

Oasis 761

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Chapter 761: The Impending Farewell

"You guys, what are you chattering about? Quickly follow the formation!" Claremont stopped the discussion in time.

After seeing that the last row of soldiers immediately became well-behaved, Claremont sighed in his heart. Please don't look at me while gossiping, okay? It was really too embarrassing.

Based on the few words that reached his ears, he deduced the entire process of the plot. It also allowed Claremont to have a brand-new understanding of his soldiers.

When the sky turned completely dark, the reconnaissance team stopped.

"The temperature outside tonight is too low, so we won't extend the journey time. Everyone hurries up and build a fire." Abel ordered the soldiers in the cold wind.

"Yes!"

When everyone dispersed to prepare for the camp. Austin stayed where he was and looked around at the desolate area. He asked Gilbert curiously, "Where did you go yesterday? Why didn't I see people on the way?"

"I took a shortcut. You won't be able to walk that way. People come here from time to time to pick agricultural products. It's just that the snow just stopped, so there are fewer people." Gilbert explained.

"I see." Austin finally understood and led Gilbert to the place where everyone gathered. After receiving his share of the tools, Austin continued to ask Gilbert, "Then when can we reach the town?"

"Tomorrow. The town near the volcano is not far from here." Gilbert said with a pile of firewood in his arms.

"Yes." Austin replied. "I hope to arrive early so that I can buy you some suitable clothes."

"Tomorrow, we will arrive at the small town of Cerrodi." Abel said, pointing at a stronghold on the map.

"Have you been there before?" Devitt raised his head and asked.

"Yes. This town is under the care of the nomadic races near the volcano. When we went there, we also replenished some supplies there." Abel recalled.

"Compared to the dwarf town, is there anything special?" Claremont continued to ask.

"It's much bigger than the dwarf town, and the marketing areas of the various races are also divided," Abel replied, "Maybe it's easier to manage this way."

"Sounds good." Devitt nodded. "We won't encounter any trouble on the way up the mountain, right?"

"Probably not." Abel replied. "Everyone knows how difficult it is to advance from the edge of the island to this area. So, as long as you successfully reach the edge of the volcano, no one will come and make

things difficult for you. This is also a rule of this small island. I only learned about it because I came here once."

"I can finally feel at ease." Devitt exhaled.

"Recently, due to the incident with the pseudo dragon, the status of the dwarf tribe has changed among the people around the volcano. We have to be careful about this." Abel thought of what happened a few days ago and said solemnly.

"Yes." Claremont also reacted and said, "When we set off tomorrow, we should inform the soldiers first: we must not reveal that we have passed through the dragon clan's estate."

"Yes." Devitt nodded heavily.

At this time, a soldier first reported, then walked into the tent and informed the three people, "Captain Devitt, Captain Claremont, Captain Abel. It's already dinner time. You can go and eat."

"Okay." Devitt nodded, then signaled for the soldiers to leave.

The three of them tidied up and walked out of the tent. The soldiers were having a noisy meal together.

Devitt caught a glimpse of Austin, who was helping Gilbert with the food. With a complicated expression, he said, "Gilbert will be going home soon."

"Yes." Claremont looked where Devitt was looking and replied, "Austin must be very sad."

"In the past, Gilbert's identity should have been that of the gnome's prince. This time, he's probably going back to fight for his throne." Abel said.

"Although Gilbert's ability is indeed very strong, and he's much more mature than people his age, if he were to really get involved in the bloody storm of power struggles, he would be a little too thin," Devitt sighed and said.

"Maybe there are people who support him, that's why he wants to go back." Abel replied. "I hope those people can share some of the pressure and responsibilities for him."

"It is better not to tell Austin about our conjectures." Claremont warned. "After all, up until now, Gilbert seems to have never told Austin about his origin."

"Mm. Let's keep it this way." Abel affirmed.

After dinner time, snow began to fall in the sky again.

"The snow from last night hasn't melted yet. It's starting to snow again tonight." Austin said, wiping his mouth.

"Yeah. Tomorrow will probably be as cold as today." Gilbert said softly as he sat in his chair, looking at the volcano in the distance.

"Of course, you don't have to worry about it tomorrow." Austin smiled happily, he said, "When the time comes, we will definitely enjoy the warmth of the fireplace in the hotel room. I haven't slept on a soft mattress for a long time."

"Hehe." Gilbert heard what he said and laughed softly.

Austin looked at the place Gilbert had been looking at and exclaimed, "So you can see the volcano from here. I was so busy eating just now that I didn't notice it. Eh? There seems to be snow on the top of the volcano."

"Yes, the volcano is in hibernation in winter. The altitude is so high. I guess the snow on it has frozen." Gilbert replied.

"Your home is on top of this volcano, right?" Austin asked curiously, "Can you show me?"

"You can't see it here. The gnomes live underground, and we live on the south side of the mountain." Gilbert said with a smile and shook his head.

"How long does it take to walk from the foot of the mountain to your home?" Austin became sad when he thought of the upcoming farewell. At this moment, his expression was a little gloomy.

"One day." Gilbert replied. He also had a reluctant look on his face.

"It's quite close." After hearing the answer, Austin nodded and said, "When we return from our mission, Can I come and see you?"

Hearing this, tears welled up in Gilbert's eyes.

"Yes. If you can't come to the Gnome Kingdom, I'll wait for you in the small town at the foot of the mountain."

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Chapter 762: Strangeness of the City

Actually, Gilbert himself didn't know if he could fulfill his answer.

He didn't even know if he could walk out of the gnome's estate alive.

The last time he was able to successfully walk out of that hell, it was mainly because he had the help of the men behind by his father. That was how he was able to bear a false accusation and be exiled out of the city.

And this time, he took the initiative to go back. He didn't know which of the forces in the city were willing to lend a helping hand.

"Really?!" Austin looked very happy.

"Yes." Gilbert nodded and agreed.

When he saw Austin's smile, Gilbert would also accompany him to be happy.

After these few days, Gilbert had saw Austin as a reliable elder brother.

Even though they hadn't been together for long, their feelings were exceptionally deep.

A cool breeze blew past, and Gilbert exhaled a breath of hot air into the air. He realized that the hot air he exhaled had already turned into white fog.

"Let's go back to the tent and rest. It's too cold outside." Austin suggested.

"Okay." Gilbert held Austin's outstretched hand and agreed.

The next morning, the soldiers gathered together early.

Seeing that the goal of this mission was right in front of them, everyone could not help but want to reach the legendary estate as soon as possible.

"Today, we will rest at the foot of the volcano." Abel reminded everyone while he was lecturing, "I hope that everyone will not tell anyone that we entered the dragon clan's estate before, so as to avoid causing unnecessary trouble."

"Yes!" the soldiers answered in unison.

Everyone continued to move forward in the heavy snow. Each of them had put on thicker clothes than they had yesterday.

Austin even put on a wide-brimmed hat for Gilbert.

As evening approached, the wind became weaker.

The soldiers at the front saw the town gate that appeared at the end of their line of sight.

"Zelodian?" a soldier read out the words on the city gate plaque.

"It feels so grand." a soldier looked at the wide city gate and sighed.

"Everyone stops in front of the city gate." Abel ordered his soldiers.

After a group of people stopped completely, the town gate was opened, and a group of giant soldiers ran out in unison. Walking up to Abel, they asked him, "Which race are you from?"

"The elf race. These soldiers are humans from the Caradia Empire. We're going up the mountain to visit the dwarven craftsmen." Abel replied calmly. He took out the Elf Empire's soldier medallion from his bosom.

"Mm, alright. You can go in now." the giant soldiers only gave a cursory glance before letting them in.

Abel led his soldiers into the city gate and walked towards the street near the market.

"Why is it so easy to pass the city gate on this island?" a soldier asked the person beside him, puzzled.

"I don't know." the soldier beside him shook his head and said, "It seems like it was the same when we entered the dwarf town last time."

The discussion rose and fell. Austin looked at Gilbert, who had been silent since he entered the city gate, and said, "What's wrong? It's rare to see you so quiet."

"It's very strange." Gilbert lowered the brim of his hat and answered, "The people in charge of patrolling this town shouldn't be the giants."

"I heard before that this town is under the supervision of various races. The giants are not in charge of the supervision now?" Austin asked in puzzlement.

"Yes." Gilbert replied. "At least they weren't in charge before I left the city."

"Then, which race was in charge before?" Austin asked.

"The gnomes." Gilbert said after a moment of silence.

"Did something happen to the gnomes after you were exiled from the city?" Austin asked worriedly.

"I don't know." Gilbert answered as he looked at the pedestrians on the street.

"Will it be dangerous for you to return to the Gnome Kingdom now?" Austin was most worried about the safety of Gilbert.

"Since I've come this far, I have no choice but to go back." Gilbert replied. "Besides, no one wants to invade the gnomes' territory."

"Why?" Austin asked.

"It's a secret." Gilbert shook his head and said.

"Okay." Austin didn't continue to ask. It was enough for him to know that the place where Gilbert had returned was safe.

While leading the way, Abel was also paying attention to the surrounding movements. He found that there were fewer ordinary vagrants on the street, but more troops patrolling the streets.

Following the route they had taken a few months ago, they arrived at the hotel they had stayed in previously.

Abel turned around and said to the soldiers, "Everyone can stay here tonight."

"Yes!"

The reconnaissance team had walked until now, and there was a total of forty-eight people left.

After counting the number of people, Claremont took the silver money in his bag and exchanged it with the hotel manager for the keys to twelve rooms.

"How do we arrange this?" Abel took the five keys and asked Claremont.

"Me, you, and Devitt will stay in one room. The rest of the soldiers will share the rest of the rooms equally." Claremont answered simply.

"There is still one left." Abel thought for a while and said.

"Abel and Austin can sleep together. Isn't that alright?" Claremont curled his lips and said.

"I see." Abel replied.

"Oh right, don't drink too much during dinner tonight. If you get drunk like last time, no one will take care of you." Claremont warned.

"Oh right, last time you went to the guild to get the information when I was drunk, right?" Abel recalled the days when he stayed in the dwarf town.

"That's right. I originally wanted to bring you along. But you drank too much, and I couldn't wake you up." Claremont complained.

"Ahem, I'm really sorry about that night." Abel apologized. "What are your plans for tonight?"

"Tonight... I don't know what Captain Devitt wants to do. If we want to go out and ask for information, I'll ask you for help, okay?" Claremont rested his chin on his hand and thought for a while before answering.

"Sure." Abel nodded and agreed. "We will ask Devitt later."

Only when they stayed in the hotel would the elven soldiers and the Caradia soldiers eat together at the same table.

After all, the appetites of the two races were not the same. The tents that they usually built were also separated from each other.

However, since they were together, they were naturally amiable. They could easily joke with each other at the dinner table.

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Chapter 763: News About the Town

They watched as dishes were served one after another by the hotel's waiters on the dining table. Claremont and Abel stood at the entrance of the dining room the entire time, looking around. They did not see Devitt.

After the two of them received their keys, they sat in the room and chatted.

From the evening until now, two to three hours had passed, but they only saw Devitt's luggage.

At the end of the conversation, they could not help but feel a little strange. They began to ask others about Devitt's movements. Then, they heard from the innkeeper that Devitt did not even return to his room. After getting the waiter to carry his luggage upstairs, he went out on his own.

Abel leaned against the door post of the restaurant and sighed. "The two of us were still thinking about how to ask Devitt about the operation, but he made the first move himself."

"Devitt was probably worried that he didn't have enough time, so he didn't call us and left on his own." Claremont replied as he looked out the door.

"Devitt is still the most dedicated to the mission." Abel said. "We should have followed him."

"There's nothing we can do. It's very difficult for us to follow him at all times." Claremont shook his head. After seeing Devitt's figure, he shouted, "Devitt! You're back?!"

Devitt walked into the restaurant and handed the coat he was wearing to the waiter who was guarding the door. He said to Claremont, "Why haven't you gone for dinner yet?"

"We were waiting for you." Claremont replied, "We can't be the heartless comrades that enjoy our dinner in a place with a fireplace while you were out in the snow, gathering information for the sake of carrying out a mission."

Devitt looked at Claremont in amusement and did not say anything else.

"You stayed outside for so long. Did you find anything?" Abel asked.

"I did find something, but the pedestrians on the street are very tight-lipped." Devitt said with a frown. "I only know how to get up the mountain and the reason for the strange atmosphere in the city."

"I also feel that this town is different from before," Abel said. "What is the information you have heard about?"

Devitt said in a low voice, "The gnomes have already broken out in a civil war, and the forces in the Gnome Kingdom have been divided into two factions. Moreover, the situation is tense, and there is no extra manpower to manage this trading town."

"What?" Claremont was a little surprised. Although he had predicted that the situation in the Gnome Kingdom would be more serious, he had not expected that it would be so bad, and the other races had taken the advantage to control the trading city.

"Yes." Devitt nodded. "Regarding this, this is all the information I know."

"Gilbert's way home is even more difficult." Claremont's mind flashed with the image of Gilbert's weak figure.

"Then, what is the method you mentioned to get up the mountain?" Abel continued to ask.

"It is said that under the proposal of the various races, a teleportation array has been built in the town. It can use magic power to teleport people to the top of the mountain. If we can use this method, it will greatly shorten the time we need to reach the top of the mountain." Devitt explained.

"Teleportation array?" Claremont was curious about such a new thing.

Abel, who had learned spells since he was young, frowned and said, "Although there are many merchants on this island, it is not enough to put them into the teleportation array."

"Is the consumption of the teleportation array that big?" Claremont asked.

"It is very big. Not only do they need the support of mages, but they also need all kinds of gemstones for daily maintenance." Abel explained. "The financial resources of this town alone should not be enough to support it."

"That means that there are external forces helping them behind the scenes." Devitt analyzed. "The more complicated the situation on this island is, the more likely it is that we will be dragged into this situation if we stay here."

"Sigh. It's really difficult." Claremont said.

While the three of them were distressed, a soldier walked out from the side hall and said to them, "Captain Devitt, Captain Claremont, Captain Abel. The soldiers are waiting for you."

"Huh?" When Devitt heard this, he looked at Claremont and Abel strangely.

Claremont said awkwardly, "I forgot..."

Abel's face also blushed.

Devitt looked at the two of them with a slightly reproachful look and led them to the dining hall where the soldiers were.

"Sorry for the long wait, everyone." Devitt waved at the soldiers.

"It's okay, Captain Devitt. We were planning to eat with you." Jeb replied loudly.

"Captain, I heard you went out on a mission. Why didn't you call us?" a soldier said excitedly.

"I went to ask for information. How brought you?" Devitt said with a laugh, "Well, everyone sits down and start eating."

"Ding Ding Ding Dang --" the sound of dishes being picked up could be heard on the dining table. It seemed that everyone was really hungry.

While drinking red wine, Devitt talked to the soldiers around him about the plan to use the teleportation array tomorrow.

"Teleportation array! It sounds amazing! I've never heard of it before." a soldier shouted happily.

"Will the mages teleport us to the top of the mountain? How is that possible?!" a soldier looked incredulous.

"It'll be great if we can get on the teleportation array." most people were looking forward to the new experience tomorrow.

Austin sat in his seat and looked around. He finally saw Gilbert walking in from the outside.

"Why did you take so long to go to the toilet?" Austin asked worriedly. "Did you eat something bad?"

"I got lost outside. It took me a long time to find the toilet." Gilbert replied as he climbed up his chair.

"I should have brought you there." Austin nodded and said, "Captain Devitt told us that tomorrow we will go to sit in something called a teleportation array. Do you know what it is?"

"I don't know. I've never seen it before." Gilbert picked up the cup and said indifferently.

"I heard that it would bring us to the mountain in an instant." Austin said excitedly, "It sounds incredible, right?"

"Ya." Gilbert nodded.

Austin observed Gilbert's cold reaction. Although he felt a little strange, he did ask. Instead, he chatted with Gilbert from time to time during the banquet.

The time for the banquet quickly passed. Abel organized the soldiers to return to their rooms to rest.

Gilbert followed Austin back to the hotel room.

After washing up, he laid on the bed in his dry pajamas.

Once it was past twelve o'clock, the lights in the hotel would be turned off. Only the firewood in the fireplace was burning.

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Chapter 764: Leave Without Saying Goodbye

After hearing the sound of Austin sleeping soundly, Gilbert opened his eyes. He slowly got off the bed, turned around to look at the sleeping Austin, and resolutely left the room.

Walking to the corridor of the guest room, Gilbert walked to the room where Devitt and the others were.

After hearing the voices inside, he raised his hand and gently knocked on the door.

When Devitt and the others heard the knocking, they immediately stopped talking. Abel picked up the weapon beside the bed and carefully approached the door.

Devitt and Claremont also got off the bed and followed behind Abel, waiting for him.

"Who is it?" Abel asked in a low voice.

"Gilbert." a slender voice came through the door.

Devitt frowned strangely, as if he could not understand why Gilbert would come looking for them at this time.

The three of them looked at each other, and Abel slowly opened the door. Gilbert immediately rushed in from outside the door. He was not even half as tall as Abel. At this time, he looked even more agile and light-footed.

"I'm about to leave. I'm here to say goodbye to you." Gilbert said calmly as he sat down on a chair in the room.

"Now?" Devitt looked at the dark sky outside the window and asked in puzzlement.

"Yes." Gilbert nodded and said, "Thank you for taking care of me during this period of time."

Claremont said hesitantly, "During these few days, Austin was the one who take care of you the most. Did you say goodbye to him?"

"No." Gilbert shook his head dejectedly and said, "I'm worried that I won't be able to bear to leave."

Seeing that Abel was hesitant to speak, Devitt gestured for him to keep quiet.

"The reason I came to look for you this time is also for Austin." Gilbert took a sip of tea and continued, "I hope that you can take good care of him. You promised me before, so you won't go back on your word, right?"

"Of course." Devitt nodded. "Besides, Austin is one of our soldiers. It's our responsibility to take care of him."

"Well, that's good." Gilbert stood up and said, "Goodbye."

In the end, Claremont couldn't help but ask, "Why did you leave in such a hurry? Don't you have time to say goodbye?"

"No." Gilbert raised the corner of his mouth and said with a pale smile, "Now the remaining time can only be used on the road to live or die."

When the three adults heard this, their faces showed a trace of reluctance.

"I hope you can succeed." Abel said.

"Thank you." Gilbert bent down slightly and said, "If I die, please don't tell Austin."

After saying this, Gilbert turned around and left without any hesitation.

He turned over the railing of the corridor and jumped to the lobby on the first floor. The whole process was silent.

Devitt and the other two stood in the corridor and watched Gilbert's back as he broke out of the door.

Claremont sighed and said, "He's just a child, but he acts like he's a young man. I really don't know who is taking care of whom between him and Austin."

"They take care of each other." Devitt replied softly. "Their feelings go both ways."

The next morning, the people who stayed in the hotel were woken up by the hotel owner's screams.

"My door! Who broke my door?!" the hotel owner's face turned green.

Abel, who had not woken up, directly got out of bed and walked to the corridor on the second floor. he shouted downstairs, "Boss, I'm sorry. My brother was too drunk, so he knocked down your precious door. When we pay the bill later, I'll compensate you."

The hotel owner looked at Abel's firm muscles, and he frowned at Abel, but he did not shout anymore.

Just when Abel thought that he could finally have some peace and quiet, and go back to sleep for a while more...

Austin ran from the room to his front and shouted, "Captain Abel, Gilbert, he..."

Abel sighed in his heart. He had forgotten about this.

"He went home." Abel waved his hand and said.

"What?" Austin said in disbelief, "Why do you all know, but I..."

"Our destination is different from his. Of course, we have to part here," Abel said. "I guess his family was in a hurry to call him back, so he left early in the morning."

"I see..." Austin suddenly lost his spirit.

He originally wanted to take Gilbert to the teleportation array, but when he woke up this morning, Gilbert was nowhere to be seen.

Abel looked at Austin's gloomy expression and could not help but comfort him. "Go back and sleep for a while more. Cheer up. We are going to begin our mission today."

"Yes," Austin replied.

Abel patted his shoulder and returned to his room. Looking at Devitt and Claremont who had fallen asleep again, Abel sighed and lay on his bed to rest.

Austin returned to his room and laid on his bed according to Abel's instructions.

When the soldiers who had been noisy earlier saw the expression on Abel's face, they choked on their words and didn't intend to speak again.

"Wu, Wu..." after a while, Austin wrapped himself in the quilt and whimpered.

The others also became sad. They looked at each other and walked out of the bed. They took their clothes, gently closed the door, and left.

After everyone washed up, it was time for breakfast.

After hearing what Abel said about what happened this morning, Devitt looked at the table where Austin and the others were sitting, but he did not see Austin. He already understood what happened.

Because he was worried about Austin's health, Devitt picked up a breakfast and walked to the guest room on the second floor.

"Guest, food and drinks cannot be brought to the guest room." a waiter stopped Devitt and said.

"I'm sorry, one of my comrades is not feeling well. I'll go and see him." Devitt explained to the waiter with a smile.

The waiter nodded hesitantly and let him pass.

"Thank you." Devitt said.

He knocked on the door of the room where Austin was, and Devitt called out softly, "Austin, are you there?"

"Yes," Austin's voice came from inside.

"Can I come in?" Devitt asked politely again.

"... Yes." Austin hesitated for a moment and replied.

Devitt took the tray and walked in. When he saw Austin with red eyes, he handed the food to him. He said gently, "Eat something first."

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Chapter 765: The Process of Teleporting Up the Mountain

"Before Gilbert left, he asked us to take good care of you." Devitt sat down on the edge of the bed, he said, "Why do you think he's so worried? You're a member of our reconnaissance team, of course we will take care of you."

Hearing Devitt's words, tears quickly gathered in Austin's eyes.

He raised his hand to pick up the hamburger on the plate and chewed it bit by bit.

"If you can eat, then I don't have to worry too much." Devitt stood up and said, "After breakfast, quickly come and gather with the soldiers. We'll wait for you."

"Thank you, Captain Devitt." Austin said in a choked voice.

"It's nothing. Didn't I tell you? It's a matter of course." Devitt said with a relaxed smile.

After saying this, Devitt unlocked the door, turned around, and left.

Austin chewed the hamburger in his mouth, holding back his tears.

What made him hold back his tears was the promise he made with Gilbert when they were resting outside the camp.

"I must pull myself together."

At eight o'clock in the morning, all the soldiers gathered outside the hotel.

After paying the bill, Claremont also walked out of the door and gathered with the main group.

"This boss is really stingy. Gilbert broke his broken door, and he wants to charge us ten silver coins. That door can't be more than three silver coins." Claremont said angrily.

"Forget it. Anyway, our journey is coming to an end." Devitt said.

"Speaking of which, my purse is getting lighter and lighter. What if we don't have enough money on the way back?" Claremont curled his lips and asked.

"Let's go borrow Abel's money." Devitt said with a smile.

"What?" Abel, who had been standing on the side and smiling happily, immediately distanced himself from the two people in front of him after hearing this.

"Don't worry. I'll do the math for you..." after being reminded by Devitt, a trace of sunshine immediately appeared on Claremont's gloomy face. He put his arm around Abel's shoulder and talked with him about the twists and turns along the journey.

In the end, Abel reluctantly agreed to share the money that Devitt and Claremont requested.

The group of people chatted and laughed as they walked to the end of the main street. In front of them was the location of the teleportation array.

"Amazing!" a soldier looked at the barrier around the teleportation array and took a deep breath.

"There are magic runes carved on the walls here." an elven soldier said to his colleague as he looked around.

"But I can't understand these runes." an elven soldier said, puzzled.

"Of course, we're all learning intermediate spells. How can we understand high-level runes?" another elven soldier immediately replied.

"I see."

Whenever there was a situation where there was magic involved, it was usually Abel who would come forward to discuss it.

Devitt and Claremont just needed to follow behind him and put on an imposing manner.

Abel and the person in charge of the front desk used professional terms that Devitt and Claremont did not understand for a long time. Finally, they settled on the matter of the scouts riding on the teleportation array.

"Ten gold coins." said the person in charge as he counted.

Anyone could understand this sentence. Claremont's reaction in this area was as outstanding as ever. "What?!"

The person in charge leaned on his desk and lowered his head. He did not pay attention to Claremont's reaction.

Claremont's expression became bitter. He suggested to the two people beside him, "Why don't we walk up the mountain? If we bid ten gold coins here, we would really have nothing."

"It doesn't matter." Abel shook his head and said helplessly, "Aren't we travel together? The money will still be enough for us to return the edge of the island."

Claremont looked at Devitt and Abel and compromised, "Alright. I'll follow your decision."

Recently, there seemed to be a lot of people using the teleportation array. The scouts lined up until three o'clock in the afternoon before their turn came.

The soldiers spent their nap time in the hall.

"Each of you, please stand at the designated point marked in the array." a middle-aged man wearing a mage robe commanded.

After seeing that everyone was ready, the middle-aged man poured his spiritual power into the pillar in front of the formation.

"Clang!"

An orange light covered the sight of every soldier.

In the next moment, the reconnaissance team arrived at the top of the mountain. The only thing that surrounded them was the grass that was covered in snow.

"How did we get up here?" a soldier asked in disbelief. As he spoke, he touched his hands to make sure that he was still intact.

"This is such an impressive spell." even the elven soldiers exclaimed.

"Everyone, follow me forward." Abel commanded the people behind him.

At ten o'clock at night, a teleportation array would appear at the place where they appeared to bring them back.

"There are less than seven hours left. Can we find the clues to the disappearance of the dwarfs?" Devitt asked worriedly.

"No matter how fast we speed up, it will still take us two hours to get from here to the dwarves' estate." Abel replied.

Right now, everyone was only thinking about one thing, and that was to move forward!

Under Abel's leadership, the soldiers circled around the mountain road. Finally, they arrived at an inconspicuous cave entrance.

Abel stopped in his tracks and pushed aside the grass near the cave entrance.

He discovered a passageway that only allowed one person to pass through.

"Are we going in from here?" Claremont asked.

"Yes. The new home of the dwarven craftsman is inside." Abel said.

Devitt sized up the Caradia soldiers and said, "Can we only leave the soldiers' luggage and armor here?"

"Yes. Otherwise, we won't be able to pass through this cave." Abel nodded and instructed the elven soldiers to put down the luggage on their shoulders. "Just cover these luggage with the grass at the entrance of the cave so that they won't get wet by the snow."

"Yes." After hesitating for a while, Devitt also asked the soldiers to take off their armor and put down their weapons.

He was originally worried that if they could not return the way they came from, they would not be able to take back these things.

However, seeing that Abel was confident, Devitt dispelled the doubts in his heart.

Everyone followed Abel and slowly squeezed into the tunnel built by the dwarves.

"Are the dwarven craftsmen so worried that others will come and disturb them?" a soldier said. "They built such a hidden place as a new residence."

"I heard that the personality of the dwarf race is quite reclusive." a soldier replied.

"But this is too difficult to get in and out. We are the ones who came to save them." a soldier said, "Why is the dust in this tunnel so thick? How long has it been since someone came?"

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Chapter 766: Buildings With Another Purpose

They crawled forward slowly for about 200 meters. Just when everyone was about to be exhausted beyond belief, a fresh air current welcomed them.

"We're here." Abel said in surprise.

Abel jumped out of the tunnel and stepped on the ground again.

The soldiers followed him out of the tunnel one by one.

Claremont looked at the house built by the dwarves around him, and a strange feeling rose in his heart.

"It seems that since we came here last time, no one has come here again. Nothing has changed here." Abel said.

"I feel that there is something strange here." Claremont said hesitantly.

"What?" Devitt and Abel looked at him and asked.

"I have a feeling... these buildings aren't built for people to live in." Claremont said, pointing at the buildings in the volcano.

"I don't understand." Abel shook his head in confusion and said, "If they aren't built for people to live in, are they still built for people to see?"

"Yes!" After hearing Abel's words, Claremont slapped his head and shouted, "They are built for people to see."

Looking at the two people in front of him who still had an incomprehensible expression on their faces, Claremont slowly opened his mouth to explain, "These buildings, whether it's from the circulation of air or the layout of the rooms, are all very illogical. It can be said that they're even worse than the drawings that a beginner in architecture can draw."

"In other words, no one would live in such a house. Moreover, these houses were deliberately built to confuse the people who entered here." Devitt concluded.

"From the craftsmanship of the decoration, although there are many hasty traces, we can still see that it was built by the dwarf craftsmen." Claremont walked closer to a house and observed it carefully.

"If this is the work of the dwarf craftsmen, then who are they guarding against?" Abel asked.

"We have no way of knowing this, but we can be sure that we have found the wrong place." Claremont said. "Where is the evidence left by the gnomes that you mentioned before?"

Abel was reminded by Claremont and quickly led the group to the place where they found the gnomes' weapons.

However, there was nothing there.

"How?" Abel was puzzled.

"It seems that they have been taken away." Claremont said. "Let's not worry about this for now. We need to find the true residence of the dwarf craftsmen in these few hours. There isn't much time left."

"How do we search?" Devitt asked.

"Since the dwarf craftsmen built such a defensive line, they must be observing nearby. Otherwise, how could they have noticed an outsider's invasion at the first moment?" Claremont thought for a moment and stated.

"Alright. Then we'll search this area in the form of a small team. Don't miss a single inch." Devitt commanded.

"Yes!" the soldiers immediately followed the order, and the ten teams moved in different directions.

"I didn't expect the space inside the volcano to be so spacious. Fortunately, we brought enough people." Claremont rejoiced.

"Yes." Abel nodded and said, "Thanks to you this time, we didn't spend too much time in the maze set up by the dwarven craftsmen. I didn't expect you know a lot of architecture knowledge."

"Of course." Claremont smiled. "How many times have I told you that the books I read are very useful?"

"Claremont's speculation has basically been proven to be correct." Devitt frowned and said, "But don't you think that the style of setting up such a maze is a little contrary to the personality of the dwarven craftsmen?"

"In that case... it is indeed a little strange." Abel nodded. When the dwarf race built the harbor for Cumberland, Abel had been there a few times. He had also met the dwarven craftsmen a few times.

What he felt from every dwarven craftsman he saw was passion for architecture, pride in their own talent, and the innocence of children.

They couldn't imagine that they would be able to design such a trap.

"Don't think about it. Let's hurry up and help look for them." Claremont said as he looked at the two of them who were unhappy.

The group of people had been busy in the volcano for half an hour, but they hadn't found any clues about the midgets.

Just as everyone was feeling dejected, a clear child's voice rang in their ears.

"Who are you?"

The voice echoed in the empty space.

"We are soldiers sent by the humans and elves. We only heard that the dwarfs had disappeared. We are here to find them." Abel replied loudly.

There were only chaotic shouts in response.

"Wait." After a while, the same voice sounded again.

Abel let the soldiers lean against each other, waiting for the owner of the voice to appear.

After a while, footsteps came from behind them. A little dwarf girl appeared out of nowhere and ran happily to the front of the reconnaissance team.

"Did you bring food?" the little girl asked with a smile.

"Food?" Devitt was stunned by the sudden question. He pointed in the direction of the tunnel and answered, "Our food is outside."

"You didn't bring it to us?" The little girl's smiling face fell. "Then why are you here?"

"We heard that the dwarfs are missing..." Abel walked up and answered.

"Missing? We've been here all this time. We're fine!" the little girl was puzzled. "Klidoff said he would bring us food. Why hasn't he come after three days?"

"Who's Klidoff?" Claremont asked.

"The person in charge of this island." the little girl answered, "Since you don't have any food, please go out. Don't disturb the rest of the dwarves."

"The dwarf craftsman was in charge of the port projects of the Caradia Empire and the Elf Kingdom." Devitt said, "The Elf Kingdom sent a letter to the Dwarf Kingdom before. Did you receive it?"

"A letter? Klidoff will bring all the letters sent to the island to us. None of them came from the Elf Kingdom." the little girl thought for a moment and said, "You must have remembered it wrong."

"How is that possible..." Abel was about to explain, but Claremont interrupted him. Claremont noticed the crux of the matter. "Why is Klidoff who does all the work for you guys, won't you guys walk out of here?"

"No." the little girl replied. "It's the time for the dwarves to rest. Other than receiving requests from other countries, we won't walk out of our own estate. Speaking of which, it's been a while since we received a request..."

Devitt and Claremont looked at each other, and they already knew what exactly happened.

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Chapter 767: The Expected Betrayal

"I want to visit the chief of the dwarfs, can I?" Devitt said solemnly to the little girl.

"Grandpa?" the little girl stared at him and asked, "Why are you looking for the clan chief?"

"I think the dwarfs must have fallen into the trap of the conspirators on this island." Devitt replied.

The little girl looked at his sincere face and seemed to have sensed the seriousness of the matter. She nodded and said, "Then come with me."

Then, the little girl led them to the secret passage that she had taken when she came.

Seeing the door of the secret passage open, the soldiers cried out in surprise.

"I didn't see it at all." a soldier said in surprise. The door was hidden on the rock wall of the volcano, and its surface was almost the same as the surrounding rocks. It was impossible to recognize it based on the first impression.

The little girl led the soldiers through the secret passage and arrived at another scenic spot in the volcano.

Exquisite buildings were lined up side by side. It was more lively the place just now.

The moment Abel stepped into this place, he felt that the flow of the elements in his body became smoother. It was extremely inconceivable.

"Most of us are currently in a state of slumber. Please do not make too much noise while you are here." the little girl instructed in a low voice. "I will go wake up the chief."

After saying this, the little girl disappeared into the buildings.

Devitt organized everyone to keep quiet. Claremont and Abel stood in their original positions without saying a word. From time to time, they would raise their wrists to look at the direction of the hour hand.

After about ten minutes, the little girl appeared in front of everyone again.

"The clan chief is waiting for you up there. Follow me." the little girl said.

Devitt hesitated for a moment before commanding the soldiers to stay in their original positions and rest. He, Claremont, and Abel followed the little girl's footsteps. They went around the houses and headed towards the building in the center of the residential area.

The little girl didn't say a word along the way.

After bringing the three of them to a room on the second floor, she left quietly.

Devitt cast his gaze towards the old dwarf who was sitting on the seat of honor and waiting for them.

"Hello, chief of the dwarf race." Devitt, as the representative of the human race, stepped forward and greeted them.

Abel followed behind him and bowed to the chief of the dwarf race.

"Hello." the chief's hair had already turned white, and there were some age spots on his face. However, his voice didn't sound like it came from someone his age. "My little niece has already introduced your identities to me. There's no need to be formal since we know your origins, it's fine. Please take a seat."

"Thank you." Devitt replied and found a chair to sit down.

The other two also sat down.

"I heard that the dwarfs' recent supply and demand are all handled by the leader of the island?" Devitt asked first.

"Yes." the clan chief replied. "After all, the dwarfs have entered a dormant period. Basically, there won't be any personnel moving around."

"But at the same time, the news of the disappearance of all your clansmen has spread overseas, even to the Elf Kingdom." Devitt continued.

"Eh?" the chief's eyes widened in surprise.

Although Klidoff had previously told him that he would spread some misleading rumors to the edge of the island. But just the fact that it had spread overseas was already very unusual.

"We are here to look for clues about your kingdom's disappearance. After all, both Caradia Empire and Elf Kingdom owe a debt of gratitude to the dwarven craftsmen." Devitt's introduction continued, "I wonder if that fake town outside of this place was the idea of that Klidoff?"

"Yes." the clan chief nodded.

"No one knew that the dwarf race had not gone missing but had instead gone into hiding. The first batch of soldiers we sent found gnomes' tools in that place. Don't you think that all of this is too much of a coincidence?"

"What do you mean?" the clan chief's expression had already become somewhat gloomy.

"On the surface, now that the dwarf race has been framed for murdering the dragon race guards, the dwarf race has disappeared, and the gnome race is in chaos. Moreover, the gnomes have been accused of 'killing the dwarf race'. The three races are in grave danger." Devitt concluded.

"Klidoff, that b*stard is simply too detestable!" the dwarf clan chief roared.

"Actually, we still have chance. As long as you represent the dwarfs and clarify everything in front of the world, the scheme of Klidoff and the other helpers behind the scenes will fall apart." Claremont said.

"Hmph." the chief snorted angrily. "Alright, I'll follow you out. I want to see Klidoff's sorry face."

"Chief, let's leave as soon as possible." Abel saw the situation and suggested, "The situation outside is unpredictable. The earlier we leave, the earlier we can resolve all of this."

"Alright!" the dwarf clan chief agreed.

The few of them walked out of the room, but suddenly heard the alarm outside. The floor of the corridor shook as well.

"What happened?" Devitt looked out of the window and asked.

"Someone activated the vibration device in the town." the chief answered, "Let's go to the basement to take a look."

"Chief! We have to escape from here now!" Claremont advised.

"No, this vibration device is used to destroy the entire village. And only the dwarves can use it. I want to see which traitor did this." the chief was so angry that he trembled.

"We have to escape first. We can't let you take this risk." Devitt also said, "Our soldiers have already begun to wake up the dwarf residents in the house. We have to quickly meet up with them."

Just when the two sides were in a dispute, a familiar voice made them stop talking.

"Grandpa, don't look for me. I'm here."

The little girl who led the way just now stood in the middle of the hall on the first floor and said to the four people standing on the stairs with a smile.

"You!" the clan chief took a deep breath and shouted.

Devitt and the others were also frozen on the spot. The expression on the little girl's face made them almost unable to recognize her.

"You can't get out. All the exits have been sealed by me." the little girl continued to answer quietly.

"Why did you do all this!!" the chief said bitterly.

"To live in this world with dignity! To not be chased away like rats in the gutter." the little girl roared angrily.

This sentence made Devitt recall the intelligence he had obtained in the Elf Kingdom: the reason why the dwarves moved to the island was mainly because the original land had been invaded by the beastman force.

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Chapter 768: The Group Escaped From The Cave

And the little girl in front of her, if they're not mistaken, was Vivian who led a part of the dwarfs to revolt.

It was said that Vivian's hands were injured in the war.

She was severely punished by the dwarfs and could not forge for the rest of her life.

But at that time, Cumberland happened to send an invitation. The dwarfs who were busy moving could not find anyone to deal with it.

Out of helplessness, they sent Vivian to bring some new recruits to the job.

Vivian did not personally build the port, but instead took up the role of the chief commander of the entire construction project.

"I heard that His Highness Lord Kant is also acquainted with this little girl." Claremont said to Devitt in a low voice.

"Yes, I know that too." Devitt nodded and said, "However, the Vivian standing in front of us now seems to be totally different from the one who stayed in Cumberland."

"During that time, I have been to Cumberland a few times." Abel frowned and said, "I didn't expect that in such a short time, that would be a drastic change to a person."

The floor shook even more. Devitt glanced at the old chief who was standing silently on the side. He felt that it was not a good idea to continue this confrontation. He immediately walked to the side of the old chief and said, "Chief, let's quickly retreat."

"You guys go. I'll stay here with this little fellow." the chief shook his head and said, "If she has any grievances, just vent them on me."

Claremont frowned and said, "Your niece did such a thing on impulse. Please don't be stupid. If a person's life is lost, then everything will be meaningless."

After saying this, Claremont and Abel looked at each other. They made up their minds -- even if they had to knock the old chief out, they had to take him out.

"Clang!" The light at the corner of the stairs fell at their feet.

Devitt and the other two saw that the situation was getting worse. Without waiting for the old chief to reply, they lifted half of the old chief's body. They jumped down the stairs.

"You can't escape!" Vivian shouted as she watched the figures of these people escape to the door.

"Abel! Bring Vivian with you!" Claremont shouted at Abel.

The moment Abel passed by Vivian, he held her in his arms. No matter how much she resisted, she clenched her teeth and did not let go.

"Let go of me!" Vivian bit Abel's arm.

"Why are you so insensible!" Abel endured the pain of being bitten and frowned at Vivian.

The group ran out of the building and passed through the crumbling buildings.

"Boom -- boom --" the sound came from the edge of the town. Devitt looked in the direction of the source of the sound. He found the scout team and a group of dwarfs in pajamas.

The elven soldiers were using their spells to continuously attack the iron gate that blocked the secret door.

"Chief!"

"Captain Devitt!"

The arrival of Devitt and the others attracted the attention of the scout team and the dwarven craftsmen.

"Chief, what's going on?" A dwarf wearing a nightcap rushed to the side of the chief and asked.

"... sigh." the old chief sighed and said, "Klidoff betrayed us. These soldiers were sent by the humans and elves outside the island to help us out."

"Eh?" the dwarfs who heard the news were all surprised.

"Captain Abel! Captain Devitt, Captain Claremont! You're finally here." an elven soldier walked up to the three people and called out.

"How's the situation now?" Abel asked anxiously. His right hand was still holding the little girl in his arms, preventing her from escaping from him.

"Currently, the elven soldiers and the Caradia soldiers are working together to find a breakthrough point." the soldier reported.

"Any progress?" Claremont continued to ask.

"The entrance to the place was sealed by the iron gate. The material of the iron gate is harder than we imagined." the soldier's face revealed a troubled expression.

"It's too late." Devitt looked back at the shaking house behind him and said to the gnome chief, "Chief, do you have any ideas?"

"This iron gate is the last line of defense we have set up for this residence." the chief shook his head and said, "I don't know when this little girl took the key to the basement from me, and then she had the chance to use this device."

Abel squatted down and looked straight into Vivian's eyes. He asked, "What about you? How are you going to escape?"

"Hmph." Vivian turned her face away and did not say anything.

Abel frowned, stood up and said to the others, "It seems that this little girl is ready to die here with us."

After the dwarves heard the conversation between the two, they looked at Vivian in disbelief. However, Vivian ignored their gazes and kept her head down.

"We have to think of a way to escape from here." Claremont said in a solemn voice.

"There are about thirty minutes left before the cave collapses." Devitt took out his pocket watch and said after taking a look.

Abel walked to the iron gate where everyone was besieging and attached his right hand to it.

He used the spiritual energy in his body to feel the density of this piece of steel.

It was too strenuous for Abel to do such a test. When the water element in his body squeezed into this piece of metal with great difficulty... Bean-sized beads of sweat appeared on his forehead.

"Stop fighting." Abel wiped his sweat and said to the soldiers who were trying to break through, "You can't break this piece of steel."

When the scout soldiers heard this, they all stopped.

"Captain Abel, maybe we can find the ventilation shaft here and break through from there." a wind elf soldier suggested.

"Right." Abel suddenly realized. "You lead the way!"

"Okay." the soldier nodded and immediately used the spiritual power in his body to fly into the air. According to the airflow he felt, he searched for the air lock of this small town.

"Found it!" five minutes later, the elven soldier stopped in front of a mountain wall. He shouted excitedly at the soldiers standing on the ground.

"Good!" Abel immediately followed. After observing for a while, he said to the other soldiers, "We can break through from here!"

Each elven soldier brought a Caradia soldier and flew high into the sky, arriving at the location where Abel and the wind elf were. The two forces combined and smashed a big hole in the rock wall.

"Wow!" the dwarves cheered happily. They hadn't thought of this method before.. Now that they could break through the crisis easily, they were really happy.

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Chapter 769: The Unveiling Of The Conspiracy

After the elven soldiers brought the Caradia soldiers out, they returned to the volcano and escaped from the cave with the dwarven craftsmen. Because the elven soldiers were more than twice the size of the dwarfs, each elven soldier carried a dwarf in each hand in order to save time.

"I'll take the chief and Vivian away." Abel told Devitt and Claremont.

"Okay, then I'll leave them to you." Devitt replied. Then, he held the hand of the elven soldiers who were floating in the air.

The buildings in the volcano had been destroyed by the shockwave. Abel looked around and found that most of the people had left safely. He raised his right hand and called for all the elven soldiers in the volcano to gather. Then, he led the last group of people and rushed out.

They landed safely on the green grass on the surface of the volcano.

Devitt walked to the dwarf clan chief, who was still in a state of shock, and said, "Chief, if you need any help from us, please feel free to ask."

The clan chief stood where he was and thought for a while. Then, he said, "There's no need to trouble you. Thank you, humans and elves, for saving our tribe."

"You're welcome." Devitt shook his head and said, "Then, may I ask what your plan is?"

"Of course, we'll find Klidoff for a clear explanation." the chief said angrily, "He failed to keep the agreement with the dwarfs. We'll have to find him to clarify the reason behind it."

"Mm." Devitt nodded. Their mission had come to an end here.

"If there's nothing we can do, we'll take our leave." Abel said politely. "I hope you all can have a smooth journey."

"Thank you." the dwarf clan chief nodded.

"Chief! Vivian is gone!" A dwarf ran to the clan chief and shouted.

"What happened?" clan chief immediately became nervous and asked anxiously.

"Just now, she said she wanted to drink water, so I took her to the freshwater pool nearby. After that, when I was fetching water by the pool, she disappeared. I searched around the freshwater pool for a long time, but I couldn't find her." the dwarf soldier reported.

"How careless!" the dwarf clan chief stomped his feet and said angrily.

"Since she just gone, she shouldn't have gone too far with her little feet. Quickly send people to search in batches. Our people might be able to help." Devitt suggested.

"Thank you very much." the chief nodded and said.

Hundreds of dwarfs and soldiers of the reconnaissance team surrounded the freshwater pool on the volcano and began to search.

It was almost dark now, so they couldn't search for long. When they gathered again, they had not found Vivian.

Seeing the worry on the faces of the dwarfs, Devitt pursed his lips, but there was still no clue in his mind.

"Why don't we go down the mountain and rest first? We can go up the mountain and search again tomorrow at dawn." a dwarf craftsman suggested to the old chief.

"... That's the only way." the old chief compromised.

Although he really wanted to find his niece, he still couldn't drag all the dwarfs who were only wearing thin pajamas to spend the night on this winter mountain.

"Our teleportation array is almost here." Claremont said, "Everyone, follow us down the mountain. I reckon that once you reach the foot of the mountain, the rumors will fall apart."

"Mm, thank you." The chief agreed to Claremont's suggestion. The group of people went down the mountain.

Just as Claremont said, when the mages who were operating the magic array saw the dwarves appear in front of them, their faces instantly turned pale.

On the way out of the teleportation array, there were many wanderers who approached the dwarfs to talk to them and ask them the truth about the disappearance.

After hearing the story of the dwarfs being deceived by Klidoff, everyone put on an incredulous expression.

However, most of them still chose to believe the truth that the dwarfs had told them.

After all, they knew the dwarfs would not lie.

The reconnaissance team chose to stay in a hotel near the center of the city.

When dawn came the next day, the dispute between Klidoff and the dwarfs spread throughout the town and even spread to other parts of the volcano.

Some people said that Klidoff, who sat at the desk of his law enforcement officer every day at eight o'clock, did not show up at the law enforcement building today.

After the dwarfs gathered the citizens and explained the truth. They applied for military support from the volcano administration to help them go up the mountain to search for Vivian.

In this way, Devitt and the others were completely idle.

Devitt's plan was to leave immediately, but Claremont and Abel both requested that they stay for one more day to see how the current situation developed.

After the soldiers were on vacation, they all walked out of the inn and strolled on the streets.

Devitt and the other two didn't have the mood to relax. They found a nearby teahouse and sat in a private room to drink tea.

"Tell me, what can we see if we stay here for one more day?" Devitt sighed and asked.

"Actually, we just want to stay here for one more day." Claremont shook his head and said, "To adjust the soldiers' status. What can we see? It depends on how quickly the situation on this island changes."

"Hehe." Abel laughed when he heard Claremont. After Claremont glared at him, he immediately restrained his expression.

"I heard that the dragon clan sent representatives to participate in this morning's gathering to support the dwarf clan." Claremont told him the news that the hotel attendant had revealed.

"The dragon clan? They woke up?" Devitt was somewhat surprised.

"Yes." Claremont nodded. "They are calmer than expected."

"This island has at least a few hundred years of history. There have been many people who wanted to stir up trouble. How could the dragon clan be so frightened by this matter?" Abel took a sip of tea and said.

"That's true." Claremont nodded, he said, "But this time, the people behind the scenes will be in big trouble. The dragon clan's military power, the gnome's strategy, the dwarf's artillery, the goblin's network. These superimposed powers are unimaginable."

"So... shouldn't we leave earlier?" Devitt frowned.

Claremont coughed. "That's all you thought of?!"

"What else can I think of? If the various races on this island suddenly start fighting, where would we find a place to stay?" Devitt said with a laugh.

"No, we can still bring some fresh information back with us." Claremont insisted, "If these races really want to use force, we have to wait for everyone to arrive.. We haven't even figured out who's behind this yet."

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Chapter 770: The Long-awaited Reunite

"That's right." Abel nodded. "Moreover, the righteous side on the surface might not be able to unite as we expected."

"Oh right, Claremont, you've gathered quite a lot of information." Devitt asked, "How's the situation in the Gnome Kingdom? Any progress?"

Claremont shot a glance at Devitt, he said, "Didn't Austin leave early this morning to meet with Gilbert? I only glanced at him from the side. Gilbert looks good, and the 'prisoner' tattoo on his left chest has disappeared. I guess he's making good progress."

"This is really good news." Devitt said with a smile.

"When I sent Gilbert away that day, I thought I would never see him again." Claremont said while covering his chest.

"Hehe." Abel laughed. "Then what else did you hear?"

"Nothing. I told you all the news I received." Claremont pursed his lips and said, "I was so bored that I came out to have tea with you two."

"You brat..." Devitt scolded with a smile.

Austin's footsteps were light as he walked along the street with Gilbert.

"I was really happy to see the door of the hotel early this morning." Austin was always in high spirits. He turned to Gilbert and asked, "How did you know that we are in this hotel?"

"The news of you bringing the dwarfs down the mountain has already spread. How could I not know where you are staying?" Gilbert replied with a smile.

"Is there such a high level of attention?" Austin asked in surprise.

"Very high. After all, the dwarfs have disappeared from the public's mouth for a long time." Gilbert nodded. "Moreover, you have also brought such an important piece of news about Klidoff"

"Actually, we ordinary soldiers are not very clear about these things. It is mainly captain Devitt, Captain Claremont, and Captain Abel who are leading us." Austin lowered his head and said.

"Isn't that good?" Gilbert raised the corner of his mouth and said, "Your cooperation has made such a good result."

"Yes." Austin nodded and asked, "What about you? Have you been accepted by the Gnome Kingdom?"

"Sort of." Gilbert thought for a while and replied.

After his return, the situation in the country had basically calmed down. Gilbert really didn't expect that there were so many people waiting for him. Unknowingly, he was already the last bloodline left by the gnome royal family in this civil war.

After finding out who was behind this and giving an explanation to all the people in the kingdom, he had to give his parents a grand funeral.

"Are you happy?" Austin continued to ask.

"When I see others happy, I'm also be happy. However, I am the only one left in my family. Sometimes, I cannot help but feel sad." Gilbert said softly.

In a few days, he would inherit the throne. At that time, there would be more troublesome things.

Austin heard Gilbert's answer and turned to look at his face worriedly. Austin had heard from Gilbert that his parents had passed away before he was exiled out of the city.

"The people who framed your parents are extremely evil." Austin said. "They will definitely be punished."

"Punishment will never bring back the lives of my parents." Gilbert's eyes dimmed. "So I don't really care what kind of fate those people will end up in."

Austin put his hand on Gilbert's shoulder, he said, "You're right. But finding these evil people and saving those families that will be harmed can offset the self-blame in your heart. I think your parents will encourage you to do it."

"Yes." Gilbert nodded and said, "Don't worry, I'll pull myself together. And I believe that you will always stand behind me and help me."

"Of course, I will always stand on your side. If you have any troubles, you can write to me. We will solve them together." Austin promised.

Gilbert nodded with tears in his eyes and smiled.

Then, the conversation between the two became much more relaxed. They chatted and laughed on the busy street for the whole morning. In the end, they couldn't walk anymore, so they found a restaurant and sat down for lunch.

To Gilbert's surprise, this restaurant was actually run by a gnome.

The gnome boss immediately trembled in fear when he saw Gilbert. He nervously walked up to Gilbert and prepared to bow.

Gilbert quickly held him up and gave him a look.

The boss had lived in this small town for so many years and even had his own restaurant. He was naturally a smart person. Under the hint of Gilbert's gaze, he immediately stopped moving. He said apologetically to Gilbert and Austin, "I'm sorry, I didn't look at the road just now. Thanks to... this... person's help. Do you guys want a room or eat?"

The restaurant owner really couldn't think of how to address Gilbert in this kind of situation.

"Eat. Take us to the private room in the restaurant upstairs." Gilbert said.

"Okay." the gnome boss agreed. He lowered his head and led the way.

Although Austin felt strange, he didn't say anything. After all, he didn't know the identity of Gilbert's new gnome king.

Although Devitt gave the soldiers of the investigation team a holiday, he still told them to return to the hotel before dark.

Gilbert heard about this rule from Austin. After lunch, he sent Austin back to the hotel.

When they parted at the entrance of the hotel, they met Devitt and the other two who were walking back from the teahouse.

"Gilbert!" Devitt greeted him first.

Abel went up and hugged the little gnome.

"You seem to be in good shape." Claremont smiled. "Do you want to come in?"

"No. I still have to rush back to the mountain today. It's almost time." Gilbert declined politely.

"What a pity." Claremont said. "We still want to hear about the recent situation of the gnomes."

"Right, what are the gnomes going to do next? Are they going to meet up with the dwarfs?" Abel asked.

"Dwarfs?" Gilbert narrowed his eyes, "The gnomes haven't interacted with the dwarfs for a long time. They won't make an exception this time, right? The dwarfs have the support of the dragon race, which is enough. I don't think they have any intention of cooperating with us."

"I see..." Devitt said regretfully, "Then I wish the gnomes good luck."

"Thank you." Gilbert replied. He bent down slightly and left after packing his luggage.

Austin stood at the side, confused.. He cast a puzzled look at Devitt and the others.