

# **Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 961: Another new item - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 961: Another new item**

## **Chapter 961: Another new item**

I was completely caught off guard when I heard this notification, but then I couldn't help revealing a confused look.

After all, it didn't seem like there was anything that could be used to make sex toys here.

The only thing that was on the beach was the glowing seaweed and no matter how I looked at it, it really didn't seem like the glowing seaweed would be the thing that the system was referring to.

However, the system soon proved me wrong.

It was indeed the seaweed that the system was referring to.

"Please collect a sample of the Glowing Seaweed."

When the system put it that clearly, it was impossible for me to misunderstand.

It turned out that the new material that the system found was indeed the seaweed that was scattered on the beach in front of us.

It was just that I really couldn't understand what kind of sex toy could be made from this. Since it was glowing...could it be that the system wanted to extract the fluorescent properties of the seaweed and inject that into the other sex toys?

That was the only possible thing that I could think of as I looked at the Glowing Seaweed.

In the end, I went forward to head down to the beach as well to the surprise of everyone. The one that was the most pleasantly surprised at Ariel who was running among the glowing seaweed.

When she saw me heading down, she waved her hand at me and said, "Come and join me!"

The Merman King slightly knitted his brows as he turned to look at me after she said this, but Ariel didn't seem to care at all.

However, I also ignored her as I headed towards the closest piece of Glowing Seaweed near

me.

Once I was there, I reached down and picked it up.

There was this strange slimy feeling that was coming from the Glowing Seaweed that wasn't really comfortable to touch.

Then when I moved that piece of seaweed from one hand to the other, I found that there was this strange effect where the glow of the seaweed seemed to be sticking to the first hand.

It seemed that whatever it was that was making the seaweed glow was stuck to the surface of the seaweed.

That meant that anything that was touching it would have a bit of the glow infused to it. Though it didn't seem like there was much that was transferred from the seaweed. It seemed that whatever was covering the seaweed was just a small part of it, so there wasn't much to transfer over to other things that made contact with it.

After feeling it for a bit, the only thing that I could think of was...

"Normal."

This was a completely normal piece of seaweed, it really didn't seem like there was anything special about it. Let alone having a property that was special enough that it could be turned into a sex toy.

So I was starting to feel doubt towards the system...

Still, since the system had requested this thing, the only thing that I could do was give the seaweed to the system.

I turned around so that no one was able to see what I was doing before letting the system take it from me. If I hadn't turned around, they might have been surprised by the seaweed suddenly disappearing from my hand.

Once it was gone, I waited to see what the system would have to say about this thing.

The system didn't seem to react at all after receiving the Glowing Seaweed which made me feel quite awkward.

Seeing that I was just standing there without moving, Ariel came over and leaned in to ask, "What's wrong? Did you sprain your leg because you're not used to walking on sand?"

There was an awkward look that appeared on my face when I heard this, but I didn't answer. Ariel acted as if she got the hint and came forward to help me while saying, "It's not that big of a deal, there's plenty of people that aren't used to this."

It was strange for her to say this when she hadn't had human legs for long, but she was actually saying it to me which made me feel awkward.

But before I could say anything in response, the system once again gave me a notification. "New blueprint has been drawn up and a new sample has been prepared. Please accept them."

I didn't hesitate to look at the things that had been released, but there was a feeling of surprise that filled me the moment that I saw the things that the system had released. That was because these things certainly didn't seem like...

"System, are you sure that this is what you meant to release? Is this even considered a sex toy?"

"Host, this is an important accompanying tool. Please do not look down on this item."

"Eh..." That was all I could say as I looked at the blueprint and sample that the system released.

After all, this wasn't technically a sex toy.

As I was dazed from looking at these things, Ariel suddenly tapped me on the forehead before saying, "Are you alright?"

I was pulled out of my thoughts when I heard this before saying, "I'm fine, I'm just thinking about something."

She raised one brow to look at me before saying, "Alright, it seems like you're fine if you can still act tough like this."

Then without a single care, she ran off again to run among the pieces of glowing seaweed.

I took a deep breath before revealing a smile when I saw her like this.

For now, I would forget about the item that the system gave me and enjoy the scenery in front

of me.

In the morning, I should have a clear mind and be able to figure out what to do with the new item that the system released.

## **Chapter 962: This is amazing!**

When the morning came and I pulled out the new item, I just couldn't figure out what to do with it.

I held it and tested it with my hands, but it just didn't seem like it was anything special.

I really didn't understand why the system would give me something like this.

Even the vibrators had their use, but this item...

While I was lost in thought, the door suddenly opened and a voice rang out, "What are you still waiting for? It's time to go."

I was pulled out of my thoughts and looked up to see Ariel standing there.

She had a frown on her face at first when she saw me sitting there on the couch, looking like I was lazing around. But then when she came closer and saw what was on my hand, she couldn't help being surprised.

Looking at the thing on my hand, she slowly asked, "What is this?"

There was an awkward look that appeared on my face as I was trying to figure out how to explain this.

However, it seemed that it was unnecessary as Ariel came forward to touch the thing that was wrapped around my hand. After touching it, she moved her hand away and rubbed her fingers together as if she was testing this thing.

There was a strange look that was on her face as she looked at the thing that was on her hand. There was even more awkwardness that appeared on my face when I saw her doing this. After all, it really was strange to see a girl doing something like this...

I didn't get to say anything in the end as Ariel's face suddenly lit up as she said, "This is amazing!"

With how loud she shouted, it attracted the attention of the people outside.

The one that ran in right away was the Merman King.

As soon as he came in, he went to Ariel's side and raised the trident that was in his hand as if he was ready to fight. At the same time, I could see that he was looking at me out of the corner of his eyes as if he didn't trust me.

A trace of bitterness filled me as I raised my hand to show that I didn't know anything. Once the Merman King and the other mermaid royal guards had confirmed that there was nothing dangerous in here, the Merman King turned back to Ariel to ask, "Darling, what's wrong?"

"Dad, take a look at this." Ariel excitedly thrust her hand in front of the Merman King's face.

There was an awkward look that appeared on his face as he didn't think that a young girl should be acting like this, but then he narrowed his eyes to look at the thing that was on the hand that had been thrust in front of his face.

"This is..." The Merman King said to himself before slowly raising his hand towards her hand.

With one finger, he scooped a bit of the stuff that was on Ariel's hand and then rubbed his index finger against his thumb as if he was testing the thing that he scooped from her hand.

After rubbing his fingers together a few times, his expression suddenly became just as excited as Ariel's as he said, "This is amazing!"

The mermaid royal guards were all surprised and confused by the Merman King's reaction, but they didn't say anything as they looked closely on the thing on the Merman King's fingers.

Once the Merman King finished testing it, he turned to Ariel to ask, "Where did you get this thing?"

Ariel turned to point at my hand that was still up that was covered in the stuff that she scooped up.

The Merman King's eyes immediately turned to me and came forward to look at my hand. Then he did the same thing as Ariel as he scooped up a bit of it with his index finger.

With that on his hand, he started to do the same thing as Ariel as he rubbed his fingers together to test it.

The Merman King's expression changed several times as he tested this thing. Then all of a sudden, he brought his hand down to his leg before revealing a bitter smile as he realized something.

He turned back to look at me with a serious look before asking, "Do you have more of this stuff?"

I was completely caught off guard by this question as I never thought that the mermaids would be so taken by it.

After a moment to catch myself, I slowly nodded and shook my head before saying, "Yes and no. I have a way to produce this thing, but I don't have a steady supply of the materials needed to make it, so I can't say that I have a lot of this."

"Then if you have enough materials?" The Merman King slowly asked.

I gave a simple nod as I said, "As long as I have enough materials, then I should be able to mass produce it."

"Good!" The Merman King loudly said as he slapped his leg. Then he calmed down again as he said, "How much of this do you have left?"

I was once again surprised, but I took out one of the sample bottles that the system gave me that was already a third of the way down.

The Merman King didn't hesitate to take this bottle from me before saying to the rest of the mermen, "Let's go and test this thing!"

All of them nodded in agreement as they dragged me out. It seemed that they were planning to head down to the ocean.

I had no idea what they were planning to do, but it seemed like they were all excited about

something.

I just looked at this group of mermen with a strange look as I thought to myself...

"Just what are they planning to do with this bottle of lube?"

### **Chapter 963: Speed swimming and moisturizing**

Once we were on the beach, the mermen immediately pulled out some bottles that had liquid in them.

This was something that I immediately recognized since they had been using these things over the past few days.

The moment that they drank it, their legs started to transform.

It didn't take long before they regained their tails.

These were the humanizing potions.

Drinking it would give a mermaid legs and then drinking it a second time would reverse the effect. This was a potion that was carefully developed by the potion experts of the Merman Empire, a task that wasn't easy at all.

The reason for developing this potion was to interact with the humans on land.

Of course, the mermaids weren't foolish enough to believe that just because they ruled the oceans, they would be able to wipe out any who dared to oppose them. They understood that different races had different strengths and didn't dare slack in terms of preparation.

So they developed this potion so they could react to any situation that happened. Otherwise, the contracts that could turn mermaids into humans were more than enough.

After they turned themselves back into mermen, the mermaid royal guards and the Merman King jumped into the ocean.

They didn't dive right into the depths of the ocean right away and instead floated there on the surface. With the way that they floated there, it almost made them seem human since they had their lower halves under the water.

However, that wasn't the end of it.

After diving into the water, the Merman King took out the bottle of lube that I handed him. He opened up the cap and then tapped the opening of the bottle.

After he tapped the opening, the liquid inside seemed to stir as if responding to his touch. As it stirred, the liquid suddenly started forming a bubble that just floated there in the air inside of the bottle.

It floated there for a bit before coming out like it was being guided by the Merman King's finger.

The bubble of liquid floated for a bit before coming out of the bottle and just floating there in the air.

With the control of the Merman King's finger, that bubble floated over to the Merman King's tail before suddenly splitting apart. The liquid that formed this bubble spread in such a way that it coated the tail of the Merman King.

The way that he did it made sure that he didn't miss a single inch of his tail, so that it was completely covered in the lube.

Seeing this, I could guess that this was the water magic of the mermaids.

However, I had no idea why he was lubing up his tail like this...

It didn't seem to make any sense at all...

The other mermen did the same thing as they used their own water magic to draw out balls of lube to coat their tails.

As this was happening, I could see that the tails that they had lubed up seemed to form a layer of protection against the water. It seemed that they were using their water magic to ensure that the lube didn't get washed away by the water which was very strange.

What was the point of using magic to do all of this?

It seemed like a waste of mana in my eyes...

But the Merman King and the other mermen just continued doing this until all of their tails had been lubed up. With the lube surrounding their tails like this, they suddenly started charging forward.

It seemed like they were going in groups as they swam through the water.

With the way that they moved like this, it was almost as if they were racing each other.

I was even more confused when I saw them like this, but it didn't seem like they were bothered at all by the way that I looked at them. They all had excited looks on their faces as if they had discovered something new.

When I looked closely, I could see that they were controlling the lube with their water magic so that only a bit of it made contact with the water at a time. Like this, they would be able to keep using the lube for a while as they swam through the water.

The lube reduced the friction that their tail made with the water, which allowed them to go much faster.

At first, they didn't seem to move that fast, but that turned out to just be them adjusting to the feeling of using the lube.

After a while, they started shooting through the water at speeds that were hard to follow with the naked eye. It took a bit of effort to keep up with the mermen shooting through the water.

However, this was a good demonstration of the power that the mermaids had when it came to aquatic combat.



There was no one that would be able to face these rockets in the water.

"What are you doing?" There was a voice that came from the beach that caught all of us off guard.

When I turned around, I saw that the Merman Queen was standing there with her arms at her waist and a disapproving look on her face.

The Merman King came out of the water with an awkward look before saying, "We're just testing out this new product that we got from Zwein."

After saying this, he took the bottle of lube that had almost been completely used up and presented it to the Merman Queen.

She narrowed her eyes to look at the Merman King before taking it and using it for herself. Of course, she transformed back into her mermaid form before using the lube.

The moment that she lubed up her tail, her eyes immediately lit up as she touched the scales on her tail.

"This is amazing! The moisturizing effect is unlike anything I've used before!" The Merman Queen shouted out in a shocked voice as she touched her tail.

After she finished testing it, she immediately looked at me like a hunter looking prey which sent a shudder down my back.

## **Chapter 964: Trade deal (1)**

There was an awkward smile that appeared on my face as I didn't know what to say, but the Merman Queen didn't hold back at all.

She just said with the same smile that didn't reach her eyes, "I think you should know what I want."

She had already heard the Merman King explaining the situation, so she knew that it would be possible to obtain more of this lube.

The Merman King also had an awkward look on his face at first, but then he quickly calmed down and revealed a serious look befitting of his position. He was the king of the Merman Empire, so of course he would be able to change his aura just like that.

I shook my head with a bitter smile seeing the two of them like this, but I still said, "Then let's go sit and discuss this."

They nodded in agreement before heading back to the main town.

During this, Klein and the others had come over to see what was happening.

They had been waiting for us the entire time since we were supposed to be heading back to our kingdom, but we never showed up.

When they came over, I waved at Klein and explained the situation to him before following the Merman King and Queen back.

When we arrived, I found that they had already had the maid prepare some snacks and tea, as if they were prepared for a long meeting. It seemed that they were very serious about obtaining this lube.

Once I sat down, the Merman Queen didn't hold back at all as she said, "What do you need to make this trade deal work? I'm very interested in this lube that you have."

I was surprised since I never thought that the Merman Empire would be this interested in it. However, thinking about what I saw, I could see the importance of this thing to the Merman Empire.

For the guards and soldiers, they would be able to use this lube to make themselves stronger. And as for the Merman Queen...I saw the terrifying look that was in her eyes.

I knew better than to get between a woman and her cosmetic products.

However, I really didn't know that the lube had this kind of moisturizing effect in the first place.

It seemed strange that the lube would have a moisturizing effect to begin with.

"This is a special effect that was brought out because of the combination of ingredients used to make the lube."

I was caught off guard by the explanation that the system suddenly offered, but seeing the additional information that was also given to me by the system, I understood what the system was talking about. At the same time, I had to say that I was impressed by the system's thoroughness.

There were scientific reports that studied the different interaction between the ingredients used to make the lube.

It seemed that the system had put in quite the effort to study it before releasing it.

But that didn't solve the problem that was at hand.

With a cough, I said, "Yes, but I have to state that without the ingredients needed, I won't be able to mass produce this product."

The Merman Queen gave a nod before saying with the same smile that didn't reach her eyes, "Yes, I am aware of this. So tell me, what ingredients do you need?"

I pulled out one of the pieces of the Glowing Seaweed that I had saved from last night before saying, "This is the only one that we can't get on land. Without this, it won't be possible to mass produce the lube. The problem is that we can't get this Glowing Seaweed where I've put my factory to mass produce this, so I can't do anything."

"We can take care of that." The Merman Queen said without any hesitation.

I was completely caught off guard hearing this, but it seemed like she didn't want to talk about this at all.

Instead, the Merman Queen continued pushing by saying, "We'll transport the goods that you need, all we need to know is if you're willing to trade the goods."

I was once again caught off guard when I heard this.

I never thought that the Merman Queen would actually offer to transport the Glowing Seaweed to our kingdom.

I didn't have to ask to know how they would do it since there was a river that was connected to

the ocean running through our kingdom. This was the river that Ariel took to arrive at our kingdom in the first place, which showed that it was certainly possible to come to our kingdom with that river.

It was just that I couldn't believe that she wanted this thing this much.

After thinking about it for a bit, I slowly gave a nod as I said, "As long as there is a supply of Glowing Seaweed, it should be possible for me to supply this lube."

The Merman Queen's face lit up when she heard this, but I quickly added, "However, you'll still need to trade for it."

The Merman King slightly knitted his brows when he heard this before asking, "We still need to pay even though we're supplying the ingredients?"

There was a bitter smile that appeared on my face as I said, "It's not the Glowing Seaweed alone that's needed to make this lube, there are other ingredients that are also used. Otherwise, you would have been able to make this lube all on your own, right?"

The Merman King and Queen looked at each other for a bit before turning back to nod in agreement.

That was fair.

The Merman Empire indeed had been trying to make new lubes and it wasn't as if they hadn't tested the Glowing Seaweed before. However, they had never been able to achieve the same effect, so there had to be other things added to the Glowing Seaweed.

As they were nodding, I added, "I also have to mention that the product mass produced will

be inferior to the one that you've already tested."

This time, the Merman King and Queen deeply knitted their brows.

### **Chapter 965: Trade deal (2)**

I wasn't surprised that they would have this expression on their face when I said this.

After all, the way that I had done this was almost like I was cheating them.

Of course, I couldn't just make this deal without telling them this and there was a reason for me telling them this.

That was because the sample that the system gave me was the high end product version of the product that it could produce. Just like how the dildo bats were completely different from The Penetrator.

They hadn't given me the chance to explain this before, so it wasn't as if I was lying to them.

So before they could say anything, I explained, "The one that you used before is a high end version that used very special ingredients to make, it's different from the mass produced versions that only uses normal ingredients."

The Merman King and Queen still had their brows knitted, but the Merman King asked, "How much of a decrease will it be?"

It seemed that they were still interested in the lube which was a good thing.

After all, this would open up trade between the Merman Empire and our kingdom which would no doubt help our kingdom. At the same time, it would be equal to forming a relationship with the Merman Empire.

While it wasn't certain how far the Merman Empire would go to help us, at least they wouldn't completely ignore us if we had this relationship between us.

So it would always be a good thing.

Now it all depended on how I could convince them to accept the lower grade product.

"50%." I said without any hesitation.

The Merman King raised a brow at first, but then he said, "You're saying that it's at least 50% as effective as the one that you let us test before?"

I gave a simple nod in response.

Hearing this, the Merman King stroked his chin as if he was considering it.

But before he could come to a decision, there was someone else that had a question to ask. "What about the moisturizing effect?" The Merman Queen asked in a serious voice.

The way that she looked at me, it was as if she wouldn't let me off if I gave her an answer that she wasn't satisfied with.

With an awkward smile, I said, "It has the same moisturizing effect as the high grade product."

The Merman Queen narrowed her eyes to look at me as she said, "Is that so?"

The tone of her voice and the way that she looked at me made it clear that she didn't seem to believe this.

Of course, I didn't blame her for not believing it.

I definitely didn't make it easy for her to believe me.

After a moment of silence, I said, "The main ingredient that provides that moisturizing effect is the Glowing Seaweed. As long as the mass produced products have the Glowing Seaweed in it, it will have the same moisturizing effect."

I looked right into the Merman Queen's narrowed eyes as I said this.

Her expression didn't change as she looked at me right in the eyes.

With the way that she was looking at me, it was clear that she was trying to see through me to see if I was lying or not. So the only thing that I could do was keep a calm look on my face and look right back at her.

After a long silence, the Merman Queen gave a slow nod as she said, "We didn't discover anything special about the Glowing Seaweed, but that doesn't mean that you humans can't discover anything special about it. You've done many things that surprise us already after all."

After saying that, the Merman Queen turned to look at the Merman King to say, "You can arrange the trade deal then. There's still some surplus from the trades with the Tide Empire, so you can use some of that to trade with them."

The Merman King was shocked to hear this, but then he revealed an understanding look when he saw the way that the Merman Queen looked at him.

Or it was better to say that she was looking at the bottle that was left in his hand.

This was the only bit that was left before they could trade for more lube, so...

Without a word, he just handed it over to the Merman Queen.

She looked at him with the same smile that didn't reach her eyes which sent a chill down the Merman King's spine.

Then he said with a sigh, "Let's talk about how we're going to trade this."

I gave a simple nod since I had seen the smile on the Merman Queen's face as well, so I could guess what the Merman King was facing.

The two of us quickly discussed this matter and he quickly agreed since the price was much lower than he thought it would be. It was even cheaper than the lube that was produced in the Merman Empire.

"Should I sell it for more then?" I couldn't help teasing.

However, all that happened was the Merman Queen glared at the two of us.

I knew better than to push the issue, so we quickly settled the price of the trade deal.

I then said, "I've already grabbed some samples, so I'll make some products to sell for the first trade. When your group comes to transport the Glowing Seaweed, I'll send that batch to

you."

The Merman King and Queen nodded when hearing this, but this wasn't the end of this matter.

The Merman Queen had something else that she wanted to address.

She pointed at the bottle that she was holding and said, "This won't be enough to cover those

few days. I'm sure that you know what I'm talking about."

There was a tinge of pain that filled my heart since what she was trying to extort from me was

the high end product that the system gave me.

It was not something that was made easily or cheaply, so I wanted to keep it to myself.

But I knew better than to get between a woman and her cosmetics...

So in the end, I meekly handed over another bottle.

The Merman Queen took it with a smile on her face that had no guilt at all.

### **Chapter 966: Trade deal (3)**

Once that trade deal was settled, it was time for us to depart.

Since we had handled it so quickly, it was still morning when we finished and there was plenty of time to depart.

The Merman Queen had gotten what she wanted, so there were no objections from her. But from the way that she was looking at the Glowing Seaweed on the beach and at the mermaid royal guards, I could guess what she was thinking.

When she was distracted by this and as we were heading to the wyverns, the Merman King leaned in to ask, "The high end product, what would it take to make that?"

If it was before, then I wouldn't have been able to answer this question.

But it was different now.

The recipes for the high end products had unlocked when I unlocked three products.

That meant that if I wanted, I could even make another one of The Penetrator.

Though when seeing the materials needed to make one of them, I really couldn't help shedding a tear.

If it was anyone else, they wouldn't be able to recognize these things since they were high grade materials. These could be considered legendary materials in this world, so they were very hard to obtain.

Most normal people would have never even heard of them.

It was only because I had my knowledge from the game that I knew what these things were in the first place.

Since he was asking, then I had no reason not to tell him.

Especially since I was afraid that he might ask for some more of it.

If he knew how expensive and rare this was, then it might make him too guilty to ask for more of it.

When I was done listing the ingredients, the Merman King was looking at me with shock. His expression changed a few times, but eventually he looked at me as if he was asking if this was real or not.

I just gave a simple nod in return.

There was a complicated look that appeared on his face before he said, "Thank you for not telling her."

I just gave another simple nod in return.

I wanted my relationship with the Merman Empire to be a good one, so of course I wouldn't do anything that would put them on the spot.

Though there was a part of me that was worried about something...

"Don't even think about touching my daughter." The Merman King suddenly said.

I let out an inner sigh of relief when I heard this.

That was what I was worried about.

He might have felt guilty enough to push his daughter onto me, but it seemed like he was still

a doting parent as ever. It didn't seem like he wouldn't crumple that easily, which was a good thing for me.

I had no intention of going after Ariel after all.

Mermaids were beautiful, but I wasn't interested in going after one that had so much baggage.



There was no doubt that I would be caught up in not just the politics of the Merman Empire, but also the Tide Empire if I were to get involved with her. After all, she was a person that was important to both empires.

If I were to get involved in any way...

After this small interlude, we got onto our wyverns and headed off.

Though it was awkward with how the Merman Empire royal family kept shouting at each other to say their goodbyes. Even Ariel was waving and crying as she said goodbye to her parents.

But thinking about it, it wasn't strange.

After all, it had been a long time since she had been home,

It was unknown how long it took her to come to our kingdom from the ocean in the first place, so it was possible that she had been away from home for a long time. Then because of the contract that she made, she wasn't able to return home until it was broken, which meant that she was spending even more time away from home.

So it was understandable that she was acting this way.

But eventually we left the range of the island and headed back.

As soon as we were out of range, I looked at Ariel and was about to say something.

Only...I found that it was unnecessary.

It only took a second for her to recover from her stupor and reveal a smile again as she happily rode on the back of a wyvern.

With how quickly she recovered, it didn't seem like she had been bothered by this at all. It was as if she had been faking for the sake of her parents...

Still, it was better if she was like this rather than actually sad.

No, I could tell that she was just enduring it.

It seemed that she was quite the strong girl.

...

A few days later, we arrived back in the former territories of the Midra Kingdom.

This was where the prime minister was since he still hadn't finished organizing the takeover,

so this was where we agreed to return.

When we arrived, they immediately came out to see us.

The first thing that the prime minister asked was, "Well, how is it?"

I said with a simple nod, "It's taken care of."

The regent let out a sigh of relief before revealing a smile, but the prime minister didn't say a

thing as he narrowed his eyes to look at me.

After looking at me for a bit, he said, "This isn't it, is it? What else happened?"

There was a faint smile that appeared on my face when I heard this.

I looked at the prime minister and said, "You always could read me. You're right, this isn't it."

The prime minister knitted his brows, but he didn't say anything as he waited for me to say

what I had to say.

"They'll be visiting us soon." I said with the same smile.

"Huh?" The prime minister and the regent revealed shocked looks.

## **Chapter 967: Welcoming the mermaids**

A week passed after we came back from Peace Island.

During that time, I had left the matter of the Midra Kingdom's takeover completely to the prime minister and the regent.

After all, there was something else that I had to do during this time.

Something that was much more important.

I immediately brought the Glowing Seaweed that I brought back with me to the factory, but that wasn't the only thing that was needed to make the lube. I had to go find Haley and get her to collect another bunch of materials for me.

Unlike the vibrator and the dildo bat, the lube wasn't made with the ores, so the ores that were gathered before weren't useful to me. I had her get a bunch of herbs that would be used to make the lube.

With the reach that her company had in the kingdom, it was easy for her to gather the things that I needed.

At the same time, it was easy for her to quickly transport the items to our territory where the factory was.

I had to spend most of my time in the factory loading up everything so that it would start producing. But it worked out in the end and I was able to produce the lube that was needed.

Which was a good thing since Ariel told us that the group from the Merman Empire was about to arrive soon.

It turned out that there was another reason why Ariel hadn't been bothered by her prolonged departure from the Merman Empire.

She had been given a special magic item that allowed her to maintain contact with the Merman Empire.

It was a special conch that allowed her to talk to the other conch that it was connected to.

I never thought that the Merman Empire had something like this and I had even wanted to ask Ariel if there were more of these, but she told me that there weren't.

This was a special relic that the Merman Empire had that they only had a single pair of.

That just went to show how much Ariel was doted on in the Merman Empire.

They were even willing to hand her this one of a kind relic.

But it was a good thing that she had this since we had no idea when the Merman Empire would have arrived.

We thought that they would send a message through the normal method, but that didn't seem to work since they were mermaids in the first place. It would be hard for them to come on land just to send a message and then continue swimming down the river.

So it was a good thing that they gave her this conch.

With it, we were able to find out exactly when they would arrive and we were able to prepare for their arrival.

Everyone had rushed over to welcome them, though it was certainly strange that we were preparing this welcoming ceremony by the side of a river.

With the things that were set up, it almost seemed like some kind of event on the river.

But we were here to welcome the Merman Empire delegation.

As we were waiting, we suddenly saw the river start to bubble.

It was only a few bubbles at first, but it soon quickly started to bubble like it was being boiled by something. The spot that was bubbling continued to bubble for a bit until it suddenly started to open up.

The water spread to both sides and something was revealed.

It was the Merman Empire delegation that came out of the water, though it was only their top halves that appeared. They were still in their mermaid forms, so it wasn't as if they could come out of the water just yet.

The water had blocked their appearance when they came out of the water, but once the water fell to the side and their appearances were revealed...I was shocked to see who it was.

Ariel was the one that broke the silence by asking, "What are you two doing here?"

The rest of the mermaids all had awkward looks on their faces and turned their heads away from her while the ones that she was addressing looked at her with smiles on their faces. One of them suddenly said, "Darling, of course we would come. We missed you."

"That's right." The other one said with a strong nod.

The two that she had been talking to were the Merman King and Queen.

They were the rulers of the Merman Empire, the ones that were the least likely ones that should have been here, but here they were.

Looking at the two of them smiling at her like this, Ariel put her hand on her forehead and shook her head as she said, "If you're here, what will happen to the Merman Empire?"

"Your big brother is there. He's already at that age and we should give him a chance to be on the throne for when he takes over."

Ariel looked at the two of them for a bit before slowly nodding in agreement.

But then she said, "No, even if he's there, you shouldn't be leaving the Merman Empire that easily. What if something happens to you two?"

"Did you hear that, honey? Our little darling is worried about us." The Merman Queen said in a touched voice.

"Um, it seems like she has grown in her time on land." The Merman King said with a nod. Ariel just shook her head like her head hurt before turning to me to say, "I'm sorry for my parents."

There was a bitter smile that appeared on my lips, but I gave a nod before turning to the royal mermaid couple to say, "How about you come on land first and then we can talk? I'm sure that it must be weird talking to us like that."

The Merman King and Queen nodded in agreement before pulling out the humanizing potions.

It was like this that we made our first contact with the mermaids.

## **Chapter 968: Showing the product**

Once the Merman Empire group was on land, we started our welcoming ceremony.

This was something that we had been planning for a while since we wanted it to be perfect and it had taken quite a bit of time, but...

It didn't seem like they were interested at all.

"Let's not bother with this. We already know each other, so there's no need for us to get to know each other again with this kind of ceremony." The Merman Queen didn't hold back at all as she said this.

The look in her eyes were a bit scary as she said this, almost as if there was something else that she wanted to do.

Since she was saying all this, it wasn't as if we could just continue the welcoming ceremony since it was for them. If they didn't want to do it, then we had no choice but to head back to the capital.

As we were heading to the wyverns, the Merman King came over and said, "Sorry about that." I was surprised to hear him apologizing, but he quickly explained why she was in such a rush. It turned out that the Merman Queen had bragged about the lube to her friends and they had all wanted some for themselves.

One thing that I was surprised by was that the Merman Queen was quite the caring person as she didn't hoard the lube that I gave her. It turned out that she gave some to the people that she was close to that wanted the lube.

It seemed that the royal family of the Merman Empire were quite caring towards the people that were close to them.

Completely different from the royal families of the human countries.

This wasn't a bad thing since it meant that it should be easier to work with them than to work with the other human countries, but at the same time... It meant that there was a risk of falling for traps since they were trusting.

Still, if it was that bad, they wouldn't have been able to build up the Merman Empire to where it was now.

So they were clearly competent... No, not just competent, but exceptional rulers who could be trusted to work with.

Since she had given away the supply that I gave her, I understood why she was so anxious to go see the products.

It wasn't that she wasn't interested in our welcoming ceremony, it was just that she was much more interested in securing the moisturizer that she had come for. It could even be said that she was desperate to get it since she had run out of her supplies.

Perhaps if she didn't run out, she might have been more willing to wait for the product to come to her.

Perhaps the Merman King and Queen might not have come if it wasn't for the Merman Queen running out.

Or that was what I thought until I saw the look that was on the Merman King's face.

No, they hadn't just come for the products alone.

They also came because they missed their daughter.

When we brought them over to the wyverns, I explained, "We have the products that were made with the batch of Glowing Seaweed that I brought back stored in a warehouse in the capital. We'll bring you there now so you can take a look at them."

The Merman King and Queen nodded in agreement before looking at the wyverns with strange looks.

Seeing them look at the wyverns like this, I asked, "Is there a problem?"

I didn't know if the mermaids had a problem with riding on wyverns, but since Ariel had already ridden on the back of them and had enjoyed it, I figured that it would be alright.

However, the Merman King and Queen were from a different generation, so perhaps it was different for them.

The two of them looked at the wyverns for a bit before the Merman King turned to me with a smile to say, "It's not that there's a problem, it's just that we never thought that we would have the chance to ride on wyverns like this."

The Merman Queen added, "That's right. We'll be going from the deep sea to the open skies, it really is exciting."

The way that she said this reminded me of a certain someone else.

It seemed that they really were Ariel's parents as they even acted the same when seeing the wyverns.

After getting them all on the wyverns, we headed off to the capital.

There were screams that came from the back of the wyverns, but they weren't screams of fear. Rather, there were excited screams of joy that came from the back of these wyverns as they enjoyed the feeling of flying through the sky.

The Merman King and Queen acted the same way as Ariel did when she rode on the back of the wyverns for the first time. They were walking around on the back of the wyverns, putting the riders that controlled the wyverns in a hard position as they had to make sure that they didn't fall.

These were royal guests, so we had to treat them as best as we could.

That meant letting them do what they wanted.

In the end, there were no accidents as we arrived in the capital, but it looked like the hearts of the wyvern riders were about to jump out of their chests. It really looked like they were all about to have heart attacks with how afraid they had been on the way back.

Once we landed, the Merman Queen immediately came to me and said, "Where is it?"

I didn't even need to ask to know what she was referring to. There was only one thing that could make her act this way in the first place.

So with a shake of the head and a bitter smile, I led the way to the warehouse that I had used to store the lube that was produced.

## Chapter 969: This is...!

This wasn't a big warehouse which made the Merman Queen seem a bit disappointed, so I had to say, "There wasn't much material that could be brought back in the first place, so there was only so much that could be made."

The Merman Queen looked at me for a bit before slowly nodding in agreement.

However, the way that she looked at me made it clear that there was something else that she was waiting for me to say.

With a bitter smile, I shook my head to say, "The batch that you've brought should have much more ingredients, so we should be able to make much more for you to take back next time you come to deliver ingredients."

The Merman Queen gave a satisfied nod upon hearing this before pushing the door of the warehouse open.

It seemed like she really was impatient to see the lube.

Though there was a trace of doubt that was on her face as well.

She wanted to see if the lube really had the same moisturizing effect as the one that I had given her before.

I knew that if it didn't, then there would be hell to pay, but I was confident in the system's reports. It had given me very detailed reports on this matter, so I believed that the system's reports were correct.

After the warehouse door was pushed open, the shelves filled with lube inside of the warehouse were revealed.

There weren't that many shelves since with the amount of Glowing Seaweed that I brought back, it was only enough to make around a few hundred bottles of this.

It actually took quite a surprising amount of Glowing Seaweed to make this lube, it didn't even take that much of the other materials to make a bottle. It seemed that most of the lube was made up of the Glowing Seaweed.

That was most likely why the system had only triggered when I obtained the Glowing Seaweed.

The Merman Queen slightly knitted her brows when she saw this, as if she was dissatisfied with what she was seeing. It was clear that she wasn't happy about the amount, but she still accepted it and went forward to take a look at the lube.



She picked one of the bottles up and then turned around as if she wanted to use it.

But when the Merman Queen turned around, she realized that there was something wrong. It was that she couldn't actually use it since she didn't have a tail anymore.

She was on land and had taken the humanizing position, so there were only a pair of human legs under her right now.

Narrowing her eyes, she turned to me and said, "Let's go back to the river on the wyverns. I want to test this out right now."

There was a bitter smile that appeared on my face when I heard this, but I said, "There's no need to do that, we have prepared a place for you to test the product already."

The Merman Queen was surprised to hear this, but then she found that it was quite reasonable. After all, they knew that she was here to test the product in the first place, so of course they would have prepared a place.

So with a nod, the Merman Queen said, "Alright, lead the way."

As if they had received a cue, the other merman also came forward and picked up a few bottles of lube as well.

It seemed that they were also planning on running their own tests.

From the way that the Merman King looked away slightly, I could guess that he was the one that had given the signal to the others to come forward to take the lube.

It seemed that he also wanted to test the lube, but he didn't dare say it out loud in front of his wife.

In that case, I would just turn a blind eye.

With a smile and a nod, I said, "Alright, please follow me."

The Merman Queen took one look at the others who were gathering up the lube. When she did, they suddenly froze as if they thought that being still meant that she wouldn't see them.

But the Merman Queen didn't care about them as she turned back and started following me. The rest of the mermen let out a sigh of relief before bringing the bottles of lube along. After walking for a while, they heard the sound of water splashing, which made them realize that they were close.

Only when they saw what was waiting for them, they immediately knitted their brows.

"This is a bit too small, isn't it?" The Merman Queen said right after seeing the pool that we had prepared.

There was an awkward look on my face when I heard this since this was the biggest pool that we could prepare and it was called small by the Merman Queen.

Though if one compared the pool to the ocean that they normally swam in, then it would be considered small.

No, even without comparing the pool to the ocean, they would have something to compare the pool to. They most likely had encountered some kind of pool that the Tide Empire had built for them before.

The Tide Empire was one of the four empires of human society for a reason.

The resources that they had at their disposal far surpassed the resources that would be available to a small kingdom like ours.

So I'm sure that they would be able to build pools that were much bigger than this.

We just couldn't compare.

After making this comment, the Merman Queen still pulled out the humanizing potion and went into the pool to test the lube.

Once she did this, the Merman King and the other mermaid royal guards did the same thing.

After entering the pool, they used the same water magic to pull out a bubble of lube that they used to surround their tail.

When they put their tails covered in lube into the pool...

"This effect, this is...!"

## **Chapter 970: We want more!**

The Merman King and the other mermaid royal guards were swimming back and forth inside of the pool.

The Merman Queen called Ariel over to rub her tail along with her.

The two of them had astonished looks on their faces as they rubbed her tail.

It seemed that these customers were quite satisfied with the products that I showed them.

It seemed that there wouldn't be any problems in having them as repeat customers in the future.

But it turned out that I had underestimated how much they liked the product.

The Merman King and his mermaid royal guards kept swimming in the pool for a bit before they were satisfied. Or rather, it was better to say that they had no choice but to stop because the Merman Queen was finished admiring the lube's moisturizing effect on her tail.

She had glared at the Merman King and the others, forcing them to come out of the pool.

Since they had been swimming for a bit, it was already time for lunch.

But that wasn't the reason why she was glaring at them.

Because the pool was so small, the splashing from their tails actually went all the way to her and ruined her mood while she was admiring the moisturizing effect that the lube had on her tail.

She had endured all this time because she could tell that they were doing something important, but eventually she got tired of watching them have fun.

So she cut their fun short with that glare of hers.

Once that glare came out, the Merman King and the mermaid royal guards had no choice but to pack it up.

But they also did have satisfied expressions on their faces.

Since we had been expecting to host the group from the Merman Empire for a bit, we had naturally prepared lunch for them as well.

Though since we didn't know what the mermaids liked other than a few suggestions from Ariel, we had to improvise. They were royals of the Merman Empire and the mermaid royal guards, so it wasn't as if we could just use anything to entertain them.

As such, I brought out a few tricks from my past life.

I enjoyed reading recipes in my free time since I lived alone and cooked for myself, though it couldn't compare to the passion that I had for H-games.

The dish that I was bringing out today was specially prepared for the mermaids.

"Raw fish?"

"No, it's not just raw fish. There seems to be some kind of liquid drizzled on the fish." "Is that oil?"

The mermaids were surprised by the dish, though they weren't surprised that it was raw fish. Since they lived under the sea, eating fish raw was something that they were already used to. They were more surprised by the fact that there was oil drizzled on the raw fish.

What would oil on raw fish do?

It wasn't as if the oil had that strong of a taste in the first place.

So they were all confused by the dish, but at the same time, they were certainly curious since it was a take on raw fish that they had never seen before.

But curiosity didn't mean that they had the courage to try it.

Many of them looked at the dish with a strange look since they didn't think that it would be good and they didn't raise their forks towards it.

In the end, it was Ariel who went before everyone else.

Since she had been living here, it had been a while since she had raw fish. So even if there was this strange layer of oil drizzled on it, she still wanted to give it a try.

After putting it in her mouth, all of the mermaids watched her carefully to see her reaction. When she chewed on it, Ariel suddenly lowered her head which made all of them worried that it tasted bad. But then all of a sudden, Ariel raised her head and said, "Delicious!"

She didn't hesitate to take a second bite of the carpaccio.

The others looked at each other before they also started digging in.

They were all surprised by the taste of it, but it didn't seem like they were dissatisfied with it

as they kept putting more and more of the carpaccio into their mouths.

"This taste...it's a boldness that we've never tasted with normal raw fish before."

"There's also this faint acidic taste to it..."

"No, it's a citrus taste. It's one of those fruits from the land that we tried before."

With the way that they were going, it didn't take long for them to finish off the plates that had been brought in by the maids.

As they looked at the empty plates in front of them, they couldn't help rubbing their stomachs as if they still hadn't had their fill.

The Merman King was the one that took the lead by saying, "We want more!"

I gave a nod to the maids who had been standing around with awkward looks on their faces.

They were supposed to be preparing for the next course, so they didn't expect the guests to suddenly ask for another serving of the same course. But since they had received permission from me, they went off to get another serving of the carpaccio.

I had made sure that there were other servings since I knew that they would want more of this.

It was a dish that wasn't from this world, so of course they would be entranced by it.

It was no wonder it was passed down to the modern times in my previous world.

As they headed off, the Merman Queen suddenly said, "That's right, we want more."

I just said with a smile, "The maids are already preparing the new portions, if you just wait a bit, they'll be back..."

Before I could finish, the Merman Queen cut me off by saying, "I didn't mean the food."

The way that she looked at me with narrowed eyes made it clear what she was saying.

I also calmed myself before looking at her with a serious look.

## **Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure #Chapter 971: A much deeper relationship - Read Shota's Isekai NTR Adventure Chapter 971: A much deeper relationship**

### **Chapter 971: A much deeper relationship**

When she put it like that, it wasn't hard to understand what she meant by this.

However, it wasn't as if I could just agree to this without hearing her terms first.

Even if it was beneficial to our kingdom to accept this deal, that didn't mean that we could just accept everything that was presented to us. There were other things that had to be considered since there was only so much that we could undertake.

After looking at her with this serious look for a bit, I asked, "How much more do you want?"

The Merman Queen didn't answer this question right away as she revealed a look as if she was considering this.

After silently thinking for a bit, she suddenly turned to the Merman King instead of answering my question to say, "Honey, the budget that we already agreed on before setting off..."

The Merman King had a surprised look on his face even though her voice trailed off.

That look of surprise only grew when he heard what she said next.

"I want you to double it." The Merman Queen suddenly said.

The Merman King didn't say anything as he just looked at her as if he was confirming that she had indeed said this.

Only when he had confirmed this did he say, "Are you sure about that?"

It wasn't that he was doubting her, it was just that he really couldn't believe that his wife had said this.

Before they had come, they had already discussed what they were going to do.

The Merman Queen had been very clear just how much she wanted to spend and she wasn't willing to spend a single copper more. The Merman King knew this and had been planning on firmly following this.

Only now she was breaking her own determination by telling him the new budget that she was willing to spend.

There was a trace of bitterness that filled the Merman King as he thought to himself, "Why aren't you keeping your own word?"

But there wasn't the courage to actually say this thought out loud.

Even if he had ten times the courage that he currently had, he still wouldn't have dared to say this out loud.

So the only thing that he could say was, "Yes, yes."

In a sense, he really was a perfect example of a man who was whipped by his wife.

The Merman Queen gave a satisfied nod before turning back to me.

The Merman King also turned to look at me before stating the price that he was prepared to offer.

I was certainly taken aback by how much they were willing to buy since it was much more than

I had expected, but that didn't mean that I wasn't capable of supplying that much.

The only problem was that it would take some time before we were able to get the materials for that much.

It wasn't just the Glowing Seaweed that was needed, there were other ingredients that were also needed.

This time, I was able to rely on Haley's connections, but the next time...

Unless we could find steady suppliers, then it would be a problem trying to get enough materials to craft everything that they wanted.

I was thinking about rejecting them or getting them to decrease their order, but Haley suddenly said, "That's not a problem at all."

I looked at her with a surprised look when I heard this, but she looked at me with a confident smile on her face.

I didn't know where this confidence of hers came from, but since she was confident enough to make this statement, I guess that I shouldn't doubt her. Since she had the confidence to take this deal, then I was sure that she must have a way to handle this order.

It was only later that I found out that she had already found suppliers for the materials needed.

After that incident of me suddenly asking her to find these supplies, she had already guessed that something like this would happen and had quickly found suppliers for the materials that I needed.

So even if we were to accept an order that was twice as big as the one that they offered, we would have no problem fulfilling it.

As such, it was actually a very good deal for our kingdom since the profit on this lube was quite good.

But the most important thing was that this created a relationship with the Merman Empire. There was no telling what would happen in the future, but a relationship with the Merman Empire would without a doubt help our kingdom. Whether it was on the surface or under the surface, the influence of the Merman Empire couldn't be underestimated.

It was what had allowed the Tide Empire to reach their current position.

The Merman King and Queen were surprised to hear Haley say this before looking at me as if they were waiting for a confirmation from me.

Even if they had come all this way, it wasn't as if they knew everything about our kingdom.

I just gave a simple nod and introduced Haley to the Merman King and Queen. Even though I had introduced Haley earlier, I had left out a few things about her that I didn't feel was necessary to tell them. But now that she was taking the initiative to participate in this matter, I told them everything about Haley.

Once they knew that she was from our kingdom's financial department and was in charge of trade, they treated her completely differently.

They saw her as the one to solidify this deal with and treated me as nothing more than a figurehead.

There was a trace of bitterness that filled me when I saw them like this, but it wasn't as if they

were wrong.

At the same time, it seemed like the Merman Queen was the one that stepped up for the other side as she started listing off different things.

It seemed that the Merman King was the same, though he was a bit better than me since he had his moments.

## **Chapter 972: Interspecies relationship**

When it was over, the two of them both had satisfied looks on their faces showing that they had gotten what they wanted.

Once we saw this, both the Merman King and I let out sighs of relief.

We had been sitting there listening to them the entire time, but there were just too many technical terms that it had been hard to understand what they were talking about.



The only thing that I really understood was the price that they settled on.

It was actually a bit lower than the one that I quoted in the first place, but that was only because there were other conditions that were added into this. Along with the Glowing Seaweed, there would now be other things sent by the Merman Empire.

These would be things that would be used to trade for the lube.

These were precious products from the Merman Empire such as pearls and such that normally wouldn't be seen above the ocean. That made them very precious and valuable among humans.

However, there were plenty of these things that were found under the ocean which meant that they had no value at all to the Merman Empire. They were things that were considered trash in the Merman Empire.

Of course, it wasn't as if the Merman King and Queen didn't know the value of these items in human society. They had their connection to the Tide Empire and had trades with them, so they knew how expensive these things could become.

It was just that it would take a lot of time and effort to turn these things into money.

It wasn't as if they were lacking in money, what they needed more of was the lube that they were trading for.

So instead of spending all that effort to turn their trash into money, it was easier for them to just take this cheaper price to exchange for the lube.

In their eyes, the lube was worth more.

It was all about what an item was worth to each party.

After the deal was set, the mood was much more relaxed.

The other mermen had just been so focused on eating that they didn't care about the negotiations that were happening. They trusted their king and queen to take care of everything after all.

And once this matter was set, the Merman King and Queen had more time to look around the table.

When they had arrived, they had been so focused on the lube that they hadn't noticed a certain thing before this. But now that they had settled the matter of the lube, they realized that...

"A dwarf and an elf?" The Merman King and Queen were surprised to see Moon and Elsa sitting at the table with us.

The mermaid royal guards were also surprised to hear this as they had been focused on other things before this as well. When they looked up, there was the oil from the carpaccio that was on their lips which made them look quite strange.

Both Moon and Elsa had been sitting at the table the entire time, though they had been sitting on the other end since there wasn't much for them to do here. But they were still at the table, so the group from the Merman Empire group should have been able to see them the entire time.

After the Merman King and Queen said this, there was an awkward silence that hung in the air. The way that they looked at Moon and Elsa, it was as if they didn't know what to say.

It was almost as if there was some kind of awkward history that was between them.

The Merman King eventually said with a sigh, "It's been a long time since our races have had a chance to communicate with each other. The last time that this happened was during the racial wars."

Both Moon and Elsa nodded, though they seemed a bit hesitant.

That was because they had never lived through the racial wars.

The only things that they had heard about this were from the stories that had been passed down through their race.

Though through those stories, they knew why the Merman Empire group acted awkward. After another long silence, the Merman King said, "Though I wasn't the one that ruled over the Merman Empire during that time, I do want to apologize to you on behalf of the mermen on how the racial wars ended."

This time, it was Elsa and Moon that had awkward looks on their faces.

After all, it wasn't as if they could represent their races to accept this.

But at the same time, it wasn't as if they could just ignore what the Merman King was saying.

So there was another awkward silence that lingered in the air before Elsa said, "Forget it. It's not something that we can talk about here since neither of us has the authority to accept this. At the same time, this is something that happened a long time ago, so there's nothing that can be done now."

Moon just gave a simple nod to show her agreement.

The Merman King and Queen gave an awkward nod before falling silent again.

It seemed that something had happened between the mermaids, the dwarves, and the elves in

the past.

It seemed that it was related to the racial wars of ancient times.

Since they were all from other races, it was most likely that they had once been allies that had their alliance broken because of something.

Once they had finished with this, the Merman King and Queen turned to look at me as if they had a question to ask me, but they didn't know how to ask me.

But seeing the way that they looked at me, I could guess what they were thinking.

I introduced both Moon and Elsa as my wives.

The Merman King and Queen were surprised to hear this since they had never heard anything

like this before.

Elves and dwarves choosing to marry a human...this was just too rare.

Not to mention marrying the king of a human country.

### **Chapter 973: On guard**

After they looked at Moon and Elsa with surprised looks, the two of them turned to look at me with a strange look.

Seeing them look at me like this, I couldn't help feeling a bit confused and a bit strange.

After all, the way that they looked at me was as if they were on guard against something.

Was it because there was some kind of unknown grudge between the mermaids, dwarves, and elves that they were looking at me like this?

If that was the case, then it would affect our future cooperation...

The game didn't go this far since it was an open world game in the first place, there were just too many things for the creators of the game to think about, so there were some parts that had been left blank. There was supposed to be an AI that filled in the gaps of the game, but people didn't really pay attention to those things since the lore wasn't related to the completion

status.

It was just extra that was added on for fun.

That meant that I didn't actually have any knowledge that would help me in this situation.

So I didn't know why they were looking at me like this.

But more than their personal relationship to me, the more important thing was the Merman Empire's relationship with my kingdom.

So even if I felt awkward, I still asked, "Is something wrong?"

The two of them looked at me for a bit before the Merman King said, "It seems that you've made quite a few relations."

The Merman Queen nodded in agreement.

This just made me even more confused, but I also felt like there was something that I understood from them acting this way.

So I said, "I might have relations with them, but I assure you that it will not affect our future relations."

That made both the Merman King and Queen knit their brows before turning to look at Ariel who was still on the side stuffing her face with dessert. She had completely forgotten about her parents and was just lost in the dessert that had been prepared.

Since this was a special meal, I had taught them how to make pudding and that was what was being served to everyone.

It seemed that she liked it quite a bit based on how she was happily shoving it into her face. After the Merman King and Queen looked at Ariel for a bit, they turned back to look at me with a strange look.

I was even more confused seeing them act this way since I couldn't figure out what they were thinking. It seemed like it was related to Ariel...so could it be that they didn't want to keep Ariel in a place where there were elves and dwarves?

This time, I wouldn't back down that easily.

After all, even if I wanted to build a relationship with the Merman Empire, that didn't mean that I would give up my current relationship with the dwarves and elves. I wasn't someone that would throw away the people that I was already close to just for someone new.

So even if they were to say something, I wouldn't cut off my relationship with the dwarves and elves.

The relationship with the elves and dwarves was just as important as the relationship with the Merman Empire after all.

So I took a deep breath to calm myself down before saying, "It doesn't matter what happened in the past, all that matters is the future."

The Merman King and Queen knitted their brows even more before the Merman King said, "You can't have our daughter."

"I assure that we will..." I had been in the middle of saying something when the Merman King spoke.

I looked at him with a shocked look when I heard this as I almost couldn't understand what he was trying to say.

The serious look on his face was as if he wasn't going to back down, but we weren't even talking about the same thing at this point. He was talking about something completely different, something that I didn't even think of.

I just looked at him in shock as if I couldn't believe what he was saying.

The Merman King's expression didn't change as he looked right at me with this serious look on his face.

After a long silence, I finally asked, "What did you say?"

"You heard what I said." The Merman King said with the same serious look and tone.

I just shook my head with a bitter smile after hearing this before saying, "I don't think we're talking about the same things. I think we're on completely different pages right now."

The Merman King raised a brow hearing this, but then he had the same serious look as if he wouldn't be fooled by me.

I raised my hand to say, "No, no, I'm not interested in your daughter at all."

He raised a brow once more as he said, "Even though you have so many wives from different races? You're telling me that you're not interested in my daughter at all? Especially when you just said to me that you want to build more relations?"

"That was what you're referring to?" I finally couldn't take it anymore and let this slip.

The Merman King and Queen were surprised to hear this, but then they looked like they wouldn't be fooled by me again as they just looked at me with serious looks on their faces.

I turned to look at the others as if I was asking for their help, but it seemed that everyone was

ignoring me.

The one that caused this mess was the one that was the most occupied with eating.

It was as if she didn't care at all that her parents were causing this mess.

But when I looked at her, it was as if they caught me as the Merman King and Queen started questioning me again.

So the only thing that I could do was explain to them that it wasn't what they thought.

## **Chapter 974: Movement of the empire (1)**

The Merman Empire group stayed for a week before heading back.

As they left, they all looked at me with guarded looks as if they still didn't trust me.

At the same time, it seemed that the Merman Queen was saying something private to Ariel while looking at me from time to time.

It was clear that she was telling her to be careful of me.

I had been able to convince them that their worries weren't founded, but it seemed like they didn't want to take any chances at all. They had even deployed a few of the mermaid royal guards to stay here on land to watch over Ariel.

Though the excuse that they gave was that they were here to help her.

It made sense since those members of the mermaid royal guards were female in the first place. They seemed more like maids rather than royal guards, but there was no mistaking the aura that they released.

One was able to easily tell that they were skilled with the dangerous aura that they released. There was no doubt that they would be able to protect Ariel if something happened.

Though I certainly didn't like the way that they looked at me.

It was hard to miss it since they released this feeling when they looked at me.

The feeling that they released definitely wasn't good. It was as if they would hurt me if they had a chance.

I was sure that it was because the Merman King and Queen had given them this order...

Though it certainly wasn't a good feeling.

Once it was over, all that was left was for the next shipment of Glowing Seaweed to come.

Before that, it was time to go back to running the country.

Though it seemed that the prime minister had something to discuss with me.

Once the Merman Empire group was gone, the prime minister pulled me away as if there was something that he wanted to talk about. There was no one else that was allowed to come with us, even the regent was left behind.

During this time, it seemed that the prime minister and the regent had gotten even closer and it didn't seem like there was anything that they hid from each other.

With how close they were, I had even wondered if they were...butt buddies.

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

So for the prime minister to leave the regent behind to talk to me, I was certain that he had something important to talk about.

Once we were in the study, the prime minister sat down with a heavy look on his face.

I raised a brow as I looked at him, but I still sat down in front of him and waited to see what he had to say.

The prime minister just sat there in silence with that heavy look on his face, as if he was thinking about something. He didn't seem like he was planning on saying anything with the way that he sat there.

I just took this chance to go and get some tea for myself, but he spoke before I could pour the tea.

"We have a big problem." The prime minister said with the same serious look on his face. I didn't say anything since I already knew that this was the case. After all, he wouldn't have brought me here and done all of this if this wasn't the case.

I just continued pouring the tea, one for myself and one for him before pushing that cup to him and saying, "Well, what is it? There's nothing to gain from worrying ourselves, so let's talk and see if we can come up with a solution."

The prime minister didn't pick up the cup of tea that I placed in front of him as he just looked at me with knitted brows. After seeing that I was sipping the tea, he picked it up and chugged it down in one breath before saying, "It's the empire, they are making a move."

I put the tea down and looked at him before saying with a nod, "Which empire?"

There were many empires in this world, so this alone wasn't enough.

There were four human empires, but there were also empires that belonged to different races as well. So just saying that an empire was making a move wasn't nearly enough for me to understand what the situation was.

I was waiting for him to explain more.

The prime minister saw the way that I was looking at him, so he said, "The Holy Empire wants to make a move."

I gave a nod in response before revealing a thoughtful look.

The Holy Empire was one of the human empires and what they depended on was the power of religion. It could be said that they were one of the highest powers when it came to religion in this world, but that was mainly because they gathered the most followers.

The humans had the advantage of being able to reproduce quickly, which gave them a large population.

The number of followers gave the Holy Empire more power as it gathered more faith, which pleased the gods.

That was why the Holy Empire was able to use powerful holy magic with the blessing of the gods. That was also what the Holy Empire relied on to become one of the four empires of the



human race.

The headquarters of the religion of the priest from my town was also in the Holy Empire. That was just how influential the Holy Empire was when it came to religion in this world.

After thinking about it, I suddenly said, "Is it the monsters?"

The prime minister was surprised to hear this, but then he gave a simple nod of agreement. After that, he reached under the table and pulled out a folder that he placed on the table. It seemed that he had been prepared.

## **Chapter 975: Movement of the empire (2)**

After taking out the folder, the prime minister pulled out a few maps from the pile of documents inside and placed them on the table.

I looked at the maps that he took out and found that they were maps of different countries. At the same time, there seemed to be different X marks that were placed on these different maps as if they were marking different locations.

I looked at the prime minister and raised a brow, but I didn't say anything as I waited for him to explain.

He didn't say anything as he kept pulling out more sheets of paper.

It seemed like there was more that he needed to say before he told me what was happening.

I peeked at the sheets of paper that he pulled out and it seemed that they were reports.

It was hard to read what was written with how densely the reports were written, so I just waited to see what he had to say.

But I did see a few key words.

Troops of the Holy Empire were spotted.

It seemed that the Holy Empire had indeed moved troops in response to the monster waves that were happening. However, that was to be expected since this was a great opportunity for them.

Religion relied on its followers and without followers, a religion didn't have any power.

So for the Holy Empire, the most important thing was to gain more followers.

The monster wave had pushed the people of the various kingdoms into despair, so it was the best opportunity for the Holy Empire to provide hope for them. With this hope, it would convince these people to become followers of the Holy Empire's religion.

That was most likely the main reason why the Holy Empire was intervening.

Of course, this wasn't just based on these facts alone.

This was also based on what happened in the game.

The plot of the game was that the demons had caused the monster waves and then the Holy Empire interfered. However, it was just a device of the designers to get the Holy Empire involved in the plot of the game by having them interfere.

The Holy Empire came in and took advantage of the situation to gain more followers, but that also opened up the Holy Empire to the world.

After all, the Holy Empire was a place where normal people wouldn't be able to enter.

It was the peak of religion in this world, the place where the highest ranking members of each religion gathered. It wasn't a place that could be entered easily regardless of what one's status was.

But with the influx of refugees because of the monster waves, the Holy Empire's borders had relaxed and there were more people that were allowed to enter the Holy Empire. That was how the protagonist of the game was allowed to enter the Holy Empire regardless of status.

Whether they were allowed to stay or not after entering the Holy Empire all depended on their further actions.

Of course, that didn't mean a thing to me since I didn't have a problem entering the Holy Empire in the first place.

I was the king of a country and I had a close relationship with the priest from my town who had already reported the matter of the Mark of God back to the headquarters of his religion. If

I really wanted to go to the Holy Empire, it was an easy matter for me.

As for why the game wanted to open up the Holy Empire...

Nuns.

That was the only thing that needed to be said.

Unlike in my past world, since this world was based on a H-game, the nuns followed a different set of rules.

Namely, they didn't need to remain virgins like in my past life.

They were allowed to have sex if they wanted to, but there were strict rules about that.

They couldn't just do it freely, they could only do it with one that they received god's blessing with.

So it was hard to actually get a nun just like in my past life, but it wasn't impossible and it wasn't immoral.

That was the reason why the Holy Empire was introduced.

Nuns really were one of the things that men couldn't resist...

While I was lost in my thoughts, the prime minister had finished arranging everything that he wanted to take out. After placing the pieces of paper on the table, he said with a cough, "These are the movements that the Holy Empire has made so far. It seems like they're starting from the countries around them, but they're also moving towards us."

The prime minister slightly knitted his brows as he said this before looking up at me.

The way that he looked at me, I could guess what he was trying to say.

We had found a way to deal with the monster waves on our own, but that would without a doubt draw the suspicion of the Holy Empire. After all, they would think that we would be related to the demons in some way since we were able to stop the monster waves.

Or they would think that we would have some kind of special relic that would suppress the powers of the demons.

Regardless of what it was, it would certainly make them suspicious of us.

It would make them want to confront us so that we would be forced to hand over whatever we used to deal with the monster waves.

After a moment of silence, I just gave a simple nod before saying, "Let them come, I have a way to deal with them."

The prime minister raised a brow after hearing this, but he slowly gave a nod in response.

He didn't know what I was planning on doing, but he just accepted it.

That was the trust that was between us.

"Other than that, it seems like the other empires are also making their moves."

### **Chapter 976: Movement of the empire (3)**

This time, I slightly knitted my brows.

After all, this was not something that I knew.

I only knew about the Holy Empire moving during this time, so I actually didn't know anything about the other three empires moving. After all, it was only the Holy Empire that was introduced.

Even if one could become a noble at this point in the game, one would never be high enough to receive information about the other three empires.

So it just wasn't information that was available in the game.

After a moment of silence, I gave a nod to the prime minister, as if telling him to give me the information.

The prime minister put away a few pieces of paper before pushing the rest of them towards

me.

I looked down at them, but there really was just too much detail that it made my brain spin trying to read it all. After looking at it for a bit, I looked at him to say, "Just give me the summary."

The prime minister nodded before taking these back and handing over a few maps instead. Looking down at these maps, I waited for him to give his explanation.

The marks on the maps were where the troops of the various empires had been seen.

It seemed like they were also moving to take in refugees so that the Holy Empire couldn't take them all, but they couldn't move as openly as the Holy Empire. The Holy Empire had the umbrella of religion to move under, the other empires couldn't just take people without causing conflict.

After all, abducting people from their kingdoms would be hard to explain no matter what excuse they gave.

Even if it was in the name of taking in refugees.

So the only thing that they could do was send out troops to areas around them to help those countries.

The excuse that they gave was that they were preventing the monsters from reaching their own territories. They would be sending out troops to quell the monsters in the surrounding area and helping those afflicted by the monster waves.

Namely, they would be taking refugees back to their territory.

So that was how they were making their move.

"Hmm, it doesn't seem like they're encroaching on our territory. The only one that seems to be approaching us is the Holy Empire..." I said in a thoughtful voice while stroking my chin and looking down at the map in front of me.

The prime minister nodded, but then he said, "Still, we have to watch over them."

The way that he suddenly fell silent and the look on his face, it was as if he was hesitating over something.

I looked at him and said with a nod, "You can say what you want to say."

The prime minister revealed a slightly bitter smile, but he still said in the end, "It's the Tide Empire, they were the ones that moved first."

I slightly knitted my brows hearing this as I didn't understand what he meant by this at first, but then I started to understand what he meant.

Simply put, he was saying that this might be related to us.

Or rather, it was related to our actions with the Merman Empire.

The Tide Empire might be acting because of what we had done with the Merman Empire. They might be acting because we had interfered with their engagement with the Merman Empire.

After thinking about it, I slowly shook my head to show that I didn't know.

I really didn't know anything about this since this wasn't something that was mentioned in the game.

It was unknown what the other three empires had been doing during this time period in the game since it had never been mentioned in the game. Or even if it was, it wasn't information that the player would be able to access.

So I honestly had no way of confirming or denying this.

The prime minister knitted his brows when he saw this, but then he just gave a simple nod before starting to point out a few more things.

It seemed that it wasn't just the empires that were acting, but also the other human kingdoms.

Even if there were four empires that were at the peak of human society, that didn't mean that there weren't other kingdoms that could also act. There were other kingdoms that had power that were only second to the empires.

They were kingdoms that could also rule over other kingdoms, but they were still weaker than the empires. They were only strong enough that if five of them worked together, they would be able to take down a single empire.

But there were only ten of these kingdoms in the first place.

The human race was one where strife between different groups was common.

There were many humans and there were all kinds of personalities.

There were greedy humans just as there were kind humans and those greedy humans sat at the peak of humanity.

So it was only inevitable that they would want more.

However, it didn't seem like any of them were planning on messing with us.

The wyverns that we owned were a large threat to most other kingdoms, so there was no reason for them to offend us. Most of them weren't willing to fight us unless they had no other choice.

It was only the empires that had enough power to ignore the wyverns that we controlled.

"Is there a way for us to get some refugees as well?"

I suddenly asked the prime minister.

At this, he revealed a faint smile before saying, "Well, the kingdoms around us have quite a few people that are escaping. If they were to come to our borders, we have no reason to deny

them."

I understood the power that came with population, so for us to get some refugees was also a good idea.

It seemed like the prime minister also understood this and since he said that he was already taking care of it, there was nothing for me to worry about.

## **Chapter 977: Will of god (1)**

As the prime minister expected, there was a group that arrived in our kingdom.

They weren't an aggressive group per say since they were a group of priests and nuns, but that didn't mean that they weren't here for a reason.

For our kingdom, it could even be considered a negative reason.

It could even be said that they were here for ill intentions.

After all, there was a very specific reason that they were here.

They were traveling as a group of priests and nuns, but the way that they traveled was completely different from normal priests and nuns. These people were traveling in luxurious carriages that were completely different from the humble carriages that most priests and nuns traveled in.

It was clear that these people cared more about certain things...

As for the religion that they came from, it was one of the large religions of the Holy Empire, but it wasn't the same one as the priest from my town. This was a different religion, but one that had a very strict requirement on followers.

The followers had to be human.

That was because the god that they worshiped was the God of Humans, Zeno.

Since they were the religion that worshiped the God of Humans, they naturally had a high position in the human dominated Holy Empire.

But their greed really was a bit too much.

When the priests came out, I even saw the different pieces of jewelry that adorned them. It seemed like they didn't want to leave a single part of their body unadorned by this jewelry with how much they were wearing.

They seemed like walking jewelry stands more than anything.

It was clear what their priorities were compared to other things.

At the same time...the nuns were walking a bit too close to the priests.

They were almost touching each other with how close they were.

It seemed like the relationship between the nuns and the priests weren't normal either.

These people really didn't seem like priests and nuns at all.

Even the priests of our capital that came out to welcome this group from the Holy Empire couldn't help knitting their brows when they saw them. Other than the ones from the same religion that worshiped the God of Humans that was.

This group...they didn't have the same amount of jewelry, but there wasn't a lack of jewelry on them either.

After the priests and nuns came forward, the first thing that the head of this group did was say, "Where is your king? Have him come forward and present the gift."

Both the prime minister and I couldn't help knitting our brows when we heard this.

We had no idea what to expect when greeting this group from the Holy Empire, but this certainly wasn't what we had been expecting. After all, no one would think that someone from the Holy Empire would open with this.

Still, it wasn't as if we were planning on offending them, so I went forward with the prime minister.

When they saw us coming over, they slightly knitted their brows since they saw that we didn't bring anything else with us. They even looked like they were slightly annoyed with the way that we welcomed them.

That made us knit our brows as well, but we forced ourselves to show them a smile as we greeted them.

"Welcome to our kingdom. If there's anything that we can help you with, please don't hesitate to ask." I said with a smile on my face.

When the priest leading this group heard this, he looked at me with a trace of disdain in his eyes before reaching his hand out as if he was waiting for something.

Both the prime minister and I looked down at this open hand that was using its fingers to gesture to us.

There was no mistaking what the intentions of this priest were, but we didn't do anything. We hadn't prepared anything and it wasn't as if we wanted to give anything to this priest. Just based on the way that this priest and his group arrived, it didn't seem like they were anything good. If possible, we wanted to have as little interaction with them as possible... Seeing that we didn't do anything, the priest fully knitted his brows



this time and revealed a displeased look. He just looked down at his hand as if he was waiting for something again, but then he looked up at us and said with a cough, "I wonder if there are any donations that these gentlemen want to make to our great Zeno."

The prime minister and I once again knitted our brows hearing this.

We didn't hide it this time as we looked right at the priest.

It really seemed like there was no end to his greed, but it wasn't as if we could just offend him.

So after a moment of silence, I looked up at the priest and said, "Unfortunately, we weren't able to prepare anything since we didn't know that you would be arriving today. Perhaps another day, we can arrange a donation to your great church."

The priest once again revealed a displeased look, but he didn't lose his temper.

He just slowly took back his hand and said, "I see..."

It seemed like he was stalling as if he was waiting for us to change our mind.

The same could be said about the other priests that were with them.

However, we just remained firm in our determination not to give them anything.

In the end, the priest said with a sigh, "Then we'll have to see about next time."

Though he said it in a regretful manner, it was clear by the look in his eyes that he wouldn't let this matter go.

As expected, they really didn't come with good intentions.

After he finished saying this, the priest revealed a more serious look before saying, "Well,

then let's get to the main topic. I'm here today on some business in the will of god."

## **Chapter 978: Will of god (2)**

Both the prime minister and I once again knitted our brows when we heard this, but we didn't say a thing as we waited to see what the priest had to say.

The priest didn't mind this at all as he started showing his flare.

He first raised his hands up and then acted like he was giving a revelation as he said, "The great monster wave is upon us, but we humans shall get through this together as a united race. As such, we all need to do our part as part of the human race."

Once he said this, he lowered his arms and his head to look at me before saying, "Since you are all a part of the human race, it is only natural that you all do your parts. It is the will of the great Zeno."

The way that he said this was almost as if he was making some kind of declaration.

It was as if he didn't care about our opinion, only the will of the great Zeno seemed to matter. After he said this, the priest just looked at us as if he was waiting for us to do something. However, we didn't do a single thing as we calmly looked at him, as if we were waiting for him to say what he was here for.

The priest slightly knitted his brows and a trace of displeasure appeared on his eyes when he saw this, but he calmed himself down right away and said, "You have suffered the attacks of the monster waves as well, right?"

We didn't know what he was planning by saying this, but we still nodded in agreement.

With that kind smile that was on his face, it seemed like he was a completely different person from before.

He seemed like a priest that truly cared about the masses, rather than the greedy person that he had been before.

After he saw us nod, the priest then said, "I've heard that you've been able to find a way to stop the monster waves. Is that true?"

Both the prime minister and I didn't seem surprised to hear this.

We actually looked like we had already been expecting this.

But then again, it was only normal that they would know about this.

It was such a large matter that it was impossible to hide. Even if we wanted to stop them, it would be impossible for us to silence everyone in the kingdom.

So all we could do was let this information spread.

After he said this, I just simply gave him a nod to show agreement.

The priest's eyes lit up when he saw this before he said, "Then it is only natural that you share this method with us. We are working for the greater good of the human race and as part of the human race, it's only natural that you share this method with us."

The other priests and nuns nodded in agreement before cheering for the priest.

"For the human race! For the great Zeno!"

Though they acted like they were acting for the greater good, it was easy to see just on whose behalf they were acting on. It was clear that they only wanted to take this supposed method from us for their own gain.

Without even waiting for us to respond, the priest suddenly came forward and raised his hand in front of him to say, "Hand it over and we'll take care of it."

He stopped his act and just bluntly stated what he wanted.

However, all that met this request was silence.

The two of us just looked at him with calm looks on our faces, but neither of us seemed like we were about to do anything.

When the priest saw this, he couldn't help knitting his brows.

This time, he didn't bother hiding his displeasure as he looked at the two of us.

Seeing that we still didn't say anything, the priest finally couldn't take it anymore and said, "Are you going against the will of the great Zeno? Are you saying that you will not cooperate with us for the good of the human race?"

All of the priests and nuns revealed displeased looks when they heard this.

The best way to piss off those from a religion would be to insult their religion.

For these people that heard that their religion wouldn't be supported, they would naturally be offended.

But this was beyond that.

These were greedy people that weren't having their greed fulfilled, so they were angry for a completely different reason.

As such, they were very displeased with the two of us who had refused them.

Even though they threatened us like this, we didn't act flustered at all since we had already expected them to act this way.

I just calmly looked at the priest before saying, "Of course not, we would never do that." The priest still had the same displeased look on his face, but he didn't say anything as he waited for me to explain.

I calmly raised my hand in front of him and showed him the Mark of God.

The priest looked confused at first, but then he slowly narrowed his eyes to look at the mark that had appeared. It was as if he recognized something, but at the same time, it seemed like he was having trouble recognizing this thing.

He just stared at the mark on my hand in silence for a while, not saying a single thing. After holding it up for a bit, I said, "Though I want to, it isn't as if I can just give this up."

The priest narrowed his eyes to look at the mark on my hand before saying, "You're saying that this is what you used against the monsters?"

I didn't confirm or deny this as I calmly looked back at the priest.

But after a while, the priest finally said, "I don't believe such a thing. Bring out the real item that you used to repel the monster waves!"

### **Chapter 979: Will of god (3)**

The priests and nuns that followed the head priest all started shouting and demanding that the real item be handed over.

It seemed that these people really didn't have any patience at all.

At the same time, it seemed that they were used to bullying their way into getting what they wanted.

The head priest looked at me for a bit before suddenly saying in a condemning voice, "Do you understand what it means to go against the will of the great..."

Before he could finish, there was a sudden boom that came from the sky.

All of the priests and nuns looked up at the sky in shock when they heard this boom, but then they looked like they were inspired by it. The head priest looked like the winds were in his sails as he suddenly revealed a wide smile.

He looked back down at me and said, "Do you see? This is what you deserve for going against the great Zeno! As long as you bow down and offer the item like you should, then you'll be spared his wrath!"

He raised his hand as he said this, as if he was commanding the gods to smite me.

But I didn't say anything as I slightly knitted my brows.

That was because I could feel a strange heat coming from my hand. It wasn't a strong heat, but there was a bit of heat that was coming from my hand after the booming in the sky rang out.

I looked down to see that there was a faint light coming from the mark on my hand.

This was not something that had happened before, so I had no idea what was happening. However, based on the feeling that was coming from my hand, I could tell that there was something happening with the Mark of God.

After a long silence, when the head priest saw that I wasn't saying a single thing and even seemed like I was ignoring him, he was enraged. He pointed his finger at me and opened his mouth as if he wanted to say something.

It was just that he didn't get a chance to say anything as the booming from the sky rang out again.

This time, there was even a flash of lightning that followed.

The head priest wasn't scared or surprised seeing this, his eyes even lit up when he saw the lightning gathering in the sky. It was as if he was seeing a revelation from his god with the look on his face.

As he saw the lightning gathering, the head priest continued by saying, "Now feel the power of..."

He didn't get to finish those words.

"Crack!"

Before he could finish what he had been about to say, there was a bolt of lightning that cut through the sky and fell down towards the ground. It was like the punishment of the gods that fell from the heavens.

It was just that it didn't fall on the person that one would expect it to fall on.

Instead of falling down on me, the bolt of lightning suddenly fell down on the head priest. "Ah!" The head priest screamed out in pain, but that scream of pain didn't last long as he couldn't keep forming words. His eyes rolled back in their sockets as he lost consciousness. There was even smoke that was coming from the head priest as the lightning coursed through him. In no time at all, his skin had been turned dark and it seemed like he was a charred pig more than anything.

The worst part of it all was that his jewelry had melted on his skin and was now attached to him.

The head priest after being struck by lightning truly created a pitiful sight.

But there was no one to blame other than himself.

These were the consequences of his own actions.

Once the bolt of lightning finished striking the head priest, there was only silence that filled the air. The only sounds that could be heard were the sounds of sizzling coming from the burnt skin of the head priest.

He just laid there on the ground like a burnt pig, unable to do a thing.

After that long silence, the priests and nuns from the same group as the head priest suddenly shouted, "How dare you use your black arts to ambush our head priest!"

One moment, they treated this lightning as divine lightning and the next, they were calling it black arts.

It seemed that there really was no consistency for them at all.

However, that didn't matter since there was nothing that they could do about this.

Or rather, when they tried to do something...

"Crack!"

There was another boom of thunder that rang out.

It seemed that as long as they tried to threaten me, the thunder would start booming and lightning would start gathering.

No matter how one looked at it, it seemed that this phenomenon was related to me.

Or rather, I could tell that it was related to the Mark of God that was on my hand. After all, it was only when the thunder and lightning appeared that the Mark of God heated up. It seemed that it was reacting in response to the thunder and lightning that appeared whenever this group tried to do anything.

Finally, one of the priests couldn't take it anymore and pulled out what seemed to be a staff, but there was also a sharp head to it. It seemed that this priest was skilled at using this staff that was shaped like a spear to attack people.

He was charging right at me, but it didn't seem like he would get to me as the royal guards came forward.

It was just that before he could reach me, there was a bolt of lightning that came down on

him.

He was turned into the same charred mess as the head priest.

"Now that's the real will of a god."

## **Chapter 980: Will of god (4)**

When this voice rang out, everyone turned to look in the direction that this voice came from. To our surprise, there was a group that was walking over in the robes of the clergy, but we didn't recognize them at all.

The one who was leading them was a kind looking old man and it was clear that he was the one who had spoken. After he spoke, he came forward to look at the other priests and nuns who were standing there in a daze.

The way that he looked at them was filled with disdain.

Once he was done looking at them, he gave a nod to one of the cloaked figures behind him and said, "Take these idiots away. Make sure that those in charge of the Zeno Religion understand what these idiots have done."

The cloaked figure nodded before taking off the cloak.

Everyone was shocked to see this cloaked figure after he took off his cloak because he was wearing a magnificent set of armour. This was pure white armour that clearly wasn't normal

armour.

This seemed like armour that only those knights of the highest rank could own.

It wasn't just this single knight who came forward, but also the other cloaked figures who took off their cloaks to come forward. It was a group of knights that suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

All of them came forward to surround the priests and nuns, but the priests and nuns wouldn't go that easily.

"Don't you dare touch us! Do you know who you're offending!?" The priest that took over for the head priest shouted this.

However, the knights didn't seem worried at all as they continued to surround this group. They even pulled out their weapons to show that they weren't playing at all.

The priests and nuns all took a step back, but there was nowhere for them to go since they were surrounded by the knights. All they could do was huddle up and pull out some staves as if they wanted to protect themselves.

It was just too bad that the knights were well trained and easily disarmed them.

In no time at all, the group of priests and nuns were all subdued by the knights and taken away.

I couldn't help being surprised since I never thought that someone would show up and do something like this, but they didn't seem to have any ill intentions. At the same time, anyone that could show up with knights of this level clearly wasn't anyone normal.

After the priests and nuns had been taken care of, the kind looking old man turned to look at me with a smile on his face.

I could tell that this smile wasn't actually directed at me, but rather at the mark that was on my hand.

It seemed that he was quite pleased to see this mark on my hand.

There was no mistaking that he recognized this mark and it even seemed that he was quite familiar with this mark with the way that he was looking at it.

After looking at it for a bit, the kind looking old man suddenly said, "It truly is the will of the gods that we have met you. I would like to introduce myself, your majesty, if you do not mind."

This was completely different from how the head priest of the Zeno Religion acted.

Since it didn't seem like he had any ill intentions, I gave a simple nod in response to see what his plans were.

The kind looking old man said with a smile, "I am the pope of the Solista Religion." "Huh?" The prime minister and I were both shocked to hear this.

After all, there wasn't anyone in this world that didn't recognize the Solista Religion. The Solista Religion was also the religion that the priest in my town came from. Even though the Zeno Religion had many followers among the humans, there were more followers of the Solista Religion since their followers weren't just humans. Solista was a god that was worshipped by many different races, so there were far more followers than the Zeno Religion.



The Solista Religion was considered one of the top three religions in the Holy Empire, so the power that they controlled wasn't weak. At the same time, the pope of said Solista Religion should be considered one of the most influential people in the Holy Empire.

Even if he wasn't exactly on the same level as the Merman King in terms of title, the pope could be considered to have the same level of power.

After introducing himself, the pope suddenly came forward towards me.

That put me in an awkward position since I couldn't exactly just step away because that would surely offend the pope. So the only thing that I could do was stand there and wait to see what he wanted to do.

The pope didn't mind this at all as he came forward to take my hand.

He brought my hand up in front of his face and looked at the mark that was glowing on the back of my hand carefully.

I was surprised to see that that mark was still glowing after the priests of the Zeno Religion had been struck by the divine punishment. But when I looked at it closely, I found that it was a different glow.

There wasn't the same heat coming from my hand, but rather it seemed like this glow was from the resonance of the pope's holy power. There was this holy energy that was around the pope's hand as he held my hand which created this resonance effect.

After looking at this mark on my hand for a bit, the pope suddenly lowered his head and said, "This truly is the will of the gods to deliver one with the Mark of God at a time like this."

The rest of his group who had been silently standing there suddenly fell to their knees and started praying.

The awkward thing was that they were all praying in my direction, as if they were praying to

me...