

The Crafts 198

Chapter 198: The Middle-aged Man

"Please come in."

A voice said to Lucas once the shuttle he was in approached the main house.

Stepping down from it, Lucas walked into the building that was so tall and large that it could be called a small stadium-sized hill.

The main house of the Mertens family was where all the wealth was properly displayed.

Just the automatic door alone gave off a strange sensation to Lucas. Upon a closer look, he realised that it was actually a Grade 1 vestige. The massive door was a vestige. It might be low in standards, but to be able to make a vestige this large, the fee was insane.

With it being a Grade 1 vestige, the door could easily tank typical damages and attacks from common weapons. Even if the attacker wielded a Grade 2 vestige, they wouldn't easily take down the door due to its thickness. This meant that it could handle attacks from even a second level desolate beast for a while.

Going further in, under the guide of a robot, Lucas was able to see the standards of a top four family. The lobby was styled with an appealing mix of blue and white colours, which served as the theme of the building. There were also expensive paintings hung on the sides of the walls. Some of them were of individuals who have blue eyes —a trait of the Mertens family members — while the others were of scenery or abstract depictions.

Although he wasn't a man of art, Lucas could tell that the latter set of art was probably very costly, otherwise it won't be hung at the entrance.

Even though where he walked was the lobby, the width of the lobby was so large that it could easily fit two excavators with some space left for a car. But upon recalling the size of the mansion from the outside, Lucas didn't dwell too much in this.

The group came into a room filled with a few mobile vehicles. Unlike the usual ones in this era, the vehicles were ground-type vehicles and had wheels on them. Seeing these vehicles, Lucas recalled something similar back on Earth; an electric scooter.

With the help of the robot, Lucas and Melissa got on separate scooters left the room, heading deeper into the mansion. While Lucas was nonchalant with the experience —as he had been through more — Melissa appeared to be having a lot of fun. This made Lucas glad, but he once again focused on the task at hand.

After a five minute ride, the group finally arrived at a simple wooden door [1].

"Please." The robot bowed and directed them towards the door.

Once he approached, the door automatically opened, but Lucas was already used to this here. Inside, there was a set of comfy chairs and couches with a large coffee table set in the middle.

"Welcome." A middle-aged man who had blue hair smiled at Lucas.

The man appeared to be just like your average adult in his forties, except for the blue hair on his head. The top part of his hair was azure, but the burns and the beards were of a lighter shade.

It was a sign that the man was getting old. For humans, their black or even blonde hair would turn white as they got older. However, it wasn't always the same for humans. While a lot of humans would have their coloured hair turn white, some would have their coloured hair become of a lighter shade. It was clear that the middle-aged man was one of them.

"Good evening." Lucas greeted the man right after he was at a close distance.

The middle-aged man nodded at him, then glanced at Melissa who hid behind Lucas, with a smile.

"Your little sister I'd take it? She's pretty." The man smiled with a bit of reminiscence in his eyes as he stated at Melissa.

Lucas judged the man, not knowing how to react just yet. The man appeared just like a friendly middle-aged man rather than an individual who controlled a few multi-million companies and led one of the strongest factions in Baylands city-state.

"No need to get so worked up. Take a seat and have a drink. Although it's late, it's never late for tea. This is Samborjan Tea. You can't get this anywhere on this planet and have to import it from outside. It's made from tea leaves from exclusive to Jota and processed by the Mara race on Doma. Quality stuff." The middle-aged said.

Jota was one of Eretre's neighbours except it was home to desolate beasts and inhabitable for hyumans. The planet would require technological reconstruction on a planetary level for hyumans to be able to reside there, but this was banned by the Kellan solar system as a means to preserve the ecosystem of Jota. The planet had a lot of unique species that could only thrive well there, so there was a need for preservation efforts. The Samborjan Tea plant for instance, was one such unique species.

As for Doma, it was also one of Eretre's neighbours, just as Earth had Venus and Mars as neighbours. Doma was one of the Kellan solar system's eight planets, and one of the three populated by hyumans. Despite that, the hyumankin wasn't the sole race in Doma. Only about sixty percent of the population on Doma consisted of hyumans. The remaining forty percent was split, with twenty percent to the winged anthropoid species, ten percent for hybrids, and another ten percent for other races.

The winged anthropoid species was a common term for two alien races, the Mara and Vara. They both looked alike, having a slight semblance with hyumankin. However, they differed in the fact that they had long sharp noses, pointer ears, and feet with talons growing out from them. Also, the winged anthropoids were very tall on average, with the shortest being at least 1.9m, or 6'2" feet.

Without a doubt, the two species had wings on their backs, which was why they were called winged anthropoids. The Mara having lighter coloured wings, but majorly white, while the Vara had darker coloured wings, but majorly black.

"I know you have a lot of questions, but I can only answer a few of them." The middle-aged man said as he sipped some tea.

"For starters, I'll introduce myself. My name is Russell Mertens, the head of the Mertens family in the current generation. You can call me Mr Russell" Russell said as he released a bit of his aura.

The entire room abruptly turned cold as if they had abruptly appeared in the Arctic. Lucas' instinct began screaming at him as his blood began to curdle. It yelled that what stood before him wasn't a human, but a monster; a ferocious and powerful monster.

Lucas got a feel of the aura, and with his knowledge and experience, he tried to estimate what level it was. The answer he got naturally startled him, although he has somewhat expected it.

Ninth level, Apertures Opening stage.