

## **Strongest 1371**

### Chapter 1371: One Hundred Worlds

"I can't do it," William said as he rested his hands on the two Soul Crystals that served as Elliot's and Conan's coffins.

"I see." The God of Familiars closed his eyes.

In truth the old man didn't want to see William shatter the soul crystals because, for him, it was like killing his own children in front of him.

Although Elliot and Conan were already dead, as the God of Familiars, it pained him to look at the dead familiars, who were part of the first generation of familiars in the World of Hestia.

"Is there really no other way?" William asked.

"That is the only one I know of," the God of Familiars replied. "Since you don't want to do it then we will have to do something else."

Chloee and Claire felt relieved in their hearts. Having interacted with Elliot and Conan, they didn't want their vessels to be desecrated. They knew that one day, they too, would be housed within the Grave of Familiars when their time was over.

Knowing that their final resting place could be visited by their former Masters gave them a form of closure as well.

Maple and Cinnamon looked at the two Soul Crystals for a few seconds before picking them up.

"They look so lonely here, why don't you take them, Will?" Maple asked.

"Cinnamon thinks that they would be less lonely if you take them with you," Cinnamon stated.

William knelt so that he could come in eye contact with the two little girls as he patted both of their heads.

"They do look lonely here," William commented. "Where do you two think I should take them?"

Maple and Cinnamon glanced at each other before pointing at William's chest.

"You place them in that world with a clear blue sky," Maple answered.

"The one with the blue sea that has many weapons sticking out of it," Cinnamon replied.

William blinked because the place that the two girls were describing was none other than his Sea of Consciousness.

"Do both of you think that they will be happier if I place them there?" William asked.

Maple and Cinnamon both nodded their heads as they handed the two Soul Crystals to William.

"Always carry them with you," Maple said.

"That way, they won't have to pay rent," Cinnamon replied. "The tenants of Great Grandpa always complain that their rent is expensive. They insist that he is scamming them."

"Grandpa is a good person. He buys us a lot of toys."

"Cinnamon thinks that Grandpa is good as well. He doesn't mind using the family fortune to buy us food."

The corner of William's lips twitched because the two girls were singing the praises of their Great Grandpa, who liked to scam others, but spoil them rotten.

"Your Excellency, can I take them with me?" William asked the God of Familiars who was standing beside him.

"I don't mind," the God of Familiars replied. "Place them in your Sea of Consciousness. They will return here after you die. So, I don't mind."

William nodded and took the Soul Crystals from the hands of the two girls. He then closed his eyes, turning the two crystals into particles of light that were absorbed by the gem in his chest.

A moment later, the red-headed teenager's consciousness went inside his Sea of Consciousness.

There, he saw the two crystals floating at its center, surrounded by the weapons that were embedded in the surface of the sea.

He tried to detect if there were any changes on the soul crystals, but after a few minutes of critical observation, he felt that nothing seemed to be out of place.

"Although it's a bit late to say this,... thank you, both of you," William said as he gently touched the two soul crystals. "I missed you guys."

A few minutes later, William opened his eyes in the real world. There were still many things that he needed to do, so he couldn't stay long inside his Sea of Consciousness.

"Take good care of them," the God of Familiars said. "I will now send all of you back to the Floor of Asgard. The next time we meet, I hope that the matters of this world will have already been resolved. Celeste, the answer to what you are looking for cannot be seen in the world around you. It is here, where you will find the answers."

The God of Familiars smiled as he pointed his thumb on his chest.

"Uncle, can we get all the food as take out?" Maple asked. "There is still plenty that we weren't able to eat earlier."

"Mama said that it is not good to waste food," Cinnamon said. "We will take them back as snacks."

The God of Familiars laughed before nodding his head.

"Okay, I'll have them packed and delivered to you later," the God of Familiar stated. "May the wind be always at your backs, and may the sun shine warm upon your faces. Goodbye for now."

The God of Familiars waved his hand, and a flash of light enveloped William and the others, sending them back to the Floor of Asgard.

A few seconds later, two figures appeared beside the God of Familiars.

"It's quite unfortunate that we might not be able to see the one who would be able to climb to top of this tower during this world's lifetime," a middle-aged man said softly. "After all, they will soon arrive here."

"We have already prepared to move the Tower of Babylon to another world if the inhabitants of Hestia aren't able to resist the Army of Destruction," a Goddess stated. "Now that the armies of this world have been decimated thanks to their senseless wars, the chances of victory are slim. Even the Prince of Darkness has no idea how to win."

The God of Familiars sighed.

One hundred worlds.

That was the number of Worlds that had been destroyed ever since they had founded the Tower of Babylon. Of course, the number of worlds that the Army of Destruction had destroyed far surpassed that number.

The three Gods were the last survivors of their world. Hoping that they would be able to nourish heroes that could counter the might of the Gods of Destruction, the Tower of Babylon was made.

For each world that was destroyed, a new floor would be added to the Tower.

The three Gods meant well, but they had still underestimated human Greed. Instead of building a place where they could grow and become more powerful, they used the Domains they conquered in order to antagonize other people.

"Like always, we will wait till the very last minute," the God of Familiars said softly. "Only when this world is about to be destroyed shall we leave. If there is even a sliver of victory, remember our oath. We will do everything in our power to help."

"Of course," the middle-aged man replied.

"But, only if there is a sliver of hope," the Goddess stated. "All three of us want nothing more than to see those three Gods of Destruction face their demise. As long as the possibility exists, I will lead the charge if I have to."

The God of Familiars nodded his head.

"Then so be it," the God of Familiars, who was now the last bastion of the world, looked down on the Floor of Asgard. "Let them decide the fate of this world with their own hands."

#### Chapter 1372: I Will Make Sure That Your Hands Will Not Be Dirtied

William, Maple, Cinnamon, and Celeste reappeared on the Bifrost Bridge after they were sent back to the Floor of Asgard by the God of Familiars.

"Thank you for coming with me, Celeste," William said. "Having you there helped me a lot."

"You're welcome," Celeste replied. "What is your next plan?"

Even though Elliot's and Conan's Soul Crystals were now inside his Sea of Consciousness, there were no changes in the fluctuations of his soul.

The other half of William's Soul, which was still recovering inside the Bell of Athanasia, was still in hibernation, leaving him with only a quarter of his soul inside his body.

Optimus had told the Half-Elf that most of his abilities required him to have a complete soul, allowing him to use his full powers without fearing of receiving a backlash.

Since the problem with his soul would not be fixed anytime soon, the red-headed teenager decided to have a conference with the Kraetor empire, ruled by Emperor Leonidas, who was also Princess Sidonie's grandfather, and the Amazon Empire, which was managed by Lilith's mother, Empress Andraste.

They were the only two people that he could count on to influence the other Kings and Emperors of the Central Continent.

What the Half-Elf wished was to have a conference with all the sovereigns of the world.

Only by making them understand that the threat of the Army of Destruction was real, would they be able to create a united front to resist these invaders from the void.

'But, how will I be able to convince them?' William pondered as he walked hand in hand with the two pink-haired girls, heading toward the Palace of Asgard.

Truth be told, If William wished for it, he could force all the nations of the world to do his bidding. He had enough manpower to do that, and the Pseudo-Gods under his command were the greatest deterrence ever.

Now that the white-robed figure wearing a mask and Belle were no longer working for the Pope, he had two additional Pseudo-Gods on his side.

The only other organization which had one Pseudo-God on their side was Hestia Academy, but they were a neutral party, and were also aware that the Army of Destruction was coming. He didn't need to convince them, which was already a good thing.

'As the Headmaster of Hestia Academy, I'm sure Byron would be more than willing to help me convince the other rulers to cooperate in a more peaceful manner,' William pondered.

Currently, the armies of the Central Continent were in tatters. During the previous war against Felix, many soldiers died, and entire armies were decimated.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that most nations only had half of their previous military power now. Some even had less than half, making them extremely pitiful.

'Beggars can't be choosers.' the Half-Elf sighed internally.

The red-headed teenager was very tempted to issue a decree, commanding all able-bodied men and women within the lands he ruled, to have compulsory military training.

His reason was extremely simple. If they lost the war, it wouldn't matter if people chose to fight or not. Once William, and his allies lost, no one would be spared, and all living creatures in the world would die.

Naturally, he didn't want to do this. But, he had to make sure that anyone who was capable of taking up arms, could and would fight for everything they held sacred in the world.

The moment they arrived at the Palace, William gathered his subordinates and started a conference.

He asked for their advice on how to convince the other nations to unite under one banner.

"Your Majesty, this is such a simple problem that even I can single-handedly accomplish it within a month," Nisha replied. "All we need to do is send Astrape and Bronte to their doorstep and deliver your message personally. I'm pretty sure that they will be more than happy to hear you out if we use this method."

Astrape and Bronte nodded their heads in agreement. They were more than willing to do everything for William, so talking to some mortal Kings, and Emperors wasn't a big deal to them. If the fools decided to ignore their words, they would just snap their necks and appoint new rulers on their thrones.

New rulers that would listen to their every order, as if their lives depended on it.

"Worry not, Your Majesty," Nisha continued. "I will make sure that your hands will not be dirtied. Your humble servant is willing to take all responsibility and handle this matter in the most effective manner possible."

Loxos, who was also present in the throne room, raised her hand to catch William's attention.

"Yes, Loxos?" William asked as he looked at the excited looking young lady who was desperately trying to catch his attention.

After getting William's attention, the young nymph smiled as she told him something she discovered while exploring the Palace of Light.

"There is this conference room in the Palace of Light, with several round mirrors on the wall," Loxos stated. "All of them are communication artifacts, which the Pope used to have a conference with all the rulers of the Central Continent. If you use that conference room, you will be able to talk to them with ease."

The Seven Virtues who were inside the throne room, realized then and there that they had overlooked this matter.

In truth, the Virtuous Ladies had no interest in talking to the sovereigns of the world, so it was always the Pope who handled such affairs. This was why they had completely forgotten about this matter.

"Perfect," Nisha smiled. "With this, our major problem is solved. But, there is still one place we need to visit."



William, who was just listening in on the conversation, leaned his back on the throne because he knew the place that Nisha was talking about.

The Demon Continent and the Silvermoon Continent were under William's rule. The Southern Continent could be easily convinced because that place was his home turf.

Since that was the case, there was only one more place that needed to be visited, and that was none other than the Western Continent, which was a third of the size of the Central Continent.

'It's finally time to visit the Gunnar Federation,' William thought as he eyed Ephemera, who nodded her head at him in understanding.

The Virtuous Lady of Justice was born in the Western Continent. If there was someone he needed to ask about its affairs, it would be none other than the purple-haired lady, who was now one of his lovers.

#### Chapter 1373: One Who Didn't Wish For Dominion

"There are twenty kingdoms under the Gunnar Federation, but the two kingdoms who hold the most power are Quince, and my home country, Edelweiss," Ephemera explained to everyone in the throne room.

"However, there is one more kingdom that refused to become part of the Federation. Even so, none of their neighboring kingdoms had a problem with it because this third kingdom has minded their own business, and hasn't harassed their neighbors."

A smile appeared on Ephemera's face as she remembered the stubborn, and straightforward residents of the kingdom that she had the opportunity to interact with before she came to the Central Continent.

"Are you talking about the Dwarven Kingdom of Beldaral?" Nisha asked.

Ephemera nodded her head. "As expected of the supreme leader of Deus. you are even aware of the affairs of the Western Continent."

"It is best not to place all your eggs in a single basket," Nisha replied. "The Western Continent was my Plan B if ever the Holy Order of Light was able to root us out of the Central Continent. Fortunately, the Pope didn't have that ability, so I was able to expand my influence across the lands."

Nisha had indeed managed to survive for the past few years due to her quickwittedness and boldness. Because of this, although the Holy Order of Light was more powerful than her organization, they were unable to take them down as both sides battled in the shadows.

"I guess we have our work cut out for us," Nisha stated. "I will handle the matters here in the Central Continent. Your Majesty, please handle the affairs of the Gunnar Federation and try to convince them to join our side."

"Although the kingdoms in the Western Continent liked to scheme against each other from time to time, they haven't experienced any large scale wars over the past century. The strongest existences in that part of the world are Four Demigods. If you manage to make them submit to you, the chances of convincing the leaders to lend you an ear will be high."

Ephemera could only smile bitterly after hearing this.

Two years ago, the strongest existences that were known to the world were Demigods. Pseudo-Gods didn't exist. But now, after the battle at the Northern Continent, these powerful beings suddenly appeared, breaking the natural balance that was known to all the mortals of the realm.

"If the soft approach doesn't work, just pound those Demigods into submission," Nisha stated. "We don't have much time, so it will be best to start with the big fishes first before we handle the smallfries— I mean before we handle the Kings of the various Kingdoms."

Nisha couldn't help but smirk behind the veil covering her face because she now had the ability to call the Kings and Emperors of the various nations small fries.

She was William's steward. Aside from him, no one could command her to do anything. Also, she had the power to mobilize the Half-Elf's forces, including the Pseudo-Gods under his command, whenever he wasn't around to give orders.

Because of this, the Demonic Continent and the Ainsworth Empire were able to avoid any mishaps because she wasn't afraid to use firm, and effective, methods—like feeding those that opposed her rule to the fishes.

Hundreds of troublemakers had already been dealt with in that manner, serving as a reminder to those who were planning to cause chaos in William's territories to behave themselves, or else they would be given a one-way ticket to the Underworld.

"Very well, we will go with this plan." William nodded his head in agreement. "Astrape, Bronte, and Titania will accompany me to the Western Continent. Opis, Loxos, Hekaergos, Sepheron, and Triton will defend the Ainsworth Empire."

William then shifted his attention to the Bull Demon King who had his head lowered. When the Half-Elf was still the Dark Prince, he used his power as a Shepherd to subjugate the proud Pseudo-God, forcing him to obey him.

In the face of such overwhelming power, the Bull Demon King had no choice but to bow his head, or suffer further torture in William's hands, who didn't bat an eye at scorching Princess Iron Fan's face, as punishment for killing Kasogonaga, Erchitu, Psoglav, and Jareth, as well as his other loyal supporters.

"Bull Demon King, I will leave the protection of the Demon Continent in your hands," William said coolly. "Do you understand?"

The Bull Demon King raised his head and gave William a respectful bow. "You can count on me, Your Majesty."

The red-headed teenager had no intention of letting the Bull Demon King go easy for everything that happened in the past. Although his friends were having concerts in the Underworld, and having a good time, that didn't mean that he could easily forgive the perpetrators of their deaths.

If not for the fact that they still had their uses to him, the Half-Elf would have turned both of them into mindless puppets using the power of Darkness.

"Your Majesty, forgive me for my insolence, but will the promise given to me by the old Dark Prince still hold true?" the Bull Demon King asked.

The Half-Elf nodded. "It is still in effect. Whatever promises I made with you back then, I will keep."

"Thank you, Your Majesty. I promise to fulfill your order to the best of my ability."

"Good."

William then stood from his throne, as he scanned the faces of the people around him.

"We only have two years," William announced. "Whether we survive or not will depend on our efforts today. That's why, I ask all of you to cooperate, now is not the time for strife. There must be no internal conflict. Everyone must work hard to the best of their abilities, so when the time comes for us to make our last stand, we will have no regrets because we have done everything that we could."

William closed his eyes for half a minute as he reminisced that fateful day when the world was bathed in the fires of destruction.

Even after several lifetimes, that memory haunted him still.

Back then, he died with many regrets, and had broken many promises.

"Go," William ordered as he waved his hand. "From this moment onwards, our war preparations have officially started."

Everyone in the throne room gazed at the red-headed teenager who carried the burden of the world on his shoulders.

They couldn't help but feel amazed by how a single person was able to rise up to his current position, despite the fact that he never wished for dominion.

## Chapter 1374: The Giants Are Coming [Part 1]

"We're flying~"

"Cinnamon is flying too~"

After arriving in the Western Continent with the help of Astrape, and Bronte, William summoned a flying ship in order to continue his journey.

Ephemera, who was his guide, told Will where to go, and the flying ship soared in the sky, headed to the Dwarven Kingdom of Beldaral.

The Half-Elf had wanted to visit the Demigods first and convince them to join their side. But, after thinking about it carefully, he didn't want to go out of his way to travel everywhere to look for them.

Because of this, he decided to head straight to the Dwarven Kingdom first, and have an audience with its King. He hoped that after the two of them met, the reclusive kingdom would agree to join their side when the time to fight against the Army of Destruction had arrived.

Naturally, he didn't come alone. Almost everyone, including the Seven Heavenly Virtues, accompanied Will on his journey.

However, the majority of them were staying inside the Thousand Beast Domain, enjoying the comforts that it brought them.

With the help of Optimus, Will had built an Antenna inside his Domain, that was directly connected to the Bifrost Bridge, allowing it to get signals directly from Earth.

Because of Erinys' influence, the ladies were suddenly introduced to the world of television, movies, and telenovelas.

It didn't take long for the girls to become addicted to it, and asked Will if he could put T.V's in their bedrooms, so that they could watch the shows inside the villa.

Due to their own personal tastes, they often watched different shows during their free time.

For example, Haleth and Charmaine preferred watching the cooking channels because it allowed them to discover new, and delicious, dishes that they could serve to everyone.

Shannon, on the other hand, asked Erinys to help her purchase Otome Games, making the Fox Lady hole up inside her room as she tried to clear the different routes, whenever she wasn't busy painting on her canvas.

Everyone was going at their own pace, but one thing was clear. This time, they would go with William wherever he went, even if they were just staying inside his Thousand Beast Domain.

"We're almost there," Ephemera, who stood beside William, said as she pointed at the towering mountains in the distance. "The Dwarves have made that entire mountain range their fortress, and their cities are found underneath those mountains. This is also one of the reasons why no Kingdom has dared to invade them, even though they are not part of the Gunnar Federation."

When the flying ship neared the mountains, over a dozen Wyverns flew in their direction.

These were not ordinary Wyverns, because they were the flying mounts of the Dwarven Wyvern Riders, who protected the skies of their Kingdom.

"Halt!" one of the Dwarves riding a Wyvern shouted. "This is the territory of Beldaral! State your name and business for coming here!"

The other Wyvern Riders circled the flying ship and aimed their hand-held cannons at it. If the people inside it resisted their inquiry, they would not hesitate to shoot it down from the sky.

William didn't want to have any conflicts with the Dwarven Kingdom, so he immediately stopped the flying ship from moving, allowing it to simply hover in the sky.

"My name is William Von Ainsworth," William replied. "I have come here to talk to your King to discuss very important matters."

"What Kingdom do you belong to?" the Dwarf asked in an annoyed tone. "How many times must we say that we are not interested in joining the Gunnar Federation! No matter how many envoys you send, our King's decision will not change."

William gave the Dwarf his most dazzling smile in order to calm the tension, however, after seeing that the Half-Elf was more handsome than he was, the Dwarf aimed his hand cannon at the Half-Elf's face, and was itching to shoot him down.

Seeing that his action backfired on him, the Half-Elf raised both of his arms in surrender as he tried to negotiate with the Dwarf whose finger was itching to pull the trigger.

"Violence is bad!" Maple shouted as she placed both of her hands on her waist. "Uncle should know how to talk properly. Everything can be resolved through food and drinks."

"Cinnamon is a little hungry," Cinnamon commented. "Uncle, do you have some Dwarven candy with you?"

Seeing the two pink-haired girls standing in front of the Half-Elf, the Dwarf was forced to lower his weapon, so that the two girls wouldn't be scared of him.

"Are those two Dwarves?" another Dwarf asked as his wyvern moved closer towards the ship.

His name was Vaggron, and he was the Captain of the Wyvern Riders of Beldaral. The reason why he didn't introduce himself earlier was because he was closely observing William, and his entourage, from a distance to see if they were a threat to their kingdom.

He was unable to discern their ranks, which made him raise his guard. Only people stronger than him had the ability to hide their inner presence from him.

However, when the two girls appeared, it reminded him of someone, making him take a closer look at them.

"Little girls, what are your names?" Vaggron asked.

"My name is Maple," Maple replied.

"Cinnamon is my name," Cinnamon answered.

The Dwarf captain frowned. No matter how much he searched his memories, he couldn't match any name to the two girls' faces. However, one thing was certain, he could vaguely sense Dwarven blood in their bodies.

Vaggron then shifted his attention to the Half-Elf who still had his arms raised in the air in surrender. Judging from how he acted, he could tell that he didn't want to escalate the situation, so he decided to hear them out for the time being.

"William, was it?" Vaggron said as he looked at the red-headed teenager. "Which kingdom do you hail from?"

Seeing that the dwarf was willing to hear him out, the Half-Elf lowered his hands and introduced himself properly.

"Once again, my name is William Von Ainsworth," William replied. "I am the Emperor of the Ainsworth Empire that hails from the Central Continent."

Vaggron frowned after hearing William's reply. He was carrying an artifact that could detect lies, but since there was no reaction from it, he assumed that what the Half-Elf was saying was true.

Although the Dwarves almost didn't travel outside of their domain, that didn't mean that they weren't aware of what was happening in the world.



The Dwarves that were living in the other cities of the Gunnar Federation would regularly send them the latest news and rumors that were being spread about the various Kingdoms.

One of them was the war that was happening in the Central Continent, where powerful beings that surpassed the Rank of Demigods were said to be decimating the armies of the Kingdoms in the Central Continent.

When the Dwarves first heard it, they treated it as simply nonsense. How could there be beings that were stronger than Demigods?

However, their King was different.

He took this news seriously, and ordered his army to stay vigilant and issued a command to all Dwarves that were living outside of the Dwarven Kingdom to keep them updated if any signs of the war were to spill over to the Western Continent.

"An Emperor?" Vaggron eyed the Half-Elf from head to foot. "Someone as young as you is an Emperor in the Central Continent?"

"Yes," William replied. "Is there a problem?"

"I'm finding it very hard to believe your claim."

"Well, the fact still remains that I am indeed an Emperor, but I will have to agree that I don't look like one."

William couldn't help but shake his head bitterly because he really didn't have the aura and charisma of a ruler.

"Okay, let's say that for a minute I believed you," Vaggron stated. "You said you wanted to talk to our King, but what do you want to talk to him about?"

The Half-Elf stared at Vaggrom with a complicated look on his face. In truth, he also didn't know how to start the discussion about the Army of Destruction without making it sound like a crazy story.

After organizing his thoughts, he gazed steadily at the Dwarven Captain before answering his question.

"Giants," Will replied. "The Giants are coming."

#### Chapter 1375: The Giants Are Coming [Part 2]

"The Giants are coming?" Vaggrom and the rest of the Wyvern Riders gazed at William with grim expressions on their faces.

The one thing that Dwarves hated the most wasn't Humans, Elves, Demons, Gnomes, or the other races.

What they hated the most were Giants.

Perhaps, due to their small size, their instincts naturally feared something that was several times taller than them.

There were several members of the Giant Race in Hestia like Cyclops, Mountain Ogres, and other creatures whose sizes ranged from ten meters up to a hundred meters.

Hundreds of years ago, the Dwarves had fought against these towering monsters who treated their race as prey. Fortunately, the Dwarves were smarter, and smaller than the giants, allowing them to use the mountains as their natural fortress against their kind.

In time, the Dwarves developed weapons that could effectively injure, and kill the Giants, allowing them to turn the tide of battle in their favor.

Hundreds of years later, no more Giants could be found around the Kingdom of Beldaral.

Even so, the moment the Dwarves hear the word Giant, their initial reaction was to find these monsters and fire their cannons in their faces.

"You said Giants are coming?" Vaggron asked. "From where, and when?"

The artifact in his hand wasn't reacting to the Half-Elf's words, meaning that what he was saying was the truth.

The other Dwarves who knew of the artifact in their captain's hands, couldn't help but feel anxious after hearing William's announcement.

"This is why I came to your kingdom," William stated. "Please, inform your King that I want to have an audience with him. This matter is of great importance, and I can't discuss it out in the open. I hope you understand that this news isn't something to be discussed lightly."

Vaggron frowned, but he didn't refute William's words. Since an Emperor had personally come to their Kingdom, they had to be shown proper etiquette, even if their arrival was unannounced.

"Wait here," Vaggron replied. "I will send word to his Majesty. He will be the one to decide if he wishes to talk to you or not."

The Half-Elf nodded his head in understanding. Since the Dwarf Captain had already compromised, he made the flying ship land on the ground, as a sign of good faith.

Astrape and Bronte, were quite tempted to shoot the Dwarves out of the sky with their lightning bolts. However, William had forbidden them to use violence beforehand, which left the two Pseudo-Gods no other choice, but to bottle up their anger inside their chests during Vaggron's interrogation.

"Calm down, okay?" William said as he pacified the two Pseudo-Gods. "We didn't come here to fight."

Astrape sighed before nodding her head. "I know, Master. I will keep that in mind."

"I will endure to the best of my abilities, Master," Bronte commented. "However, if that Dwarf had really shot you with his hand cannon, I would have turned him into a piece of charcoal by now."

"Thank you for being angry for my sake," William stated. "But, there will be many more opportunities for me to receive the same treatment as we visit the Kingdoms in the Gunnar Federation. I just hope that the two of you will remember what happened here today. I don't want any trouble, so both of you behave yourselves, okay?"

"Understood," Astrape replied.

Bronte nodded. "If that is your wish."

Maple and Cinnamon, who were currently eating some snacks that had been prepared for them by Charmaine and Haleth, sat at the round table that William had summoned on the deck of the flying ship.

Suddenly, three beautiful ladies emerged from the cabin of the flying ship.

They were none other than Lira, Shana, and Melody, who had used the temporary portal that William had placed inside the cabin.

William had installed it before leaving the Central Continent because his lovers didn't want to be trapped in the Thousand Beast Domain, just in case something happened to him. Because of this, the Half-Elf relented and placed a temporary portal so those whom he had given his permission to, could exit and enter his domain freely.

"We saw what just happened from inside your domain," Lira said as she hugged William, and gave him a kiss on the cheek. "We decided to assist just in case the negotiation gets dicey."

"Thank you," William replied. "But, as you can see, things are peaceful right now."

"We can see that," Melody commented as she too gave the Half-Elf a hug and kiss. "But, we came just in case. The others wanted to come as well, but we persuaded them that we are more than enough to handle anything that the Dwarves can throw at us."

Shana, who was about to vomit sugar from the public display of affection by Lira and Melody, cleared her throat to catch William's attention.

"To think that the always reserved Melody is acting so bold, now of all times," Shana said in a teasing tone. "Is this the side effect of drinking William's juice on a regular basis? I want to have some of that as well."

Melody's face slowly turned beet red as she ran after Shana, who ran around the deck while giggling.

The Dwarves who were circling around the flying ship from the air looked down at the ladies on the deck before glaring at the handsome Half-Elf who was surrounded by beautiful women.

They had spent most of their time patrolling their kingdom, and had no time to mingle with the Dwarf girls at the taverns as of late. This made them look at the Half-Elf, who was being spoiled by the ladies around him, as if he were an eyesore.

Half an hour later, Vaggron returned with the messenger that came from the Royal Palace.

"Emperor William, the King wishes to meet with you at the Royal Palace," the messenger of the King said. "You are given permission to land your flying ship at the landing port that we have designated to our Wyvern Riders."

William thanked the messenger and once again operated the flying ship to soar to the skies once more.

Now that he had been given permission to meet with the King of the Dwarves, he would definitely use this opportunity to forge an alliance with him.

Chapter 1376: Well Met, Half-Elf

The Flying Ship landed at the base of the mountain, which was heavily guarded by Dwarf Cannoneers.

William didn't mind this kind of treatment because he came to their territory unannounced. Even he would be wary of a Sovereign visiting his kingdom out of the blue, so he allowed himself and his ladies to be escorted to the underground city, where the Royal Palace of the Dwarves was located.

"It's like a maze down here~" Maple said as she walked hand in hand with William.

"Even so, we won't get lost no matter what~" Cinnamon commented.

The two girls were quite lively as they pulled on the Half-Elf's hands, urging him to walk faster.

"I didn't think that I would get a chance to visit here again," Ephemera said softly as she walked behind William. "The last time I came here was during the negotiations to have Beldaral part of the Gunnar Federation. Unfortunately, the negotiation failed."

One of the Dwarf Guards escorting them snorted after hearing Ephemera's words.

"The members of the Gunnar Federation say that the reason why they became united under one banner is for the sake of peace," the Dwarf Guard commented. "However, even now that they are under one banner, the backstabbing continues. We don't want to be part of that farce."

Ephemera didn't refute the Dwarf's words because they were true. Even her own kingdom, Edelweiss, was far from being a role model of the Federation.

William was not aware of the current situation of the Western Continent, so he remained silent and just followed their guide. It would not be a good idea to antagonize the Dwarves who had come this far, so he merely listened, and didn't share his opinion.

An hour later...

"Maple is tired," Maple complained. "Uncle, are you perhaps going around in circles to tire Maple out? Why are you bullying me?"

"Cinnamon is tired, too," Cinnamon complained as well. "Uncle, why do you bully Cinnamon?"

The one guiding them felt a little guilty after hearing the complaints of the two girls. In truth, he had been indeed going around in circles, in order to better understand the qualities of their guests.

If they started to become unreasonable, he would take them to the nearest exit, and bar them from entering their main city.

His only problem was how he would convince his King that their unwanted guests didn't come with good intentions

"Uncle, I'm tired."

"Uncle, I'm hungry."

"Do you find bullying Maple fun?"

"Cinnamon doesn't like bullies."

Dwarves might be stubborn, and hardheaded, but they couldn't ignore the hardships of children. The two little girls, who had been quite lively earlier, were now using Will's hands as a means of support as they walked behind the guide, making them both look pitiful.

"I think it's about time that you take us to see the king," William finally broke his silence as he waved his hand to use his Wind Magic to lift the two girls in the air, making them float. "I don't mind playing this farce, but the children are the ones suffering."

The guide didn't reply. However, when they arrived at another intersection, he no longer took the path that would make them circle around the fortress, but chose the shortest route towards the Royal Palace, where the Dwarven King was waiting for them.

A few minutes later, everyone saw a magnificent city that stretched for miles.

"I welcome you to the Capital City of our Kingdom, Morndhan," the guide said before turning around to look at their guests. "We will now be using a special teleportation spell that will take us to the Palace Gates. Are all of you ready to go?"

William nodded. "We're ready."

The guide nodded and took out a token from his pocket. A moment later, he, the Dwarf Guards, as well as William's entire entourage, were bathed in a blinding light.

A moment later, they disappeared from where they stood and reappeared at the palace gates of the Dwarven Kingdom.

'Optimus, set the coordinates for the Bifrost Bridge.'

< Understood. >

< Coordinates have been successfully added to the Bifrost Bridge's way points! >

The Half-Elf didn't want to waste his time walking through the maze again just to meet with the Dwarf King in the future, so he decided to use the Bifrost Bridge to bypass the defenders that would undoubtedly make things difficult for him if he were to visit them again.

If not for Maple's and Cinnamon's complaints, the guide might have taken them on a wild goose chase for a half a day before finally giving up.

Time was precious to William, and he didn't want to waste it going around in circles.

After passing through several checkpoints, the group finally stepped foot inside the Royal Palace, which was located at the highest part of the city. The Dwarves didn't like making their houses fancy.



For them, practicality was best. Although the design of their palace wasn't as fancy as the other kingdoms in Hestia, it still gave a feeling of majesty, which made William feel more eager to meet the King that ruled the Dwarven Nation.

When the guide arrived at a large stone gate that bore the insignia of the Royal Family of Beldaral, he cleared his throat before shouting to announce the arrival of their guests.

"Emperor William Von Ainsworth has come to seek an audience with His Majesty," the guide shouted.

"Enter."

A single word reached William's ears.

The Half-Elf frowned because the voice sounded vaguely familiar. He even found a trace of anticipation in it, making him wonder if the Dwarf King had heard his name in the past.

When the giant stone gates opened, William and his entourage entered the throneroom of the Dwarven Kingdom.

The moment the Half-Elf's eyes landed on the person sitting on the throne, his body stiffened because he didn't expect to see that person here of all places.

"Welcome, Emperor William."

The Dwarf whom William had met in the Deadlands looked at him with a devilish smile plastered on his face.

"Eldon?" William asked half doubtful, and half hopeful that he was right.

The Dwarven King smiled, but soon, his gaze landed on the two little girls that were holding the Half-Elf's hands.

The moment he saw Maple and Cinnamon enter the throne room, his heart almost leapt out of his chest because the mere sight of them made his breath catch.

Soon, his gaze softened as he looked at the two little girls, making him, as well as his Queen, who sat beside him, want to give them a tight, and loving, hug.

Half a minute later, he reluctantly tore his gaze away from them and shifted them back on the Half-Elf that was looking at him in disbelief.

"Well met, Half-Elf," Eldon replied. "Now, tell me, why did it take you so long to visit your in-laws?"

Ephemera, as well as the ladies that came with William, looked at the Half-Elf in surprise.

They didn't expect the Dwarf King, who ruled one of the strongest kingdoms in the Western Continent, to actually be his in-law, making them feel that Fate truly knew how to play pranks on people.

Chapter 1377: Can We Even Beat Gods?

"That Uncle bullied us earlier."

"He is a bad Uncle. Cinnamon's feet hurt badly."

Maple, who was seated on Eldon's lap, and Cinnamon, who was seated on the Queen's lap, pointed at the guide and started to complain.

"Oh? He dared to bully the two of you?" Eldon asked with a smile. "Don't worry. I will punish him. How about I cut his salary in half for the next three months?"

"That's bad," Maple replied. "If he doesn't have money, how will he be able to eat? Not being able to eat is sad."

"That's right," Cinnamon commented. "Everyone must eat properly. Mama said that everyone should eat at least three to six meals a day to be happy."

"Okay, I'll just punish him by not allowing him to have dinner today," Eldon said in a teasing tone. "That is enough punishment, right?"

"Isn't that punishment a bit too harsh?" Maple asked. "Being hungry is bad."

"Dinner is important," Cinnamon replied. "Maybe cutting his salary is better?"

"Young ladies, please, punish me by not allowing me to have dinner," the Guide pleaded. "The crime I committed is too much, and this is the only way that I can atone for my sins."

"Well, if Uncle says so then I guess it's fine. Just make sure to eat a lot for breakfast."

"Cinnamon thinks that you should eat a lot for lunch, so that you won't feel hungry later."

The guide thanked the two little girls, and hurried out of the throne room. Clearly, he didn't want his salary to be cut in half, so he decided to make himself scarce, just in case the two pink-haired girls changed their minds.

"I'll ask the chef to cook a lot of food later," Eldon said as he patted Maple's head. "The two of you will have lunch with us, right?"

Maple nodded. "It is not good to reject food."

"Cinnamon will have lunch together," Cinnamon replied.

The Half-Elf could only watch this scene from where he stood because he was still trying to process the unexpected reunion he had with Eldon.

Not only was the Dwarf one of the people who fought alongside him in the Deadlands, Eldon was the King of the Dwarves, and Chiffon's grandfather, making him his in-law.

His wie, who was Chiffon's grandmother, held Cinnamon lovingly, and planted a kiss on both of her cheeks, making the little girl giggle because it felt ticklish.

"So, Will, you said that the Giants are coming," Eldon said as he stared at the Half-Elf who had come all this way to meet him. "I've heard a lot of news about the goings on in the Central Continent and I don't know if what I've heard is real or not. First, tell me about the Giants. Make sure to not omit anything, do you understand?"

William nodded and began his tale about the great Army of Destruction that would arrive in their world in two years.

The Ministers, who were also in the throne room, looked at the Half-Elf as if he was spouting nonsense.

If not for the fact that their King seemed to be taking his words seriously, all of them would have advised Eldon to kick the Half-Elf out of the throne room and ban him from entering their Domain in the future.

The Queen, who went by the name, Eloise, was also paying close attention to the tale that the Half-Elf was imparting to them.

Eldon had already told her about his fateful encounter with the red-headed teenager in the place called the Deadlands, and although it sounded like a crazy story, she believed her husband entirely.

Since that was the case, she didn't doubt the validity of the story that Will was telling them at the moment, about beings whose strength far surpassed that of Demigods, and were threatening to raze their world, and everyone they loved, to ashes.

"So, that giant who took Morax away from the Deadlands is one of the three Gods of Destruction that will descend upon this world in two years time?" Eldon asked.

William nodded. "Yes."

The Dwarf King eyed the Half-Elf with a complicated expression on his face.

"Can we even beat Gods?" Eldon asked. "Let's say that we can miraculously survive a battle against thousands of Demigods, and hundreds of Pseudo-Gods. Can we really defeat those beings whose strength surpasses even the strongest creatures in this world?"

Williams sighed before answering truthfully.

"I don't know," William replied. "I'd like to believe that there is a way. But, right now, I don't have any other alternative aside from uniting all the kingdoms of the world, in an effort to at least create a miracle for our last stand."

Eldon glanced at the little girl in his arms, who was currently eating some gummy bears.

When he was still in the Deadlands, he could only watch from afar as William and Morax fought a battle that made his heart tremble.

He felt very powerless back then.

Even if he wanted to help, he would only get in the way if he insisted on supporting William in his battle. Because of this, he just focused on dealing with Morax's minions because they were creatures that he could fight head-on.

Now that they were about to face beings that were far stronger than Morax, Eldon felt as if there was no chance at all in winning.

Even if all the kingdoms of the world united to fight as one, fighting against three bonafide Gods of Destruction was just like throwing raw eggs against a rock. They would all shatter and crumble, leaving nothing but a one-sided slaughter.

"But, even if there is no hope, we have no choice but to fight, right?" Eldon asked. "Even if we don't fight, we will still be wiped out in the end..."

The Dwarf King sighed for the second time because all of their prospects looked grim.

"Understood," Eldon said after a few minutes of silence. "The Kingdom of Beldaral will stand by your side in this war against those who wish to destroy everything we hold sacred. Unfortunately, I am the only one who will believe your tale. The other monarchs of this world will simply brush it off as the ravings of a lunatic. Have you considered what to do if that happens?"

William could only smile bitterly as he remembered Nisha's words before he left the Ainsworth Empire.

#### Chapter 1378: Don't Lump Me with Those Small Fries

Aside from Eldon and his wife, the Ministers inside the throne room thought that the Half-Elf was crazy.

First he talked about Giants invading their world, and a moment later, he talked about Gods of Destruction who were hell-bent to end all of their lives.

Then, he started to talk about something that they could relate to, but still not believe, which was subjugating the four Demigods of the Western Continent.

For them, the Demigods were Gods.

They were beings that could make the King's of the Gunnar Federation bow their heads, and anyone who sat in a seat of power would take their words seriously.

"Do you need any help in tracking down these Demigods?" Eldon asked as he patted Maple's head, who was seated on his lap. "I can introduce a guide to you that knows the general location of their territories."

"That will be extremely helpful," William replied. "I'll gladly accept your offer."

Eldon nodded. "Good. Then it's settled then. Should we all have lunch?"

Just as William was about to reply, one of King Eldon's Minister's spoke up.

"Wait! Please wait, Your Majesty!" the minister shouted. "Please, tell me that you are not going to believe this nonsense! If we anger the Demigods, they will certainly retaliate. Even if we are confident in our Kingdom's defenses, I am afraid that we will not be able to survive if we are to antagonize them."

"I understand your concern, Durren," Eldon said as he addressed the Minister that had spoken up. "But, you're making a big deal out of this. Aren't they just Demigods? William can easily handle them."

Durren almost spat out blood after hearing his King's casual words.

Aren't they just Demigods?

Those were the casual words that their King had said just a moment ago.

It was similar to the saying.

"Aren't they just ants? If they bother you too much then just step on them. Problem solved!"

The Ministers inside the throne room felt cold sweat starting to form on their foreheads because their King seemed to have been infected by the "crazy disease" that the Half-Elf had brought with him when he entered their Kingdom.

"My King, please reconsider," Durren insisted. "Why must we listen to the wild ravings of this Half-Elf that came from the Central Continent?"

"Ah. So this is your primary concern." Eldon nodded as if he had finally understood something. "First off, he is not just an ordinary Half-Elf that came from the Central Continent. This person is the husband of my granddaughter, Chiffon. He is family, so he can be trusted."

Durren frowned after he heard Eldon's reply. "Husband of your granddaughter?"

The Minister was April's Godfather, and he had doted upon the pink-haired Dwarf before she went to the Central Continent to go on an expedition.

When he saw the two girls that were currently seated on the King's and Queen's lap, a suspicion had already formed inside his mind, but since there was no confirmation, he just kept this matter to the side, while listening to the Half-Elf's words.

"Then, where is she?" Durren asked after organizing his thoughts. "Since she is the King's granddaughter, why isn't she here to pay respect to her grandparents? If he really is her husband then she should be here with him, no?"

Eldon, and his wife, Eloise, had wanted to ask William this question earlier. However, since the Half-Elf wanted to talk about the Giants, they decided to ask this question in private after they had their lunch.

"This is our family matter," William replied. "I'd appreciate it if you don't intrude on our privacy."

Durren snorted, but he no longer insisted on the matter because he saw that his King was looking at him as if he didn't want this discussion to continue. Since that was the case, he didn't pry further and simply asked another question.

"You talked as if Demigods are not a big deal," Durren stated. "But, do you know the consequences that come if you anger them? Our entire Kingdom will be destroyed because of your craziness!"

The other Ministers nodded their heads because they couldn't allow their King to make a decision that would jeopardize the peace and stability that they had built for hundreds of years.

The Dwarves had a neutral policy. Meaning, they would not take the initiative to antagonize their neighbors, or start conflicts.

Simply put, they would not start a war they couldn't win.



They could definitely fight against Myriad Beasts, but Demigods were something that they didn't want to touch, even with a 12-foot pole.

"Astrape, show them your strength," William ordered. "Just make sure to hold back, okay?"

The Half-Elf knew that the only way to convince the Dwarves was to show them that he wasn't just all talk. If he could make them understand that he could easily deal with the Demigods, whom they treated as the Apex beings of the Western Continent, all future problems would be resolved.

"Understood, Master," Astrape grinned evilly because she had been doing her best to not slap the Minister silly for getting in the way of her Master's mission.

Astrape slowly unleashed her presence little by little.

At first, the ministers were still calm as they looked at the beautiful lady who seemed to be one of the Half-Elf's subordinates.

However, their calm disappeared, and was soon replaced with disbelief, followed by horror.

"By the Earth Goddess...," Durren muttered. "D-Demigod!"

Astrape snorted after hearing Durren's words.

"Demigod?" Astrape sneered. "Don't lump me with those small fries."

As if she was offended by Durren's words, she once again increased the power she was radiating, making all the Dwarves inside the throne room, with the exception of Eldon, and Eloise, fall on their knees, as they gasped for breath.

"That's enough, Astrape," William said. "I'm sure they understand how strong you are now."

Astrape stopped exerting pressure on the Dwarves, allowing them to take a breather.

"I'm sure that what I said earlier is unbelievable," William stated as he scanned the faces of the Dwarves, who were looking back at him with wariness. "If I were in your shoes, I would have been of the same opinion. However, that will not change the fact that there are indeed beings that far surpass the established norm of this world.

"When I was younger, I also thought that Demigods were the peak existences of this world. Unfortunately, they are not. Since that is the case, we need to live with the reality of knowing that the previous beliefs we held were incorrect. However, I assure you that what I told all of you earlier is the truth and nothing but the truth."

William paused as if to allow the Dwarves time to digest the words that he had just said.

"Two years from now, we will have to deal with beings far stronger than them," William added. "I hope when that time comes, all of you will be ready to stand your ground, or else everything you hold dear in this world, will be taken away from you."

Durren, who thought that everything William said earlier was just a crazy story, started to feel afraid.

If what the Half-Elf really said was true then how could they possibly survive such a calamity?

It was not only him that thought this way, but the rest of the Dwarves in the throne room.

Now that the reality that there were beings stronger than Demigods had appeared before them, they had no choice but to take the Half-Elf's words seriously, making them feel that the future before them wasn't as bright as they imagined it would be.

## Chapter 1379: A Form Of Atonement

William sat on the highest peak of the mountain, as he looked at the stars in the sky.

It was just past midnight, and all of his lovers were sleeping. He took this opportunity to slip away, so that he could have some time to organize his thoughts and think about what he should do in the future.

Earlier, he had no choice but to admit that Nisha's method of using force to make others understand their place was truly effective.

If possible, he didn't want to use this method, but after seeing that he would find it extremely hard to convince others to believe his story, he decided to no longer hold back in the future.

"That is the look on your face whenever you're thinking of something bad."

William's body stiffened because he didn't sense anyone approaching him from behind. Although he was deep in thought, he was well aware of his surroundings, so someone sneaking up from behind caught him completely by surprise.

With his current strength, it was almost impossible for this to happen, which only meant one thing.

The one that sneaked up to him was stronger than him.

The Half-Elf immediately turned his head to look at the person who was daring enough to approach him in the middle of the night.

However, the moment he saw her face, he felt as if all the tension in his body disappeared without a trace.

A pink-haired girl with long hair that fluttered in the breeze, stood a few meters away from him with her hands behind her back.

"C-Chiffon?" William asked as he looked at the lady who looked like his wife, but with subtle differences.

Although the young lady in front of him still had the child-like body he remembered, and a face that would not make her look older than fourteen, there was a sense of maturity in it that made her look so womanly, despite her childish looks.

"Yes," Chiffon replied as she tucked her long pink hair at the back of her ear, preventing it from hiding her face due to the strong winds that blew high up in the mountains. "But, not the Chiffon you knew."

William's breath was caught up in his throat as he looked at the young lady, who was looking at her with a smile.

"Did you come here for Maple and Cinnamon?" William asked after a minute had passed.

"That's only a part of it," Chiffon replied. "But the main reason why I came here is to tell you the truth."

"Truth? What truth?"

"The truth about Maple, Cinnamon, Raizel, and another girl whom you probably haven't seen because she is good at hiding."

William's expression turned serious as he looked at the young lady who seemed to be enjoying the night breeze that was blowing over her body, making her dress, and clothes flutter in the wind.

Chiffon was looking up in the stars, as if she was looking for something. However, without turning her gaze, she asked the Half-Elf a question.

"William, I'm sure that you are thinking that they are your future daughters, right?" Chiffon asked.

"They aren't?" William asked back.

Chiffon smiled before shifting her gaze to the Half-Elf. "The answer is Yesn't."

The pink-haired lady once again shifted her attention towards the sky before continuing her words.

"My daughters were born special," Chiffon stated. "They gained the ability to travel into the void. Because of this, they were able to witness many things, both good and bad. Both happy and sad."

The pink-haired lady then sighed before shifting her gaze back to William, whose eyes never left her face.

"We are from a parallel world," Chiffon replied. "A world that managed to survive the onslaught of the Army of Destruction. But, many others were not fortunate. Maple and Cinnamon have seen the other versions of you die fighting the Army of Destruction because they thought that, since the two of them existed, their survival was already assured."

A bitter smile appeared on Chiffon's face, making the Half-Elf's heart skip a beat.

"I don't want to think that my daughters caused the demise of these countless worlds because they brought false hope," Chiffon's lips trembled as she said these words. "This is why I decided to meet with you today, so you will not misunderstand that your survival in the future has already been set in stone."

Chiffon sighed a second time before shifting her gaze back towards the stars in the sky.

"Maple and Cinnamon are still too young," Chiffon stated. "They do not know the consequences of their actions. Because of this, I decided to secretly follow them whenever they leave the house to travel in the void. Great Grandpa would always accompany me on this mission because, in our family, he was the only one that had the ability to travel the void aside from my daughters."

"Is your Great Grandpa somewhere out there right now?" William asked.

He noticed that Chiffon was looking at a single point in the sky, but even if he did his best to look at where she was looking, he couldn't see anything.

"Of course," Chiffon replied with a faint smile. "But, he didn't want to see you. So I came here to talk to you alone, and give you a warning. Just because you saw my daughters, that doesn't mean that the

future is assured. Do not be complacent, like the other Williams that have died in the other parallel worlds.

"Take note that the William of our world, didn't meet Raizel, and didn't meet Maple and Cinnamon. I only discovered the existence of the other parallel worlds because I followed them not long ago. However, when we arrived, the William of that world had just died, and Maple and Cinnamon were unconscious.

"When Great Grandpa scanned their memories, it seemed that they had tried to interfere with the battle and tried to save William, but they were knocked out by the Goddess that was responsible for the balance of the universe as a whole, Nemesis.

"She was the same Goddess that was sent by the Primordial Goddess to interfere in the battle between William and Ahriman should the former find himself in a disadvantageous position.

"For Nemesis, Destruction was just part of the cycle. Just like there is Life after Death, this too is part of the balance.

"However, when Maple and Cinnamon tried to interfere in a battle that wasn't part of their own parallel universe, the Goddess Nemesis appeared and knocked them unconscious, before she took them to a safe place, away from the battle.

"In truth, she wanted to punish them, but after finding out that they were my daughters, she held back her hand, and allowed me to take my daughters back to our own world.

"However, before Nemesis let them go, she made sure to erase all of Maple's and Cinnamon's memories of the world that they had just visited.

"This was when she had discovered that the two girls had formerly met the William of this world, and interacted with him many times.

"Nemesis told me that my daughters may have broken the balance of the world, and caused its demise," Chiffon said and her voice was filled with an unbearable sadness that made William's heart ache.

"The worst part is that this is not the first time that it has happened. Several other worlds had already been destroyed, but Nemesis made sure to erase their memories, so that they wouldn't have to suffer the backlash of their actions when they finally realized what they had done when they grew older."

Chiffon then gazed at William and, this time, her gaze was filled with determination.

"Me meeting you here today is a form of atonement for the things that have happened in the past," Chiffon stated with determination. "Although the previous worlds cannot be saved. I don't want the same thing to happen to other worlds. So, please, do everything in your power to survive. Please, beat the Army of Destruction, and break the loop of destruction that has been caused by my daughters."

Tears started to fall on Chiffon's cheeks as she looked at William with a pleading gaze.

The Half-Elf's body moved on his own, and before he knew it, he was already hugging the pink-haired lady tightly.

"Thank you for warning me," William replied as he held the trembling body in his embrace. "But, if the other Williams, in the worlds that were destroyed, were the same as me, I can assure you that they didn't slack off, even after seeing Maple and Cinnamon."

"They would not have allowed themselves to be too complacent just because they saw a possible future. I am sure, because I know more than anyone. Tell me, aside from your world, have you seen other worlds that have survived the Army of Destruction?"

Chiffon shook her head. "No. I haven't seen a world survive, aside from our own."

"Well, that is about to change," William replied as he pulled back and gazed at the tear-stained face of the pink-haired lady who was suffering in front of him. "Watch us from the stars. I will show you a world that will survive the war against the Army of Destruction. When that happens, allow Maple and Cinnamon to visit me again, okay?"

Chiffon nodded as she wiped her tears away.

"I will look forward to that future," Chiffon said feeling hopeful. "When that happens, I will let my daughters visit you again. So, make sure that you will make that future a reality."

William smiled. "Okay. I will make it happen."

On that fateful night, the Half-Elf made an oath.

For the sake of the present, and his future happiness, he must make sure that he would win the upcoming war, so that the pink-haired lady who had come from afar to warn him, would no longer shed a tear because of the worlds that were destroyed due to her daughters' interference.

Chapter 1380: Who Dares Enter My Domain?!

"Visit us again when you're free, okay?" Eldon said as he gave the two pink-haired girls a hug.

"Your beard tickles me," Maple giggled.

"It is very ticklish!" Cinnamon commented as she giggled as well.

After Eldon's turn, it was now his wife, Elois, turn to hug the two little girls who would be leaving their Kingdom. It was fairly obvious that the two of them were sad that Maple and Cinnamon were already leaving, but there was nothing they could do about it.

"Send me a messenger once you have subjugated the Four Demigods, and secured a conference with the Kings of the Gunnar Federation," Eldon stated. "Although they like to bicker among themselves, it is true that no large-scale wars have happened in the Western Continent since the Federation was founded."

William nodded his head to acknowledge Eldon's words.

The Dwarf King then shifted his attention to Durren, who would accompany the red-headed teenager while he looked for the Demigods in the Western Continent.



"You can talk to the other Kings on my behalf," Eldon said. "Don't forget what we talked about yesterday."

"I won't," Durren replied in a grumpy manner. "How many times must you remind me? Are you my mother?"

The King laughed after hearing his Minister's words. They had been together for nearly half a Century, which was long enough for them to know each other's thoughts even if they didn't say it in words.

After Astrape had shown Durren that she was indeed formidable enough to subjugate the Apex Overlords within the Lands of the Gunnar Federation, the Dwarf volunteered to guide the Half-Elf because he wanted to witness how these mighty beings bowed their heads to William in submission.

"Let us be off," William said. "The next time we meet, I will bring good news."

Eldon nodded. "May fortune be on your side."

A moment later, the Flying Ship rose to the air before flying to the North. They would deal with the closest Demigod first, and visit the others in an orderly manner.

After talking with Chiffon last night, the pink-haired lady said that she would come to pick up Maple and Cinnamon after the Half-Elf had finished subjugating all four Demigods.

William thanked her for allowing the two little girls to accompany him a while longer on his journey, which made the pink-haired lady smile in understanding.

With the help of Astrape and Bronte, the Flying Ship's speed was greatly enhanced. Although they weren't able to travel at the speed of Lightning, they were able to fly at the speed of sound without any problems.

The two Pseudo-Gods had created a dome of energy around the Flying Ship, allowing the people inside it to not be affected by the pressure of altitude, in addition to the speed of which they were traveling per second.

They could have gone faster of course, but since Maple and Cinnamon liked to ride on the flying ship, the Halff-El allowed the two little girls the opportunity to look at the scenery, even though it was no more than a passing blur.

Three hours later, the Flying Ship arrived at their destination, which was a volcanic field.

This place reminded William of the world of Muspelheim where the Giants of Fire lived. Several volcanoes could be seen almost right next to each other, and all of them were spewing magma from their cones, bathing the world in hot molten lava.

"The Demigod of Fire, Ifrit, rules this land," Durren commented as he looked at the hellish scene in front of him. "Among the four Overlords of the Western Continent, his temperament is the worst of them all. They say that, even if you manage to see and talk to Ifrit and still manage to return to your country alive, you have achieved a feat that will be celebrated by your families for a lifetime."

"Really?" Titania, who was busy braiding Maple's and Cinnamon's hair, commented. "It seems that he has a very big reputation among your mortals."

Durren smiled as he glanced at the beautiful Fairy Queen, who could ensnare the hearts of anyone that laid their eyes on her.

"It is only natural to worship the strong," Durren stated. "Just as there are beings stronger than us Mortals, there are existences that are stronger than you as well, Your Excellency."

Titania smiled because she could tell that this was the Dwarf's way of getting back at her. Even so, she didn't mind it because what Durren had said was true.

When she met William, she knew that she would not be able to beat him. In order to preserve her Domain, as well as not suffer any grievances, she decided to voluntarily submit to him, and form a contract, making her his subordinate for a few years.

"Where can we find this Ifrit?" Astrape asked as she cracked her knuckles in excitement.

Durren smiled after seeing the Pseudo-God's eagerness to subjugate their target.

"Your Excellency, we don't find Ifrit," Durren replied. "He will find us."

As if proving his words right, the biggest volcano in the vicinity erupted, making the land shake with great intensity.

A moment later, a flaming humanoid emerged from its cone, and flew towards the Flying Ship like a giant fireball.

"Who dares enter my Domain?!"

The Demigod roared as it swung its arm in preparation to obliterate the flying ship that had come into its territory unannounced.

However, before it could even land its burning fist on the flying ship, a beautiful lady appeared in front of it, blocking its way.

The last thing that Ifrit remembered was the devilish smile that was plastered on the lady's face before it found itself crashing towards the ground, face first.

"Is that all you got?" Astrape asked as she landed beside the fallen Demigod.

"Y-You!" Ifrit roared as its entire body blazed brightly, turning the ground around it into molten lava due to how hot it was. "Die, trespasser!"

A bright flash of light erupted in the surroundings, and a giant cone of flames rose up towards the heavens, scorching everything around it.

"Wow! Fireworks!" Maple said as she looked at the hell fire in front of her with sparkling eyes.

"So pretty," Cinnamon commented as she, too, looked at the flames in wonder.

Ifrit, who was at the center of the destruction, frowned because it could still sense the presence of the lady that had smashed its face into the ground earlier.

"I guess you're not half bad for a Demigod."

Ifrit's expression immediately changed to disbelief when it saw the lady that it wanted to kill appear in front of it, unaffected by the flames it had unleashed using its full power.

"Let me introduce myself before I knock you senseless," Astrape said as she cracked her knuckles. "My name is Astrape, and I serve His Majesty, William Von Ainsworth. Make sure to remember the name because soon, you will be serving him as well."

Before Ifrit could even reply, Astrape had already appeared in front of it and smashed her fist into the Demigod's face.

Soon, the sound of pained screams echoed in the surroundings, as a one-sided beating ensued.

William, who was standing on the deck of the flying ship, glanced at Bronte, who was looking down with a regretful look on her face.

"It seems that your sister has a lot of pent up stress," William commented.

Bronte smiled before shifting her attention to the Half-Elf, who was looking at her with a concerned gaze.

"It's your fault, Your Majesty," Bronte replied. "Ever since your return, you haven't been spending time with me and my sister. Because of this, she has a lot of pent up frustrations. Don't worry, she will stop

once she has vented everything on that Demigod. So, Master, after this expedition is over, make sure to spend time with us too. Isn't that right, Titania?"

The Fairy Queen pretended to not hear Bronte's remark as she filed her nails.

Just like Astrape, and Bronte, the Fairy Queen was feeling a bit frustrated because, after working for a long time for the Half-Elf, her garden hadn't been watered as of late. Because of this, she also felt a little resentful of William, who had only spoiled the mortal women around him after he'd returned.

The red-headed teenager gave a light cough as he shifted his attention back to the pitiful Demigod who was getting smacked silly by Astrape.

As he listened to Ifrit's pained shouts, the Half-Elf promised himself that after the four Demigods were subjugated, he would spend some time with the three Pseudo-Gods, who were currently deprived of his care and affection.