

A Glitched 111

Chapter 111 The Mimic Demon

The mimic was actually not a monster, but a demon? How come? How did Aquarina notice?

"How could you tell?" I asked.

"I-It's a feeling..." she replied.

After her words, I quickly remembered that Aquarina had this special sixth sense-like ability innate to her. Ever since she was born, she was able to see through the intentions of people and things. Perhaps due to this she's able to tell that this wasn't a simple monster?

"You're a demon?!" Zack asked at the worm-like creature in front of us.

"Guuhhh...! I was waiting to wake up after the next Demon King's awakening, yet you come and wake me up?! Can't you just be a good dinner and die for me, kids? The last idiot that got here was pretty tasty... but that has been years ago. I am starving!" said the demon in response.

"Wait! Can't we get along? I think I can offer you some food," I hastily said soon after.

"Huh?! Get along? With you humans?!" it asked in response.

"I can give you food, look!" I replied, opening my inventory pouch before taking out the corpse of a panther.

"See? If you're hungry, you can eat this. You don't have to eat us... in fact, there's no need for violence... I'm very sorry for burning your tongue... I can heal you and make up for it with more food or even shelter!" I continued.

"You're a weird kid... why aren't you running away? Are you not scared of my appearance? I'm a giant and terrifying worm, no?!" the demon asked as it looked down at us, his tentacles slowly extending.

"Because you can talk and understand us. In short, you're an intelligent being. We fight monsters because they don't understand us. They can't stop and simply have a conversation with us like what you're doing now. Therefore, this already makes you different, it makes you a person," I said in response.

"..."

"Sylph..." Aquarina muttered.

"Y-You're serious?" Zack could not help but say.

The demon looked at me with its various eyes in complete silence.

"Gahah... gyahahahahaha! GYAHHAHAHAHAHAHA!"

And then, it began to laugh maniacally.

Was I wrong?

Would it try to kill us either way?

"Why are you laughing? Anyways, why are you even here?" I asked.

"...I'm laughing because you're an amusing little girl! Plus, I've been here for years now, I was exiled from the ancient demon army and escaped into this dungeon. I've been hibernating for very long... I am very hungry! Are you really okay with speaking to someone that has already taken the lives of many humans?" the demon told me.

"What's your name?" I asked in response.

"...my name? My name is Furoh. What's your name, foolish little girl?" it replied, asking a question of its own soon after.

"Name's Sylphy! If you want to, I can heal your burnt tongue... but I don't think I can bring it back," I told him.

"What's the point of this? Are you trying to buy time by speaking to me? Are your parents coming to save you?" the demon asked after that.

"Eh? No, I'm perfectly okay by my own. In fact, I'm fairly confident I can beat you. I could use the same flames," I answered.

"Geh... you're a bold little bastard. I've never tasted the tender little flesh of children before... I wonder how tasty it is..." he muttered.

"Is that a provocation? I told you I don't want to fight. Let's become friends instead. I cannot simply deem every demon I see as inherently evil, that's wrong. If I ultimately want you guys to ally with me, I can't just go around killing each demon I see, right? If you were a monster, then it might be a different thing altogether but..." I said.

"Ally... demons?!" Furoh exclaimed.

Aquarina and Zack looked at me after that. Well, Aquarina had agreed with me back then, but Zack raised an eyebrow. Then again, I could notice that Aquarina didn't like the idea of becoming friends with a murderous demon.

But how could one expect demons to not have murdered a human or two when they were at war with us? The same can be said of humans having slain demons. And it's not like I'm not an assassin or something right now. It was only in my previous life did I kill many people.

"Wait, Sylphy! Didn't we agree to do this when we grew up?!" Aquarina could not help but ask.

"And then what? You want to kill this person just because we aren't old enough to become his ally?" I countered.

"Sylphy, I think your thoughts are very noble, but he just told us that he's waiting for the Demon King to be reborn! He's clearly in the faction of the demons that want to kill us all!" said Zack.

"Is that really so, Furoh? If you become my ally, will you keep killing humans that hadn't done anything wrong to you?" I asked.

"...Well, the last human I killed was this cranky guy... and I was very hungry," replied Furoh.

"Eh?"

"Huh?"

Suddenly, Furoh began to talk more casually than before.

"A-are you really okay with my appearance? Don't I look ugly? E-even the demons said I was horrid... I was born as a shapeshifting flesh demon... I hid inside this treasure chest to pretend I'm a mimic and hunt monsters. Then, the dungeon automatically enclosed me here and I've been hibernating because I was starving... ugh... fine, I'll drop the act... t-thank you," he said.

Out of nowhere, he changed his personality and showed us his real self.

Then, he slowly picked up the corpse of a panther I left... and he began to gently munch it across his many jaws.

"Hmm... it's so tasty... it's so fresh... t-thanks..." he thanked me soon after.

"Oh..."

"Ah..."

"H-He really is nice, see?!"

Naturally, Aquarina and Zack were left a bit surprised.

Furoh even began to talk with a gentler voice as well, sounding more like a child to me. A child who had been forced to act monstrosly by his own army.

"So, if I'm getting this right, you ended up here because you escaped the demon army?" I asked.

"Indeed. I escaped them because they bullied me... I couldn't really make any friends, and they always called me an abomination," he lamented.

Chapter 112 Let's Become Friends!

In the end, it seemed that Furoh wasn't all he had said. He had indeed killed humans though, the guy's skeleton near him and... a few soldiers in the war a few dozen years ago. Then again, they were out of necessity.

"But you're pretty nice when you open up, see? Why did you even put up that scary act? Were you really going to eat us?" I asked.

"Not really... I was trying to scare you away so I could later run away from the crevice you opened..." he replied.

"R-Really?" asked Aquarina.

"Y-Yes..." answered Furoh with a sigh.

"H-He's saying the truth..." Aquarina told us, using her ability to discern his true intentions.

"B-But maybe he got some magic to trick you into thinking that! How can you even think a demon like this thing can become a friend?!" Zack could not help but tell us.

"Zack, don't be so rude! He didn't choose to be born like that! And what's wrong with that? He might look like an amorphous mass of flesh, but I find him quite interesting," I said in response.

"What?! Are you nuts or something, Sylph? What kind of person would ever...!" murmured Zack, wondering if I had a few screws loose.

"I-it's true! You shouldn't really try to become my friend or something! The kid's right... I'm a monstrous being, anyone would think I'm a mimic anyways, and I hide here for that reason... I'll just go away now. I don't want to bother you kids anymore. Thanks for helping me out with the meal," said Furoh, using his insect-like legs to crawl out of the dungeon.

"W-Wait! Furoh! Don't go!" I shouted, rushing behind him as he looked at me with his various eyes nervously. He began to sweat all over as he ran away from me.

"Sylphy! Are you seriously chasing him down?!" Aquarina exclaimed.

"He's the first connection I have with demons. That talk and are not into killing all humans! If I could become his ally, maybe I could find a way to communicate with many more demons in the future! Don't you get it?" I said in response. I was putting a lot of passion in my words.

Aquarina's eyes opened wide in surprise, as she looked down to the floor.

"Sylphy... I-I guess this is the path you want to follow..." she said soon after.

"I... I do," I replied.

"..."

"I'll go now," I said soon after as I rushed towards Furoh.

In any case, Furoh was fast. He had six bug-like legs that he used to crawl around like a bug while inside of his treasure chest. Without revealing his fleshy worm-like interior, he would look like a mimic monster with bug legs or a bug that had an exoskeleton in this shape.

"G-Go away already! I'm not becoming your friend!" he exclaimed.

"Then where are you even going to go? The Demon Continent? You're currently in the human continent! The seas are dangerous, and if you're caught by some people, you'll get chased down and killed!" I told him.

"W-What? Then what do you even propose?!" he asked back.

"Become my familiar!" I said with great conviction.

"What are you even talking about?! Are you nuts?! Can a demon even become a half-elf's familiar?! You're clearly crazy! Ah! I already realized it... you're a psychopath! You're looking at me with very creepy eyes!" he cried in horror.

I had not realized that my face was making quite the funny expression. Perhaps I was indeed going a tad bit insane right there. However, I have to get him as a familiar. It's my ticket to become friendly with more demons!

Ah... but is that an unhealthy obsession in itself?

"But don't you realize?! If you become my familiar, you won't be discriminated by humans! Because you'll be... well, my familiar!" I told him.

Furoh continued running for his life as he crawled away with his bug legs.

"No way! Leave me alone already! I'll survive on my own...!" he cried.

"But you'll die in a ditch if you go alone! Let me help you out! Come on..." I said one more time.

I enhanced my speed by tenfold and reached up to him in a mere instant, using Flashing Light before Ember Propulsion to enhance my speed as I left explosions of light and fire behind me.

Which actually made me more intimidating at the end.

"GYYYAAAH! Y-You're really a psycho!" he cried out.

"Nooo! I'm a nice person! Come on, let's be friends!" I tried once more.

POOF!

Suddenly, Ignatius and Naturia showed up around me.

"Sylphy, explain to me what the hell you're doing?! Just kill that thing!" Ignatius told me.

"Fooo! Foo, foo, fofofoo!" Naturia said soon after. From the looks of it, she was angry at me as well.

"What's wrong with wanting a demon friend? You're literally also part of their faction anyways, right?" I asked Ignatius as I continued rushing towards Furoh.

"T-That's... well, you're right... but still! Don't compare the glorious dragon race to demons..." replied Ignatius.

"We will have a serious talk about your racism after this is over," I said in response to his words.

"Eh?! Stop talking nonsense!" exclaimed Ignatius, hitting my head with his eggshell.

"Agh! Well, if you're going to stay here, then help me capture him!" I said.

"Isn't that just kidnapping, then?" Ignatius asked in response.

"If he's caught by humans and die, I'll feel terrible! I have to save him," I replied.

"Fueehh..." Eventually, Natoria let out a sigh, deciding to cooperate with me at long last.

She quickly delved into the grass below my feet as I merged my magic into her. Soon, tentacles of grass emerged one after another, following Furoh.

"GYYYAAAAHH! Y-You're going to catch me now?!" he asked in horror.

"No... I'm going to rescue you!" I answered with a smile.

"Y-You really are a psycho! Agghhh!"

I caught up to him easily with the grass vines, just in time because a massive jaw almost devoured him right in front of him.

CRUNCH!

"EHEE?!"

"GRR..."

Right after I caught Furoh, a massive lizard appeared. It was walking on two feet, and looked like it had the body of a chicken, but without the feathers. Its head was big and its jaws even larger. My eyes told me it was called a Thunderous Tyrannosaur!

Then again, its entire body actually exuded large quantities of lightning!

Chapter 113 A Giant Dinosaur Appears Out Of Nowhere!

"Y-You actually rescued me?!" Furoh asked in shock as I brought him back to my side.

"I was telling you all this time that I could easily detect a massive monster in front of you and you weren't listening!" I replied.

"Eh? You never said anything like that! You were acting like a creep this whole time!" he refuted.

"Ugh, give me a break..." I murmured with a sigh.

"GRROOOOAAARRRR!!!"

Before I could even relax, the massive, almost 10-meter-tall Thunderous Tyrannosaur roared back at us. Its massive jaws opened widely as it unleashed a thunderous roar, its entire body exuding a powerful aura. From the looks of it, this monster wasn't going to let us mess around while it was present.

It began rushing at us at fast speeds, making the entire place tremble. I quickly extended grass vines around Furoh and stuck him over my back, carrying him around like a backpack before running away from the Tyrannosaur!

BOOM!

BOOM!

BOOM!

Its feet dug through the floor, making everything tremble. This monstrous being was really something else entirely. Plus, it wasn't something like the six-limbed lizard... No, this thing was a Tier 4 monster, probably high-ranked at that!

But how come there's such a strong monster around the village? Wouldn't the people have already noticed it? what's going on?

Ah... I then realized that I ended up running outside of the barrier that protected the village!

"GROOOOARRR!"

The massive beast rushed forward towards me, beginning to unleash lightning bolts at fast speeds, clashing with thunderbolts whenever I went.

BOOM!

"Uagh!"

BOOM!

"Oof!"

BOOM!

"Crap!"

I evaded each attack, but lightning was its natural element, and this thing produced it out of its body. It wasn't just magic! Damn it! Though... I wish I could have that awesome ability.

Oh, wouldn't it be nice to have this guy as a familiar as well? Then again, this one's a monster, and it clearly wants to eat me... I better not try the same strategy that I did with Furoh, this guy seriously looks like he's not pleased with me.

Spark... spark!

CRAAASH!

A massive thunder fell on me out of nowhere. I couldn't shield myself properly, but a sudden wave of light covered me gently.

"Eh?"

Suddenly, a giant eyeball with angelic wings emerged by my side.

Wait, this is my mom's familiar!

"Oculus, or something, right?" I asked.

"..."

It didn't speak and it was pretty creepy, but I guess it was assigned to protect me.

"GROOOAARRRR!!!"

The Tyrannosaur continued to follow me from behind as I was forced to run back to the dome made out of magic. It was still far away because I ran away too much.

Oculus was keeping me protected, but it wasn't attacking the beast. It seems like it has own set of commands... can't it easily kill this monster?! What are you waiting for?!

"Oculus! Kill that thing!" I shouted.

"..."

"Wait, were you told by mother ONLY to protect me and nothing more?!" I asked soon after.

"..."

BOOM!

Suddenly, a massive number of thunderbolts flew over Oculus, slowly weakening it and throwing it into the floor.

Wait! Is it weakened because it isn't close to mother? Are you kidding me?!

"Oculus!" I cried.

However, Oculus flew upwards again like nothing.

"You're a resilient bastard..." I murmured.

"..."

"GROAR!"

The monstrous Tyrannosaurus followed me from behind once more, rushing behind me without stopping. It didn't have such an intention at all! In fact, the only thing it wanted was to kill me for some reason. Though, I wasn't planning on becoming its dinner either.

"Agh... Ignatius, help me out! Flare Breath!" I shouted.

I combined my Fire Magic with Ember and Ignatius' help as he sighed and aided me. Soon, a sudden change in my flames occurred as they shaped into a big draconic head and unleashed a deadly breath attack of flames, bathing the entire monster in the process.

BOOOOMMM!!!

The massive fire attack burned the head of the beast and made it growl in pain, but that didn't stop it. No, it only made it more angered, charging at me with even more speed. It then used its lightning to increase the power of its muscles, becoming faster! And deadlier!

"Aggh...! You're a persistent bastard!" I cried.

"H-Hurry up!!!" cried Furoh. He was behind me and was looking at the beast first hand.

"Don't worry, as long as Oculus is with us, we'll be protected... and look, the barrier is right in front of us!" I said in response.

"GROAR!!!"

The beast, however, suddenly leaped forward above us, and appeared right in front of us...

BOOM!!!

Its massive body made the entire place tremble.

Are you serious?! You appeared right in front of us, you bastard! What kind of tricks are you playing around?! I'm not in the mood...

"GRAAA!"

It pointed its open jaws at us and tried to swallow us whole.

I moved faster though, and decided to jump over its nose.

"GRAAH?!"

The massive beast was surprised as I quickly jumped away from it once more, pushing it down into the ground with the entire force behind my almost-five-year-old body!

BOOM!!!

"GRRYEEEEEEHHH...!!!"

I crossed through the barrier, looking at the beast from behind defeated on the ground, roaring back at me with furious eyes of frustration.

Aquarina and Zack greeted me as I fell in front of the two.

BUMP!

"Ugeegh..."

"Aghh..."

"I'm back! I got him! Hehe. Ah, a guy just followed us, but he ended up biting the dust anyways," I said while standing and triumphantly showing Furoh with me.

"Uugh... I'm... so dizzy..." he muttered.

"Y-You actually went to capture that thing?!" Zack exclaimed.

"But Sylphy...!" Aquarina said with a sigh.

"Come on guys. We're all in this together, like a team!" I told them as I hugged the two.

"You're not making any sense now..." muttered Zack.

"Sylphy, did that big lizard follow you?" asked Aquarina soon after.

"Yeah, it can't get through the barrier, though," I replied, looking at the lizard...

...cross through the barrier.

"..."

Chapter 114 Shocking Truth!

How come that lizard passed through the barrier?! Did the barrier fail? Is the barrier malfunctioning? I need answers, now!

"System- I mean, Alice! Tell me something, pretty please!"

"I-I'm analyzing that thing right now...! T-this... I don't know. It just went through it. The barrier's power is stable," replied Alice.

"Say what?! How did it get through it, then!?" I asked with a hint of panic.

"It either belongs to someone from the village or has the power to bypass magic structures... or the barrier purposely let it slip through for some reason... wait, did the barrier think it was your pet for some reason? This is unbelievable...!" Alice said soon after, sighing at the end.

"No way in hell that thing is my friend... it tried to eat me up a few seconds ago, after all..." I replied.

"Sylphy, you're talking to yourself!" Aquarina could not help but say.

"What's wrong with you today? Did you finally lose all your screws?" Zack asked out of concern.

"More importantly, we should run away," I said.

"..."

The Tyrannosaur was looking at us with a predatory glare. Its eyes shone with bright crimson-red light, and it looked like it was ready to kill us.

Its entire body began to spark with thunderbolts as the attacks began to rush towards us. These lightning attacks could easily fry us up!

SPARK... SPARK!

BOOOM!!!

We quickly evaded the direct attack as it began to follow our movements around rather swiftly. It was a surprisingly good hunter!

But why did this magic wall let it slip through?! Is this barrier actually malfunctioning?!

SPARK! SPARK! SPARK!

We continued to run away from the beast's attacks, always managing to jump away in time while gritting our teeth. From the looks of it, the monstrous beast was trying to fry us alive and leave us like grilled meat before enjoying our flesh.

"Let's run back to the village!" suggested Aquarina.

"No, we can't! We'll end up bringing this thing there! It will be the village's demise...!" I said, rejecting the idea.

"T-That's true! Agh!" Zack said, only to cry out soon after.

SPARK!

BOOM!!!

The thunderbolt almost fell on him, but he infused his legs with mana and jumped with a strong force into the air, falling to the floor not long after.

"Agh..."

"GRUOH!"

The dinosaur rushed towards Aquarina afterwards, stepping the floor and making it tremble, making her lose her balance.

The girl quickly fell to the floor as I quickly rushed for her aid. In fact, a thunderbolt attack almost fell on her.

SPARK!

CLASH!

I unleashed a flashing light from my sword. However, the thunderbolt was stronger, and my bronze blade was super conductive to electricity.

Which ended up in me being electrified!

"Aaaaaghhh...!"

POOF!

I ended up with steam coming out of my mouth, but I was mostly fine. At least it didn't kill me. Then again, my endless HP might have helped there, although not as much as Divine Protection triggering, meaning that the attack wasn't meant to kill me but to shock me and damage me.

"GGRAAH!"

The dinosaur then threw more thunderbolts at us in a strange circular pattern, following Zack around while forcing him to use his mana to run faster and move swiftly.

Meanwhile, I and Aquarina evaded around and threw attacks at it as its scales barely budged.

Was this thing really that strong?

But...

What's this weird feeling?

I don't even feel fear.

And Aquarina too. She didn't seem to be afraid of this thing.

"Sylphy, this is weird... it feels like..." she said.

"It feels like it's trying to train us, right?" I asked.

"Yeah! So weird! Why is it not attacking when it had so many opportunities? It feels like it's also playing around with us... is it playing with its prey? No, I don't feel any murderous intent either!" said Aquarina soon after.

Despite how frightening it looked; this thing didn't want to eat us?

Then why did it tried to eat me before?

...

Wait.

"..."

Furoh? Was it trying to eat Furoh instead?

"Gyaaaah! W-Why are you two just standing there?!" Zack asked while running away. He had been barely able to hit the monster.

However, I left Aquarina behind and moved in front of the beast before looking at it in the eyes.

"Who are you?" I asked.

"..."

The dinosaur looked at me from above. It fell in silence, but quickly after, it moved down to greet me.

Its head bowed down and its big eyes looked into my own.

"You're a smart girl, to realize it so quickly..." It spoke with the voice of a woman.

"Huh? So, it was true!" I said out of shock.

"I-I also realized it..." replied Aquarina, timidly walking near it.

"Sorry for scaring you. I had noticed that demon over there, and I wanted to kill it for you, but you showed up and rescued it for some reason... do you want to keep that thing?" it asked.

"You're literally a walking lizard! What do you know about me anyways?!" asked Furoh in anger.

"What an insolent critter..." she said with a sigh.

"Y-You're a talking monster?" I asked.

"Hmm? Maybe? Well, the people around here call me the protector of the forest. I've been living here for a while... after all, this jungle is my kingdom." said the Tyrannosaur, suddenly changing her shape as she glowed with bright yellow light.

What came out of it was an unexpectedly beautiful adult woman. She had a motherly and gentle smile, skin as dark as the night, almost like charcoal, plus she had some very big assets on her chest. Her hips were very wide, and- is she almost naked?!

She was barely wearing some rags on her body, covering her nipples and wearing a loincloth.

She had several accessories made out of fangs and claws of beasts.

To top it all off, she had long and silky black hair, with sharp emerald eyes.

"Wow... So pretty..." murmured Aquarina.

"W-What the heck? It was a woman this entire time?!" exclaimed Zack.

"Y-You can shapeshift?" I asked.

"Agh! How can't you tell?! She's a Skin-changer!" shouted Furoh.

"Skin what now?!" I said in response.

"I'm part of an ancient race of people... long forgotten. I'm quite surprised this demon knows about me," replied the beautiful woman.

Chapter 115 Ninhursag, The Skin Changer

Well, a lot of things had happened today...

But to sum it all up so it doesn't become convoluted and confusing, I had gone out with Aquarina and Zack to explore the wilderness, mapping it with my Memory Paper. Coincidentally, we found the entrance to the small dungeon I've been looking for all this time.

When we got there, I found a hidden passage, broke it, and found our creepy new friend, Furoh, a Shapeshifting Demon who was discriminated by his fellow demons a few years ago, well... probably since he was born.

He ran out of the demon army into this jungle long ago, running away from conflicts before hiding inside this dungeon he found, far away from any civilization.

He had been staying here for a few years now, but began to starve. When he tried to run away, he discovered that the dungeon had suddenly sealed him shut inside a secret room.

I've heard that dungeons were like living beings. They absorbed mana and produce monsters to kill invaders with treasures to lure them inside. I suppose this dungeon saw him as a threat and trapped him to die out of starvation.

He had been hibernating for some time now as he tried to not starve to death... someone had ended up entering this hidden room by accident when he activated a trap, apparently, but he was already almost dead and unconscious, so Furoh ate him to survive. I can't blame him, though. The guy was already dying, and he probably waited for him to go out before eating him.

At least he was polite enough to leave his bones well-arranged at the side...

Anyways, he acted as if he were a stereotypical demon to intimidate us so we could run away in fear, and then he could head out of the dungeon from the entrance we opened.

But he ended up realizing he wasn't going to run away from me.

Or well, he still did at the end, even when I asked him to become my friend and familiar.

In any case, I simply couldn't let him go.

Well, in the end, I caught him right before he was eaten by a giant Lightning Tyrannosaur, who chased us down all the way here.

She even crossed the barrier made by the legendary Witch of the Blue Mountain...

Then again, although it seemed threatening at the start, it began playing around with us and testing us with her abilities, as if she was forcing us to exercise and use our mana to evade her attacks.

And like this, we discovered it was actually a skin-changing woman!

Wow....

This really was a day to remember.

Two amazing things happened in a single day. I guess this is quite the memorable day.

Also, she's super pretty, and looked like a goddess, judging from the bright aura of life she exuded.

It felt like her magical aura was shaped as countless wild beasts that roared, all of them greeting us.

She told us she's one of the lasts of her kind... interesting.

Plus, she also told us she was trying to kill this demon and that's why she had attempted several times to bite me. However, it was actually trying to bite Furoh, not me.

Whew, it was still a bit dangerous. I would guess she's quite reckless.

But can you blame her? I guess she grew like this under the shape of many beasts...

The funniest thing was that Furoh knew more about her kin than we did...

"You're so pretty!" Aquarina could not help but say as her eyes shone brightly.

The lady looked at her with a gentle and motherly smile as she petted her head.

"Not as pretty as you, dear," she said in response.

"Heheh..." Aquarina giggled while blushing. This lady was indeed stunningly beautiful, I had to admit. Were all skin changers this pretty?

"W-Who are you though?" Zack asked, speaking after recovering a bit from all the exercise the lady forced him to do.

"My name's Ninhursag. I am one of the lasts of my ancient race, the Skin-changers... I live in this entire jungle and make sure to kill vermin who get in without my permission. I've been looking for a particular demon I had sensed a couple of years ago, but since then, I lost his track. To think that he would end up in that little dungeon over there..." sighed the beautiful lady, named Ninhursag. Her charcoal-black skin shone brightly under the rays of the sun.

The tattoos across her body made her resemble a mystical shaman lady, but she was also packed with strong and slim muscles. Her belly had a massive six pack... making her close to Aquarina's mom! I think they could become good friends... Although she really liked to show off her body, seeing how she's barely covering the tip of her breasts and using a loincloth down there.

I guess if one was a person with the ability to shapeshift into beasts, using clothes would be a pain because they would always get in the way, and would be constantly breaking as one transformed... perhaps these clothes were the only things that could remain. If not, she might just go around while being nude. I've found many pretty women out there, but this lady... she was very pretty, I never thought I would feel this much attraction to a woman like now. I had liked a boy in my previous life, and I believed I was still strongly attracted to males but... wow, she's so sexy!

"Hmm~? Why are you all just staring at me so intensively? Is there something you like?" she asked with a playful smile, slowly getting closer to us.

"I-It's nothing..." I replied.

"N-Not at all!" said Aquarina.

"A-Ah... yeah..." murmured Zack.

I guess we were all stunned by her.

"Ahem! Are you guys fine or something? Don't fall for her charms! She's a monster! Don't trust her! She wanted to eat me! Also, wasn't she trying to kill you all a few seconds ago? Wake up!" cried Furoh, interrupting the awkward scene.

Chapter 116 The Skin Changer And The Mimic

Furoh interrupted our daze for a bit. I'm pretty sure that Nepheline, Aquarina's mother, was also a pretty lady, and then there's my own mother who's almost angelical in beauty. Then, there was the handsome Shade and my own father, both being handsome studs!

And then... there's this lady. One would assume that I would be used to pretty people, but what's going on with this world with everyone being so pretty? In my previous world, there wasn't so many pretty people. In fact, I was actually quite ugly myself!

Maybe she's more stunning because she's almost nude.

Anyways, there was no time to just stand there, looking at her while she teased us. There were so many questions that I want to ask!

"Ninhursag... Lady Ninhursag, you want... to kill Furoh? But that's wrong!" I said as I quickly decided to stand with Furoh.

"Sigh... I have already noticed that you've been trying to protect him all this time, dear... But why? Do you know that demons are vicious creatures? They might have intelligence, but all of them only think about slaughtering us," replied Ninhursag.

She had a very biased look on demons...

"But they're people! Don't we humans also think about slaughtering each other too? Don't we do that all the time?" I asked back.

"Ah... Well, I'm not really a human, I'm actually closer to beast-kin... but... I suppose that even beast-kin slaughter one another regularly..." she replied.

"Then?" I asked.

"That doesn't change the fact that they're a dangerous race of critters." She seemed adamant.

"It does! They're people. You can't judge all of them just because a group of them had done bad things. It's like trying to blame all of humanity because a group of them killed others indiscriminately..." I said in response.

"...you're good with words, girl." Ninhursag said with a sigh.

"S-Sylphy is right... Furoh had killed people, but he said it was because he was in a war where they were already trying to kill him... I can detect other people's intentions. But I didn't detect any bad intentions from him... if anything, he's always very afraid," said Aquarina, backing me up.

"O-Oi! Don't say that about me! What's wrong with being a bit of a... runner? I'm not a coward!" replied Furoh.

"I also wanted to kill it, but Sylphy is insisting all the time that she wants to make him her friend," said Zack.

"Huh... alright then. I will let you do that only because you're way too cute and intelligent. However, I cannot simply let him be. You know that demons are cunning, right? Maybe this is all an act. If you truly intend to make him your ally, you gotta tie him with a contract where his life is on the line. Only there and then will you be able to truly see who he is," said Ninhursag to me.

"You're right! That's why, Furoh, become my familiar!" I said in response.

"Again with that?! I can't! I am a demon! Demons can't be familiars! ...right?" he asked.

"Technically every living being can become a familiar as long as they haven't taken any familiar themselves already. When a living being takes a familiar, they become familiar vessels, and stop being able to become a familiar themselves. Unless they drop all the familiars they got, they cannot become familiars," replied Ninhursag. Wow. She knew a lot.

"Wow! You know a lot, lady Ninhursag!" Aquarina could not help but say.

"Yeah, I didn't know all of that. Thanks a lot, lady Ninhursag," I said soon after.

"Don't worry, dear. I'm here to guide the children that get lost... and I remember him too," said Ninhursag in response to our words before pointing at Zack.

"Eh? Me?" Zack was confused.

"The past two years or so you spent living outside the Amazon Village, I was always watching over you. I often left you food nearby, such as dead animals, or even gathered fruits in a pile. Don't you remember all those fortuitous encounters?" asked Ninhursag.

"Eeh?! I thought I was just lucky...!" replied Zack.

"Foolish little boy, you were always under my watch. Nothing escapes these eyes!" said Ninhursag while smiling pridefully.

"Oooh, you did that for him? Thanks a lot," I said soon after, thanking her.

"Hehe, he was so cute as he tried to survive. I couldn't possibly let him die in the wild... I had thought many times about meeting him but... I'm actually quite shy..." she told us with a sigh.

"Eh? You're shy?!" we asked at the same time, noticing how she was almost naked. How come a woman like this was "shy"? That's bullshit!

"Hahaha... I never developed my... social skills..." she replied, sighing once more.

"I guess living in the wild makes you different," Aquarina could not help but say.

"I guess so," I replied.

"Hmm... t-thanks for doing that for me," said Zack.

Ninhursag smiled gently and petted Zack.

"No problem, child of the forest. You're my child and so are all of you," she soon said in a gentle tone.

"Ahem! Don't forget about me! We were just talking about me! Remember? Me! The demon!" said Furoh not long after.

Everyone shifted their glares at Furoh after that.

"Ah... d-don't stare at me like that though, it's a bit embarrassing..." he murmured.

"Okay. Sylph, right? Dear, are you really going to make him your familiar? You sure? If you make him your familiar, he'll infect you with his evil thoughts. Familiars make a contract of souls, your souls will become bonded... it might affect your mentality if you contract a dangerous being," asked Ninhursag, trying to dissuade me from doing it.

"I am ready," I said, my determination unwavering.

"Unwavering, huh? I like you already. Very well, I will supervise the familiar ritual," replied Ninhursag, looking at me with a smile while nodding confidently.

I nodded back as I looked at Furoh and extended my hand.

"Furoh, I'm sorry for burning your tongue... I promise you I will try to find a way for it to grow back!" I told him.

"Y-you're really going to do it, huh...? Agh... o-okay... sure... fine! Whatever! Agh! I-I've never met such a stubborn girl before in my entire life!" he said with a sigh.

He moved near me and then extended a little tentacle out of his worm-like body, touching my hand.

It was warm and slippery. Like the texture of a tongue, actually.

"What now?" I asked.

"If both agree, it should automatically start the moment you two say 'form familiar contract'," Ninhursag told us.

"O-Okay!" I nodded.

"Form familiar contract."

Chapter 117 Forming A Contract With A Demon

We said the magic words at the same time as I decided to make this demon I just met into my familiar.

Yes, it was reckless, unrealistic, immature, and even childish. However, I was a person that liked to take any opportunities I could get and not let them go!

I'm an incredibly opportunistic girl after all. So, I decided to take this opportunity and get myself an amazing new familiar in the form of this peculiar shapeshifting demon, Furoh.

As we said the magic words together, our souls suddenly surged from our bodies like shiny yellow threads. Well, mine were like that, while Furoh's soul was black, pitch black. Was this a thing that all demons had? I suppose the color of one's soul depended greatly on their race.

I also quickly realized Furoh was quite weak. His body was at most at Tier 2 in strength. Though, he barely had a Tier 1 Magic Circle inside his soul. From the looks of it, he seems to be bad at using magic and better at just using his unnaturally stretchy body to fight.

This weakness he had made it easy for me to make the contract. Although it's totally possible to make contracts with stronger beings than myself, such as Ignatius' soul, this guy was easy to turn into my friend.

Our soul threads interconnected and made a very tight knot. This was the sign that the contract of familiar and master was done.

The moment we did this, however, I felt the same feeling I did when I had made contracts with Naturia or Ignatius. I felt all their emotions rushing into me, and even saw part of who they truly were.

I remember that with Naturia, she was very pure and lacked experience in life, so her emotions were pure, innocent, and soothing like a cold breeze.

Ignatius was way different. He was already old and had many convictions and thoughts. He felt like an immense downpour of flames burning through all of my soul, trying to even consume me, but I had easily shrugged that off.

And then, Furoh... was quite peculiar. I felt a small amount of darkness entering my very soul. It was like a poison, seeping deep while slowly expanding. However, instead of intending to damage, it seemed that this wasn't really its intention, but due to its nature, it couldn't stop itself even if it wanted to. I felt sadness, sorrow, shyness, and a lot of insecurities, which Ignatius nor Naturia had.

I even heard his cries, his thoughts, and saw glimpses of his past.

"I'm scared... what will I do now?"

"Sylphy is so gentle... does she really intend to become friends with such an abomination as me?"

"I don't deserve her, she's so pure... is she pitying me?"

"I wish I could have escaped... it would have been better to die in a ditch than become her familiar and embarrass her later on... I will only end up bringing her misfortune..."

"Why is she so dedicated to speak with demons?"

"Is she... different than other people?"

His thoughts were pure, and I could see all his insecurities within them, all the things he wasn't sure, and the many fears he had deep within his heart.

Despite his appearance and even the color of his soul, I could notice that his mind wasn't malicious. He was just misunderstood.

Soon after that, I saw images rushing through my mind.

I saw a dark place, the back streets of an old and ruined city where many beings of many shapes and sizes walked around.

Were these demons?

Then, I saw a fleshy little pink-colored worm.

It had a few eyes around its body and a malformed spiraling jaw, with tentacles which it used to crawl around the nasty slums and the trash lying around.

"So hungry... so hungry..."

I heard his little cry for help. He was very hungry.

He crawled around and came across some people he saw carrying a large pig they had hunted, a wild boar.

The humanoid demons looked at him as he grabbed their boot.

"Pweease... some food..."

"Eh? What's this thing?"

"A bug?"

"No, it's talking! Wait, is this a demon?!"

"So disgusting!"

CRASH!

"Aggh...!"

A massive feet crushed his body several times, breaking him apart.

The horrendous pain of having his entire body crushed reached me as well, feeling his pain.

His little eyes cried rivers of sorrow and agony as he was left half-dead over the ground.

"Gryyyegggh..."

He groaned in agony, somehow moving in the floor, crawling around.

He ended up lurking into the nasty trash, the place he didn't wanted to touch because eating such things gave him stomachaches.

He then began eating putrid things, bitter, disgusting. He didn't want to eat it, but he couldn't eat anything else. After all, there was nobody that was going to come and save him.

There was nobody for him...

I saw him surviving through the years as he slowly adapted to live alone and without anyone for him.

Surviving while eating trash, his body ultimately ended up adapting his stomach to consume even the foulest of foods without discrimination.

Many times, he had tried asking for help. In fact, he had even gone to an orphanage. However, they threw him away. To them, he was like a monster, and was being treated worse than a rat.

His body had been beaten up and regenerated so much that after eating a lot of trash, he ended up growing even more hideous looking than he would have originally looked like.

Eventually, he grew big enough that the other demons couldn't recognize him as a monster anymore, covering himself with a lot of clothes. With that, he walked around the other demons and looked for a job, but he couldn't really get anything at all due to how horrid he was.

Until the Demon King emerged and gave him hope.

"Join the army of the Demon King and you'll be paid 10 gold coins upfront! Every human you kill is an additional coin!"

Chapter 118 A New And Unexpected Familiar

I suddenly realized something as I saw Furoh's memories. The Demon King had used money to lure the demons into battle.

One of the "royal demons" as they called them, who were from families of high society and strength compared to the "lesser demons" like Furoh and the other demons from the slums, had come to offer money in exchange for anyone that became a soldier for the Demon King.

This was something new I didn't even know about. Furoh, who was barely living on scraps and hunting little monsters to sell their magic cores, suddenly found a golden opportunity to show off his strength. Plus, he was even being paid ten coins upfront.

He immediately went to take the job but... it ended up going badly.

The other soldiers always ridiculed him and laughed at him. Many bullied him and even sometimes stepped on his long worm-like tail. Whenever he tried to fight back against them, they would gang up on him and leave him within an inch of death.

If it wasn't because of his amazing regenerative ability, which he developed over the years of living through near-death experiences and recovering afterwards, he would have died and left crippled.

It was obvious why he would run away when he found the opportunity. Even when he was already in the human continent of Gallatea and no longer in the Demon Continent.

He went to this wilderness, holed himself in a dungeon, and decided to wait until everything was over by hibernating, a method he had also evolved through his years of starvation as a child...

Poor thing.

Damn, now I really pity him.

However... there's something else, the Demon King.

They paid people from the slums, which were not even experienced at being fighters or soldiers, to go fight a war in another continent... isn't that... kind of wrong?

They forced these people... well, they paid them well but still...

They ended up just throwing away their lives for the money before they could even spend it.

Damn, Demon King. I've begun to feel pretty glad mom and dad killed you now.

You could have used that money to instead save your people from hunger and all the poverty they were living, right? You clearly had the money if you were able to pay 10 gold upfront to thousands of people, right?

Instead of thinking about conquering another continent, why not try making yours better? You were already trying to go to another continent when yours was still a shithole...

Seriously?

Sigh...

Now I wonder how the Demon Continent is like nowadays, probably worse than before.

I slowly opened my eyes as I looked at Furoh in front of me. His eyes were a bit nervous, looking down.

"I-Is it done? I... I saw a bit of your memories... it felt weird..." he said.

"Ah... h-how far did you see?" I asked.

"I saw you... dying..." he replied.

"Oh... let's not talk about that for now," I said in response.

"Only if you don't talk about my past either... it's embarrassing." He sighed.

"Sure... you had it hard," I told him.

"Hmm... more or less..." he replied, lightly sighing.

I petted him after that. He was rather amorphous in shape, but I really wanted to make him feel comfortable.

"Don't worry pal, you got me from now on. You'll never be alone now," I told him.

"Sylph..." he muttered. He was getting emotional out of nowhere.

Furoh had never really felt any companionship in his entire life. When he gained consciousness of himself, he was already alone. His parents were nowhere to be seen, as he was born inside trash.

Well, it has only been the first day since I've met him, and we already feel so close. It feels a bit rushed, but I'll take it easy from now on.

Soon after, I felt like my Soul Scape was changing. There was a land of flames where Ignatius resided, and then there was a place filled with beautiful nature where Naturia was. Now, there was a new place, something that resembled an empty wasteland, where dark smoke exuded from within. This was the place that represented Furoh... quite sad. I wish it could be prettier, but perhaps he saw himself as something comparable to a wasteland, trash...

"Now! It's done, right? Alright... demon... Furoh, right? You better not do anything to this beautiful little girl or I'm going to come and kill you next time... make sure to prove to me that not all demons are monsters, alright?" Ninhursag said with a rather strong voice and authority.

"Y-Yes...!" replied Furoh rather shyly.

"Now it's getting late... all of you should head back to your village, your parents must be worried," said Ninhursag soon after.

"W-Will we meet you again?" Aquarina asked.

"Aw... you want to be my friends?" Ninhursag asked back.

"Yeah, I wouldn't mind... you're cool," replied Zack.

"I would love to!" I said with great enthusiasm.

"Ugh... I'm so weak to cute little children like you... fine... come meet me every weekend around here. I'll train you guys, and we could even eat together! How's that?" Ninhursag suggested soon after.

"Nice!" replied Aquarina.

"T-Thanks..." said Zack with a nod.

"I would appreciate that," I said, also nodding.

"Good! But there's a condition... I don't want the Amazon to make a fuss over me. They kind of tried once to get me to join their village, and it was a pain to evade them until they gave up. So, don't go telling anyone about me, okay?" she told us, letting out a sigh at the end.

"Oh... sure," I replied.

"Good girl," said Ninhursag as she petted my head. Then, she suddenly gave me a little kiss on my forehead, making me blush a bit.

She quickly kissed the forehead of Aquarina and Zack too. The two grew just as red as I was getting.

"With that, I've marked all three of you. It will be easier for me to find you," she told us.

"Oh, so that's why you kissed us?" I asked.

"Indeed, though you're so cute I couldn't resist~" she replied while winking.

"I-I see... Haha..."

After that, she quickly converted into a wolf and ran away.

"That was quite something..." said Zack.

"Y-Yeah..." Aquarina agreed.

"Let's go back to town for now..." I told them.

Chapter 119 The Fury Of A Mother Against Her Reckless Daughter!

Furoh found himself inside my Soul Scape, soon being greeted by Naturia and Ignatius.

Ignatius was rather angered at him and had tried several times to burn him down when I was trying to take Furoh with me. However, I stopped him every time because he was just being an idiot.

"Why are you even here?! How come you became a familiar?! You're literally just a demon! Agh! Sylphy, stop having such terrible decisions! This bastard will only corrupt your soul!" said Ignatius.

"S-Shut up! You're literally just a floating egg!" replied Furoh.

"I-I'm more than an egg! I am a glorious dragon!" refuted Ignatius.

"A dragon? You? Hah! Well, that doesn't make you any better," countered Furoh.

"What did you say?! You're just a flesh noodle! What do you even know about my glorious family?" said Ignatius with rage.

"I know that they're a band of hypocrites and cowards! When they saw that the demons were losing, they immediately turned their tails and flew back to their little nests in the mountains, completely ignoring the alliance... do you know how many demon lives could have been saved if you bastards acted according to the contract you made with the Demon King?!" said Furoh, his tone also becoming furious.

"Huh?! My family would never be such cowards! We fought bravely in the front lines! Many of my siblings died for the cause and we still lost at the end! Take back your words, you unsightly monster!" cursed Ignatius.

"Make me!" roared Furoh.

"Grrr.... GRAAAH!" roared Ignatius.

The two then began to fight against one another, though hitting each other actually did no damage at all. Then again, they still felt a bit of the pain, fueling their fury even more.

"Fooooaahh..." Natoria sighed. From the looks of it, seeing the two fight gave her a headache.

I looked into the two clowns and sighed internally. They had already become rivals or something. I had never expected demons and dragons to have such big beef before despite having worked together against the humans.

What about the Dragon King? Wasn't he the ally of the Demon King? I guess according to Furoh, they didn't do anything to help, while Ignatius claimed that many of his siblings died in battle.

I don't really know who to believe, but when I made a contract with Furoh, I was able to see way more than with Ignatius. I literally saw a large part of his entire life, so I know I can trust a bit more of his words.

Ignatius... eh.

"You guys, stop this at once. We're all familiars of Sylph. If we fight, we'll only end up disappointing her... Ignatius, you're a dragon, act more like one and don't let feeble words affect you so much. And you, Furoh. You've been given a great opportunity by Sylph, appreciate it and be more polite," said Alice, emerging right away as her bright light illuminated the two.

I had never seen her this angered before. She was really acting as if she were a mother figure or something now.

"Argh! Fine!" Ignatius said with a sigh, crossing his arms... well he had no arms right now.

"Guhh... I'm not talking to him, though," replied Furoh, as he went back to his area of the Soul Scape.

"Foofooohh..." Naturia could only sigh.

I looked at the Soul Scape one last time.

"Thanks, Alice. I couldn't have done it without your help," I told her with a light sigh.

"No problem, Sylphy. Take it easy for now," replied Alice.

"You're such a sweetheart," I told her soon after.

"I-It's nothing..." she said, a bit flustered.

After the whole incident with the Skin-changer and Furoh, night had already appeared and we moved back to the village.

There, my mother, father, and Aquarina's parents were waiting for us with crossed arms and angry expressions.

Did they realize?

"Hahah... mommy, you look so radiant tonight!" I told her with a wide smile.

"Sylphyyyyyyyy..." muttered my mother as her fury emerged from her body. In fact, I could clearly see her sharp ears releasing steam.

My father was angry, but after he noticed her, he tried to calm her down and began to sweat.

"SYLPHY! I saw everything! We decided to simply not go there because you had already resolved the entire issue... but still! How reckless can you be?" asked my mother in utter anger as she began to stretch my left ear.

"Ouch! Ouch! Sorryyyyy...! I was reckless!" I cried.

"F-Faylen, don't be so rude. Stretching her ear is painful," father told her.

"This girl just fought a Demon. Allan, do you think doing this will bother her? At most, she's just pretending to be pained," mother replied before sighing.

Ah, she found out...

"Sigh... Sylphy, did you seriously just make a demon your familiar?" my father asked while looking at me with disappointment.

"I-I did! I don't regret it! He's the key to speak with more demons. I am a stubborn girl, so I won't give him up, and I won't let you kill him either!" I said in response.

Indeed, the primary reason why I made him into my familiar was protection!

If I brought him in person, I know my parents would have killed him indiscriminately.

Why? Not because he's a demon, but because of his looks.

Anyone would think he's just a wild monster.

Furoh was born as a Shapeshifting Demon with a worm-like form, which grew more monstrous as he was always beaten up. Because of that, his body ended up becoming more and more amorphous.

So, he really looked ugly. Even I, who have seen the gentleness of his heart, had to admit, he's a bit scary looking.

My parents looked at one another while crossing their arms.

"Sylphy, what you did is wrong. Take out that thing and destroy the contract," said my mother.

"No!" I did not relent.

"Sylphy, that's a demon! It will only corrupt your soul!" said my father.

"Eh?! He's a person! How can you even say that after all that speech over feeling bad when the demons were slaughtered?!" I asked back in response.

"..."

"..."

Hearing my words, my two parents quickly fell into silence.

Chapter 120 I Won't Change My Mind

I looked at my parents defiantly. They would have to use brute force to take out Furoh from my soul.

"I'm not giving him up... I made a contract with Furoh and saw his past. He had only been suffering due to his appearance this entire time... yes, he killed humans, but it was in a war where they were going to kill him if he didn't do anything... can you blame a person that only wants to survive? Most of the demons that were involved in the war was there because they were offered money. They had their own families they needed to take care of, or their own humble lives," I told them.

"Sylph...! But... I can't sleep well knowing my daughter has a demon inside her!" my mother said in response

My mother was still against it, but my father kneeled and then put his hand over my shoulder, looking deep into my eyes.

I then suddenly felt a strong aura coming from him. His eyes flashed with bright light as he looked into my own eyes with a strong will.

"Sylph, is what you're saying the truth?" he asked.

"Yes... It is the truth," I replied.

"..."

Suddenly, my father's aura receded.

"I used the Blazing Eye of Truth, as well as Phoenix Great Judgement... she says the truth. Faylen, the demon is actually good," father said soon after.

"Eh? You used such powers on our daughter? Are you out of your mind? What if she was lying? She would have been hit by the side effects of such powerful spells!" mother could not help but say out of worry.

"I trust my daughter!" my father said in response.

"..."

My mother sighed very loudly as she looked at me.

"Sylph... we'll have to talk a lot tomorrow," she told me.

"Yes, mother..." I replied with a sigh.

Meanwhile, I saw Nepheline and Shade reprimanding Aquarina in the distance. Zack was also being mixed into it as the two were like his relatives.

"Aquarina, I know you like to be around Sylph, but do you really have to jump into danger whenever she does?! As her friend, you must stop her, not help her get into even more trouble!" Nepheline reprimanded her.

"Even then, don't risk your life so much. What if you end up hurting yourself? Or what if Sylph has to protect you again and she ends up paying for your mistakes?" added Shade.

"S-Sorry... don't get angry at me..." Aquarina said as tears started to brim around her eyes.

However, unlike my stubborn mother, Nepheline was weaker to her daughter's tears, quickly embracing her in a hug before carrying her with her big and strong arms, kissing her forehead.

"Alright, alright, dearie. As long as you understand..." she said with a sigh.

"Calm down. For now, let's go back home and eat something," said Shade with a gentle smile, kissing Aquarina's forehead as well.

"I love you, mama, papa..." cried Aquarina as she hugged her parents tenderly.

Zack smiled faintly at the side.

"I-I did what I could to stop them, but they're way too stubborn. It's very hard to even try and stop them because they're so strong..." he told them with a sigh.

"You did what you could and that's what matters. Thanks for watching over the girls," Shade said in response.

"You're like their big brother, so you did what you could," added Nepheline.

"T-Thanks..." Zack said with a sigh. He ended up not being reprimanded. With that, Aquarina looked at him angrily.

"Now that we're done with this, let's go back to the tent for now..." mother said with a sigh.

"Okay..." I replied.

As we entered the tent, my mother and father, alongside Aquarina's parents, addressed what had just happened.

"So, you guys saw Ninhursag, the Skin-changer?" asked Nepheline.

"Y-You even saw that?!" I asked in response.

"Yes, we saw it. We don't like to spy your every move but we did see her with the spirits. We got some messages from it," replied Faylen.

"We can connect our spirits to our minds, so what they see can be sent to us as images inside our minds," explained Shade.

"I-I see... there was a spirit for all four of you? I only saw mother's Oculus," I could not help but say.

"Oculus is the only one that did something because it didn't know that Ninhursag only wanted to kill the demon. After that, the playful woman decided to play with you and force you to exercise out of her own amusement... I don't like her that much," replied my mother.

"But at the end of the day, that woman doesn't have bad intentions. She was a party member of our main party years ago. In fact, she helped us get through several areas of wilderness, but didn't stick to the end because she had to protect this place where her people originated from," father added.

"W-Wow... so she's actually an unofficial hero?!" I asked.

"Hmm... well, erm... not that much. She's strong, sure, but she can't compare to your mother or your father, we're clearly superior... hmph!" replied my mother. She seemed quite cocky today. Well, I've heard that pure-blooded elves were incredibly prideful and arrogant, so her true self might be leaking out there...

"I see... indeed, my parents are the superior ones," I said while praising her.

"Praising me won't get you on my good side," responded my mother as she stared me deep in the eyes.

Sometimes she's quite scary...

"Faylen, stop it already. Don't stare at our daughter like that. You've never been like this," father could not help but say.

"Well, I've been like this sometimes..." mother said in response.

"You're reminding me of our early years when you acted overly arrogant and angry at everything we did," said Nepheline with a chuckle.

"Oh right... Those times, the only thing you did was reprimand Allan," Shade could not help but add.

"W-Well! I m just worried about my daughter! What's wrong with being a responsible mother?" my mother asked back.

"How about we eat something, eh? Let's calm down..." father tried to calm the situation down.

"Sigh..." However, my mother sighed in response. She was temperamental sometimes.

However, after that, she suddenly walked outside the tent as we were left standing there in silence.

Why did she leave the tent out of nowhere?

What's going on?