

Strongest 641

Chapter 641: Honeymoon in Valhalla [Part 1]

After all of his tears had dried up, William led Chiffon to the room that was granted to him after he had become one of the Commanders of the Einherjars.

It was a very spacious room, and luxuriously decorated, matching his status as one of the elites in Valhalla.

Right now, William was feeling very tired, so he unconsciously led Chiffon to the place where he stayed whenever he was not out on a mission.

Chiffon, on the other hand, looked at the room with great curiosity. Her heart was beating wildly inside her chest as a thought crossed her mind.

'Mama said that after I get married, My husband and I need to consummate our marriage,' Chiffon thought with great expectations. 'By doing so, I will be able to give birth to Big Brother's babies. But, how are babies made?'

The pink-haired girl glanced at the ring on William's ring finger with a serious expression. Chiffon was not completely oblivious to the meaning behind a ring. Her mother, April, had told her about the human's customs and what it meant to have a ring on someone's ring finger.

While she was busy pondering several things in her innocent little head, William opened the door that led to his bedroom. Chiffon gazed at the giant bed that could easily fit a dozen people, and wondered if it would be just as comfortable as the beds in Princess Sidonie's room.

"Let's sleep together, Chiffon," William said as he led his young bride to the big bed.

He made Chiffon sit on top of the bed as he gently removed the shoes that she was wearing. After removing her shoes, William playfully tickled the soles of her feet, which made the latter laugh uncontrollably.

"Big Brother, stop bullying me," Chiffon said with a pout. She was still heaving pretty deeply after experiencing William's tickling attack that caught her completely by surprise.

The Half-Elf chuckled as he planted a kiss on her adorable cheeks, which made the latter's pouting face disappear.

William laid on the bed, with his arms spread wide. The soft cushion felt so comfortable that he almost fell asleep. If not for the fact that a pair of soft lips had once again started pecking his own lips, he might have really fallen asleep without a care in the world.

"You really love to kiss, don't you, Chiffon?"

"Un. I love kissing Big Brother's lips."

William smiled and lightly pinched Chiffon's nose.

"You still call me Big Brother?" William asked. "Shouldn't you change your way of addressing your husband?"

Chiffon stared at William and cupped his face.

"Will."

"Mmm."

"I will call you Will in front of the others," Chiffon said. "But when the two of us are alone, I will call you Big Brother."

"Um?" William arched an eyebrow because he didn't understand why Chiffon insisted on calling him Big Brother. "Why?"

Chiffon looked straight into his eyes as she said her reason for insisting to call William as her Big Brother.

"Because, I've always wanted to have one," Chiffon replied. "I do have older brothers and sisters, but..."

A sad expression spread across Chiffon's face when she remembered her half-siblings, especially Felix, who was the oldest among them all.

William had already seen how Chiffon was treated by her family inside the Dreamscape. He had already made a vow that when he saw Chiffon's father, Luciel, and Big Brother Felix, in the flesh, he would give them both a taste of Ruyi Jingu Bang.

"It's fine," William said as he caressed Chiffon's cheek. "You can call me Big Brother when we are alone."

Chiffon happily nodded her head when she heard William's permission. "Un!"

After another round of kissing, Chiffon gathered her courage and asked William the question that had been weighing on her heart since she saw the ring on his finger.

"Big Brother, am I your first wife?" Chiffon asked.

William looked straight at Chiffon's innocent eyes that demanded the truth. What the pink-haired girl didn't know was that William had already decided to be honest with her before they took that next step in their relationship.

"No," William replied. "Actually, you are my third wife."

"Third wife? Who is the first?" Chiffon inquired. "Is it Ashe, or Princess Sidonie?"

Chiffon already knew that William had several lovers. In truth, she didn't really care how many lovers William had, as long as she was one of them. Her own father, Luciel, had many lovers, his Mother was among them.

For the pink-haired girl, a man of great status would always have many lovers by his side. She just wanted to know her position, and where she stood among William's other lovers.

"The name of my first wife is Wendy," William said as he showed Chiffon the ring on his ring finger that was made from Mithril. "The two of us got married in secret before I left the Southern Continent."

William could still remember that fateful day when Wendy took him to the Temple to get married. The two of them had no other witness, except Ashe, who had secretly followed them to the temple.

Since half of William's heart used to belong to Ashe, she was able to find his location, wherever he was on the continent.

Wendy knew that William would travel to the Central Continent, so she decided to take the initiative and took matters in her own hands. She knew too well that many girls would be infatuated with her lover's good-looks and there was nothing she could do about it.

Since that was the case, it was better to secure her position as his first wife, before it was taken by another thieving cat!

Her mother, Diana, was very supportive of her and decided to look for a pair of rings inside their treasure vault. There, she found a pair of mithril rings that were said to have mysterious powers.

Diana didn't know what kind of power the rings had. However, she was certain of one thing. The rings were an heirloom that was passed down by the founder of the Armstrong Duchy. It was said that if these rings were used to bind two people in marriage, their true powers would activate.

After receiving the rings from her mother, Wendy looked for William and forcefully kidnapped him, with the help of Thor.

The blond beauty traveled until they had reached the Temple of the God that was near their family's Duchy.

William didn't know whether he should laugh or cry at his lover's daring action. Even so, Wendy's feelings reached him, and he agreed to marry her on the spot.

Under the blessings of the High Priestess of the Temple of the Gods, the two were wed successfully.

Ashe, who had followed their trail riding Ragnar, had arrived just in time to see William kissing Wendy's lips to seal their vow of marriage. William's mermaid lover could only look at the two with a pout because they had secretly wed each other without notifying anyone, including her and Est, who were also William's lovers.

In order to pacify the pouting mermaid, William and Wendy decided to hold another marriage, this time, it was Ashe's turn to marry William.

The High-Priestess didn't have any objections because it was perfectly fine for a man to have many wives in their world. Also, William was no ordinary man.

He was the one that had prevented the Elves from conquering the Hellan Kingdom, and all the adults that had turned into statues had been told about his legendary exploits. Because of this, the High-Priestess was honored to be chosen as the one to conduct the marriage ceremonies for the Hero that had saved the realm.

"Ashe is my second wife," William continued his explanation. "If you are wondering where our wedding rings are, they are not in our fingers, but in our hearts. William took off his upper clothes and pressed his hand over his chest.

"If Ashe hadn't given me half of her heart, I would have died long ago," William said softly.

Chiffon moved closer and kissed the gem on William's chest. The gem glowed brightly, as if responding to Chiffon's gesture of love.

"Aside from Princess Sidonie, do you have other lovers?" Chiffon asked.

William nodded his head and wrapped Chiffon in a loving embrace. "You still haven't met her, but the name of my other lover is Est. Actually, the reason why I came to the Kraetor Empire was to break the curse on her, Ashe's, and Isaac's bodies."

The Half-Elf then narrated his true reason for coming to the Kraetor Empire. He didn't hide anything from Chiffon and told her that their reason for coming to the Tower of Babylon was due to the quest that the Patron God of the Kraetor Empire, Aamon, had given him.

"Aside from Est, there is also my Master," William stated. Although Celine hadn't confirmed what their current relationship was, William had already decided that his Master was already one of his women, and as such, he added her to the list of his lovers, regardless of what Celine would say about it in the future.

"Your Master is very beautiful," Chiffon said with a sad expression. "I can't beat her."

The pink-haired girl looked down on her chest, and felt depressed.

"Silly girl," William lightly pinched Chiffon's ears. "You're fine as you are. There's no need to compare yourself to my master. Besides, you're not small at all. At the very least, you are a B cup."

"B C-Cup?"

"Yes. It means your size is perfect."

Chiffon was still half in doubt, but William didn't stop there, and continued to praise her good qualities, which made the pink-haired girl forget about her insecurities.

"Aside from your Master, is there anyone else?" Chiffon continued her interrogation.

William paused before nodding his head.

"I have forgotten a bit about her, but I do have one more lover," William replied with a complicated expression on his face. "I know that I love her, but I can't remember when the two of us first met. Chiffon, there might come a time that I will completely forget about her, but for my sake, please, remember her name."

Chiffon waited patiently as William tried to recall the name of his first love. After the battle with Belial, the memories of his past life were in shambles, so it took him a while to gather his thoughts and piece his remaining memories together."

"Her name is Belle," William said with reservation. "I think her name is Belle. No. I am certain her name is Belle."

"Belle." Chiffon nodded. "I will remember her name for you, Big Brother. Do you have any other lovers aside from her, Big Brother?"

"No."

"Understood."

Chiffon rested her head on William's chest. The Half-Elf kissed her forehead before patting her head.

William thought that Chiffon was done with her questions, and decided to rest for the night. However, before he could put this plan into motion, the young bride in her arms raised her head, and said a few words to him that made his heart skip a beat.

"Big Brother, please, make love to me," Chiffon stared at her husband with eyes filled with love and tenderness.

Her Patron God, Adephagia, had whispered some words in her ears a while ago. The Goddess had guaranteed that if she said these words to William, he would shower her with his love and affection and stay with her forever.

For Chiffon, staying with William forever was akin to magic words. She was willing to do anything to make this happen, so she repeated the words that Adephagia had told her, word for word.

"Make me your woman," Chiffon said with embarrassment. "Fill me to the brim with your love."

Chiffon only understood half of the meaning of these words, but she didn't care. As long as William would shower her with his love and affection, she was willing to say such embarrassing words as many times as she needed to.

The Goddess Adephagia gave her daughter a thumbs up in her heart. The Goddess of Gluttony was sure that William wouldn't be able to resist her darling daughter's advances. Because of this, she decisively used her Divinity and wrapped the entirety of William's room with it.

This was to ensure that no one would get in the way of her daughter's special night.

Not even the owner of the Tower of Babylon, who could see everything that happened within his Domain.

Soon, the rustling of clothes could be heard inside the room. William laid his young bride on the bed and admired her beauty.

A beauty that belonged only to him.

Chapter 642.2: Honeymoon In Valhalla [Part 2] - Rated 18

Chiffon looked up at her husband with anxiousness. Deep inside, she was worried that William would find her body unattractive. This was the night they would consummate their marriage, and she didn't know whether she would be able to meet his expectations.

The pink-haired girl was paying close attention to William, so she was able to see the changes in his body and expression. Both of them were bereft of clothes, so it was easy for Chiffon to see everything about her partner.

William was looking at her entirety with a heated gaze. She could tell that he wanted her, and this discovery decreased the worries in her heart. Although she was embarrassed, she didn't cover herself and allowed William's gaze to wander to all the places he wanted to see.

The Half-Elf had sensed Chiffon's anxiety so he kissed her forehead, and her cheeks, before whispering in her ear.

"You're perfect the way you are, Chiffon," William whispered. "And even if you aren't perfect, that won't change the fact that I love you. No matter what happens, you will have a place in my heart."

Tears started to fall from the sides of Chiffon's eyes because William's words had chased away all of her insecurities. The Half-Elf wiped her tears away with his fingers, and gave her a lingering kiss on her lips.

The pink-haired girl returned William's kiss and even wrapped her arms around his back. Ever since William had kissed her on the lips for the first time, and returned her heart to her, she had grown very fond of kissing.

She had never felt so happy in her life, and it made her realize that the world wasn't as dark and difficult a place as she had thought in the past.

After their kiss ended, William lowered his head and kissed Chiffon's neck. He then moved downwards and left a trail of kisses on her soft, and smooth body, until he reached the two soft snowy mounds that were his for the taking.

William didn't hesitate and planted a kiss on Chiffon's... before having his way with it. William alternated between the two, which made his young bride take several deep breaths, as she endured his relentless assaults.

"B-Big Brother, I am feeling strange," Chiffon said with a flushed expression.

Instead of answering her, William continued to shower her with his love, making the pink-haired girl clutch the sheets with her hands, and unknowingly allowed her sweet voice to escape from her lips.

The Half-Elf found Chiffon's pleasure-filled moans simply irresistible. Even though his bride was a few months older than him, her petite features--due to her lineage of being Half-Dwarf and Half-Demon--made William feel a sense of corruption that was hard to describe.

The Half-Elf spent a good amount of time preparing Chiffon for their union. He was very worried that she might not be able to take it, but the pink-haired girl had assured him that she wasn't a fragile vase that would break easily.

The moment they became one, Chiffon was filled from head to foot with a firm belief that she had been born for this moment. Her sad childhood, and what remained of her innocence, fell apart and shattered like the broken fragments of a precious crystal cup that had been locked up for display. Even the transient pain disappeared, and was replaced by a promise of eternity.

For a brief moment, Chiffon envisioned herself staring down on their lovemaking from above their heads.

Chiffon observed her body from her vantage point, and felt that her body was smooth, and sufficient, capable of weathering the storms that the Half-Elf was stirring up inside her. The pink-haired girl regarded her body with satisfaction because it was safe and sound.

Her small, yet strong body, that had been born in the Demonic Continent, and accompanied William to the Tower of Babylon, would take care of everything.

Chiffon even had the notion that her body was both a gate, and a fortress that housed a priceless treasure within, and William had the key to open it.

With a sigh of pleasure, she pressed herself against William, and clung to him, never wanting to let go.

With every thrust, she felt her body shuddering.

With every breath she took, she felt more alive.

Catching her breath, more sighs of pleasure escaped her lips, as she moved with him, and not against him.

She was fine.

Her body was fine.

Everything was going to be fine.

William and Chiffon kissed and tangled their bodies up in the bedsheets.

Every time that they thought that their desires were spent, they found out that they weren't, and made love once more.

Their last love making session was sweet and slow, but just like their first time that was filled with passion, it was equally as pleasurable.

When they finally stopped, and nestled their naked bodies in each other's warmth, Chiffon thought that even this simple form of skinship felt so terribly good that she felt like crying.

It was an intimacy that had far surpassed the concept of lovemaking. Being together with the man she loved made her body, and soul, feel complete.

For the first time in her life, Chiffon felt that her heart was filled to the brim with love, that not even her Sin of Gluttony, could make her feel hungry at that moment in time.

Soon, they fell asleep in each other's arms, knowing that their love for each other had been properly conveyed.

The two newlyweds had no doubt in their minds that the flames of love they shared, would continue to burn until the end of time.

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Kraetor Empire...

Tears started to stream down the side of Ashe's face, not because of sadness, but due to the overwhelming feelings of love that she felt through William.

The two of them shared both halves of her heart, so she was able to feel the strong emotions from her significant other. Now that the laws of the 51st Floor were under William's control, their connection to each other had been re-established.

Although Wiliam couldn't go to the Thousand Beast Domain due to the restrictions of the Tower of Babylon, Ashe could still send him a message if she were to enter William's Thousand Beast Domain.

After securing Kenneth from the Amazons, Ashe went to William's Domain to communicate with her lover. There, William explained his and Chiffon's current situation without hiding anything.

Ashe had been shocked silly when she found out that William had married Chiffon in the Tower of Babylon. She and Princess Sidonie had already thought of the possibility of Chiffon being one of William's lovers, but they didn't expect that the two would actually get married during the short time that they were away from each other.

When Princess Sidonie got wind of this news, she immediately went to see her Grandfather and urged him to set the date of her wedding with William.

Now that the Half-Elf was a celebrity in the entire world of Hestia, Princess Sidonie was sure that the Emperors, Kings, and Queens of the world would use any means, including using their daughters, to ensnare William.

Emperor Leonidas was in agreement and immediately scheduled his granddaughter's marriage at the soonest time possible. After careful consideration, they decided to hold the wedding a month after William went to visit the Misty Peaks to have his fated battle with Rebecca.

Although Princess Sidonie had heard of William's Ex-Fiance, the princess didn't really think too highly of her.

She had already asked William, as well as his other lovers--Wendy, Ashe, and Est, about the so-called genius of the Hellan Kingdom, and didn't hear any good things about her.

Wendy was the only one that took the neutral stance because Rebecca was a close friend of hers, similar to that of a sister.

However, Ashe, and Est, didn't hold back their contempt for the brown-haired lady, who only treated William as a tool to escape marriage proposals from the different influential families.

They had been there when Rebecca and William were forced to agree on their Seven-Year Duel on the peaks of the Misty Sect. However, due to the events that happened in the Southern Continent, their long-awaited battle was moved to the founding day of the Sect she had joined.

Princess Sidonie could only laugh in her heart at the current state of things. For her, Rebecca had lost big time the moment she decided to break her marriage agreement with William.

The Princess was even looking forward to when she, Ashe, and the envoy of the Kraetor Empire would visit Rebecca in the Misty Sect, and personally witness the so-called genius getting trampled under her lover's feet.

Chapter 643.1: Looking For Treasures [Part 1]

William woke up at dawn to see an unexpected scene.

His young bride, who was nestled in his arms, was nibbling on his chest, while she slept. It felt really ticklish, but William endured it because it was very rare for him to wake up and see Chiffon nibbling on his body, while she slept.

Drool could be seen spilling out from the corner of her lips, as she continued nibbling without a care in the world. William didn't know if he should laugh or be worried about Chiffon's current state.

On one hand, he wished he had a cellphone to record his pink-haired bride's embarrassing moment and save it for eternity. He was actually looking forward to the kind of reaction she would do, once she saw herself doing something very "Chiffon-like" to him.

On the other hand, he was feeling slightly anxious because his wife carried the Sin of Gluttony and was a former Giantess. Both personas liked to eat, and William felt that he should find a way to ensure that Chiffon wouldn't accidentally eat him in her sleep.

After his anxiety subsided, William was able to appreciate the young beauty in his arms. Different from his other lovers, Chiffon was like a little angel that had been born into the world to be loved.

Unfortunately, reality was cruel, and she had to fend for herself after her mother passed away. It was truly heartbreaking, especially when she was surrounded by THAT kind of family. The Half-Elf's resolve to smack Chiffon's older brother, Felix, and her father, Lucian, grew stronger in his mind.

William could still remember the promise he made to April inside Chiffon's Dreamscape. He didn't know if what transpired there really happened, or if it was just a result of the Heart Devil's and Chiffon's wills.

'Please, rest in peace, mother-in-law,' William said in his heart. 'I will love and protect your daughter for the rest of my life.'

William removed the strands of hair that blocked Chiffon's face and gently planted a kiss on her forehead. He could tell at a glance that his lover was very tired and might wake up around noon due to how passionate both of them were on their first night.

The Half-Elf lovingly activated his Life Mage skill and used it to heal Chiffon's body. Although he did his best to be gentle, his little wife's moans were simply too hard to resist. Because of this, there were times when he had been a little rough with her.

William was using healing magic right now to ensure that any injury that Chiffon might have received during their lovemaking would be healed. He cared for her so much that his heart ached at the thought of leaving bruises on her delicate body.

Perhaps due to William's healing magic, Chiffon stopped her nibbling and simply rested her head on his chest. This continued for a few minutes until William's healing spell wore off.

Chiffon chose this moment to wake up, and the first thing she did was to kiss William's cheeks.

"Thank you, Big Brother," Chiffon said. "I love you."

"I love you too," William replied as he kissed her back. "Did I wake you up?"

Chiffon nodded her head and yawned, before snuggling on William's chest. Her exhaustion had been washed away completely by William's healing magic. Although she was still sleepy, she fought it off and sought the warmth of her lover.

The Half-Elf was more than happy to accommodate his bride, and spoil her rotten.

After pampering the pink-haired girl, Chiffon suddenly had a playful mood and started to pinch William's chest while giggling. However, she made a mistake in doing so. She had unknowingly awakened a sleeping dragon due to her actions.

Little Will rose up from his slumber and decided to poke her back. Chiffon's face immediately reddened because she remembered the little guy's tenacity a few hours ago. She looked up to see William's expression, but she instantly froze when he saw the devilish smile on his face.

"Chiffon."

"B-Big Brother?"

"Don't play with fire unless you're prepared to get burned," William said in a teasing tone. "I just healed your body and you're already asking for trouble."

Chiffon covered her face in embarrassment because she didn't expect that her actions would turn into this kind of development.

William chuckled internally because he was just joking with her. He knew that Chiffon was still inexperienced in these kinds of things, so he decided to take things slow.

He acted as a bandit and carried Chiffon off the bed and headed to the bathroom. The pink-haired girl didn't resist and simply allowed herself to be carried off by her husband.

Chiffon knew that after a month, she and William would once again return to the outside world. When that happened, she wouldn't have the opportunity to monopolize her husband because he also loved other women.

After asking who William's current lovers were, Chiffon had a rough idea about who he would be marrying next. Because of this, she decided to take advantage of the time she had while she and William couldn't leave the tower.

William only planned to take a bath with Chiffon, but due to the latter's determination, both of them spent two hours inside the bathroom. The Half-Elf was surprised to see that his wife had a daring side to her.

Nevertheless, he accepted her advances and spent some quality time with his bride on their month-long honeymoon.

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Five hours after William's and Chiffon's episode in the bathroom...

William was currently staring at the treasure vault of the castle of Asgard. Naturally, since he had just remodeled the 51st Floor a day ago, the vault had nothing inside it... or so he would like to think.

As the owner of the Floor of Asgard, William was aware of everything that happened on the floor. Right now, there was a strange fluctuation coming from the Treasure Vault of the castle, and William had gone there alone to investigate.

Chiffon was currently exploring the Floor of Asgard with B1, B2, Psoglav, Kasogonaga, and Erchitu.

Unlike William, Chiffon didn't recover the memories of her past life. For her, Valhalla was a familiar yet unfamiliar place, so she decided to look at the world that her husband had made.

The Half-Elf didn't allow her to go alone, so he summoned Psoglav and Erchitu to accompany her. Kasogonaga had been staying inside the Thousand Beast Domain after the tournament because it had nothing else to do.

After seeing that his friends were going to William's location, the rainbow-colored Anteater decided to tag along.

After the little group of noisy tourists left the Halls of Valhalla, William headed to the castle of Asgard to face whatever was on the other side of the Treasure Vault's doors.

He already had a rough idea on what it was because the Headmaster of Silverwind Academy, Gilbert, had passed all his knowledge about the 51st Floor to him.

"Vault of the Vanished Warlord," William muttered as he pressed his hands over the gate of the Treasure Vault and gave it a push. According to Gilbert, anyone who discovered the vault may choose one item from inside it.

Its location was rumored to be in the Devil's Floor of the Tower of Babylon, so no one was able to find it for a long time. The Headmaster had also told William that he was willing to give him a handsome reward if he could retrieve the artifact that he wanted from the mysterious treasure vault.

In truth, William had no intention of looking for the artifact that the Professor wanted. Since he could only take one item from the vault, he would definitely pick the best and keep it to himself.

When the doors of the Treasure Vault opened, William's eyes widened in shock when he saw a room overflowing with weapons, armors, artifacts, accessories, and other miscellaneous items.

'It's a shame that I can only choose one,' William thought as he stared at the Legendary Treasure Trove of the Firstborns, who once walked the world of Hestia.

"Optimus, is there a way that we can acquire all of these treasures? I am willing to use all our God Points to do so."

< It's no use, Will. The ruler of this Tower will not allow such a thing to happen. The most I can do is to create a list of all the items here and arrange them according to their rarity and uses. However, I have some good news for you. >

'I'm always happy to hear good news. Go on, spill it.'

< Chiffon has also been recognized by the Vault of the Vanished Warlord. Meaning, she can take a treasure for herself. >

'That is indeed some great news.' William chuckled. He hadn't thought of this possibility, but after thinking things through, he realized that Chiffon had indeed earned the right to get a treasure because she had also fought against the Guardian of the Floor and won.

"Optimus, make sure to list every item in this treasury. Do not let even a single piece of jewelry escape your sights."

< Rest assured. This treasure vault can't hide anything from me. >

The smile on William's lips widened. He had already used his appraisal skill on some of the items inside the vault and he liked what he saw.

Almost every item that he checked was either a Unique, or a Legendary Ranked item, which made William feel giddy inside.

Stormcaller and Soleil were both Mythical Ranked Weapons that belonged to Gods. If he could get another mythical weapon in his arsenal then his fighting prowess would once again rise to another level.

(A/N: Weapon ranks in ascending order Rare, Unique, Legendary, Mythical, Divine.)

William strolled through the Treasure Vault, without touching anything. He didn't want to make the mistake of touching an item, and accidentally binding it to him permanently. If that happened, he would probably weep tears of blood due to his stupidity.

For now, he just allowed the system to create an inventory, so that he could take a peek later.

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High above the Tower of Babylon, an old man with a long white beard tossed a black box into the void. The box traveled through time and space until it materialized inside the Vault of the Vanquished Warlord.

The black box glowed faintly in a purplish hue before returning to its dormant state. It lay there waiting for someone to pick it up, and opened it to see its contents.

The old man who threw the box, looked at William from above the Tower of Babylon with a serious expression on his face. There was no guarantee that the Half-Elf would choose the box out of the countless treasures inside the vault.

Whether the box would finally find an owner, would be completely up to Fate.

Chapter 644.2: Looking For Treasures [Part 2]

< Compiling all the treasures in the Vault of the Vanished Warlord has been completed! >

< Check your status page, Will. >

William nodded his head and checked the list that Optimus had prepared for him. The System had properly arranged it to groups such as swords, axes, spears, rings, necklaces, earrings, scrolls, and other groupings that made checking them easier.

Optimus also made sure to arrange them according to their tiers, rarity, and special characteristics, which allowed William to narrow down his search among the countless treasures inside the Treasure Vault.

According to Optimus, there were thousands of Unique Artifacts, less than a Hundred Legendary Artifacts, and three Mythical Artifacts.

The first thing that William checked were the Legendary Artifacts. Although Mythical Artifacts were a grade above them, there were still items that had caught his fancy.

After taking his time to read the description of these Legendary items, he then checked the information on the Three Mythical items that were housed inside the Treasure Vault.

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< Svalinn >

– Rarity: Mythical

"The Shield which stands before the sun and protects the world from burning."

– This shield is impregnable against any kind of fire based attacks.

– Even if the full strength of a sun were to collide with its surface, the shield wouldn't break and would remain steadfast to protect its wearer, and the area around it from harm.

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The corner of William's lips rose up when he saw the description of the shield. Immediately, Lugh's face appeared in his mind. The Half-Elf was tempted to pick the shield for the sole purpose of bashing the Sun God's head with it until the latter lost consciousness.

'A shield is not bad,' William thought. 'I don't really have a shield in my inventory, so this might be a good choice.'

William then shifted his attention to the next Mythical Item on the list and read its information.

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< Sharur >

– Rarity: Mythical

"The Smasher of Thousands."

– This mace belonged to the War God Ninurta who governs over Farming, Healing, Hunting, Law, Scribes, and War.

– Its master, Ninurta, no longer exists, and had already turned into a constellation, but his weapon remains to this day.

– There were unfounded rumors that those who have wielded this weapon in the past have died of Heart Attacks.

– According to one eye witness, the last owner of Sharur had uttered a few words before he breathed his last and they were...

"F*cking Mace, don't you know how to shut up?!"

Whether the rumors were true or not, no one alive, or dead, could confirm the authenticity of the rumors.

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The corner of William's lips twitched as he read the information about the weapon Sharur. He glanced at the imposing crimson mace with wariness.

'Dafuq is this mace?' William scratched his head. 'Anyone who uses it dies of a Heart Attack? Sounds ominous!'

Although the rumors were unfounded, William thought that it would be best to be on the safe side and checked the other Mythical item on the list. Although the label "Smasher of Thousands" sounded cool, William didn't want to take a gamble with his life.

He planned to have nine wives, wouldn't it be a pity if he died of a heart attack just because he became the owner of a mace?

No thank you!

After glaring at the mace in the distance, William once again looked at the last item on the list and checked if it was better than the Heart Attack inducing weapon that he had just seen.

Since William's attention was focused on his status page, he didn't notice that Sharur's body glowed with an ominous light in the distance, before returning to its normal state.

"The Emblem of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," William said with awe after seeing the last item on the list.

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< Emblem of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse >

– Rarity: Mythical

"Four horsemen of the Apocalypse,

Conquest, War, Famine, and Death.

These four laughed at the folly of humanity,

and watch mankind take its final breath."

– The First Rider feeds desperate places, His white coat brings false hope.

For him peace has two faces, Strife that ends hanging on a bloody rope.

– The Second Rider brings carnage like a mad hound, His red eyes filled with burning desire,

Dire screams fill the air when the trumpets sound, War that ends deep in a sinister mire.

– The Third Rider never felt any reason to mourn, His black soul laughs when others slowly decay.
People wish that they were never born, Famine that ends in an uncontrolled dismay.

– The Fourth Rider is poisoned with wrath, His pale skin breaks every heart filled with fear.

Corpses laying on his traveled path, Death that ends in a timeless tear.

– He who seeks to release these Devils upon the world. Do you know what monsters you plan to let loose of your own accord? Someone who's weak-willed must never even try, for the consequences of their actions will make many people die.

"__

(A/N: I was looking for information about the four horsemen when I came upon this random poem. I thought that it matched the theme perfectly, so I decided to use it. The author of the poem is named Niels. There's no other information I can get aside from the fact that he is 31 years old and lives in the Netherlands. All credit belongs to him.)

William felt goosebumps after reading about the final mythical item on the list. The Emblem of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse was embedded in a medallion that was as big as an adult man's closed fist.

The Half-Elf was very tempted to choose this item, but he was having second thoughts because of how ominous the information was.

"Optimus, what do you think?" William inquired.

< The one who needs to decide is you, Will. I can only give you options, the rest is up to you. >

William scratched his head. He was really tempted to choose the Emblem of the Four Horsemen, but his instincts were telling him that he needed to carefully consider his decision.

For the time being, William walked in the direction where the Medallion was located. He would make his decision after personally seeing the medallion.

The medallion was placed on a pedestal at the right-most corner of the treasure-vault, in order to get there, William must climb the stairs to reach the second floor of the tower. As he walked down the hallway that led to the room of the Medallion, he saw an unassuming black box at the side of the path.

William gave it a passing glance before walking past it. However, his feet immediately came to a halt when he read the information that appeared on his status page.

Just as he was casually passing the box, William had activated his appraisal skill. It had been a subconscious action on his part because the place where he currently explored was a Treasure Vault.

Since the place was surrounded with treasures, his instinct kicked in and appraised the item before he even realized it himself.

William turned his head to glance at the black box at the side of the path in disbelief. The system had told him that it had finished listing all the items inside the Treasure Vault without missing a single item.

Since that was the case, how come it didn't mention anything about the black box, which could be easily overlooked if one wasn't paying attention.

The reason why William halted his steps was due to the unbelievable information that appeared in his status page.

'''_

< ??? >

– Rarity: Divine

–???

–???

–???

'''_

Although the information about the black box was littered with question marks, there was one piece of information that had completely caught William's attention and that was the rarity of the object.

Rarity: Divine

This was the first Divine Item that William had seen inside the Treasure Vault, and even Optimus was surprised that it had missed such an item when it did his scan earlier.

"Optimus..."

< Tread cautiously, Will. Not all treasures are what they seem, especially in a place like this. >

William nodded his head in understanding. He retraced his steps and sat cross legged in front of the black box. He eyed it suspiciously, while Optimus was running an in depth scan in the background.

Both of them wanted to know just what sort of item was hidden inside the box.

While this was happening, the old man on top of the Tower of Babylon had crossed his arms over his chest.

Fate had started to move her hand.

Now all he needed to do was wait for the final outcome.

Chapter 645.3: Looking For Treasures [Part 3]

William stared at the black box with a serious expression. It reminded him of the dagger that King Noah, the King of the Hellan Kingdom, had given him for safekeeping.

Back then, his appraisal skill didn't have the ability to gain any useful information from it. It was only when he accidentally discovered the Hidden Domain, with the help of his little Wren, Aethon, did William find out its true purpose.

He had a feeling that the Black Box was different. However, since the System was currently analyzing it, they may be able to gain some clues on what items were stored inside it.

< Will, I have finished scanning the box. I'm afraid that there is a powerful law that protects the box from being appraised or even analyzed. It is also the same law that is responsible for sealing whatever is inside it. >

"This is a bit troublesome," William muttered as he rubbed his chin. "What do you think we should do, Optimus? Should we take the gamble?"

< I'll bring flowers to your funeral. >

William chuckled because of Optimus' way of saying "It's your call buddy."

Suddenly, William's hair turned silver and his expression became extremely serious. He had equipped his strongest Job Class, Einherjar, just in case something unexpected happened.

"Optimus..."

< Understood. Currently on standby for immediate support. >

After getting the System's confirmation, William summoned his wooden staff and used it to poke the black box.

The box in question didn't have any reaction to his poking, so William continued to poke it just to be on the safe side. After a full minute of non stop-prodding, William decided to use the wooden staff to open the box.

However, no matter what he did, the box wouldn't budge. After consecutive attempts, a voice rang out inside the Treasure Vault which made William cease all of his actions.

"Anyone who is given an opportunity to enter the Vault of the Vanquished Warlord, may only take one treasure from inside it," the voice brimming with authority declared. "Any items that are destroyed or damaged, whether intentionally, or by accident, will automatically be registered as the item of the chosen one."

"You, who have cleared the 51st Floor, may choose one item from the vault. However, once an item is chosen, you cannot return it or swap it with other items."

A Red Genie appeared in front of William with his hands crossed over its chest. It was the caretaker of the Treasure Vault, and it was very displeased with the Half-Elf's act of prodding one of the items under his care.

"Are you planning to take that item?" the Red Genie asked with impatience. "If so, go get it and stop wasting your time, and mine."

William glanced at the displeased genie who was giving him the impatient gaze. It was at that moment when an idea came to his mind.

"Excuse me. But, who are you?" William inquired.

The Red Genie snorted as if it couldn't be bothered to answer the question of a mortal. However, it was his duty to assist those who had gained the right to pick one of the treasures in his domain.

"My name is Plutus, and I am the caretaker of the Vault of the Vanquished Warlord," Plutus answered in an arrogant manner. "Enough rubbish, Mortal. Just pick a treasure already and leave!"

The corner of William's lips twitched, he wanted to ask the Red Genie so badly if it was on its period because of how irritable it was.

< Will, I have an idea. We should ask that Genie about the box. Maybe we can get some answers from him. >

William's eyes widened because he had forgotten such a simple thing. Fortunately he had a good sidekick by his side.

"I still haven't decided what to pick," William said. "However, this box caught my interest. Can you tell me what is inside it?"

The annoyed genie gave the box a side-long glance. However, its body stiffened after seeing the emblem that was placed on top of the cover of the box.Â

"I don't have any idea what is inside that box," Plutus' tone immediately changed and became a little more formal. It knew all the items inside the Treasure Vault and a glance was enough for it to know that the black box was not among the treasures under his safekeeping.

Since that was the case, it could only mean one thing. One of the Three Masters of Babylon had placed the box there on purpose.

"Um, you don't know?" William tilted his head in confusion. "You're the caretaker and you don't know what is inside this box? Aren't you being too sloppy with your job?"

The Red Genie wanted to slap the boy silly for his ignorant words. If it were asked any questions about the items inside the Treasure Vault, it would immediately know the answer in a heartbeat.

However, this time, it was different. How could it possibly know what is hidden inside the box that had come from one of its masters?

"Look here, Kid." Plutus was doing its best to control its temper from flaring. "You should jus—"

The Red Genie halted its words mid-way because it had received a message from one of its Big Bosses. After its short chat with its Boss ended, the genie eyed William with a mischievous glint.

"I already said that any damages on the items here will automatically register them as your own right? Since that is the case, you had already damaged that black box when you prodded it earlier," Plutus stated. "Go on and take responsibility for your actions and take it."

William glared at the Red Genie because it was clearly making things difficult for him.

"What damage are you talking about?" William asked in a challenging tone. "Just look at the box. See it's clearly undamage—"

Before William could even finish his words, a soft crack echoed inside the Treasure Vault. The lid of the box that William had prodded earlier started to have cracks in it.

Plutus looked at the Half-Elf with contempt and gave him the "What were you about to say?" glare that made William speechless.

"Go on and take it already, or do you want me to kick you out of the treasury without taking a single treasure from inside it? I will be a bit more accommodating and count to ten. If you still didn't choose an item then I'm sorry, you've lost your chance. Better luck next time."

The Red Genie didn't even wait for William's reply and started its countdown.

Given no other option, William gritted his teeth and grabbed the Black Box just before Plutus finished counting.

"Thank you for visiting the Vault of the Vanquished Warlord," Plutus sneered. "Good riddance."

The Red Genie waved his hand and William was automatically sent out of the Treasure Vault. Clearly, it didn't want to deal with the Half-Elf for another second and ended their meeting.

Plutus was not as ignorant as William. Whoever cleared the 51st Floor would be given an opportunity to gain a special reward from the Tower as its first conquerors. This was a one time thing, and only William and Chiffon would be granted this opportunity.

However, those who were able to clear the 100th Floor would once again be given the opportunity to enter the Vault of the Vanquished Warlord. This was like a bonus stage where challengers could get an extra reward for doing their best in climbing the Tower.

Of course, there were other rewards that would be given to those who had reached the 100th Floor. One of those rewards was a wish.

Regardless of what kind of wish it was, it would be granted without fail. Aside from the wish, the first to clear the tower would receive one Divine Artifact from one of the Three Masters of the Tower of Babylon.

The Black Box in William's possession was one of those Divine Artifacts. Plutus' boss didn't expect for the boy to take the path towards the Emblem of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.

It just threw the Black Box to the pathway of one of the three Mythical Items inside the treasury. Since the Half-Elf had already moved in that direction, the owner of the Black Box decided to play a little dirty and ordered Plutus to cooperate with his plan.

'That kid got lucky,' Plutus thought. 'The Boss took a liking on him.'

The Red Genie turned into a red mist and disappeared.. It would wait for Chiffon to enter the vault and assist her one time, before the Treasure Vault completely disappeared from the Floor of Valhalla.

Chapter 646: Enuma Elish

William stood in front of the entrance of the Treasure Vault while holding the black box in his hands.

Earlier, the lid of the box had a crack in it, but after he was expelled from the treasury, all the damages had vanished. It was as if the box hadn't been damaged at all! As someone that likes to scam people, William fully understood what happened.

However, just to be on the safe side, he decided to ask his trusty partner for his opinion.

"Optimus..."

< Congratulations! You got duped my man. >

The corner of William's lips twitched because he couldn't refute Optimus' claims. No matter what angle he used, everything was fishy from the start. The Red Genie's sudden mood change was a clear indicator that something was out of place. But, there was nothing he could do about it now.

'This better be worth it.' William gritted his teeth as he placed the black box on the ground.

Optimus was also on alert and continuously scanned the box in William's hands.

"Ready?"

< Ready. >

William decisively opened the lid of the box and ran away as fast as he could. He then hid behind one of the pillars in the hall and peeked at the opened black box in the distance.

< After a preliminary scan, I didn't sense any kind of fluctuation in the air. >

"Do you think it's empty?"

< The possibility exists. We need to take a better look to confirm our suspicions. >

William sighed internally as he approached the box with great care. He already had Stormcaller in his hands just in case something unexpected would pop out of the box and fight him.

When he was only two meters away from the box, something finally happened.

Several objects flew out of the box and hovered mid-air.

William narrowed his eyes as he observed the floating objects that were radiating divine auras. He had already taken a fighting stance and was prepared for anything, but the flying objects, which looked like clay tablets, weren't doing anything out of the ordinary.

In short, William couldn't feel any malice or hostility coming from the clay tablets that were starting to pile themselves on top of each other.

When the Seven Tablets finally became one, it flew towards William very slowly. It stopped a meter away from William as if telling him that it meant him no harm. The Half-Elf and the System had once again activated their Appraisal Skill, but both came out empty handed.

After a standoff that lasted for five minutes, William finally lowered his guard and reached out to touch the clay tablet that was shining with a golden glow.

As soon as his hand made contact with the clay tablet, several notification sounds were heard inside his head. Inside his status page, several rows of text appeared which held vital information about the item in his hand.

'''_

< Enuma Elish >

"The Seven Tablets of Creation"

– Rarity: Mythical Artifact

– In the very distant past, there was a world created by the Gods. Because of a conflict of interest, the Creator God of that world decided to kill the Younger Gods, so that he could continue his work to make the world prosper.

Unfortunately, his significant other felt that this action was too extreme and warned the Younger Gods of the danger that would befall them. One of the Younger Gods, devised a plan to put the Creator God to sleep and kill him.

A plan which succeeded.

The Goddess that warned the Younger Gods didn't expect that the little ones would be too unforgiving and kill her mate. Angered by her husband's death, the Goddess decided to have her revenge and warred against the Gods that had killed her husband.

The Younger Gods fought a losing battle until a champion emerged from their group. His name was Marduk, and was also the person that killed the Great Goddess Tiamat, and ushered in an era for mankind.

Unfortunately, due to mankind's folly, the world was destroyed and only the strong will of the Gods remained, which was stored inside Enuma Elish, the Seven Tablets of Creation.

- Anyone who wields this Divine Artifact may summon one of the Wills of the Gods that resided within it.

- Each Tablet contains the Will of a God, and all of them have different powers and specialties.

- Although the power that they will wield wouldn't match the God's strength when they were at their peak, they are still the Wills of Gods, and the forces they can muster are still above the capabilities of Mortal Men.

- The Owner of Enuma Elish may summon any of the Avatar of the Gods as long as the requirements are met.

< Name of the Wills of the Gods inside Enuma Elish >

- Tiamat

- Marduk

- Enlil

– Enzu

– Gula

– Ereshkigal

– Ishtar

< Ding! >

< Congratulations! You have acquired the Unique Prestige Class Familiamancer! >

(A/N: Read this as Familia Manzer.)

”_

< Familiamancer >

(Locked)

"Please, Dear God, LUBRICATE THE BEAR."

– Familiamancer is a class that relies heavily on their familiars. Naturally, the stronger their familiars become, the stronger they become. The only downside of this specific class is that they heavily rely on their familiars.

– This Job Class is currently locked because you will need the Progenitor to assist you in summoning your familiars.

– More information about the Job Class will be shown after the Job Class has been properly unlocked.

'''--

William took a deep breath unconsciously after reading the information that appeared on his status page.

He didn't expect that the item he got from the Treasure Vault was such an amazing artifact. He re-read the information three times to ensure that he wasn't just seeing things. Aside from being able to summon the Avatar of Gods, he also received a Unique Prestige Class.

The only downside was that the Prestige Class was currently locked, because he needed the help of its Progenitor before he could use it.

Even so, William was very happy because the item he got was simply that good. According to the System, Enuma Elish was similar to the special guardians that the characters could summon in RPG games where they unleash a powerful attack that could defeat even boss monsters.

'Damn, this reminds me of Final Funtazee,' William thought. 'Those summons were just so cool.'

"Optimus, can you tell me who among the Gods can we summon in our current state?" William asked.

< According to my calculations, you will be able to summon different Gods depending on what Job Class you are currently equipped with. For example, in your default form, Quick Shot Shepherd, the only God you can summon is Enzu, the God of Wisdom.

If you add the subclass Life Wizard, you will be able to summon Gula, the God of Healing. If you equipped the Vampiric Necromancer, you will be able to summon Ereshkigal, and so on, and so forth.

Right now, the Einherjar Job Class is equipped so you are able to summon Enzu, Ishtar, and Enlil. As for Tiamat and Marduk, I believe that you will be able to summon them once you finally unlock the True Power of the Jack of All Trades. >

William nodded his head in understanding. He was also quite amused that the God he could summon was dependent on the Job Class he had equipped.

The tablet turned into particles of light and flew towards the gem on William's chest. It seemed that it couldn't be placed inside a storage ring, and could only be stored inside a person's body.

The color of the Half-Elf's hair had once again returned to its normal color after he had switched out his Einherjar Job Class. If possible, he didn't want to use the Job Class often because whenever he used its full potential, the memories of his past were burned away.

Although his first encounter with Belle may seem insignificant, it was still the moment he fell in love with her at first sight. The sad part was that the emotions that were connected to those lost memories were erased as well.

Fortunately, William's feelings for Belle were quite strong, even though the first memory disappeared, the others were strong enough to fill in that gap that had been created when he had lost the memory.

More than anything else, William dreaded the thought of completely forgetting about Belle.. This was why, if possible, he didn't want to use his Einherjar Job Class unless it was absolutely necessary.

Chapter 647.1: Chiffon's Choices [Part 1]

"Did you sense it?"

"I understand, I will proceed right away to the Tower of Babylon."

An old man placed both of his hands behind his back as he regarded his Disciple. William had chosen the black box that he had tossed inside the Vault of the Vanished Warlord, so he needed his Disciple to go to the Tower as soon as they were able to.

"Make haste, you still need to teach him the things he has to know before he leaves the tower."

"I will do my best."

"I know." the old man nodded his head. "You always do your best."

After saying those words, his connection with his Disciple disappeared. He glanced at the Half-Elf that was currently looking at the Seven Tablets of Creation with a serious expression. The old man didn't know what the future held, but he was certain of one thing.

The time when the world would be covered in darkness, drew near with each passing day.

"_

"Big Brother, where are we going?" Chiffon asked.

Right after she arrived from her exploration, William led her towards the Mysterious Treasure Vault where she could claim a treasure as her prize for clearing the 51st Floor with him.

"We're going to pick some treasures," William said with a smile. "But, you can only pick one. So choose the best treasure that you can find, okay?"

"Treasure?" Chiffon tilted her head in confusion.

William chuckled and lovingly patted her head.

Although the two of them were already married, his habit of patting Chiffon's head remained. The pink-haired girl had also grown accustomed to William's show of affection, and even thought that this was a privilege that only belonged to her.

"You will understand it in a little while," William replied. "However, let me warn you that you shouldn't touch things randomly once we enter the treasure vault. You can only take one item, and some artifacts automatically bind themselves to the person who touches them."

Chiffon nodded. "Understood. I will listen to you, Big Brother."

It didn't take long for the two to arrive at the Treasure Vault. William pushed the doors and entered alongside Chiffon.

As soon as they stepped in, the Red Genie appeared right away. It scoffed at William before looking at Chiffon with gentle eyes.

"Young lady, Welcome to the Vault of the Vanished Warlord. I will be your guide, Plutus, and show you around to pick a suitable artifact that will be of great use to you," Plutus said in a respectful tone.

"Thank you, Uncle Plutus," Chiffon replied politely.

Although she originally had a shy personality, the current Chiffon no longer felt like running away when being talked to by other people. The test of the Heart Devil and her marriage to William had made her stronger physically and emotionally.

While the pink-haired girl and the Red Genie were having an amiable conversation, the corner of William's lips was twitching because of the treatment that the pink-haired girl was receiving from Plutus.

"Double standard much?" William wasn't able to stop himself from voicing his thoughts out loud. He already didn't have any good impression of Plutus, and the latter didn't even try to hide his dislike for William.

However, for some reason, the Red Genie seemed to be on good terms with Chiffon, and this ticked William a bit.

Plutus gave William a side-long glance and sent him a telepathic message.

"Be grateful that I allowed you to enter the Treasury even though you have already taken one of the treasures in the tower," Plutus said. "The only reason why you're here is because I don't want Chiffon to randomly pick an artifact she can't use. She had already suffered enough on the Devil's Floor, the least I can do is help her get an item that will be useful to her."

William's expression immediately became serious when he heard Plutus' reply. Since he had used the term "she had already suffered enough in the Devil's Floor", it meant that Plutus was aware of what had happened to them inside the tower.

As if reading his thoughts, Plutus snorted and confirmed his suspicions.

"The Vault of the Vanished Warlord has remained hidden in the 51st Floor. Naturally, I know everything that happened on this floor," Plutus answered. "However, unlike you, the owner of The Tower of Babylon has granted a special service to Chiffon and ordered me to assist her in picking two treasures from within the vault."

William's eyes widened in shock because he didn't expect to receive this kind of news from the caretaker of the Treasury. However, after thinking things through, he felt that it was justified that Chiffon took two items from the Treasure Vault.

She had indeed suffered a lot from Belial's sinister plan, so it was only natural for her to get two treasures instead of one.

William had no complaints with Plutus' arrangement and even begrudgingly thanked him for telling him this information.

"There are many Unique, Legendary, and Mythical artifacts inside this treasury. Each of them have their own specialties," Plutus explained. "If you like, you can tell me your preferences, and I will find the closest fit that matches your choice."

"Also, before I forget, you are given a special privilege to pick two items within this treasury. There's no rush, take your time and decide carefully on what kind of abilities you wish to acquire."

Chiffon glanced at William and the latter nodded his head. Although he could tell Chiffon to choose the Mythical Artifacts, he refrained from doing so.

His wife had long been oppressed and he wanted her to learn how to stand on her own two feet, and make her own decisions. Regardless of what choice she made, William would respect it.

"S-Sometimes, I dream about being burned alive," Chiffon stuttered as she looked at the countless treasures that surrounded her. "If possible, I don't want to get burned by fire ever again."

William's heart skipped a beat after Chiffon mentioned her dream of being burned alive. A pang of ache started to spread in William's chest when he remembered a certain memory.

Chiffon facing off against the God of Destruction in order to protect him. The Half-Elf closed his eyes because the memory was too raw, and too heart-breaking to remember.

Plutus rubbed his chin before snapping his finger.

From inside the treasure vault, a diamond-shaped shield that was over two meters tall disappeared from its pedestal and reappeared in front of Chiffon.

The shield originally had a bluish color, but its color changed until it turned light-pink, just like the color of Chiffon's hair and eyes.

At its center, a golden snowflake design was embedded and it glowed faintly to acknowledge its new owner.

William was quite familiar with the shield. It was one of the Mythical Artifacts that he had seen on his status page.

"The name of this shield is Svalinn," Plutus introduced the shield to Chiffon as if he was a matchmaker for couples. "Legend has it that this is the shield that stands before the sun and protects the world from burning. With this item by your side, Chiffon, I guarantee that you will never be hurt by fire again."

Chiffon reached out to touch the snowflake at the center of the shield. For some reason, she felt that this shield would indeed protect her from the flames that had devastated the world in her dreams.

The moment her hand touched the Snowflake emblem, the shield shrunk and transformed into an arm guard. It equipped itself on Chiffon's right arm, and looked like a very expensive accessory that was fit for an Empress.

"You chose wisely, Young Lady." Plutus nodded his head in appreciation. "Svalinn is a Mythical Ranked Treasure. I'm sure that it will serve you well. Now that you have a shield to protect you from harm, do you perhaps need a weapon?"

"You specialize in gauntlets, right? Although the gauntlets you currently have are good, we have legendary artifacts that are more powerful than the Devourers Gauntlets in your possession. If you like, I can bring them all out for you to choose from."

Chiffon firmly shook her head. Her weapon had a special place in her heart, and she wouldn't replace it, even though there was a better weapon for her to use.

Ashe had told her how hard William worked to forge it. The Half-Elf had spent several days without eating, drinking, sleeping, as he poured all of his heart into making a weapon that she could use to defend herself.

Chiffon would never throw away the gift that William had given her even if Plutus gave her all the artifacts inside the Vault of the Vanished Warlord.

"These gauntlets are special to me," Chiffon replied before glancing at William who had a smile on his face. "I don't want to replace them."

Plutus followed Chiffon's gaze and nodded his head in understanding. The caretaker of the treasury was able to use the highest appraisal skill. Naturally, he also knew who the creator of the Gauntlets were, so he didn't insist on his idea of giving Chiffon a better weapon than he currently has.

"Very well." Plutus nodded. "You can choose one more item from the treasury. Please, choose wisely."

From the depths of the Treasure Vault, something moved from its pedestal. It had been hundreds of years since it had last had an owner, and it was already dying of boredom.

Now that there was a chance to leave this place, it decisively made its move.. No matter what happened, it would do everything in its power to leave the Vault of the Vanished Warlord in order to see the light of day once again.

Chapter 648.2: Chiffon's Choices [Part 2]

Chiffon thought long and hard, but couldn't think of what she wanted. In the end, she decided to let William pick an item for her to use.

While William was discussing with the System on what kind of artifact would suit Chiffon, a little golden piglet appeared out of nowhere and started to rub the side of its face on Chiffon's foot.

Chiffon, who had been accustomed to dealing with the beasts in the Thousand Beast Domain, found the piglet adorable. She was about to pick it up when something unexpected happened.

A dark-blue mace flew out of nowhere and slammed itself into the golden piglet, sending it flying away.

The little piglet uttered an adorable cry as it fell on a small hill of gold coins, which broke its fall. Chiffon cried out in alarm and was about to go to the piglet, when the dark-blue mace blocked her way.

Suddenly, a pair of eyes appeared on the mace's head and a row of razor sharp teeth appeared when it opened its mouth.

"Young lady, good day to you," the staff said in a respectful manner. "I know that you are concerned about that piglet, but worry not, I held back my blow and merely sent it away so that we could talk. Do you know? That piglet is so clingy that the moment you choose it, it will not leave your side no matter what."

The dark-blue mace was about to say more, but Plutus had already appeared between it and Chiffon.

"Sharur! What are you doing here?!" Plutus roared in anger. "Why did you leave your pedestal? You know the rules, so why are you doing these things?"

The mace scoffed at the caretaker of the treasury and pointed its head on the piglet who had already crawled out from the gold pile where it had fallen.

"Then what about that piglet?" Sharur countered. "He also broke the rules, but you didn't say anything."

"Gullinbursti merely wanted to meet the guests of the treasury," Plutus replied. "Also, he is the Master's pet. He can go wherever he pleases!"

"Tsk, it has been so many years and you still haven't changed," Sharur sneered. "You still play favoritism. Double standard much?"

William gave the dark-blue mace a thumbs up in his heart. For him, anyone who was against Plutus was considered an ally.

Even so, he still didn't openly give his support to Sharur. How could he possibly do that?

He still remembered the information that was written about this Mace that earned the nickname "Smasher of Thousands". According to the information he had, the last owner of Sharur died because of a heart-attack.

Although these rumors were unfounded, he was still at the fence if he would allow Chiffon to pick such a dangerous artifact in the treasury.

While the Red Genie and Sharur were bickering, Gullinburst shakily walked towards Chiffon. It looked so cute and pitiful that Chiffon wasn't able to resist walking towards it.

Just as the pink-haired girl was about to pick the piglet again, Sharur appeared and stood between them.

"Pick me!" Sharur pleaded. "Please, pick me! I promise you that you will not regret it. I am a Mythical Weapon. I'm strong, you know? When I was still on active duty, they called me the Smasher of Thousands. With me around, no one will be able to bully you. I will smash them before they can even make you cry!"

Chiffon felt her heart waver. As someone who grew up being bullied, Sharur's words hit her right where it hurts.

The pink-haired girl glanced at the teary-eyed golden pig, and the dark-blue mace that was starting to cry as well.

Soon, the golden piglet and the dark-blue mace were having a crying battle, and did their best to outcry each other!

William, who was watching from the side, scratched his head. Even Plutus' felt awkward because this was the first time that this happened in the thousands of years that he had served as caretaker.

"Please, I've been stuck in this place for hundreds of years," Sharur pleaded as it bowed its head repeatedly while crying its eyes out. "I will do anything. Just please, take me with you!"

Chiffon and William were both wondering how a mace was able to cry as much as Sharur. The floor of the treasury now had a small puddle because of its tears.

Gullinbursti on the other hand wasn't backing off either. Its pitiful little squeals made Chiffon's heart ache. As someone who had become fond of B1, B2, and Kasogonaga, the pink-haired girl's empathy for beasts had grown stronger as well.

It could tell that Gullinbursti felt very lonely and wanted someone to care for him. However, Chiffon also couldn't ignore Sharur who was bawling its eyes out. Clearly, it too, wanted to leave the tower, and was prostrating itself to appeal to Chiffon's kind heart.

Chiffon stared at the two crying artifacts in front of her before turning her head to look at Plutus.

"I will return Svalinn to the treasury," Chiffon said. "I will be taking Sharur and Gullinbursti with me instead."

Plutus groaned internally. He was currently in a dilemma. Svalinn had already bound itself to Chiffon, so taking it back into the treasury was out of the question. The Mythical Shield had even changed its color and property to allow Chiffon to wield it at any given time.

The Caretaker of the treasury was about to tell Chiffon that her request was impossible when he suddenly fell into a daze.

"Give her both of them," a voice filled with authority and Divinity ordered. "Gullinbursti is still young, and I believe that it needs to see the outside world for a period of time, in order to fully awaken its powers. As for Sharur... that one is a troublemaker.

"If the young lady doesn't take it, I believe that it will throw a tantrum and start smashing things in the treasury. I'll let you handle the explanation. I still need to talk to my two friends and ask them to turn a blind eye to this incident. Although it will be a bit troublesome, I think that they will give me face and agree to my request."

"Understood," Plutus replied.

The Red Genie then looked at Chiffon and smiled widely.

"Congratulations! You have passed the hidden test of the Vault of the Vanished Warlord," Plutus declared with open arms. "As the caretaker of the treasury, your sincere feelings have reached my heart. Because of this, I will allow you to take care of Gullinbursti for three hundred years. Please, make sure to return him to me after three hundred years. Do you understand, Young Lady?"

"Un!" Chiffon happily nodded her head and hugged the golden little piglet and the dark-blue mace at the same time.

Naturally, Gullinbursti and Sharur were very happy about the sudden turn of events. They were well aware of the rules of the Tower, so they didn't understand why Plutus allowed them to go with Chiffon. Even so, both of them didn't have any complaints.

William, who was standing by the side, felt that something was terribly wrong, but he couldn't put his finger in it. Chiffon might have believed Plutus, but William had grown up with his Grandfather James.

His grandpa was a scammer and a con artist, so it was easy for him to see Plutus' poor attempt to trick Chiffon.

William was about to voice out his opinion when he was suddenly thrown out of the treasury. The pitiful Half-Elf rolled on the floor because he wasn't prepared for the sudden expulsion. A few seconds later, Chiffon came out while carrying Gullinburst in her arms like a doll.

Sharur, on the other hand, floated beside Chiffon like a bodyguard. Its eyes and mouth had disappeared and returned to look like the imposing weapon that it was forged to become.

The combination of Gullinbursti's cuteness, and Sharur's intimidation made William scratch his head in helplessness.

In the end, he could only sigh in his heart as he felt a fluctuation within the Floor of Asgard.

The Vault of the Vanished Warlord had disappeared, and he had no idea when he would see it again. According to the System, the treasury would only appear again when someone had cleared the 100th Floor of the Tower.Â

William had no intention of climbing the other floors of the Tower of Babylon, because that was not his goal of coming to the Tower. After the month-long transition period was over, he would leave Babylon with Chiffon and return to the Kraetor Empire.

He still needed to ask Aamon about the other quests he needed to complete in order to free his lovers from the curse on their bodies. Also, there was still the battle with his Ex-Fiance Rebecca.

The Half-Elf wanted to get this agreement over with because, for him, this was a big distraction. He wanted to properly end things, not only for his sake, but also for Rebecca's sake. William knew in his heart that he had no feelings for Rebecca.

He had already had a heart-to-heart talk with James about his relationship with his other lovers, and the old man only told William to do what he believed was right.

The battle on the peaks of the Misty Sect would also be William's way of declaring to everyone in the Central Continent that he was not someone that was moved by beauty, and riches alone.

Also, he wanted to set Rebecca free from the agreement that was made when both of them were still young. Whoever she married, or what she did in the future, William didn't care. For him, everyone had the right to choose their own paths in life.

He had made his choice, and he would follow it through till the end.

In the meantime, William busied himself in changing the policies for the other floors that had fallen in his hands.

Now that their previous owners were gone, he needed to ask the Guardians for help in normalizing the current situation, and allow the players to resume taking the trials, on the floors that now fully belonged to him.

Chapter 649: I Will Show You Who Your New Master Is

In the City of Babylon that was located at the base of the Tower, the patriarchs of the families that had been expelled by the Guardians were all having an emergency meeting.

The previous ruler of the 49th Floor, the Moreau Family

The previous ruler of the 45th Floor, the Valkazar Family

The previous ruler of the 41st Floor, the Amaral Family

The previous ruler of the 37th Floor, the Valatieri Family

The previous ruler of the 23rd Floor, the Hesse Family

The previous ruler of the 16th Floor, the Zaleska Family

And the previous ruler of the 2nd Floor, Agnis Family.

These Seven Families were among the families in the Tower of Babylon that everyone looked up to. But now, all of their fame and glory had been ripped apart by a Half-Elf who had just started to climb the tower not long ago.

For them who had been born and thrived in their Domains, this was an outcome they couldn't accept. If not for the fact that they had their own residences within the City of Babylon, all of these families would have been homeless by now.

All of them gathered today to talk about how they could reclaim their position. These seven families were divided into three opposing factions. One of the factions wanted to try and negotiate with William, and find a way to compensate him for whatever they had done to annoy him.

These families had no idea that the reason they were kicked out of the tower was due to their misuse of authority which William hated the most--human trafficking and slavery.

The other faction, on the other hand, wanted to eliminate William and plead with the Guardians to reinstate their rule. The Agnis Family was adamant that as long as the Half-Elf died, their authority would be returned to them.

The third faction was on the fence. Naturally they wanted to regain their former rule, but they were unsure which side to choose. In the end, they decided to abstain and see which of the two factions' plans would work against the Half-Elf who had kicked them out of their homes, without even letting them pack their belongings.

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"Listen, you are not familiar with the boy, so you are able to act like this," Waltier Agnis, the Patriarch of the Agnis Family said. "He is a very ruthless individual. He has already killed most of the High-Rankers in our family. If we don't unite now, we stand no chance against him."

The Patriarch of the Moreau Family, Janos Moreau, sneered at Waltier.

"That's because you had antagonized him from the very start," Janos replied. "If you didn't send your men to kill him, they wouldn't have died a dog's death. Actually, this entire scenario is due to your family's incompetence! If you didn't annoy that Half-Elf, none of this would have happened!"

Hexxat Valkazar, the Patriarch of the Valkazar Family, nodded his head in agreement, before glaring at Waltier. "That's right, because of you, the Half-Elf bore a grudge, and is now making us pay because of your stupidity! This is all your fault!"

The tension in the room rose because what the two Patriarchs said wasn't wrong. If the Agnis Family didn't antagonize William and send High-Rankers to kill him, none of this might have happened.

"We haven't even met him! Why did he punish us like this?" the Patriarch of the Amaral Family, Damon Amaral, asked in annoyance. "Do any of you know the reason why?"

After Damon asked this question, everyone inside the room quieted down.

"Him having a grudge to the Agnis Family is justified, but what of us?" Kaleo Valatieri, the Patriarch of the Valatieri Family, inquired with a serious expression. "Why us?"

Everyone inside the room were Patriarchs. They had gained their position because they had their share of blood and schemes, so it wasn't that hard for them to connect the dots to reach an answer.

"The Half-Elf might have targeted us due to our... business practices," Zorin Hesse, the Patriarch of the Hesse Family, stated. "That is the only thing all our families have in common, is it not?"

Lexi Zaleska, and the last patriarch in the room, sighed in agreement. "That brat might have been enslaved in the past and is taking his vengeance on us. Talk about bad taste."

After understanding the real reason behind why they were kicked out of the Tower, the Seven Patriarchs weren't feeling well. Now that they understood what grudge the Half-Elf bore against them, they had a feeling that getting their position back would require them to pay an exuberant price.

They knew that kneeling in front of William and promising that they wouldn't do it again was pure folly.

Bribes?

Now that the Half-Elf was the owner of the 51st Floor as well as the seven other floors, he wouldn't be lacking in money, tokens, and resources.

Women?

Although this may work for some people, everyone in the room believed that this method wouldn't work against William. Of course, if the girl was an otherworldly beauty then there was a chance that she might ensnare the Half-Elf.

The problem was that there were no young ladies in their families who were beautiful enough to bring down the downfall of a nation.

"Maybe we can use the people important to him as bargaining chips," Waltier Agnis proposed. "We need to know more about him and target his family members or friends. Perhaps we can come to a compromise once we have them in our hands."

All the Patriarchs nodded their heads in agreement. They were men who didn't mind getting their hands dirty because this was their way of life. William had pushed them into a corner and this was the only thing that they could think of in order to make the Half-Elf meet them eye to eye.

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A week after the news of William clearing the tower was announced to the world...

"It's been a while since we climbed the tower, I'm getting excited!" an energetic voice said. "I wonder what this William is like? Is he strong? I hope he is strong. I want to spar with him."

"Aren't you ashamed of yourself? Violence is not always the answer," a calm and pleasing voice replied. "The first impression is important, so we need to do this in a civilized manner."

"But a fistfight is faster!"

"And this is why you always get into trouble. Not everything can be solved with violence."

A soft sigh was heard beside the two voices.

"Stop arguing." a mellow voice stated. "Once we arrive in the city, we will immediately go to the 51st Floor. Let me do the talking. That way, no troubles will arise."

"Che~ you're no fun."

"This is the best option we have."

"Since both of you are in agreement, it's time for us to go," the beautiful Elf stared at the Tower that rose up to the sky. "I finally have a reason to meet you, William."

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Meanwhile, on the Floor of Asgard...

"We are gathered here today to welcome the newest members of our team, Bacon and Sharur!" Kasogonaga announced with an adorable voice. "Let them feel welcomed, everyone!"

Erchitu, Psoglav, Bastian, Scadrez, B1, B2, and Aethon, clapped, whistled, and chirped to welcome the two new recruits to their forces.

Gullinbursti, now nicknamed Bacon, by William, nodded its head and squealed cutely to acknowledge his seniors. Sharur, on the other hand, just floated in the air and laughed.

"Hah! It's your honor to be in my presence!" Sharur declared in an arrogant tone. "I have seen many battlefields and have always been on the front line. As long as all of you call me Boss, I will make sure that no one can bully you!"

No one paid attention to the arrogant Mythical Mace. Instead, they circled the golden piglet who was looking back at them with genuine curiosity.

Gullinbusti was only fourteen centimeters tall, and twenty centimeters long. Due to its size, the Beasts in William's Herd and Legion found him quite cute, and had a strong urge to protect the little guy who had become Chiffon's pet, and Third Beast Companion.

In the world of Hestia, there were very few people that could have more than one Beast Companion. For some reason, Chiffon was an exception to this rule, and had not only one, but three Beast Companions.

Beast Companions were Beasts who shared their power with their contractors. In turn, their contractors, also, shared their power with them.

This was also the reason why B1 and B2 were able to transform into a Red and Blue Phoenix during their battle against Belial. Now that Bacon was part of the picture, the little golden piglet might have also gained the ability to transform and grow bigger due to Chiffon's awakened ability.

"Oi! You bastards dare ignore this great Sharur!" The dark-blue mace was angered because of the lack of attention it was receiving from William's inner circle.

"Stop shouting you Motherf*cker! Do you think we are deaf?" Kasogonaga replied as it pointed its small paw at the floating mace. "Hmp! Call you Boss? I don't even call William, Boss. What makes you think anyone here will call you that? Stop dreaming, you cunt!"

The dark-blue mace shone bright blue. This was the first time that someone had dared to curse it openly. It opened its eyes and mouth and looked down on the rainbow-colored Anteater with disdain.

"Hmp! I will give you time to take back those words, you little creature!" Sharur shouted in anger. "If you don't recognize me as the leader of this group, I will beat you up until you submit to me."

"Hohoho, you want to make this Sir submit? You've got guts, Little Mace."

"Shut up, puny anteater. I will show you who your new Master is."

Psoglav picked up the golden piglet who had hidden himself behind Erchitu's foot. It seemed that Kasogonaga's and Sharur's argument had scared it and immediately took refuge in the safest place it could think of.

"Let's just watch from the side," Psoglav said with a devilish grin. "I, too, want to see what this so-called Smasher of Thousands is capable of."

Everyone nodded their heads in agreement and evacuated the place. They watched from afar as the pitiful Mythical Mace fought off against an opponent it couldn't smash to pieces.

Sharur's previous owners died of heart-attacks due to how talkative and obnoxious it was. However, it had been sleeping in the treasury for hundreds of years.

It didn't know that the moment it woke up, it would find that there were creatures that had long mastered the art of cursing.

This made even the most chatty mace in existence shut its trap in the face of Kasogonaga's adorable curses, that it had learned from the Angray Birds, and nearly knock itself silly on the unbreakable rainbow-colored scales that even the Gods of Hestia recognized long ago.

Chapter 650: Master, Please, Enjoy My Blood To Your Heart's Content

"Close your eyes."

"Un."

William properly rinsed the bubbly shampoo off Chiffon's hair with great care. Ever since they had been married the two of them always took a bath together.

After making sure that her hair was properly rinsed, he carried Chiffon to the bathtub that was already filled with moderately warm water and gently placed her inside it. Naturally, William also joined his wife in soaking in the tub.

Chiffon leaned her back on William's chest, while the latter hugged her from behind. The two spent a few minutes in quiet intimacy before the Half-Elf broke the silence.

"Sharur bit off more than it could chew earlier." William chuckled when he remembered the scene of the mace getting rolled over by Kasogonaga during their duel.

"Sharur is good, he is just lonely." Chiffon was quick to defend the chatty mace who always kept her company whenever William was busy dealing with the affairs of the other floors that had been placed under his name.

"Are you sure he's just lonely?"

"Un. Sharur is a good boy. He is very kind to me."

William chuckled for the second time after he heard that Chiffon called Sharur a good boy. If anyone were to hear that a little girl called the Mythical Mace a good boy, all of them would laugh till their jaws got dislocated.

Chiffon turned around and faced William with a pout.

"Stop laughing," Chiffon said. "Don't bully, Sharur."

William bit his lip to stop himself from laughing, and nodded his head. Chiffon had become overprotective of Gullinbursti and Sharur after she had taken them out of the Vault of the Vanished Warlord.

Originally, Sharur was there to protect the pink-haired girl from getting bullied, but if someone bullied the mace, the one whose wrath they would face was Chiffon's. Frankly, William didn't know what was worse.

Getting smashed in the head by a mace, or getting eaten alive by Chiffon.

"Don't pout." William moved closer and kissed Chiffon's lips. "You're going to be ugly if you pout."

Chiffon kissed William back before touching his left arm. She ignored his teasing and focused on his arm, which was getting paler with each passing day. She knew why it was happening, but the Half-Elf didn't seem too perturbed with his current situation.

Ever since they had entered the 51st Floor, William hadn't had any blood to drink, which in turn made his left hand and arm appear paler, compared to the rest of his body.

Seeing her gaze, William knew that he couldn't hide anything from Chiffon.

"I've been so busy as of late, I've forgotten to drink blood," William confessed. It was true that he had been really busy since he was talking to the Guardians and re-organizing the trials in his respective territories. "I will call for Charmaine later. So, you can stop worrying about me."

Chiffon had offered William her blood, but the Half-Elf firmly rejected it. When Chiffon asked why he didn't want to drink her blood, William said that he couldn't bear the thought of sinking his fangs into her body.

Also, William's bloodthirst couldn't be quenched by Chiffon alone. He would need Charmaine, and a few of the other Elves inside the Thousand Beast Domain to quell the hunger he was feeling at the moment.

Chiffon knew that even if she forced herself on William, the latter wouldn't drink her blood. The Half-Elf could be stubborn when it came to things like this. In the end, she did one of the things that she could do.

She kissed William's lips over and over again.

Due to his wife's relentless assault, William found it very hard to control himself from making love to her then and there. Fortunately, his reasoning had won. With his current state, he couldn't possibly make love to Chiffon. There was a chance that he would lose control and drink her blood recklessly.

After a few minutes of kissing, the two came out of the bath and dressed properly. William left the room he had used when he was still an Einherjar using all the willpower he could muster.

He walked unimpeded and entered the room of one of the officers in Valhalla that had a good relationship with him in the past. There he summoned the thirteen beautiful Elves that were housed inside his Thousand Beast Domain.

With a single glance, all the Elves knew what William needed. Charmaine took the lead and loosened her clothes until they fell on the floor under her feet. She then moved towards William and wrapped her arms around his head.

"Master, please enjoy my blood to your heart's content," Charmaine whispered. Her voice was filled with expectations because it had been a while since William had feasted on her blood.

A low growl of acknowledgement escaped William's lips as he sank his fangs into Charmaine's tender...

Soon, the other Elves joined William and Charmaine on the bed. They pressed their bodies against the Half-Elf, who was now their current Master.

William became drunk with the sweet taste of Charmaine's blood in his lips, and the intoxicating heartbeats that surrounded him. Soon, he would feast on them too, and end the bloodthirst that was starting to take control of his being.

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A few hours later, William woke up on the bed surrounded by the beautifully naked bodies of the Elves. He couldn't remember much of what happened, but after seeing the satisfied smiles on the faces of the girls around him, William knew that he hadn't gone overboard while quenching his thirst.

The Half-Elf used his healing magic to cure the minor bruises that had appeared on their amorous bodies. As a healthy young man, it was impossible not to have a reaction when he was surrounded by so many naked beauties.

Because of this, he hurried healing them all before leaving the room as fast as he could. He went straight to his bedroom, where Chiffon was waiting for him.

To his surprise, the pink-haired girl was still awake because she was waiting for William to return.

"Chiffon, I..."

"It's fine, Big Brother. It is now my turn to take care of you."

The pink haired girl held William's hand and dragged him to their bed. True to her word, she took care of her husband's needs until both of them nestled in each other's arms, too exhausted to do anything else but sleep.

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"We've finally arrived! Let's go to the inn first, I'm starving!"

"Well, that certainly took longer than expected. The tower's distance is misleading as always."

"The two of you really go at your own pace," the one with the mellow voice said while shaking her head.

"Fine, we will rest for now and enter the Tower when morning comes. I want to, at the very least, make myself presentable for when I meet him."

"Right! I will punch him as soon as I see him and gauge his strength!" the one with the lively and energetic voice said happily.

"How many times should I tell you that doing that will leave a bad first impression? We're not here to pick a fight," the one with the calm voice said in a helpless tone. "We came here to teach him how to wield his newfound powers."

"Right! We'll punch him then teach him. I got it!"

"... Just what part did you get, exactly?"

"Enough, you two," the one with the mellow voice said with exhaustion. "Food, a warm bath then sleep. We will just go with the flow tomorrow. Also, Chloe, no punching first."

"Tsk!" The cute little girl named Chloe, stuck out her tongue at her reply. Clearly, she wasn't too fond of not being able to have her way.

"Claire, please, don't let her mess things up," the one with the mellow voice sighed.

"Understood," Claire replied. "I will tie her up if I have to."

The three continued their lively chat until they reached one of the inns in the City of Babylon. They had traveled non-stop for the past few days, just to arrive as soon as they could. Now that they were finally here, another headache would once again land on William's plate.

A headache that he didn't expect would come from the person whom he had tossed to one of the corners of his mind since he was young.

They weren't supposed to meet this soon, but Fate willed it to happen. Just like chess pieces playing their role on the battlefield of the Gods, one couldn't help but think what consequences would happen when both of them finally met.

A meeting that would once again attract unwanted trouble, and powers that William didn't know were laying dormant inside him.