

Shota 621

Chapter 621 Reporting Intelligence

When I came back to the camp, I noticed something and then went to my tent alone.

Once I was in the tent, I found that Shadow Five was already waiting for me inside the tent. The way that she stood there, it was as if she had been waiting for a long time for me.

It was a good thing that I had made sure to keep everyone else out or else it would have caused a large stir.

After all, most people didn't know Shadow Five and would have thought that she was an intruder here to hurt me.

When she saw me come in, she suddenly fell to one knee in front of me and gave a respectful bow.

Shadow Five had never acted this way in front of me before, but now she was showing respect to me that she had never shown me before. Of course, I knew that this was all because of the demonstration that I had given.

It was all because of the things that I had accomplished as part of this army.

That was the only reason that she would show this kind of respect to me.

I just casually waved my hand and said, "There's no need to act this way. Just get up and tell me what you're here to say."

Shadow Five gave a nod before standing up.

She reached into her cloak to take out a packet of papers that she handed to me.

I casually took it and looked it over, but I couldn't help slightly knitting my brows as I read this.

After a moment of silence, I pointed at a spot on the paper in front of me and asked, "This part here, explain it more clearly for me."

Shadow Five gave a nod before saying, "It's like this..."

Once she was done explaining, that frown on my face had disappeared and was replaced with a smile.

As soon as I had noticed this, I knew that this would be my way in.

This would be my way of taking down Duke Yuletide.

This one piece of information made everything that happened here worth it.

After a moment of silence, I gave a nod to Shadow Five and said, "You can go now. Make sure to keep an eye on the duke and his family to make sure that they don't do anything else."

Shadow Five gave a slight nod, but she didn't leave right away.

With the way that she stood there, it was almost as if there was something that she was agonizing over. It was like there was something that she wanted to say, but she didn't know how to say it.

So she was standing there in an awkward manner.

Though she had put her cloak back on after I had told her that it was fine to do so, I could still see the awkwardness that was there in her figure.

To my surprise, I couldn't help feeling that this was a bit interesting to see since I had never seen this side of her before. I had only ever seen her confident side, so it was strangely refreshing to see her like this.

But it wouldn't do for her to remain in my tent like this, so I asked, "You seem like you have something you want to ask me. What is it?"

Shadow Five jolted when she heard this before slowly giving a nod.

Though she gave this nod, she didn't say anything in the end as she just looked at me, so once again there was an awkward silence that filled the air. But in the end, she took a deep breath and asked, "How did you know that this was there?"

The things that Shadow Five had investigated, they were all because of the advice that Count Zwein had given her.

Otherwise, there was no way that she would have found all of this information on her own.

It was only in the places that he had told her to check that she had found these things in the first place.

So she was curious how he knew about all of this in the first place.

There were many things that he seemed to know that no one else knew...

As someone who worked in gathering intelligence, she naturally couldn't help being curious about this.

But all I did was shake my head and said, "That's my secret."

After all, it wasn't as if I could tell her that all of my knowledge was from the game that this world was based on, right?

If I told her this, then there was no doubt that she would think that I was completely crazy.

Shadow Five didn't say anything and didn't even move as she just looked at me for a bit, but in the end, she slowly gave a nod and turned to leave.

But before she could leave, I suddenly thought of something, so I called out to stop her.

Shadow Five turned around and asked, "What is it?"

I looked at her with narrowed eyes for a bit, as if I was the one that was hesitating this time. But in the end, I still said, "Help me contact his fourth highness and ask him if he could deploy the wolves for this matter."

As soon as Shadow Five heard this, she immediately said in a cold voice, "How do you know about this?"

I shook my head and said, "Once again, this is my secret. I hope that you will understand."

Shadow Five looked at me for a bit before slowly giving a nod.

It seemed that she had already received orders from the fourth prince to trust me and go along with what I wanted. It seemed that showing him that my loyalty wasn't easy to sway was a good move.

Seeing the way that she looked at me, I just said, "Personally, I don't think that it's necessary, but it's better to be safe than sorry."

In the end, Shadow Five just responded with a nod before turning to leave.

Chapter 622 Back In Vayne City

Since the enemies had been taken care of, the only thing left was to return to the city.

As we returned, General Killock had asked me many times about what we would do with Duke Yuletide.

Judging by the way that he asked me about this, it was clear that he wanted to take care of this Duke Yuletide. It was almost as if he was suggesting that we use the army that had been given to us to remove Duke Yuletide from his position.

But every time, I just shook my head and denied all of this.

After all, I had no intention of taking down Duke Yuletide right now.

The investigations that I had made were for after the war was over. Until then, I would let him remain in this place and prevent the Vikal Kingdom from pushing too deep into our territory.

Though in truth, it should be impossible for them to push too deep right now.

After all, we had just slaughtered their army and left no survivors.

They should be feeling hard pressed when it came to the number of soldiers that they had.

It should be very hard for them to organize another army any time soon.

General Killock had seemed very disappointed about all of this, but he didn't say anything else on this matter.

It seemed that the prestige that I had gained during this time was more than enough to convince them of these things.

When we arrived back in Vayne City, the treatment was completely different.

Even before we arrived at the city, we were greeted by soldiers.

They weren't here to detain us, but to escort us to the city.

The way that they did it almost seemed like a welcome for heroes.

Then when we arrived at the city, there was an entire gate that was closed just for us to enter. There were many citizens of the city gathered that were cheering for us, almost like a parade.

As we came closer to the gate, we could see that there were even more people gathered inside of the city that were waiting for us to enter. All of these people seemed like they were here to welcome us as heroes into the city.

It was like they were about to throw a parade for us as we passed.

Then the most surprising thing was that the duke himself had come to welcome us.

The duke had been standing at the gate, waiting for us.

The way that he did this, it almost seemed like he was in a lower position. It was almost as if he was humbling himself so that he could appear more friendly.

Though I knew that this was all a trick.

The fact that he was doing this meant that there must be something that he wanted from me or he had read the reports on what had happened, so he was afraid that the Chimera Ants were still a problem.

When we came over, the duke came up to the carriage that we were sitting in and came in to sit down with us.

Though when he did, General Killock shot him a dirty look.

The duke just ignored this as his attention was mainly on me.

After sitting down, Duke Yuletide said with a smile on his face, "Count Zwein, it is an honour to meet you again. I have heard about your valour on the battlefield and I must say that I am in awe of what you have done."

I gave a simple nod before saying, "It seems that we have done your job for you."

General Killock immediately looked at Duke Yuletide with a look as if he was waiting for me to say something else, but it didn't come in the end.

Duke Yuletide didn't seem to mind as he said, "Yes, it shames me to say this, but we were unable to take care of the enemies."

He said it like he was admitting his shame, but it was clear that he didn't feel any shame at all.

This was just how shameless this noble was.

He didn't care about the accusations that I was making of him and he just took it in stride that he couldn't win.

I didn't bother poking any further at him since this wasn't what we were here for.

We were just here to report back and see if we could get anything out of Duke Yuletide for taking care of those enemies for him. He wouldn't be so shameless that he would avoid giving some kind of reward after this.

But I also felt that he would still have some kind of trick up his sleeve.

For now, it was better not to push him too far and see what he was planning.

So I raised my hand at General Killock for him to calm down.

He looked at me as if he was just itching to go, but I shook my head to stop him.

Duke Yuletide just ignored all of this as he looked out the window of the carriage. After he had sat down, we had gone through the gate and were now moving along the street.

As we headed down this street, heading towards the duke's manor, we could hear all the people cheering around us.

When this happened the duke suddenly came closer and said, "How about we give the people something to enjoy?"

I was a bit confused when he said this, but he quickly made it clear what he meant as the duke came forward to wrap his arms around my shoulder.

The others in the carriage looked like they were about to attack him, but I placated them by gesturing with my hands. In the end, they just watched as the duke brought me over to the window.

The two of us poked our heads out and waved to the crowd, which caused the cheering to become even louder.

But the more important thing was that the duke whispered in my ears during this time.

"I heard that in the fight against the Vikal Kingdom army, there was something interesting that happened. Something that involved some ants."

Chapter 623 I Heard That...

I waved at the citizens with a smile on my face, but I also said, "I have no idea what you're talking about."

The duke wasn't offended when he heard this and just calmly said, "I'm sure that there's something that we can talk about when we have a chance to talk alone. I hope that you will not reject me."

I didn't look at the duke, but I could tell from the tone of his voice what he wanted.

Still, this was also what I had wanted to see since this would give me the chance to get more information about the duke.

So I just gave a simple nod in the end.

The duke didn't say anything, but the pat that he gave on my shoulder was more than enough for me.

After waving at the citizens for a bit longer, we went back inside the carriage and sat back down.

I couldn't help looking at the duke for a bit before turning to look out the window.

The duke had matched my gaze with a smile on his face the entire time, as if he wasn't afraid to look at me head on. It seemed that this man really did have nerves of steel, or rather a face that was as thick as a city wall with how shameless he was.

Either way, it didn't seem like he would make a mistake unless I guided him into it and even then, it would take a while.

But there was something outside the window that made me a bit annoyed.

It was the amount of guards that were standing in the crowd.

These were guards that were wearing ordinary clothes and had their weapons hidden that were standing in the crowd. It was clear that they were doing all that they could to blend into the background.

But there was a reason why they were there in the first place.

They were there because...they were forcing the crowd to act this way.

It seemed that this was all set up by the duke as a show of goodwill, but the people of the city naturally weren't happy about this. Even if the enemies were defeated, that didn't mean that all of their problems were solved.

There were still many things that had to be done and a parade was the last thing they cared about.

This was more than enough to show me what kind of noble the duke was, even though I already knew.

Still, I was angry because of it.

When we arrived at the manor, the duke invited us all in for the meal that he had prepared for us. But this meal wasn't just one with the duke, it was an entire banquet that included all of the nobles in the city.

The dishes that were being served...were very luxurious.

It was clear that this wasn't something that should have been available in a city like Vayne City that had been surrounded by the enemies. Or at least that would have been the case if the nobles even cared about the citizens.

But it was clear that the nobles of this city didn't care about their people.

The only thing that they cared about was their own wellbeing and their own comfort, so the people below suffered.

While they were stuffing their faces with these delicacies, I could just imagine the people who I saw outside in the streets starving. They had been forced to hold that parade instead of doing what little work they could to scrounge up some food.

As for the hope that the duke would actually pay them something for participating in the parade, that was not a hope that I had.

I would have liked to remove this duke and these nobles as soon as possible, but it just simply wasn't the time.

So I had no choice but to apologize in secret to the people of Vayne City for not being able to help them. I just hoped that they would be able to hold on a bit longer until this war was over and we came back to take care of Duke Yuletide.

As soon as we arrived, there were many nobles that came to surround me.

It wasn't that they had any ill intentions, but rather they had the same idea as the duke.

All of them seemed to have heard about what had happened in the battle against the Vikal Kingdom army, so the first thing that they asked me was...

"So I heard that there were ants that attacked the Vikal Kingdom army..."

"I heard that the ants surrounded the Vikal Kingdom troops..."

"I heard that the general was even ripped apart by these ants..."

Everything that they said to me was related in some way to the Chimera Ants.

Though I had no idea where they had heard these things, it was clear that they had information about the battle that normal people shouldn't have.

If I had to guess where their information came from, my guess would be that it came from the spies that they had placed among the ten thousand troops that had been given to us.

Not all of them were refugees, there were also spies from the duke and the nobles that were among these ten thousand troops. That was why I had never had them fight on the frontlines, I just had to do support tasks.

But it was impossible to hide the matter of the ants with how big the matter became.

In the end, it was the duke who saved me from them by asking me to talk in secret.

There were some that wanted to follow me to keep me safe, but I stopped them since I knew that it was impossible for the duke to do anything to me here. If he tried, then he would be the one that would suffer in the end.

When we sat down in that private room, the duke looked at me and said, "So, it seems like you have quite a few secrets. Do you want to work with me?"

Chapter 624 Simple Offer

I wasn't surprised to hear this.

Even though I knew quite a bit about the duke and the Yuletide Family, that didn't mean that he knew a lot about me.

I'm sure that during this time, the duke must have investigated me and come to the conclusion that I was useful.

I was close to the fourth prince and it seemed like I had many useful secrets, so there was no doubt that I was someone useful to him. If he could convince me to work with him, there would be countless paths opened up to the duke.

That was if he could convince me to work for him.

I didn't answer right away as I just calmly looked at the duke.

Then crossing my arms, I leaned back in my chair and asked, "What do you have to propose?"

The duke revealed a smile as he said, "Well, it's very simple. Just give me the thing that you used to control the ants and I'll keep them safe for you. Otherwise, I'm sure that you'll find it troublesome to keep it from the other nobles when this war is over. There's no doubt that they will want this for themselves and you won't be able to keep it, even if you are close to the fourth prince."

As expected, he wanted the source of the ants, but...

I had nothing to give him.

With a snort, I said, "Is that it? Are you saying that this is the only thing that you have to offer?"

The duke couldn't help revealing a surprised look when he heard this.

After all, this wasn't a small offer.

There was no doubt that there would be a lot of scrutiny that would come after this war was over because of all the things that he had done.

What he was really offering was his backing as a duke that would make things much easier for him in the future and he was asking if this was it?

If anyone else was in his shoes, there was no doubt that they would have been very moved by this offer.

He was a duke, someone that was only second to the royal family in this kingdom.

Even if he had the support of the fourth prince, one should know that the support of the royal family couldn't be counted on other than from the king. There were power struggles that existed in the royal family, so there was no knowing when a prince would fall.

Unlike the fourth prince, his dukedom had been established for many generations and was something that could be relied on since there was no way that they would fall that easily.

Yet he didn't seem to appreciate this offer...

The duke took a deep breath and calmly said, "I think that you must have misheard something. Let me say it again..."

I just cut him off by saying, "I have said that I am not interested."

The duke couldn't help narrowing his eyes to look at me with a gaze that was filled with scrutiny when he heard this. There was even a look in his eyes that almost seemed like he couldn't believe what he was hearing.

He was clearly still talking and this count had dared to cut him off?

Where did this count even put him in his eyes?

After a long silence, the duke said in a colder voice, "It seems like you've already made up your mind, haven't you?"

I just gave a simple nod before saying, "It's very simple, there's nothing to give you since there are no ants that are left."

The duke was taken aback when he heard this before asking in a deep voice, "What do you mean by that?"

I calmly said, "After the Chimera Ants took down the Vikal Kingdom army, we couldn't just leave them to hurt the people of our kingdom. So with a heavy heart, we had no choice but to put them down."

The duke looked at me with disbelief when he heard this.

But after a while, he couldn't help reaching into the drawer on the side to pull out a few sheets of paper.

He didn't even bother hiding the things that were written on these sheets of paper.

From what I could see at a glance, it seemed to be reports on what had happened during the fight with the Vikal Kingdom army.

After reading for a bit, he stopped on one part in particular and looked at it several times before suddenly revealing a smile. With that smile on his face, the duke looked at me and said, "Even though all

of the ants are currently dead, that doesn't mean that there can't be more ants, right? I'm sure that you must have picked up something that allows you to breed more ants."

I shook my head with a serious look on my face before saying, "No, I have no idea what you're talking about."

The duke looked at me in doubt, so I calmly said, "The ants were trouble for the kingdom, so naturally I couldn't leave them be. That is all I have to say on that matter."

The duke still had his doubts, but he could tell what my stance was based on my words.

After a moment of silence, he said in a cold voice, "I hope that you understand where your decision will lead you. This is not a decision that you should make lightly, so I'll give you one last chance."

I just calmly looked back at him without saying a word.

The silence was my answer.

The duke gave a snort and said, "Good, it seems that this was a waste of time. You can show yourself out then."

I gave a nod and stood up to leave.

But before leaving, I turned back to ask, "Have you ever thought about what is under you that supports you?"

The duke revealed a confused look when he heard this, but he didn't deem to give me an answer.

That was all the answer that I needed, so I didn't bother saying anything else and left.

This man was as I had thought he was.

Chapter 625 The Fourth Prince Again

Once that meeting with the duke was over, we left Vayne City.

For now, that foolish duke and his men served a purpose, so we would leave them be.

The next time that we come back here, it would be to orchestrate the fall of this duke.

But there really wasn't a destination for us to go since there was nothing urgent for us to handle.

Or rather, there was nothing really urgent where there was something that I could exploit. If I were to randomly go onto a battlefield, there was no chance of victory for me since I had to admit that I was inferior to every other general that was out there.

I just didn't have a good mind for strategy, especially when it was in the real world.

I might be able to do it if I could see everything on a screen and control them with a few clicks, but in the real world?

That just wasn't possible for me.

So for now, I decided that we should head back to my territory for some rest.

To my surprise, I found that General Killock didn't resist this at all.

I had thought that he would be the biggest opposition to this, but it turned out that he was perfectly fine with this.

I really couldn't help feeling a bit suspicious when I saw him acting this way, but I didn't think too much about it.

As for the ten thousand troops that we had received from the duke, we took five thousand of them with us.

I had made Shadow Five and her group check them to make sure that these five thousand were actual refugees. Since they were actual refugees, it didn't matter if they came with our army since it would be a better life than wandering around, looking for a place to stay.

If they were with our army, then they would at least receive proper pay and pensions for their families, so they were actually happy to join us.

The other five thousand were tricky, so I didn't dare take them.

While five thousand troops weren't really a lot when compared to the whole army, it was still better than nothing.

When we arrived back in my territory, I was surprised to find that the fourth prince was there waiting for me.

The first one that I looked at was General Killock who awkwardly turned his head away.

As expected, he was a part of this.

It was no surprise that General Killock would help the fourth prince with this since in the first place, he was the fourth prince's man. But I was certain that General Killock wouldn't have been able to do this alone.

There had to be someone else who actually sent the message to the fourth prince...

It was someone who always hid herself and only came out when she needed to.

Well, it wasn't as if I could do anything about this since I had already fallen into their trap. So at the very least, I should go and see what the fourth prince wanted.

There wasn't a single time where the fourth prince just came as a courtesy call, it was always for something.

After sitting down, the fourth prince said, "Brother Zwein, I've heard about what happened with the Vikal Kingdom army. I never expected you to not only take down the Midra Kingdom army, but also the Vikal Kingdom army. This has greatly helped our war efforts."

In the first place, there were four kingdoms that had declared war on this kingdom.

With the armies of the Vikal Kingdom and the Midra Kingdom destroyed, which were the two stronger countries, it would be easy for them to repel the rest. Though as time dragged on, it would become a war of attritions and one country couldn't compare to the supplies of four countries.

Especially since they were surrounded by these four countries.

So this war would be hard for them unless they took care of the last two countries.

When I heard the fourth prince bring this up, I couldn't help thinking...

"Does he want me to go to another battlefield? Is that why he's here?"

If he really did want me to go to another battlefield, that would be bad since I had no other places to exploit right now...

Even if I wanted to go, all that would happen is that I would be defeated.

But to my surprise, the fourth prince actually said, "After all of that, you deserve a rest. You should take some time to rest up in your territory before heading out to the battlefield again."

I couldn't help looking at the fourth prince with one brow raised in surprise.

The last thing that I expected was for him to actually give me a break.

In fact, I just couldn't believe that he would be here to give me a break.

The fourth prince was a busy person, would he run here just to tell me to rest?

There must be something off for him to do this...

So I narrowed my eyes to look at the fourth prince and asked, "Is that really all that you have to say? Are you sure that there's nothing else?"

The fourth prince actually jolted when he heard this before revealing a smile to say, "What else could there be? Brother Zwein, you shouldn't doubt your brother like this."

I shook my head and said with a sigh, "It's too bad that I do doubt you. If you have something that you need, you should just tell me."

The smile on the fourth prince's face twitched a bit before he said with a sigh, "Truth be told, there is something that I want your help with. It isn't related to the war, but there's a situation in the kingdom that needs to be dealt with."

As expected, there was some kind of trouble.

It was always like this.

The fourth prince continued by saying, "It's a situation that involves wyverns."

Chapter 626 Wyvern

I raised a brow when I heard this, but I waited for the fourth prince to explain further.

Seeing the look on my face, the fourth prince reached into his chest and pulled out a map that he spread on the table in front of us. After spreading this map, I saw that it was a map of our kingdom.

He pointed at one spot on the map and said, "There's a group of wyverns gathering in this location. We don't know what they are planning to do, but it doesn't seem like it's a good thing."

After that, he pointed at another spot on the map that was closer to the border and said, "This is close to where the battlefield is, so we're worried that the wyverns will affect our army there."

I gave a nod in agreement when I saw this, but I just looked carefully at the map.

It wasn't that I had never seen a map of the kingdom before, but it was just that this place seemed familiar for some reason...

That mountain that the wyverns were gathering, it seemed to have a special name...

Bald Mountain?

Wait, wasn't Bald Mountain the name of the place where that special event happened?

The one that only happened once every few years in the game and once missed would take a long time to happen again?

"Ha, ha, ha. So it was that place." I couldn't help saying out loud all of a sudden.

The fourth prince had been waiting for my reaction, but seeing this was definitely a surprise for him. After all, out of all the ways that he thought I would have reacted, this definitely was not one of them.

But based on what I had said, it didn't seem like it was a bad thing.

The fourth prince revealed a smile, "Brother Zwein, you have a way of taking care of this?"

I looked back up at the fourth prince and instead of answering his question, I asked, "Brother, why did you think of me for this matter?"

The fourth prince was surprised, but he said in a slow voice, "Well...you used worms and ants to attack the enemies, so I figured that you would be able to do something about the wyverns as well."

After a pause, he asked as if something was wrong, "What? Are you saying that you can't?"

With a shrug, I said, "I'm not some kind of miracle worker, it isn't as if I can do everything."

The fourth prince knitted his brow slightly, but he quickly relaxed them as he realized something. With a smile, the fourth prince said, "But you're not saying that you can't take care of the wyverns, right?"

A smile slowly crept onto my face as I said, "That's correct. If it was normal wyverns, I wouldn't be able to do anything, but if it's these wyverns...then I should be able to solve your problem."

The fourth prince looked back at the map once he heard this before asking, "What's so special about these wyverns?" Though after a pause, he suddenly changed the question, "No, what's so special about this place? You said earlier that this was 'that place', so what is special about it?"

Once again, I didn't answer that question as I just said, "I can take care of this problem for you, but there are some things that I need."

The fourth prince raised a brow again, but he slowly gave a nod as he said, "Alright, what do you need?"

I went over to the side to pick up a piece of paper and a pen before coming back to sit down and write a list. After that list was done, I slid it over to the fourth prince who picked it up to take a look.

As he read through the list, his expression changed several times until he finally looked up with a bitter smile and said, "How do you know about all of this? I don't think that I've ever told anyone about these things."

I just raised a brow as I looked at the fourth prince before saying, "What do you mean? These are just the things that I need."

The fourth prince narrowed his eyes to look at me before saying with a sigh, "Alright, then let's consider it lucky that I have all of these things in my private treasury. I can get them for you, but it'll take some time for it to be transported here. Are you fine with waiting a few days for them?"

I stroked my chin to think about it before asking, "How long ago did the wyverns show up at this mountain? I need to know when they arrived and how long they've been staying there. As well, I want to know how many of them are there."

The fourth prince revealed a surprised look, but then he snapped his finger and a cloaked figure appeared.

This cloaked figure was just like Shadow Five that followed me.

After summoning this person, the fourth prince asked, "You heard Brother Zwein, what is the situation?"

The cloaked figure gave a bow before saying, "The wyverns arrived a week ago and there are currently twenty wyverns that have gathered. Though reports from different places have stated that there are different sightings of wyverns all over the country."

The fourth prince didn't care about this cloaked figure and instead turned to look at me, as if he was waiting for my response.

Only twenty so far....that meant that I should have some time before it happened.

After all, twenty wyverns should only be a single pack.

It would be a while before the rest all gathered.

So I said with a nod, "That should give us enough time to deal with it even if the items take several days to arrive."

However, I still pointed at the map and said, "For now, I should head to this place so we can cut down on the travel time. Can you arrange for your men to deliver the goods there?"

The fourth prince narrowed his eyes to look at where I was pointing before slowly giving a nod.

If it was anyone else, he wouldn't have agreed to this.

But since it was me, he could make an exception.

After a moment of silence, he looked up at me and said, "Are you certain that you'll be able to deal with these wyverns?"

I just gave a simple nod as I said, "It's not a problem. If they are what I think they are, it should be easy for me to deal with them."

The fourth prince once again narrowed his eyes to look at me as if he was sizing me up.

But in the end, he just reached out to pat me on the shoulder to say, "I trust you."

This was indeed his trust in me.

No matter who it was, the fourth prince never would have trusted them like he did me, even if I didn't understand where this trust of his came from.

Still, I wouldn't betray the trust of a person that put this kind of trust in me.

Since he was willing to trust me, I would handle this for him.

Not to mention, this was something that was very beneficial to me.

It would be even more beneficial than taming this Queen Chimera Ant.

Chapter 627 Detour

There were some people that were unhappy that I was heading out so soon, but there was nothing that I could do about it.

This wyvern issue was a pressing matter, so I had to head out as soon as possible.

The ones that were coming with me were Cecilia, Shaka, and some of the knights from my territory.

Instead of bringing the entire army, we were only bringing a small group since that was all that was needed. Bringing an army would actually impede me in achieving this task of dealing with the wyvern.

So I was handing back control of this army back to General Killock and the fourth prince.

The fourth prince said that he would take care of them and General Killock promised that he would do his best to follow in my footsteps. Though I was very doubtful that he would be able to do the same things as me as I had used my knowledge from another world.

Still, I wished the best to General Killock and this army.

We had been through many battles together, so you could say that I had become attached to them during this time.

When I asked the fourth prince what their assignment would be, he told me that they would be moving from battlefield to battlefield to assist the various armies deployed around the kingdom.

That was what they were supposed to be doing in the first place, so they were just going back to their original mission before being assigned to me.

Since it was the fourth prince, I was certain that he would take care of them.

As for our group, we set off two days after the fourth prince left with General Killock's army.

I had spent some time talking to my wives and fiancées.

I had to say that Rose and the others were not shy about nighttime activities during this time since it was the only time that they had for these things.

Even Cecilia who was coming with me wouldn't have time for this since we were heading out for a proper mission.

After leaving, we headed to the town where we were supposed to meet the fourth prince's people.

It would take us several days of travel to get there, so we weren't in a rush to get there.

Especially since before that...

"We need to take a detour."

When they heard this, everyone looked at me with a surprised look.

Cecilia was the one that asked the question for everyone, "What do you mean by that? Don't we need to meet up with the fourth prince's people as soon as possible to take care of the wyvern problem?"

After she asked this, I just shook my head and said, "Before that, there's something else that I need to take care of. It's something that we need to do if we want to take care of the wyvern, so we have no choice but to go there."

The rest of the group looked at me with looks of doubt, but I wasn't lying about this.

There really was something that I had to do first or else I wouldn't be able to take care of it.

In the end, they had no choice but to follow the detour that I set.

It was a detour to a mountain that was in the middle of nowhere.

They had no idea why I would bring them to a place like this, but they still followed me to this place.

After arriving, I just had us camp out nearby as if we were waiting for something.

At first, they didn't ask me what was happening.

However, after half an hour, they finally couldn't take it anymore and Cecilia asked, "What are we supposed to be doing here? Why are we just waiting in the middle of nowhere?"

But as if to answer that question, there was something that suddenly passed by overhead.

When Cecilia and the others looked up, they found this large thing that was flying overhead.

This thing landed right on the side of the mountain and then entered a cave that was there.

As soon as they saw this thing, they immediately knew what it was.

A wyvern.

This was a wyvern, one of the creatures that they should have been handling for the fourth prince.

Seeing this wyvern, I revealed a faint smile and said, "Alright, our prey is here. Let's go and get it."

But before I could leave the spot we were camping, they immediately reached out to stop me.

Cecilia looked at me like I was crazy before saying, "What are you doing? Why didn't you tell us that this was the nest of a wyvern?"

With a faint smile on my face, I said, "If I did, would you have come with me?"

Bitter smiles appeared on the faces of everyone when they heard this.

Perhaps if they had a fully armed group armed to deal with a wyvern, they would have followed him. However, there weren't any of them that were prepared for a wyvern right now.

In the state that they were in, there was no doubt that they would be crushed by this wyvern.

So Cecilia immediately said, "We're leaving, now. There's no point if we're all going to be crushed by the wyvern."

But I shook my head and refused to move as I said, "We need this wyvern."

When they heard this, everyone couldn't help knitting their brows.

Cecilia looked at me with a look that I knew very well and she said, "If you're thinking about risking everyone's life just for some game, I can't accept it even if I do trust you."

I shook my head as I said, "No, we really do need this wyvern. We need to tame this wyvern to deal with the other wyverns."

"Tame?" She couldn't help repeating before suddenly saying, "How are you planning on taming this wyvern? It's impossible to tame these things!"

I just calmly said, "I have my ways."

Chapter 628 Wyvern Tamer (1)

It seemed that no one wanted to believe me when I said that I had my ways of taming the wyvern, but that didn't stop me from insisting on going to the cave that the wyvern landed in.

After being in this position for a long time, I had slowly developed the prestige that I was supposed to have in this position.

As such, I was able to give orders that they weren't able to resist.

Though there were still plenty of complaints that were made.

Even when we were standing outside of the wyvern's cave, they were still making complaints.

If it wasn't for the fact that I already knew how this would go, I would have told them to be quiet.

But for now, it didn't matter since this was supposed to be a set event.

This was the trigger event that had to be done to trigger the larger event. So it was a set event that had no chance of failure...but then again, this was a real world now.

This game world had become a real world, so there was the chance that things didn't go the same way as the script...

But as I was starting to feel doubt, it was already too late.

I could hear the sounds coming from the inside of the cave which were familiar to me.

This was the same sound that I had heard when I had been preparing to do this quest in the game.

So taking a deep breath, I slowly walked into the cave.

The others looked at each other with hesitant looks, but they still followed me into the cave in the end. Though compared to me, they definitely looked much more scared.

That was because I forbid them from bringing out any weapons.

This was a mission to tame the wyvern, so the moment that weapons were brought out, the wrong message would be sent. When that time came, it didn't matter what I did since it would be impossible to convince the wyvern to trust us again.

So that was why they looked even more anxious than before.

As we came closer, I could smell the scent of the wyvern as well.

It was a strong scent, but it was still bearable, or at least for me.

For the others, it almost seemed like they wanted to throw up.

I shook my head with a faint smile before signaling for them to leave if they couldn't handle the scent. However, I was surprised to find that they wouldn't leave even when given permission to do so.

It seemed that they wanted to stick with me to the very end.

I could see the look of loyalty that was in their eyes, showing that they were doing this because they didn't want to leave me alone here.

It seemed that I had underestimated these people who served me...

I gave a nod to them and then turned back to face forward, but I wouldn't forget this. Those that were loyal to me would receive the best care from me, that was my motto.

Finally, we came close enough to see the wyvern that was currently fast asleep.

Seeing this wyvern close up was terrifying since it was basically the same as a dragon. Though there were some minor differences such as the wyvern only having two legs instead of four.

But this was a terrifying creature nonetheless.

When we were close up, the rest of my group looked at me with looks that seemed to be urging me to leave this place as soon as possible. But I just ignored them as I stepped forward, while raising my hand to keep them back.

If we all moved forward at once, it would scare the wyvern and make it attack.

They knew that as well, so they had no choice but to stand there to wait and see what happened.

After stepping into the wyvern's nest, I raised my hand and there was a small carcass that appeared in it.

The moment that this small carcass appeared, the wyvern suddenly stirred.

It was only a bit at first, but then it raised its head and looked around itself, sniffing the air while doing so. After a while, it turned in my direction and looked at the small carcass in my hand before licking its lips.

Seeing this, the rest of my group looked like they wanted to charge out since they misunderstood this action, but they stayed back when I raised my hand to get the wyvern's attention.

As I raised my hand, the wyvern suddenly looked at me to realize that I was the one that was holding this tasty treat. As soon as it noticed me, it suddenly took a more defensive stance, as if it was preparing for an ambush, but it didn't attack.

Seeing this, I knew that this was just like the quest.

So without any panic, I raised the squirrel carcass in my hand.

No one really knew why, but wyverns really loved squirrel meat, so it was prerequisite for the quest. I had gotten this one before leaving our town, so it was still pretty fresh.

As I waved the squirrel carcass around, the wyvern's eyes slowly followed it back and forth.

Then I suddenly tossed it forward for the wyvern.

It didn't catch it and just let it drop to the ground, but once it was on the ground, it went forward to eat it without any hesitation.

Seeing this, my group waved at me to come back while the wyvern was distracted, but I just completely ignored them.

While the wyvern was eating the squirrel, I slowly made my way over to the wyvern's side. This time, the wyvern didn't seem to react at all as it just munched on the squirrel carcass that was in front of it.

It was only when I was right beside it and had raised a hand towards it that the wyvern suddenly turned to look at me.

I didn't move as I waited to see what the wyvern's next move was.

Chapter 629 Wyvern Tamer (2)

The wyvern didn't do a thing as it just looked at me for a bit, but then...

It suddenly moved its head forward towards the hand that I was holding out.

I could hear the gasps that were coming from behind me, but I just ignored them as I focused on the wyvern that was in front of me.

After another slight pause, the wyvern suddenly lowered its head and then pressed its nose up against the palm of my hand.

I let out an internal sigh of relief when I saw the wyvern acting this way.

After all, it had been a gamble on whether this wyvern would act the same way as in the game and it seemed that this gamble had paid off.

This wyvern was different from the other wyverns out there. It was a wyvern that was considered an outcast because of how different its personality was from the other wyverns.

The other wyverns were very aggressive towards anything that they regarded as weaker than them. Naturally that included the humans that they regarded as weaker than them.

But this wyvern was different because it was a moderate kind of wyvern that didn't think the same way as the other wyverns.

Instead of acting aggressive, it wanted to befriend those that were weaker than it.

As such, it had been driven away from the pack that it came from and was now living alone in the wild.

After seeing the wyvern act this way, my hand started to move along the neck of the wyvern.

There was a moment of surprise from the wyvern, but then it started wagging its tail as my hand started to scratch its neck. This was a secret technique that I had learned from the game and while it was hard to replicate it in real life, it seemed that I had been successful with how the wyvern was acting.

I just kept scratching different parts of the wyvern and soon it was even sticking its tongue out in pleasure from all the scratches that it was receiving.

Once it was like this, I turned back to the others and said, "It's alright, it's friendly."

But there wasn't a single response to this.

Rather, all of them looked at me with very strange looks as if they couldn't comprehend what was happening right now.

They could see it with their eyes, but believing it was a bit hard.

After all, there was this giant wyvern, a terrifying beast that was acting like a dog while it was being scratched.

No matter how they thought about it, it didn't seem to make sense at all.

Seeing them like this, I just shook my head with a bitter smile before turning my attention back to the wyvern.

It wasn't over yet, there was still something that I had to do before that.

Since its mouth was open, then it was a good chance for me to move forward to take a closer look at it.

I could see what I was looking for, so I started reaching towards its mouth without a single trace of hesitation. However, the ones that were behind me were terrified when they saw what I was doing.

But they didn't dare make any noise out of fear of scaring the wyvern into closing its mouth.

So I could feel their gazes on my back, putting pressure on me.

Once again, I ignored them as I reached for one of its teeth and slowly dug out a bone that was stuck in between them. It wasn't that hard to dislodge, but this was a bone that seemed a bit rotten.

It must have been inside of the wyvern's mouth for some time now.

As soon as the bone was pulled out, the wyvern revealed a surprised look.

It didn't close its mouth right away and waited for me to pull myself out before suddenly closing it. It opened and closed its mouth several times before revealing a relieved look.

It was as if something had been bothering it for a long time and now it was feeling the relief that came from that thing being removed.

After a while, the wyvern suddenly lowered its head and nuzzled up against me, as if it was showing its gratitude for what I had.

I just threw away the bone in my hand with a smile before saying, "Do you want to come with me?"

When the wyvern heard this, it stopped nuzzling against me and stood up to look at me with a strange look.

It was clear that the wyvern had understood what I had said, but that wasn't strange since wyverns were high ranked monsters to begin with. These were monsters with high levels of intelligence in the first place, so it was only natural that they understood what I was saying.

But I could see that there was a trace of hesitation in the eyes of the wyvern.

That wasn't strange either since this was our first time meeting and I was asking it to come with me. It would have been strange if it actually trusted me right away to follow me without a word.

I knew what I had to do.

Raising my hand, I pulled out another squirrel carcass and said, "If you follow me, I can get you more treats. I'll make sure that you get a treat every day and you'll never have to care about your food ever again."

The wyvern's eyes lit up when it saw the squirrel carcass and those eyes followed it as I swayed it back and forth in front of me.

After a while, the wyvern gave a slow nod to show that it agreed with this and I tossed the squirrel carcass to it.

With that, I had tamed the wyvern.

Though I seemed calm on the surface, I was actually letting out a sigh of relief deep down.

This wyvern being so easy to tame was a part of the game design since it was necessary to tame a wyvern to start the following quest. It was supposed to be a scripted event, so it was impossible to fail this.

But this game world had become a real world, so anything was possible.

Luckily, the wyvern itself hadn't changed and it was still easy to tame.

Or else...

Chapter 630 Wyvern Tamer (3)

After getting the wyvern to agree to come with me, I waved my hand at the others to come over.

The look on their faces made it clear that they didn't want to, but I wouldn't take no for an answer.

In the end, it was only Cecilia and Shaka who were able to come over.

The two of them came right up in front of me and stood there as if they were trying to protect me, but that just made me shake my head with a bitter smile before saying, "It's alright, I've already tamed it. As long as I feed it properly, it won't hurt us."

Then to the wyvern, I said, "Isn't that right?"

The wyvern gave a nod as if affirming this.

But even then, Cecilia and Shaka couldn't help looking at it with wary looks.

There was what seemed to be a bitter smile that appeared on the face of the wyvern as well.

Shaking my head and giving a sigh, I stepped forward to take both of their hands and pulled them closer to the wyvern.

There was some resistance, but they still allowed me to pull them. Otherwise, no matter how hard I tried to pull them, they definitely wouldn't have moved a single inch.

With the difference in strength, it was only when they allowed me to pull them that I would be able to move them.

I pulled them right up in front of the wyvern and then moved their hand towards it.

The wyvern knew what I was doing, so it moved its head forward to allow me to place the two hands on its head.

Once the hands were on its head, it started moving as if it was rubbing up against their hands.

Both Cecilia and Shaka revealed strange expressions when they saw this, but at least they didn't immediately pull their hands away when they felt the leather of the wyvern's skin against their palms.

After a while, Cecilia and Shaka lost a bit of their nervousness and moved forward to look at the wyvern.

After all, this was their first time seeing a wyvern up close like this.

Even a dead wyvern would be hard to see since it was hard to take a wyvern down in the first place. It required a large group of elite knights with specialized gear just to have a chance to take down a wyvern, so wyvern hunts weren't normal.

It was only when wyverns attacked human settlements that they had no choice.

Once Cecilia and Shaka approached the wyvern, the rest of the knights couldn't help feeling a bit less wary as well. After waiting for a bit to confirm that nothing happened, they came out and moved towards the wyvern as well.

The wyvern did all that it could to show that it meant no harm, but it also shot me a look as if it was saying, "You owe me a treat for this."

Wyverns were intelligent creatures that were on par with human intelligence, so it was able to figure out things very quickly which I was grateful for. Since it was so willing to go along with this and make friends with the humans, I had no reason to deny this treat.

I had made sure to stock up on squirrels before leaving my territory and had put them in my Storage Ring.

Though the looks that I had received when I stocked up on them...

It was better for me not to think about that for now.

Once all of the knights were around the wyvern, I said, "Alright, let's go outside and have some fun."

Everyone looked at me with strange confused looks when they heard this.

That included the wyvern who also looked at me with its equivalent of this.

But they still followed me out of the cave.

The funny thing was that as the wyvern walked, it was so heavy that it actually made the ground tremble under us.

So it was actually hard for us to walk straight with the wyvern following us.

A bunch of people that didn't seem to know how to walk, it really created a funny scene.

When we came out of the cave, all of them looked at me who was just standing there with a smile on my face, as if they were waiting to see what I was planning to do.

I turned to look at the wyvern and waved my hand at it.

It had a confused look on its face, but it still came over to where I was.

But that wasn't what I wanted the wyvern to do.

So I shook my head and waved my hand again to say, "No, bring your head down for me."

The wyvern still had a confused look, but it lowered its head for me.

Without any hesitation, I got on the wyvern's head and then moved down to where its body was so that I was sitting at the base of its neck.

The wyvern turned its head to look at me with a confused look, but I just said, "Go, into the sky!"

Since I had tamed the wyvern, naturally the first thing that I had to do was ride it into the sky!

The wyverns that were tamed in the game were used as transportation until the airship was unlocked, so this was a very important matter to me.

The wyvern was still confused at first, but then it quickly understood and started to flap its wings.

The others also reacted and wanted to say something, but there was nothing that they could say as we suddenly flew into the sky. The wind generated from the flapping of the wyvern wings actually pushed them back away from me.

The only thing that was in my mind was...

Windy!

There was just too much wind from the wyvern flying into the sky that I wasn't even able to enjoy myself.

The only thing that I could do was grab the wyvern's neck and hold on for dear life.

It was only after a while that the wyvern finally stopped ascending and evened itself out to fly at a single altitude. It even made sure to fly at a slower speed so that I wasn't blown off since it had felt me holding on for dear life just now.

This was the scene that I had wanted to see.

From up in the sky, the group that I had just left behind looked like ants when I looked down.

I could feel the breeze running through my hair and I could see far off into the distance.

This was a view that only a bird would be able to have, but now I could enjoy the same view because of this wyvern.

Though when I thought about it, there were things like pegasi in this world that could do the same for humans. There were also countries that tamed pegasi to have pegasus knights.

So what if I did the same thing with wyverns?

But of course, that would depend on what happened next with the gathering wyverns.

I hoped that I could clear this event safely.