

Supremacy 1421

Chapter 1421 Sir. Azravan's Beasts Shop.

After Felix's wounds were healed fully and he started to feel better again, he left the apartment with Sekiro and headed to the bazaar in the city's center.

Due to Felix's fame from the tournament, he wore a hoodie and sunglasses to avoid any unnecessary attention.

"What's the plan?" Sekiro asked.

"We will spy on the shop from a distance and see if we can get some new information," Felix replied.

"Okay."

Sekiro was certain that his master's strategy wasn't going to bore any fruition due to the abusive masters always painting a saint personality on the outside...So, it would be near impossible to catch them in the act. But he also knew that their options were limited.

Sometime later...

Felix and Sekiro could be sitting at a table with drinks in their hands and holographic screens, showing the daily news.

The table was in a cafe that was in front of Lord Azravan's shop.

'It sure is massive.'

Lumus signs started appearing in Felix's eyes as he gazed at the humongous shop behind the comfort of his sunglasses.

The shop deserved such a reaction as its grandeur outshined the surrounding structures.

It was massive for a reason as Sir. Azravan was famous across the entire heavenly plane to be one of the best spiritual beasts/creatures salesmen.

Right now, the shop was attracting the attention of many pedestrians like it was a historical sight, but in reality, they were stopping to appreciate the mystical beasts it housed.

Its large, wooden double doors stood ever open, a testament to the relentless flow of customers, each searching for their unique companions in the spiritual realm.

While Felix's vision was hindered by this many spirits and couldn't see the interior very well, he managed to steal glances once in a while.

He was indeed fascinated by the visual symphony of exquisite cages, gleaming crystal tanks, and lush habitats, each arranged meticulously for the myriad creatures they host.

From fire-breathing drakes and ethereal birds to celestial foxes and bioluminescent fae, each creature was a rare jewel in its own right.

Sir. Azravan's shop was not merely a store, but a living, breathing menagerie, where the rarest of spiritual beings could be found, admired, and procured.

'I can't get much from here, I have to enter.' Felix thought as he analyzed his situation.

The shop was too packed with clients and beasts, creating a bustling but noisy environment. He knew that it would be too tough to even see Emeric, don't even mention his abusive master.

"With all those customers nearby, will he dare reject our entry at the door?" Felix smiled coldly.

"What do you mean?"

"Follow me."

"Sir..."

Sekiro paid the bill and chased after Felix quickly, knowing that he was a trouble magnet. The moment Felix reached the wide open gate and tried to step inside the shop, all workers received a signal in their devices that made their attitude become unfriendly immediately.

Even Sir. Azravan received it.

"One moment please." Sir. Azravan requested with a polite smile and walked outside of his own office, leaving a golden-hued spirit and his servant sitting there.

The moment he closed the door behind him, he glanced at his device with a glacial expression and saw the camera's feedback, showing Felix and Sekiro walking inside the lobby of his shop through the crowd.

When he received their identities through the system, he felt his heart skip a beat.

'Sh*t! Why is this bastard here?' He cursed, looking quite distressed.

As per the rules of the heavenly plane's realm, no one had any option to disguise themselves inside private properties to avoid unnecessary problems.

So, even when Felix and Sekiro were hiding their faces, the system recognized them and forwarded all the public details about them to Sir. Azravan.

At the moment, Felix was considered a rockstar in the city as he was representing everyone's hopes to bring back the honorable trophy home.

In other words, the entire city should be supporting him and if something was to go against him, there was a high chance of a public outrage.

Sir. Azravan was smart enough to realize this and understand that even though Felix was blacklisted and he must kick him off his shop to not offend the big dogs in the city, he felt his blood run cold at the thought of doing so and Felix created a scene in his shop.

'I can't kick them without endangering my customers giving me a hard time. Right now, they are hiding their faces, so as long as I act blind, the higher-ups might not catch wind of this.'

Sir. Azravan felt that this was the smartest decision to make at the moment as it would ensure that his business wouldn't be affected.

"Treat the intruders like any other customer, but make them stay on the first floor. I don't want them affecting the important clients." He ordered all the staff in the shop.

Unbeknownst to him, Felix and Sekiro weren't in his shop for a stroll or to buy anything, but for his sake.

If he knew this, he would have kicked them outside right away!

...

"Why hasn't anyone come for us?" Sekiro muttered as he looked at the staff members, who were ignoring their existence.

"As I said, they wouldn't dare." Felix sneered, "My reputation is too high at the moment to afford to piss me off."

Felix understood that Sir. Azravan hadn't made it this far while being an idiot.

So, he was certain that he wouldn't dare respect the big dogs' wishes and risk his own shop's reputation taking a dive...Especially, not today when Felix's victory was still fresh in everyone's minds and emotions were running high.

"Let's go to the upper floors," Felix ordered as he walked to the elevator, ignoring all the fascinating beasts and creatures around him.

Unfortunately, his path was cut off by two staff members. One of them bowed and apologized, "My apologies sir, but the elevator is designated only for VIP personal."

"Is that so?" Felix replied apathetically as he glanced behind the staff members and saw that plenty of customers were getting in the elevator.

This made him understand that they were ordered to keep them in the lobby. But, he didn't want to make a scene and stab the decision...Just like Sir. Azravan didn't want trouble, Felix also wanted to lay low for the sake of the case.

'Getting information in this manner isn't going to work. His eyes must be on us right now.' Felix frowned, feeling like two hateful pair of eyes were affixed on the back of his neck each second.

This made him understand that even if he reached the highest floor or talked to his servants to get information from them, they would do nothing but give themselves and their case away, which wasn't going to please Miss Sanae in the slightest.

"I understand." Felix nodded at the staff and walked away from the elevator, heading towards one of the most populated beasts on display.

'Thank goodness.'

'Phew.'

The staff members sighed in relief at how smoothly the situation was solved and returned to their duties while still keeping an eye on those two troublemakers.

'Sir, what's next?' Sekiro asked telepathically, a gift all spirits were capable of using due to their high spiritual prowess compared to the people in the living world.

'We have reached a dead end.' Felix replied calmly, 'This might be really not as easy as I have imagined.'

'...' Sekiro was left speechless at how easily Felix had given up.

When he saw his reaction, Felix snickered. 'I haven't waved the white flag yet, I just realized that I need to better my preparation if I want to obtain legit evidence.'

With all the security involved, Felix understood he had to prepare some new unique methods if he wanted to breach them and get what needed.

This wasn't a one-day job.

'For now, act like you are interested in the beasts and start asking for prices and such. Then, we will take our leave.' Felix ordered.

'Okay.'

Just like that, both of them spent the next ten minutes going from one beast to another, acting just like any other customer.

When they didn't buy anything and decided to take their leave, Sir. Azravan exhaled in relief.

'Good thing, they didn't buy anything. Now, it's easier to explain myself against the higher-up.'

Sir. Azravan returned to his polite smiley self and continued discussing a sale with a very important customer in his office.

When the sale was about to be completed, Sir. Azravan leaned to the side and called at the door, "Emeric, bring The Nightmare Cheetah's book."

Knock knock

With two soft knocks on the door, Emeric entered the office while holding a black book that had a dark gem engraved on its cover. It was emitting dark fog that encased the entire book and gave it a otherworldly sensation.

Meanwhile, Emeric was a lanky man marked by striking panda-like eyes, beneath which sat conspicuous dark circles, and a lively monkey tail that swayed rhythmically behind him, adding an unpredictable flair to his otherwise unassuming demeanor.

"Here it is, Sir." He put it on the table gently and walked away with his back facing the door. Not an ounce of hatred or any negative emotion was seen on his face, but at the same time, he didn't seem like a positive person either.

"Haha, just its details book alone looks this extraordinary, as expected of the king of beasts, you sure take care of your products."

The client didn't seem to care about Emeric's demeanor as he was captured by the book's otherworldly appearance.

After the door was getting closed, Emeric heard only faint murmurs before everything went silent.

'Another victim falls prey to his greedy hands.' He sighed in his mind, knowing that the client was going to get scammed out of his Lumus.

This happened so many times in his presence, he stopped feeling sick and was just numb to the whole matter.

'Madam Sanae, where are you?'

All he cared about was getting his freedom and at this moment, he was starting to feel like he wasn't going to be getting it anytime soon...

Chapter 1422 The Brown Coated Stalker.

When Felix and Sekiro left the shop, they went back to their table in the cafe...However, the moment they sat their asses down, the boss came to them personally with an apologetic expression.

"I am so sorry guys, I have to request you to leave the cafe." He said with a soft tone so no one would hear him.

"How can that be?" Sekiro replied with a displeased tone, "Didn't you just serve us? We aren't causing any trouble and our identities are hidden."

'Looks like it's not hidden enough as I was just contacted by a member of the red fang organization, threatening me to cut off my supplies if I dare to serve you even a cup of water.' The boss informed telepathically with a bitter smile, 'I really want to serve you as I am proud to have you represent our city, but I can't risk losing my business...I hope you understand.'

'You don't have to say more, boss. Thank you for the earlier drinks.'

Felix stood up with an indifferent expression and gave him a slight polite nod before taking off with Sekiro on his back.

'This blacklist order sure is a pain in the ass, we can't even get a cup of decent coffee in the city.' Sekiro sighed in frustration.

Even when the kind businessmen wanted to show support to Felix by ignoring the blacklist order, it end up coming at them and biting them in the ass.

Felix had no interest in making someone lose his income over his own problems unless that person deserved it.

'You are thinking the wrong way.' Felix said calmly, 'For the red fangs to know of our location so soon, they must have either sent someone to follow us or they have eyes across the entire city and even our disguise means nothing to them.'

Felix was more inclined to believe in the latter as he felt that his senses wouldn't betray him if someone had an ulterior motive against him and was nearby.

'Those bastards are really treating us as their mortal enemies to keep an eye on us for so long.' Sekiro's gaze turned colder as his slits roamed around him, attempting to find the stalkers.

'Leave them be, let's go to the park.' Felix was unbothered with his destination being known at the moment.

So, he headed to the national park with Sekiro and when they reached it, they sat under a tree and began planning to solve the case telepathically.

"The target has settled down in the park."

"Good job Oculon, keep an eye on him...Also, have you dealt with Sir. Azravan?"

"Yes boss, he promised us that the prick won't step foot in his shop even at the expense of his reputation."

"He better be if he still wants his beasts and creatures to be approved for sale faster than anyone else."

While Felix and Sekiro were chilling in the park, a whole different conversation was being held between Boss Alves and his subordinate Oculon.

Oculon was seen sitting on a public chair, acting like he was feeding the spiritual white pigeons, not even lifting his head in the direction of Felix.

He was wearing a thick brown coat, making him resemble a mafia boss. Unbeknownst to everyone in the park, there were tens of eyes situated across his entire body, making him seem quite freakish.

Felix had no idea that his senses had indeed failed him as this man's race was quite unique, making him able to spy on anyone through his other eyes without leaving a hint.

It was like putting cameras on someone, no one could sense its lifeless presence.

"As always, keep your eye on him from a distance and just report back to me." Boss Alves repeated.

"Understood."

After the call was put down, Boss Alves turned his chair to face the window and gazed at the national park from the highest floor of his building.

'He has associated himself with that lunatic. Let's see if she dares be as bold when she realizes the identity of the noble after him and his servant.' He sneered.

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'Based on Sanae's intel, Azravan leaves his shop only when there is a business that needs to be taken care of outside of the city...His house is on the highest floor of his shop and he doesn't go out to have fun or such.'

Felix had reached a decision to seek out Sir. Azravan when he was outside of the shop to avoid his strict security.

But, Sir. Azravan wasn't an outdoor type of person as he was focusing purely on his business and if there was nothing related to it, he had no issues staying even months in his shop.

'It's been more than a month since he left the shop. Based on her intel, he always brings in new batches of beasts and creatures each month and he goes to meet the hunters to personally oversee the process.' Felix thought to himself, 'If I am lucky, he is bound to leave the shop in the next couple of days to handle the next shipment.'

At the moment, Felix's entire strategy depended on Sir. Azravan's schedule.

Whether Sir. Azravan departed the shop this week or the next one, it wouldn't matter much to him besides the fact he would lose a considerable amount of Lumus if he solved the case after a week went by.

'Seki, you will be tasked to keep an eye on Sir. Azravan's shop 24/7 until he takes his leave.' Felix ordered.

'Understood.' Seki nodded.

Even if Felix wanted to help out, he knew that there was a small chance of someone following him and before he commit to the plan, he wanted to deal with this issue first.

'I will take my leave, keep a close eye on everyone in the park and see if someone tries to chase me, but don't make it too obvious.'

With that being said, Felix took his leave, heading in the direction of Miss Sanae's bureau. Sekiro kept his head lowered under the straw hat, but his gleaming slits were scanning the entire area, seeking a peculiar movement from any spirit.

When Felix had gotten out of his radar and disappeared through the streets, just as he wanted to give up, his eyes landed on a park chair that was empty.

'Wasn't a brown-coated man sitting there, feeding the pigeons?' Sekiro got suspicious as he was the only one who disappeared the moment Felix disappeared from his vision.

Since he had no other results to hand out, Sekiro informed Felix about the situation and let him deal with it. Then, he took off back to Sir. Azravan's shop and started his own stake-out mission.

'A brown-coated man.'

Felix repeated to himself as he mixed himself amidst the busy street, his back straight, his head facing forward, but his eyes darted around him under the guise of his sunglasses...He was attempting to find a spirit that matched the description but to no avail.

'If he is capable of following me without emitting an ounce of bad intent, he must be the real deal.'

For specialist stalkers like those, Felix knew exactly how to fish them out of the shadows.

He reached a narrow alley and acted suspiciously by looking departed and right, then he headed inside and continued his walk.

'What do we have here?'

Oculon spotted what Felix did from a distance.

From the reaction shown, he believed that Felix was either going to meet with someone shady or do something shady...Either way, he had to investigate it.

Fearing losing his track, Oculon increased his speed and then entered the same alley after a quick peek...When he saw no one in it, his steps grew bolder.

'I was really being followed without knowing it, am I losing my touch?'

Unbeknownst to him, the moment he entered the alley, Felix had utilized an illusion ability to hide his presence completely and was standing against the wall with a cold expression!!

He watched as the brown-coated stalker walked right past him, his steps growing faster and faster until he exited the alley and entered the other busy street.

When he walked past him, Felix had examined his entire body and managed to spot peculiar eyes peeking from tiny holes in his brown coat.

'Interesting, is he from an extinct race or a hidden one? I have never seen a race born with this many eyes across their bodies.' Felix raised an eyebrow in surprise. 'No wonder I couldn't feel any intent from him, it must be due to them.'

Felix wasn't too knowledgeable about what he had just witnessed, but he believed more that the eyes were mystical than him losing his anti-surveillance skills.

'It's time to get on his detection again before he gets suspicious.'

Felix took off into the air and landed some distance from the stalker before effortlessly reemerging from his camouflage like he was always there.

'Found you!'

Oculon took a second to spot Felix among the crowd.

'For a moment, I thought he has found out about me. This destination, he must be going back to that witch's office.'

Oculon sighed in relief and continued his chase, having no clue that Felix was allowing him to keep his job.

'The red fangs will always send someone to follow me, it's best to keep the one I know about and manipulate the situation to my advantage.' Felix smiled coldly for a split second before his expression returned to normal.

Chapter 1423 A Risky Plan!

When Felix returned to Miss Sanae's bureau empty-

handed, he didn't escape getting scorned and mocked for being overly cocky about something he had no clue about from his master.

Felix remained quiet and listened to her tirade until she exhausted her breath.

Then, he updated her on his new plan, his expression as serene as ever like everything she had just said had entered an ear and exited from the other.

"Your thought process was in the right place, but don't you think I haven't also thought about it and already tried it?" Miss Sanae shared with a mentoring tone.

"What happened?" Felix asked.

He brought up this matter because he knew that someone as smart as Miss Sanae would have definitely already tried to spy on Sir. Azravan in his business runs.

"I got intel from my network that he is going for a meeting with his hunters outside of the city, so I tried to follow him." Miss Sanae shook her head, "While I had no problem with keeping up with him without being found out, I haven't managed to obtain any kind of information due to them speaking telepathically. After the meeting was done, both sides went to their own ways and I was forced to retreat empty-handed."

For Miss Sanae to manage to get so close to Sir. Azravan and his people without being found out made Felix understand that she must have trained in the ways of shadows, darkness, or something in this regard.

He didn't dive deeper into this subject, knowing that such skills and abilities must remain a secret.

"You haven't seen anything bizarre? Like a transaction, a deal, or something?" Felix inquired.

"No, it was most likely a meeting for pure discussion as there weren't any beasts involved." Miss Sanae narrowed her eyes at him, "I advise you to not follow him as there is a high chance you will get caught, and even if you didn't by some miracle, the telepathic conversation will make your efforts meaningless."

"Hmm." Felix acted like he had listened to her, but in reality, he was already trying to figure out a method to get that evidence somehow in the meeting.

He walked off in the middle of the conversation and entered her office, sitting in her bureau. He picked a small stress ball and began throwing it at the wall while his mind was working on full power.

"...Did I really humble him or made him more arrogant?"

Miss Sanae didn't know what to say about Felix's attitude, but when she noticed that he was taking this case seriously, she closed the door on him and left him to his own devices.

'I can easily use my illusion abilities to follow Azravan's team without being found out. As for the telepathic conversation, it can be handled with some mental play, making them believe that they are talking telepathically, but in reality, they will be talking in public.'

'Then, I can film the whole thing with my crystal device, getting both sound and picture...A legit evidence that can help me with the case.' Felix frowned as he slammed the ball on the wall, 'I still have misgivings about using abilities from my previous elements even if it wasn't in a public setting. I have no idea if Hades' eyes are always on me or not and if I overdid it and he got suspicion, it won't end well.'

While Felix hadn't obtained illusion manipulation before his death, it didn't mean that he hadn't studied the element and its fields.

After all, the illusion domain was too complex even for him and he had to go all out in his studies to be able to use it to the best of his ability.

This helped him be able to use some easy and simple illusion abilities here...Though, he was worried that even simple abilities might end up getting him in trouble.

'Let's be smart about this, Hades has no interest in me at the moment since Asna has already shown him that she has given up on me while Elder Kraken was punished and kept his distance.' Felix thought, 'Right now, in his eyes, I must be like any other spirit and someone of his high status shouldn't have time to waste on observing me 24/7.'

When Felix thought about it like this, he understood that as long as he didn't do something so outlandish to attract Hades' attention, he should be safe to use such abilities for his detective work.

Especially, when no one would know about them.

After calculating the risks and benefits, Felix made a decision to go for his new plan.

'I have no plans staying in this realm forever if I want to earn my early exit and attempt to help Asna at the same time, I can't be walking on eggshells.' Felix narrowed his eyes coldly as he tightened his fist on the ball until...Plop!

Ka-thumb!

"What's that sound?"

Miss Sanae burst through the door with a hardened expression after hearing the mini-explosion.

When her eyes landed on what remained of her stress ball and Felix's emotionless expression, her lips twitched in anger.

"I am sorry."

"It doesn't sound sincere with that face of yours."

"I am sincere."

"You owe me a new stress ball and you better never step inside my office again."

"Why so seri..."

"Get the f*ck out!"

"Fine..."

Felix exited the office and watched the door close behind him without much of a reaction. He shrugged his shoulders and went to sit next to Karra who was watching the tv.

The moment he sat down, she passed over the remote to him and looked at him with pleading eyes, like she was begging him to give her a task.

"Getting bored?"

"Hm, hm." Karra nodded her head rapidly.

Felix threw the remote back to her and ordered, "Here, research all the dangerous contestants from other cities and bring me their details at the end of the week."

"Okay!" Karra began right away with her work, showing her zeal to assist Felix with anything he needed.

"Good girl."

Felix patted her on the head for a moment before taking off into the roof to restart his training.

At this moment, all he could do was prepare and wait for Sekiro's news.

Unfortunately, it didn't seem like Sir. Azravan had any plans this week as days went by in a jiffy and there was still no news.

Just as Felix thought that he was about to lose the bet with Miss Sanae, Sekiro reached out to him on the last day.

'Sir! The target is on the move!'

'In which direction?'

'South! He must be heading to the southern gate as he has a squad of five vehicles with him!'

'Good job, you may rest, I will take it from here.' Felix ordered as he took off from the roof while using the same invisibility ability.

'But sir...'

'Don't make me repeat myself.' Felix's tone got sterner.

'Understood.' Sekiro caved in and stayed in his position.

With Felix's current plan, bringing Sekiro with him would make things just harder and more complicated.

He wasn't worried about Sekiro betraying him or sharing his abilities in public, but he just wanted to avoid explaining himself every time he used an ability.

While Felix was speeding away, the brown-coated stalker was seen sitting in a cafe with his head lowered, seemingly reading from his crystal device.

But in reality, his other eyes were like a radar planted in front of Miss Sanae's office and anyone leaving would be captured right away.

If only he knew how foolish he looked right now...

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In the sprawling metropolis of Astralis City, the usual hum of activity paused momentarily as five sleek hovering vehicles, unified in design and imposing in demeanor, raced through the main thoroughfare, leaving a trail of gusty winds and awed spectators in their wake.

Pedestrians stopped mid-stride, their eyes following the convoy, some with admiration, others with thinly veiled envy.

The unmistakable emblem of Sir Azravan's shop gleamed on each vehicle's hood, a testament to the owner's prominence.

As they approached the southern gate, the city guards stopped them even though they had recognized the convoy.

It was a normal process to check on any leaving vehicle from the city, in case someone was smuggling something out or in.

This gave Felix a chance to intercept their path with great difficulty after taking a shortcut through the air.

'If they took off through the fields at full speed, I won't be able to catch up to them.'

Felix had no clue about Sir. Azravan's target at the moment, but he had no plans of letting this chance go by.

He rapidly exited the city and waited near the gate...When the first vehicle was checked and allowed to exit, it waited outside for the rest of the convoy.

Felix knew this would happen and neared the vehicle, hovering a couple of centimeters above the ground akin to a ghost.

Then, he went under the vehicle and got hold of whatever he could while making sure to stay away from the back engines.

Because he was invisible, even when the remaining vehicles were inspected and allowed access, no one managed to spot him.

And so, Sir. Azravan's motorcade took off to their target in a straight line formation, having absolutely no idea that a intruder was amidst them...

Chapter 1424 Filmed In 24K!

'I hope this beasts' batch is going to yield us some new rare variation. Too many orders have to be covered and we haven't been getting lucky in the previous months.'

Sir. Azravan complained telepathically as he sat alone at the back of the vehicle while having Emeric drive him.

'I have a good feeling about today.' Emeric responded with a fake smile.

'When has your feeling ever been right?' Sir. Azravan kicked the driver's seat with an irritated expression, not too pleased with his servant's reply.

Emeric was too used to his sudden outburst and didn't react much, keeping his deadpan eyes on the road. But his thoughts were extremely dark.

'If only death was possible, I would have nosedived into the ground and took him with me.'

Such a reaction was understandable as Emeric had spent more than a century with Sir. Azravan and not a single week went by without him getting bullied, abused, cursed, and vented on by his master.

It took him an entire century to gather some courage and report him to Miss Sanae. Now, he felt like that was a bad decision as he kept worrying about Sir. Azravan finding out.

Unbeknownst to him, Miss Sanae had recruited the best person to rescue him as he would stop at nothing until he solve the incident and get paid!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!...

As the five vehicles sped by the farm fields, forests, rivers, mountains, towns, and such, Felix was getting more and more antsy about his situation.

'I can't remain invisible forever, how much distance is left?' He frowned, sweat covering his entire body from the heat produced by the nearby jets.

It's been more than half an hour now since he latched himself under the vehicle and his energy was being exhausted steadily.

He could feel that he had merely fifteen minutes or less before he pass out...This wasn't optimal at all since Felix wanted to save the rest of his energy for the detective work.

'He must be going to a different place, this wasn't part of the file.'

Felix assumed that Sir. Azravan was going to the same business meeting, which was merely ten to fifteen minutes away from the city.

So, he latched on to the first vehicle, thinking that there wouldn't be an issue with it. Now, his decision came biting him in the ass.

But, Felix was never without options or solutions.

'I have to latch into the last vehicle to cancel my invisibility and leave only a senses blocker.'

Felix looked behind him at the four speeding vehicles in one line and then locked his eyes on the last one, which was hidden behind the rest.

He knew that it wasn't going to be easy to make the transaction, but he had to go for it.

After creating the best scenario to pull this off, Felix took a deep breath and then...He pushed himself away from the vehicle to avoid the jets!

Fortunately, spirits could fly at command, making him able to stay near the vehicles instead of nosediving into the ground.

Still, the speed difference between them fake Felix to get swiftly passed on by the second and third vehicles before he could even balance himself.

'Sh*t, no time to waste!'

Knowing that his window was closing in to latch into the last vehicle, Felix concentrated with great difficulty at the bottom of the last vehicle and then he used his most reliable ability from his previous life.

'Teleportation!'

In the blink of an eye, Felix found himself merely a few inches away from the bottom of the vehicle!

Still, it wasn't over as his hands had yet to latch into anything, so Felix utilized his telekinesis to create an invisible chain and link himself with it.

'Phew.'

Only then did he get hold of the hot metallic tubes and canceled his telekinesis chain and invisibility to save on energy.

This entire sequence took less than two seconds to perform and the spirits inside the vehicle hadn't felt anything, which spoke volumes about Felix's smoothness.

Now that Felix was at the last vehicle and without using his invisibility, the only thing he was still irritated about was the heat produced by the metallic tubes.

Though to avoid having his palms burned to a crisp, he fulfilled them in chilling water and a thin telekinesis glove.

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Fortunately, Felix had made the right decision as Sir Azravan's convoy journey lasted an additional half an hour, going previous more than three main cities and countless towns and farms.

This kind of distance left Felix perplexed and a bit doubtful about Sir. Azravan's motive from this outing.

'Based on the heavenly plane's map, the majority of the southern side is considered the spiritual beasts' kingdom. For them to be traveling for this long, this might not be any normal meeting with the hunters.'

Felix had studied the entire heavenly plane's map and understood that it was split into five zones.

The southern area was packed with dangerous unexplorable and inhabitable areas, where spiritual beasts and unique creatures consider their home.

For one to begin hunting those spiritual beasts or explore those areas, they needed a permit from the government and it wasn't easy to obtain one in the slightest.

As for the northern side, western, and eastern sides, they were populated areas with cities, towns, farms, and such, just like the center area where the capital was situated.

Luckily for Felix, his struggle was coming to an end as the five vehicles finally began to slow down while approaching a small town that was in front of a mystical blue forest.

The forest shimmered in ethereal blue hues, where every leaf, twig, and trunk radiated a luminescent glow, making the woods seem like a dreamscape plucked from the pages of a fairy tale.

Felix wasn't in the mood to admire it as he swiftly used his invisibility ability and detached himself from the vehicle.

He flew down alone and landed on the roof of a wooden house, then watched as the vehicles began to park right on the main street like they own the place.

'I haven't received any notification that this town is the private property of anyone, so it must be an abandoned public town.' Felix reasoned.

Felix had to make sure that he wouldn't step inside any private area belonging to Sir. Azravan since he would be notified about his intrusion.

Soon, Sir. Azravan and his people came down from the vehicles and walked toward the biggest building in the town...It resembled a massive horse stable.

As they got inside, the gate closed behind them and all the guards brought in the convey were spread out around the premise of the stable, guarding it from all directions...Even the roof was covered.

Felix didn't seem too fazed about their protection as he floated in an easy-going manner towards the stable and went through a wall akin to a ghost without anyone detecting his presence.

'Interesting...'

The moment he looked inside, he was taken aback by the sight of rows upon rows of cages housing an array of spiritual beasts and creatures.

Luminescent wings, multiple eyes, and ethereal auras contrasted starkly against the cold metal confines.

Their innate grandeur was stifled, muzzles securely fastened around their snouts or beaks, ensuring that not even the faintest of growls, chirps, or whistles escaped, casting a heavy silence that belied the magic contained within.

Felix had identified many of those beasts as they were considered pretty common in the beasts' kingdom.

'Nonwinged Devil Bat, Icy Feathers Eagle, Black Ingora Lion...This.'

They left him quite confused as he thought that with all this secrecy, protection, and long travel, Sir. Azarvan would be hiding here the rarest types of beasts.

Soon, he switched his vision to Sir. Azarvan and Emeric.

They were standing in front of three red-hued spirits from different races; one was a blue ogre, one was a green goblin, and the last one seemed to be a normal human.

It looked like the human was the boss as he was wearing a tight-fitting suit and was displaying an air of elegance...He was holding a brown suitcase in his right hand.

'Those can't be the hunters.' Felix was certain as he could not feel an ounce of bloodlust from them.

'They must be already speaking telepathically.'

When Felix noticed the emotions appearing on their faces, he knew that he was missing the chance to pull off his plan.

Without an ounce of hesitation, he got closer to them and noticed that the beasts seemed to have noticed them as they had grown antsy and more agitated.

This had attracted Sir. Azarvan and the others' attention, but when they noticed nothing there, they returned to their conversation, believing that it was nothing but one of their tantrum episodes.

After there was a mere five meters between Felix and his targets, he extended his hand and released an invisible mist that went through their minds.

A moment later, mouths began opening up as Sir. Azarvan asked out loud without a change of expression, "How many fruits have you brought with you?"

"Eleven, you were lucky we managed to harvest an additional fruit." The human replied.

A pleased smile appeared on Sir. Azarvan as he praised, "This is why our partnership is solid Mr. Zannir, you take care of me, and I take care of you."

"Of course, of course."

'And action.'

Unbeknownst to them, a camera was situated merely a few meters away from them and was capturing their faces and voices in 24K, a level of clarity even the dirt inside their pores was visible!!

Chapter 1425 Scamming His Customers!

They had absolutely no idea that they were speaking out loud as they couldn't see even their moving lips!

"So, which beast are you planning to start with?" Mr. Zannir inquired as he handed the briefcase to Emeric.

"My luck has been quite sh*t lately." Sir. Azravan remarked with an annoyed tone, "It's best if you make the first call."

"It's my honor." Mr. Zannir smiled. "Just don't blame me when the results aren't up to your satisfaction."

"I am not that narrow-minded."

When Emeric heard this, his eyelids twitched as he suddenly wanted to smack his master right in his face. In fear of being found out, He contained those feelings and lowered his head.

"Let's start with Giraffrost."

Mr. Zannir walked to a majestic creature with a towering, slender neck, its spotted hide gleaming with icy patterns, and every graceful step it took on the cage left a trail of frost in its wake.

All the beasts, animals, and creatures in the heavenly plane had a white hue as a color grade, unlike the rest of the spirits.

This color might be unchanging, but it didn't mean that those beasts didn't possess other colors.

When a spirit first arrived at the heavenly plane, it saw everyone and every creature in its base form and color without any features.

However, the moment they got through memories reformation and obtain citizenship, their eyes become able to process beyond the grading color.

In the case of this Girrafe, the frost was so overwhelming the white hue around it seemed invisible.

"I have high hopes for this one's transformation. I already have a client willing to pay a fortune if I managed to 'capture' a rare variety of it."

While saying this, Sir. Azravan opened the briefcase and exposed three lines of neatly arranged colorful pear-like fruits.

'Are those spiritual treasures as well?'

Seeing the look of appreciation and love in Sir. Azravan's eyes made Felix wonder about those fruits.

Sir. Azravan picked one using his telekinesis and guided it gently in the direction of Giraffrost's muzzled mouth.

"Open it." He ordered.

Emeric right away used his telekinesis to remove the muzzle from the Giraffrost and pushed it away from the fruit, knowing that if he dared ruin the fruit, he would spend the next year in hell.

Immediately after the Giraffrost smelled the captivating scent of the fruit, it opened its mouth widely and devoured it in one go.

Sir. Azravan and Mr. Zinnar pulled back away from it with looks of anticipation etched on their faces.

When the Giraffrost finished chewing the treasure and swallowed it, its eyes seemed to have become droopy...In less than a second, the Giraffrost sat on its legs and went to sleep.

'Now what?' Felix narrowed his eyes in focus at the beast and at his targets, who seemed to be praying for the goddess of luck to bless them.

Just as he wanted to analyze the situation, suddenly, an intense glow enveloped its body, and the temperature in the vicinity began to plummet dramatically. Icicles began to form on the stable's roof, and a soft hum resonated throughout the room.

As the light from the Giraffrost grew brighter, its slender neck began to elongate further, the icy patterns on its hide morphed into intricate frosty armor, and its previously docile hooves sharpened into crystalline claws!

Gradually, the glow subsided, revealing a newly evolved and majestic Giraffrost, now exuding an aura of both elegance and formidable power!

'What the...'

Felix was left stunned, never thinking that he would be seeing a spiritual beastial evolution in his lifetime. Yet, here he was, bathing in the evolved Giraffrost's glow.

Sir. Azravana and Mr. Zinnar had a completely different reaction.

"Claws, neck, and frosty armor...It's not the best mutations, but they aren't the greatest either." Mr. Zinnar smiled wryly, "You can sell it for double the price or triple if you are lucky."

"Tsk, it barely covers the cost of a single fruit." Sir. Azravan wasn't too pleased though.

"Let's go for next, the first time always never works out." Mr. Zinnar handed him a second fruit and allowed him this time to choose another beast.

'Does the fruit helps the beast evolve or does it merely give it a couple of mutations? Is it permanent or temporary? How did those two even get their hands on such a thing and why does no one know about it?'

Meanwhile, the first evaluation was still going through Felix's mind as he had many questions left unanswered.

It didn't seem like Sir. Azravan had any interest to discuss such matters as he kept focusing on the newly chosen beast, awaiting godly results.

Unfortunately, the second beast was a letdown...Not giving up hope, Sir. Azravan continued the forced evolution until he was down to his last fruit.

Ten beasts received peculiar mutations and while some of them were up to his satisfaction level, not a single one had yet to wow him.

"Am I going back empty-handed again?" Sir. Azravan tightened his fists as he watched the transformation of the last beast, which was the Black Ingora Lion.

There was a saying, if you want something badly enough, it might just happen.

The already majestic Black Ingora Lion's fur began to shift, slowly transforming into a deep, radiant crimson.

Just as the transformation seemed like it was going to end in the same disappointing manner, a miracle occurred!

A second head began to form beside the original and had its ears set in brown flames! Before anyone could react, the lion's tail, once a magnificent tuft of darkness, ignited spontaneously as well, casting an eerie glow as flames danced along its length!

Then, from its back, two magnificent wings sprouted, feathers gleaming like polished silver and gold, their span dwarfing the lion's body!

The once common Black Ingora Lion seemed to be infused with divine essence, lying down on the ground with a regal demeanor, making anyone have no other reaction but instant awe!

"Hahahah!! At last! At last! We have turned a common beast into a divine resembling variation!"

Sir. Azravan couldn't contain his excited and thrilled laughter at all, knowing that this spiritual beast was now going to sell for at least a hundred times the original price of a common lion!!

"Congratulation, brother Azravan. I don't think there is anyone more deserving of such victory."

Mr. Zannir and his servants clapped in celebration, knowing that they had a small cut of the profit from the sale of such a rare beast.

"Haha! Thank you, thank you."

"What do you have in mind about its name?"

"I don't know yet, but let's call it Two-Headed Crimson Lion for now until I find a befitting name for its glorious appearance."

Sir. Azravan rubbed his hands akin to a sleazy merchant, already imagining his reputation skyrocketing through the roof after he put it in an auction.

'So, that's how the scam works.'

Felix thought calmly as he watched those clowns celebrating in front of the camera, having no idea that the more they open their mouths, the more screwed they would end up.

As for the scam?

Felix understood that the customers believe that Sir. Azravan had the best hunters under him, strong and fearless enough to explore the depth of the Beasts Kingdom to capture those bizarre beasts.

But in reality? They were a mere product of a peculiar fruit inside a secret stable.

From what he heard, many specimens had gone through the evolution process and most of the time, he never get what he wanted.

But still, the difficulty to obtain those rare beasts was one of the attraction to the collectors and this entire operation voided it.

'I have him red-handed that he is deceiving his customers. If this video were to ever spread out, his entire life would be over without needing to take it to court as each customer will sue him for fraud.'

'This is even deadlier than what I have anticipated.' Felix smiled coldly, his mind already starting to devise a new plan to milk Sir. Azravan out of everything he gots!

Chapter 1426 Milking Him Dry!

Unfortunately for Felix, he had to cut the video short and take an early departure as his energy was treading on a dangerous low.

Still, he was more than satisfied with what he had gotten.

Without creating any unnecessary drama, he flew away from the town and headed in the direction of the closest city to him.

He had to use a transportation method if he wanted to return to the capital in no time.

...

After Felix returned to the capital, he reactivated his invisibility ability and went to Miss Sanae's bureau.

"Welcome back, any results?" Miss Sanae asked as she leaned on the couch lazily, watching the tv with a bunch of opened snacks on the table.

Meanwhile, Karra, little Timmy, and Sekiro were sitting on the floor next to her.

"Don't you have work to do?" Felix's eyelids twitched, knowing that there were still nine cases needing to be closed.

"I am waiting for my people to get back to me." Miss Sanae replied as she chewed on chips.

"Is this how you run things? You wait until answers fall in your lap." Felix wasn't too convinced by her excuse.

"Little sh*t, haven't you learned by now that detective work isn't easy and needs patience?"

"Is that so?"

Felix brought out his device and manifested a holographic video.

"Hmm? HMMM?!!"

At the start, Miss Sanae didn't think much of the recording until she realized that its main characters were Sir. Azravan and Mr. Zinnar!

"Is this real?"

She fixed her posture immediately and got close to the recording with wide-open eyes, trying her best to find flaws in it to disapprove of its legitimacy.

She wasn't doing this out of spite...She simply couldn't fathom how it was possible for Felix to hold on to such a damning recording!

"As real as it could get," Felix assured.

"But how? Just how? Neither Azrvana nor Zinnar are foolish enough to hold their conversations in the open like this! Also, how can you record them this close without any of them noticing you? Were they the ones filming the video and you stole it somehow? What the hell is going on?!"

Miss Sanae paused the video, unable of concentrating on its content.

Who could blame her? her focus was shattered and her emotions were thrown into a chaotic mayhem with the shocking implications behind this video!

Alas...Felix had no plans to ease her confusion.

"You can say, I have my own ways," Felix said indifferently.

"Ways? WAYS? THIS IS NOTHING SHORT BUT A MIRACLE!" Miss Sanae got even more agitated with his silence as she couldn't accept not knowing Felix's method.

'Is this why he didn't want to take me with him?'

Sekiro was certain now that he would have been nothing but a burden if he accompanied Felix.

"Just drop it, I am not telling." Felix changed the subject by replaying the video from the start. "Watch and listen carefully, we have enough to do more than just ruin his life."

Even though Miss Sanae was displeased with Felix's secrecy as she still considered him her servant, she dropped the matter for now and listened to him.

After spending one hour watching the video until it ended, everyone was left with stunned expressions.

The fruit, the evolution, the scam, everything was on full display and even an idiot was able to reach the conclusion that this evidence was a double-barrel shotgun!

"This...I have no idea how you pulled it off, but if we brought this to the court, Azraavan would get thrown outside of the heavenly plane the next day!" Sekiro expressed with an ecstatic tone.

"I have a different plan in mind than suing him." Felix shook his head.

"What do you mean? You caught him red-handed selling evolved common beasts without disclosing such information to his clients beforehand. It's enough to win the case and get the bureau 50% of his entire assets as a reward." Sekiro was confused.

"Kikiki, Sekiro, your vision is too narrow-minded." Miss Sanae grinned diabolically. "What your sweet angelic master meant is why bother suing him and giving the government 50% of his assets when we can blackmail him to milk him out dry?"

Felix merely snapped his finger and pointed it at Miss Sanae in support of her plan.

He knew that when it came to profits and earnings, they were kindred souls as there was no way Miss Sanae was going to act rightfully with such a shotgun in her hand.

"Instead of handing the gun to the court, we might as well point it ourselves at Azravan," Felix said indifferently.

"But...What about Emeric?" Karra inquired with a soft tone, reminding them that this case was first presented by the servant who wanted his freedom.

"His situation can easily be solved as there is no way Azravan won't free his servant if we commanded him." Miss Sanae laughed sinisterly, "You have no idea what spirits will do to avoid getting kicked out of the heavenly plane."

Even dark spirits with depressed lives try their absolute best to keep themselves afloat on the plane.

Don't even mention one of the plane's most known beasts traders whose reputation was skyrocketing on a daily basis.

So, Felix and Miss Sanae sat down and prepared the best approach to earn the most out of Azravan.

When they were done planning, midnight had already struck.

"I guess he should have returned by now." Felix looked at his master and said, "Shall we go?"

"No need to go, he will come to us willingly." Miss Sanae grinned, "I happened to have his number."

Without an ounce of hesitation, Miss Sanae drafted a short email and attached a five-second snippet of the video in it...Then, she sent it to Sir. Azravan.

"Now, we wait." She said as she swiveled on the tv and continued eating her snacks.

"Put something nice." Felix joined her with the same cool attitude.

...

Meanwhile, on the highest floor of the Spiritual Beasts Shop, Sir. Azravan was seen waking up with a dazed look after hearing his device peeping.

"Who's bothering me at this late hour?" Displeased, he picked up his crystal device and glanced at the notification, seeing that he had received a new email.

When he perceived the name of the sender, his displeasure had gotten even worse. "What does that irritating lunatic want from me?"

Even though the majority of the business owners and underground criminals hated Miss Sanae's guts, they still kept in contact with her, knowing that a day might come when they would need her services.

Without further ado, Sir. Azravan opened the email and it had a single sentence written like this.

-After you watch the clip, come meet me right away.

Sir. Azravan's eyelids twitched in annoyance at her arrogance, but still, curiosity got the best of him and he pressed on the attachment.

The first thing that popped out was his ultra, ultra-high-

definition face celebrating excitedly with Mr. Zinnar and his servants while a crimson-winged lion was sleeping in front of them.

"..."

Sir. Azravan's widened eyes were left glued to the screen, every ounce of color draining from his face after the clip ended.

It was a mere five seconds, but he felt like he was watching it for eternity.

"Im..Im..Impossi..ble."

Cold sweat formed on his brow, his heart pounding so violently that it threatened to leap from his chest.

The very foundation of his beliefs and the world he realized seemed to shatter...A chilling sensation of fear gripped him, his breaths coming out ragged and shallow.

Disbelief clouded his eyes, making them wide and vulnerable, as if desperately searching for some hint of forgery or deceit in the video after playing it more than ten times.

Alas, each time it ended, he was left with nothing but a sense of absolute despair clawing him down to the abyss as the weight of the potential consequences pressed heavily on his soul!

The room felt suffocating, and the walls seemed to close in on him as the magnitude of what he had just witnessed began to settle in.

At the end of his emotional breakdown, only one contemplated remained in his mind.

'I am f*cked!'

Chapter 1427 The Three Conditions.

Ten minutes later...

Sir. Azravan could be seen sitting on the chair opposite Miss Sanae's office desk.

The door was closed and Felix was leaning against it with his hands crossed and head lowered, some stalks of his golden hair covering his left blue eye.

One snake was in front and the other was in the back...Sir. Azravan gulped a mouthful in fear as he could feel that those two weren't having any good intentions for him.

"I appreciate you dropping by at first notice." Miss Sanae asked with an innocent tone, "Do you want a drink?"

"Let's not beat around the bush, you know why I am here."

Sir. Azravan wasn't in the mood for drinks or anything at the moment as he could feel his life dangling at the hands of Miss Sanae.

"So hasty, fine, let's get into it." Miss Sanae's soft demeanor switched instantly to a sinister one as she waved her hand and the whole recording played in front of Sir. Azravan.

The more he watched, the paler his face became until it was as white as a sheet of paper. That five seconds snippet was nothing compared to the real damage this video had done to his emotional integrity.

That's because the video had even their voices recorded, which both frightened him and confused him to no end.

"How? Just how? We were talking telepathically the whole time! What kind of magic is this?"

"Do you have anything to say to defend yourself?" Miss Sanae asked, not in the mood to explain something she also had no idea about.

"I...I..." Sir. Azravan ended up sighing in defeat. "Name your price."

While he was still absolutely shocked by the existence of this recording, he understood that his life was now in the hands of Miss Sanae and if he wanted to save it, he better pay appropriately.

As for worrying about the court? He knew that Miss Sanae wouldn't have contacted him if she had plans to sue him and ruin his life.

"Before that, I want to know more about that special fruit of yours." Miss Sanae narrowed her eyes coldly, "Don't you dare lie or hide anything from me."

"Fine...It's called Ascend Pear. A hunter under Mr. Zinnar's payroll has found a beast eating it from a tree and when it was done, it obtained a few mutations and then went on its merry ways. The hunter reported the matter to Mr. Zinnar and the next day he plucked the entire tree with its roots and took it to his own private farm. He hired the best intellectual minds in his city and studied the fruit and its tree until they managed to find a method to cultivate a small farm of it."

"When the farm finished its cultivation, he reached out to me first due to my close relationship with him and suggest that we unite our resources to evolve common beasts and sell them for expensive prices to the collectors. He cultivates the fruits and brings me the beasts while I use my reputation and trusted network to sell them to the highest bidders."

"He gets a small part of the final sale for each beast even though I am buying both the beasts and the fruits from him, so it can be said, that he is always winning whether an evolution result in an amazing beast or not."

"For how long were you in this business?"

"About a decade ago?"

"An entire decade, you must have scammed hundreds of rich and authoritative figures." Miss Sanae smirked, "Imagine what will happen to you if they got a whiff of this."

"..."

Sir Azravan remained quiet, knowing that nothing he said could get him out of this sh*thole.

"Now, tell me how does it work exactly? Does it have any side effects on those beasts? I can't imagine evolving them this easily without any issues."

"We have no clue how the transformation works internally and why a mere fruit has such an effect on beasts. What we know is that the evolved beasts end up with emotional turmoil, having Increased aggression, fear, sadness, or even erratic behavior. In addition, it reduces its lifespan by a considerable amount, causing some evolved beasts to lose up to 90% of their longevity."

While it might sound weird that spiritual beasts also have longevity, it was a really necessary option to keep the heavenly plane's balance.

After all, if spiritual beasts could reproduce and do everything that a normal beast would do without the option of death, it wouldn't take them long before they overpopulated the entire plane...Especially, when they couldn't get thrown out of the plane like other spirits.

"How do you explain yourselves when one of those beasts dies in the hands of a collector?" Miss Sanae frowned, "I don't think they will take it lightly."

"Since the evolved beasts we sell can be considered as a new variation, no one really knows its true longevity. So, when we sell them, we simply make them sign a contract that involved no refunds in case anything happens to the beast since we merely 'catch them' in the wild." Sir. Azravan answered, not an ounce of shame on his face.

In his eyes, he wasn't doing anything bad since he was investing a considerable amount of resources to pull off those rare variations and whether he hid the truth or not about their origin, the risk for him was still there.

"How devious."

"How so?" Sir. Azravan replied calmly, "I know my clients very well. So, I understand that those collectors would still buy my variations even if I explained their origin and the risks involved."

"The only difference would be the price." Felix continued the idea for him with an indifferent tone.

"Exactly." Sir. Azravan nodded as he looked back at Felix. "Tell me? Is it so bad that I want to get more money from those filthy rich pigs? They play with hundreds of thousands of Lumus like it was nothing while most spirits struggle to stay afloat in the plane."

"I ain't scamming the poor and I never had any intentions of doing so." Sir. Azravan shook his head, "In fact, this operation allowed me to lower the prices of my other beasts and make it possible for even normal citizens to purchase a beast and use it as a transportation method or whatnot."

"You can search the entire plane and you will never find a cheaper cost anywhere else than my shop. Why do you think it's always populated?"

"I might be greedy, but it's not like I have absolutely no morals." Sir. Azravan concluded his speech with a strict expression.

While his speech was moving and would make anyone see him in a new light, neither Miss Sanae nor Felix seemed to care in the slightest about his 'good deeds'.

That's because, at the end of the day, he was still abusing his own servants...This was enough to speak volumes about his true character, which wasn't as rosy and sunny as he made it be.

"For all we know, you have lowered the prices to keep your reputation on the good side to help you get approved by the government and build a franchise across the plane." Miss Sanae replied nonchalantly, "We really don't care about your motives, the

issue at hand, is how much are you willing to pay to keep yourself and your enterprise alive."

'Sh*t, why did the video land in the hands of those two emotionless bastards.' Sir. Azravan cursed in his mind at the realization that his Robinhood story failed to land.

Their assumption was correct as Sir. Azravan lowered the prices not for the advantage of the poor, but to help him turn his shop into a enterprise empire.

It wouldn't be possible without a governmental permit, which could be obtained only through the favor of the Spectral Wardens.

"Since you seem struggling to come up with a price, how about this?" Miss Sanae smiled as she forwarded a holographic screen.

The screen showed a short list of demands and conditions that looked like this:

//1- One Million Lumus.

2- 40% revenue from all the sales in the shop.

3- Emeric's freedom.//

It might be short, but it made Sir. Azravan gasp for a quick breath in utter despair.

"This...This..."

"I know, I know, you might think that 1 million Lumus is a lot, but we are generous enough to give you a two-year deadline to either collect the amount or pay through installments." Miss Sanae shook her head, "As for the revenue and Emeric's freedom, I am afraid it's nonnegotiable."

"You are killing me!" Sir. Azravan ended up shouting while clutching his beating heart. "40% revenue? How can I keep my enterprise afloat if I gave away so much?! Without a bustling business, how can I pay the one million fees?!"

"You can make it happen if you made your dear associate Zinnar reduce the cost of the fruits and beasts." Miss Sanae grinned devilishly. "I doubt he will reject your proposal if you threatened to bring him down with you."

Chapter 1428 The Northern District.

Since Mr. Zinnar had shown up in the video, he was just as involved as Sir. Azravan.

"Why don't you go for him yourselves." Sir Azravan said with an agitated tone, "You can blackmail him too and screw his business apart."

"Who told you we aren't going to do so?" Miss Sanae smiled coldly, "For now, all you need to care about is to save your own skin. So, you better sign this contract and start working on those payments."

Miss Sanae forwarded a holographic contract that was more than enough to bind Sir. Azravan with them for eternity.

40% of the revenue might not sound like a lot, but it was the smartest decision to make as it was enough to get a significant amount of profits while making sure that Sir. Azravan's business stay afloat.

This was better than blackmailing him to liquify his business and get millions of Lumus at once.

Plus, this take would end up rising suspicious as there was no way a successful beast seller would sell his entire business without any notice.

The upper echelons and law enforcers were bound to investigate the situation and there was a high chance their involvement would come to light.

As much as Sir. Azravan deserved to be punished, they would also get put in court for blackmail.

"You monsters...This contract is nothing less but a slave chain."

After reading the entire contract, Sir. Azravan covered his mouth, feeling sick in his stomach at the evil terms.

The contract was heavily in favor of Miss Sanae as she made sure that even if Sir. Azravan secret scam ploy was found out, it wouldn't come back at her or her people.

She insisted that all of the money received was considered a 'donation' to her investigation bureau.

This made Sir. Azravan understand that he wouldn't be able to drag her with him even if he wanted since the contract ensured her ignorance about the entire matter.

While obviously, no one would really believe it...But a contract was a contract and the courts treated it with utmost reverence.

"Can't you lower..."

"Sign!"

"Fine..."

Just as Sir. Azravana was about to sign the contract with tears threatening to flood from his reddened eyes, Felix called. "Wait."

Sir. Azravan's finger halted instantly and he turned to face Felix with a desperate look, deserving of some sympathy.

"What? Did you suddenly grow conscious and don't want to do this?" Miss Sanae frowned.

"Conscious? What are you talking about?" Felix looked at her like she was an idiot and said, "I just wanted you to add a term, insisting that he has to hand over the crimson lion to me."

"You..."

Sir. Azravan's face was drained out of colors, awakened to the reality of his situation.

The reality that Felix was even more heartless than Miss Sanae!

"Pffff, kikiki, you sure are merciless."

Miss Sanae laughed out loud as she swiftly pulled back the contract and added the term under Sir. Azravan's numbed expression.

At this moment, he wanted nothing more but to beat himself for not signing the contract much sooner.

Alas, what's done was done.

"Sign." She ordered.

Fearing that another condition would be added, Sir. Azravan signed the contract while holding his chest, seemingly going to suffer from a heart attack.

"We expect half of our money to arrive at first light." Miss Sanae smiled innocently, showing her cute fangs, "Glad doing business with you."

"..."

Sir. Azravan showed her a compelled deathly smile and kept looking at the void beneath the desk.

"Alright, get the f*ck out and also do me a favor and bring Zinnar to the city, I have no interest in traveling to his city." Miss Sanae ordered as she waved her hand at him in a disposal manner.

With shoulders slumped and voice caught in his throat, Sir. Azravan walked to the closed door akin to a zombie without an ounce of life in his visage.

Felix moved to the side and opened the door for him. The moment he walked out, Felix reminded him with an indifferent tone, "Tell Emeric to come visit us."

The moment Sir. Azravan heard the name of his favorite punching bag, his soul seemed to have recovered as clear anger was presented in the depth of his eyes.

'It's him...It's him! He is the one who f*cked me over!' Sir. Azravan seemed like he was trying his best to hold his rage from spelling out, panting with great difficulty.

He was smart enough to figure out that Emeric must have hired Miss Sanae to free him from his abuse.

"What are you thinking about?"

Suddenly, a soft whisper teased his ear as Felix placed his head right on Sir. Azravan's shoulder.

When Sir Azravan's pupil turned slowly to the side and saw the inner darkness and pure ruthlessness hidden at the depth of Felix's emotionless eyes, his heated blood seemed to have been introduced to a snowstorm...

"N..No..Nothing." He responded, his teeth chattering in utter fear.

"This better be the truth," Felix whispered again. "For I, will always be watching you."

Before Sir. Azravan could react to his threat, Felix was already walking back to the office.

"Also, make sure to leave the office with a normal attitude," Felix remarked one last time before closing the door on him.

'Monsters, a bunch of monsters!'

Sir. Azravan's fear made him want to take off at his fastest speed back to the comfort of his shop, but the reminder of Felix rang in his mind akin to a church bell.

He compelled himself to fix his composure and then took his leave from the door, appearing as stern as always.

'Hmm? He is out already?' Oculon thought with a solemn expression.

He had seen Sir. Azravan enter Miss Sanae's bureau and was quite curious about the reason.

Even though Sir. Azravan's demeanor hadn't changed, he still reported the matter to his boss and remained in his position, not wanting to chase him and leave Felix unwatched.

...

"Interesting, did he go there for a case? To dig dirt on his competitors? Or for the sake of that bastard?"

Boss Alves tapped his finger on his desk with an irritated look, trying his best to find the perfect explanation for this...Alas, he was coming out blank.

In the end, he decided to leave it to his subordinates to investigate as he had a meeting in fifteen minutes with Duke Humphrey.

"It's best to leave early, I am not in the mood for a lecture."

Boss Alves fixed his apple-green coat and took off into the air, heading towards the northern side of the city, where the richest and most influential spirits reside.

...

The Northern District was considered the crown jewel of opulence and power.

With grand boulevards lined with shimmering trees and palatial residences, it was a testament to the city's wealth and prestige.

Home to the city's elite and influential figures, this district radiated authority, as its sky-touching towers and intricately designed mansions house the echelons of the spiritual realm's aristocracy.

Here, power and privilege intertwine, making it the most sought-after piece of real estate in Astralis.

Unfortunately, even Boss Alves and the other richest figures had no estate in this district. It wasn't because they couldn't afford it, but because this district was mainly left for governmental officials.

Anyone getting a position in the government would be given a free estate depending on his preference and rank.

The Ethereal Elders, The Spectral Wardens, The Soul Scribes, The Astral Law Enforcers, and the rest of the governmental officials were all housed here separated from the rest of the spirits.

If Boss Alves wasn't a golden spirit, he wouldn't have been approved to enter this district in the first place.

After flying for a couple of minutes, Boss Alves descended in front of the gate of a grand mansion sprawled over acres of manicured gardens.

Its facade was adorned with intricate carvings and precious gemstones that caught the ethereal glow of the spirit realm.

Ka-thumb!

Without needing to announce his attendance, the magnificent silver gate was opened for him, and he continued his flight toward the main building, ignoring the red-colored servants and the unique beasts roaming the gardens freely.

After reaching the main door, a maid bowed in his direction and took off his coat...Then, she led him towards Duke Humphrey silently.

'This place never fails to give me the creeps.' Boss Alves' eyes roamed around, feeling uneasy with each step he took.

While the others would die to visit this mansion and appreciate its artistic style and furniture, Boss Alves knew exactly what kind of place this was...

'I hope he didn't bring me here to discuss the fallen specters, I really don't want any part of his insanity.' Boss Alves wished in his mind, but his feet never stopped moving.

Chapter 1429 The Negativity Fuelers.

"Please."

The Maid gestured with her hand politely the moment they had arrived in front of a closed-shut red wooden door...Then, she took her leave.

Knock Knock!

Boss Alves knocked twice and opened the door gently before asking for permission.
"May I come in?"

"Enter."

Boss Alves went forward and closed the door behind him. He looked in front and greeted, "I am grateful for the invitation, Duke."

Duke Humphrey made an acknowledgment noise as he sat at his desk, his tall, imposing figure silhouetted against the vast window that framed the skyline of Astralis city.

With his back to the entrance, he seemed engrossed in the world outside, his silver-streaked hair catching the room's ambient light.

The meticulous arrangement of his office, from the aged tomes to the ornate artifacts, reflected a man of order and discipline.

Yet, there was an air of contemplation about him, as if the weight of the city's matters pressed heavily on his shoulders.

With how Karra described her abuse, no one would ever paint the image of a villain capable of such a heinous crime on this dignified elder.

"Sit." He ordered, turning his chair slowly to face Boss Alves.

Boss Alves sat down in front of him and remained silent, his heartbeats increasing in speed, but his expression remained unfazed.

"First, how are you treating my previous servant's dilemma? Is she on the streets?" Duke Humphry asked.

"As I have told you before, I have already blacklisted her master, which made her stay on the streets for a couple of weeks." Boss Alves shook his head, "Unfortunately, my plan was foiled with that Lunatic detective Sanae's intervention. She has hired the boy and allowed him to stay in her place with his servants."

"In conclusion, she isn't on the street and nowhere near getting kicked out, correct?" Duke Humphrey narrowed his eyes.

It was like he didn't care about the excuses brought out by Boss Alves and was more interested in only the results.

"Not yet, not yet, I am handling it at the moment, investing the best of my people." Boss Alves replied, his pupils thinning in distress.

"You should work even harder on it, this issue involves you as much as it involves me." Duke Humphrey disclosed.

"What do you mean?" Boss Alves suddenly felt a chill course on his spine after asking the question, already knowing that the answer was bound to ruin his night.

He wasn't wrong in his assumption...

"That little one was one of the first subjects turned into a Negativity Fueler. She had seen too much and knows too much." Duke Humphrey said calmly.

'Negativity Fueler! No wonder he is attempting to kick her out of the plane!' Boss Alves sucked a deep breath in shock.

He always knew that it was weird for Duke Humphrey to focus on a little servant this hard, but he didn't expect the reason to be this damning.

"But that's impossible! Negativity Fuelers never survive the process and always end up wishing to be kicked out of the plane!" Boss Alves expressed.

He was certain about this since he had overseen a negative energy harvesting process.

His memory was still vivid to this day.

Three Decades Ago...

Boss Alves stood atop a raised platform, overlooking the dimly lit, vast chamber below.

Rows upon rows of Negativity Fuelers were bound, their once vibrant auras now dulled to a shadowy gray.

Mechanisms and contraptions surrounded each spirit, with thin tendrils drawing out wisps of dark, smoky energy from their beings.

The process was not a silent one; the chamber echoed with the harrowing cries and wails of these spirits as they underwent unbearable pain and torment.

Some were physically restrained, while others seemed to be trapped in horrific mental simulations, their expressions reflecting their unspeakable traumas.

'What in the horror is this...'

Boss Alves's entire body shivered in fear and doubt as he continued hearing those harrowing wails, making him feel like his entire body was thrown into a freezer.

"You wanted to know where we get our negative energy to create fallen specters, this is how." Duke Humphrey was standing next to him, his hands held behind his back.

His visage was as stern and unmoving as ever like the pitiful screams of the spirits below meant nothing to him.

"But, but, those are your own servants...How can..."

"How can I?" Duke Humphrey eyed him weirdly, "Am I doing anything wrong? I have given them a written contract explaining clearly that their stay under me wasn't going to be a pleasant experience in the slightest and law enforcers wouldn't be involved. Yet, more and more servants keep flocking to be accepted by me."

"It's not my fault that their greed for Lumus outweighed their sense of risk."

'How can he say this with a straight face, he is a madman...He is actually a madman!'

Boss Alves' thoughts were condemning Duke's reasoning, but on the exterior, he was nodding his head in agreement.

He understood that those poor servants believed that the moment they work under an Ethereal Elder, their lives would be set and they could even become golden spirits in the future with his assistance.

As for the dangers? All of them were willing to suffer some pain under him, thinking that it would be all worth it in the end.

But none of them would have dared to apply to work under him if they had any idea that his notion of unpleasant experience meant direct torture!

All of them assumed that it would be surviving some of his angry rants or beatdowns, something many servants were already used to it under the hands of other masters.

But not this...Not this at all.

"I WANNA DIE!! I WANNA DIE!!!"

Suddenly, Boss Alves' attention was drawn to a nearby spirit in one of the glass chambers, screaming at the top of his lung while banging on the glass with skinless bloodied hands.

His entire skin was gone, exposing his flesh to the outside and this wasn't all. He had many thick needles pricking him nonstop directly in his never endings...

"AAAA!!! EXPELL ME!! EXPELL ME!! EXPELL MEEEEEE!!!"

Alves watched with a cold expression, but the depth of his eyes couldn't hide the emotional turmoil he was going through.

"Damn it, looks like we will be losing another one." Duke Humphrey sighed in disappointment.

"What do you me..."

Before he could finish his question, Boss Alves was shocked at the spirit's light flickering weakly before they went completely dark.

Then, a swirling vortex of energy formed beneath it, creating a vacuum that tugged at the spirit, pulling it down.

The onlookers, including other spirits under the torture, witnessed with a mix of terror and despair as one of their own getting dragged into the swirling vortex, his feeble cries echoing throughout the chamber before being consumed by the portal.

With a final flash of light, the portal sealed, leaving behind a void where the spirit once was.

The skinless spirit was no longer a part of the heavenly plane, expelled and cast away into the vast unknowns of the spirit realm, banished to become a mindless wandering spirit yet again...

"What did just happen..." Boss Alves muttered, his stunned eyes refraining from blinking even once.

"This is a phenomenon I have discovered." Duke Humphrey clarified with a impartial tone, "When a spirit goes through a literal hell of pain and he couldn't survive it. If his will was strong enough to desire death, the heavenly plane automatically fulfills his wish and banishes him."

"..." Boss Alves found no words to use after hearing his statement.

All he could think of was, 'All spirits fear the expulsion from the heavenly plane more than they fear Lord Hades...For him to wish such fate on himself, what kind of hell, what kind of sickening agony he was going through?'

Boss ALves's heart turned icier and icier as he turned to stare at Duke Humphrey from the side.

'Most importantly, what kind of diabolical monster does this to others after already reaching the peak of authority in the heavenly plane? Is he doing this for fun?'

Chapter 1430 No Medicine For Regrets.

Boss Alves had no idea what was Duke Humphery's end goal in creating fallen specters. No matter how hard he thought about it, he really couldn't figure out a legit reason to go this far.

In his eyes, Duke Humphery was actually risking his position as an Eathreal Elder by pulling this crap and if he was ever to be found, Lord Hades himself would deliver the punishment.

Still, he didn't dare ask him about it as he had no intentions of involving himself in this operation even deeper.

Alas, he had no clue that the moment he was brought down to oversee the negativity energy's harvesting process, he was already too deep to come out.

Three decades later, he was just as involved as Duke Humphery whether he wanted to admit it or not...

Back to the present...

"But, how did she escape from you? I thought your contracts were bulletproof?" Boss Alves asked about Karra.

"It was due to a lapse of judgment from me, a lapse that I have never made ever again." Duke Humphery replied, his eyes colder than usual.

"I see..."

While this didn't answer his question, Boss Alves knew when to stop pressing the matter. Right away, he switched the topic.

"I can ensure you that she will get kicked out of the heaven plane even if it's the last thing I do."

At this moment, Boss Alves wasn't even planning to do this for the sake of the duke, but for himself.

As the duke said, he was involved too deeply in the project and if things turned south, he had no way to save himself unless the duke came forward and admitted that he had forced him to carry his missions.

Boss Alves was certain that the duke wasn't going to take the fall by himself.

"Mmm."

Duke Humphery made a noise of acknowledgment and went to the main subject of the meeting.

"I received news from Sharky that our operations have successfully spread out to Elderguard and Midnight cities. The reception of becoming fallen specters turned out to be received with open arms by the most desperate dark and indigo spirits. He is asking for extra hands to help facilitate the process without raising alarms." Duke Humphery ordered, "Take care of it."

Black lines appeared on Boss Alves' forehead at the order, not pleased in the slightest.

"Is there a problem?" Duke asked calmly.

"My lord, I have already told you before that my services will be related to the capital and the capital only." Boss Alves replied, his fists clutched tightly.

He knew that he would be in trouble for rejecting the duke's order, but if he didn't stand firm on his boundaries, he was certain that his business might not survive.

Unexpectedly, Duke Humphery neither cursed nor scolded him. He simply turned his chair to face the window again and uttered, "I see, I guess I will ask someone else to do it. You're excused."

"..."

Instead of being relieved, Boss Alves' heartbeats accelerated rapidly in agitation as he had a bad feeling that if he dared to walk out of the office, it wasn't going to end well for him or his business.

'I can't win...I just can't win.'

In the end, Boss Alves smiled bitterly at the reality of his situation, understanding that whether he rejected or accepted the order, he could never escape from Duke Humphery's strings.

In other words, if he decided to be a useful puppet, he would be left alone, if he decided otherwise, Duke Humphery had no issue with throwing him in the trash and replacing him with another...

"On second thought, I was also thinking of expanding my estates in those cities, so tell Sharky I will send my men to help him out."

"Mmmm."

Duke Humphery neither acted happy nor surprised by his sudden switch. He didn't even bother to turn his chair and face him. He gave a slight head nod and waved his hand, gesturing for him to take his leave.

"Thank you for your time."

Not daring to overstay his welcome, Boss Alves left the office and straightaway headed to the exit, having no plans to tour the mansion.

'Sigh...Why did I have to accept his help? Feel like I signed a contract with the devil.' Boss Alves sighed helplessly, feeling akin to a feather carried by the wind toward a storm.

When The Red Fangs Organization ended with a major loss that was going to put them under once and for good, it was Duke Humphery who reached out with a hand and pulled them from the rubble.

At that time, Boss Alves was desperate enough to accept his help even though he knew that it would turn the Duke into his benefactor.

He didn't have problems with this as he also felt good to be under someone with that kind of authority. So, each time a problem arose in his business, he always turned to Duke Humphrey for help.

The Duke never inquired him for anything in return until the eventful day, when he brought him into his fallen specter's operation...At that point, Boss Alves was already too indebted to reject anything asked of him.

If it was possible to turn back time, he would have rather chosen to have his business get ruined than take that demon's hands.

Alas...There was no medicine for regret.

'If I want to kick that girl, I need to kick now both her master and that lunatic.' Boss Alves narrowed his eyes coldly, 'With all the shady deals that witch makes in each case, I just need to find one destructive enough to get her kicked out. Then, I can deal with those two rats.'

When push came to shove, Boss Alves had no intentions of going easy on a bunch of strangers at risk of his own downfall.

The fact that Felix had already pissed the living sh*t out of him didn't make the decision any harder.

Many Days Later...

"How is the preparation going? The great filter stage will start tomorrow and many contestants from different cities have already gathered in the capital."

Miss Sanae asked lazily as she placed her foot above the other at her desk while using a file to smooth the edges of her nails.

"Not bad." Felix replied, leaning against the door while staring at a holographic screen.

He was reading the news about all the contestants who made their arrival public, challenging him, Ravager, and Goliath.

"Paradisa City, Valorielle City, Nirvanis City, and even Luminaara City contestants have voiced their challenge...Do they consider us weak?" Felix muttered with a neutral tone.

"Well, you are the only red-graded spirit qualified for the tournament." Miss Sanae replied, "But it's not really about that. The capital has always been targeted each year since it's considered the biggest and most influential city in the heavenly plane. So, if they challenged the champion and defeated him, the spotlight on them will be ten times more potent than doing it in their cities or in the fields."

"In other words, it's a major chance to advertise their sponsors whether they won or lost," Felix said.

"Bingo."

"Well, I am glad." Felix showed a sinister smile, "They made it easier for me to pass the great filter stage without needing to hunt others in the fields."

"You certain are pretty confident." Miss Sanae chuckled, knowing that Felix had every reason to act this cocky.

She had seen him waste more than four hundred thousand Lumus on spiritual treasures, clearing them off the markets and spiking their prices by five times!

Only then did he halt buying them.

In the past week, he had devoured everything and boosted his spiritual prowess to an unfathomable level.

The money obviously came from Sir. Azravan and Mr. Zinnar.

Since Felix had won the bet against Miss Sanae, she stood to her word and split a 50/50 profit with him, which made him earn a sizable chunk of crystals to aid his preparation.

Sir. Azravan also stuck to his word and freed Emeric who was more than grateful for his freedom even when the case didn't rotate exactly the way he wanted.

"You better go to the Colosseum and utilize your champion privilege to reserve for your challenges before the start of the filter stage." Miss Sanae advised.

"I was planning to." Felix uttered as he closed the hologram.

While battles weren't allowed in the city, the Colosseum was an exception.

The champion of each city was given the privilege to reserve the Colosseum for his own fights ahead of everyone else.

"Sekiro, let's go." Felix threw a black jacket on himself and exited the bureau with Sekiro following him up close.

Roar! Roar!

The moment they got out, they were met with a two-

headed crimson lion, standing majestically near the door akin to a guard hound!

Sir. Azravan kept his word and delivered the lion to Felix even when his heart was being ripped out of its place.

This was supposed to be his jackpot, a beast capable of being solved for at least a million or even more if he got lucky.

Alas, unless he signed the contract, he wouldn't even be in the heavenly plane to enjoy that million...

Obviously, while the lion belonged to Felix, it was decided that if he wanted to sell it, the money would be split 50/50 with Miss Sanae.

There was no way she would be giving Felix such an expensive beast free of charge.

Roar Roar!

"Shut up."

With a single cold glance from Felix and the two-headed lion went quiet instantly, lowering their heads and whimpering silently like they had met their true alpha.

Felix and Sekiro jumped on the back of the lion and Felix ordered it to take off towards the Colosseum.

It was time for the main show to start!