Oasis 101

Lord of the Oasis

Chapter 101: The True Value Needed

Asage's body was like a broken ragged sack, the peasants picked it up and burned it.

There had been no peace between races.

Kant would never let go of this high-level Jackalan who were aware of itself, especially when Asage showed the wisdom and mind of a human, it was destined to die no matter what.

Because Kant needed it to tell him about the situation on the Mannheim Coast.

When he understood the details, its true value was gone.

Kant didn't care about the situation in the Kingdom of Grey Mane and the Mannheim Coast that it described. He only needed to know that there was indeed such a place on the other side of the Nahrin Desert.

This reminded him of the Middle East Desert.

Merchants from the Middle East crossed the desert to the eastern Mediterranean coast and sold their goods to European merchants.

This was an extremely profitable trade.

In particular, Kant controlled salt mines and could produce large amounts of high-quality white salt. This allowed the trade to continue because the Jackalan of the Kingdom of Grey Mane was not the only species on the Mannheim Coast.

There was also the Kingdom of Lizardmen, which thrived in the sea trade, and the Elven Parliament, which was a colony.

After offending the Jackalan, there were also these two races.

Kant, who came from the southern part of the Nahrin Desert, was a merchant who had come from afar. He was a trustworthy friend, and definitely not someone who was close at hand and tried to destroy other race forces at any time.

The principle of 'Befriend a distant state and strike a neighboring one' was prevalent in every world.

Moreover, no one would be foolish enough to start a war across the natural moat of the Nahrin Desert.

After all, humans didn't have high endurance like the Jackalans.

This was the reason why Manid was optimistic about it. As a Nord who had crossed the sea to the Continent of Caradia, he understood this principle. This was because the desert was not the sea, it could not be reached by the wind and waves.

As long as the Oasis Lookout maintained friendly trade with the races of the Mannheim Coast, they could even do business with the Kingdom of Grey Mane.

When it came to profits, hatred was only the means of the politicians.

Of course, before that, they would have to defeat the expedition army of the Kingdom of Grey Mane in the Nahrin Desert. Otherwise, if the army occupied the Oasis Lookout, it would be an absolute failure for Kant and the others.

Kant needed to win a victory and prove his ability in front of the forces of the Mannheim Coast.

The weaks could not protect their own benefits.

In the council hall, Kant had a conversation with Manid and Firentis cautiously. Since he had already decided to take this path, he should plan as soon as possible. Especially when dealing with the Jackalan the Kingdom of Grey Mane, who could attack at any time, he also needed to prepare as soon as possible.

Just as the three of them were talking, the sound of hurried horse hooves came from outside the wooden door.

Sarrandian horseman pushed the door open and entered. He bowed respectfully and reported, "My lord, we have returned from our patrol."

"Mm, very good." Kant nodded.

Five Sarrandian Horsemen led a cavalry team of 40 desert bandits. Even if a 46 Swadian heavy cavalry had to be careful when they encountered them. After all, these light cavalry soldiers with short javelins could not win in close combat. But they could fight and run at the same time, harassing them like flies was very simple for the bandits from the Sarrandian Desert.

"We also captured a group of Jackalan." Sarrandian Horseman continued to report.

"How many?" Kant asked.

"About 120. They are relatively difficult to capture. We killed more than 300 Jackalans before these guys surrendered out of fear." Sarrandian horseman shrugged and said with a regretful tone, "Otherwise, we could have captured more."

However, Kant was slightly stunned and asked, "Captured 120 of them?"

"That's right." Sarrandian horseman nodded affirmatively.

Kant could not help but praise, "Well done."

He did expect that these bandits with scimitar would have no problem killing the scattered Jackalans. However, he did not expect that they could actually capture 120 Jackalans.

According to the calculation, each Jackalan worth 30 denars, it would bring Kant 3,600 denars.

"The captive trading is indeed profitable."

Kant could not help but sigh. At the same time, he instructed the Sarrandian horseman, "Bring them to the training ground and keep an eye on them."

"Understood." The Sarrandian Horseman left after receiving the order.

However, Kant also felt a little regretful. He said to Manid and Firentis, "I suddenly regret killing that high-level Jackalan, Asage. I really don't know how much denar he can sell for."

"When the Jackalan expeditionary army arrives, we will know." Manid smiled and comforted him.

The Nahrin Desert would exhaust the last strength of the Jackalan expeditionary army. Kant and the others, who were defending the fortress, could literally watch and wait for the Jackalans struggling. At their weakest moment, Kant's soldiers could launch a fatal attack and win.

This was Kant and the others' strategic plan.

"Let's go out and take a look."

Kant stood up and walked outside.

Manid and Firentis also stood up and followed behind.

So many Jackalan captives were indeed good news. When the trade caravan of Reyvadin arrived, they would replenish Kant's half-used denar savings.

They walked out of the council hall.

Kant walked along the street. The five-meter-high city wall blocked his view from afar.

The endless sea of sand that could be seen at any time was now blocked by the city wall. He could not admire it whenever he wanted.

This might be a pity.

However, Kant shook his head with a smile and shook off the thoughts in his head. If not for these city walls, he would probably have been forced to withdraw from the Oasis Lookout. They couldn't defeat the invading and plundering Jackalan expedition army on their own. So, they forced to invite the wolves into their house, attracting the noble families from Dukedom of Leo to come over here and help them. Only then, they could barely stop the Jackalan.

The wall was their safety measure!

Walking to the training ground in the eastern military zone, over a hundred Jackalans were squatting there with their hands and feet tied up by hemp ropes.

Groups of desert bandits were waiting beside their horses.

There were some rude desert bandits were riding on their horses. They were holding scimitars and circling around the Jackalan captives.

They were showing off their power, saying bad jokes and dirty jokes, which immediately made the desert bandits laugh out loud. However, it made the Jackalan captives look even more pitiful.

"Why do I think I'm the villain in a drama?"

Kant shrugged helplessly.

Firentis didn't answer, while Manid nodded affirmatively. "Look at these little cuties, they are indeed pitiful. I think we shouldn't mistreat them. After all, they are walking denars."

"I like this saying." Kant nodded with a smile.

The desert bandits quickly walked over, and they also noticed Kant.

All of them quickly bowed and greeted Kant respectfully. At the same time, they waited for the orders solemnly.

"You all did well."

Looking at the respectful manner of these desert bandits, Kant nodded to himself. At the same time, he asked, "Were there any casualties during the process?"

"No, Lord. They are as weak as chickens." one of the desert bandits answered.

Everyone immediately burst into laughter.

However, because Kant was here, all of them appeared to be very polite. Although they were bandits, they were also bandits who had been recruited by Kant. They had to left behind their bad images in behind and did not want to show it in front of their lord.

Kant did not mind that they held back their rudeness.

It was good that there were no casualties.

The light cavalry formed by these desert bandits was one of his trump cards. It was not worth having any casualty.

"Keep an eye on them," Kant ordered these desert bandits.

Turning to Manid behind him, he said, "You manage these captives. I guess that Reyvadin's trade caravan will be here soon. When the time comes, sell these captives to them and buy more food and tools."

"Understood." Manid nodded. He was a merchant, so it was an easy job for him.

Kant then said to Firentis, "You should also go and do your work. Arrange the sentries and patrols to ensure the safety of the Oasis Lookout."

"Yes, sir," Firentis replied.

After all the basic arrangements were done, Kant nodded and walked towards other places. He intended to inspect his own estate.

After all, he wanted to take a good look after leveled up the place.

Arriving at the east gate, Kant walked around the city wall.

He was observing his own estate.

There was still a lot of empty lands in the entire Oasis Lookout. These lands were reserved for future construction.

Because the funds were not enough, these lands could only be used as an open warehouse to store miscellaneous items.

There were 200 peasant workers busy with their works.

However, the number of civilians in the current fortress was still very small. Many tasks could not be carried out for the time being.

For example, harvesting of the chee grass required a lot of civilians.

In addition, feeding the livestock with forage, processing the forage, and leveling the land required a lot of manpower.

"We're still short of people."

Kant sighed deeply.

The special effect of a house could recruit civilians, but this special effect could only be activated when there was a shortage of people and extra empty houses. Now that the houses were full of people, this special effect would not be activated at all.

In order to increase the population, other than temporary system characters, they could only build more houses.

Kant had long expected this.

The entire area of Drondheim fortress was about half a hectare.

And this was only the area inside the city wall.

This was enough for the current construction of the estate to cover most of the buildings.

After all the buildings were built, perhaps the inside of the city wall wouldn't be as empty as it was now, and it would become crowded.

At the same time, this would also promote the next level up of Drondheim. At that time, it would become a real castle. The buildings inside the city wall would become the internal buildings, and it would be the core area for the castle to continue expanding.

"Oh, the trade caravan is here."

Kant noticed something out of the corner of his eye. He turned his head and saw a trade caravan.

The familiar leader of the trade caravan rode in front. Six trade caravan guards followed him on their horseback. Twelve sentries were guarding five carriages on foot. They were from Reyvadin, just like the configuration of the trade caravan when they first arrived.

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Chapter 102: The Return of the Trade Caravan

The Reyvadin Caravan, which had departed for three weeks, had finally returned on the first day of the month.

The strong horse was breathing heavily as it pulled the rope. It drove the wide and thick wheels with nails over the sand, leaving deep marks. It was obvious that the carriage was full of goods, and they had prepared all the goods for the trade.

Guarding the city gate was a team of Swadian footmen. After carefully inspecting the carriage and making sure that there were no abnormalities, they waved their hands and let it pass.

Although they knew each other, they were still extremely cautious of these Vaegirs people.

This was the habitual thinking of the continent of Caradia, so the leader of the trade caravan was not surprised. They received the same treatments when they passed by the various castles and towns of the Kingdom of Swadia. After all, the Kingdom of Swadia was an enemy country.

They led the trade caravan to the council hall.

The leader of the trade caravan turned around his head to look at the new buildings around him, with a surprised expression on his face.

It could really be said that things had completely changed.

Before he left, he still remembered that the Oasis Lookout was a small and simple village. However, three weeks had passed in a blink of an eye. When he returned to this place, he found that it had actually become a fortress that had just taken shape.

The stone city walls and city gates were firm and sturdy. They were guarded by the light footmen on duty.

The internal buildings were clean and tidy. The planning was reasonable.

"That is..."

The leader of the trade caravan glanced at the empty space beside the eastern city gate.

Firentis was assigning the mission.

The heavily and fully armed Swadian soldiers lined up neatly and waited for orders.

There were 46 Swadian heavy cavalry soldiers and 50 Swadian footmen. Although there were less than 100 of them, the guards and sentries of the trade caravan were shocked by this scene. They appeared to be frightened by the soldiers and couldn't help but shrink their heads.

These were the true elites that been through hundreds of battles, a powerful force that could break through the enemy's formation.

At the same time, they also discovered the 40 desert bandits on the training ground.

The desert bandits who were watching over the captives were also staring at the trade caravan. Many of them even raised their scimitars and revealed sinister smiles.

Profession habits were not so easy to change.

This made the trade caravan even more nervous.

As for these ruthless bandits who were infamous in the Sarrand Desert, the twelve guards of the trade caravan subconsciously grabbed their spears tightly. Their actual combat strength was not much better than the recruits, but facing so many desert bandits.., even if they resisted desperately, they would not be able to live for long.

The desert bandits here were at the same level as those bandits in the snowy plains of Vaegirs.

The trade caravan had traveled across the north and the south. Although they never met these bandits because of luck, they always heard of the unfortunate incidents of others in the tavern.

It was considered lucky if only their belongings were stolen by the desert bandits. If their water was snatched as well, it would be truly miserable.

"Everyone, get your spirits up."

The leader of the trade caravan in front of snorted coldly.

He, who had once served as a knight in the Kingdom of Vaegirs, had the guts and courage. However, when he saw his cowardly caravan members, he could not help but scold them in a low voice, "This is Lord Kant's estate. They are Lord Kant's cavalry!"

"Ah... Ah, yes. "

Hearing these words, the guards and sentries of the trade caravan came back to their senses.

However, being stared by the malicious gazes of those desert bandits, their hearts were still pounding. It was still made them afraid despite their glories and courage in their fighting days.

The leader of the trade caravan could only sigh to himself. He felt lucky that he had not been robbed by bandits in the past.

However, the sigh in his heart did not come out.

He led his warhorse forward quickly and looked at the figure standing in front of the council hall. He hurriedly bowed and said in a very respectful tone, "Respected Lord Kant, it is an honor to see you again."

"I am also happy to see you." Kant replied with a smile.

He had a good impression of the leader of the trade caravan who could stand up and choose to fight during the crisis of the estate. Therefore, he asked in a more amiable tone, "What did you bring this time?"

"It's a lot of food."

The leader of the trade caravan immediately replied, "There are also various tools, oil in the urn, and tons of linen. These are all the materials you need now. I didn't bring the other luxury wines."

"This is indeed what I need the most." Kant nodded and smiled.

"That's great." The leader of the trade caravan happily lowered his head, appearing even more respectful.

Kant smiled and said, "Come in. Let them do these small little things." At the same time, Kant turned to the guard beside him and said, "Go and find Manid. I think they will have a common topic to talk about."

"Understood.", the Swadian footman, who was served as a guard, received the order and leave in fast paces.

"Manid? The genius merchant from Nord's territory", the leader of the trade caravan was slightly stunned.

Kant smiled and asked, "You've heard of him?"

The leader of the trade caravan revealed a bitter smile. "Yes, Manid is the model of our trade caravan. During the war between the Kingdom of Vaegirs and the Khergit Khanate, he provided supplies to both sides. He made the terrifying amount of profit and the news spread throughout the entire continent."

"Oh. ", Kant raised his eyebrows slightly.

The strategy of selling supplies to both sides of the war seemed a little familiar.

Shaking his head, Kant didn't think too much and said to the leader of the trade caravan, "If you're done with the trade caravan, then come in. I still want to discuss the purchase of food with you."

"Yes, Lord." The leader of the trade caravan watched Kant walk into the council hall.

At the same time, he hurriedly waved his hand, telling the trade caravan behind him to move quickly.

As an excellent leader of the trade caravan, he understood that he shouldn't let the lord wait for too long. Otherwise, it would be a serious breach of etiquette, and the relationship that he had painstakingly built with Kant would become loose.

Fortunately, the grocery store wasn't far away.

The leader of the trade caravan brought his men over and carried all the goods down. They placed them neatly on the empty counters and shelves. It seemed that he came prepared well.

Soon, the trade caravan resumed its business.

Kant returned to the council hall.

"Food."

He was sitting on the chair and tapped his fingers on the table.

Food was the problem that he needed to solve as soon as possible, it couldn't take long.

Although the Oasis Lookout had a lot of stored food.

But it was going to be an issue anyway.

The current Oasis Lookout had a rapid increase in the number of people, and the consumption of food was also rising day by day.

In particular, the consumption of food by the troops was even more terrifying.

All soldiers were gluttonous because they need more strength to carry tons of heavy works. Even the warhorse they rode on also needed to feed bread and grains constantly to replenish the nutrients that lack in the chee grass.

The most crucial thing was definitely the expedition army of the Kingdom of Gray Mane.

If these high-level Jackalan really crossed the Nahrin Desert and reached here, the Oasis Lookout would definitely be surrounded by enemies.

After entering a stalemate, Kant and the others would be able to defend with full confidence.

With sufficient food and water, as long as Kant did not act foolishly and the troops did not slack off, no matter how the Jackalan attacked, with his loyal elite troops, they would be able to defend this fortress.

It was just like what happened on a small island in the eastern Mediterranean in the 16th century.

Less than 200 hospital knights guarded a small castle on an island and forcefully withstood the frenzied attack of 20,000 Ottoman Empire troops. Although this had a lot to do with the geographical advantage, when the Ottoman Empire troops finally chose to besiege the hospital knights, the hospital knights didn't afraid at all, and they had sufficient food and water. They still defended for several years and became a sharp nail for the European forces in the Eastern Mediterranean.

This was a battle in history that Kant had once understood, and it was a living example.

The supply line of the Kingdom of Gray Mane would be stretched very long if they want to cross the desert. This supply line might even on the verge of collapse. They could only replenish their resources by plundering the territory of the human kingdom.

Therefore, Kant chose to defend to the death, just like blocking the thought of plundering by the expedition army of the Kingdom of Gray Mane.

Strengthen the defense and hide the goods, wait at ease for the exhausted enemies. This tactic was used a lot by the old Chinese ancestors

Back then, the Han Dynasty's Ban Chao had relied on this tactic to lead the various countries in the western region. Then, he sent the light cavalry to harass and intercept the supply lines of the expedition army of the Kushan Empire, easily won a victory.

This was a historically accurate and correct tactic.

As for these high-level Jackalan.

Kant didn't think that their supply line would be strong enough to supply their expeditionary army to cross the entire Nahrin Desert. If that was really the case, then the so-called Kingdom of Gray Mane, they won't be threatened by the lizardmen and the elves and came over here to develop.

While he was thinking, the wooden door of the council hall was opened, and Manid walked in.

At the same time, the leader of the trade caravan of Reyvadin also came in.

"Lord Kant."

The two bowed respectfully to Kant.

"Yes.", Kant didn't mind their politeness, he nodded and reached out his hand. "Sit down."

"Thank you for your kindness."

After the two thanked him, they sat on both sides of the bench.

The peasant, who was also a servant, came over with breakfast and gave them a portion of the bench. It was made up of toast, dried meat, dried sausage, boiled gazelle meat, and cabbage soup.

It was still the same as before, except for the fresh gazelle meat and a plate of fine white salt.

It was only breakfast time.

The trade caravan leader had not eaten yet due to rushing. When he saw his portion, he quickly stood up and bowed respectfully, "Thank you for your generosity, Lord Kant."

"It's fine, I just prepared some extra." Kant smiled and shook his head.

The three of them quickly ate breakfast and chatted about the interesting things they knew.

However, most of the time, it was Manid and the leader of the trade caravan were talking. Kant was eating while listening. He related the content of the game that he played before with their chat, he could not help but smile when he heard some funny passages.