

Village Head 791

Chapter 791 Crystalia's First Experience**

Orion leaned in and kissed her on the side of her neck before trailing upwards and melding his lips with hers. Taking advantage of her current occupied situation, Orion thrust his entire member in before gently pulling out.

"AHHH~~" Crystalia broke away from the kiss and moaned loudly.

Her knees were raised upwards, and her toes curled on the bedsheet as she finally received Orion's manhood with her womanly warmth.

"Husband~~ You can go faster, I can handle it~~" Crystalia said, her voice ringing in Orion's ears, prompting an indescribable wave of excitement to rush through his body.

Though he couldn't go too far since this was Crystalia's first time, that didn't mean he couldn't provide her with an indescribable experience.

Orion used one hand to cup the feel of her small, petite breasts, massaging them softly to further arouse her, while using his other hand to gently widen her legs and prevent her from instinctively closing them.

Pahh~~ Paaahh~~~ Paaahhh~~~

The sound of their flesh slowly melding clashed against each other, filling the air, while their bodily fluids scattered on the bed as they both indulged in the pleasure and satisfaction of tasting each other's bodies from the inside out.

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Hearing the moans emanating from Crystalia's room, Queen Selene smiled. She had been worried that her daughter would delay giving herself away for the first time and continue to wait without having a child of her own. However, she couldn't help but sigh in relief, seeing that her worries had been for nought.

She had given birth to a brave daughter, after all, so how could something like that be capable of stopping her?

Nonetheless, since her daughter had finally decided to break the final barrier of her relationship with her husband, she no longer saw any reason to remain. She immediately returned to the Third Border City to handle her work.

Just as she was about to step forward, Celeste emerged from the other side before her. "Selene!" she called out.

Queen Selene furrowed her brows in confusion, pondering why Celeste was looking for her so early in the morning.

Had Orion informed her about their relationship?

Though they had promised not to let anybody know until they were prepared, the woman before her was Orion's biological mother, so she wouldn't find it surprising if she knew about it.

"Have you seen Orion? A warrior arrived earlier this morning to give him an important message from the Village Chief," Celeste asked, arriving before her.

She thought Orion had returned to his room after yesterday's event, but she didn't see him there when she went to look for him.

"He's currently busy," Queen Selene responded, glancing at the door beside her.

Celeste shifted her attention and noticed that it was Crystalia's room. Hearing the moans and rippling of flesh that emanated from behind the door, Celeste's eyes widened in understanding. She immediately realized that Crystalia was finally having her first time.

"I thought that they would choose to delay it a little longer. It's good that she didn't," Celeste responded, exhaling lightly in relief.

"I would have locked the two of them in the same room if they had. So it's good they didn't. I think we should leave before they notice our presence," Queen Selene responded, smiling lightly.

Celeste chuckled at Queen Selene's words. She nodded and followed Queen Selene as she walked away.

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East side of the Third Border City

Orion landed on the east side of the Third border city walls. He was immediately welcomed by the Prismerton and Village warriors, who led him toward the Village Chief, who was also just arriving.

"Orion, it's good that you're finally here," the Village Chief said with a smile.

He walked forward and hugged Orion, patting him on the back before releasing him. "I'm curious about what kind of matter would require you to remain in Aegis of the Arctic Deity's presence for three days. Of course, it's alright if it's sensitive information you cannot reveal," he added.

No matter how curious he was, he wasn't stupid enough to force Orion to spill the contents of his conversation with a god.

"It's a long story, one I'll explain in detail later," Orion responded.

Initially, he had wanted to keep everything a secret, but considering the current circumstances, he realized he couldn't. The benefits of sharing what he had learned far outweighed the consequences. If they encountered more races or even a runaway city, preparing their minds for what they might witness on the other side of the world when the time came was essential.

The Village Chief was momentarily stunned by Orion's response before he nodded, smiling brightly. "Alright, I'll arrange a time when you can visit the Village Chief's compound for this discussion," he responded.

Orion nodded in agreement.

The Village Chief then led the way towards Rightward Stronghold leader Seth, who was waiting for them atop the enormous wooden wall in the distance. They reached his position within minutes.

Rightward Stronghold leader Seth immediately noticed their presence and turned to welcome them. He nodded at the Village Chief before shifting his attention towards Orion. "Warrior Orion, it's good that you are finally here. We have been awaiting your presence for the last three days so we can finally commence the eradication of the Dead Forest," he said.

The bitterness Seth had harboured about the young man before he had been entirely cleared away. Though he coveted and respected power and authority above all, he wasn't a fool.

Despite his confidence in the positive changes he could bring to the village, they seemed laughable compared to Orion's achievements.

With a god protecting them 24 hours a day every day, reducing the strain on the warriors, they had expanded to the point where many races were under them, relying on them for security and sustenance.

Even if he were foolish, Seth could still conclude that the village needed a leader like Orion instead of someone like him. He would gain more by following behind Orion and ensuring that he didn't fall to the ground when he stumbled.

Chapter 792 River of Molten Fire

"I had an important matter that needed to be taken care of immediately," Orion responded.

Stronghold leader Seth nodded in understanding. He had already heard the details from his father, so further probing was unnecessary. "Let's commence then and get rid of the four-star Vylkr vines once and for all," he responded.

Orion nodded. "Where's Leftward Stronghold Leader Zogar?" he asked, looking around.

"He's on the west side of the Third Border City. He is waiting for our signal before commencing," the Village Chief responded.

"Let's begin then," Orion affirmed.

Stronghold leader Seth nodded. He led the way forward and stopped beside the edge of the wall. Stretching his arms outwards, he released his Vylkr energy from all four containers. The Vylkr energy surged through his veins, coursing through his body and igniting every fibre of his being. His muscles pulsed with immense power, roaring to life as the energy enveloped him.

Then, he unleashed his gift.

The ground over the wall outside the barrier cracked open like the dry surface of a desert. Tiny gas fumes erupted as though the earth's core boiled with intensity. Within seconds, molten liquid magma spewed from the cracked rocks and overflowed onto the surface.

Initially, it resembled a steady stream of water from a fountain. However, within several minutes, it surged like an ocean breaking out of the earth, forming an enormous wave reaching as high as 30 meters and casting a colossal shadow above them.

The Prismerions warriors stared at the scene in amazement. No matter how often they had observed the warriors, especially individuals as strong as Rightward Stronghold Seth, using his gift, they would never tire of it.

Of course, some could also pull out something like this with the right talent, technique and strength. However, the complexities and energy needed to sustain it couldn't even be compared to the warrior's instantaneous use of their gift and effortless control of it.

In short, even if they had the strength to control such a frightening force of nature, if pitted against Rightward Stronghold Leader Seth, it would only result in a crushing defeat.

For the warriors, some had reached the pinnacle of their potential, while others were just a step away from unlocking their full capabilities. Each possessed unique gifts, ranging from less dangerous to potentially more destructive than Rightward Stronghold Seth's. Despite this, they could only watch the scene unfold before them with a mixture of awe and admiration.

After ensuring that the sea of molten magma he had conjured from the ground was sufficient to engulf the entire dead forest, burning everything to the ground, Seth wasted no time. With a wave of his hand, he controlled them to surround the barrier before relinquishing control over the 100-meter-tall wave of molten magma, allowing it to crash forward with a resounding "bang" that echoed through the air.

The dried wood of the dead forest erupted into flames, baptizing the Vylkr vines and earth before the massive tsunami of molten magma inundated them. The heat alone was enough to bring any godless civilization to its knees.

Fortunately, they had a god protecting them.

"I think this should be enough. Stronghold Leader Zogar will handle the rest on the other side," the Village Chief nodded.

Orion, however, continued to watch. As the tsunami of molten magma scalded the dead forest, reducing it to heaps of ashes, he noticed various strands of inky black Vylkr energy melded with the smoke, slowly rising to the sky.

Though Aerialia had assured him that an unusually simple phenomenon would occur due to the potency of the Vylkr energy being as high as the Divine energy, Orion hoped it wouldn't be too challenging to handle. After all, even Aerialia didn't know what kind of phenomenon would occur.

Of course, it wasn't only Orion who had witnessed this scene; even the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Seth had seen the many inky strings of Vylkr energy rising into the clouds.

Orion had informed them about this occurrence, so they hoped that it would be something they could easily handle.

'I can only hope that everything works out for the best,' Stronghold Leader Seth thought, exhaling inwardly.

Stronghold Leader Seth then refocused his attention on the Village Chief. "How about we head over to the west side and observe Leftward Stronghold Leader Zogar handle his side?" he suggested.

The Village Chief nodded in agreement. "I was thinking about heading there, but since you want to come along, let's go," he said before shifting his attention towards Orion. "Do you want to come with us?" he asked.

Orion nodded without hesitation. Knowing Stronghold Leader Zogar's gift, he knew how he would take care of his side and was as interested as the others in watching.

The Village Chief leapt into the air, transforming into his giant green-horned owl form. He swooped downwards, grabbing Rightward Stronghold Leader Seth and Orion with his claws and soaring straight towards Stronghold Leader Zogar's direction.

Within several minutes, they arrived.

Stronghold Leader Zogar raised his head and smiled upward, sensing their presence. "Since they are done, it should be arriving soon," he muttered, already feeling the intense heat in the air, standing outside Aegis of the Arctic Deity's barrier.

He refocused his gaze forward and swung his cutlass at the two-star Vylkr creeping towards him; his strikes cut down ten of them at once. He repeated the gesture several times until all that remained were the sliced remnants of one and two-star Vylkr vines.

After twenty minutes, the intensity of the heat suddenly increased by a hundred times, followed by the resounding tremor emanating from the ground and echoes of enormous masses of water crashing against each other. However, it wasn't water but something more dangerous -

A sea of molten magma!

Leftward Stronghold Leader Zogar turned to his left and faced the sea of molten magma before walking towards its direction, noticing that it had arrived much more quickly than on the other side.

As he drew near, the sea of molten magma crashed upon him, drowning him within its fiery depths; if it had been any other warrior, they would have most likely been dead. However, such a rule didn't apply to Stronghold Leader Zogar.

Chapter 793 Purging the Dead Forest

As the molten sea swallowed his entire body, a large dome emerged on its surface. From the dome, the head and shoulders of an individual formed from molten magma about 60 meters tall appeared to be standing on the sea of the molten magma before diving back in, his body melding with the fiery liquid around him.

He guided the momentum of the magma, directing it around the region of the barrier. Meanwhile, Aegis of the Arctic Deity's barrier continued to push outward towards the direction of the mountains.

In terms of total annihilation, it was a breathtaking sight. And in terms of power, it further solidified their positions as the Stronghold Leaders and the reason they were chosen for that role.

"We don't need to worry about the river; Queen Selene has already provided a way to draw streams of water from the ground. So, we sealed the river from the inside and continued with its production from there!" Stronghold Leader Seth's voice resounded in the air.

Orion maintained a composed expression when asked, "Is it the same method used to replace Fifi's position back in the Village?" He inwardly exhaled in relief, having nearly forgotten about their water source amidst the various matters he had to handle.

Fortunately, he had capable individuals around him to fix any issues and ensure the plan went smoothly.

Stronghold Leader Seth nodded. "Yes, but on a much larger scale," he replied.

Although the ordinary denizens of Orion's Cities still needed to fetch water from wells to avoid sickness, a running stream was essential due to the large population.

Orion acknowledged with a nod. "I'll go look at it later," he said.

Stronghold Leader Seth nodded. "One more thing," he added quickly, "while you are away, the Four-eared elves have been a nuisance to the Orion's Cities, even going as far as destroying a portion of a district close to their own."

Orion's expression swiftly turned serious. "What happened?" he asked.

Stronghold Leader Seth recounted everything that had transpired during Orion's absence.

The Village Chief glanced down at the two of them within his claws and exhaled inwardly. He had already spoken with Patriarch Rylan and decided on their punishment. However, considering the

severity of their actions, Orion also needed to be present during their meeting to contribute to the decision on their punishment.

After Stronghold Leader Seth finished his explanation, Orion nodded in understanding. The god's chosens had mistakenly encountered Captain Seig and his lieutenant, leading to a confrontation between them and the village warriors.

Fortunately, Fifi had been passing through their district and intervened, defeating them effortlessly. Though they had already repaired the area, the Village Chief had postponed their punishment until his return.

"I understand. I will make arrangements to see Patriarch Rylan after this. After all, it would be detrimental if they were not punished for their actions; that would lead others to emulate them and begin to disobey the rules," Orion responded, a serious glint passing through his eyes.

Hearing Orion's response, Stronghold Leader Seth nodded and smiled inwardly. He had wanted to see how Orion would handle the issue, and fortunately, he found his response appropriate.

If Orion became the Village Chief with such character, he would gladly continue to maintain their current relationship.

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Second Border City

Seig was engrossed in his training in the backyard of his new home when he suddenly halted, his attention drawn to the sky, his expression turning grim.

"Is anything wrong, Captain?" Evadne asked, furrowing her brows. She observed Seig's expression change and realized that something was awry.

"There's something in the air... Vylkr energy. Can't you sense it, too?" Seig replied. He shut his eyes and swiftly activated his devourer's bracelet.

Seig's senses sharpened as he felt the pulse of his devourer's heart synchronizing with his own, enabling him to detect the Vylkr energy emanating from beyond the outer walls of the Third Border City.

He instantly leapt upwards and landed on the roof of his building. Squinting into the distance, he discerned vast billows of smoke ascending into the clouds, accompanied by various strands of inky Vylkr energy spiralling upward.

From below, a furrow formed on Evadne's brow as she heard Seig's words. She concentrated her senses and immediately detected the strange Vylkr energy disturbance in the distance. Observing the billows of smoke rising far away, she activated her devourer's bracelets to heighten her senses further.

The distant view clarified before her eyes, revealing the various strands of Vylkr energy rising amidst the smoke.

Evadne leapt into the air and landed on the roof of their building. "Captain, should we inform them?" she asked, surveying her surroundings and noticing the warriors vigilantly observing them from their concealed positions.

"No, it's too late to warn them now. Besides, it seems they're prepared for whatever is about to occur," Seig responded, shaking his head in disagreement.

"But..." Evadne began, but Seig swiftly interrupted. "I know. You think you're the only one worried here. Besides the commotion this will cause, as I've said before, they might already have a way to deal with this if something does happen, so we have nothing to worry about."

From the looks of it, the warriors here could protect their vast territory by preventing the Vylkr vines from passing through, using some unknown method, so Seig was confident they didn't need to worry about anything.

"But why didn't the Four-eared elves try to warn them about this and stop them from going through with it?" Evadne asked, furrowing her brows in confusion.

"Maybe, as we've surmised, the Four-eared elves lack a stable relationship with them. They may have leveraged their years of trade to secure a foothold for their race here, implying they were unaware of this until now, much like us, or were not given the opportunity to speak. So they

couldn't intervene. Nevertheless, the leaders of this territory don't appear too impulsive to remain ignorant. , so I'm inclined to believe the former," Seig responded solemnly.

"Nevertheless, considering that they are a secluded race capable of surviving on their own, I think it's best they learn about one of the unspoken rules all races have to abide by."

Chapter 794 The Breakthrough

Seig abruptly paused, coughing slightly as he turned his attention towards Evadne. "Can you remind me what the unspoken rule says? I seem to have forgotten it," he asked, feeling embarrassed.

"Are you serious, Captain?" Evadne responded, arching a brow.

Seig cleared his throat lightly as he nodded. "It's an unspoken rule, so how am I supposed to fully remember its details if no one speaks about it?" he responded.

Evadne shook her head in response and sighed lightly. "Listen closely then, Captain, because I won't be repeating myself again. The unspoken rule states that while it is permissible to burn Vylkr vines, it must not be undertaken en masse without having a reliable method to deal with the Vylkr-infested fumes that result from the burning process. If a race proceeds with burning the Vylkr vines without adequate means to manage the fumes, they do so at their own peril," she responded.

Seig nodded.

"Captain, what do we do if they cannot deal with the catastrophe?" Evadne suddenly asked, concern etched on her expression.

"Since we have already decided to call this place our new home, we'll do whatever we can to help them," Seig responded.

"And if we are unsuccessful?" Evadne persisted.

Seig remained silent. He didn't see the need to respond to such a question when she already knew the answer to what she was asking for.

Evadne frowned and refocused on the dense Vylkr-infested fumes rising into the sky.

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Patriarch Rylan residence

The Four-eared elves' gods chosen had already noticed the abnormality. They stared toward the Vylkr-infested smoke before they realized it was rising all around the Third border city walls into the clouds.

"What in the gods' name are they doing?" Leona spoke, her voice tinged with astonishment.

"Father, we need to warn them before it's too late," Isadora said, shifting her attention towards Patriarch Rylan.

Leona, Lyndon, and the other gods' chosens agreed with their words.

"It's too late to warn them; we can only help them understand what transpires after this. Also, if I personally deliver this information to the Village Chief, it might help ease the strain on your relationship," Patriarch Rylan responded.

Since arriving here, their relationship with the Village seemed to deteriorate daily. Now, it felt like they were just one mistake away from being thrown out of the Village, so their actions needed to be well-calculated and reversed.

However, it seemed like they had planned to burn the whole dead forest at once, so he agreed to inform the Village about the dangers of burning such a large quantity of Vylkr vines without a proper safety method.

Thankfully, they didn't get into trouble for harming the Pixies, as they weren't the ones responsible for that incident.

"Then I'll come with you, Father," Isadora responded.

She saw this as an opportunity to seek Orion's favour and plead with him on behalf of Flintor and the others. Since the Village Chief had delayed their punishment until his arrival, she figured if they had someone like Orion on their side, along with his forgiveness, then they wouldn't need to worry about the Village Chief because it seemed that the Village Chief seemed to respect Orion's decisions more rather with it being the other way around.

"No, I think I should go alone," Patriarch Rylan responded, shaking his head in disagreement.

"I agree with Princess Isadora, Patriarch. It wouldn't be appropriate for your image to go alone. Given our current situation, either the Princess or the Prince should accompany you," Leona chimed in, agreeing with Isadora's sentiments.

Though they weren't in a position to command the same respect as Patriarch Rylan during his past trades with the Village, it didn't mean he had to tarnish their image because of their current predicament.

As the face of the Four-eared elves, his treatment would influence how their entire race would be regarded. Seeing the nods of agreement on their faces, Patriarch Rylan reluctantly relented.

"Okay, Isadora will accompany me to the Village Chief," Patriarch Rylan responded. How about you, Lyndon? Do you want to come with us?" he asked, his gaze fixed on the startled Lyndon.

Clearing his dry throat, Lyndon replied, "I think it's best if someone stays here to keep watch and prevent a repeat of the previous incident."

Observing Lyndon's nervous expression, Leona chuckled briefly before swiftly regaining her composure. "Don't worry, Patriarch. We'll do our best to protect everyone and prevent a repeat of what happened before," she assured, her tone slightly serious.

Patriarch Rylan nodded in understanding and redirected his focus to Isadora. "Go and prepare, then. We need to meet with them immediately," he instructed.

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Second Border City

Orion arrived at the Healers' Association headquarters branch of the Second Border City with the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar to visit Seraphina and witness her breakthrough on the potential four-star Vylkr vines findings, as Greta had requested him to do after he finished his meeting with the Village Chief.

That was why the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar had accompanied him.

Stronghold Leader Seth had stayed behind to oversee the molten magma as it smothered the dead forest and to create more if necessary.

As they entered through the front door, a receptionist promptly greeted them and led them toward Seraphina's workplace.

Upon their arrival, the receptionist knocked on the door.

"Come in!" a voice resounded from within.

The receptionist opened the door and stepped to the side, gesturing for them to enter.

Orion and the others nodded and stepped inside while the receptionist closed the door behind them.

They were immediately greeted by four familiar figures, all of whom were standing around a long rectangular table. They were the former Prismerions Healer Council members, and now heads of various Healers Association branches scattered all over Orion's cities.

"Mr Orion!"

"Village Chief!"

"Stronghold Leader Zogar!"

The heads of the Healers Association branches greeted them immediately upon noticing their presence.

Orion, the Village Chief, and Stronghold Leader Zogar all reciprocated their greetings.

"We were already finished and were just planning to leave," Thoren said. "Seraphina will explain everything to you."

They had arrived early that morning to finish their work after receiving important information that Orion had returned from his significant meeting. They felt mentally strained and wanted to return to their workplace before resuming their duties.

Chapter 795 The Breakthrough (2)

Valeria and Merisela, who were beside them, nodded.

"Alright," Orion responded.

The leaders of the Healers' Association's various branches turned to give Seraphina a nod before exiting the room.

After they had gone, Orion, the Village Chief, and Stronghold Leader Zogar finally noticed a small box in the centre of the table. Their eyes were fixed on it as they approached because they sensed that something was amiss with the container.

"It's good that you're finally back, husband," Seraphina abruptly said.

Orion snapped out of his thoughts and focused on her, nodding. "I wasn't expecting to wrap things up this early, though. Fortunately, everything worked out well for the best," he responded.

Seraphina nodded. She decided to table the rest of the conversation for when she returned home and instead enjoyed the remainder of her day with him.

Seraphina cleared her throat loudly to attract the Village Chief's and Stronghold Leader Zogar's attention. They both snapped out of their thoughts and focused on Seraphina.

"Ahem! As you all know, apart from our efforts to discover the main reason for the cause of the development of the Four-star Vylkr vines, we have also been working on the Devourer's bracelets to uncover how to replicate the less potent Vylkr energy within them. However, our trials have ended in failure, so we decided to focus on the Devourer's bracelet instead," Seraphina began.

Before she could continue, the Village Chief immediately interjected, "Isn't the experiment on the cause of the development of the Four-star Vylkr vines more important?"

"It is, however, allow me to finish my explanation, Chief," Seraphina responded before she continued, "As I was saying, after several failed experiments in trying to uncover the reason behind the development of the Four-star Vylkr vines and the reduction of the potency of the Vylkr energy, we then decided to turn our attention to the Devourer's bracelet in hopes of discovering something worthwhile from it. Fortunately, I am happy to say that we have done so."

"We dismantled the Devourer's bracelet piece by piece, teaching ourselves to identify and categorize each component, including the heart, gears, conduits, and casing. We noted their functions and interconnections, recorded the configuration and arrangement of the internal mechanisms, and studied how the Vylkr energy is channelled and regulated throughout the mechanism. We then extracted the core components, such as the Devourer's heart and gears, which are essential for the Vylkr energy circulation, hoping to understand its functionality."

"Each task was handled by a single person due to our familiarity with one another and our aversion to making mistakes, as we didn't have enough of these mechanisms to run several trials. Initially, we anticipated the task to be difficult, as we had never worked with such a mechanism before."

"However, after recording its configuration and arrangement and learning to identify and categorize each component, it was easier than we had imagined. Though it remains a complex mechanism, with several years of experience in fields like ancient medicine and alchemy, one can realize that it's not as complex as it seems."

"So what are you trying to say?" Orion asked, furrowing his brows in confusion.

Even after listening to Seraphina's words and understanding everything she had said, he still couldn't grasp the conclusion she was heading towards.

"Healer Seraphina, we would appreciate it if you could directly reach the conclusion of what you are trying to tell us," Stronghold Leader Zogar said.

Unlike Orion, who could construct a flying contraption or Seraphina, all he needed was for her to get to the point to understand what she was saying.

The Village Chief nodded in agreement, sharing their sentiments.

Hearing their response, Seraphina sighed inwardly and explained, "What I am trying to say is that after properly studying the Devourer's bracelet, we are now able to make one of our own," she said, a proud smile emerging on her face as she noticed their astounded expressions.

Silence enveloped the surrounding area within mere seconds.

"You... can replicate the Devourer's bracelet?" The Village Chief asked, his trembling voice shattering the stillness.

Seraphina nodded confidently, her smile growing even more radiant and assured.

"But how? The materials used in creating the Devourer's bracelet are unknown even to the gods' chosen ones, and you have confirmed your lack of knowledge about them. How is it possible to recreate it?" Orion asked curiously.

Did she finally discern the material used for creating the Devourer's bracelet?

He didn't doubt Seraphina's words; instead, he wholeheartedly believed them, making him eager to learn how she had achieved such a remarkable feat.

"To answer your first question, yes, we were able to recreate the Devourer's bracelet, and no, neither I nor the others understand the type of material or alloy used in making it," Seraphina responded before quickly adding, "Allow me to explain. By using alchemical transmutation, we can refine and purify any material within acceptable limits into the base structure for our new bracelet."

Hearing Seraphina's words, a look of realization descended upon Orion's expression. She had used the old bracelet to forge a new one by understanding its layout and functions.

Witnessing Orion's look of realization, Seraphina shifted her attention to the bewildered expressions of the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar and sighed before explaining the transmutation process in detail.

Within seconds, their eyes also widened in understanding.

"However, that was the easy part. As it turns out, the intricate designs on the Devourer's bracelet weren't just for show. They were sigils meant to fortify the bracelet and protect it from harm, along with a few safety measures for the wielder. This is why they could command their Devourer bracelets, deactivating and activating them at will," Seraphina added.

"So, how did you solve that issue? Considering that you recreated the Devourer's bracelet, that meant you found another way, right?" Orion asked, his brow raised, his voice laced with curiosity.

Seraphina nodded. "Yes, we did. The only thing we could use in place of the sigils are runes, which are much more powerful for this task. Fortunately, just as I am well-versed in alchemy, we have someone like Thoren who is well-versed in runes," she responded.

Chapter 796 Vylkr Fusion Armlet

Though every member of the Crystalforge clan could create and fortify their constructs, making them almost as powerful as ranked artefacts, their effectiveness depended on the capabilities of those creating them. Yet, there were those who went the extra mile, delving into the study of runes to elevate their constructs to the level of ranked artefacts.

Unfortunately, not everyone possessed the talent for learning runes, so only a select few with the necessary aptitude and strength could dedicate themselves to mastering it.

"Before implementing the runes, we needed to conduct several tests on the materials to determine their intensity and capability. Regrettably, this involved sacrificing portions of the Devourer's bracelet. In the end, we could only inscribe six runes, some for the bracelet itself and others for the wielder," Seraphina added with a tired sigh.

"However, as you might have already guessed, after all this, we were left with fewer of the abundant materials needed to recreate the Devourer's bracelet. So, our only option was to manage our materials and make the bracelet slimmer than the bulky one."

"This meant eliminating some of its inner mechanisms, which were there to ensure the adequate use of the Devourer's bracelet and to prevent it from harming the wielder. These included many

regulators to control the infusion of Vylkr energy into it. Because of the reduction of those components, we had no choice but to map new pathways for the materials."

"So, you didn't just recreate the Devourer's bracelet, but also changed its entire structure?" Stronghold Leader Zogar asked, his brow raised in curiosity.

Initially, upon hearing about Orion appointing the Prismerions' Healers Council members to significant positions within the Healers' Associations branches, he had assumed it was merely a matter of familiarity and inclusion of the Prismerions in the village. However, after discovering their contributions to the innovations within Orion's cities and witnessing their capabilities firsthand, he no longer doubted their abilities and ceased opposing the decision.

Nonetheless, after listening to the extraordinary feat that Seraphina and the others had managed to accomplish, he realized that even the current Orion would struggle to achieve this.

Seraphina nodded in acknowledgement.

"But if you removed some of its components and redesigned the pathways, doesn't that mean it won't be safe for an ordinary person? And what about the diluted Vylkr energy used to power it? Didn't you say you couldn't figure out how it was made?" Orion asked, pausing to take a deep breath when he saw Seraphina's smile brightening.

"...You found a way around that, too, didn't you?" he asked, wide-eyed.

Hearing Orion's words, the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar's hearts trembled as they gulped.

"Firstly, yes. Due to the process we undertook to recreate the Devourer's bracelet, it would be too dangerous for an ordinary individual to utilize. However, we were only considering it from the wrong perspective. Though the Devourer's bracelet could be much more harmful to an average person, we can't say the same about humans."

"According to the knowledge we've gathered, mostly from asking questions and receiving answers from the village warriors, an average human cannot utilize Vylkr energy and form a Vylkr container because they possess a two-star potential or lower. Meanwhile, warriors who can effortlessly control Vylkr energy and create a Vylkr container possess a three-star potential and above."

"This made us realize that the average human below the three- star potential is much more tolerant to infusion of Vylkr energy and has a higher chance of surviving an encounter with Vylkr vines, unlike individuals from other races," Seraphina explained, briefly looking at Orion as she recalled how Celeste and the others had once told her about Orion's survival of an encounter with a Vylkr vine before he became a warrior.

She continued, "So instead of focusing on individuals from other races, we decided to concentrate on the average humans and create these specifically for them."

"A Devourer's bracelet specifically made for the average villager," the Village Chief said, repeating the words quietly.

Orion and Stronghold Leader Zogar also echoed these words under their breath.

"As for the replacement for diluted Vylkr energy, we still haven't discovered how to recreate it. However, we uncovered something else to replace it with, which is as simple as directly extracting the raw Vylkr energy from the Vylkr vine and sealing it within a vial for the average human to get used to it, just like how the gods' chosen ones had gotten used to theirs."

"Nonetheless, we have already run a few tests on it, and it is running perfectly. The only remaining thing is another replacement for the Devourer's heart, as the former has already been used and died when its former wielders perished."

"Without a new Devourer's heart, it won't be able to store and utilize the Vylkr energy it had collected from the Vails. We might have done more to figure out how to fix that issue, but three days is too short to solve something as complex as that," Seraphina added, exhaling deeply as she finished her explanation.

Once Seraphina was done speaking, a brief silence fell upon their surroundings.

"There's nothing to be disappointed about. You have done wonderfully well in just three days, and even I'm speechless about what to say," Orion responded, breaking the silence as he shook his head at Seraphina's last words.

The Village Chief nodded, "Yes, you have done enough in such a short time. I don't think you need to feel disappointed about anything," he added.

"I agree with Warrior Orion and the Village Chief," stated Stronghold Leader Zogar.

"However, for the Devourer's heart, is there anything you need that the Village can provide you with to assist in your experiment?" he asked.

Since Seraphina would be dealing with raw Vylkr energy, which is the Villagers' specialty, he figured she would need their help to finish the experiment. So, he decided to be straightforward and ask her directly.

"Well, there is something we'll need your help for," Seraphina asked hesitantly.

Chapter 797 Vylkr Fusion Armlet (2)

"What are they? I'll do anything within my power to accomplish it," the Village Chief asked, his tone solemn.

Now, they had the opportunity to transform even the most average villager into a warrior; he could not overlook it or purposefully ignore it.

Of course, something like this could turn the Village upside down, but with their discoveries about the outside world, Village Chief Brane understood that a Devourer's bracelet, much more powerful than its original, was something the village needed at this very moment.

Therefore, he was willing to ensure this experiment was completed.

Just thinking about the gifts that had gone untapped because the individuals possessing them couldn't become warriors, the Village Chief couldn't help but feel a shiver run down his spine.

A village where everyone could utilise and manipulate Vylkr's energy was frightening and exciting.

"As long as it is within my power, I promise to do whatever it takes to ensure this experiment is completed," Orion said, his tone serious.

Stronghold Leader Zogar also nodded, sharing the same sentiments.

Witnessing their response, Seraphina nodded thoughtfully, "The safest solution we have come up with is to graft a part of the chosen wielder's body to create a new Devourer's heart before allowing them to wield the Devourer's bracelet. With Greta's help, we won't have to worry about the repercussions or potential failures. However, for an effective solution, we would need to graft that of a warrior—the more vital, the better."

"It doesn't matter whether they are dead or alive as long as they can perfectly utilise Vylkr energies with their bodies. All we need to do is drain as much Vylkr energy as possible and transmute it, and we'll have a much more effective solution."

"It isn't the safest because the component used for grafting from the warriors to recreate the Devourer's heart will be obviously more familiar with the Vylkr energy and will adapt to its infusion very quickly, which will also hasten the wielder's control of the Vylkr energy but will also cause a few temporary side effects, which we are still unsure of."

"Temporary side effects?" Orion repeated, his brow raised in curiosity.

Seraphina nodded. "Yes, we only expect these side effects to be temporary until they fully acquire control of the Vylkr energy in their body and can wield the Devourer's bracelet," she responded.

Orion and the others all nodded in understanding.

"Which of the options do you think is best?" The Village Chief asked, his eyes fixed on Seraphina.

Since she and the other healers had come up with all of this, they must already have an option of their own, so he wanted to know what it was.

"Naturally, since we have two Devourer's bracelets, I'm inclined to say we try both options and observe how it develops from there. However, considering we are not in a hurry, I would pick option one as it's the safest option. And considering this is the Vylkr energy we are talking about, it's better to be safe than effective and take risks," Seraphina responded thoughtfully.

"Okay, then we'll go with option one," the Village Chief responded.

"I'll do my best to find any volunteers from the village willing to be the first to undergo such an experiment and send them to you as quickly as possible," he added.

There was no doubt that many people in the village would give up everything they had to become warriors, so he wasn't worried about not finding any volunteers; however, he only needed to inform them about the risks involved,

"Since we're done, can we look at the Devourer's bracelet that you all worked together to recreate?" Orion asked eagerly.

The Village Chief and Stronghold Leader, Zogar, agreed with Orion. They were genuinely eager to see what the Devourer's bracelet looked like.

Seraphina stretched her hand to grab hold of the box before pausing; then she opened it towards Orion and the others.

As Orion and the others continued to watch, they observed the Devourer's bracelet finally being revealed. Though it still possessed the same metallic colour as the standard Devourer's bracelet, it appeared much sleeker. It retained various metal parts and screws attached to it, with no dents or scratches on its surface.

Unlike the standard Devourer's bracelets, which were 5 cm thick, this one appeared only to be about 3 cm thick, showcasing its slimmer profile. Also, rather than the numerous inscriptions surrounding the standard ones, this one featured much more detailed inscriptions resembling runes on each and every part of its body.

"Leaving it bland like this was a bit tasteless, especially since we wanted to differentiate it from the standard Devourer's bracelet. However, we decided to add some colour to it after we finished everything," Seraphina said. "

Nonetheless, I present to you all the 'Vylkr Fusion Armlet,'" she added with a broad, satisfied smile.

"Vylkr Fusion Armlet," Orion repeated, feeling the words roll off his lips.

"Yes, we were planning to go for something like 'Devourer's Fusion Bracelet,' but we needed something much more distinct and equally domineering than its counterpart, so we went with that name. Do you like it?" Seraphina asked.

Orion nodded immediately. "Of course I do. Vylkr Fusion Armlet is an equally interesting and domineering name," he responded.

"I like the name as well. It perfectly fits what you all have managed to recreate," the Village Chief nodded, agreeing.

"I also agree," Stronghold Leader Zogar chimed in.

After they had looked closely at the Vylkr Fusion Armlet, Seraphina closed the box and set it aside for safekeeping.

"We'll be taking our leave now. I need to properly digest all the information I just received and deal with the occurrence that might emerge with burning the entire dead forest. In the meantime, we'll have the festival, which will also serve as Orion's coronation as the new Village Chief in two days."

"So, ensure that this experiment remains a secret until it's completed, as we don't want anything that might stir up any commotion for now with these three events. I'll also do my best to ensure that it's kept between the three of us only," the Village Chief said, his expression serious.

Chapter 798 The Vylkr Veil

"You don't need to worry, Chief. This experiment is only known to the four of us who worked on it, and we've all promised to keep it a secret until it is ready to be released to the public," Seraphina responded, nodding in understanding.

The Village Chief nodded in acknowledgement. "I'll be taking my leave then. I'll see you both later," he responded before he turned around and exited the room.

Stronghold Leader Zogar nodded before turning around and exiting the room, following suit.

After they left, only Orion and Seraphina were left inside the workspace.

Immediately, Seraphina leapt from her position and flew into Orion. Fortunately, Orion had already opened his arms to welcome her. She wrapped all four limbs around his figure.

Orion reciprocated her gestures, embracing her warmly.

"It's good that you're back because I was beginning to get worried," Seraphina said.

"I told you that nothing is going to happen to me," Orion responded, a smile gracing his lips.

"Well, you can't blame me, can you? You were going to meet with Aegis of the Arctic Deity and had stayed there for three days, so there's no way I wouldn't be worried," Seraphina retorted.

Orion smiled and didn't respond. He hugged her silently, relishing the moment until she finally descended to the ground and released him.

"So, what do you think about my presentation? I hope you're not disappointed," Seraphina asked, gently holding Orion's chin.

Orion nodded, "You absolutely impressed me. There's no way I can be disappointed after witnessing such a presentation," he responded, wrapping his arms around her waist.

"Whenever I think you wouldn't be able to perform past a certain limit, you shatter it and go even further. Without a doubt, you and the other healers will become pioneers for starting something so great," he added, his hands stretching downwards to grab her plump buttocks.

"That's wonderful, too," Seraphina responded, smiling naughtily as she leaned in and sealed Orion's lips. They kissed, their lips melding passionately until they pulled apart.

Orion's hands had already pulled Seraphina's long, slit violet dress up and snuck into her panties, trying to get a hold of her pussy lips from behind.

"Mmmhhmm~" Seraphina moaned seductively, her lips pressed close to Orion's ears.

Just as Orion was about to pull down her matching violet panties, Seraphina immediately stopped him, saying, "Husband, not here. I want to feel you deep inside me, and I don't want to stop

midway. Let's return to the manor before we continue." Her glazed eyes were fixed on Orion as she leaned in and kissed him briefly before pulling back and walking away to properly arrange her dress.

"Also, I still have to arrange the materials we worked with and clean up before I leave, so you can go ahead without me. I'll meet you at home," Seraphina responded.

Orion knew that Seraphina didn't allow anybody into her workshop, including cleaning it when it was dirty. According to her, the best way to maintain a perfect workshop was to personally take care of it oneself, including cleaning after use and arranging all the equipment in order.

This way, she wouldn't have to worry about anything getting spoiled or missing.

Nevertheless, Orion understood everyone has their own habits, so he nodded. "Okay. There's something else I have to deal with before heading back home, so you can take your time," he responded.

He approached her from behind and grabbed her voluptuous breast, giving a light squeeze and prompting her to turn her head to the side.

After stealing a kiss, Orion released his grip and exited the room, leaving Seraphina gazing at him with a warm smile.

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As Orion walked down the corridor, a figure abruptly rushed past him before coming to a halt in front of him.

"What is it?" Orion frowned as he looked at the woman who had blocked his path.

"Mr Orion, the Village Chief, urgently needs your presence downstairs," the woman said, taking deep breaths to calm herself down.

Orion furrowed his brows in confusion. He thought the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar had already left, but it seemed they were still downstairs and had even sent someone to call him.

Orion nodded, "Let's go then," he responded.

The woman immediately nodded and led Orion downstairs toward the direction of the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar.

The woman nodded and led the way downstairs.

Once they arrived, Orion immediately noticed Patriarch Rylan and his daughter, Isadora, standing close to the Village Chief and Stronghold Leader Zogar with solemn expressions.

"It's good that you're finally here. Patriarch Rylan searched for us and came to tell us about something very important related to the burning of the Vylkr vines," the Village Chief said.

Listening to the Village Chief's words, Orion exhaled and nodded in understanding. "If it's about the phenomenon that would follow soon after, then you don't have to worry about it. Though we might not know what it is, we have nothing to worry about with Aegis of the Arctic Deity's protection," Orion responded, shaking his head in assurance.

'Aegis of the Arctic Deity protection,' Patriarch Rylan pondered, furrowing his brows in confusion. A realization struck him as he recalled how the Vylkr vines couldn't approach the Orion's cities, and none of the Vylkr-infested fumes and ash had infiltrated past the city walls.

Patriarch Rylan swiftly concluded that whoever Aegis of the Arctic was, they were responsible for safeguarding the Orion's cities, enabling their construction on such a grand scale without fear of Vylkr vines attack.

The Village Chief shook his head. "No, that's not the reason. Patriarch Rylan has come today to inform us that he knows exactly what the phenomenon is," he responded.

Orion's expression immediately shifted to astonishment, and he turned his gaze toward Patriarch Rylan. Seeing Patriarch Rylan nod in confirmation, Orion was left utterly dumbfounded.

"We rushed to find you the instant we spotted the smoke billowing outside," Patriarch Rylan said, his tone grave.

Orion nodded. "Let's find a more private spot to discuss this," he replied.

The matter was too sensitive to be discussed in such a public space.

Chapter 799 The Vylkr Veil (2)

After locating an empty room within the branch headquarters of the Healers' Association, typically reserved for hosting guests, they settled into plush individual chairs arranged around a wide rectangular table.

The Village Chief said, "Patriarch Rylan, please explain to us what kind of phenomenon emerges from burning a large quantity of Vylkr vines."

Orion and Stronghold Leader Zogar listened intently as he began to speak.

Patriarch Rylan nodded and explained, "When a large portion of Vylkr vines is burned at such a frightening degree, and the Vylkr-infested fumes reach the sky, it creates something known as the Vylkr veil. This Vylkr veil is a thick, swirling fog resembling dense smoke drifting around."

"As it spreads and envelops the surroundings, strange and unsettling phenomena emerge. This phenomenon is known as 'Heaving ground,' where the destroyed Vylkr vines surge back to life with unnatural growth, resulting in strange variants of vicious Vylkr vines whose lives are supported only by the Vylkr veil."

Orion, the Village Chief, and Stronghold Leader Zogar felt their hearts sink as they absorbed Patriarch Rylan's words.

"What do you mean by Vylkr vine variants, Patriarch Rylan?" The Village Chief's voice was serious, his heart pounding.

"The Vylkr vine variants are variations like the Vylkr Blade Vine, with razor-sharp tendrils that move with unnatural speed and ferocity, and the Vylkr Wraith Vine, a ghostly apparition emerging from the eerie fog of the Vylkr Veil, capable of gliding through the air and effortlessly ensnaring their prey."

"The latter may seem easier to handle due to their spectral nature, but they are relentless, while the former are swift, dangerous threats. Only those with strength equal to or above a three-star Vylkr vine are sent to handle them to minimize casualties," Patriarch Rylan explained.

"Are you suggesting that all of this arises solely from burning a large quantity of Vylkr vines?" Stronghold Leader Zogar asked, his astonishment evident despite his efforts to conceal it.

Orion and the Village Chief were equally stunned, taking a moment to digest the weight of the information they had just received.

Patriarch Rylan nodded solemnly. "Yes, however, it isn't so simple. Burning a large quantity of one-star Vylkr vines wouldn't be able to create such a phenomenon due to their low abundance of Vylkr energy. This phenomenon only arises from burning a substantial amount of two-star Vylkr vines, which can last for two or three days, or three-star Vylkr vines, which can last up to four days. But they do not superimpose upon each other if burned simultaneously."

"Of course, there is also the fact that this can cause extreme weather conditions at the edge of the Vylkr veil due to the sudden emergence of such dense energy in the air, which can cause a commotion. If evaporating the Vylkr vines from the surface of this world was enough to get rid of it, then I can assure you there would be a scarcity of Vylkr vines. Because of this, taking such action is not worth it unless you deal with small controlled quantities," he added.

"Considering that this is not a runaway city where we might have a chance to evade the danger and escape but a large structure at the centre of such a phenomenon, we must hastily prepare for what is coming."

As Orion and the others contemplated Patriarch Rylan's words, Isadora discreetly glanced in Orion's direction throughout the meeting, hoping to catch his attention. Unfortunately, all of her attempts were futile.

"You mentioned that all of this arises due to burning a large quantity of two-star or three-star Vylkr vines. But what if we were to burn a Vylkr vine higher than that in large quantities?" Orion asked curiously.

Although learning about the phenomenon that would emerge from burning a large quantity of Vylkr vines was enough to stun him into silence, as he could never have imagined such a thing, he wasn't worried because of Aegis of the Arctic Deity's protection.

However, Patriarch Rylan and Isadora, seated beside him, were immediately confused by Orion's question.

"I don't understand what you mean by that, Mr Orion," Patriarch Rylan asked, his tone bewildered.

"Ahem! I think he is trying to say that we decided to burn the dead forest and the Vyllkr vines together because we discovered the emergence of a four-star Vylkr vine. So, to halt their growth, we burned them along with the one, two, and three-star Vylkr vines," the Village Chief cleared his throat and said.

A pin-drop silence descended upon the room.

Patriarch Rylan stammered, wide-eyed, "Four... Four-star Vylkr vine?" his voice trembling.

Even Isadora couldn't help but shiver when she heard the Village Chief's words. After all, this was the first time she had heard such a sentence.

Four-star Vylkr vine! Even the gods' chosen wouldn't dare joke about such a thing. However, looking at the Village Chief's expression and Orion's and Stronghold Leader Zogar's beside him, Isadora was immediately aware that they might not be joking.

The Village Chief nodded, "Yes, we have confirmed the existence of a four-star Vylkr vine. As such, we are doing everything in our power to eradicate them. Regarding the Vylkr veil and the commotion this will cause, we have chosen this method even without knowing what the phenomenon would be. So, you don't have to worry; we are perfectly capable of properly protecting this entire territory until the phenomenon dies down," he responded.

Orion and Stronghold Leader Zogar nodded confidently, agreeing with the Village Chief's words.

Patriarch Rylan and Isadora were stunned by their response.

Hadn't they just heard everything they had said?

A Vylkr veil formed from a two-star and three-star Vylkr vine was already terrifying enough, and now a Four-star Vylkr vine. Who knows what kind of phenomena would emerge from it?

Though he appreciated their confidence and could guess that it came from the strange protection that held back the Vylkr vines from infiltrating the Orion's cities, as someone who has witnessed these phenomena firsthand, how could he not be aware of their terrors and even downplay them?

"Village Chief Brane, though I trust your words, I don't think this is something you should disregard," Patriarch Rylan said.

Chapter 800 Commencement of the Vylkr Veil Phenomenon

"Patriarch Rylan, I assure you that we are not ignoring this situation; we are well-prepared to handle it. No matter what kind of phenomenon arises, we are ready to face it. Furthermore, we can effortlessly hold back the Vylkr vines because we possess a god's protection."

"We believe this divine shield will enable us to push back this phenomenon until it ends. Nonetheless, I hope you keep this revelation to yourself and do not reveal it to anyone," Orion responded, sighing as he revealed the secret of Aegis of the Arctic Deity to Patriarch Rylan and Isadora.

"A god," Patriarch Rylan repeated, his expression stunned. He snapped his head in the direction of the Village Chief.

Witnessing the Village Chief nod in agreement with Orion's words, his expression froze as he refocused it back on Orion.

A sudden thought surged through his mind, prompting him to recall the encounter with Iris, a divine apostle who had disclosed her identity to him on their first day in the Second Border City.

However, the information she provided was that the god was dead. Given the various challenges they faced in Orion's Cities, he opted not to pursue the matter further, focusing instead on repairing their relationship with the territory's leaders before asking about a sensitive topic about the divine apostles.

But who could have expected that he had been deceived? Not only was the goddess still alive, but it was also the very reason they were shielded from the Vylkr vines—

Wait a second!

Another thought surfaced in his mind as he recalled Iris mentioning the name of their goddess, Aerialia, the goddess of the hunting moon, instead of Aegis of the Arctic Deity. Although he wasn't familiar with the latter name, he instantly grasped that they were referring to two distinct gods.

The small village with which he had previously traded had undergone such rapid development that it now received blessings from two gods. And that didn't even include Naka, whom he was sure was the village's primary god and the reason for their success thus far.

Three gods!

Beside him, Isadora's mind seemed to short-circuit, leaving her in a daze. She was now more focused on regaining her composure than seeking Orion's attention.

"Patriarch Rylan, I understand that this revelation might not be easy for you to swallow. If given a chance, I had intended to deliver the information in a much calmer manner, not like this," Orion responded, his gaze fixed on Patriarch Rylan, whose expression had shifted multiple times in seconds.

Meanwhile, his daughter beside him seemed frozen in shock, unable to regain her composure.

Orion wasn't overly concerned about revealing the presence of Aegis of the Arctic Deity to them, as it was only a matter of time before they learned about him. Whether they could do anything about it would depend on whether they could defend themselves against a literal man-made god.

Patriarch Rylan shook his head. "You don't have to explain. Though this revelation shocked me beyond belief, you don't have to worry. I perfectly understand your reasons for doing so," he sighed deeply.

"But there's something I would like to ask concerning this god," Patriarch Rylan interjected quickly.

"What is it?" Orion asked curiously.

It was Patriarch Rylan's first time learning about Aegis of the Arctic Deity, so Orion was curious about what questions he might have.

"Is 'he' alive?" Patriarch Rylan asked.

Orion nodded. "Aegis of the Arctic Deity is alive, and... well," he replied, trailing off slightly.

"Do you have any further questions, Patriarch Rylan?" Orion asked.

He had pressing matters and wanted to wrap up the meeting as soon as possible.

Patriarch Rylan shook his head in response. Though he had many questions bubbling in his mind and sensed Orion's readiness to address them all, he recognised the wisdom in quelling his curiosity and maintaining silence at such a crucial moment.

"I came here only to ensure we are prepared for what will come. Hearing that we are under the protection of a god is enough to put my weary heart at ease," Patriarch Rylan responded, exhaling in relief.

"If that's the case, then this meeting is—" Orion began, but before he could finish his sentence, a loud thunderstrike pierced through the sky, echoing like a resounding drumbeat, compelling him to fall silent.

Patriarch Rylan exhaled deeply. "It seems it's already started," he remarked, his gaze fixed outside the window.

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Within minutes, they arrived at the headquarters of the Healers' Association branch and directed their gazes upward.

Orion, the Village Chief, and Stronghold Leader Zogar watched the bright flashes of light streaking through the sky like thunder.

The once bright sky was now wholly darkened, resembling the depths of night without a single star to illuminate it, casting the entirety of Orion's Cities into an eerie shade of darkness.

Street lanterns suddenly flickered to life, glowing across the darkened expanse of Orion's Cities.

"What's happening? Why has the sky suddenly darkened?" asked a man standing nearby.

"Didn't you see the large smoke rising around the city earlier? I heard from someone that the warriors were burning the Vylkr vines, so I think this has something to do with the Vylkr vines," said another man beside him.

As they conversed, several others nearby overheard their voices clearly and immediately understood that this occurrence was directly related to the Vylkr vines. Considering the dangers of the Vylkr vines, they became even more frightened about the event and what it meant for their lives.

Multiple voices began to speak up, and soon, the whole area was filled with chatter and screams.

"EVERYONE, QUIET DOWN!" Orion's voice reverberated around the area as he attempted to calm the voices that threatened to escalate into a problem if not handled immediately.

The whole area suddenly quieted down.

"In case some of you are not aware of who I am, let me clarify; I am Orion, the architect and founder of the Orion's Cities," Orion spoke loudly, his voice cutting through the silence.