

# **Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 711 The second prince's sincerity (3) - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 711 The second prince's sincerity (3)**

*Chapter 711 The second prince's sincerity (3)*

The next destination that we headed to was...a quarry.

This wasn't just any quarry, it turned out to be a quarry that was filled with a special material.

Limestone.

This was a limestone quarry.

As soon as I saw this, there were things that were suddenly made clear to me.

When we were in the village, there was something else that I had noted.

The buildings that were in the village weren't just the normal stone and wood buildings that could be seen everywhere else. The buildings in that village were like stone buildings, but the material seemed different.

The fourth prince didn't really pay attention to this since he didn't know what this material was in the first place.

However, it was different for me who had come from a more modern world.

The moment that I saw it, I recognized it.

It was concrete that was used to make these houses.

Though I had no idea what that concrete was made from until I saw this mine.

While I didn't really know how they did it, I did know that limestone was used for concrete back in ancient times. So this was the only thing that the limestone from this quarry could be used for.

No, it wasn't the only thing that this limestone could be used for.

There was actually another use for it that also explained another thing that had puzzled me.

Fertilizer.

Limestone could also be used for fertilizer.

This was something that was done in the middle ages in my old world, so it fit the time period, but it was strange that the second prince was able to discover these two uses for the limestone in such a short period of time.

This was something that took mankind a long time to discover in my previous world, yet the second prince was able to discover all of this in such a short period of time.

I couldn't help finding this suspicious no matter how I looked at it.

Was the second prince just a genius or was there something else at play here?

There was a part of me that didn't want to think that this was true, but there was also a part of me that felt that this was the most logical explanation at the same time. After all, it would explain everything that was happening with the second prince...

The fourth prince looked at me as if he was hoping that I would know something about this, but I just shook my head to show that I didn't know a thing.

The fourth prince raised a brow when he saw this, as if he was doubting me, but he didn't say anything in the end.

The second prince just led us around for a bit longer before bringing us to the office of this quarry.

The ministers had wanted to join, but they were actually sent out by the second prince.

They didn't even bother arguing about it as they just listened to what the second prince said, once again showing just how much power he had in this kingdom.

After sitting down, the second prince looked at us with a smile and said, "Do you see my sincerity now?"

Both the fourth prince and I were taken aback when we heard this.

After all, we never expected him to suddenly say something like this.

Sincerity...was this sincerity?

It seemed like he was just trying to show off how much power their Midra Kingdom had instead of showing us anything that would show his sincerity.

But thinking about it another way, it was a way of him showing his sincerity since this was showing us just what kind of things that Midra Kingdom was relying on.

If one thought about it as information on the Midra Kingdom, this was information that we shouldn't have been able to get without paying a large price.

Of course, the key parts of the information, such as how these things were used and made were missing. However, this was certainly considered a show of sincerity based on the information that was given.

The second prince just sat there with a smile on his face, waiting for us to say something.

The fourth prince didn't say anything as he looked at me, as if he was leaving this decision up to me.

I just looked at the second prince for a bit before saying, "Why? You still haven't answered why you want to do this."

The second prince was a bit surprised to hear this before saying, "I've already told you, the Midra Kingdom is doomed to fail with these people in charge. It's only a matter of time before..."

"No, that's not what I meant." I suddenly cut him off.

I narrowed my eyes to look at him before saying, "You and I both know what I'm really asking, so I'll ask one more time. Why?"

It was one simple word, but it made the second prince deeply knit his brows.

He narrowed his eyes to look at me before taking a deep breath and saying, "If I answer this, will you give me an answer?"

Both the fourth prince and I were once again surprised to hear this, but after looking at the second prince for a bit to gauge him, I gave a nod.

I didn't know why, but it felt like this was just the right thing to do.

Both the fourth prince and I had stunned looks on our faces when we heard the second prince's real reason. The two of us just kept staring at him in shock for a bit, as if we were trying to figure out if he was being serious or not.

But in the end, I said with a nod, "Alright, I can accept your explanation. I just want to know, just what do you want us to do?"

The second prince revealed a smile before saying, "It's very simple, I just need you to..."

# **Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 712 A surprising gift - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 712 A surprising gift**

## **Chapter 712 A surprising gift**

The next morning, we went back to meet the king of the Midra Kingdom once more.

We were brought to the castle and brought to the throne room once more where the ministers and the king were all waiting for us.

It seemed that they had already gathered beforehand and I could guess what they had been discussing.

What else could they have been discussing?

There was no doubt that they had been discussing us while we weren't there.

I'm sure that they were most likely talking about what we wanted from this meeting.

I could see that the second prince wasn't here, so it seemed that they had held this meeting without the second prince.

Even if the second prince had his level of prestige in this Midra Kingdom, it didn't mean that everyone was happy about this. The one that should be the least happy was the king...

Even though the second prince was his son, he was also a threat to his rule.

The second prince was so outstanding and the king...

Well, he wasn't exactly the best king there was. He wasn't even considered a good king.

It was already considered good that nothing really bad happened during his reign.

The people didn't have any expectations until the second prince suddenly showed his prowess.

Now, people were just waiting for the second prince to take over, but this wasn't something that the king wanted to do. After all, the king had only been on the throne for a decade since taking over for his father.

Compared to his father's long forty years of reigning, that was still very short.

So the king was wary of the second prince, even if he used the second prince to make himself look better.

Not long after we arrived, I saw the second prince also coming in.

Only then did I start getting to the main issue.

Without the second prince, none of this could happen.

"Your majesty, I must say that I am very impressed with what I've seen. There are many things here that I have never seen in our own kingdom that have caught my eyes." I said all of sudden, catching the king and the ministers off guard.

All of them looked at me as if they were trying to figure out just what I was planning, but I looked back at them with a calm smile on my face that didn't reveal a single thing.

Finally, the king said, "Duke Zwein, it is our honour to catch your noble eyes. However, is there anything else that you want to say?"

With a nod, I said, "I wish to open up trade between our kingdom for a few of your resources."

The king slowly gave a nod before asking, "Which resources?"

It wasn't as if he was against this, but of course he had to think about his own safety.

That was right, his own safety.

His first thought wasn't the safety of his country, but rather his own safety since that was the most important thing to him.

That was the kind of king that this was.

I looked around at the ministers and saw that many of them had similar looks.

Even though the second prince had been doing what he could to make this country prosperous, there were these people who only cared about their own interests who were harming the country.

It was no wonder that he said that it was only a matter of time before this Midra Kingdom collapsed.

It most likely wouldn't remain until he was able to take the throne.

After looking around, I just simply said, "The limestone, I'm interested in that."

The king slightly knitted his brows when he heard this, but he didn't reject this as he said, "Oh, Duke Zwein, I never thought that you would be interested in something so mundane. I was certain that it would be something more extravagant."

With a smile, I calmly said, "We all have our own tastes, mine is just a bit different from yours."

The king narrowed his eyes for a few seconds as he looked at me, but then he said, "Alright, it's not as if this can't be done. It's just that before doing this, we need to figure out what the price of the limestone will be."

I was already expecting this, as well as what came after.

There was a trace of greed that appeared in the king's eyes before he said, "I was thinking that since this is a precious resource, we should make sure that we get the right price. I was thinking...how about its weight in gold?"

I slightly knitted my brows hearing this since I never thought that he would be so shameless as to ask something like this.

He was basically saying that he wanted to trade the limestone pound for pound for gold.

Was this worth that much?

Never.

Yet he had the audacity to say something like this.

I didn't let myself be bothered by this as I just said with a smile, "You jest, your majesty."

Then in a more serious voice, I said, "How about ten gold coins per tonne?"

This was already a very generous offer since it was already double the current market price, but...

It still wasn't enough for this greedy king and his greedy ministers.

"I'm sure that you can do better than that, Duke Zwein. This is a precious resource that is hard to find and hard for us to mine, so I'm sure that you can offer a bit more." The king said with a greedy smile.

I just gave a sigh deep down as I felt that there really was no helping this fool of a king.

But the real goal of this proposal wasn't actually to buy the limestone.

The limestone was nothing more than bait to make sure that they agreed to this.

Without answering him, I said, "Your majesty, I wish to present a gift to your Midra Kingdom."

The king and his ministers were all caught off guard when they heard this, but they waited to hear what we had to say.

"Wyverns, I wish to give you some wyverns."

*Chapter 713 Another condition*

The king and the ministers just looked at me as if they couldn't understand what I was saying.

They even had to look at me several times as if they were making sure that they had heard the right thing.

But in the end, there was no denying what they had just heard.

The king narrowed his eyes to look at me before saying, "Duke Zwein, I think that I misheard something just now. Could you please repeat what you just said?"

It seemed that even though they had taken all this time, they didn't believe what I said that easily.

But this couldn't be blamed on them since this was something that was just too hard to believe.

Wyverns were a precious resource no matter how one looked at it.

After all these were what had ended the war with their might.

Any nation that had wyverns would surely be able to protect themselves from any future invasion.

In a time where they were weak, there was no doubt that the wyverns would protect the Midra Kingdom should anything happen.

So wyverns really were a hard thing to pass up.

But there were no free meals in this world and the king of the Midra Kingdom recognized that.

He knew that to be offered wyverns, there had to be a catch which was what he was trying to figure out now with this confirmation of his. He had shown his interest, it was all about what the other side would do now.

I just said with a calm smile, "I said that I wish you gift some wyverns to you."

The king slightly knitted his brows when he heard this, but he didn't allow himself to be disturbed as he said, "This kind of gift is a bit too much, isn't it? I think that it'll be hard for our kingdom to reciprocate this gift."

"A gift is a gift, is there a need to reciprocate?" I asked with a faint smile on my face, but the king didn't see this smile as a friendly smile.

The king actually saw this as an almost taunting smile...

So the king just narrowed his eyes to look at me for a bit before saying, "Let's not beat around the bush. I'm sure that there are conditions for this."

I raised a brow after hearing the king say this since I had to admit that I didn't expect the king to suddenly be so blunt.

My impression of the king was bad in the first place, so seeing him act like this was strange since I didn't think that he was capable of doing something like this.

But since he was being blunt, there was no need to play around and tease him anymore.

"One gold coin per tonne of limestone, I'm sure that's a deal that we can strike, right?" I calmly said in response to this.

This was ten times less than what I had offered in the first place, but when comparing it to the wyverns...it should be that the wyverns would win out. Though the king couldn't help feeling suspicious about the reason why I wanted this limestone in the first place.

After considering it, the greedy side of the king still came out as he said, "Two gold coins per tonne, that is as low as I'm willing to go."

But I shook my head and said, "One."

The king knitted his brows deeply when he heard this since he didn't expect me to be this adamant about this. But instead of refusing this offer, he just asked, "Then how many wyverns are you planning on giving us?"

"Ten." I said in a calm voice.

The king and the ministers were once again shocked when they heard this.

After all, they didn't expect me to give them this many wyverns.



At best, they had only expected one or two. So suddenly receiving ten like this had completely surpassed their expectations.

They also couldn't help feeling a bit suspicious since I was so generous with the wyverns.

The king once again looked back at me with narrowed eyes before saying, "What else do you want?"

I said with a smile, "I want a few books from your library."

One of the king's brows raised before he asked, "Just that?"

I said with a simple nod, "Just that."

The king continued to look at me with a brow raised before asking, "Is it really worth it?"

I said with a cryptic smile, "To me it is."

The king deeply knitted his brows, but it was clear that he was enticed by this.

He clearly wanted these wyverns, even if he did know the value of some of the books and the limestone.

But in the end, the king said, "Alright, we can agree to this."

I gave a nod, but I also said, "I have another condition that I want to add."

The king slightly knitted his brows, but he didn't say anything as if he was waiting for me to speak.

With a calm look, I turned to the second prince and said, "I want the wyverns to be placed under the second prince."

The ministers and the king all revealed displeased looks when they heard this.

After all, they had all wanted the wyverns for themselves. Even if they couldn't get all the wyverns, they still had wanted a few of them for themselves.

So this wasn't something that they could accept that easily.

The king immediately asked, "Why did you suddenly add this condition?"

I calmly said, "Well, I've had the chance to talk with the second prince and it seems he's much more moderate than your majesty. After all, your majesty did just start a war with our kingdom not that long ago."

All of the nobles looked away with awkward looks when they heard this

The king also had an ugly expression on his face, but he couldn't say anything in response since he knew that there was nothing that he could say.

Everything that I said was fact after all.

The king looked at the second prince who gave him a look as if saying, "You can leave everything to me."

The king didn't want to leave the wyverns to the second prince who he found an eyesore, but there was no other choice. It was clear that the other side wouldn't give the wyverns unless this condition was met...

So the king had no choice but to agree in the end.

## **Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 714 Swearing fealty - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 714 Swearing fealty**

### **Chapter 714 Swearing fealty**

We once again convened in a room where it was just the three of us.

After reaching the deal with the king of the Midra Kingdom, we went back to meeting with the second prince again.

The excuse that he gave was that we would finalize the details of the wyvern transfer.

However...

They never would have expected that we had already worked everything out.

In the beginning, this was our plan.

All of it had been a bait so that we could get the wyverns under the second prince since that was what he had asked for.

So I had gone through all those hoops, making all those demands that they would let their guards down. I did all of this so they wouldn't suspect the only real demand that I had, which was that the wyverns would go to the second prince.

As expected, their greed had completely taken them over and they didn't question it at all.

I had even been able to negotiate for a few of the books from their library which we had never even visited before.

That was how greedy they were for the wyverns.

There was even a part of me that thought that they would have done anything to get the wyverns that they might have never cared that these wyverns would be under the second prince.

But it was still better safe than sorry.

After we sat down, the second prince suddenly lowered his head to me and said, "Your lordship, thank you for going along with that farce."

I was surprised to see the second prince doing this, along with being surprised by the tone that he spoke to me with.

This was completely different from how he spoke to me before.

It was almost as if he was acting like he was submitting to me.

I didn't know how to feel about this since I actually preferred if he treated me the same way as before.

But at the same time, I had an idea of why he was doing this.

The second prince had shown me his weakness before I offered him the wyverns, so I knew exactly what drove him and what to use against him if anything happened.

The only thing was...I never expected that he would even take this a step further.

The second prince suddenly stood up to the surprise of both me and the fourth prince.

The two of us looked at him with a strange look as he suddenly came forward to me and started lowering his head. Then as shock filled us, the second prince bowed his head to me.

"I thank the lord for everything that you've done for me. I hereby swear my loyalty to you."

After saying this, the second prince fell to one knee in front of me and lowered his head even more as he bowed to me.

It seemed that he was very serious about this.

There was a part of me that wanted to go forward to help him up, but I stopped that part of me in the end.

I knew what the second prince was doing this for, so I knew that I couldn't stop him.

After a few seconds of silence, I said, "Alright, you can get up now."

The second prince slowly raised his head to look at me and then stood up in front of me.

As he did, I said, "There's no need to act so stiff around me."

There was a faint smile that appeared on the second prince's face when he heard this.

Then when he fully stood up, it was as if there was a switch that flicked in him as all of that seriousness disappeared without a trace.

When he stood up, the second prince said, "Then let's stop acting that way then."

He was speaking just like he did before.

It was clear that the second prince didn't like acting this way either, so he changed his tone quite fast.

When he sat back down again, I asked him, "So what do we do now?"

The second prince would have a better understanding of the landscape of the Midra Kingdom, so it was better to ask him than to make plans on our own.

This was the trust that I would give him since he had sworn his loyalty to me.

The second prince gave a nod with a look of appreciation before saying, "Nothing."

The fourth prince and I raised a brow to look at him.

It wasn't that we were doubting him, it was just that we were caught off guard by this.

The second prince just calmly explained, "These things take time, don't they? It'll take some time before the kingdoms can recover from the war, so we can't put the plan into action right away. Just like what you've been doing in the Beirut Kingdom."

The fourth prince and I looked at him with a surprised look again before suddenly revealing smiles.

With the abilities that the second prince had demonstrated, it wouldn't be strange that he had spies set up in the other countries. It was likely that he even had spies in our country, which was why he already knew so much about us.

The second prince really was a bad person to get on the wrong side of, just like the fourth prince.

I couldn't help feeling a bit worried about my future with the two of them.

Still, since the second prince was right about nothing needing to be done, then there was nothing that needed to be done.

Or at least there was nothing that needed to be done for me.

I just left the rest of the discussion to the fourth prince and the second prince.

The two of them started discussing things that they would set up for what they had planned in the future.

From what I could hear, it seemed that they wouldn't just stop at the Midra and Beirut Kingdoms.

It sounded like they wanted to build an entire empire from the surrounding countries...

I really couldn't help worrying about my future.

## **Chapter 715 Can I ride on your wyvern?**

It took three weeks, but we were able to make our way through the four kingdoms and two more other nearby kingdoms.

This was all because of the efforts of the fourth prince.

If it wasn't for him giving me advice on how to avoid commitment with the nobles that tried to get closer to me, I really wouldn't have been able to avoid being swamped by them.

That would have caused us to stay even longer in these kingdoms.

But because the fourth prince was with me, I was able to keep each visit short and precise which allowed us to reach the dukedom earlier than predicted.

I had to admit that while I was against the fourth prince coming with me in the first place, he was showing just how useful he was and my opinion had completely changed about him following me.

When we arrived at the dukedom, the party that was there to greet us was...a bit lacking.

There were only a few people that were there and these people clearly weren't as impressive looking as the ones that had welcomed us before. They looked no different from civilians based on what they were wearing.

But it turned out that one shouldn't judge a book by its cover.

That was because these people were...the duke and his family.

The duke didn't bring any important people with him, he just brought his family along to welcome us.

It was the duke, his wife, his son, and his daughter, along with some of their guards.

When we landed, the first thing that happened was that the duke's son came forward and said, "Can I ride on the back of your wyvern?"

I was certainly caught off guard when I heard this as I never expected this to be the way that I was welcomed to this Nergiante Dukedom. However, it wasn't as if I was unhappy or offended by this.

Rather, there was a smile that appeared on my face when I saw the little boy come forward to ask this with a curious look on his face.

But I didn't get a chance to say anything as the duchess quickly came forward to grab her son before apologizing to me, "Your lordship Duke Zwein, I'm sorry about our son's lack of manners. He's just a young child, so I hope that you will not mind his rashness."

I just looked at the boy with a smile as I said, "Of course not, I'm happy to see that he's filled with curiosity." Then I said to the boy, "If there's time, I'll bring you for a ride on the wyverns. But that's only if you can get permission from your parents first."

The boy's eyes lit up when he heard this before he quickly gave a strong nod.

Seeing this, I couldn't help feeling a bit sorry for the duke and duchess for inciting him like this.

But I was happy to see that not everyone in this world was afraid of the wyverns.

Everywhere we went, we were looked at with fear when we arrived on the back of our wyverns. Even if we didn't mean any harm to them, there wasn't a single person that was able to overcome that fear and see us as we were.

I couldn't help admiring this little boy for the open way that he saw the world.

Not judging things because of prejudice, but because of what he wanted.

I knew that he would be one that would go far in the world.

But I was pulled back to my senses by the fourth prince coughing beside me.

When I heard this, I turned back to look at Duke Nergiante and said, "Your lordship, it is an honour to meet you."

Duke Nergiante said with a smile, "No, no, your lordship, it should be my honour to have you visit our small country like this."

Pleasantries were exchanged between our groups before we were invited to go back to the manor of Duke Nergiante.

Right now, we were standing outside the city that was the capital of this Nergiante Dukedom, so this really wasn't the place to talk about this.

As we were about to leave, I could see that the duke's son was looking at our wyverns with a longing look, so I called for a stop before we could leave.

Then I went over to the duchess who was still holding her son back.

She looked at me with a surprised and confused look, but I said, "Madame, how about we let the boy stroke a few of the wyverns before we go?"

The duchess had a slightly worried look in her eyes when she heard this.

But in the end, she couldn't do anything against the boy's enthusiasm.

At the same time, the duke gave her looks as if he was telling her to accept this.

His reasons were much more impure than the boy's, but I didn't say anything about it.

So in the end, the boy was allowed to go over and stroke a few of our wyverns on the head.

As he did this, his eyes were wide up and sparkling.

During this, Cecilia couldn't help coming over to ask, "Why did you do that?"

I didn't say anything at first as I looked at the boy with a smile on my face, but then I leaned in closer and said, "I was just wondering if our kid would be as cute as him once he or she grows up."

Cecilia was taken aback when she heard this before a blush quickly appeared on her face.

She just gave me a soft punch in the chest before walking back to her position.

I just looked at her walking off with a smile on my face, but there was a trace of bitterness that soon appeared in that smile.

That was because...even though we had started trying to have a child, we hadn't been blessed with luck so far...

After this trip, I should take some time off and focus on that with my wives.

It was just to make babies, not for anything else...

A smile crept onto my lips as I thought this.

## **Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 716 Nergiante Dukedom - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 716 Nergiante Dukedom**

### **Chapter 716 Nergiante Dukedom**

Once the duke's son had his fun with the wyvern, we made our way through the city.

The wyverns would have to wait outside the city since unlike the other kingdoms, there was no place for the wyverns to stay inside the city.

The other kingdoms had the finances to afford building such a place in a hurry, but the same couldn't be said about the Nergiante Dukedom.

As we rode through their capital city, it was very clear what the finances of the Nergiante Dukedom was.

Even though this was supposed to be a capital city, it was only at the same level as a town in our kingdom. This place was clearly not as prosperous as the other countries, but that wasn't strange since it wasn't as big as those other countries in the first place.

There was a reason why it was just a dukedom and not a kingdom.

The land that it occupied wasn't even a fourth of the land that our kingdom had, so there was just no comparing the two.

But there was something else that caught my eyes as we passed through this place.

The fourth prince who was in the same carriage as me also seemed to notice it as he looked at me with a special look.



It was like he was asking...

"Are you seeing this?"

I gave a nod back in response, but I didn't say anything as I kept looking out the window at the scenery around us.

This town...even if it was poor, it had one advantage that the other cities didn't.

The planning of space usage in the town, it was something that was far better than any town or city that I've seen before. I had to admit that it was even better than the planning in my town.

However, that was only because I inherited the town and hadn't been able to make proper changes to it yet.

Rose was in charge of that, but I had given her the idea to sector the town based on function.

Which was what had led to the economic zone in the first place.

Though the introduction of the economic zone meant that it took us longer to implement the plan than it should have.

Still, that didn't explain why the capital city of this dukedom was planned in this fashion.

This was definitely something that was worth bringing up later.

But for now...

The fourth prince and I just sat in our carriage as we passed through the city.

The two of us had relaxed looks on our faces as we looked out the window.

This city...it was very peaceful.

It was completely different from the capital cities that we had visited before.

The people here just lived their lives at their own pace without worrying about the future, but that was just because they didn't need to worry about it. The clothes that they wore and the food that they carried, it was clear that they had an abundance of natural resources that allowed them to live a happy life.

This was the kind of place that I actually wanted for myself.

Though the strange thing was that the fourth prince looked like he was thinking the same thing as me.

Could the fourth prince be thinking the same thing as me?

The one that had even sacrificed his life in the game for the prosperity of the kingdom?

He wanted to abandon everything and just move here to live a simple life?

It was hard for me to accept this, but there was no denying the look that was on the face of the fourth prince.

I knew what that look meant as someone who had the same look on my face not that long ago.

But for now, I didn't ask him anything.

Rather, I was focusing on what would come next...

Though I had said that I would be able to take care of this when I was with the others, I had hidden one thing.

Since this quest was one of the ones that happened later, it was actually one of the late game quests. This was a quest that should be very hard for the current me who was still considered in mid game.

If there wasn't an easy way to finish this quest, I really might have never thought about taking it on. But since there was an easy way to finish this quest, it meant that I could do it without any problems.

Or at least I hoped.

It would all depend on this meeting with the duke.

That was because the duke had something that would make this much easier for me to handle as long as the duke was willing to hand it over. If the duke wasn't as willing to hand it over, then it certainly would make things hard for me.

So I was counting on this meeting with the duke to go well.

After riding in the carriage for a bit, we arrived at the duke's manor.

This was different from all of the castles that we had seen before.

The duke and his family seemed to live simple, so this manor wasn't even comparable to some of the manors of lower ranked nobles in other kingdoms that we've seen. It was clear that the duke and his family didn't care about those things.

When we arrived, there were only a few maids and all of them spoke with the duke and his family casually.

It was as if they had been here serving the duke and his family for many years now.

The maids even seem like they were friends with the duke's son and daughter.

My brain couldn't help spinning an image that didn't belong in this world.

If this was my world, this scene would definitely be from one of those isekai slow life novels...

The duke talked to his butler for a bit before bringing us to the reception room of the manor.

When we sat down, he didn't beat around the bush as he asked, "Your lordship, is there a reason why you came to our dukedom?"

*Chapter 717 I want to solve this for you*

Both the fourth prince and I were surprised to hear this.

The two of us just looked at the duke who had a calm look on his face with one brow raised.

Then the two of us looked at each other as if we were seeing what the other person thought.

But in the end, I said with a smile, "It seems like you aren't playing around."

The duke just returned the smile as he said, "I don't think that I have the room to play around. It's better to make things clear so we can handle things as quickly as possible."

There seemed to be a double meaning to the words that Duke Nergiante said.

That was not missed by the fourth prince and me as we both had looks of understanding in our eyes after he said this.

It seemed that Duke Nergiante was sharper than we gave him credit for.

This would certainly make things easier for us.

But still, I didn't answer the question right away as I calmly asked, "Can you tell me about what has been happening in that forest?"

"That forest?" Duke Nergiante repeated with a confused look at first before narrowing his eyes to slowly say, "Do you mean the Dark Forest on the edge of our land?"

I gave a nod in response before waiting for him to say something.

Duke Nergiante didn't say anything as he kept looking at me with his eyes narrowed.

But after a bit of silence, he said, "I'm sure that you've already heard all the rumours, is there anything that you still need me to say?"

The way that he said this, it was almost as if he was unwilling to show any signs of weakness in his land. So even if they were asking him about it, he wouldn't tell them a single thing.

Though it was also clear by the look in the eyes of Duke Nergiante that he was confused about being asked this question all of a sudden.

It certainly wasn't a question that he was expecting to be asked.

This might be a bit hard if I didn't already have a grasp of what kind of personality this Duke Nergiante had.

So I looked right into his questioning gaze and said, "I want to solve this matter for you."

"Huh?" It wasn't just the duke, but also the duchess had a confused look on her face when she heard this.

The two of them didn't say anything in response as they looked at me with doubtful looks.

It was clear that the two of them had no idea what I was planning when I said this, so they couldn't say anything since they were afraid of saying something wrong. But I also didn't say anything to clarify since I knew that this would be a bad move.

The duchess eventually looked at the duke as if she was leaving this decision to him.

The duke still didn't say a thing as he kept looking at me with the same look on his face.

But eventually he said, "Duke Zwein, you have to understand our hesitation if you say something like this. While we understand your sincerity, that doesn't mean that we can exactly trust it. So I hope that you will be able to give an explanation first before I respond."

I shook my head as soon as his voice fell and said, "This is a very simple matter. You can either agree to this or you can reject me."

Duke Nergiante deeply knitted his brows when he heard this, but it didn't look like he was upset or offended.

Rather, it seemed like he was completely taken aback by how firm my stance was.

At the same time, there was a small part of him that was intrigued because of it.

That was what my main plan was.

To act as mysterious as possible and it seemed to be working.

It only worked because of the reputation that I had.

There was no doubt that Duke Nergiante already knew about the things that I have done in the past, that was the bare minimum that he had to do as the ruler of this land.

Not to mention, I was even a person that had arrived on the back of wyverns.

It was hard not to portray a powerful image just based on that.

When people with powerful reputations presented a mysterious image, it gave off the feeling that one was capable since they didn't seem bothered at all by rejection. The calm feeling that this gave made them feel like this person had everything in the palm of his hands.

Which was why it made people trust them naturally.

So Duke Nergiante looked like he was really starting to be shaken because of this.

At this time, if I offered him a bit of bait...

"I won't tell you exactly what it is, but I'll give you a hint as to what you're dealing with." I suddenly said this while they were still debating on what to do.

Duke Nergiante was pulled out of his thoughts when he heard this and he immediately looked up at me with an expectant look.

In a calm and mysterious way, I said, "This is something that has to do with a former demon king."

"Demon king?!" The duke and duchess both repeated with a shocked voice.

The two of them looked at each other as if they were exchanging silent words, but the duke looked back at me as if he was asking me to say more.

I just remained silent and waited for the duke's response.

The duke looked like he was hesitating a bit more, but in the end...

With a sigh, the duke said, "Even if I wanted to stop you, I wouldn't be able to, right? Then I might as well be involved in this matter so I can make sure that it will go the way that I want."

## **Chapter 718 Heirloom**

A smile crept onto my face when I heard this.

This duke really didn't seem to care about being subtle at all as he said all of this to my face.

Even if it was true, it wasn't something that should be said out loud since it might offend the other side.

But I wasn't offended by this since I liked someone who was this frank with me.

However, I also couldn't help wanting to tease the duke a bit.

So I said with a smile, "Why do you think that?"

It was the duke's turn to smile as he looked at me with that smile and said, "With the wyverns that you've brought alone, we're already helpless. With those wyverns, do you really think that we could do anything to stop you?"

He shook his head as the smile on his face became helpless before saying, "To be honest, I completely thought that you were here to invade us when you showed up with those wyverns. So if you really want to do anything in our country, it isn't as if you can stop us."

His eyes suddenly became serious as he looked at me.

He looked at me like this for a bit before suddenly saying, "That just makes me wonder...what are you asking me for permission for?"

I said with the same smile, "It's your country, isn't it normal for me to ask for permission?"

A bitter smile appeared on the duke's face as he said, "Didn't I just say that you can do whatever you want in my country as long as you have those wyverns? Would I be able to stop you?"

Though it seemed like he was being self deprecating, there was another reason why he was saying these things.

Basically, he could guess that there was another reason why I had come to ask for his permission.

It wasn't so much as asking him for permission, rather it was as if there was something that I needed from him.

Seeing him ask me this, I stopped playing around and said, "Well, there is another reason for me doing all of this."

The duke wasn't surprised at all, as he just waited for me to say what I wanted to say.

The smile disappeared from my face and a serious look appeared in its place.

With that serious look on my face, I looked down at the duke's hand which confused him.

The duke followed my gaze and he found that my eyes were on the ring that was on his hand.

The duke looked even more confused when he saw this.

After a while, he raised the hand that had the ring on it and said, "All that for this?"

I gave a nod before saying, "I need that heirloom of yours to help me take care of the disturbance in the forest. Without it, it will be impossible for me to solve this problem of yours."

Heirloom really was the right word to describe this since this was a ring that had been passed down through the duke's family for generations. Though the duke had no idea what the real value of this ring was.

Only I knew why this ring had been passed down in the duke's family for generations.

The duke knitted his brows when he heard this.

After all, this was his family heirloom that I was trying to 'borrow'.

It would be hard for him to give up this ring to someone that was close to him since it was the heirloom of his family. So it was even harder for him to give this up to me who had just arrived in his country and asked for this ring.

In the end, Duke Nergiante didn't deny my request and instead just asked, "What do you need this family heirloom of mine for? I think as the owner of this thing, I'm entitled to ask that at the very least, right?"

I shook my head and said, "I can't answer that until it's over. Until then, you just have to trust me." Then after a pause, I added, "Of course, you can come with me if you're worried about your item."

Duke Nergiante had looked a bit displeased with what I said at first, but his expression quickly changed when he heard the latter half of what I said.

Slowly, he asked, "You're saying that I can come with you?"

I gave a simple nod in response to this.

Duke Nergiante looked at me with a strange look, as if he didn't know what to say in response to this.

He had been completely expecting me to tell him to stay here and leave things to me, so he was completely caught off guard when he was told that he would be allowed to go.

Duke Nergiante slowly raised a brow to look at me before saying, "Alright, but the ring never leaves me. That's the only condition that I have."

I gave a nod in response.

I didn't actually need the ring itself, I just needed to use the ring for a bit when we arrived at our destination. I didn't want to offend or provoke Duke Nergiante since he seemed like quite a good person.

He was definitely someone that I wanted to befriend after everything that I saw here.

After seeing my response, Duke Nergiante gave another sigh before saying, "Though if you really wanted to take it, I couldn't stop you, could I? You really are hard to read, I've never met anyone like you before."

I just said with a smile, "Then let's take our time to get to know each other."

Duke Nergiante once again looked at me with a strange look before slowly nodding in agreement.



Since the ice had been broken and an agreement had been reached, we just took our time talking to each other.

Not just me, but the fourth prince also found Duke Nergiante to be quite the pleasant person.

It seemed that he had the same idea as me judging by the look in his eyes.

### *Chapter 719 Spring blossoming*

After settling this matter, it wasn't as if we would be heading to the Dark Forest right away.

It had taken some time to convince the duke and we had arrived in the afternoon instead of the morning.

So it was decided that we would be heading to the Dark Forest in the morning rather than heading out in the middle of the night.

That gave us time to get more familiar with the duke's family.

The fourth prince and I both had the same idea about this Duke Nergiante, so we both knew that it would be better for us to get closer to the duke's family with this opportunity that we had been given. This would without a doubt help us in the future when we made our move against Duke Nergiante.

One thing that caught my eye was...

While I was talking to the duke, the duchess, and his son, the fourth prince was talking to the daughter of the duke.

The daughter of the duke didn't seem interested in the fourth prince at first, but slowly he broke the ice with her and they seemed like they were having quite the good conversation.

With the way that the two of them talked to each other, it really seemed like they would be a good match for each other.

Not to mention, I could see from the fourth prince's eyes that he was genuinely enjoying his conversation with the duke's daughter rather than just faking it. I had gotten quite good at seeing how he faked talking to noble girls after visiting all those kingdoms with him.

It seemed that this was not one of those cases where he was faking it.

A faint smile appeared on my lips when I saw this since I knew the worries that Angela and the king had about the fourth prince.

Even with how old he was, he had never shown any interest in the opposite gender.

They had even been worried that he swung the other way, which was why they had been trying to push an engagement on the fourth prince now that things had settled. However, the fourth prince had rejected everything that they brought his way, so that matter had been benched for now.

But it seemed that he had quite the good relationship with the duke's daughter.

Alicia Nergiante, she was the daughter of Duke Nergiante.

When I asked about her, these two doting parents were more than happy to brag about her.

It seemed that she was quite the outgoing and knowledgeable girl, who was also very responsible to the point where she was even able to help her father with governing their territory.

This seemed like a perfect kind of wife for someone like the fourth prince.

But I found that there was a problem.

I had already known about this, but I had ignored it since this was their matter and not mine.

It was something that they should handle by themselves, so I had been avoiding it.

But I couldn't as she was the one that came to me this time.

Shadow Five was clearly unhappy about how close the fourth prince and the duke's daughter seemed, so she approached me to ask for a favour. I was certainly surprised since I never thought that she would ask me this kind of favour, but...

It seemed like it would be good for the fourth prince if I went along with it.

It definitely wasn't because I found it interesting or anything like that.

When we went to dinner, I introduced another person.

"This is Yvonne, a diplomat who works for our kingdom. She was busy with other matters this afternoon, so she wasn't able to join us before this."

It was a beautiful pink haired girl in a sleek red dress that fit her well even though she was a bit lacking when it came to curves.

When the fourth prince saw her, he couldn't help slightly knitting his brows.

That was because the one that I had just introduced was Shadow Five.

The favour that she asked of me was for me to bring her to dinner with the duke's family.

The duke and his family didn't find this strange at all, rather they even welcomed it. The fact that I was suddenly bringing out this diplomat meant that we were open to creating deeper relations with their dukedom.

I had clearly come with a purpose, so I couldn't be considered a diplomat here to build deeper relations.

But it was different for someone that specially came for that.

So she was allowed to join the dinner and even sat down beside the fourth prince.

The fourth prince looked at Shadow Five with a questioning look, but she deflected it to me.

I could hear her say, "The duke said that we need someone to play the role of diplomat to build a deeper relationship with the Nergiante Dukedom, so I volunteered to play that role."

The fourth prince looked at me with a glare after Shadow Five sold me out like that, but the only thing that I could do was go along with this.

After Shadow Five had finished deflecting this blame to me, she said, "It seems that your highness was getting quite close with the duke's daughter. Could this be considered a plan to approach the duke through her?"

The fourth prince was surprised to hear this, but he said, "It isn't like that at all. I'm just genuinely building a relationship with them."

Shadow Five looked a bit displeased when she heard this.

To my surprise, the fourth prince said, "It isn't what you think. This is a purely professional business."

There was no need for the fourth prince to say something like this, but he had said it in the end as if he was clarifying something.

I had thought that they weren't that close, but it seemed that I might have been wrong.  
If that was the case...

Perhaps there was spring blossoming for the fourth prince after all.

*Chapter 720 A secret door*

In the morning, we set off for the forest.

Though the Nergiante Dukedom was a small country, that didn't mean that it was small enough that we would have been able to reach the edge of the country where the forest was in a day if we traveled by horse carriage.

So naturally the only way that we could reach the forest in a day was by taking the wyverns.

Our group was already used to this, but it definitely was a frightening experience for the duke and his men.

Though his son did look at him with an envious look when he saw the duke getting to ride on the back of the wyvern.

The duke didn't know whether to laugh or cry when he saw his son looking at him like this.

On the backs of the wyverns, we quickly traveled the land of the Nergiante Dukedom. Though we did cause quite a bit of chaos as we flew overhead.

However, it also gave us a good insight into the Nergiante Dukedom.

The places that we flew over...the soldiers came out to protect the people without fear of losing their own lives.

Even the lords seemed to come out to protect their people instead of cowering in their manors.

In a smaller country like this, it seemed that the nobles were less corrupt.

Was it because they had less wealth to corrupt them or was it something else?

In just a few hours, we were able to reach the forest on the edge of the forest. When we arrived, our group immediately understood why it was called the Dark Forest, though I already knew since I had seen it in the game.

The forest was completely filled with jet black trees.

These trees seemed like they were corrupted, but the duke guaranteed that this was just how they looked.

After arriving at the edge of the Dark Forest, the first thing that we did was go to the guard post at the edge of the forest.

Since everything that had happened, the duke had increased security around the Dark Forest just in case anything else happened.

So these guards would have all the information about what was happening inside of the Dark Forest.

The guards were naturally surprised to see wyverns landing in front of them. They even raised up their weapons at us without fear of their own lives when we landed.

It seemed that the duke had trained his men well.

But they quickly calmed down when they saw it was the duke who had arrived on the back of these wyverns.

Even though the duke explained the situation to them, they still couldn't help looking at our wyverns with a strange look. That was just how it was when one travelled by wyverns.

After they calmed down, I asked them about the situation in the forest.

The guards looked at the duke with a look as if they were asking if this was alright and the duke nodded in agreement.

It was only then that they gave me a summary of what they knew.

The animals were still dying strange deaths, but it didn't seem like anything else had happened.

"Just this morning, we found another dead deer. It's being hung up over there to air out before we burn it." The captain of the guard pointed in a certain direction.

I gave a nod before heading over without saying a single word.

Everyone looked at me with strange looks, but they still chose to follow me over to see what was happening.

When we came over, I took out a knife and then started cutting into the deer's antlers.

Everyone looked at me with the same strange look, but they didn't stop me.

After cutting into the antlers, I turned it around so I could look at the insides.

I had to dig a bit before I was able to find what I was looking for.

When I saw this, I gave a satisfied nod as I said, "It seems that we came earlier than I thought. The rate of the seal being released is far slower than what I thought it would be."

They all looked at me with even more confused looks, but I chose not to explain.

I turned to the duke and said, "We need to go into the forest."

The duke hesitated for a second before giving a nod in response.

The captain of the guards didn't seem to trust me, so he insisted that he come along with his men.

The duke thought about it for a moment before nodding in agreement to this without caring for my opinion. Though I wasn't against it in the first place since more people would always be good if something went wrong.

Not that it would go wrong since I had my knowledge from the game.

With this new group, we progressed into the forest.

As we went into the forest, they raised their guards as if they were afraid that they would be attacked at any moment.

I shook my head when I saw this, but I didn't stop them as I was focused on finding the right way.

And it turned out, it was easy for me to find the right way since I was able to find all the landmarks that had been used in the game. So it was easy for me to follow the path that was followed in the game.

When we arrived at our destination, everyone was confused about why we were here.

That was because we had arrived in a clearing with nothing but a large stone in the center.

This stone seemed unnatural, but there wasn't anything special about this stone from what they could see.

I just ignored all of them as I went over to the side of the clearing and started looking at the trees there. After looking at them for a bit, I found one tree that stood out and pulled one of the branches.

When I did, the stone suddenly disappeared without a trace to reveal a set of stairs leading down.