

Shota 371

Chapter 371 What Is This? (5)

There was a sword that was broken, but it wasn't the one that everyone thought would break.

The crowd was filled with dwarves and they could see the difference between the two swords, so they knew that it was very likely that the glass sword would be shattered.

But when they actually clashed with each other...it was the mithril sword that was snapped in half.

When Drogath swung his mithril sword on the glass sword, there was no resistance at all from the mithril sword as it suddenly snapped in half.

The part that snapped off rebounded back at Drogath and if he hadn't reacted in time, he might have been stabbed in the face by it.

But he was able to dodge out of the way at the last second, leaving a cut on his cheek as the top half of the sword flew past and stabbed itself into the ground behind him. It fully stabbed into the hard stone floor, cutting into it like it was nothing.

This showed just how sharp this mithril sword was even though it had snapped.

Even then, this mithril sword hadn't been able to do a single thing to this glass sword.

In fact, it didn't even leave a single dent on this glass sword.

There was only silence that filled the stadium when everyone saw this.

Looks of shock appeared on the faces of everyone in the stadium.

Only I was standing there with a bitter smile on my face while shaking my head.

I had already expected this, but I never thought that it would be this dramatic.

The silence hung in the air for a long time before Drogath broke it by saying, "What is this?!"

As soon as he broke the silence, the crowd also filled with gasps and exclamations of shock.

It was as if they were trying to figure out just how this had happened.

"Is this a trick? Could it be that this glass sword is made of something very dense that it would only be very strong. Something like that must be too heavy to use."

"Still, what kind of material would be that strong? Even if it can't be used with weapons, we can use it in other things."

"Right, right, this can be used to make castles and we would have the strongest defenses."

Whispers like this quickly filled the crowd, but one had to admit that this was a valid theory.

It was this theory that Drogath latched onto.

If this sword was just too heavy to carry and wield, then it would fail as a weapon. So even if his sword had been cracked in half by it, he couldn't be considered the winner of this forging duel since it was a failed sword.

But it seemed like everyone had forgotten something.

How had Zwein carried it to the table if it was too heavy to begin with.

It was clear that Zwein wasn't the most muscular person, so if it really was that heavy...he shouldn't have been able to carry this glass sword over.

So how had he done it?

They were just latching onto this theory instead of actually trying to figure it out just for their own common sense.

They didn't want to believe that there was something that was this amazing in this world.

But it was too bad for them that I was here to shatter those thoughts.

So I picked up the glass sword that was on the table with one hand before Drogath could even say a thing.

When they saw how easily I picked it up, everyone couldn't help revealing looks of shock. I think you should take a look at

After all, this completely destroyed the theory that they had.

While they were all staring at me in shock, I just casually lifted the sword in front of me and pointed it at...Drogath.

With a smile, I said, "I think now it's my turn."

When they heard this, Drogath and the crowd all revealed bitter smiles.

What turn?

You've already destroyed the mithril swords, what else was there left for you to destroy?

But I didn't stop as I suddenly swung the sword down.

The Dwarven King reached his hand out to stop me as he said, "Wait, don't!"

But it was already too late.

He had seen that when I lifted the glass sword up, there were lights that light up on the blade of the sword. Those were the lights that came from the runes receiving mana and powering up.

He knew that this was definitely not a slash that Drogath or the mithril sword could take.

However, I had already swung the sword down at him.

When the sword came down, it cut through the air with a loud sound.

It was almost as if this sword was cutting the air itself.

Then the sword cut right down through the mithril sword that was in Drogath's hand.

When he felt this slash coming at him, Drogath had frozen in place.

He had felt the pressure that came from this sword falling down on him and he couldn't move at all.

In his heart, it was as if he moved a single inch, he would be cut down in place.

So he didn't dare move.

The glass sword went right through the mithril sword without any resistance and then went straight down to the ground.

It didn't stop when it reached the ground and just went right into the stone floor.

If I didn't stop it, it might have cut even deeper than that.

However, the influence that this slash had wasn't just that.

There was a burst of dust that came up after I finished the slash that hid us from the crowd.

When the dust settled, they all revealed shocked looks at what they saw.

It wasn't because of the mithril sword handle that had been cut in half that they were shocked...

Rather, they were shocked to see the large gash that had appeared on the ground right next to Drogath.

This was a gash that they couldn't see the bottom of.

This was a gash that seemed like it went all the way down to the abyss.

Chapter 372 What Is This? (6)

"Oi, what are you doing?" The Dwarven King shouted after coming back to his senses.

I just said with a friendly smile, "I was just taking my turn. I don't think I did anything wrong."

The Dwarven King shook his head as he looked at me before putting his head in his hand.

He came forward and lowered his voice to say, "You're taking it too far."

I just looked back at him with the same smile on my face.

Since I had decided to do this, I would go all the way.

Drogath had been frozen in place, but he slowly defrosted when he heard the Dwarven King's voice.

Slowly, he turned to his right and looked at his hand holding the sword.

If he had moved an inch further out, he might have gotten his fingers sliced off...

The cut was a very clean cut, without leaving a single fragment behind. There was only the handle of his mithril sword left in his hand that he couldn't help dropping to the ground.

After that, he turned to look at the ground when he didn't hear the sound of the handle dropping.

Instead, it was his chin that dropped when he saw this abyss by him.

No matter how he tried, he couldn't see the bottom of it.

He could still see the handle getting further and further as it fell down into this hole.

Just how deep was this thing!

Drogath's legs went soft and he jumped away from the gash in the ground, almost as if he was afraid that he would fall into it.

As he fell on his butt, he turned to look at the sword in Zwein's hands with a look of shock and disbelief.

He didn't believe that such a sword would be able to do something like this.

After looking exasperated for a bit, the Dwarven King still said, "I think that the results are clear. The winner is..."

Before he could finish, Drogath suddenly shouted, "Wait! I want to ask the judges to check that sword before anything is declared! I suspect that they used to cheat!"

This was unsightly, but this was something that he could do.

Especially since this was a formal duel.

Since this was a formal and official duel, there was a council of judges that had been gathered for such an occasion.

If one of them suspected the other one of cheating, they would have an option of appealing to the judges which was what Drogath was doing now.

But of course, that was considered very unsightly, especially when the results were this clear.

But Drogath couldn't just let this duel end like this.

So no matter what it made him seem like, he would fight to the end.

The Dwarven King looked at Drogath with a complicated look, but he still gathered the judges in the end.

All of the judges that had been called were famous blacksmiths of the capital, so they were dwarves that were easily recognized by the crowd.

There were many people that even started to fangirl over these judges when they came in.

The Dwarven King didn't waste any time and brought these judges over to Zwein's sword.

He reached his hand out and I simply handed it over to him without any care.

Taking this sword, he went over to a table which he placed it on before letting the judges take a look at it. I think you should take a look at

There was a silence that filled the air as the judges leaned over the sword on the table.

But then all of a sudden...

"What is this?!"

That was the first thing that any of the judges said.

Once this was said by one of them, the others all started shouting out in shock as well.

It was as if they couldn't believe what was in front of them.

They all leaned in even more to take a closer look at this sword in front of them.

When Drogath saw them acting like this, his hopes were brought up.

They wouldn't be acting this way unless there was something very shocking or something wrong with this sword.

So he hoped that it was the latter rather than the former.

After another long silence, the judges all turned to look at me with a strange look.

It was as if they weren't certain about something and they wanted to get the answer from me.

But when Drogath saw this, he thought that it meant something completely different.

He thought that the judges had found something wrong with the sword and came forward to say something.

But all that he received was the hands of the judges as they all pushed him out of the way.

Not a single one of them cared about Drogath as they all surrounded Zwein.

"How did you make such a thing? I've never seen this kind of metal before."

"That's right! Not only is it lighter, it's even stronger than mithril."

"This kind of metal is what I've been looking for! If you can give me some, then I'll give you anything you want!"

At the same time, there were some that were complaining to the Dwarven King.

After all, it was him who had prepared the resources for this forging duel.

They assumed that he knew what kind of metal this was and that he had been keeping it secret from them the entire time.

"Your majesty, you can't do this to us."

"If you've found something good, you should share it with the rest of us."

"That's right! That's right!"

But the Dwarven King could only reveal a bitter smile.

After all, he also didn't know anything about this.

The materials that he had prepared, he had given the same set to both sides.

So there wasn't any special metal that was used.

If he had to guess, this was most likely another one of the alloys that Zwein had told him about that he had kept secret until now.

He actually wanted to complain to Zwein about this.

Chapter 373 What Is This? (7)

Seeing the dwarves surrounding me like this, I couldn't help revealing a bitter smile.

This was the same thing all over again.

But then again, these dwarves were different from the ones that had been there previously.

These were the dwarves that were famous in the capital, so they didn't take positions in the castle by the Dwarven King's side. These were the craftsmen that focused on their own work instead of on politics.

So they weren't there for the duel between me and the Dwarven King.

They also weren't there for the lecture that I gave on alloys.

I raised my hands for all of them to calm down before saying, "I would be happy to explain all of this, but first let's all calm down."

Since I was the one saying it, the dwarves had no choice but to calm down.

But the look in their eyes was still scary.

It was the look of a predator looking at prey.

It was as if they wanted to crack me open and tear me piece from piece to find the knowledge that they were looking for.

This was a very strange feeling, but it was a feeling that I was familiar with.

After all, the Dwarven King and his companions had looked at me with the same look before.

This was just the passion that they had for knowledge, especially forging knowledge.

After they calmed down, I said, "I will explain all of this to you, but before that, I think that there's still something else left to do."

The judges all revealed confused looks when they heard this.

It was as if to them, there was nothing else that mattered other than the knowledge that they wanted.

I said with a sigh, "The results of the forging duel?"

The judges all revealed looks like they had suddenly realized something before all of them revealed wide smiles.

One of them spoke for the rest and said, "Of course it is your victory. There's no comparison between the two swords."

After he said this, the other dwarves all nodded in agreement without any hesitation.

It was as if they were fully convinced of this fact.

But all that did was make Drogath's face turn dark as he roared, "Why?! It's clear that he cheated!"

All of the judges looked at Drogath in disdain when they heard this.

However, before any of them could say a thing, I cut in by saying, "Cheating? Why do you think that I was cheating?"

Drogath's face twisted before he said, "It's clear that you used some kind of spell on this sword that made it stronger. How could this not be considered cheating?"

I just gave a sigh and said, "Ignorance isn't a sin, but refusing to learn is."

Drogath's face twisted even more when he heard this.

But before he could explode, I said, "You don't even bother learning from your mistakes and just keep shouting these excuses as to why you've lost, don't you feel embarrassed?" I think you should take a look at

Drogath looked like he was about to faint from the rage that he felt, but he didn't move.

I waited a bit before continuing, "I'll explain to you the reason that you lost then."

Moving over to the sword on the table, I picked it up and said, "This sword is made of a thing called an alloy."

With that, I went into the explanation on alloys that I had given before.

The judges all listened seriously, but it was clear that they had already heard this before.

Even Drogath seemed like he had heard this before.

I looked at the Dwarven King and he just looked back at me with a smile.

It seemed like the Dwarven King hadn't been idle during this time, he had already spread the information on the alloy to the various master blacksmiths of the Dwarven Kingdom.

It seemed like he had even given this information about alloys to Drogath.

After I finished that explanation on alloys, there was a lot of discussion that came from the audience since they didn't know about this.

Most dwarves had knowledge of forging even if they didn't work as blacksmiths, so they had some understanding of what I said.

"But how does it not cause impurities?"

"Shouldn't the ores repel each other and refuse to come together?"

There were many different questions that came from the audience, but I ignored them as I continued with what I said.

"The alloy that I used for this sword is called adamant. If you looked at it closely, you would have seen that I threw in diamonds to my mixture. Diamonds are famous for how hard they are, but they aren't used for forging since they are hard to work with, but if you use it to create this ore."

I raised the sword up when I said this and it entered the light.

When it did, it almost seemed like it was glowing.

The judges all gave nods of agreement when they heard this.

They had already tested how hard this sword was and they knew that it was comparable to diamonds.

Drogath also had no choice but to accept this fact after hearing the speech about alloys.

He might want to deny it, but when so many people accept this and the facts were in front of him, he had no choice but to accept it.

Though, he would rather die than admit it.

Just with this adamant alloy alone, it was more than enough for him to win this forging duel.

But that wasn't all there was...

Drogath pointed at the sword and said, "There are clear fluctuations coming from it, far greater than what runes should give off. How do you explain that if not that you used a spell to strengthen this sword?"

I just shook my head and said, "It's laughable how ignorant you are."

Drogath's face twisted in rage once again, but then I said, "How are you so certain that it can't be the runes that are releasing this fluctuation?"

Chapter 374 What Is This? (8)

Drogath opened his mouth to say something, but he found that there was nothing that he could say.

After all, he wasn't able to refute this.

He might know some things about runes, but it couldn't be said that he knew everything about them.

It was perfectly logical that there should be runes that have capacity for this much mana.

So he couldn't just completely deny this.

But the one thing that he could deny was...

"You're saying that someone like you who can't even forge his own weapon can write runes of this capacity? If you want to tell a joke, I think that you should find a better one." Drogath said with a snort filled with disdain.

The judges all looked at Drogath in disdain when they heard this.

I just gave a chuckle before suddenly lifting the sword up to point at Drogath.

When he saw this sword pointing at him, there was a trace of fear that filled his heart.

He had already been on the receiving end of this sword, so it had left a trauma in his heart.

When he was facing this sword again, his legs turned soft and he couldn't help taking a step back.

With a stutter, he said, "What...What are you doing? Are you trying to cause trouble now that I've hit the nail on the head? Do you know where you are?"

I didn't react at all to his provocation and just injected a bit of mana into the sword.

When the sword received this mana, the first rune near the hilt of the sword suddenly lit up. There was a powerful mana fluctuation that came from it as the rune lit up.

This was more than enough to prove that this mana fluctuation had indeed come from the sword itself.

But I wasn't satisfied with just that.

So slowly, I injected more mana into the sword.

With more mana received, the runes of the sword started to light up one by one.

As the runes lit up, the mana fluctuation that came from this sword also became stronger and stronger until they reached the same level as before.

I looked at Drogath with a smirk on my face and asked, "How about now? Is it still impossible?"

Drogath didn't know what to say since there was nothing that he could say to refute it.

If I didn't do this, he might be able to say that this was just a trick.

But when I gave such a clear demonstration, there wasn't a thing that he could say that would twist this around.

Everyone was able to see it clearly just where this mana fluctuation came from.

After showing this, I put the sword back onto the ground and went back to my furnace.

I picked up the empty stones that I had used to imprint these runes on the sword before saying, "You should be able to see what kind of stones these were. If even these were used, then you should know just how much mana is contained in this sword, in these runes."

Even the crowd gave a nod of agreement when they heard this.

Everyone could see just how big these stones were, so they were able to tell what grade of stones had been used for this sword. I think you should take a look at

If crystals of this grade were used, it was no wonder there was so much mana contained in these runes.

They all looked at Drogath with looks of disdain once more after hearing this.

It was clear at this point that he wasn't willing to accept his loss and was making all these excuses.

As fellow dwarves, they couldn't help feeling ashamed of him.

I just ignored him and went back to the judges while being bombarded with questions.

"It isn't just the stones used, there's something special about the runes as well."

"That's right, where did you find these runes?"

"Also, how did you imprint them that they could accept this much mana? It just doesn't make any sense at all."

I just revealed a smile without saying anything.

The judges couldn't help becoming more and more anxious when they saw me like this.

But slowly, they also started to recognize what was happening.

It was wrong to get knowledge without paying for it, so if they wanted this knowledge...they should show their sincerity.

After a moment of hesitation, they all started making different offers for this knowledge.

However, the offers that they made were all shallow.

They offered their skills which was what they had the most confidence in, but I wasn't interested in that at all.

After all, I had knowledge from the game, so my techniques were far greater than theirs.

I didn't need their abilities since I could make things that were better than what they had.

The sword on the table was already the best example of this.

As they kept making their offers, it was clear that they weren't planning on going in the direction that I wanted them to.

So instead of forcing it, it was better to give them some time to mull it over so that they could think it through and finally come to the conclusion that I wanted them to.

With a smile, I said, "Thank you everyone for your offers, but let's talk about this later."

I turned to look at Drogath who was just frozen in place and walked over to him.

When he saw me walking over, he couldn't help taking a step back as if he was scared of me.

But then he realized what he was doing and stopped himself from moving backwards.

Instead of backing down, he looked at me with a defiant look and said, "What do you want?"

I just asked with a smile, "You didn't forget about what we bet on this duel did you? I'm here to collect what is due."

When Drogath heard this, he couldn't help shivering as if a chill ran down his spine.

Chapter 375 Give Me Your Hammer

Drogath didn't say a single word in response to what I said.

It even looked like he was debating whether he should run away or not.

But of course, that didn't matter even if he wanted to run away. The bet that we had made had already spread all over the capital, so it didn't matter where he ran, he wouldn't be able to get out of the terms of the bet.

There was only one path forward for him.

Well...there was a second path, but it was a very foolish path.

The Dwarven King had already taken precautions against that second half.

Out of the corner of my eyes, I could see that there were a few dwarves in the crowd who looked like they were preparing to charge out onto the stage.

These were dwarves from the anti human faction that were under Drogath.

It seemed that he had snuck his own men into the audience today.

It was most likely because he was afraid that I would try to back down on our bet when he won, so he had posted them there to watch over me so that I wouldn't be able to escape.

Or in a worst case scenario, they would be able to cut me down since they were justified to do so.

But now, this was the worst case scenario for them.

Not only had Drogath not won, he had been crushed soundly that he had no choice but to admit his defeat.

With no path back, there was only one path forward.

Drogath's subordinates in the crowd were holding their weapons as if they were preparing to attack.

The only path left for them was to cut down the Dwarven King and the human, take over this kingdom in a brutal coup.

Only then would Drogath be able to ignore his promise since dead men tell no tales.

But the Dwarven King had already expected this.

There were also several dwarves that were around Drogath's subordinates.

These were guards that had been snuck in by the Dwarven King.

The moment that Drogath's subordinates made a move, they would be ready to arrest all of them in one fell swoop before they could even do anything.

Unlike Drogath's subordinates, these were the elite guards of the kingdom and were much stronger than them. In a fight, they wouldn't be able to resist at all.

Drogath was silent for a long time before finally saying, "Is there really no way we can compromise? Are you really that set on this?"

I slightly knitted my brows when I heard this.

I didn't know why, but it felt like there was something else that he was trying to imply with this.

Something much more sinister...

But that wasn't important to me.

Right now, the only thing that mattered was taking care of Drogath so that it would be easier in the future.

I just said in a strict voice, "No, there's no compromise with someone like you. Are you regretting it now?"

Drogath revealed a strange smile when he heard this before saying, "No, I would never regret my actions, but you will one day." I think you should take a look at

I knitted my brows even more when I heard this.

For some reason, it didn't feel like this was just an empty threat even though I had no idea what Drogath was talking about.

After a long silence, he suddenly went back over to his forge and picked up the hammer that was there.

He walked back in front of everyone and then taking that hammer in both hands...he snapped it in half.

With that, it could be said that his promise had been fulfilled.

But everyone was shocked at how easily he had chosen to compromise.

After what he had done earlier, they had thought that he would try to weasel out of it. But he hadn't hesitated at all to shatter his hammer to signify that he would be dropping his hammer.

Why would he act this way all of a sudden?

It almost seemed like he had two different personalities...

After shattering his hammer, Drogath looked at me and said, "You've won this time, but I promise that it won't be the last time. I will make sure that you pay for this in the future."

Once again, he had gone back from a man of his word to a petty villain.

It really seemed like there were two different personalities in him...

Then all of a sudden, Drogath said in a serious voice, "You should have let me be. I was the one that was holding back the real monsters and now that you've defeated me, there will be no one keeping them in check. Since I won't have any influence left, I won't be able to stop them."

Both the Dwarven King and I knitted our brows when we heard this.

'Monsters'?

What was he talking about?

Could it be that we had been underestimating the anti human faction the entire time?

The Dwarven King asked with a frown on his face, "What do you mean by that?"

Drogath just ignored him when he said this as he kept staring at me.

The look in his eyes was very complicated that I couldn't see through it at all.

I didn't even know just what he was looking at exactly even though he was staring right at me.

But then, Drogath suddenly turned around to leave.

Before he could, I said, "Wait, you're forgetting something."

When he heard this, his foot suddenly stopped moving and he slowly turned around to look at me. Looking at me with a hint of confusion, he asked, "What?"

I wasn't scared by him and just calmly said, "You've forgotten about the other part of our agreement."

With a nod to the Dwarven King, he pulled out a piece of paper, some ink, and a pen for Drogath.

He handed all of them to Drogath and waited for him to read it.

Drogath looked down at this piece of paper with a confused look, but then he understood when he saw the words at the top of this piece of paper.

Divorce papers.

Chapter 376 Free Now (1)

Surprisingly, Drogath suddenly revealed a smile when he saw this.

He said with a chuckle, "So you're still concerned with her?"

The Dwarven King's lips twitched when he heard this and the look in his eyes changed. It was almost as if he wanted to punch Drogath in the face when he heard this, but he was able to hold himself back in the end.

Drogath could see this, but he ignored it and looked at me still before saying, "Why? Why are you so concerned about her?"

The Dwarven King finally couldn't take it anymore when he heard this.

"You son of a..." Before he could finish, I had already gone forward to grab him.

Though if he really wanted to, he could have thrown me as well.

He was the Dwarven King, the muscles that he had as a dwarf and the muscles that he had been building through a lifetime of forging wasn't weak. It definitely made him much stronger than me who only started exercising recently.

I wouldn't be able to hold him back by normal means...

So that meant that he was allowing himself to be held back.

Even if he wanted to punch Drogath, there was still the history between them and their positions.

If he as the Dwarven King were to punch the leader of the anti human faction like this, there was no doubt that it would start a war.

So he allowed himself to be held by me.

Drogath didn't seem bothered at all when he saw the Dwarven King acting this way.

Instead, he gave a sigh and asked, "Is she well?"

Both the Dwarven King and I were caught off guard when we heard this.

He suddenly stopped 'struggling' and I stopped 'holding' him back.

The two of us looked at Drogath with strange looks, as if we were trying to figure out if he was being serious or not.

But all he did was look at the piece of paper as he gave another sigh.

The Dwarven King's face filled with anger after he saw this and he roared out, "What do you care! It's not as if you feel anything towards her!"

Drogath didn't respond right away, but he slowly gave a nod and said with a smile, "You're right about that."

Once again, the Dwarven King went as if he was going to punch him and once again, I had to 'restrain' the Dwarven King.

But as I looked at Drogath, I couldn't help feeling that there was something different about him.

It was as if there was a bit of regret in his eyes...but what did he regret?

There was a long silence as we just stood there waiting for him to sign the piece of paper.

He did sign it in the end and held it out for me to take instead of the Dwarven King.

He looked at me with a strange look before saying, "Tell her to take care of herself for me."

I knitted my brows once more after hearing this.

The way that he said this, it almost seemed like he still cared about her...but if he did, then why would he act the way that he did before? I think you should take a look at

Then after taking a few steps, Drogath suddenly turned back and said in a voice filled with rage, "I'll remember what you did to me today. You'll see, I'll have my revenge."

All this did was make me even more confused.

One second, he was acting a certain way and the next, he was acting like a petty villain.

Did he have a split personality or was there something wrong with his brain?

He really couldn't keep a consistent personality?

There had to be something wrong with him.

But when I thought about it, it didn't seem like it was related to me.

The only reason that I had gotten involved in the first place was because of the anti human faction. Now that they had lost their leader, I was certain that this anti human faction would also go underground.

They wouldn't dare cause any trouble now that their leader was like this.

So that should mean that the anti human faction was taken care of.

As for what happened to Drogath after this...that was none of my concern.

As Drogath walked away, the Dwarven King kept looking at his back with a complicated expression.

They were childhood friends and even if he was angry with what Drogath had done recently, there was no denying the relationship between them.

I didn't say anything as I just silently watched over the Dwarven King.

Even after Drogath had left, the Dwarven King just stood there staring forward in a daze.

After a long silence, he finally said with a sigh, "I'm fine, you don't need to worry about me."

I didn't say anything as I just calmly waited for him to move.

After another silence, he turned to me and said, "Come, let's head back to the castle. I'm sure that Elsa's waiting for the news."

I just gave a simple nod before following him.

When the judges saw us leave, they immediately came forward to surround us.

They hadn't even learned what they had wanted to learn yet.

They had been patiently waiting for me to finish my business with Drogath, but now that it was over, they wouldn't let me leave that quickly.

That was unless I gave them what they wanted.

The Dwarven King revealed an annoyed look when he saw this, but he knew that he needed to do something to take care of them or else they would keep bugging him.

So the Dwarven King said, "I'll send an invitation to all of you later and hold a conference so that you can discuss the terms of this. For now, Zwein and I have other things to do."

The judges looked like they had more to say, but the Dwarven King suppressed them with a single glare.

In the end, they had no choice but to follow his suggestion since it was already better than nothing.

Chapter 377 Free Now (2)

After pacifying the judges, the Dwarven King wasted no time in bringing us back to the castle.

There was something that he needed to do, something that was very important to him.

He went through the castle without a care for the people that tried to stop him and headed in a specific direction. It was like he already knew where he was going and was determined to reach there no matter what.

The ones that worked in the castle knew which direction he was heading in, so they didn't bother stopping him.

I just silently followed behind him, but there was a look on my face that made it seem like I didn't agree with this.

The two of us made our way through the castle until we reached a garden.

Sitting in the middle of that garden on a bench was a female dwarf.

Even though it was winter, this garden was still warm since this was a greenhouse garden.

So she was dressed lightly in a dress as she sat there in the middle of this garden.

She wasn't staring at anything in particular and seemed to be staring off into space, as if she was thinking about something.

The Dwarven King paused for a second when he saw the female dwarf like this, but he still charged into the room with the divorce papers and said, "Elsa, he signed it. As long as you sign it, you'll be free."

The one who had been sitting in the middle of the garden was Elsa, the Dwarven King's little sister.

She had been sitting there in a daze because she knew what today was.

She had wanted to go, but the Dwarven King had his people bring her to this garden and keep her here.

Letting her go to that forging duel and seeing him was the last thing that he wanted to do.

Elsa slowly looked up when she heard his voice, but she ignored him as she looked at the piece of paper in his hand.

As the Dwarven King came closer, she could see that there was a signature that was on this piece of paper.

She knew what this piece of paper was based on his words, but when she saw it with her own eyes...she couldn't help feeling a bit emotional.

It was a lie to say that she didn't feel anything at all.

After all that time that she had spent with him wasn't a lie and it was impossible for all of her feelings to die.

So her eyes started misting over.

When the Dwarven King saw this, he immediately froze and he waved his arms around like he didn't know what to do.

This was a situation that he wasn't familiar with, so he had no idea how to comfort her.

The only thing that he could do was...turn around and look at me for help.

I revealed a bitter smile when I saw this.

I had tried to stop the Dwarven King in the first place, but he had just rushed forward without thinking about the consequences. So all I could do was think of ways to soften the blow.

It could be said that I was already prepared for his rashness. I think you should take a look at

It was impossible to erase everything of the past and showing someone something like this without a single plan was just asking to be hurt.

So I knew that there was one thing that I could do to soften the blow.

"Do you regret it?" I suddenly asked.

Both the Dwarven King and Elsa trembled when they heard this.

The Dwarven King quickly turned to look at me with a look like he was telling me to cut it out, but I just ignored him as I looked at Elsa, waiting for her response.

After Elsa heard what I said, she had her head down as if she was still trying to work through her emotions.

In the end, she suddenly looked up and shook her head before saying, "No, I don't regret it. This was the way that it had to be. This was the way that things had been heading towards in the first place, so it was natural it would end like this."

As she said this, there was still a mist in her eyes, but they looked much more firm compared to before.

It was as if she had come to a conclusion for herself.

That was what I had wanted to see.

After all, the only way to make someone move on was to force them to face their emotions.

When people were put in a situation like this, their first instinct was to...run away.

Running away from their feelings was easy and it saved them from the pain of having to confront them.

So their first instinct would be to run and hide.

But the only way to move on was to face those feelings and accept them.

What I was doing was forcing her to confront those feelings so she would move on sooner instead of suffering.

After she said this, I said with a nod, "You don't need to think about him anymore. Just think about your future."

Elsa looked up in a daze as she repeated in a soft voice, "Future..."

I gave a nod before saying, "You're free now, you don't need to worry about the past."

She didn't say anything and just stared at me in a daze, as if she was coming to some kind of realization.

I knew that with that, there was nothing else to worry about.

All that was needed was some time for her to arrange her thoughts, so it was better to leave her alone.

I grabbed the Dwarven King and said, "Let's go."

He looked like he had something else to say, but he could also see the look on Elsa's face. So in the end, he allowed me to drag him away.

Once we were gone, Elsa couldn't help revealing a blush and saying, "Can I really look to that future?"

Chapter 378 Time To Leave

A few more days passed after the forging duel and everything returned to normal.

The anti human faction and Drogath seemed to disappear from the capital, so everything was peaceful.

I spent more time teaching more dwarves about alloys and runes.

This time, the Dwarven King had even brought dwarves from outside the castle to learn from me.

These were the judges that had presided over the forging duel.

The Dwarven King had kept his promise about bringing them in to learn about runes from me.

As for the price, it was one that made Haley satisfied.

But the dwarves didn't feel any pain since they were just excited to learn from me.

So I had more students learning from me during this time.

The other change that happened was that Elsa spent her time in the castle now, but that wasn't strange since she was now divorced. It wasn't as if she could just go to her old home since that was where Drogath was.

So she moved into the castle with the Dwarven King who was her big brother.

She spent most of her time with Haley, which was surprising.

But it was good to see that she wasn't too hung up over her divorce and was having fun spending time with her.

The Dwarven King was also happy to see this.

Everything seemed to be going well.

However, one night, I suddenly said...

"It's time for us to leave."

The ones that were gathered in the room with me were those that had followed me to the Dwarven Kingdom in the first place.

This was the group that included Haley, Shaka, Veronica, and Moon.

They were all surprised that I would suddenly say this, but slowly they nodded in agreement.

We had already accomplished our goals in coming to this Dwarven Kingdom and there was no longer a need for us to stay any longer. We had already prepared everything for the ore trade, so all that was left was going back and preparing people for that trade.

So it was actually bad for us to stay any longer since all that would do is delay this ore trade.

They all recognized this, so Haley asked, "When should we leave?"

I thought about it before saying, "Let's leave in two days."

"Two days?" They all repeated with concerned looks.

It wasn't that they didn't want to leave, but they were worried about something.

They had been invited here by the Dwarven King and they didn't know how he would react if they suddenly said that they were leaving.

I knew what they were worried about, but I knew what kind of personality the Dwarven King had after interacting with him for this long.

I knew that he wouldn't try to stop us if we left.

So I said, "Don't worry, let me talk to him. I'm sure that he'll be fine with it."

There were doubtful looks on their faces, but they didn't say anything as they decided to trust me.

It was true that I had a close relationship with the Dwarven King.

...I think you should take a look at

In a different part of the castle.

"Is there anything you want to tell me?" The Dwarven King said in a calm voice.

When Elsa heard this, she couldn't help looking surprised.

After a long silence, she lowered her head and asked, "How did you know?"

The Dwarven King revealed a smile as he said, "I'm your brother, do you really think I wouldn't know what you are thinking? I can see the way that you were looking at him."

Elsa's face turned red and she lowered her head even more when she heard this.

She also reached a hand up and lightly punched the Dwarven King in the chest.

The Dwarven King just revealed a faint smile when he saw this, but then he asked, "So how are you going to do this?"

Elsa revealed a lost look when she heard this before shaking her head and saying, "I don't know."

Even if she had come to accept her feelings over the past few days, she had no idea how to act on them.

After all, there was a large barrier between them.

Not only was he married, he was also of a completely different race.

Could things work between humans and dwarves?

It was a hard question that no one had an answer for.

The Dwarven King could see the look on her face and he felt sympathy for her.

But he accepted her regardless of what her choice was and he would do all he could to help her.

Because she was his little sister.

With a sigh, he said, "If you don't mind, I actually have something that you can do for me. I think that it'll help solve your problem."

Elsa was surprised when she heard this and she looked up at him with a curious look.

The Dwarven King said with a smile, "I'm looking for an ambassador to send to the human country. Since we will be engaging in trade with them in the future, it will be a good idea to learn from them and see the differences between our two races. That way, we will be able to work together better in the future."

Elsa just gave an empty nod before saying, "Oh."

She really didn't understand why her brother was mentioning this.

The smile on the Dwarven King's face became wider when he saw this reaction from her.

Then he said in a meaningful voice, "The ambassador will be following Zwein and his group back. They will be going with Zwein to see human culture, if you know what I mean."

Slowly, a look of understanding appeared on Elsa's face.

She looked at the Dwarven King with wide eyes and said, "Really? You're letting me go?"

The Dwarven King said with a wide smile, "You're the Dwarven King's little sister, I think that has some meaning in human society. You could even be considered a princess for our kingdom by their standards."

Elsa gave a nod, but then she said in a soft voice, "Thank you."

The Dwarven King patted her head with the same wide smile.

This was his little sister and he would do what he needed to do for her.

That was the vow that he had made all those years ago.

Though the other person who had made that vow had already broken it...

Chapter 379 Farewell Banquet

The next morning, the first thing that I did was go and find the Dwarven King to tell him about our plans to leave.

But to my surprise, I found that he was also looking for me for something.

So the two of us gathered in the same room as before.

This was the royal study that the Dwarven King almost never used.

It was just the two of us in this room without anyone else to distract us.

After sitting down, neither of us said a thing as we just sat there in silence looking at each other.

Finally, the Dwarven King broke the silence by saying, "So, you're planning on leaving?"

The moment that I heard this, I couldn't help revealing a surprised look.

I never would have thought that this was the first thing that the Dwarven King would say to me. After all, I never thought that he would have known about this since this was something that we had just decided on last night.

For him to know about this so soon...could it be that he had been watching me?

No, it didn't seem like something that he would do.

The Dwarven King revealed a smile when he saw the way that I looked at him and he said, "Do you really think that I would do something like that? It's just a good guess."

I gave a slow nod of agreement before saying, "You really are good at guessing."

But then I also slowly said, "So you're alright with it?"

The Dwarven King looked at me with that same smile before saying, "So I'm supposed to be not alright with it? I'm supposed to use my authority to keep you here?"

I shook my head and said, "No, it's not that. It's just that..."

My voice trailed off as I didn't know how to explain myself.

After all, a single wrong word might cause an international problem.

I had no choice but to be careful.

But before I could answer, the Dwarven King just said, "There's no point in keeping you here, we've already learned more than we can digest at this point. It's better to take things slowly instead of being greedy. Plus, it's not as if you wouldn't come back to our kingdom ever again now that we have a trade deal. You'll have to come back eventually and we'll have our chance to trap you then."

I couldn't help being surprised by how open minded the Dwarven King was.

Was it because he was a dwarf and that was just how he was?

No, it wasn't that alone.

It was because he was the ruler of this country that he was like this.

He was thinking about the long term future for his country, so he knew what he needed to do and not be greedy.

I couldn't help feeling like I had underestimated the Dwarven King a bit because of the way he normally acted around me.

In the end, this was a great person who was in charge of a country.

He was not someone that could be looked down on that easily. I think you should take a look at

I gave an appreciative nod and said, "Thank you for understanding."

The Dwarven King waved his hand before saying, "It's just the way that it is, there's nothing to thank. There's no need to act so politely between us."

I hesitated for a moment before giving a nod.

The Dwarven King didn't waste any time in moving on to the next topic, "I've already prepared a farewell banquet for you tonight. You'll at least stay for that, right?"

I couldn't help being surprised by how fast the Dwarven King moved. At the same time, I couldn't help being in admiration of how determined the Dwarven King was.

If his guess had been wrong and we weren't leaving, then that would have made him look like quite the fool.

But even then, he still went with his gut and prepared this banquet.

Was this the courage that one needed as a ruler?

What Zwein would never know was that the Dwarven King had a completely different idea for this banquet.

He had been preparing this banquet for a different reason, but since he found out that his guests were leaving...then it would serve multiple purposes.

...

That night, we arrived at the banquet that the Dwarven King was holding.

When we arrived, it was just like the banquet that he had held when we had first arrived. The only difference this time was that there wasn't anyone here to cause trouble.

This time, the Dwarven King had made sure that no one uninvited would be able to sneak in, so there was quite the lively mood to this party.

That was until they found out that we were leaving.

It turned out that the Dwarven King had hidden the purpose of this banquet until the banquet itself.

The ones that came to this banquet were all the important dwarves of the kingdom, which included the judges that had taken part in the forging duel before.

When they found out that I was leaving, they all had devastated looks.

But the Dwarven King just said, "Since they came as guests, it's only natural that they would leave in time. This is just how things work."

When they saw that the Dwarven King wouldn't help them, they could only look at me pleadingly as if they were asking me to stay.

But I just ignored them all and continued saying goodbye to the people that I had met.

They had no choice but to give up...or at least that was what it seemed.

My one worry was that they would chase after me and come to our human kingdom, but I had to trust the Dwarven King to stop them for me.

Halfway through the banquet, the Dwarven King suddenly got everyone's attention by shouting, "Listen up!"

This was very different from the human country where someone would use more subtle methods to get attention, but it wasn't bad either.

The Dwarven King went up to the stage that had been prepared, almost as if he was about to announce something.

Chapter 380 Ambassador

Standing on the stage, the Dwarven King looked over everyone before his eyes fell onto me.

With the way that he was looking at me, I couldn't help feeling a bad feeling...almost as if he was planning on doing something that would entrap me...

But I didn't know why I felt this way.

The Dwarven King looked at me for a bit before turning in a certain direction and waving his hand at someone.

There was a dwarf that started walking up onto the stage when he did this.

This dwarf was one that almost everyone recognized because...she had a very unique figure.

It was Elsa who walked up to the stage and stood beside the Dwarven King.

Only when she came up on stage with him did the Dwarven King finally start speaking.

"We have gathered here today to say farewell to our human friends. During this time that they've been here, they've shown us that humans have many things that we can learn from and we shouldn't be complacent because we're better at certain things."

The dwarves that had gathered were all those that had learned from me during this time, so they all nodded in agreement.

Though I couldn't help revealing a bitter smile since...this most likely wasn't true.

After all, the things that I taught them all came from my memories of the game.

There wasn't a single other human that actually knew any of this.

In fact, most of the things that I knew were actually learned from dwarves in the game.

So it could even be said that I was just returning knowledge to the ones that it would have belonged to.

After he said this, the Dwarven King said in a more serious voice, "Since we have much to learn from each other, I know that we can't keep to ourselves forever. We isolated ourselves in the past because we thought that we couldn't trust the other races and that there was nothing to learn from them. But it is different now."

With that, he turned to Elsa and said, "As such, I have decided that we will be sending an ambassador to the human country to further deepen our relationship with them."

As soon as he said this, the entire banquet hall fell to silence as everyone looked at the Dwarven King with shocked looks.

This was their first time hearing about this after all. Even the ministers who helped the Dwarven King run the Dwarven Kingdom were hearing about this for the first time.

So there was no doubt that they were shocked.

But I was even more shocked when I heard this.

I had thought about what the Dwarven King could have said, but I never expected this.

While everyone was stunned, Elsa came forward and said, "Thank you for this duty and I will do my best for our Dwarven Kingdom."

When her voice fell, everyone snapped out of their daze.

The ones that reacted first were...the top blacksmiths.

One of them asked, "Where will this group of ambassadors be sent?"

As soon as he asked this, everyone turned to look at the Dwarven King.

That was the most important thing for them right now.

The Dwarven King had already been expecting this, so he said with a smile, "Since we have our human friends here, I think it would be best if we had our ambassador follow them back to their country and let them guide them around." "I think you should take a look at

My brows immediately knitted when I heard this, but I didn't say a thing since this wasn't the time.

The eyes of these dwarven blacksmiths lit up immediately after hearing this.

Then they all raised their hands and said, "We want to volunteer!"

They finally understood what this ambassador post was all about.

It was just an excuse to send people to follow Zwein back!

There were still plenty of other things that they wanted to learn, so this chance to follow him back was just what they wanted.

But all I could do was reveal a bitter smile.

This was why he had wanted to hold this banquet...he wanted to trap me...

By announcing this in front of everyone like this, there was no way for me to reject this.

The moment that I did, this would turn into an international issue, something that I definitely couldn't take responsibility for. The moment that it became serious, it was the moment that I might lose my head.

So no matter what he said now, I had to accept this.

While I was lamenting my fate, the Dwarven King said, "This matter will be left to our lead ambassador, Elsa. I have entrusted her with everything related to this matter, so you may ask her if you want to go."

When they heard this, all of them turned to look at Elsa with glowing eyes.

It was as if they were trying to pressure her to take them along for this trip.

The Dwarven King didn't care about any of this as he started to walk off the stage, leaving Elsa to handle this matter.

Elsa surprisingly handled this matter quite well as she skillfully talked to everyone that came forward.

It was as if she became a completely different person from before.

Could it be that she was only acting that way because she was being abused and lost all confidence?

Could it be that she was only acting that way because of Drogath?

If that was the case, it really was good to see her recovering like this.

I had worried that she might be emotionally scarred because of this matter, but it seemed that she was adapting quite well.

The Dwarven King walked over to me and said, "Well, how do you like my surprise?"

I looked at him with a bitter smile as I didn't have any words for him.

All I could think was, "You really got me well."

But of course, I would never say that out loud.

So with a sigh, I said, "I'm looking forward to deepening our friendship."

The Dwarven King reached his hand out with a smile as he heard this.

I had no choice but to shake it.