wait for the next batch. If the next litter turns out well, I'll definitely sell you some."

After several rejections, seeing Liszt's firm attitude, Levis was quite dissatisfied.

But for the sake of the next batch of puppies, he had no choice but to hold back, "So it's settled then, the next batch of Little Fierce Earth Dogs, you have to sell me a few!"

"Sure," Liszt nodded, which was as good as a promise.

Most of it is bluff.

Never mind how it will be sold or how many will sell—the matter of whether Earth Matron can even become pregnant again is doubtful. The higher the bloodline of a magical beast, the more difficult it is to breed. Dorson, having completed its growth into an intermediate magical beast, is questionable if it can impregnate the Earth Matron once more after its bloodline transformation.

Perhaps these eight Little Blizzard Beasts are the only offspring that Dorson, as a Fierce Earth Dog, can leave behind.

...

The luncheon.

The drink of choice was Fresh Flower Brew.

Levis seemed to be either too excited about the forthcoming profits of the spirits business or upset about not acquiring the Blizzard Beasts—either way, he drank too much and lost sense of direction.

Clutching Liszt's shoulder with a face full of alcohol breath, he slurred, "Liszt, I'm starting to envy you... er... you left Tulip Castle, the glory of a knight has favored you, everyone is starting to call you Son of Glory... I am always confined in the castle, Lidun, that brat, Lidun..."

Liszt was rather helpless in the face of Levis's drunken complaints.

To keep the family's dirty laundry from being aired, he sent everyone at the banquet away.

Levis rambled on with a slew of drunken gibberish about how the Earl favored Lidun over him, how his resources were being plundered, how great the pressure of being a Sky Knight was, how his luck wasn't as good as Liszt's, how Taya was pregnant, but for Loria's sake, he had to abort the child...

Then.

He suddenly collapsed onto the table with a thud.

Liszt called for the servants to help Levis onto the carriage, without insisting he stay overnight at the castle: “Mr. Frank, please take good care of Levis.”

“Rest assured.”

At this point, Captain Layden, who was in charge of escorting Levis, came over. Glancing at Rondo under the apple tree, he sighed and said, “Baron Liszt, please take care of Rondo in Fresh Flower Town.”

Rondo Waterpot was his illegitimate son. Even though he had been acknowledged by the family, they still couldn’t offer much support.

“Aren’t you going to talk with Rondo, Captain Layden?”

“There is no need,” Layden Pot bowed, “I must escort Sir Levis back to Tulip Castle first. When I have time, I hope to be a guest in Fresh Flower Town.”

“You are always welcome.”

The carriage set off, and Levis, who arrived with high spirits, left in a drunken stupor, but in a sense, it was a successful visit—the Fresh Flower Brew business was a massive boost for both him and Liszt.

Standing in front of the castle window.

Liszt sipped the last cup of Dragon Breed Milk.

The remaining sting of alcohol stirred in him a surge of ambition: “With the spirits business, Levis will probably advance to Sky Knight. As for me, I will definitely become a Sky Knight, and then, with the Tulip Family having three Sky Knights, the Earl would find it hard not to be promoted to Marquis.”

If father and sons took the battlefield together, as long as they didn’t face a Dragon Knight, victory would be assured.

They would accumulate great military exploits and sooner or later be promoted to Marquis.

“However, the Marquis Family is not my end goal, but simply a resting point on my journey to Dragon Riding. Given my talent and insight, plus the wealth brought by the development of my lands, becoming a Sky Knight before the age of twenty-two is highly



feasible. Then, spending another five to six years to perfect Sky Knight skills before seeking out a clue to find dragons.”

Find a dragon, mount it!

A small life goal then would be achieved.

---

All owed updates have now been repaid, and Old White is now debt-free~