

Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 831 Alfried Company - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 831 Alfried Company

Chapter 831 Alfried Company

We left the castle in a horse carriage that the fourth prince prepared.

This was a carriage that just screamed that it was trying to attract attention since it was clearly decorated to show that there was someone important in it. At the same time, there were many guards that came with us as we headed out of the castle.

So the moment that we left the castle, we were immediately spotted by the citizens.

In fact, with how much attention we were drawing to ourselves, it didn't take long before we were surrounded.

Though no one was crazy enough to get in the way of a horse carriage.

No one was willing to risk their lives just for a glance at the people in the horse carriage.

Seeing the crowd gather around us and the guards creating a perimeter, there was a bitter smile that appeared on my face.

I turned to the fourth prince and he looked at me with a smile.

The way that he smiled at me was almost as if he could already guess what I was about to say.

This was further proven when he said, "It's a show. This is something that has to be done."

I raised a brow to show that I was confused, but I didn't say anything as I waited for him to explain.

The fourth prince didn't say anything at first as he just calmly looked out the window. Looking at the people gathered there with a smile, he said, "This is a way to make sure that the people know that those at the top are still there and working hard for them. It's a way to assure them that they can depend on the leaders of this kingdom."

I was even more confused at first, but then I slowly realized what the fourth prince was talking about.

Even though the fourth prince had been taking care of business on my behalf during this time, I had been locked away in the castle. Well, it really wasn't being locked away in the castle as I had been staying there as a sort of honeymoon.

It could even be said that I was ignoring my work by staying in the castle during this time.

But now that period was over, it was time to show myself to the people to show that I was back to work.

Whether I was a figurehead or not, this was something that was important for the people so that they would have confidence in the new king.

It seemed that the fourth prince really had already planned out everything, though I did wish that he would have told me this ahead of time. This was the kind of thing that he always did on his own without telling me anything.

It seemed that even now that I've taken the throne, he didn't plan on changing the way that he acted around me.

I didn't really mind this since I enjoyed the way that I interacted with the fourth prince, but I did wish he told me a few things beforehand.

Also, there was something else that I thought of.

Now that I had taken the throne, it wasn't as if he was the fourth prince anymore.

So should I still be thinking of him as the fourth prince?

It seemed like I really needed to think about how to address him in the future...

Well, since he was my prime minister, I guess that I should be able to call him prime minister in the future. However, it seemed like just calling him prime minister might seem a bit informal.

Especially since he was also my brother in law.

So should I just call him brother or should I call him by his name?

While I was considering this, the carriage continued along its way until we reached our destination.

When I looked out at where we had arrived, I found that there was a large building that was in front of us.

This building seemed very busy as there were many people coming in and out of this place.

This was a place that most people in the capital would recognize since it belonged to a famous organization in the capital.

Even I recognized this place, not just because of my knowledge from the game.

I recognized this place also because of the time that I've spent in the capital.

One really couldn't spend time in the capital without learning about this place after all.

This place was the headquarters of the Alfried Company, the largest company in the kingdom.

This was the company that controlled most of the trade in the kingdom.

But there was another identity for this company.

There was a reason why we had come here.

This company was actually controlled by the royal family.

I had already known about this from the game, but this was also in the report that the fourth prince had handed me.

As the destination sank in, I understood why the fourth prince wanted to bring Haley here. However, there was also a part of this that I didn't understand.

After all, it wasn't as if Haley was a part of the Alfried Company in the first place, she was even the head of her own company. A company that was doing quite well recently and could be considered a competitor of the Alfried Company.

So I couldn't help worrying about the fourth prince's motives in bringing us here.

After a moment of silence, I asked, "Brother Noah, why are we here?"

The fourth prince was caught off guard when he heard this.

He had been heading out of the carriage, but he stopped and turned to look at me with a strange look when he heard me say this. He just kept looking at me with that same strange look before he slowly said, "What did you just call me?"

I raised a brow before repeating, "Brother Noah?"

There was nothing that was said as both of us just remained there in silence.

Chapter 832 Take over

All of a sudden, the fourth prince revealed a smile and said, "I'm happy that you're willing to call me that, but now isn't the time for that. I think that when we're in public, you should address me as prime minister."

I was surprised to hear the fourth prince...no, the prime minister say this since this was completely different from how he acted before.

If this was before, he would have insisted that I kept calling him brother or Noah.

It seemed that after taking his role, he had matured a bit...

No, he was always mature before, it was just that he was acting this way around me.

He had acted in a way that he couldn't act around others before with me, but now he was holding that side of him back. Or at least, he was doing that while we were in public.

After being surprised, I gave a slow nod since I didn't disagree with this.

But the problem was that the prime minister didn't say anything past this.

It was as if he ignored the second half of what I said.

After saying what he wanted to say, he turned around and headed out the carriage before standing there like he was waiting for us.

Haley had been watching and listening from the side since she also wanted to know what we were doing here.

Haley naturally recognized that this was the headquarters of the Alfried Company, so she also wanted to know what was happening here.

It wasn't just for her own curiosity, but also for her company.

But since the prime minister wouldn't say anything, there was nothing that they could do about it.

In the end, all they could do was follow the prime minister into the headquarters of the Alfried Company.

The moment that they came in, there was a person that came over to lead them into the back.

It seemed like there was no need to even check in at the front desk, it seemed that the prime minister had already prepared everything. That was why there was someone that was even waiting for them when they came in.

This person led them to the back and brought them to a meeting room before leaving them alone.

It seemed like they were waiting for someone, but it didn't take long for that someone to arrive.

The moment that this person arrived, the first thing that they did was...

They went right up to the prime minister and bowed to him, as if they knew exactly who he was. After that, this person said, "Your highness, it is an honour for us to have you visit. May I know what your purpose in visiting today is?"

The prime minister narrowed his eyes when he heard this before calmly saying, "Carlos, I am no longer a prince, so you shouldn't be addressing me as your highness."

The Alfried Company representative that the prime minister called Carlos was surprised to hear this, but he quickly gave a nod and said, "Yes, yes, it was my mistake. I hope that your high...my lord will not mind this."

The prime minister shook his head before saying, "Just call me prime minister like everyone else."

Carlos' eyes opened wide when he heard this, but he quickly gave a nod in response before saying, "Then sir prime minister, is there anything that your humble servant can do today?"

The prime minister narrowed his eyes again after hearing this, but he didn't reprimand him this time as he said, "There's someone that I wanted you to meet today. In the future, they will be an important person for your company."

Carlos was visibly surprised to hear this since he didn't expect this, but he waited to see what the prime minister had to say.

The prime minister gestured to me and simply said, "This is our new king."

The look on Carlos' face was almost as if he couldn't understand what the prime minister had just said. It took him a while before that expression disappeared and it seemed like he was slowly understanding what the prime minister said.

However, as he started to understand this, there was a different expression that appeared on his face.

It was a cautious one, but there was also a trace of worry in his eyes.

Almost as if he was afraid of what I would do.

That wasn't strange since I was the new king.

Since this was a company that was run by the royal family, I had technically become the new boss of this place.

For me to come right after taking the throne, there must be something that I wanted from them which was never a good thing.

After a long silence, Carlos' expression changed once more.

He revealed a smile like a professional merchant and said, "Your majesty, it is an honour for us to have you visit. Is there anything that your humble servant can do?"

I couldn't help being surprised by how shameless he was.

He put on a smile and said the exact same thing that he said to the prime minister to me.

It was as if he wasn't bothered by the fact how this made him seem hypocritical at all.

It was as if he only cared about doing what he thought was the best for him and his company.

It also made me admire the shamelessness that he had.

This was just how a merchant was since shamelessness was the best way to sell their goods.

I gave a cough to calm myself before saying, "I'm just here for a visit. It's the prime minister who has business with you."

Carlos revealed a bitter look again, but that quickly faded as he turned back to look at the prime minister.

The prime minister revealed a faint smile that almost seemed like he was teasing Carlos, but he still said, "I'm here to announce that someone will be taking over this company as of today."

All of us looked at him in shock when we heard this.

Chapter 833 Who said that?

The one that reacted first was naturally Carlos since this meant that his position would be at stake.

If there was something that threatened one's livelihood, it wasn't as if they would just submit and accept it.

Carlos would naturally say something to fight for this livelihood of his.

"Sir prime minister, what do you mean by this? Why would someone be taking over our Alfried Company?"

The way that he said this had no politeness at all.

It was clear that he was going to fight to the very end to keep his job.

But the prime minister didn't seem bothered at all by this question or the way that Carlos asked this.

Instead, he just calmly gestured to Haley on the side and said, "This is Miss Haley, one of my brother in law's consorts and one of the queens of this kingdom. But at the same time, she is the head of the Big Bear Company."

The moment that Carlos heard this, he immediately narrowed his eyes.

The Big Bear Company was a name that he had heard of.

As the head of the largest company in the kingdom, he naturally knew about the Big Bear Company since it was one of the up and coming companies of the kingdom. The business that they did overlapped with the Alfried Company, so it could even be said that they were rivals.

The moment that Carlos heard which company Haley came from, he immediately started putting everything together and he had an ugly look on his face.

He could guess what the prime minister was planning to do, but it didn't seem like there was anything that he could do to stop him.

In the end, even if he was the head of the Alfried Company, the real power of the company lay with the royal family.

If the other side wanted to kick him out, he really couldn't say anything about it.

But to everyone's surprise, Haley suddenly said, "I'm not going to do that."

Everyone looked at Haley with surprised looks when they heard this since all of us thought that she would jump at this opportunity. Even I thought that she would jump at this chance to swallow the Alfried Company.

It turned out that this wasn't the case.

With the look that was on her face, it even seemed like she was very against this.

However, this was the opposite of what anyone thought would happen.

After all, there was everything to gain from taking over the Alfried Company.

After a long silence, the prime minister gave a cough to calm himself down before asking, "Why? Isn't it a good thing if you were to take over the Alfried Company?"

Carlos revealed a very ugly expression when he heard this, but he didn't say a thing as he waited for Haley's response. He also wanted to hear just what kind of response Haley would give to this.

Haley just calmly said, "My company is one that I've built on my own, I will not give it to anyone."

Though she said this in a calm voice, the look in her eyes made it very clear that she was firm on this point.

That wasn't strange though since this company was one that she had built from scratch. It was the company that she fought hard to break free from the grasp of her father, so it was a company that she cared for deeply.

If someone were to suddenly tell her to hand it over, there was no doubt that she wouldn't accept this.

After another moment of silence, Carlos said in a confused voice, "Wouldn't it be better for your company if the Alfried Company was merged with it." With a more proud look, he said, "The Alfried Company is a company that deserves to be called the number one company in this kingdom. It isn't something that a small company like yours can compare to."

He didn't forget to add in a sharp jab at the end of his words to put Haley down.

However, Haley didn't seem offended at all by this since she knew that he was right.

When comparing the two companies, there was no comparison at all.

Haley just calmly said, "Even if they were just merged, that means that the policies of the Alfried Company would leak into my company. You can say that it won't, but we all

know that it will since the people that used to work for the Alfried Company will be working for me now. These people have the pride of those that have worked for the biggest company in the kingdom before. Will they really do things the way that I want them to?"

Carlos opened his mouth before suddenly closing it again.

After all, he couldn't refute what Haley had just said.

He could think of ways to refute this, but he knew in his heart that it was all just sophistry.

After all, the reality of the situation would be as Haley described.

Those that had the pride of working for the undisputed number one company in the kingdom, to be forced to work for a smaller company all of a sudden...they would feel unwilling.

It would be hard for them to accept all of this and they would even make things difficult.

So Carlos had no choice but to agree with what Haley said.

Though there was a part of him that wanted to agree since he wanted to use this as an argument for his case.

The two of them both turned to look at the prime minister who had been silent the entire time.

The way that the two of them looked at him, it was as if they were saying that they had already said everything that they needed to say.

The prime minister just sat there with an undisturbed look on his face before suddenly revealing a smile to say, "Who said anything about you merging the two together? I just said that you would be taking over."

Chapter 834 Truly shameless

Both Carlos and Haley were confused when they heard this.

If taking over didn't mean having Haley sit as the head of both companies, then they clearly didn't understand what the prime minister was referring to.

The prime minister still had a smile on his face when he saw the way that the two of them were looking at him. It was as if he could already see through what they were thinking and had a solution for them.

So he said, "Who said that you had to merge the companies?"

Both Carlos and Haley looked even more confused when they heard this.

After all, no matter how one looked at it, that was the natural flow of things if they were to have Haley take charge of the Alfried Company. To have both companies running at the same time would be inefficient.

As if he could see through their thoughts, he suddenly said, "Why do you think that it would be inefficient running things like that?"

The two of them were absolutely baffled by the prime minister's words.

It was as if they couldn't understand a single thing that he was saying with the way that he said this.

After all, it should be very clear that if they were to run the two companies separately, all that would do is create competition between them. At the same time, if they didn't combine their supply routes and ran it separately, it would be very inefficient in sending supplies.

So it seemed inefficient no matter how one looked at this.

But even when he saw them looking at them like this, the prime minister just had the same calm look on his face as he faced the two of them.

Carlos looked like he wanted to say something, but Haley just raised her hand as if she thought of something.

The prime minister just remained silent as he waited for her to finish this thought.

"You want to create the illusion of choice?" Haley said in a slow voice.

Carlos had a confused look on his face at first as if he didn't understand what she was saying, but then he slowly started to understand. He had his experience as the head of the Alfried Company for many years now, the time that he had spent here hadn't been wasted.

So he could at least see through Haley's words.

The prime minister just gave a simple nod before saying, "Instead of taking away their choice, it's better to give them the illusion of choice. That way, the people feel like they would still be in control."

Both Haley and Carlos revealed strange looks on their faces when they heard this, but they didn't refute him this time.

As I sat there on the side, I couldn't help feeling impressed by what the prime minister said.

I wasn't surprised by it since while it wasn't something that was put in place in this world, it was something that was put in place in my previous world.

The best example of this was the glasses industry of my previous world.

While it seemed like people had choices since there were many different glasses stores, there was actually only one choice since all of the glasses that they bought were from the same manufacturer.

That one manufacturer had been able to control the entire market while still giving people the illusion of choice, which was the reason why they did so well.

People didn't have an idea that everything was being controlled by one entity.

But this wasn't something that was that easy to come up with, especially in a world that didn't have economics as advanced as my previous world.

So the prime minister really could be considered a genius for coming up with this kind of scheme.

Both Haley and Carlos looked like they were considering what the prime minister had offered.

After another long silence, Haley gave a nod and said, "This can work...but it would take a lot of work. At the same time, it would take a lot of support from the government..."

She narrowed her eyes to look at the prime minister before saying, "What are you planning to gain from this?"

Carlos had been against Haley in the beginning, but now it looked like he was supporting her.

That was because between the two sides, supporting Haley looked like he was supporting her.

That was because between the two sides, supporting Haley seemed to have more benefits right now...

The prime minister just said with a smile, "It's very simple, we'll just have both companies be companies under the royal family."

Carlos' eyes lit up when he heard this, but Haley knitted her brows after hearing this.

She looked at the prime minister in silence for a bit before suddenly saying, "You really are shameless, aren't you?"

Carlos and I were both shocked hearing her say this, but the prime minister just had a calm look on his face.

Haley didn't care about Carlos as she turned to me to ask, "Can you believe what he's saying? He's basically asking for my money."

I raised a brow to show that I was confused, which made Haley explain, "By asking for my Big Bear Company to become a company under the royal family, it would mean that the royal family would basically own it. That would mean that the profits can be used by the royal family how they wanted, even for the benefit of the kingdom. He's basically telling me to take out money to support the kingdom."

15:40

The prime minister just calmly said, "Sister in law, you're married to my brother in law, so you are a part of the royal family no matter how you look at it. Is it wrong for your money to go to your family?"

Haley knitted her brows when she heard this, but before she could say anything, the prime minister just calmly said, "Sister in law, what if I said that you'll be the one in charge of how all that money is spent?"

"What do you mean?" Haley said in a confused voice.

Chapter 835 Head of a department

"What did you say?" Rose said in a surprised voice.

After returning to the castle, the first thing that the prime minister did was come back to our room with me.

Though there was a bit of a distraction when Haley complained to Angela about what he did and Angela showed the prime minister who was the boss, we eventually settled down and he was able to ask Rose this question.

"How do you feel about working as a minister?"

Rose never thought that she would be given a position in the kingdom, much less such an important one.

After all, she had come to the capital to become a consort and not the queen, so it wasn't as if she had a high position in the first place.

She had already accepted that she would be here to help with a few simple things at most.

Not something as important as this.

But the look on the prime minister's face made it clear that he was being serious.

Haley even said, "He offered me a position in the department of finances as well."

That was the compromise that the prime minister gave Haley to make her willing to accept his deal earlier.

She would give her money to the kingdom through taking over the Alfried Company and attaching the Big Bear Company to the royal family, but she would also be the one that controlled the department of finance that would spend the money.

In this way, she would be the one that was in complete control of everything.

Haley never thought that the prime minister would make this kind of compromise, but he had done it without any hesitation.

With the way that he did it, it was almost as if this was the original plan.

This was what he had been planning all along.

But if that was the case, then just how long had he been planning all of this?

It really felt like all of us had been dancing on the palm of the prime minister's hands all along...

However, it wasn't as if this was a bad thing.

The plans that the prime minister made could be considered the best plans in this situation.

I trusted my wives with my life, so I would trust them in these positions.

If I could make it possible, I would have given them the same positions that the prime minister was giving them now. After all, I knew that they would be able to make some much needed changes in this kingdom if they had these positions.

But even as the king, I didn't have that authority.

It was different for the prime minister who used to be the fourth prince.

The people that were under his thumb were hard to count and it could even be said that he wielded the true power in the kingdom.

If he wanted to make this happen, it was a simple wave of his hand.

The prime minister just calmly replied, "I want you to become a minister in the internal land management department."

Rose narrowed her eyes when she heard this without saying anything.

The way that she looked at the prime minister, it was as if she was trying to figure out what his goal was.

The prime minister just simply said, "I've seen your economic zone plan and I'm impressed by it. I want to see if you can do that with our entire country."

Rose was visibly surprised when she heard this since this was not what she had expected from the prime minister.

Not even in her wildest imagination would she expect him to suddenly ask her this.

After all, this wasn't just an experiment that was being run in an area.

He was asking her to put this plan in effect on an entire country.

An entire country was completely different from a small region.

However...the experiment had proven successful and as long as it was regulated properly, this would be a very good way to improve the overall prosperity of the country.

It was just that it would take a lot of work and investment.

Rose was about to say something before slowly turning to look at Haley.

Haley also looked at Rose after hearing what the prime minister had to say.

It was almost as if...he had already planned out everything.

After all, as long as the two of them worked together, it was completely possible for them to put this plan in effect all over the country. It was just that it would take the full support of multiple departments for this to happen.

But if the prime minister were to support them in taking over these departments, it was more than possible.

So there was a part of Rose that hesitated on this matter.

First, this would without a doubt fill her desire.

This would give her something to do, something that would allow her to leave her mark on this country.

After all, even if she was a wife, she had her ambitions.

Second, this would without a doubt help the country that she now ruled over with her husband.

That would give her stability in the future and stability for her children.

And most importantly, she wanted to do this because it would help raise the reputation of her husband.

That was the most important thing for her since everything that she had done was for the sake of her husband.

In a slow and deliberate voice, Rose said, "Alright, I'll do it."

The prime minister revealed a faint smile when he heard this before turning to Angela to say, "You'll have to help her take control since you're the queen, but as long as you two work together, it should all turn out well."

Angela was surprised to hear that she was involved in this matter as well, but she just gave a simple nod in response since she didn't mind being involved in this. Rather, it seemed like she was happy that she was involved in this matter.

Chapter 836 Why are you doing this?

It didn't take long for the girls to start discussing their plan.

It seemed tame at first what they were planning to do, but their discussion didn't remain tame for long.

They started escalating the plans that they were making, even making it seem like they were planning on taking over the entire kingdom. Though if one thought about it, they already controlled the kingdom since they were married to the king.

Of course, that was only the human brides.

The other two weren't able to participate since they were from another race.

Even if they were married to the king, that didn't mean that they should interfere too much with the politics of a human kingdom. If they were to do that, there was no doubt that people would start questioning the goals of the king.

Some people might even think that he was working with the other races.

So while they could marry him, there was little power that they actually had.

Elsa would be considered the bridge to the Dwarven Kingdom since there was a treaty signed.

Moon would be considered the bridge to the elven village and nothing else.

If they tried to do more or interfered with the politics of the human country, then it would only hurt Zwein who was now the king and that was the last thing that they wanted.

So they weren't really involved in this plan even if they gave ideas.

But they didn't mind since the relationship between the seven of them was close and they all supported each other. So even if Moon and Elsa weren't on the main stage, they would do what they could to support the others.

That was because they were all doing this for one person.

During this, I brought the prime minister out of the room and we went back to the royal study.

Now that I had taken over as the king, this was my royal study and I was in my full right to use this.

However, that wasn't what it was being used for tonight.

Instead, I brought out the drinks that my father in law had hidden in this place.

Or I would have if not for the fact that they were missing.

So in the end, all we could do was get a maid to bring us some drinks.

When it was just the two of us, the prime minister acted the same way as before. He went back to just being Noah, the brother in law of the king.

With Noah leading the conversation, it didn't seem like we would run out of topics to discuss. He even thanked me for bringing him away from his sister and saving him earlier since she had punished him on behalf of Haley.

But that wasn't the reason why we were here.

We weren't here just so he could avoid the girls while they were plotting world domination.

We were here because I had something to ask him.

"Why are you doing this?"

Noah was surprised when I suddenly asked this in the middle of our conversation.

He was completely caught off guard since he didn't expect me to suddenly ask this question.

Noah just looked at me with this surprised look on his face for a while before he suddenly asked with a smile, "Why are you asking this now of all time?"

I didn't look back at him with a smile, rather I had a serious look as I asked again, "Why are you doing this?"

The smile slowly disappeared from Noah's face as he looked at me.

Finally, he took a deep breath and said, "I don't have any ill intentions towards you or them. I'm doing all of this for my ideal and yours."

I narrowed my eyes to look at Noah after he said this.

Noah just looked right back in my eyes without his expression changing at all.

It was as if there was no trace of a lie in his eyes at all. It was as if he was completely serious about what he had just said.

However...it didn't seem like I believed what he said.

There was still a part of me that couldn't believe what he said since I knew what kind of person he was based on the game. In addition to that, I've seen the way that Noah has looked during this time...

I knew that there was that part of him deep down and if he were to ever think of us not as his family...

So there was always the risk of things going wrong.

But for now, I chose to trust him since there was no going back from all of this.

I never even expected to become the king, but I knew that it was impossible to do everything that I needed to do as the king without Noah.

So at the very least, we had to work together for now.

Taking a deep breath, I said, "I hope that you won't go too far."

Noah once again revealed a smile when he heard this before saying with a nod, "Brother, don't worry, I know my limits. I won't ever go too far without telling you."

I slightly knitted my brows when I heard this.

After all, this was different from what I had just asked of him...

Taking another deep breath, I said, "Alright."

I knew that it was better than to argue with him.

Noah had always been like this, but at least he was using his power for our benefit right now.

As long as that stayed the same, there really was no reason for us to fight.

I just wanted to make sure that he wasn't putting any of my wives in danger.

That was the least that I should do as their husband.

"What happened to father in law?"

That was the other thing that I wanted to ask Noah.

After all, the former king and my father in law had completely disappeared without a trace.

Chapter 837 Retired

Noah revealed a faint smile without saying anything when he heard this.

He just sat there in silence, but I could see that the smile on his face was slowly turning bitter as if he was remembering something that made him feel bitter.

If I had to guess, it was most likely related to his father and my father in law who had disappeared without a trace.

So I just waited for Noah to gather his thoughts and say what he wanted to say.

There was a long silence before Noah gave a sigh and suddenly said, "He retired."

I tilted my head as if I was confused and I just looked at him with that look of confusion on my face for a bit before suddenly saying, "Yes, he retired as the king and gave me the throne. This is something that everyone knows."

Noah's bitter smile became even more bitter when he heard this and he was silent for a bit longer before saying, "It's not the same kind of retirement."

I raised a brow as I was confused by what he said, but I didn't say anything as I waited for him to tell me what he meant.

But the fact that Noah was hesitating this much must mean that he felt very bitter about all of this.

It really made me wonder just what kind of thing the former king had done.

After one more long silence, Noah said with a sigh, "He just disappeared from the castle one day and left behind a note saying that he was abandoning all of his duties. He will be leaving everything to us from now on."

I was shocked this time since this wasn't what I had expected.

In a worst case scenario, I would have thought that Noah would have sent his father away since he would be worried about him getting in the way.

I never thought that the former king would actually leave on his own...

This was a big problem since he was someone who we had been expecting to count on for certain things that needed to be done. If he was gone, then that meant that there was a hole that we needed to fill.

Or rather, it meant that there was a hole that Noah as the prime minister needed to fill.

This wasn't a position that could be left empty for long, but it also wasn't an easy position to fill. So it would certainly be hard for Noah to find a replacement for this role.

After all, the main requirement for the role that we wanted to give to the former king was experience.

There were few people that had the same experience as him, so there were few people that could even take his role in the first place.

The ones that did were those old ministers who had served the former king, but they had retired as well when the crown passed.

Their retirement was completely different from the former king's retirement.

They had already trained their successors and had figured out what would happen after they left. The reason why they retired was because this was what they should do once the king passed on the throne.

This was something that they had already discussed with the former king before he stepped down.

So there was no changing their minds.

With how much time had passed, they had mostly left the capital to enjoy their retirement in their estates. After all, they were ministers of the kingdom, so it wasn't as if they were mistreated.

They had earned more than enough to buy estates in the countryside for them and their families.

Right now, they had already left the capital and were enjoying their retirement.

That meant that there really was no one here to fill the gap that the former king left.

Both of us just sat there in silence for a bit before I finally said, "How could he be that irresponsible?"

Noah shook his head when he heard this before saying with a sigh, "He's been working hard for the sake of this country for so many years now. It's not like he's had much time for himself...so I can understand why he did this."

I raised a brow in response to this since I could hear from the way that Noah said this, it seemed like...

"You know where he is?" I asked in a slow voice

Noah gave a nod without saying anything. After a long sigh, he said, "Royal father is currently living in one of the estates that he has in the capital and it seems like he's been living a simple life. He's been going to different places incognito and enjoying the life that he never had before."

I looked at Noah with a strange look before asking, "A midlife crisis?"

Noah shook his head before giving a nod and then shaking his head again.

He took a deep breath before saying, "In short, it seems like this is temporary and I feel like we owe it to him to give him this."

I looked at him with the same strange look for a bit before slowly nodding in agreement.

While I didn't exactly know what the former king had been through, I could guess based on what I had learned from him.

Being a king definitely was not easy on a person and it would come with plenty of stress, so it only made sense that the king would snap after holding it in for this long.

It made sense that he deserved this midlife crisis and to do what he wanted to do.

That was why Noah was hesitant to bring him back.

Noah could see the way that I looked at him, so he said, "For now, it should be fine if he isn't here. I'd say that in a week, royal father will be back and he'll take his position again. Someone like him won't be able to sit still."

I raised a brow in response, but I nodded without saying anything.

Noah should know his father best, so there wasn't anything for me to say.

Chapter 838 Protests

Noah was wrong in the end.

He had predicted that the former king would be back in a week, but he was actually back in three days.

Once the novelty of retirement wore off, he found that he was completely bored.

After living in that high speed world of managing the kingdom for so long, it wasn't as if he would be able to settle down that easily. His personality had already developed because of the way that he lived for so long that it wasn't that easy for him to change it.

Used to the fast paced life, he was completely bored when he had nothing to do.

That resulted in the former king returning after just less than two weeks of retirement.

The excuse that he gave was that he was here to visit his family and have some dinner with us, but after dinner...he went to my study with me and Noah and started asking about different things with the kingdom.

He tried to act nonchalant at first, but it was clear that the more that he asked, the more into it he seemed.

Eventually, he started asking about the things that he should have been in charge of.

Noah just answered all of his questions with a casual tone, but it was clear that he was only acting.

I knew that Noah wanted the former king to come back, so he was answering in such a way that he would be guided into coming back.

The way that the father and son talked to each other, it seemed like neither of them were willing to directly state what either of them wanted.

Seeing both of them beat around the bush like this was funny to me.

It seemed that the two of them were so used to being indirect with each other and hiding their plans over the years that they couldn't be direct with each other anymore.

There was a part of me that wondered if I would be like that with my children in the future.

As that thought passed through my mind, I made up my mind that I would make sure to communicate with my children properly.

I didn't want any misunderstandings between me and my kids since that would just lead to problems in the future.

In a way, I was learning from the mistakes of the former king and his sons.

After all, the hesitation from the former king and the lack of communication with his other sons had resulted in a purge.

I didn't want that to happen in my reign.

No, even before my feelings as a king, there were my feelings as a father.

I didn't want my children to go through that.

So after watching them beat around the bush like this for a bit, I gave a cough and said, "Father in law, is retirement boring for you?"

The former king was surprised to hear me suddenly ask this.

He looked at me with a strange look, like he was trying to figure out what I meant by this. However, I just looked at him with a straight look that didn't have any hidden meanings at all.

It was as if I was sincerely asking him this question.

The former king didn't know how to react at first, but he eventually said with a sigh, "It has been a bit boring compared to my previous lifestyle."

Since I had been straight with him, he was straight with me.

There was no hiding his real feelings like before, he just told me directly that he was bored with his current lifestyle.

Noah was visibly surprised since this was something that he had never experienced with his father before.

Hearing his father be straight like this was like seeing a human turning inside out.

In short, it was an experience that he had never had before.

I ignored the look on his face and gave a nod to the former king before saying, "Then how about you come back to the castle now?"

The former king was surprised to hear this before revealing an awkward look.

He had been the one that had run off on his own, so to come back to the castle now...

I knew what he was thinking, so I said with a smile, "We all miss you. How about coming back and being with us?"

The former king was even more surprised to hear this since being straight was not something that was done in the royal family.

He didn't answer right away as he turned to look at Noah who still had a strange look on his face.

However, when Noah saw his father looking at him, he slowly gave a nod as well.

There was a faint smile that appeared on the former king's face when he saw this, at which there was a faint smile that appeared on Noah's face as well.

The father and son looked at each other with those awkward smiles for a bit before the former king finally said, "Alright."

With that, the former king was coaxed back to the castle.

There was nothing special that happened for about a month.

Everything went smoothly since Noah had already planned for everything.

There was a smooth transition between kings and the people accepted it very easily.

Though that was mainly because some of the old ministers had retired with the former king and had created new positions for most people.

Since there were these open spots to compete for, everyone focused on that instead of trying to bring down the king.

In a sense, it was turning them against each other so they wouldn't turn on the king.

So everything seemed to go smoothly until...

"What is it?" I asked in a surprised voice as I saw Noah suddenly burst into my study.

There was a heavy look that was on his face as he said, "There's been a protest by the north gate."

"A protest?" I said in a shocked voice.

This was something that neither of us had expected.

Chapter 839 Movement in the dark

The reason for the protest was that the people were unhappy with the recent changes that we had implemented.

During this time, we had implemented agricultural changes by having the citizens change what they were to grow.

We handed out all the new seeds and had them change after the last harvest.

So currently, there were many empty fields in this country which was why people were worried.

It had been over a month since the forceful changes that Noah had put in place and most of the fields were empty...Well, they weren't completely empty since there were still sprouts that came out of the soil.

It was just that it took too long compared to the usual crops that the citizens grew that they became anxious.

They didn't want to switch to these new crops in the first place, but they were forced to swap to the new crops because of the royal decree. As such, the only thing that they could do now was gather to protest this royal decree.

This was a matter of their livelihoods, so these people were ready to fight for it.

Or rather that's what it seemed on the surface, but it wasn't as if the citizens would rise up that easily.

Not to mention, the prime minister had done quite a bit to make sure that people would be placated during this time.

There were supplies of grains that were still being sent to the various regions, though the grains were a bit less compared to usual since there were less lands growing grains

now. At the same time, the new lands hadn't finished development yet, so they weren't able to grow new grains to supply the kingdom.

That was why it would take some time for the kingdom to adjust.

But to make up for that, the prime minister had given each citizen a subsidy so that they wouldn't be aggrieved during this time.

He had made sure to compensate them fairly for their losses during this time, which was a large blow to the treasury.

So why would these people protest?

There was only one reason for that.

There was someone who was moving behind the scenes that were orchestrating these protests, which was why the two of us were surprised.

We had already thought of this ahead of time, so we had made our moves to counter anything that could have happened.

By all right, those that could have orchestrated such a protest should have already been placated.

So when it happened, we were naturally surprised by this.

"Who is it?" I asked the prime minister.

The prime minister revealed a heavy look before shaking his head and saying, "I don't know right now. This is something that's being investigated, so we'll find out soon."

I looked at him with a strange look when I heard this.

For the first time, I could see that the prime minister had really been caught off guard, which was why he didn't know what to do. This was strange for me who had only seen the confident side of him that had always planned out everything.

So for him to actually be at a loss like right now...

After a moment of silence, I just gave a simple nod without saying anything.

The two of us waited there in silence, but I could see that there was a look of anger that was in the prime minister's eyes. The way that the flames of rage flickered in his eyes, it was clear that he had lost himself in his rage this time.

I had gotten a bit better at reading him after becoming an in law, so I knew that he wanted to rip to pieces the people who were responsible for tarnishing his perfect reputation.

This was the one and only time that he had failed, so he wanted to erase this failure with his own hands.

In the end, it was Haley who came into the study with a folder in her hand.

The moment that the prime minister saw her come in, he immediately said in a fierce voice, "Who is it?"

If I hadn't reacted in time and held him back, he might have even pounced at Haley just to take the folder from her.

I wasn't worried that he would actually do anything to her, but I didn't want to see her being jumped at by another man.

The prime minister realized his mistake, so he quickly gave a cough to calm him down.

After calming down, he said, "It was my mistake. Please tell me who it is that funded this protest."

Haley raised a brow to look at the prime minister since this was also her first time seeing him like this. But she just gave a nod and opened the folder to read, "The Yumen Company and the Tarda Company."

The prime minister immediately knitted his brows the moment that he heard this.

He was silent for a bit before turning to look at Haley with that same frown on his face to say, "Are you certain of this? I've already given them more than enough benefits that they shouldn't have done this."

Haley just shook her head and said with a bitter smile, "It seems like you've underestimated how greedy they are. Once they smell blood in the water, they are like hungry sharks."

The prime minister knitted his brows even more when he heard this.

After a long silence, he said, "Let me handle this. I'll make sure that they rue the day that they chose to betray me."

Seeing this, I had no doubt that the prime minister would be able to take care of this without a problem, but there was something else that I had to say.

"Why do you think that it's just them?"

The prime minister was surprised to hear this before knitting his brows again.

It didn't take long for him to realize his mistake.

He took a minute to reflect before saying, "I'll keep investigating and come back with a plan tomorrow."

I gave a simple nod in response.

As long as the prime minister didn't lose himself in a spiral, I had no doubts in his abilities.

Chapter 840 Isn't this a bit too...

The next morning, there was a bitter look that appeared on my face.

The prime minister seemed to have worked all night with how dark the bags under his eyes looked.

It seemed like he had pushed himself to the limit just for this one thing as I could see that there was a thick folder that was on the desk in front of me.

From the few parts that I could see, I could tell just how detailed his plans were.

It didn't seem like the prime minister was planning to show any mercy to the merchants who had double crossed him.

However, that bitter look that was on my face became even more bitter as I read what was inside.

"Isn't this a bit too much..." I couldn't help saying this as I read this, but the prime minister didn't say a thing as he waited for me to finish reading.

I didn't say anything once I finished reading and just handed the folder over to Haley.

She had been standing silently on the side, waiting for me to finish reading.

But she didn't hesitate to take the folder from me to read what the prime minister's plan was.

As Haley read it, the expression on her face also changed like mine did, but it didn't change as much as my expressions had changed.

During this, I just stared at the prime minister with narrowed eyes as if I was accusing him of something, but he didn't seem to react at all. He had a calm look on his face as if he was certain that he did nothing wrong.

Once Haley finished reading, she also looked at the prime minister as if she was trying to tell if he was being serious about this.

But the prime minister just stood there with a calm look on his face as if he was waiting for someone to say something.

So in the end, I was the one that broke the silence by saying, "You know that this will destroy the economy of our kingdom, right?"

The prime minister just gave a simple nod before saying, "We can just rebuild it."

Both Haley and I looked at him like he was crazy when he said this.

After all, he was saying that we could rebuild the economy of the kingdom like it was nothing.

It was as if it was as simple as flipping his hand.

Though the plan that he presented already showed the plans that he had for rebuilding the economy.

With the plan that he laid out, it seemed like it was indeed possible for him to do such a thing.

Though it was certain that there would be quite a bit of chaos because of it.

This would no doubt have an effect on the citizens of the kingdom, so I was worried that the prime minister was losing sight of his original goals because of it. After all, he had said that everything that he did was for the citizens.

So I said, "Are you sure that this won't affect the people though? Even if we rebuild the economy, there will be periods where the people will suffer because of it. Are you sure that there isn't a less extreme method of doing this?"

Haley nodded in agreement since she knew just how much this would affect the employees of the company as someone who ran a company herself.

Even if they were hired back in the end, the period of time where they would be out of a job would be very hard on them and their families.

The prime minister didn't seem worried at all when he heard this as he came forward to take the folder from Haley.

She handed it over without a problem, but she moved closer to my desk since she knew that he was planning on showing me something.

The prime minister took out a certain sheet from the folder and put it down before pointing out a certain thing.

When I saw this, I was completely taken aback since this was the solution to the problem that I had raised.

It was a packed folder with many sheets, so there were certain things that I had missed.

This was one of those things.

Haley also came closer to read it with me, but she had a much bigger reaction than I did this time.

That was because this was something that she was completely unfamiliar with, but it wasn't that unfamiliar to me since this was something that I had seen before. Of course, it wasn't something that I had seen in this world, but rather in my old world.

It was employment insurance which would help these families tide the period of unemployment over.

This world didn't have a thing like employment insurance since it was a world that was focused on the nobles.

The nobles didn't care about the commoners since they thought that they were beneath them and suppressing them made them easier to control. So if the commoners faced any problems, it was up to them to solve it alone.

The nobles would never take out money to help them.

But this employment insurance that the prime minister was proposing would do the opposite.

It was like employment insurance in my previous world where the government would pay a portion of their lost wages while they were out of a job so they could have the time to find a new job.

As for where that money came from, it was said to come from the taxes that the companies that they were employed by paid. But in reality, it was coming from the money that we would be taking from the companies after we destroyed them.

But the prime minister had also laid out a plan for how things would go in the future where we would rely on tax payments to fund this.

After all, taxes were much greater in this world where nobles controlled everything than in my previous world.

It would be easy to pay for things with taxes since there was so much of it.

However, there was something else that I couldn't help thinking about...

How could the prime minister come up with such a modern idea?