

Village Head 451

Chapter 451 Purity Preserved (R18)

Orion didn't even have a chance to react as Madam Seraphina sprang up from her kneeling position on the landing and landed on top of him, sending him tumbling backwards to lie on the bed.

Orion keenly observed Madam Seraphina's sudden loss of composure, as she pinned him down. He promptly recalled that women of the Prismeron race were the dominant ones in their relationships, so when he realized the reason behind Madam Seraphina's sudden shift, he managed to regain his composure and waited curiously to see what she had in mind.

Of course, he could have had a similar opportunity with Elysia, but unfortunately, she had been a bit too forceful for her own good.

Meanwhile, Madam Seraphina gazed at Orion with extremely hazy eyes. Using both hands, she positioned herself atop him, her narrow lips coating his hard, throbbing penis with her juices.

She then rose up onto her knees, taking hold of it with her left hand and began to stroke it slowly.

Then she leaned in and, surprisingly, whispered into Orion's ear, "Do you enjoy this?" She spoke softly, releasing his throbbing, veiny member from her hand and gripping it tightly from the base, stroking it lightly, her vagina juices coating and enveloping it from the tip to the balls.

Orion shivered unexpectedly at the sound of her voice, as he had never anticipated her being so assertive.

"How about this?" Madam Seraphina suddenly suggested, removing her hands once more from his hard, throbbing penis and changing her technique. She held it in a front grip and began to stroke it slowly once more, feeling the sensation of his rugged veins pulsating between her hands, with a rising temperature that warmed her hands and gradually spread to every inch of her body.

This caused her womanly cave to grow even wetter, dripping like a leaking tap, as she proceeded to energetically grind her vagina lips on top of Orion's thigh, wetting sections of his thighs with her juices, all the while rapidly stroking his hard, throbbing penis in pleasure.

'Damn it! She hasn't even put it in yet,' Orion thought as he restrained himself from climaxing once again, while Madam Seraphina continued to skillfully pleasure and stimulate the right spots on his body.

After a few moments of grinding and stroking, Madam Seraphina began to frown, realizing that Orion hadn't climaxed yet.

She slowly began to contemplate whether it was time for her to initiate penetration, wondering if a penis as large as his would fit inside her. Her movements gradually slowed down, unknowingly hinting that she was hesitant.

Orion immediately noticed this and considered that Madam Seraphina might have reached her limit, prompting him to take back the lead.

Swiftly, before Madam Seraphina could react, she found her back pressed against the bed, with Orion now positioned on top of her.

"Wait! Hold on for a moment!" Madam Seraphina quickly said as she realized what Orion was trying to do.

Orion heard her nervousness and immediately halted his actions.

Madam Seraphina noticed Orion's gaze and embarrassedly lowered her head.

In a soft, nearly inaudible voice, she admitted, "I haven't seen a man's penis before or have one penetrate me, so this is my first time doing such a thing."

Her eyes darted to the side, avoiding Orion's bewildered expression.

However, Orion couldn't conceal the surprise that welled up in his heart upon hearing Madam Seraphina's words.

"Hmm, that means you're quite the natural," Orion leaned in and whispered into her ear, causing her body to tremble slightly as his lips grazed her skin.

"Don't worry, just leave everything to me, and I will take care of you," Orion whispered, attempting to gain her trust.

Despite the mature woman now seeming shyer compared to her previous bold and aggressive behaviour, Orion suddenly felt more blood flow toward his lower body as the veins pulsed with increased fervour.

He watched as Madam Seraphina nervously nodded before attempting to remove her dress, but Orion immediately halted her actions.

Shaking his head, he said, "I don't want you to take off your dress; I love it this way." His voice resonated in Madam Seraphina's ears, causing her to shiver as her eyes closely observed him, watching his every move. Orion then grasped both sides of Madam Seraphina's waist and guided his throbbing penis toward the centre of her dripping vagina, and slowly made his way through.

"Uhhh~~" Madam Seraphina let out a soft, brief moan as Orion penetrated the first layer and advanced toward the second.

Feeling the resistance, Orion gripped her plump, partially covered buttocks beneath her dress and continued to push, not wanting to hold back under the overwhelming force.

"OOhhh~~~ It's entering~~~" Madam Seraphina's eyes widened once more as she exclaimed loudly, sensing Orion's scorching, hard penis breaking through the second layer and advancing toward the third.

Her legs started to feel weak as it seemed like her insides were being stretched and pushed apart by an unstoppable force. But knowing that Orion's large, veiny member had yet to reach its full length, she gritted her teeth, holding on even as she slowly lost control of her lower body, the sensation gradually spreading to every part of her.

Orion quickly noticed this and gently spread her legs a bit wider.

He took a deep breath and thrust his hips all at once.

"AAAHHHH~~" She screamed loudly, feeling the third layer of her tight, soggy vagina being penetrated as Orion's throbbing penis reached her womb.

A tingling sensation swept over her body, from her head to her now incapacitated lower legs.

It didn't stop but intensified as Orion pulled back his hips and then thrust forward with a powerful motion.

"pap~~" "pah~~" "pap~~"

"Uhhh~~"

Because Madam Seraphina was still a virgin, Orion didn't immediately start vigorously penetrating her soggy, tight virgin pussy.

Instead, he took his time, slowly and gently withdrawing his hips before gently thrusting in, moving his waist in a way that resembled tightening a screw into a knot.

"paaah~~~ paapp~~ paaaah~~~"

"Aughhh~~ Ughhh~~~ Ahh~~~"

Chapter 452 Emerging Desires

Over time, Orion picked up the pace, recognizing that Madam Seraphina's initially unsteady rhythm was adapting to his veiny, rugged shaft.

She extended her arms to both sides of the bed, clutching the sheets tightly in her hands, her back arched as she released soft, soul-tingling moans that invigorated his spirits and fueled his perseverance.

Seizing the opportunity to ravish in the passionate moment, Orion lifted her alluring dress that scarcely fulfilled its role of concealing the erotic scene of his engorged manhood thrusting in and out of her wet, eager vagina lips.

He then grasped one of her thighs and raised it upwards, intensifying the experience.

"Auuh~~ What are you doing?" Madam Seraphina moaned and asked, her eyes hazy from the sensations, as she felt Orion's actions amidst his relentless thrusting.

"This," Orion responded with a broad smile on his face as he held her thigh and spread the other, commencing a repetitive, unrelenting movement.

"Pahh~~~" "Pahhh~~~"

"Uaah~~~ Aauh~~~"

As time passed, Orion further increased his pace and the force behind his thrusts.

"PAHH~~~ PAAHH~~~"

"AARRGG~~ UUUHHH~~~"

"PAAAHHH~~~~ PAHHH~~~~ PAHHH~~~"

"AHHHH~~ UAAAHH~~~~ AHHH~~"

After several moments had passed, Orion could feel the mounting pressure in his balls. He had intended to hold off for a few more minutes, but when he glanced down at Madam Seraphina, who was almost half-conscious, her eyelids drooping with each thrust, he decided not to push her too far, particularly since it was her first time.

Seizing the opportunity, he allowed himself to release.

"I'm cumming!!" Orion exclaimed, breaking the semi-conscious Madam Seraphina out of her trance.

She instantly awoke, feeling a surge of incredibly warm liquid gushing forth from Orion's veiny bulging penis, which was currently nestled within the extremely soaked, velvety confines of her tight insides. The liquid shot upward with incredible force toward her womb.

"AAAAHHHH~~~~" Madam Seraphina's back arched sharply as she screamed out in pleasure.

Orion's thick semen effortlessly penetrated her womb, fertilizing her eggs with remarkable precision.

"Haaa... Haaa..." Both of them began to breathe heavily as Orion collapsed on top of Madam Seraphina's curvaceous body.

She had also regained her consciousness after an exhausting yet exhilarating session.

'So... Haaa... This is how a penetration feels,' Madam Seraphina thought as she attempted to regain her composure. She couldn't help but ponder how she had accommodated the full length and impressive girth of Orion's throbbing, veiny penis, and wondered if she could ever be with anybody aside from Orion.

"Probably not..." She sighed and mumbled under her breath, still unable to feel her legs.

"Haaa.... How was it?" Orion asked.

Madam Seraphina turned her head to the side, locking her gaze with him. Slowly, a smile spread across her face. "It was wonderful; I've never felt so alive in my life," she responded.

Hearing her words, a broad smile adorned Orion's lips as he leaned in, pressing his lips against hers.

The kiss was tender yet filled with enough passion to ignite a simmering heat within her, sending a tingling sensation throughout her body.

Orion eventually pulled his lips away, observing the various strings of saliva formed by their locked lips. He looked at Madam Seraphina, who met his gaze with wide eyes, her heart racing with emotion.

"What, do I have something on my face?" Orion quipped, raising a brow.

Madam Seraphina shook her head abruptly, feeling a bit embarrassed for being caught staring at Orion. She swiftly regained her composure and locked eyes with him again.

"I don't know how to say this, so I can only let you feel it yourself to understand," Madam Seraphina shifted her body to the side and took Orion's right hand in both of hers, placing it on her chest.

Orion felt the strong, rhythmic beating of her heart and instantly grasped what she was trying to convey. He removed his gaze from her uncovered breast and locked eyes with her once more.

"I feel like I will definitely regret keeping this to myself if I don't say it, so here I go," Madam Seraphina said, her unwavering resolve shining in her eyes.

"I love you," she confessed, holding her breath as she locked eyes with Orion.

Orion couldn't help but be impressed by her confidence, even though it might have been due to her Prismerton origin. He also couldn't deny that being on the receiving end of a confession felt good.

Now he understood why some women felt as though the world revolved around them. In fact, who wouldn't, knowing that such confessions might pop up from unexpected places every week?

However, that thought was fleeting.

The moment Orion felt Madam Seraphina's hands trembling against his, he smiled broadly. Orion turned around, settling his back on the bed while holding her tightly as she now lay on his chest. Leaning forward, he softly kissed her lips and then whispered, "I love you too," before settling back on the bed.

He then gently removed her alluring dress, leaving her naked atop him.

"Does that answer your question?" Orion asked with a small smile, gazing at her dazed expression. "I think we should also focus on health and the baby, as you're going to become a mother soon," he added, watching as she snapped out of her daze, staring at him in astonishment.

"I'm pregnant?" Madam Seraphina questioned, confusion etched on her face.

Orion nodded in agreement. "You might not take my words seriously until you start experiencing the symptoms. Until then, I want you to take your health seriously and be vigilant for anything out of the ordinary," he advised.

He wondered about how Prismerions experienced their pregnancy symptoms and whether Elysia had already noticed any, as he hadn't seen her in the morning up until now.

'I'll also need to ask about Elysia when I speak with the Queen tomorrow,' Orion pondered.

Meanwhile, even though Madam Seraphina remained puzzled and sceptical about Orion's words, she chose to take them seriously and nodded in understanding.

"Don't worry, I'm a part of the Prismerian Healer's Council, remember? So you don't have to worry about my health; it's something I can easily manage," Madam Seraphina assured as she settled herself comfortably on Orion's chest.

Just as she was about to shift and get even more comfortable, a subtle sound suddenly reached her ears, causing her to immediately turn her head toward the window.

Chapter 453 The Tempting Invitation

"What's wrong?" Orion asked, his gaze fixed on Madam Seraphina's doubtful expression as she scanned the room.

Madam Seraphina glanced at the window again, then shook her head and focused on Orion.

"I thought I heard something. Maybe it was just my imagination," she said.

Orion's brows furrowed at her words, and he decided to take a closer look around. He knew that if she was right, and there was truly someone else present, there was only one person it could be.

Orion gently grabbed Madam Seraphina's curvaceous hip to get her attention, then slowly guided her down from his chest to the bed. "Let me check just to be sure. After all, we don't want anyone to know about our relationship before we make it official, right?" Orion suggested.

Madam Seraphina's eyes widened in realization as she hadn't considered that view.

It was true that news of their relationship spreading could create quite a stir, especially given the current situation in the kingdom. So, it was indeed wise for them to keep it a secret until they had the chance to reveal it themselves.

Orion left the bed and pretended to examine various hidden corners of the room before making his way toward the window.

Once he reached it, he gently pulled aside the curtain and caught sight of a familiar figure trembling and shivering behind it.

"Is there someone out there?" Madam Seraphina asked from her comfortable spot on the bed, observing as Orion finally came to a halt after thoroughly searching the room.

Princess Crystalia stood trembling beside the curtain, her gaze locking with Orion's as she listened to Madam Seraphina's voice.

In the past, she wouldn't have been so fearful of being caught or of witnessing something like this.

She would have merely felt mild shame and embarrassment.

However, now that Orion had demonstrated his strength, and proven his intimacy with her mother's personal maid and one of the leaders of the Prismarian Healer's Council, she was terrified of what might happen to her. She understood that she shouldn't have seen this.

"No, you were right, it's nothing," Orion replied, shaking his head. He then turned to Madam Seraphina with relief before shifting his attention to Princess Crystalia.

Her shoulders slumped, and she let out a quiet, relieved sigh.

Orion couldn't help but smile mischievously at her reaction. He leaned forward slightly, causing Princess Crystalia to take a step back, her body tensing up.

"It's okay to be curious, but you're going to get yourself into trouble sooner or later if you keep coming here at night. However, if you really want to understand how it feels, come back here at the same time. I'll be waiting for you, alone and ready," Orion whispered into her ear.

He then quickly leaned back and arranged the curtains properly, so as not to spoil the mood or alert Madam Seraphina to what had just transpired.

Internally, Orion snorted at the mental image of Princess Crystalia's gown folded between her legs.

How could he not tell what was going on in her body when he had spotted the moist patches on the lower end of her gown?

Additionally, the fact that the window was open behind her suggested she could have left whenever she wished instead of staying to continue watching.

He was certain Princess Crystalia would return tomorrow.

"Vixen!" Princess Crystalia muttered under her breath.

She took a deep breath and released it before turning around to free her dress from between her thighs.

With a quick jump, she exited the window, climbed back up, and closed it behind her after grabbing the rope she used to descend into Orion's room.

She left her questions for another time, knowing they would meet again tomorrow, and she planned to have a serious conversation with him.

Madam Seraphina immediately turned her head toward the strange sound coming from the direction of the window as Orion lay on the bed, making himself comfortable.

Observing this, Orion wrapped his arms around her waist and rolled on top of her, then rolled over to the other side, positioning her properly on top of him.

As his flaccid member gradually grew firmer and brushed against Madam Seraphina's garden, Orion extended his arm below her back and positioned his two fingers on her vaginal lips.

He then inserted his semi-flaccid penis into her delicately folded labia.

"Uahh~~~Uaaah~~" Madam Seraphina felt his intrusion but widened both of her legs over his to accommodate his entry.

After making sure that everything had settled in, Orion said, "Let's go to sleep." He wrapped both arms around her and pulled her close to him.

Madam Seraphina nodded softly and rested her head on Orion's chest. She suppressed the pleasurable sensations in her legs and drifted off to sleep.

"Good night, dear," she whispered softly, causing Orion to smile as he, too, fell asleep.

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The next day

"The Queen is waiting for you inside," a guard held the door open for Orion to enter.

Orion nodded in understanding and walked into the room, the doors closing behind him.

His gaze immediately met Elysia's, who stood beside the queen, but she quickly averted her eyes, looking at the floor.

Elysia's body trembled as she concentrated on the ground beneath her.

"I thought you would take your time and rest properly before coming, so I decided to have a little breakfast while I wait," Queen Selene said, offering Orion a light smile from her seat as he approached her.

Orion heard Queen Selene's weary voice and turned his attention to her. It was evident from her appearance that she had a challenging time sleeping, with dark bags under her eyes.

It appeared she had also attempted to remove the choker, but it seemed to have been in vain, as she was still wearing it around her neck.

Observing Orion's gaze fixed on the ancient artefact still wrapped around her neck, Queen Selene shook her head, a wry smile playing on her lips.

Chapter 454 The Monarch's Audience

She spoke, "I've already dispatched a message to the Crystalforge Clan's elders, and they will arrive soon to deal with the ancient artefact."

She lightly touched the artefact, then withdrew her hand. "There's no need for you to worry. Your heroic actions in saving me and the royal family yesterday were more than enough. The Crystalforge Clan will take it from here."? She refrained from asking for Orion's assistance directly, her caution regarding him growing, especially now that he had revealed his strength to be on par with her own.

To ensure they could obtain information about the outside world and find a way to leave the mountain, they couldn't possibly convince Orion that nobody in the Crystalforge Clan or the entire Prismarian Kingdom could challenge his strength, no matter what.

Orion, however, effortlessly saw through her deception. If the Queen, the most powerful individual in the Crystalforge Clan, couldn't remove the artefact, then who could? The answer was quite straightforward: no one.

Had the Queen been able to, she would have already disposed of it, or at the very least, be actively working to remove it, rather than allowing it to stay around her neck up to this point.

Yet, even though he detected her lie and suspected she was putting up a facade, Orion nodded in understanding.

"I did what I believed was right yesterday, so you don't need to concern yourself. If a similar situation arises again, I will make the same decision without hesitation," he assured her.

Queen Selene smiled upon hearing Orion's words. Despite her continued caution regarding Orion, his sincerity did offer some relief.

"If that's the case," Queen Selene responded thoughtfully, "I'll gladly accept your help without hesitation." She continued, "But before that, I hope you can share your knowledge about the world beyond this mountain." She secretly released a sigh as she awaited Orion's response.

Orion detected the hint of pleading in Queen Selene's voice and realized that she wished to commence their conversation on this topic.

Certainly, Orion would have willingly shared fragments of this information, but his knowledge of the outside world was quite limited. Apart from his village and the surrounding territories plagued by Vyklr vines of varying strengths, he shook his head and let out a deep sigh. "I'm sorry, Queen Selene, but I don't think I can provide this information..."

"Mr. Orion," Queen Selene promptly interjected before Orion could finish his sentence, "Please, I'm not asking for much. Even if it's just a small piece of information, I'll gladly accept it. The Prismerian Kingdom has been isolated for thousands of years, far longer than any of us, even our ancestors, can remember. So, even if we may never see it for ourselves, we'd be more than satisfied to hear about it.."

Initially, her voice was resolute, but as she continued to speak, it began to quiver. She couldn't help it because, in the face of the imminent upheaval that was about to engulf the Prismerian Kingdom and could potentially claim numerous lives, including hers if she failed to be cautious, her strength had already dwindled to that of an ordinary Prismerion.

Thus, with an outsider seated before her, someone who had ventured beyond the mountain, how could she not feel a profound sense of regret for not knowing what lay in the world beyond?

Consequently, she found it increasingly challenging to hold back her emotions as they seeped through those cracks.

Elysia's body tensed as she observed this, well aware of Queen Selene's fragile emotional state from years of service. Understanding the potential ramifications if her Queen were to break down and

express her emotions during this important meeting, Elysia immediately called out, "Mr. Orion!" She bowed her head at a perfect 90-degree angle, effectively interrupting the proceedings.

Queen Selene turned her head with a furrowed brow, somewhat surprised by Elysia's abrupt interruption, as it deviated from her usual behaviour.

Orion's attention was abruptly pulled toward Elysia, and he also regarded her with surprise, clearly caught off guard by her sudden voice.

"Please, I understand your reservations about the Prismerian Kingdom and its inhabitants," Elysia implored. "However, considering the strength you've demonstrated and the Queen's unique circumstances, I believe there's no problem you couldn't handle. Therefore, on behalf of the Prismerian Kingdom, I beg you. Please, even if it's just a brief description, share with us your knowledge of the outside world."

Elysia only realized the weight of her words after she'd finished speaking, and her gaze was met by two of the most powerful individuals in the entire Prismerian Kingdom.

This realization sent a shiver down her spine, to the point where she dared not lift her head.

Queen Selene bit her lip in frustration, her hands unconsciously clutching a piece of her gown that lay against her thighs as she observed Elysia's bowed figure.

Every word Elysia had just spoken were the words the Queen herself wished to convey. However, how could she, the Queen of the Prismerian Kingdom, the current strongest Prismerion among her people, stoop to such a level and utter such words?

It was unseemly, beneath her dignity.

No, it was more than unseemly; it was wholly unfitting of her exalted status.

Thus, seeing her personal maid, Elysia, utter such words on her behalf, Queen Selene was not only angry at herself but also deeply disappointed for allowing her emotions and internal struggles to become so painfully obvious, allowing Elysia to discern her inner turmoil.

"Elysia, are you fully aware of the repercussions that stem from interrupting a royal gathering?" Queen Selene asked, her eyes narrowing as she played her part with regal authority.

Elysia nodded, her lips quivering, her entire body shuddering even more under the Queen's scrutiny. "Yes, Your Highness, I am fully aware."

"In light of this most unacceptable interruption, I trust you are prepared to accept the consequences, are you not?" Queen Selene remarked, closing her eyes and heaving a silent sigh at the sight of Elysia's trembling form.

"Y.. es..."

"Runaway Cities...." Orion spoke.

Chapter 455 The Monarch's Audience (2)

"Individuals aspiring to become legends, and creatures capable of battling the Vylkr vines. These are the only bits of information I can offer you for now," Orion said, his wry smile still lingering.

Ironically, he couldn't help but reflect on the situation.

The Prismerian Kingdom was eager to escape the mountain and return to the surface, braving whatever dangers awaited them. Yet, Orion was certain that if given the choice, the Village would willingly isolate themselves from the outside world, much like what they did to the farm.

"As for the rest, you'll have to see it for yourself," he concluded.

Queen Selene stared at Orion with wide eyes, her ears perking up the moment she heard his words, absorbing every bit of information that spilt from his lips.

'Runaway Cities, individuals aspiring to be legends, and creatures capable of battling the Vylkr vines,' she thought, repeating these words like a mantra, as if trying to etch them into her memory.

She wasn't alone in her attempt, as Elysia was doing her best to commit these words to memory as well.

Queen Selene felt her lips tremble as she finally spoke to Orion. "Is... everything you've said true?" Her voice was tinged with a mixture of excitement and apprehension.

Although his descriptions were vague and left her craving more details, she sensed his reluctance to share further information, so she left it at that since it wasn't as if she could compel him to divulge more than he was willing to provide.

"Yes," Orion nodded in response.

While he had his doubts about the validity of Stronghold Leader Drakar's information, considering how confident and sincere he had seemed when proposing their escape before plummeting them in the hot balloon, he also considered the possibility they had been deceived by the caravans.

This would mean that Stronghold Leader Drakar was out there searching for a place that might not exist.

As for the consequences of lying to the Prismerian Kingdom, Orion was prepared to face them when the time came.

Queen Selene nodded solemnly at Orion's words, then turned to Elysia, saying, "You may leave us, Elysia. We will discuss your punishment later." She had regained her composure, maintaining control over her emotions, which had briefly threatened to overwhelm her.

Elysia nodded, her body trembling slightly one last time before she turned and left, closing the door behind her.

Queen Selene spoke, saying, "Firstly, I am thankful that you've given me any explanation, no matter how vague it may seem. I also apologize for the rude behaviour of my headmaid; she isn't usually like that. Perhaps something might have unsettled her today." She smiled faintly as she gazed at Orion.

Orion responded, "I don't believe you should punish her, at least not this time. Since, it's her first time doing something like this, perhaps a warning would suffice. If she repeats her mistake, then you can give a more severe punishment."

Since Elysia might be carrying his child, he wasn't comfortable with the idea of watching her be harshly penalized.

Queen Selene nodded in response and said, "Alright, I'll remember that."

She could see that her efforts to make Orion more comfortable in the Prismerian Kingdom had paid off, especially with the way he had responded to Elysia's issue.

After all, it was Elysia's interjection that prompted him to answer in the first place.

Queen Selene cleared her throat and continued, "Ahem! Let's continue then. Have you thought about the proposal I offered you in exchange for the promises you earned from various clan heirs?"

Orion nodded and replied, "Yes, I have. I would like to hold onto them for now."

Queen Selene stared at Orion, her brows furrowed in confusion for a moment, before she shook her head and released a deep breath.

"I'm confused. While you can make any reasonable request according to the limited number of wishes you currently possess, I don't think you're unaware that, given the current state of the kingdom, they are essentially useless," she said. "Yes, you have the strength to enforce your requests, but just in case you aren't aware, it's not too late to realize that the Prismerions are stubborn individuals. Our confinement in this mountain has only increased our stubbornness, which had even led to the Three Great Slaughter. They would rather die fighting than entertain the kind of requests you might wish for."

"Also, just in case I haven't mentioned it, the royal family is prepared to offer something valuable in exchange," Queen Selene quickly added, her words making Orion raise a brow. "However, if in the end, you choose not to accept, I can only uphold the promise made by the king and ensure that your requests are granted."

Despite completely understanding what the Queen was trying to convey, Orion simply nodded and said, "Alright," before swiftly moving on to the next topic.

"I'm curious to know if the royal family or the Crystalforge clan plans to retaliate," he asked, his gaze curious.

Orion wasn't overly concerned about Queen Selene's words; he could tell that she was anxious due to the current situation and was attempting to indirectly persuade him to work with them.

'Force them with my strength?' Orion snorted at that statement.

Why should he use his strength when he was sure that they would go above and beyond to ensure his wishes were fulfilled due to his status as a foreigner from beyond the mountain and his strength?

So why would they take such a risk and refuse his request, especially when he hadn't even planned to ask for too much and might very well be their only way out of this insufferable mountain?

Of course, unless he was dealing with individuals whose brains needed a jump-start from the sun, Queen Selene's words might indeed be true.

But truthfully, he was already tempted to give his promises to the Royal family, as he could probably guess what they were going to use them for, based on the impression he had drawn from the king's speech.

Chapter 456 The Monarch's Audience (3)

However, he could tell that the Royal family was not willing to show their desperation and openly ask for his help in dealing with this matter.

Sure, he might be a good samaritan; but, he would also do several things that would make him cement his presence and authority in a strange and unknown territory.

As such, if the Royal family and the Crystalforge clan were ready to come clean and directly beg for his help, then Orion would, of course, assist them, as he was being truthful about repeating his actions of saving the royal family from the assassination if such a thing were to happen again.

However, until then, he was also willing to see how long they would last.

Queen Selene sighed in defeat at Orion's response to her proposal before her expression turned serious as she responded, "Yes, the Crystalforge clan and the royal families are going to retaliate, and make the Gemheart Clan wish they had never attempted such an ambush."

Her eyes burned with hatred as she continued, "A message has also been sent to the other major clans to alert them of what happened, and to inform them of the upcoming retaliation. So, we are currently waiting for their response, which will arrive before the end of the day. This way, we can be sure of those who are standing with us and those who are standing against us."

Orion nodded in understanding as he recognized Queen Selene's thinking. It was a wise move to identify their opponents and allies before making any decisions.

"But until then, the royal guards have spread throughout the city to capture or imprison all the descendants of the forgotten clans. They will be publicly sentenced to death for their attempt to openly murder the royal family," Queen Selene said.

"Since they were determined enough to gather such a number and launch such an assault, who's to say they won't be determined to gather even larger numbers in the future? As such, while it may be challenging to completely eradicate them, we can still send a strong message. We'll make them understand that even if their attacks are backed by one of the five major clans, it's impossible for them to go against the royal family."

Queen Selene then fixed her gaze on Orion. "Also, before the elders arrive for my treatment, I want to inform you in advance that some of their intentions might not be pure. While the Crystalforge Clan will fully take responsibility for their actions and impose the respective punishment if they do anything foolish, I still want to let you know that their actions don't represent the entire Crystalforge Clan."

"They might be a part of my clan, but it doesn't mean we share the same intentions," she said, observing Orion's confidence, which she had noticed since yesterday, as she awaited his response.

"Alright, I'll keep that in mind," Orion responded. "However, I hope that this also means I can take matters into my own hands if their actions don't reflect the entire Crystalforge Clan."

He watched as Queen Selene closed her eyes and nodded in response. Orion smiled lightly, confident that she fully understood his words.

"I'll do my best to convey your message when they arrive," Queen Selene replied.

Orion nodded. "How about the remaining attacker I captured yesterday? Has he confessed to anything yet?" He was curious because the Queen seemed so convinced that it was the Gemheart clan behind the assassination attempt.

Orion figured that she must have obtained some information from the attacker to support her claims, as she had mentioned the need for proof to avoid any false accusations, given the open rivalry between the two clans.

"Yes, although he initially refused to divulge any information, after spending several hours in the dungeon with his wounds left untreated, he eventually confessed to some details. It was enough to keep him alive a bit longer," Queen Selene said, crossing her legs and leaning back.

"The person we captured is Neal Gemheart, the younger brother of the current clan mistress of the Gemheart clan, Elara Gemheart. I have no idea why the Gemheart Clan would send the younger brother of the current clan mistress on a suicide mission to assassinate me."

"However, I've heard about the rivalry between the current Clan Head and the clan mistress's younger brother. I never expected it would escalate to the point where they'd plot each other's deaths," she added with an elegant smile.

"Regardless, their rivalry might well lead to the complete collapse of the Gemheart Clan and erase their presence as one of the five major clans."

Orion raised a brow in surprise at Queen Selene's revelation.

Who would have thought that the attacker he captured yesterday, the one whose arm had been blown to bits by the queen, was the younger brother of the beautiful woman who had descended onto the stage to check on Zephyrion's beaten figure?

As for the nature of the rivalry between these two brothers-in-law that had driven them to such extremes, Orion wasn't particularly interested, especially when he considered the Prismeron race and their culture.

With their discussion coming to an end, Queen Selene said, "Although I believe we've already covered all the necessary details and topics if there's anything else you'd like to know, Mr Orion, please feel free to ask."

Orion immediately responded, "There is one more thing that has been on my mind ever since I entered this kingdom."

"Oh, and what is it?" Queen Selene asked, even though she had her doubts about what Orion was referring to.

"I would like to know why the Prismerion race was imprisoned within this mountain," Orion asked with a serious expression as he fixed his gaze on Queen Selene.

He had been holding onto this question for a long time, and now he was curious to finally understand the reason behind it.

Meanwhile, Queen Selene couldn't help but shake her head before closing her eyes briefly in defeat.

She then opened her eyes and returned Orion's gaze. She had expected this question, as Orion had previously asked about it before the assassination attempt.

Chapter 457 The Great War

"Have you ever heard about the Age Of Migration?" Queen Selene asked.

Orion furrowed his brows in confusion before shaking his head in response. Throughout his time in the village, he had never come across anything like that. While there was a chance that such information had been kept secret, Orion doubted it.

From what he had observed, the village seemed to be completely oblivious to the outside world, and their main source of external information was the Caravans.

So even if they possessed this kind of knowledge, it would likely come from the Caravans.

Queen Selene stared at Orion in surprise for a moment before nodding and beginning to explain, "During the Age Of Migration, our worlds could no longer contain or sustain us. It was dying, no longer as prosperous as it once was. In a bid to save us, their children, our gods..."

"Our gods," Orion immediately interrupted.

"Yes, Naka was not our first god. Before we arrived in this world, we served Ilse, the Goddess of Treasures, our creator god. During the Age Of Migration, she was the one who secured us a place among the chosen races to migrate to another world."

Orion's expression grew even more perplexed as he continued to listen. While he appreciated Queen Selene's effort to clarify things for him, he had no prior knowledge of the past, apart from what White Flame had shown him, and thus found it challenging to comprehend the Queen's narrative.

"This is strange," Queen Selene muttered, her voice filled with weariness, as she slumped back in her chair.

She massaged her temples and gazed at Orion, deep in thought. She initially believed that Orion might have come from a place that had forgotten a part of their history, just like the Prismerian Kingdom.

However, after realizing that he truly had no idea about what she was trying to say, Queen Selene began to doubt her assumption.

"So, are you saying that you truly have no idea about the Great War?" Queen Selene asked, her curiosity piqued.

Although the Prismerian Kingdom no longer had detailed records of what occurred during the Great War, she thought that the term 'Great War' would at least ring a bell since it was the most significant event of the 'Age of Migration.'

"I'm sorry, but I truly have no idea about this Great War," Orion responded with sincerity, shaking his head.

He could sense the Queen's doubt, but there was no reason to lie, and he had no incentive to do so, especially in a situation like this.

"Very well, since that's the case, I will explain everything properly so that you can fully understand," Queen Selene said.

She had initially intended to use this opportunity to gather more information about Orion's origins. However, considering that the elders of the Crystalforge clan would arrive shortly and that Orion might not be willing to share such information, she decided to provide him with a thorough explanation about how they were punished and subsequently became trapped in the mountain.

"The Great War was ignited during the Age of Migration by the gods in their bid to secure a place for their creations in this world. As I mentioned earlier, we no longer possess any knowledge of what transpired during that era," Queen Selene explained.

"However, the Ancient Codex, our historical records, provides some insights." Queen Selene felt that it would be more beneficial to disclose this information than to keep it hidden. She cleared her throat and continued, "During the Great War, the land withered, no longer able to sustain life. The once-blue sky was tainted with an eerie glow. The sea ceased to reflect the moon's gentle radiance, contaminated by the ashes and blood of countless corpses."

"With no space left on the earth for burials, the skies themselves became the final resting place for many. Out of fifty thousand races and fifty thousand gods engaged in a battle to secure the gates leading to a new world, only a few survived," Queen Selene's eyes, which had dimmed as she spoke, suddenly lit up with a bright glow as she smiled at Orion. "Luckily, our race was among those who survived."

As Orion absorbed the critical information that Queen Selene was sharing with him, he was taken aback by her unexpected bright smile, which might have been the brightest he had ever seen her smile.

Quickly regaining her composure, she continued to speak with a serious expression on her face. "Of course, our goddess Ilse was responsible for securing a gate for us to enter this world, but she abandoned us, leaving us to fend for ourselves after we began to settle down here."

"Initially, this wasn't a problem as the world's inhabitants were weak and posed no threat to my ancestors, who were among the few races that emerged victorious during the Great War. What we didn't anticipate was that this world, despite not yet being entirely tainted by mana, had gods who were no less formidable than our creator god," she sighed deeply before continuing, "Although there are no records about these gods, the only one we do know about is the White Flame..."

'Man-made gods,' Orion thought, his mind racing with different possibilities as it suddenly dawned on him that White Flame might not be the only human who had become a man-made god.

'How?' was the question Orion wanted to ask, but he could tell that Queen Selene might not be able to provide the answers he sought, so he kept it to himself.

Orion observed as Queen Selene subtly looked up, then focused her attention back on him.

"We do remember the name of the inhabitants of this world, as there was only one race," the Queen said thoughtfully. "I think they were called humans. Although we don't remember what they looked like, the only description we have is that they were humanoid beings. After that, my ancestors decided to find refuge, and the only one to take them in was Naka."

Chapter 458 Transgressions Of The Prismarions

Orion nodded in understanding, now realizing why nobody here had recognized him.

After all, if the only description they had of humans was that they were humanoid beings, then it would be challenging for them to identify him as a human, especially when he could easily disguise himself as a Prismarion by concealing his hair and wearing enough clothes to hide the gem's supposed location.

"Was Naka also one of the gods from this world?" Orion asked, his gaze fixed on Queen Selene with seriousness as he awaited her response.

Having the answer to this question might solve many of the mysteries that had been troubling him.

In response, Queen Selene shook her head.

"I don't know. There were many races and gods that survived the Great War, and keeping track of all of them would have been an impossible feat for us during that time," she replied with a deep sigh.

Orion nodded in understanding, though he couldn't help but feel a tinge of disappointment. For a moment, he thought he was getting closer to unravelling the mystery of who Naka was.

Nevertheless, since the Queen had more to say, he continued to listen.

"After my ancestors sought refuge under Naka, he naturally became our new god, and we treated him with reverence and devotion," Queen Selene explained. "But that was until we made a foolish decision to betray the only god who had taken us under his protection..."

"What did your ancestors do?" Orion asked with curiosity.

"They were foolish enough to be deceived into colluding with the White Flame in an attempt to overthrow and kill Naka."

Orion's eyes widened in surprise as Queen Selene recounted her ancestors' audacious act. He understood that challenging a god was no trivial matter, as White Flame had shown him the immense power of a god.

To Orion, it seemed that they were either exceedingly bold or exceptionally stupid.

"Although their actions might have been arrogant and reckless," Queen Selene continued, "I can't entirely blame them. They were one of the few races that survived the Great War, a conflict that involved fifty thousand races and fifty thousand gods. It's reasonable for them to believe that they could take on a god with the help of another god. However, as you might have guessed, they lost and found themselves at Naka's complete mercy."

As she spoke, Queen Selene's voice carried a sense of dejection and regret.

She noticed Orion's gaze and continued, "Naka, as benevolent as he was, was willing to forgive them. But they committed an unforgivable act, one that even Naka could not overlook."

Unconsciously, she gripped the side of her armrest, her other hand tightly clutching a part of her gown.

Recognizing Queen Selene's efforts to maintain her composure, Orion pressed further, his curiosity growing. "Queen Selene, what did they do?" he asked, eager to learn the details of their offence.

The queen collected herself and turned her focus to Orion. "Our ancestors weren't the only race that Naka took under his protection. Among them were the Nymphs."

Orion felt a lump in his throat as he began to connect the dots.

"My ancestors broke the one law that Naka had given us, which was to not harm the other races under his protection. In their quest to reach Naka and end his existence, they took the lives of the Nymphs, pushing the already almost extinct race, who had barely survived the Great War, to the brink of annihilation. The Ancient Codex describes the event as horrific," Queen Selene explained. As she spoke, her gaze grew distant.

"As punishment, my ancestors awoke within this mountain with little to no memory of how they got here, and the god they once allied with, White Flame, now roams above their heads with a burning desire to end their lives. So, you could say we deserve the punishment we've been given," she continued.

"However, after countless millennia, we finally have someone visit us from outside the mountain. Naturally, we should be thrilled that there might be a way for us to leave this mountain. But once again, we are about to do something foolish, opting for war instead of working together to find a way out of here."

Queen Selene refocused her gaze on Orion.

"That's everything I can tell you. Do you have any other questions, Mr. Orion?" she asked.

Orion immediately said, "So, you already knew about the identity of the injured woman in my hands when I arrived in the palace?"

He realized that despite the close scrutiny he'd been under in the castle, no one had questioned him about Saria's identity or how she had managed to enter and recover while being in a tree.

It appeared that this secret was known to only a few, as neither Madam Seraphina nor the rest of the Prismerian Healer's council had recognized her.

"Though we had several guesses, we naturally didn't know that she was a tree nymph, as this event had taken place a long time ago. That's why we needed your opinion to verify our thoughts, and you've just confirmed it," Queen Selene responded with a bright smile, the second time Orion had seen her smile so radiantly.

Orion began to speak but stopped himself, sighing softly before refocusing his attention on the Queen.

"I have one more question," Orion asked.

Although he had unintentionally revealed some information to the Queen, he trusted himself not to fall for something like that again.

"What is it?" Queen Selene asked, curious about his question.

"If your ancestors were trapped within this mountain alongside the White Flame, then how is there a Garden below this mountain as well, and who is the Princess of the Garden?" Orion asked.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Orion, but I'm afraid that's the one question I won't be able to answer," Queen Selene replied.

Orion frowned and asked, "And why is that, Queen Selene?"

"Please understand, Mr. Orion, it's not that I don't want to respond to your question. The problem is that I am unable to because, just like you, I have no idea who the Princess of the Garden is or how a Garden such as this came into existence. In fact, no one does," Queen Selene explained.

Chapter 459 The Concealed Identity

"You can say that the only reason she is regarded with so much respect is because only she is capable of controlling the resources of the garden. Although she holds more authority than all five major clans combined, another thing is that she does not interfere with the affairs of the kingdom or care about who succeeds the throne, as long as it doesn't bring harm to the garden. As for how strong she is, we haven't been stupid enough to try to find out, so no one knows," Queen Selene explained, sharing everything they knew about the Princess of the Garden and the Garden.

Orion's frown deepened. 'If even the Prismarian Kingdom has no idea who she is, then what could be her identity?' Orion thought, realizing that uncovering the identity of the Princess of the Garden might be more complicated than he initially assumed.

"We have tried asking her about her identity, Mr. Orion, but she has never responded to such a question. I'm afraid that we may never find out her identity or how she arrived here, so there's no

need for you to stress yourself about such an issue," Queen Selene said with a light sigh, as if she could easily see through Orion's thoughts.

"If you are worried about something bad happening to the nymph that came with you, then rest assured, the Princess of the Garden will not let anything bad happen to her. We might not know who she is, but I can definitely affirm that she is not as evil as you might be thinking."

Despite the fact that he already knew the Princess of the Garden intimately and was merely focused on her history and identity because she was soon going to become the mother of his children, Orion nodded in understanding at Queen Selene's words. After all, it wasn't as though he could tell her that.

"There is one more question that I would like to ask," Orion said.

He watched as Queen Selene nodded in response and continued, "How long has the Princess of the Garden been in charge of taking care of this Garden?"

"The Princess of the Garden has always been in charge of the garden since 7000 years ago," Queen Selene responded, wondering why Orion seemed so interested in the Princess of the Garden.

Orion gulped. 'That long,' he thought.

However, at this point, he was beginning to have some doubts about how long the Prismarions had been trapped in this mountain since there was no way they could have accurately kept track of their time here right at the beginning when they had just settled down.

So, it would only mean that seven thousand years was just an estimation.

The more Orion thought about it, the more he began to think that it might be true. Nonetheless, he opened his lips to ask more questions, but he was suddenly interrupted by a resounding sound coming from the door.

"It seems that this meeting will have to come to an end for now, Mr. Orion," Queen Selene said with a light smile before she uncrossed her legs and proceeded to stand up from her seat.

"I'll see you later, Mr. Orion," Queen Selene added as she withdrew her eyes from Orion and walked out of the room, opening and closing the door behind her.

In the room, Orion slumped back in his seat. He glanced at the tray of fruits on the table before extending his hand to grab a piece and take a bite.

Unexpectedly, as Orion decided to take a moment to rest and absorb the information he had just received, the door was abruptly pulled open once more, catching his attention.

"Elysia," Orion said as he regarded the woman who had just entered the room and now stood in front of him.

"The Queen has sent me to take care of your orders," Elysia responded, bowing respectfully toward Orion.

Orion noticed her slight trembling form, and he called out to her, "Elysia." Her body trembled even more, and her head tilted further toward the ground. But Orion continued, "Take a seat."

A brief period of silence enveloped the room for a moment before Elysia quietly nodded her head and took a seat. Her face, however, remained pointed toward the ground as she waited for Orion to speak.

"You know, I don't think it's healthy for you to feel so stressed as it might also harm the baby," Orion said with a faint smile.

He observed as Elysia suddenly raised her head and stared at him with wide eyes.

"How did you know?" she spoke in surprise before quickly covering her mouth with her hands.

Orion raised an eyebrow at her words before he narrowed his eyes. "So you're already aware that you're pregnant?" he asked.

Elysia swallowed, leaving her throat dry as she responded, "Yes."

Orion observed her fidgeting body and couldn't help but wonder if she was more worried about the pregnancy, the circumstances surrounding it, or his new position in the Kingdom.

Unable to discern the answer at the moment, he decided to continue their conversation in his room.

"Let's go to my room and have a proper conversation," Orion said as he rose from his seat and walked out of the room, with Elysia nodding her head and quickly following behind him.

As they made their way, he began to realize why their attires seemed so familiar, becoming convinced that they must have borrowed some ideas from humans.

He also pondered when Merida would arrive and contemplated how he could extract more information from the Princess of the Garden about her identity.

Now that things were like this, Orion wanted to get answers to his burning questions, hoping for a better understanding of what had transpired during the Invasion and how the world had morphed into its current state.

Without this knowledge, he couldn't fathom returning peacefully to his previous life in the village.

Orion pondered the old saying, 'Ignorance is bliss,' shaking his head wearily, a sigh escaping his lips.

Chapter 460 The Council Of Elders

Throne room

Queen Selene entered the throne room, flanked by two rows of guards, both in front and behind her.

As they reached the throne area, half of the guards remained by the door while the others assumed their positions around the platform leading to her majestic throne.

Her watchful gaze scanned the room, settling on the six Crystalforge elders seated at the rectangular table before her. She nodded regally and spoke, "Since everyone is present, let us begin."

Then, Queen Selene turned her attention to one of the elders. "Elder Caz, how is the situation within the clan?" she asked.

Elder Caz, an elderly man with waist-length bluish hair locs and wearing a long grey robe, rose from his seat and replied, "My Queen, the Crystalforge clan is fully prepared for war. Depending on the responses we receive from the remaining five major clans, we will discern our allies from our opponents and act accordingly."

"And what about the artefact? Have you discovered any references to it in the Ancient Codex?" Queen Selene queried as her fingers lightly brushed against the unfamiliar fabric of the collar around her neck.

Elder Caz scrutinized the artefact adorning the Queen's neck, then he shook his head with a sense of resignation.

"I have examined the Ancient Codex, Your Majesty, but I found no reference to an artefact as dangerous as this, capable of suppressing and restraining the abilities of an individual at the Crystal King rank," he responded.

Queen Selene exhaled a sigh of disappointment at his words and gave a nod of understanding.

Her gaze shifted to another elder seated near Elder Caz. "Elder Auli, have you also investigated this artefact and found no information about it?" she asked.

Elder Auli, an extremely old woman, also adorned in a long, grey robe, stood up, bowed before Queen Selene, and then shook her head as she spoke, "I regret to inform you, Your Majesty, that we couldn't find any information regarding this artefact."

"In fact, if we were to make a guess, it's likely one of the lost artefacts. This would explain why no records exist, as it was likely lost before any documentation was created."

Lost artefacts were relics, imbued with powerful magic and significance, which had vanished during the 'Three Great Slaughters' that predated the establishment of the Prismerian Kingdom.

Consequently, these items had never been recorded in the Ancient Codex.

Queen Selene's expression furrowed at Elder Auli's words. While she had suspected it was a lost ancient artefact, the confirmation only complicated the situation further.

Nodding in understanding, Queen Selene motioned for Elder Auli to take her seat before addressing the assembly.

"Given that we have no other viable means to rid me of this troublesome artefact, I have reached a decision to visit the Princess of the Garden. Perhaps she possesses knowledge or abilities that could help me remove this artefact from my neck."

"My Queen, I believe entrusting such a sensitive matter to the Princess of the Garden would be unwise," cautioned one of the elders.

"Elder Cailan is correct, Your Majesty. We have no knowledge of the Princess of the Garden's allegiance, so suggesting such an action might not be in our best interests," echoed another.

Numerous objections were voiced by four elders who each expressed their concerns about the Queen's proposal.

"Silence!" Queen Selene's command echoed through the room, immediately quelling all voices.

"The Princess of the Garden, along with the Guardians, has been safeguarding the garden for a span predating the very existence of the Prismarian Kingdom. Throughout that entire duration, she has never once meddled in our kingdom's affairs or the fate of our race."

"So, instead of speculating about her allegiance, let's hope that she will assist us in resolving this matter. If not, we may have to face the stark reality that the Crystalforge Clan's future is uncertain at best," she declared firmly, her gaze sweeping across the assembly. "Do any of you object to this?"

Resignedly or begrudgingly, some of the elders present nodded their heads in acknowledgement, understanding that the Princess of the Garden was their best hope for saving the Crystalforge Clan.

"My Queen, what about the foreigner? Why don't we consider asking him for help first? We could offer him gifts as a gesture of goodwill in exchange for his assistance. This approach might not only improve our relationship with him but also convey to him that..." Elder Hale began to make his suggestion, but Queen Selene cut him off.

"Elder Hale," Queen Selene interjected sharply, fixing her gaze on the elderly man who shared an appearance with the other council members but bore a reluctant expression on his face.

"Yes, my queen," Elder Hale responded, bowing his head apologetically.

"I hope that you understand that involving a foreigner, who came from outside the mountain and is now considered one of the strongest individuals in the Prismarian Kingdom, in our affairs not only exposes our vulnerability but also places us in a position where we might have to relinquish our authority to him at any moment."

"And this means yielding our control to someone about whom we have limited knowledge, and who has been here for only a few days. Now, Elder Hale, are you ready to cede your authority to a stranger?" Queen Selene's words cut through the air, her piercing gaze fixed on Elder Hale, and her voice conveying a frigid authority that resonated throughout the grand throne room.

Of course, she had no reservations about seeking Orion's assistance, as she had already formed a rudimentary understanding of the kind of man he was. She sensed that he harboured no ill intentions or malice toward them, especially considering his previous display of strength when he saved her and the royal family.

However, if she were to seek his help, it would be a measure of last resort, after exhausting all other options.

Additionally, she was well aware that Elder Hale appeared content with her current circumstances. Therefore, his proposal wasn't solely motivated by a desire to forge a relationship with Orion but rather stemmed from his fear that the Princess of the Garden might indeed possess the means to restore her strength.