

## Village Head 461

### Chapter 461 The Council of Elders (2)

"No, my Queen, I apologize for not thinking that far ahead," Elder Hale replied, bowing his head even lower as a clear display of his apologetic demeanour.

Queen Selene nodded sternly at him before scanning the assembly once more. She asked, "Does anyone else have any objections?" Her gaze swept across the room, awaiting their responses.

One by one, they all shook their heads in agreement, including Elder Hale, who reluctantly joined the agreement.

Queen Selene was about to proceed with the next matter when the throne room's grand doors swung open.

King Brylon entered with a contingent of guards in tow, ascending the platform and taking his seat on the royal throne.

His gaze locked with Queen Selene's, and a silent exchange passed between them. He then turned his attention back to the council of elders seated before him.

Observing that her husband had seemingly recovered from the shock he had endured during the previous day's incident, Queen Selene nodded in acknowledgement.

She returned her focus to the elders, saying, "Now, for the next matter, we will need to assemble several qualified and trained groups to explore the upper regions of the mountain, alongside the foreigner..."

The elders all perked up, surprised that the Queen was suggesting a scout mission during such a crucial time.

"This approach can help us determine if we can truly leave this mountain," Queen Selene continued. "If it's possible, we can use it as leverage during the war, ultimately leading the Prismerian Kingdom out of this mountain. However, if it's not feasible, we must ensure that we don't prolong the conflict and risk the power shifting away from the hands of the five major clans."

While Queen Selene planned to end the Gemheart Clan's enmity, she was cautious not to disrupt the kingdom's power balance.

She saw this as an opportunity to replace the Gemheart Clan and their supporters with one of the smaller clans under their influence, ensuring a smooth transition in the hierarchy and preventing future conflicts of this magnitude.

And even if they couldn't claim the throne for themselves when the time came, they would remain in control, with their authority over the Prismarian Kingdom unchallenged.

"My Queen, will the Princess and that child be among the scouts?" Elder Auli suddenly asked.

It was widely known in the kingdom that the Princess and her personal guard had received a special blessing from the Guardians of the Garden, granting them the power to defeat the White Flame.

However, even though they had been too weak to fully receive the blessing, that hadn't stopped the Princess and her personal guard from venturing alone into the upper region of the mountain.

Their safe returns, and the fact that they had been the ones to bring the foreigner into the kingdom, led them to believe that even a fraction of the Guardian of the Garden's blessing could enhance the chances of the scouts' success.

"It's too dangerous for them to join the scouts," Queen Selene responded, shaking her head.

"But, Your Majesty, considering that they are the only ones who have received the blessings of the Guardians, whether it was a mistake or not, I don't think the scouts will feel determined or not feel like they're being sent to their deaths if they are not accompanied by Princess Crystalia and her personal guard," Elder Auli replied, disagreeing with Queen Selene's words.

Queen Selene frowned at her words. She was about to respond when a voice interrupted.

"Yes, Elder Auli is right. Although the Princess might be extremely weak when compared to the White Flame, however, when compared to her peers, she and that boy are definitely above them in a way that could only be called a monstrosity."

"And since the foreigner would accompany them in looking for a way out of this mountain, considering the strength that he had displayed, I don't believe it would be dangerous for them to go with the scouts," Elder Caz interrupted, "Besides, if it goes well, then it would be easy for us to secure the throne for the Princess and retain our authority over the Prismerian Kingdom."

"And what if they fail?" King Brylon asked, staring at Elder Caz intently. He did not like the idea of sending his daughter to the upper region of the mountain.

Elder Caz turned to look at the king before he shook his head in response and replied, "We can only hope that they don't," with a tired sigh escaping his lips.

King Brylon wanted to open his mouth and respond, however, he kept his words to himself.

After all, this was a very delicate situation, and he could not let his emotions decide for him in such a crucial matter. That would be unbecoming of him as the King of the Prismerian Kingdom.

Meanwhile, Queen Selene was deep in thought, considering the elders' opinions before she heaved a weary sigh.

"Alright," Queen Selene said, nodding her head as she displayed a faint smile, "I will arrange for the princess and the boy to participate in the scout mission. However, before that, I will also have to speak with the Princess of the Garden about this and see if there is any way that they can both retake the trial to receive the blessings of the Guardians completely."

"Will they allow it?" Elder Cailan suddenly asked.

"Of course, I am sure they will," Queen Selene responded.

Although she wasn't overly confident, there was no harm in trying to see if her plan would work. If it didn't, then all they could do was hope that the scouting mission would be successful.

"I will go to the Garden and speak with the Guardians, and hear their response. The rest of you may leave and rest in the rooms that have been prepared for you while we await their reply, along with responses from the other major clans," Queen Selene declared.

She rose from her throne, with her husband by her side, and the guards around the platform began to disperse, escorting them out of the throne room.

#### Chapter 462 Recruiting the Elite Knight

The council of Crystalforge clan elders promptly rose and respectfully chimed in unison, "Yes, your majesties!"

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"Mr. Orion, I don't think we should be doing this," Elysia hesitated, her back against the bed. An uncomfortable sensation spread throughout her body, and her heart raced, making her feel weak.

Only a few days ago, she had intended to take advantage of the man before her, but she hadn't anticipated that he would overpower her and do the same to her.

To make matters more bewildering, she had become pregnant just a few hours later.

A few hours!

What kind of logic was that?

Were people from beyond the mountain this fertile?

As much as she was concerned about the baby she was now carrying, she understood the importance of keeping this secret hidden to avoid punishment from the queen.

She also had reservations about Orion's new position in the kingdom, fearing he might act harshly toward her, given her prior intentions.

Elysia's apprehension grew more intense as Orion's gaze remained fixed on her.

On the other hand, Orion observed Elysia's nervous behaviour, raising an eyebrow.

He shook his head, let out a sigh, and reclined on the side of the bed. Wrapping an arm around Elysia, he gently pulled her to his chest.

"You know, you're going to make me feel like the bad guy if you keep behaving like this," Orion said, sighing again as he held Elysia close.

Elysia averted her gaze, her body growing weak under his embrace.

After an uneasy silence, she took a deep breath to calm her racing heart and whispered, "I'm sorry."

Orion's ears perked up as Elysia's voice gently flowed into his hearing. Suspecting he might have misheard, he turned to look at her and asked, "What did you say?"

"I said, I'm sorry," Elysia repeated, making sure her words were clear for Orion to hear.

Sensing the arms wrapped around her tightened, Elysia's body stiffened further.

Leaning closer, Orion whispered in her ear, "What did you say? Speak up a bit louder so I can hear you better."

Elysia felt her heart pounding faster, causing her body to grow increasingly uncomfortable. In a sudden surge of emotion, she decided to release her feelings and opened her mouth to scream, "I'M SORRY!!" Her voice echoed loudly, and she began to heave heavily as if she had just finished running a marathon.

As her intense emotions subsided, Elysia felt another arm gently wrap around her waist, holding her close.

Just as she was about to speak, Orion's lips suddenly met hers, and she found herself locked in a passionate kiss.

Her eyes widened in surprise, but as her lips intertwined with Orion's, she gradually surrendered to the moment, relishing the warmth of their bond.

After a few minutes, Orion gently pulled away from the kiss and gazed into Elysia's eyes. He used his hands to sweep her hair locs back from her face and said, "Apology accepted."

A soft smile graced his lips as he looked at Elysia.

Elysia, too overwhelmed to argue or speak, simply slumped into his chest, taking in his comforting scent.

Just then, a series of knocks echoed from outside the door.

Elysia was startled out of her calm daze and looked at the door, her suspicion mounting. She turned her gaze toward Orion and asked, "Are you expecting anybody?"

Orion furrowed his brows, pondering who might be at the door. He dismissed the possibility of it being Princess Crystalia, having already arranged to meet with her later in the night. Similarly, Madam Seraphina was unlikely to visit today due to her preparations for the impending war.

Considering these factors, Orion suspected that the visitor could be Merida, who had perhaps arrived and needed to inform him of her presence.

He carefully set Elysia aside and rose from the bed, heading toward the door to discover the identity of the person outside.

Elysia, without needing any prompting, immediately concealed herself beneath the sheets, her curious eyes peeking out.

Orion silently approved of her discretion, recognizing that it wasn't the right time to reveal his relationship with the Queen's personal maid.

He reached for the doorknob and swung it open.

Before him stood a figure adorned in pristine, imposing armour. A massive sword was fastened to the figure's back, and a beautiful gemstone adorned their chestplate, lending an almost enchanted quality to the entire ensemble.

'Starforged Knight,' Orion thought, recollecting that only one person had survived the incident from the previous day.

The figure unexpectedly bowed, and a low, harsh voice emanated from beneath the helmet, "I came here to offer you my respects, Mr Foreigner. Though I'm aware that my teammates, the remaining members of the Starforged Knights, would have preferred a longer life...", the heavily armoured figure then clenched their gauntlet-clad hands together, "I'm genuinely grateful to be alive and to have made it through yesterday's ambush, so please accept my thanks."

Orion waved his hand dismissively at the figure, "Don't mention it. It was nothing. You don't need to thank me; I simply did what I believed was right," he replied.

"Thank you," the armoured figure immediately replied, straightening their posture to peer at Orion through the visor of the helmet. "Every elite group within the Crystalforge clan has already heard about the scout mission, and that you would be leading the expedition. That's why I'm here, to offer my services voluntarily. I want to help fend off the White Flame and assist in finding a way out of this mountain. I hope you'll consider my request, as this is the only way I know to repay the favour you've done me by saving my life."

Observing Orion's silence, the figure suddenly realized that the news of the scouting mission might not have reached him yet. Recognizing this as the reason for Orion's quietness, the figure cleared its throat and began to explain.

After a few minutes, she had finished explaining the information she had just received.

"Oh, I see," Orion responded with a thoughtful nod.

While he appreciated the volunteer's willingness to assist, he couldn't help but feel a bit concerned about the mission.

He doubted if his strength alone would be sufficient to contend with White Flame and guarantee the mission's success.

#### Chapter 463 Recruiting the Elite Knight (2)

However, that didn't necessarily mean that he wanted to face White Flame head-on. The more capable helping hands, the better; Orion could at least increase the chances of the mission's success. Looking at the Starforged Knight in front of him, Orion nodded in response.

"Alright, if you want to come along, then I have no problem with it. However, I want to warn you that this time around, I might not be in the right place to save you, so, in all certainty, you might not make it," Orion said with a serious expression on his face.

The figure immediately nodded in understanding and responded, "Don't worry, Mr. Foreigner. I understand that whether I live or die will depend on my best efforts. Besides, doing this will not only help me repay the debt I owe you but also assist us in finding a way out of here. So, I can assure you that death is the least of my concerns."

Orion nodded, impressed by the Starforged Knight's determination. Despite being gravely injured and witnessing the death of his teammates, he continued to move forward as if nothing had happened.

"Alright, what's your name?" Orion asked.

Realizing his intentions, the Starforged Knight stretched her two hands upwards and removed the heavy armour helmet, revealing herself. She responded, "I'm Iris Crystalforge," her voice sounding unexpectedly feminine.

Orion's eyes widened momentarily as he stared at the figure in front of him. From the low, harsh voice he had heard under her helmet, he had assumed the figure was a man.

So, seeing that the last remaining Starforged Knight was a woman, Orion was taken aback.

"Is there anything wrong, Mr. Foreigner?" Iris asked, combing her hair locs backwards before furrowing her brow.

"It's nothing," Orion responded, taking note of Iris's silvery skin complexion.

Iris nodded in understanding. "I would also like to know your name because I can't keep calling you Mr. Foreigner now that we'll be working together," she added, stretching her hand forward.

"It's Orion," he said. He firmly grasped her outstretched hand, shook it for a few seconds, and then let go.

"I'll see you later, Mr. Orion," Iris responded, offering a light smile.

Orion nodded in response and watched as Iris put her helmet back on. She gave one last nod and turned to leave.

However, just as she was about to take a step forward, she suddenly stopped and refocused her attention on Orion.

"Sorry, I almost forgot something," Iris said, her hand scratching the back of her helmet. "Merida Luminous, the eldest heiress of the Luminaris clan, is currently at the castle gates waiting for you. I used the opportunity to let you know about my intentions and to inform you."

Orion took a moment to grasp what she meant before arching a brow at Iris. "So you've been stalking me?"

Iris immediately cleared her throat loudly, sounding different, which made Orion consider that her armour might be more than just decorative – possibly some kind of artefact.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Orion, but I only stalked you to have the opportunity to speak with you," she replied, her voice devoid of any emotional wavering.

"Alright, since we'll be working together soon, if you want to speak with me next time, you can come directly to my door," Orion responded, observing Iris nodding in agreement.

"Thank you, Mr. Orion," Iris said before bowing once more. She straightened her back and added, "I'll see you later, then," before she turned around and began to walk away.

Once Iris was out of sight, Orion closed the door and turned to look at Elysia, who stared at him with surprise.

"What?" Orion asked, a hint of suspicion in his voice.

"Did you just invite one of the Crystallforge clan's top elites to your room?" Elysia asked, her disbelief evident.

"Don't tell me you're planning on getting her pregnant too?" Her words stumbled for a moment.

'Of course, she was thinking about something weird,' Orion thought with a sigh. However, just as he was about to reply, Elysia suddenly said, "You... So you were really thinking about it," taking Orion's silence as a deliberate hesitation.

Orion felt his brows twitch a bit. "I wasn't thinking about it until now," he responded.

Elysia heard Orion's response and proceeded to chuckle, and her laughter grew louder until it echoed throughout the room.

Orion stared at Elysia's sudden change in demeanour for a few seconds, realizing that she had simply wanted to lighten the mood and show him that she was no longer feeling fearful, whether about her pregnancy or their relationship.

A smile slowly spread across his lips as he jumped up and landed beside the bed. He watched as Elysia turned around to glance at him, her chuckles still escaping her lips.

Orion gently pulled her back into his arms, and Elysia quieted down, nestling herself comfortably within his embrace.

"Let's stay like this for a moment before we head downstairs to meet the eldest heiress of the Luminaris Clan," Orion suggested.

He observed as Elysia nodded her head before she buried her face in his chest, her eyes gradually closing, and her breathing becoming steady.

Sensing that Elysia was drifting off to sleep, Orion smiled gently, realizing he might have underestimated how tense she had been.

He pressed a kiss to her forehead, watching as she smiled and tightened her arms around him. This made Orion decide to wait a little longer before heading to the castle gates to meet Merida.

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Outside the mountain

## The Village

"CHIEF!!" Thak's scream reverberated through the air as he burst into the village chief's hut and made a beeline for the meeting room.

With a resounding crash, the door was flung open, grabbing the attention of the two people already inside.

Thak immediately collapsed before the village chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar. Both of them gazed at him with a blend of concern and apprehension, suspecting that something significant must have occurred.

"Thak, do you not realize I am in the middle of a meeting with the Leftward Stronghold Leader? Didn't I instruct you to wait until it was over before delivering any message?" Village Chief Brane, his face marred by a frown, managed to utter, well aware of the mounting problems the village faced.

### Chapter 464 The First in Line

He knew that he needed to tackle these issues one by one; otherwise, he wasn't sure he'd wake up the next day, given the growing headache building at the back of his head.

"It's important, Chief," Thak replied, taking a deep breath to steady himself as he rose to his feet from his kneeling position.

"What is so important that you had to disrupt my meeting with Stronghold Leader Zogar, a discussion about the village's safety and the threat of the Vyklr vines overwhelming us?" Village Chief Brane questioned, his frown deepening as he observed Thak's hesitation.

Thak finally spoke up after a few tense moments. "It's Overseer Anara..."

Village Chief Brane abruptly shot up from his seat, both his arms latching onto Thak's shoulders before Thak could fully grasp the situation.

"What happened to Overseer Anara? Why are you hesitating? Speak up!" Village Chief Brane demanded, his expression stern and serious, though his mind was in turmoil, racing with various thoughts.

Is Overseer Anara's health getting better? Has something terrible happened to her? Has she finally woken up?

Even Leftward Stronghold Leader Zogar's thoughts raced as he anxiously awaited Thak's response and a lump formed in his throat.

Thak eventually calmed himself and responded, "Anara has awakened, but..."

Before Thak could finish his sentence and complete the news of Anara's awakening, a sudden, strong wind struck from the left, knocking him off balance and sending him crashing to the ground.

The sound of a door shattering into bits filled the room with a resounding bang.

Fortunately, just before Thak hit the ground, Stronghold Leader Zogar caught him safely.

"Are you okay?" Stronghold Leader Zogar asked.

"Yes, I'm okay," Thak replied, nodding his head and coughing lightly.

He had anticipated the Village Chief's reaction to such news, but it appeared he had underestimated it.

"Okay. Is Overseer Anara truly awake?" Stronghold Leader Zogar asked, getting straight to the point while unconsciously tightening his grip on Thak's shoulders.

"Yes, she is awake, but..." Thak began to respond, feeling internal pressure as Stronghold Leader Zogar's grip continued to tighten.

The stress of the village's current state was already weighing on him, and now it seemed like Stronghold Leader Zogar might unintentionally be the one to push him to the threshold.

"But what?" Stronghold Leader Zogar asked, his frown deepening.

Since Overseer Anara was now awake, this should have been a reason to celebrate, as they had gained an additional helping hand to quell the growing agitation of the tree nymphs. So why was Thak still shivering as though he had witnessed a disaster...

"She's about to give birth."

Stronghold Leader Zogar's mind ground to a sudden halt. He stared at Thak, blinking in disbelief for a few moments. Thinking he must have misheard, he took a deep breath, attempting to calm his racing thoughts, convinced that the village's pressing issues had finally taken a toll on one of them. With great care, Zogar steadied Thak, helping him sit up, and waiting for him to regain his composure.

"Do you feel better now?" Stronghold Leader Zogar asked, concern etched across his face.

"Yes," Thak nodded, exhaling in relief.

Stronghold Leader Zogar furrowed his brow, his concern deepening. "Alright. Now, can you tell me what's actually going on?"

Thak took another deep breath and clarified, "Overseer Anara is in labour."

Stronghold Leader Zogar nodded again and placed his hand on Thak's shoulder and neck, checking for signs of illness. "Are you absolutely certain you're feeling well, Thak? Remember, you still have a daughter, a future warrior at that. Do you want her to see you in this state? Tala is still young, and losing her father mentally could be detrimental to her growth. It's something the village can not afford right now."

Quickly realizing what Stronghold Leader Zogar was thinking, Thak stretched out his arms and firmly grasped Zogar's face, his eyes wide with anger.

He shouted, "I'M NOT CRAZY!!! SHE'S PREGNANT!!! OVERSEER ANARA IS PREGNANT AND IS ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH!!!"

"She's pregnant," Stronghold Leader repeated, his expression shifting from scepticism to realization.

Thak nodded, saying, "Yes, that's what I've been trying to say..."

But before he could finish his sentence, 'BANG!' The already damaged door shattered completely as Stronghold Leader Zogar rushed out of the room, leaving Thak bewildered.

Observing the chaos in the room, Thak chose to delay calling the servants to deal with the mess.

He reclined on the ground, considering his own well-being. "Maybe I need to rest for a while," he mused, realizing that he should regain his composure before facing his daughter, so as not to alarm her. Gradually, he closed his eyes and drifted into slumber, reserving the challenges of tomorrow for his future self.

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## The Farm

The Village Chief swiftly shifted back into his human form, morphing from the giant Green owl, and touched down on the ground.

Surveying his surroundings, he took in the crowd of tree nymphs that had gathered, and he would have found it more strange if there weren't so many present for Overseer Anara's awakening.

The tree nymphs recognized the Village Chief's presence and immediately made way for him, guiding him toward Overseer Anara's location.

His brows furrowed as he noticed the Caretakers, all standing outside one of the large huts near Overseer Anara's tree, which had previously been used for newborns.

"What's the matter? Why are you all gathered outside?" the Village Chief asked, regarding the Caretakers with a frown.

A troubling thought instantly crossed his mind, but he shook it off, confident that if anything had gone wrong, they could address it now that Overseer Anara was awake and they could communicate with her.

However, the Caretakers exchanged concerned glances, sighing wearily. "Chief, it would be best for you to see this for yourself," Mrs. Shani suggested, holding her baby close and indicating the hut's door.

The Village Chief's frown deepened as he scrutinized the Caretakers, all of whom wore expressions of deep concern. He shifted his gaze to the hut ahead and strode forward, eager to uncover whatever was going on.

## Chapter 465 Quarrel Among Sisters

As soon as the Village Chief stepped into the hut, his gaze was immediately drawn to the bustling activity within.

He recognized several faces among the figures busy grinding herbs, shouting at each other, or tidying the surroundings. The air was thick with tension, and an eerie silence hung among the gathered tree nymphs, who appeared to be protecting someone. He immediately figured that someone was Overseer Anara.

The Village Chief reached out and stopped a man who hurried past him, demanding, "What's happening here?"

Initially annoyed by the interruption, the man's demeanour shifted to one of fear when he saw that it was the Village Chief who had accosted him. He stammered in response, "Overseer Anara... She's... She's about to give birth."

A gust of wind seemed to slap the Village Chief's ears as he stood in stunned silence. His grip on the man involuntarily slackened, and he watched as the man scurried away, looking back in terror.

Through the gaps in the gathered tree nymphs, the Village Chief finally glimpsed a barely conscious Anara, lying beside Greta, who was attending to her, with Ayla at her side

"WHAT ARE YOU DOING, LOLA? BRING THE HERBS QUICKLY!" Greta's voice cut through the frantic atmosphere as she gently massaged Anara's swollen belly.

"Overseer Anara is giving birth," the Village Chief muttered repeatedly, still in shock.

"I'M COMING, GRETA! I'M COMING!" Lola's response echoed through the hut as the urgency of the situation became apparent.

"Overseer Anara is giving birth."

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Within the mountains

The Castle

Noticing that Elysia wouldn't be waking anytime soon, Orion gently tucked her into the bed and made his way to the castle gates to meet Merida. However, upon his arrival, he found that she had been placed in a room to wait.

After dismissing the guard who had shown him the way, Orion entered the room and was taken aback when he saw not only Merida but also Maya waiting there.

Both of them immediately locked eyes with him, their expressions revealing their surprise.

Maya sprang to her feet and hurried over, coming to a stop in front of Orion. "Mr. Orion, please tell my sister to return to the clan. I made a bet, and even though I lost, I still intend to honour it. There's no reason for her to be here," she said, her voice strong and stern as she bowed with clenched fists.

Orion regarded her with a raised eyebrow before turning his attention to Merida, who had also approached him.

"Please, Mr. Orion, do not listen to my sister. Remember, we consummated our relationship yesterday, making me your wife already. Please do not honour her promise and uphold the agreement we both made, just as I am committed to doing," Merida spoke even more resolutely than Maya.

As she listened to her sister's words, Maya's fists clenched tighter in anger.

'No wonder she seemed so confident about sending me back home,' she thought, her teeth grinding together as she realized that her sister might have outsmarted her once again. "Mr Orion, as the second heiress of the Luminaris clan, it would be unbecoming of me not to honour the promise we made in front of everyone. If you do not wish to proceed with the agreement, then I will not leave. I would rather die here than return to my clan in shame."I think you should take a look at

"Maya!!" Merida reprimanded her sister sternly.

"What? Do you think I won't keep my word?"

"STOP IT AND GO BACK TO THE CLAN; OTHERWISE, FATHER AND MOTHER WILL BE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!"

"I AM NOT GOING ANYWHERE!!"

Merida and Maya engaged in a heated back-and-forth, their voices filled with frustration and anger.

Orion frowned, observing the escalating argument, and immediately intervened with a sharp, "ENOUGH!" The two sisters fell silent at his command, their eyes dropping to the ground.

They began to fidget under the weight of Orion's stern gaze as the tension in the room continued to build.

"You can both raise your heads," Orion said with a sigh.

Maya and Merida raised their heads and stared at each other once more before refocusing their gazes on Orion, their expressions filled with determination.

"You both want to keep your promises, right?" Orion asked seriously, observing the two eldest heiresses of the Luminaris Clan.

They both nodded their heads in agreement.

"Alright, then that settles it. Since you two want to honour your agreements so much, I see no reason to be unfair. I'll keep my agreement with the other, so from now on, you two will become my partners," Orion said, nodding approvingly.

He noticed the stunned expressions on the two girls' faces and knew they were not expecting this outcome.

Merida snapped out of her daze and immediately said, "Mr. Orion, you can't..."

"I can't what?" Orion asked with a raised brow, before he shook his head. "Please don't misunderstand me, Merida. You are already my partner, so there is no way I would nullify our agreement. However, for your sister, I don't think it would be proper to break her agreement either if she also wants to stay and become my partner," Orion added as he shifted his attention towards Maya.

"Will you keep our agreement, become my wife, and honour the number of wishes you promised? Remember, you are no longer forced into this agreement. It's entirely up to you whether you want to proceed or not." He asked.

"Yes," Maya responded sharply, without hesitation.

She glanced at her elder sister's pale expression from the corner of her eye and added, "I am willing to get married to you and uphold the agreement that we've made. Nothing can change my mind."

Orion noticed that Merida's expression grew even paler after her sister's response. He sighed internally, thinking, 'Poor girl.'

He naturally understood what Merida was trying to do. Unfortunately, she had a very stubborn and righteous sister. But fortunately, whatever worries she had were unnecessary, as he would naturally treat all his women well.

## Chapter 466 Overcoming The Divine

"Alright, let's go to my room to consummate the relationship," Orion said, his eyes fixed on the silently stunned Merida. Realizing that arguing here would only prolong the situation, he reached out, took Merida's hand, and pulled her gently towards the door.

His voice sounded behind him as he said, "Let's go."

Maya observed her sister being led away and couldn't help feeling a twinge of jealousy.

She had willingly come here to honour their agreement, yet she wasn't the one being led by Orion. She gritted her teeth gently and pushed the feeling aside.

Even though her sister had excelled in many aspects, both of them were new to this experience, and Maya saw it as a chance to finally come out on top.

Determined to be an even better and more amazing partner than her sister, she took a step forward, silently making her resolution.

"Always wear pretty panties, be obedient, offer advice when needed..." Maya remembered the tidbits she'd overheard servants in her clan's manor gossip about regarding marriage and its upkeep.

A smile slowly spread across her face as her confidence grew with each step she took forward.

Unbeknownst to Maya's intentions, which would have earned her Orion's approval, he continued to lead the way. After a few minutes, they reached their destination, and Orion immediately noticed several individuals near his door.

Upon closer inspection, he identified them as the Queen, Princess Crystalia, and Flintor.

'Why are they here?' Orion pondered with a serious expression.

It seemed unusual for all three of them to be there at the same time, as he would have expected Queen Selene to come alone and the others separately. Their presence together indicated that something significant might have occurred.

The two Luminaris clan heiresses also observed the royal family's presence and quickly adopted a more dignified posture.

Queen Selene's gaze swept over the two clan heiresses standing behind Orion before fixing her eyes on him.

"I didn't expect the royal family to be waiting for me outside my room. If I had known, I wouldn't have left," Orion remarked, offering a warm smile. He then turned his attention to Princess Crystalia, who observed him intently, and to Flintor, who stood behind her with a concerned and somewhat defeated expression.

"Ahem! Mr. Orion, please accompany me for a moment. I would like to have a private conversation with you," Queen Selene suggested, subtly gesturing to the small crowd around them.

With that, she turned and walked away, expecting him to follow.

Eager to understand the reason for their presence or if there was a specific message to be conveyed, which he doubted considering the unusual nature of their visit, Orion turned to Merida and Maya and silently motioned for them to wait.

They obediently stayed behind as he pivoted and followed Queen Selene.

After quickly catching up to her, they continued walking down another corridor. Queen Selene eventually slowed her pace, and her gaze subtly fell on Orion. I think you should take a look at

"Are the clan heiresses of the Luminaris clan here to fulfil their promise, Mr Orion?" she asked.

Orion nodded in response. "Yes," he confirmed.

Queen Selene nodded and said, "Alright. If they both change their minds later on, you can inform me so that the appropriate punishment can be administered." Her expression remained serious.

Orion replied with a wry smile, "Very well, but I believe such a situation won't arise, so there's no need to worry."

The Queen nodded once more. "Understood," she acknowledged. She then stopped and took a deep breath before turning to Orion, who had also come to a halt beside her.

"I presume you're wondering why we were waiting outside your door," Queen Selene asked, fixing her gaze on Orion.

"Yes," Orion responded, his curiosity piqued. "Has something significant happened?"

Queen Selene shook her head in response. "No, nothing significant has happened yet. I came here to inform you that a scout group, composed of the best elites from the Crystalforge Clan, which you'll be leading, will be sent to search for a way out of this mountain."

Orion immediately grasped her message, as Iris had already informed him about the mission. However, he was a bit perplexed about why they needed to wait for two days.

In his view, time was of the essence. "I understand the need for preparation, but wouldn't it be better to start the mission as soon as tomorrow? Every moment we waste counts, and I can't afford to wait around idly," he expressed.

Queen Selene shook her head with a tired sigh, her lips releasing a weary breath. "Originally, I had planned for the mission to start tomorrow, but there's an important event scheduled that would be incredibly useful for the success of the scout mission."

Orion's interest was piqued as Queen Selene began to elaborate.

"The event will be a trial created by the Guardians of the Garden, and it will take place within the garden. Successfully completing this trial will grant the one who conquers it a strange power, which can be a valuable asset in our battle against the White Flame," Queen Selene explained.

Noticing Orion's confused expression, she promptly added, "I'm sure you've been wondering how my daughter and her personal guard managed to rescue you and the tree nymph and bring you down here, right?"

Orion nodded in response. He had indeed been curious about their fearlessness in the upper section of the mountain and their apparent lack of concern in the presence of White Flame.

"It's because they were the first to discover the trail and the only ones to attempt it throughout the whole Kingdom," Queen Selene explained, shaking her head sadly. "Unfortunately, they stumbled upon the trail by accident, so they were unprepared and couldn't complete it."

Orion was immediately stunned by this revelation. He had sensed that Princess Crystalia and her personal guard were unique in some way, but he never expected it to be like this.

'What kind of strange power could the Guardians of the Garden bestow that would enable someone to challenge a god?' Orion pondered, a furrow forming on his brow.

## Chapter 467 Overcoming The Divine (2)

Refocusing his attention on Queen Selene, who was patiently waiting for him to absorb the information, Orion asked, "What kind of strange power did they receive?"

"I don't know," Queen Selene replied, shaking her head. "We've tried to uncover the nature of this power, but our investigations have yielded no results. What we do know is that their abilities are significantly enhanced against the White Flame, both offensively and defensively. They become five to six times more effective when facing the White Flame."

Orion nodded in understanding and continued his questioning, "What is the nature of the trial? I'm curious about what the trial entails and what they needed to do to complete it."

"Unfortunately, we've already questioned them about the trial, but they claim not to remember anything about it. All they recall is that they mistakenly entered the trial and couldn't complete it," Queen responded, sighing in defeat.

Orion nodded once more, his frown deepening. Initially, he had been sceptical about whether a trial capable of granting someone the power to challenge a god could be easy to complete. After all, Princess Crystalia and Flintor had almost finished it and gained a fraction of such extraordinary power.

However, after hearing Queen Selene's words, he realized that it was far more complex than it appeared.

"Alright. Even though it's difficult to believe in something like this, given that I've witnessed the Princess and her personal guard confront the White Flame, it doesn't sound far-fetched," Orion replied. "But since it's an event, will only the Princess and her personal guard be participating, or can others join as well?"

Queen Selene chuckled, "No, we've decided to let all the elite warriors in the Crystalforge Clan participate in the trial, including you." She responded with a light smile playing on her lips. "We initially considered including the younger generation of the Crystalforge, but due to our lack of understanding regarding the nature of the trial and the limited number of participants allowed, we decided against it. Considering the impending war, even if we had wanted to, we couldn't accommodate more."

Orion's curiosity sparked further questions. "Aren't you concerned that I might complete the trial and gain this strange power instead of Princess Crystalia and Flintor?"

Orion couldn't help but wonder why they had included him in a matter of such significance, as it seemed like something they might prefer to keep among themselves.

Queen Selene's smile began to waver at his words, and she released a deep sigh.

"Yes, we are aware of the risks," she admitted. "We didn't actually make the decision to include you; it was the Princess of the Garden who insisted on your participation. If we had refused, she would have ordered the Guardians not to let us participate at all. So, we had no choice but to comply, even though we are fully aware of the potential consequences." Queen Selene said, her thoughts wandering as to why the Princess of the Garden would involve Orion in such a delicate matter.

After all, Orion had only been present for the past four days, and there was no way he could have formed a deeper connection with the Princess of the Garden than those who had known her from birth, and even before.

However, she quickly admonished herself for entertaining such doubts, recognizing that such thoughts were unfounded.

Orion, however, couldn't help but raise an eyebrow at Queen Selene's words, pondering why the Princess of the Garden had made such an unexpected decision.

After a brief moment of contemplation, he couldn't come up with a reasonable explanation for her choice, other than the possibility that she might be warming up to him and wanted to include him in this opportunity.

However, Orion still found it hard to believe that it was that simple. He decided to set the question aside and resolved to ask the Princess of the Garden directly when he had the chance.

"Alright, I understand everything," Orion said, nodding in agreement. "But is there a specific reason you've come here with the Princess and her personal guard?"

Queen Selene shook her head, a wry smile touching her lips. "No," she responded. "Given the extremely delicate nature of the situation, I wanted to inform you personally. But when I arrived, I saw my daughter standing outside your door. She claimed that the two of you had a very important meeting she couldn't resist attending immediately."

Queen Selene then fixed her narrowed gaze on Orion. "Mr. Orion, is there something between you and my daughter that I'm unaware of?"

"If anything were going on between Princess Crystalia and me, you would have already known about it since this is your castle. So you can rest assured, Queen Selene, that there's currently nothing happening between me and the princess," Orion responded.

He feigned seriousness as he considered scolding Princess Crystalia for being so direct with the queen. Their relationship was destined to become very close in the future, with the queen likely becoming his mother-in-law. Thus, Orion had every intention of building a good relationship with her.

However, their current interactions were treading on thin ice, and there was no need to rush when they could take things one step at a time.

Queen Selene nodded solemnly at Orion's words, acknowledging that it would be impossible for something to happen between her daughter and Orion without her knowledge in her own castle.

"Yes, you are right," she said seriously, showing her agreement with Orion's statement. "However, since we can't predict the future, if there ever is something going on between you and my daughter, please inform me directly. There's no need to go through the stress of hiding anything like that," she concluded her sentence with a warm smile, her gaze fixed on Orion.

Orion's mind started spinning with a barrage of thoughts as he tried to decipher the meaning behind Queen Selene's words.

Was she giving him the green light to have a relationship with her daughter?

Or perhaps, had she already discovered something, and was now pretending not to know?

## Chapter 468 The Ideal In-Law Relationship

Orion found that these thoughts were fleeting, disappearing almost as soon as they crossed his mind. There was no need to dwell on such matters when the answer was already right in front of him.

He let out an internal sigh, realizing that perhaps he had been too hard on his future mother-in-law. Since she would soon be a part of their family, Orion decided to treat her with more care and attention in the future.

He contemplated starting by assisting her in stabilizing the current situation of the Prismerian Kingdom, a notion he considered a positive step.

Queen Selene closely watched Orion as he absorbed her words, and she couldn't help but let out an internal sigh of weariness. When she first encountered her daughter outside Orion's room, she sensed that something was amiss. Her observation of her daughter's behaviour around Orion only confirmed her suspicions.

In fact, Queen Selene had raised her from birth and as such knew her daughter inside out. It would have been a grave error if she had guessed incorrectly.

Nevertheless, for anyone else, Queen Selene wouldn't have bothered to spare them a second thought if they didn't meet her standards. Yet, the person her daughter had fallen in love with was Orion, and so she had decided to carefully assess the pros and cons of this situation.

From her analysis, she found it not to be a bad idea, despite Orion's mention of having other wives. With the two Luminaris heiresses choosing to honour their promise and become his partners, coupled with Orion's current standing in the kingdom, there was the hope that her daughter, with Orion's assistance, could lead the Prismerian Kingdom to new heights, even if the kingdom itself didn't escape from the mountain.

So, Queen Selene concluded that the benefits clearly outweighed the disadvantages.

"Okay, I will make sure to remember your words," Orion replied, his tone reflecting his seriousness.

"Alright, that's all there is to discuss. I will have Madam Seraphina come for you tomorrow when the event is ready. Now, I can see you have important matters to attend to, so I won't keep you any longer," Queen Selene said.

With that, she turned to leave, clearly in a hurry to attend to her own tasks.

"After we find a way out of this mountain, I'll make it a priority to find out how we can remove that artefact from around your neck," Orion declared with confidence. His words made Queen Selene pause in her tracks, and she turned to look at him.

A beautiful smile graced her lips at his offer. "I'd like to thank you in advance then, Mr Orion, if you can truly find a way to rid me of this artefact," she said, her tone filled with appreciation. "However, while I would gladly accept your help, Mr Orion, considering that this is a powerful artefact, it might be best not to stress over it too much. I'm confident that I will eventually find a way to remove it."

While Orion had already surprised her on several occasions to the extent that she began to doubt if they could truly compete with the outside world, should they manage to escape this mountain. She was aware of the immense challenges that came with dealing with ancient artefacts, especially lost ones.

Her past experiences with the ancient artefacts in the Crystalforge clan had made her cautious, and she didn't want Orion to divert his focus from the scout mission.

"It appears that the Queen doesn't have full confidence in my words. Nevertheless, should I find a way to assist you in removing that artefact from your neck, I hope to be rewarded with..."

"A wish," Queen Selene promptly interjected, finishing Orion's sentence for him, as though she could already tell what he wanted.

"Yes," Orion responded with a slight smile. "One wish, for anything I desire?"

Queen Selene observed Orion's confident expression and nodded in agreement. "Very well, since you seem so confident, what if you fail to remove this artefact?" she asked, awaiting his response.

"I haven't entertained that possibility because I don't plan on failing," Orion replied. "But it appears you already have something in mind, Queen Selene. I'm curious to know what it is."

Queen Selene pursed her lips. "If you lose, the only thing I would want is for you to promise me one thing: that you help us Prismarions out of this mountain," she said. She then added, "Or help me take care of my daughter in case things don't work out as planned."

"That's two promises, Queen Selene," Orion remarked, observing Queen Selene as she realized her mistake.

"But you don't need to worry," Orion assured her, shaking his head. "I don't need to make a promise to take care of her."

Queen Selene immediately felt her heart skip a beat. She briefly stared at Orion, sensing a fluttering sensation in her heart before quickly suppressing it.

"Thank you, Mr. Orion. I will see you later," Queen Selene said, turning away abruptly and briskly walking in the opposite direction, showing no sign of slowing down even as she distanced herself from Orion.

Observing the Queen's hurried departure, Orion shook his head and let out a weary sigh.

It was clear from a mere glance that the pressure on the Queen had intensified, which would undoubtedly be detrimental to her health if things continued in this manner.

Nevertheless, he knew that he could only wait for tomorrow to discover what the trial of the guardians was about before leading the scout mission to the upper section of the mountain, which would likely bring them across White Flame. Orion decided to take one step at a time to avoid making mistakes.

Orion turned around and made his way back to his room, where Princess Crystalia, Flintor, and the Luminaris Clan Heiresses were waiting for him.

"What took you so long?" Princess Crystalia asked, her tone tinged with suspicion. She was curious about the nature of the conversation that had caused such a lengthy delay between her mother and Orion.

## Chapter 469 Explore Your Sisterly Relationships

"Sorry for the delay; the Queen had something important to discuss," Orion explained.

He then addressed the group, saying, "Let's go inside," as he held the door open for them.

Maya and Merida entered the room in succession, and Princess Crystalia followed.

However, Flintor was halted by Princess Crystalia, who fixed him with a stern expression.

"Flintor, stay here and guard the entrance. I'll be out once I'm finished," Princess Crystalia instructed, her voice growing quieter.

She averted her gaze from Flintor momentarily, cleared her throat, and then looked back at him with a serious expression.

"Just don't come in, no matter what," she ordered firmly before closing the door.

Maya and Merida eyed the sheets on the bed, which were slightly bulging and trembling. Before they could voice their suspicions or inquire about it, Orion swiftly grasped the sheets and pulled them aside, revealing the quivering figure beneath.

"What are you hiding for? As the mature one and their elder sister, aren't you supposed to introduce yourself and try to get along with your sisters?" Orion said as he gazed at Elysia, who shot him a glare.

She clung to the bed sheets, attempting to pull them back to conceal herself.

"Elder sister," Maya and Merida chimed in confusion, their eyes locked on the unknown woman who occupied their husband's bed.

Meanwhile, Princess Crystalia had already deduced the reason for Elysia's presence and couldn't help but marvel at the audacity of the situation as she watched, speechless.

Elysia clenched her teeth in frustration at Orion's words, her internal scream resounding. 'Elder sister to who? Are you blind?' she thought, seething.

She continued to tug at the sheets, only ceasing when she noticed the mounting awkwardness in the room.

Gathering her composure, she descended from the bed after relinquishing her grip on the sheets. She promptly bowed before the three major clan heiresses.

Before she could utter a word, a hand firmly clasped her behind, and a voice swiftly stifled any words she might have spoken.

"Straighten your back, Elysia," Orion commanded firmly.

Elysia, utterly flabbergasted, was at a loss for words. Realizing she had no other option, she straightened her back and glanced briefly at the three clan heiresses before her gaze dropped to the ground.

"Ahem! While I would have preferred a proper introduction, since we are already familiar with each other's identities, there's no need," Orion cleared his throat before continuing. "Elysia, meet your new sisters, Maya and Merida, the wives of your husband."

Elysia nearly lost her footing upon hearing Orion's words, and it took a series of greetings to bring her back to her senses.

"Greetings elder, sister,"

"Greetings elder, sister,"

Maya and Merida respectfully greeted Elysia. She merely nodded quietly in response to their greetings.

Orion realized that this was not an easy situation to resolve, so he came up with an idea.

He turned to Maya and Merida and asked, "Have either of you taken a tour around the castle before?"

Merida and Maya both silently shook their heads in response.

"Well, Elysia is the Queen's personal maid, so she can show you all around in the meantime. Plus, you can get to know each other that way," Orion said, sporting a warm smile as he gently led Elysia forward.

He then extended his hand to Merida, while gesturing for Maya to follow from behind.

Orion led the group out of the room and paused to whisper a few words into Maya's ear, considering her as the more suitable person for the task.

Maya's eyes immediately widened as she listened to Orion's words.

Her gaze intensified as she fixated on Elysia, who couldn't help but feel a shiver run down her spine under the scrutiny of the Luminaris Clan heiress.

Orion wore a satisfied smile as Maya nodded in understanding and walked away. Elysia took the lead to show them around the castle.

As they moved out of sight, Orion cast a quick glance at Flintor, who stood guard by the door, and nodded approvingly.

He then pulled the door shut.

However, just as he turned around to address Princess Crystalia, an immense force abruptly collided with his body, sending him sprawling to the ground.

"I can't take it anymore. You're the one who's driven me to this point, so please, do something about it," Princess Crystalia exclaimed as she pushed Orion to the ground and straddled him.

Her hot breath escaped her lips, mingling with the warm air around them as she ground her round bare buttocks atop Orion's bulging penis.

She positioned her tight vagina lips to kiss the fabric covering the private part of his trousers, and a delightful sensation slowly spread from her grinding pussy throughout her body. All the while, she continued to gaze at Orion with a pleading expression, as if urging him to take action.

Orion found himself in a bit of a dilemma. He was aware that Flintor was guarding the door from the outside, and he was certain that if they were to take their relationship to the next level, Flintor would undoubtedly burst into the room to investigate. This was something he wanted to avoid at the moment, as it could jeopardize his budding relationship with the princess and disrupt the upcoming trial scheduled for tomorrow.

Of course, he had already received Queen Selene's approval, so he had no intention of allowing Princess Crystalia to leave his room while she remained so aroused.

Orion leaned in closer and whispered into her ear, "We can't do it now."

"But..." Princess Crystalia interrupted, her eyes becoming even more glazed as she pleaded fervently, "I need it..." The grinding and friction of her hips intensified, as though she wanted to tear through the thin fabric with the heat generated by the friction and impale Orion's scorching, throbbing shaft into her eagerly awaiting feminine hole.

At this point, Orion understood that words were unnecessary.

He extended his right hand behind her and grasped the edge of her dress, effortlessly pulling it off Princess Crystalia's alluring figure.

Princess Crystalia felt the warm breeze caress her body, causing her nipples to tingle with excitement and her already moist vagina lips to quiver in anticipation.

## Chapter 470 Crystalia's Freedom

Her reaction didn't escape Orion's notice, and he smiled as he gently held her waist in place with one hand. With the other, he moved down slowly and gently, penetrating her tight moist pussy. This caused her to shut her eyes, squeezing them tightly, as she never expected the sensation that enveloped her senses, combined with her arousal, could be so intoxicating that she didn't want it to end.

So, this was what she was missing?

It felt... It felt so wonderful!

The final restraint that Princess Crystalia had been clinging to instantly shattered as her insides were fiercely stimulated by Orion's fingers.

It made her feel as though she could sense the shape of his fingers deep within her fleshy, tight vaginal walls.

Her eyes clenched shut even tighter as she struggled to resist the throbbing sensations inside her. She clenched her thighs more firmly around Orion's waist, further tensing up her body.

"Let it go."

As soon as Orion's voice reached her ears, an overwhelmingly intoxicating sensation surged through Princess Crystalia's body. She opened her eyes and stared wide-eyed into Orion's brown eyes.

"Ahhh~~" A short gasp escaped from Princess Crystalia's lips as she held her gaze on Orion, finding herself completely charmed by his expression.

It was incredibly difficult to restrain herself as she felt her body's heat melding with his.

Despite her body feeling as though it might collapse if she released again, Princess Crystalia couldn't help herself and let her juices flow. Her body lost all strength, and she collapsed onto his body.

"Haaa.... Haaaa...." Princess Crystalia continued to breathe rapidly as Orion wrapped his arms around her waist, embracing her closely. Then, he gently laid his back on the ground, ensuring that Princess Crystalia was comfortably resting on his chest.

Even after she had climaxed for the second time, Princess Crystalia could still feel her legs twitching as Orion's fingers continued to explore deep within her contracting, moist vagina, massaging her fleshy inner walls.

"Don't worry, I'll make sure you release everything left," Orion said, leaning in closer before he withdrew his fingers and captured the Princess's lips in a passionate kiss.

"Ahhhh~~~ Orioonn~~~"

The touch of his fingers inside her quickened, aiding her in releasing her passion from deep within.

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Flintor stood guard outside the foreigners' room and couldn't help but notice the eerie silence emanating from within. Every room in the castle was enchanted to muffle sounds, but given his proximity, he expected to hear at least something, right?

Reluctantly retracting his ears from the crystalline door, Flintor took a deep breath and resisted the urge to intrude and check on the situation inside. He was concerned about the Princess's current behaviour and mental state, but he knew that Princess Crystalia would be furious with him if he interfered.

Contemplating the challenges awaiting them the next day as they faced the trial alongside others, Flintor turned away and resolved to guard the door, patiently awaiting the Princess's return.

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"Is this all?" Queen Selene questioned as she surveyed the letters scattered across the table before her.

In addition to the five major clans, she had dispatched missives to the minor clans and smaller city families, notifying them of the impending changes in the Prismarian Kingdom and seeking to ascertain their loyalties.

While they might not have a significant impact on the upcoming conflict, every pair of hands, no matter how small, would help the Crystalforge clan reach areas they couldn't otherwise touch.

The leader of the Runeblade Reavers, the foremost elite group within the Crystalforge clan and also the most powerful of such groups, replied, "Yes, your Highness. These letters contain the responses from all those who received our missives earlier today."

"Alright," Queen Selene nodded in understanding and meticulously reviewed each letter. She placed those from individuals who had pledged their allegiance to the Crystalforge clan on one side of the table, while she discarded those who had shown their support for the Gemheart clan onto the floor next to her.

Although she had anticipated that some might still stand by the Gemheart clan, given their status as one of the five major clans, it was disheartening to acknowledge that she might need to eradicate their bloodlines if they managed to survive this war.

[The Quartwraith Clan stands with the Crystalforge Clan and will provide substantial support in bringing down the Gemheart Clan,] read one letter.

Queen Selene nodded in approval as she examined the final stack of letters, all from the major clans.

[ The Prismaflow Clan stands with the Crystalforge Clan...]

[ The Luminaris Clan stands with the Gemheart Clan...]

Queen Selene immediately frowned upon reading the response from the Luminaris Clan.

[... the Luminaris will give its full support and aid to the Gemheart Clan during this war. The Luminaris Clan wishes you and the Crystalforge Clan good luck.]

With the two Luminaris heiresses now in the castle, Queen Selene had expected a landslide of support, assuming she would gain the full backing of the Luminaris Clan.

However, it seemed that this was not the case.

'What is he thinking?' Queen Selene thought with a frown laced on her lips. Surely they were aware that they could capture the two Luminaris heiresses that were currently in the castle and use them as hostages against the Lumaniris clan in the coming war right?

The moment this thought crossed her mind, Queen Selene released a deep sigh and immediately discarded it because of a certain someone.

After all, with the two Luminaris Clan Heiresses becoming his wives, they had unwittingly acquired the best protection anyone could currently have in the kingdom, even if they were not yet aware of it.

"Has the Clan Mistress of the Gemheart Clan made any moves yet?" Queen Selene asked.

She had privately sent a letter to Elara Gemheart to inform her that her brother was still alive, albeit with a missing arm, and would probably not survive the next few days if the Gemheart Clan didn't halt its plans for war and surrender.

Although she couldn't touch the two Luminaris clan heiresses, the junior brother of the Gemheart Clan mistress was still an asset she intended to use to its fullest.