

Herald 821

Chapter 821 Thesalie After Six Months (Part-2)

In keeping with her desire, Alexander had granted Lady Felicia the chance to showcase her ability in administering Thesalie by letting her oversee many of its day to day operations for the last six months.

And he had asked to meet her basically to do an evaluation report of her.

"Is there any problem with the temples?" Hearing Lady Felicia's evasive reply, Alexander asked for clarification, leaning a bit forward.

"It's... nothing." And Lady Felicia again gave the same reply, shaking her head to emphasize the point.

"If it's nothing, then don't mention it."

And seeing this Alexander seemingly did not push the lady as he waved his hand, but then added with narrowed eyes, "However if it is something and it turns out you cannot handle it...it will be your neck."

"So do not hide anything from me and regret it later Felicia!"

Alexander sounded very domineering.

And facing his ultimatum, Lady Felicia decided the little matter was not worth concealing, quickly speaking out, "A few weeks ago, some of the priests along with a small mob protested in the main temple, welding sticks and damage wanting to demolish Estemmed Goddess Gaia's statue."

"But the temple guards and city militia quickly stopped them."

"No one was killed."

Lady Felicia did not want to reveal this previously because any such event reflected poorly on her management of the city.

And she really wanted to rule it.

"...Hmmm," And hearing of this disturbance, Alexander only lightly hummed and nodded.

He had not received any such news from neither Ophenia nor the Gaia priests who had begun to preach in the city, meaning the news was likely suppressed and was not deemed important enough to grace his ears.

Besides, he had busily around the time frame Lady Felicia mentioned, carving up his spoils among his retains and cementing his control over much of the land.

"Did it happen only once?" So Alexander wanted to confirm that it was a one time thing.

"Yes! Only once my lord. We have already captured all the leaders. There will never be anything like this." Lady Felicia was quick to nod her head like a chicken, further reassuring Alexander,

"Most of the people do not care much about the statues my lord. We have made sure to let them know why it was done and the six priests were made an example of."

"And the gold we gave to the various priests made them all shut up."

"These last men were just the few remaining dregs." Lady Felicia sounded disdainful, but her body language made it clear that she was trying very hard to show Alexander that she was competent enough to hold the post.

"Okay. I understand." And Alexander nodded so, commenting in a gentle tone, "This type of resistance is to be expected in the first few months."

"It will all be over once I take the capital and they understand there is no point in resisting."

"Yes, yes. I'm sure the people will soon understand how benevolent of a lord you are." Lady Felicia of course had every incentive to agree with Alexander, as she then revealed,

"Trade and commerce in the city are also starting to pick up. Merchants and peddlers are starting to return and the various goods your territory makes have started to flow here. The new sugar and the various cheap iron utensils have been especially a large hit."

"Just the sales tax of this month came to more than 1 million ropals. I felt like I was dreaming when I first got the numbers, haha." As Lady Felicia said so, her voice turned high pitched and excited, while her face revealed an absent minded ethereal glow.

This was an amount of money that seemed almost magical even to her and it was clear she was moved.

'1 million in a month... 12 million in a year... Just from selling two things... And this when the city is not even recovered....'

Lady Felicia would occasionally mutter these types of phrases following the day she had seen the numbers.

In fact, when Lady Felicia had first gotten those numbers she had slightly jumped from her chair, and then double and re- double checked the calculation to make sure she did not add an extra zero or something.

But once she confirmed that indeed the numbers were legit, the rest of the day, the buxom lady had spent with a large grin on her face, daydreaming about all the insane things she would be able to do with that much money.

And then to her shocked realization, she found that even if she were to engage in all the extravagances known to her, she might not be able to spend all that money under any reasonable circumstance.

"That is good." While Alexander, unaware and even uncaring of Lady Felicia's personal thoughts, only breathed a small breath of relief hearing trade was starting to get going.

For this alleviated Alexander's biggest worry, a stagnating market.

He knew that as long the economy kept improving and the people's lives kept getting better, they were unlikely to rebel.

He was also happy to see that the 25 million ropal aid package he had inserted into the economy was finally having its effect as people were taking this money and going out there to spend it.

Since most of the people had their houses repaired for free, they were able to skip that large expense.

So they first concentrated on stocking up on food and other essentials to last the winter.

And with Zanzan having a bumper harvest as well as Alexander transferring large grain surpluses from the warehouses to the city, these essentials quickly appeared in abundance in the market, letting people buy it without any fear of shortages.

So then the people, having experienced the tragedy and loss of many loved ones and with still some money to spend splurged on things like furniture and pottery, things which were lost in the war, as they tried to build the life they had before again.

This had led to a huge booming demand for the cities around Thesalie, including Zanzan as carpenters and potters all around worked day and night to try and fill these orders, earning significant money in the process.

But perhaps the biggest demand amongst all of the goods that the Tibians had was brown sugar from Zanzan, one that to them tasted like honey but was tens of times less the price.

Hence, fueled by the enticing release of dopamine, almost every family in Thesalie tried to savor that good at least once, hoping to forget the pain they suffered with these sweet treats.

The volume of sugar sold was followed in tow by the many cheap iron products that came flooding into the market- like pots and pans, good knives of various sizes, nails, hammers, etc.

But perhaps the biggest seller was the heavy plow which the farmers were flocking to, trying to switch their bronze and sometimes even light wooden plow for this shiny new equipment which cost less than their inferior one.

The poor men were elated to find such good quality products at half the price of any of its competitors and were very eager to make this investment.

In cultivating that desire, Alexander also had no small part to play, as it was under his instruction that old man Menicus had held multiple demonstrations around January and February, showing all the nearby farmers the full merits of the new equipment using various ways.

So it was only natural for iron products to rise in demand as Lady Felicia pointed out.

The rapid trade between the two cities was also greatly aided by the fact that there was a pristine, wide, flat, concrete road from here to Zanzan that Alexander had built to aid in his attack on the city.

But now played a crucial role in helping to move the huge quantities of goods Zanzan produced quickly and easily to Thesalie regardless of the weather or season, from where using the River Diannu, these goods could be transported to all parts of the country, cheaply and easily.

And while on this lucrative 'silk road', these merchants would often stay at the many new roadside inns, motels, and other rest houses, gamble and 'sleep' at the few pleasure dens, and make use of the horse stables.

All the increased trade and large traffic volume moving between the cities had caused these new establishments to pop up almost overnight, laying testament to a select group of people's inherent instinct to smell money and opportunity as they designed their businesses to cater to these peddlers who needed at least three to five days to make the trip.

In this, simply by facilitating trade between two points, many additional jobs and businesses were created, establishing a sort of positive feedback cycle.

Also, interestingly, if one looked a bit into the identities of many of these new entrepreneurs, they would find a lot of them knew someone who had participated in the conquering, or at least the looting of Thesalie like the camp followers.

And it was from those ill gotten gains that they had gained the capital to set these shops up.

Wars were truly lucrative for everyone involved, possessing the possibility of changing one's life unrecognizably, if you could win them that is.

Chapter 822 Thesalie After Six Months (Part-3)

The majority of the various goods entering Thesalie would not stay in the city but only be a transit for other cities, where the merchants would use the harbor to access the Diannu.

It was also primarily because of this that the sales tax collected in the city was so much, for it connected Zanzan city to the rest of the country.

Otherwise, there was no way a single war torn city could consume so much, for 25 million ropals could only go so far.

And hearing about the huge tax sales as well as the real origin behind it, Alexander would contemplate building a canal that would connect Zanzan City to the Diannu, thereby connecting his most industry part of the region to the entirety of Tibias through easy to transverse waterways.

After all, on average it was 13 times cheaper and 5 times faster to transport something by water than by land and so by building this artificial waterway, Alexander would be able to cut down on huge amounts of cost.

But he would quickly give up the idea when he would be given an estimate of 50,000 men requiring to work for a decade if not more to complete the 90 km canal he wanted, with a price tag of close to a billion!

That was impossible for the current him, for although Alexander of course had the capital, the required labor force would mean he would not be able to literally do any other civil infrastructures for ten years.

That was in no way feasible.

But he did not scrap the idea totally.

For such large canals did exist even in Adhania itself.

And even in his previous life, the Romans built many canals in the 30 km to 50 km range, while the Chinese Grand Canal dwarfed almost all the canals of the world combined at the time by being more than 2,000 km long.

But those took centuries and not tens of thousands but literally millions of workers.

So Alexander might think about the project once his territory became as prosperous as ancient China.

For now, though, the many merchants flocking to the city in search of opportunity would have to do so by road.

And then enter it by providing a sales tax.

But you may ask, did Alexander not promise the people an exemption from all taxes for the next three years?

Well, no, because what he really meant was the exemption of the land tax, meaning the farmers would not have to give any of their produce to the local lord but could keep everything for themselves.

But the sales tax of all goods still remained one which was paid upfront at the gates of the city at a toll booth, with the only exceptions given to wheat and salt.

Alexander had exempted these two crucial products from taxation in all his cities and even urged all his nobles to follow suit, asking them not to burden the people over the basic necessities.

And this had caused some controversy in the senate building when Alexander had first proposed so, with a big point being made that- 'Grain and salt merchants will benefit unfairly from this.'

And, 'Are we to let these kinds of people hold power over us?' which referred to how controlling the food supply meant effectively controlling the people.

To address the first point Alexander had first pointed out that there was a limit of how much a grain merchant earned as there was only so much people could eat.

'If the people earn double, they will not twice the amount of bread. They will eat the same amount' Alexander in very simplified terms explained to the men the concept of inelastic demand- i.e.- demand stays mostly the same regardless of income.

So these grain merchants really could sell only that much.

But even then many of the nobles, especially the older, generational ones still grumbled.

They really did not care about the merchants' profits, that was just an excuse.

What really got them was going that this being an agrarian society, a majority of their sales tax income came from wheat- the staple food of the people.

In fact, it was usually their largest income right after the land tax.

So it would be too damaging for them to agree with this.

While the reason why Alexander was able to afford this was because the majority of his income came from sugar and iron, followed by soap, glass, and paper respectively.

And these ventures were so lucrative that it made the hassle of taxing 1% or 2% on these cheap products simply not worth it.

Instead, it was far smarter to abolish the tax and play it for propaganda.

But that was not the case for the poorer nobles and thus understanding Alexander tried to convince, but did not force anyone.

However, with Thesalie being his city, Alexander did implement this, meaning wheat and salt were cheaped but if anyone wanted to trade any other goods, it was a 2 percent sales tax for local produce and if they were specialties from Zanzan like iron, sugar (brown sugar), paper, glass, soap, etc. then it was 5 percent

The reason for it being more than double was because those things sold like hotcakes.

With the commerce section of the talks over, Lady Felicia then moved on to the various projects that Alexander wanted done, stating,

"The various public toilets that you have wanted are being quickly constructed as we speak, my lord."

"We have also started to hire men to start digging the water channels you wanted through the city."

Lady Felicia here was referring to Alexander's intention to create many small running waterways alongside the roads which would carry fresh running water through the city and end at a point in the river, a few kilometers downstream away from the city.

The purpose of these covered 'streams' was to carry the various natural waste products of the city and given Thesalie was a mountainous city, of course, that meant the easy way to just cut a channel from the river was out, as water, much to Alexander's disappointment, did not flow uphill.

Instead, he had to target the many artificial channels and small aqueducts that the nobles had built to supply their vineyards atop the hill, and then enlarge and divert some of those water into these new channels.

It was a very large project and Alexander estimated it would take a few years to complete.

And as for the question of why go through all the hassle, well it was found that digging an underground sewage system was not impossible here, for the city literally sat atop a huge iron ore deposit, making the subterranean too hard to work.

Upon learning which Alexander had even lampooned, 'What a waste!'

Because such close to the surface iron deposits were really rare Alexander would have loved to smelt the entire thing down and sell it as iron ingots.

But that would of course mean the city of Thesalie would have to be dismantled.

Something which was really not possible.

So it made Alexander feel like he was literally standing on a mountain of money but unable to enjoy it.

Following that update, Lady Felicia continued,

"We also aim to start work on a large, new clinic soon."

"We are trying to stop people from throwing their rubbish in the streets and we are close to setting up the umm... Sanitary Administration." Lady Felicia had a hard time pronouncing that new name, adding, "They will soon start collecting the trash," and finished by informing,

"And lastly the plans for a new, much larger harbor in the works. Once adequate space is cleared up, we will be able to start construction."

The harbor Thesalie had was already quite big, as evidenced by how it was able to accommodate the ten men Lord Theony had brought without significant delays.

But Alexander wanted it bigger, knowing literally thousands of tonnes of his city's specialties would soon be flocking here.

So he instructed the nearby market stalls that overlooked the river to be demolished, the ground underneath dug and the harbor expanded more inland, thus increasing its size.

With this said came the end of her report, and finishing so Lady Felicia looked at Alexander with a hope filled face, scattered with traces of trepidation.

"Mmmm, good. I'm satisfied." And only let color return to her face hearing this, as she then heard the masculine voice chime,

"It seems you were not simply asking to rule the city because you were greedy. You actually have some skills."

"How much did you depend on your husband to do all of this?" Alexander then in an off hand tone asked.

It went naturally that without Lapitus backing her up, it would be impossible for Lady Felicia to accomplish a tenth of what she did, for she would be too intensely discriminated against just by virtue of being a woman.

"I..." At Alexander's inquiry, Lady Felicia's mouth opened and closed awkwardly like a fish, as the two had tacitly decided to not discuss the man after what the two did that day.

But now that Alexander was asking, Lady Felicia was forced to answer.

"He... mostly spends time outside. He did not help with anything, my lord." Came the reply.

Chapter 823 Bullying Lady Felicia

In regard to Alexander's answer, Lady Felicia made it appear as if Lapitus had made no contribution to speak of in administering the city, dressing him up as a wastrel who dumped all the work to his poor wife while he went off to enjoy himself with drinking and feasting.

And it was both true and false.

True because Lapitus did indeed leave much of the day to day operations to Lady Felicia.

But also false because it was Lady Felicia who urged him to do so, fearing he would bite into her credit.

'My father taught me how to manage these things. Let me!' She insisted, then enticed her husband by saying, 'If we do a good job and not mess up, the Pasha might give us the city to rule.'

And seeing Lady Felicia's alacrity and knowing his own shortcomings, Lapitus graciously stepped down, though not before adding, 'If there is something I can help with, let me know immediately.'

It went without saying that Lady Felicia never asked for Lapitus's help, even when she could have used it, all so that she could stealthily discredit him.

Though she did make use of the resources Lapitus made available to her to aid in her endeavors, such as instructing all of his subordinates to help her out in any they could, be it acting as her bodyguards when she went out, delivering messages, keeping an eye on things and carrying out the various orders she made.

Alexander, hearing Lady Felicia's low remark on her showed neither approval nor disapproval, only humming, "Hmmm... is that so?" and simply continued in a disinterested tone, "How is your husband? What's he doing nowadays? I have been too busy recently and was unable to keep in touch with him."

After taking over the city, Alexander had been inundated with many jobs, while many of the military officer Lapitus's jobs were taken over by Alexander's own garrisoned men.

At first, he had wanted to let the Tibians rule themselves, but this produced some unforeseen friction between the army and the native militia, as each vied for power.

Not to mention, there was already bad blood between the two given they had just fought a war and many had died at the other's hand.

Thus, Alexander had put Lapitus and his men in a ceremonial position for the time being, heading patrols and other menial tasks, while promising to hand them back the city once he returned to Zanzan.

In regard to Alexander's query, Lady Felicia replied, "Lapitus," making sure to use his name, "mostly heads the patrol of the guards. He leaves in the morning, spends the whole day with the men, and then comes back around dusk totally drunk and plastered. That's all he does every day, every week." She succinctly retold.

And though this might sound like a dark spot on Lapitus's record, it was actually very common and nothing to be alarmed at.

So Alexander silently nodded.

And then dropped a bombshell of a question seemingly out of nowhere, as turning to face the mature, buxom woman, he asked with a smirk, "How is the bedroom sex? Good?"

"....." Lady Felicia was at first stunned into silence hearing this, and then, instead of being ashamed, her face went white as her mind was filled with alarm, for she bolted her head towards the balcony, her eyes widened.

She really hoped she had heard Alexander wrong, and really, really hoped that none of the children heard it, and most of all she hoped the two nannies were not aware of it.

Because although Lady Felicia had no qualms about adultery, it had to be very clearly noted that she was not a promiscuous woman.

In fact, she liked to think she had quite high standards for herself and did not go spreading her legs to anyone, only to those who could greatly benefit her.

This came as a result of the conservative nature of Tibias, which made it so that no matter her own proclivities, she certainly would never openly discuss such things in broad daylight in front of so many people.

"Hahahaha," And seeing this reaction, Alexander softly chuckled in amusement, reassuring, "Do not worry, the children won't understand anything. And the nannies will pretend like we don't exist."

'That's not the point!' But instead of being happy at the consolation, Lady Felicia snapped like so inside her mind.

This was about shame and modesty, and the norms of society.

So externally, producing a slightly forced smile, she pretended to be coy, "My lord... that's... Fabiyana is here!"

There was even a slight tinge of red on the woman.

But Alexander did not seem to get the memo, as lightly waving his palm, he posed,

"So what? Isn't Fabiyana supposed to be my mistress? She will soon be experiencing these things herself. So what's wrong if she hears it? It might even be better for her like this so that she can gain some experience beforehand."

Alexander made poor a point, as he certainly had no intention of such a union with Fabiyana.

'I'm her mother!' While Lady Felicia shouted this in her mind.

The noble lady of course did not think Alexander was dense enough to not understand what she was implying.

Which made the entire thing all the more infuriating as she flushed and swung her head, avoiding eye contact with Alexander and refusing to answer.

While in her mind, she cursed Alexander and his past fourteen generations for producing such an indecent rascal.

Seeing Lady Felicia go quiet, Alexander of course did not back down.

He was not going to let off the hook so easily.

Also, he was not asking this just to tease her, for he had a very good reason behind it.

"So did you have sex Lapitus in the last six months? How many times? How was it? What did you do? Tell me everything, I want to know,"

Hence, as if Alexander thought that Lady Felicia was stupid to get the question, he blatantly and as explicitly as possible poked her again.

And seeing that taunting smirk that graced his face, Lady Felicia again had to endure great patience, for she very much wanted to burst out, 'Do you that kind of fetish? Do you like to see other men and women do it while sitting in a corner and jerking off? You fucking pervert! Die!'

But the thing that stopped her was that the man before her was her boss, someone who paid her paycheck of 5,000 ropals a month and held great sway on every aspect of her life.

If she wanted the things he had, she had to oil his ass.

So pushing her inherent shame down, Lady Felicia pronounced in a shy, low voice that she was sure would not reach the balcony,

"Lord Alexander, this is a highly inappropriate question. It is a private matter between us husband and wife. It is only natural...."

She trailed off, flushing her face harder.

And seeing the lady's diminutive reaction, Alexander for the first time was a bit taken back.

He did not think the woman before him could pull off such an alluring expression, so embarrassed yet so sexy.

It was certainly a spectacle to behold.

And this made Alexander want to bully her even more, as he smirked,

"Heh! This is probably the first time I have seen you call Lapitus husband. Does he mean that little to you?"

"....." Lady Felicia did not answer, only keeping her head low, her thoughts only known to her.

But how could Alexander let Lady Felicia take refuge in her silence?

So pushed her again, though a bit more gently this time, "Okay, fine you do not have to tell me all the details."

He sounded magnanimous, though frankly, he did not care about knowing what Lapitus did in his bedroom the first time, as he instead insisted,

"But at least tell me the number, how many times did you guys do it?"

And as he said this, one of his hands slithered across the underneath of the table and found its mark, causing Lady Felicia to involuntarily shudder as she tried to close her legs but was too slow, for the large paw had grabbed hold of her snowy privates through the dress and clamped onto it tightly and fiercely.

Lady Felicia understood that not giving an answer was not possible.

"Once... or twice... my lord," Hence, the lady finally clenched out the answer.

"Was it once? Or twice?" But the unambiguous nature of it made Alexander dissatisfied, as evidenced by how Lady Felicia felt those fingers squeeze around her lower lips.

And then not waiting for an answer heard, "Why so low? Once or twice in six months? Is Lapitus not capable enough? Or are you a prude?" The whisper next to her ear was musky and masculine.

But in much contrast to the romantic nature of the act, the contents of the action made the lady infuriated with rage.

'Why does he care?' She fumed, as keeping silent with bubbling anger, Lady Felicia had to exercise great control not to gnash her teeth right in front of him, though in her mind, she was certainly doing it, and with such strength that it risked the teeth shattering from fury.

And then Alexander took things to the next level!

Chapter 824 Reminiscing (R-18)

Alexander was unperturbed by the smoldering vixen next to him.

He even found her entertaining as Alexander loved to bully her, to see how far he could push this ambitious woman without breaking her.

To that effect, being bored of only grabbing her parts through the heavy gown, Alexander decided to go further.

So adjusting his chair, he moved closer to her in order to get better access, and he then deftly lifted her long skirt up to her thighs before having his hands directly grab the lower part of the underwear!

Shudder

And being aware of all this the entire time, it took great effort for Lady Felicia to keep still, as she tried her best to control her shivering,

While her eyes constantly kept darting towards the balcony, where the children, oblivious to the naughty things happening right behind them, kept giggling, shouting, and playing with nary a care in the world.

A sight that brought great relief to Lady Felicia, as well as the fact that the small table had a very long, tablecloth draped over it, one that reached up to the ground, thus concealing all the happenings occurring underneath it.

If that were not to be the case, if everything that Alexander was going had been visible to others, Lady Felicia would have certainly jumped up and stormed out of the room regardless of the consequences.

She might be a power hungry amoral woman but even she had her limits.

But fortunately, or unfortunately depending on how one saw it, now that her limits were not crossed, she had to endure even more of Alexander's teasing, for she clearly felt the warm hands grab her part and start to caress it over her underwear.

'No! Idiot body. Don't get wet!' And then much to her horror, she found her body's natural mechanism kick, as it started secreting love juice, preparing herself for the act.

While Alexander, feeling the slight dampness gave a knowing smirk, before further teasing, "I do not think you are a prude. Otherwise, you would not have come to me dressed like that!"

"I never go to ask... How did you like our little tryst? Was I better than with your husband? Hmm!"

Alexander traced his thick finger trace over her slit through the underwear, occasionally pinching the outer lips.

And catalyzed by this act, as well as hearing the question, the pink atmosphere made Lady Felicia's mind drift toward that memorable night.

A night that had been both heaven and hell for her,

She could not help but recall the mind bending pleasure she had felt when Alexander had taken her in that bent over position atop that table, how his thick, sturdy organ had carved open her tunnel and battered her cervix into submission, making her see flashes of whites while she rolled her tongue out in a panting animal.

And accompanying that insane pleasure was intense pain too, for that dreaded wooden ruler had made its appearance once again.

Her snowy, white curvaceous buttocks were set aflame by its heavy strikes, each hit sounding like the clap of thunder, making her luscious behind ripple and shake very alluringly while turning it red with inflammation.

Alexander had filled her womb twice in that posture, each time scalding her walls and making her squeal in a voice that Lady Felicia blushed even now while remembering.

And then, once that posture had gotten too boring for the man, he had flipped her around to make her lie on the table, gazing lustfully at her huge, swaying melons, her flat, nice tummy garbed in that sexy negligee, and lastly her bushy pussy that was leaking white cream, staining many of the pubic hairs in its color.

Lady Felicia must have had a very turned on alluring face, as she had felt Alexander's eyes gaze down on her with scalding intensity, mesmerized by that tired, haggard face, flushed red and shyly avoiding looking at him.

Lady Felicia would find that Alexander very much liked those kinds of looks.

She was pumped in that position for some while, very rough and hard, as evidenced by the loud

Pah, *Pah*, *Pah*, sound that reverberated across the room, for Alexander's heavy hips smashed against her wide curve, while she moaned salaciously, raising her shapely, black stocking covered legs up into the air in rapturous joy.

For Alexander, however, the greatest treat was looking at the woman's abundant melons flowing in this position, roughly kneading and squeezing them and even bending down to drink from them, perching his thirst.

He even offered some of the freshly drawn liquid to the woman underneath him, who by that point had wisely given up all resistance and eagerly open her mouth wide to accept the offering as the due then engaged in intense kissing, with Alexander sucking and pulling on that mature, lilac tongue, and drinking in the sweet, musky saliva.

All while his spear wrought devastation below, using various angles to attack all the various spots all the tunnel and making the lady roll her tongue out and eyes bulge out.

Alexander only retrieved his now flaccid organ after filling her up in that position twice, by which point Lady Felicia had gone very limp, so the break came as a much needed relief.

Hence, feeling it was finally over, Lady Felicia had finally let out a sigh of relief, as she relaxed her lower muscles.

And, *Plop*, *Plop*, *Plop*, shameful dollops of semen had immediately started to overflow out of her, staining the carpet below.

Or she thought for oh how wrong she was, as no sooner had the first drop landed on the carpet, lights

Pah, *Pah* a heavy, stinking sensation reappeared on her already battered pubic mound as the wooden ruler grandly announced its return.

"How dare you let my gift go to waste! *Pah*, *Pah*! Squeeze it! Squeeze it now!" Alexander [playfully barked, smacking her twice on the place in quick succession.

But this only caused the cream to overflow even more, as the pressure of the strike pushed the thick jelly out.

And seeing so Alexander punished her even more, causing Lady Felicia to moan in both pain and pleasure,

"Ahhh! No more! Mercy my lord! Ahhh!"

And then, unable to endure the constant strikes, Lady Felicia had done something that had become a pitch, black spot in her history.

She had lost control of her pelvic muscles and wetted the carpet underneath, creating a beautiful yellow arch as she had done so.

"Hahaha, *Pah*," And seeing this, Alexander had let out a pleased chuckle and rewarded her for the show by hitting the woman's leaking privates one last time, and producing a wet thud, before smirking,

"Hehe, I might be a mommy's boy who needs to drink milk. But it seems Lady Felicia has yet to outgrow her nappies, *Pah*."

Here, Alexander was referring to how the lady had taunted him for drinking her milk, and at that time, he was unable to give a proper retort.

And now that he at last could, Alexander sounded very pleased.

Revenge was truly best served cold.

While the lady to whom this was being directed towards, was in no state to comment.

She might not have even heard it, for her mind was far more occupied with the shameful deed she had done.

'Did I do that? I didn't did I? No way!' Her mind was filled with denial and mortifying disbelief.

But fortunately for her, Lady Felicia did not have much free time to engage in her ignominy.

For soon she was hosted up from the large table and taken near to Alexander's bed, where she was made to kneel down and give Alexander's little brother a thorough clean fellation, using her massive boobs as a cushioning pillow for the esteemed dignitary.

And every time she did something that Alexander did not like, that dreaded ruler was always there to correct it with a hard slap on her butt and thighs, as she was made to taste copious amounts of the baby batter.

And it felt retching to her.

For this was her first time tasting it.

Of course, Lady Felicia had done this type of act to Petrino, but she never swallowed, always spitting it out.

As for Lapitus, haha, joke!

But, now, those were an option that was of course not available to her.

So her mouth and face were faced with the white jizz, as Alexander painted her in his color, even wrapping her beautiful, silky raven hair around his thick phallus to give them a new sheen, and ultimately making her entire body smell like a cheap whore, his whore.

'How long can he go for?' And at some time, Lady Felicia had given up resisting as she eagerly bobbed her head, feeling the hot spear burn her mouth with flames of lust, only praying for Alexander to tire.

A prayer that went blatantly unanswered, as after being pent up for six months, and then having fought a war, Alexander was far from done.

So the brutal act of mating continued deep into the night, as Alexander made Lady Felicia go from one shameful position to the next, from one place in the tent to the next, until the whole place reeked of the act, and Lady Felicia could barely stay conscious.

Chapter 825 Alexander's Suspicion (Part-1)

Lady Felicia very explicitly remembered that oh so memorable night, though she did find her memory going hazy at around the end, as by that point her mind had been filled with never before felt pleasure and a stinging pain all around her body.

All she could do by that point was moan her heart out and let Alexander enjoy himself.

Hence, as the woman recalled all those raunchy acts, it naturally had a very explicit effect on Lady Felicia's body, which Alexander could easily tell, for the woolen underwear he was touching by now had turned wet, damp and steamy, no doubt caused by a combination of the recalling memory and the caress that he was so graciously providing.

And then, as if to help Lady Felicia further get into the mood, he pushed apart that underwear and started to directly touch the pink organ, feeling the soft, downy flesh which he started to lightly pinch or pull on those fluffy hairs.

And when he felt the legs clamp up to try and prevent that, Alexander had only growled, "If you don't want me to bring my other hand too, then open right now!"

Thus, the recipient of this attack could only clamp up and obey with gritted teeth, for if Alexander did do that, what they were doing would be all too open to everyone.

And although Alexander might be shameless enough to not care, she certainly was.

After all, the duo was not of the same stature and Lady Felicia had much more to lose from this revelation than Alexander.

Thus Lady Felicia let Alexander have full reign of her nether region and only concentrated on keeping the shuddering of her body to a minimum so as to not give anything away to the other people in the balcony.

"Well... tell me... did you enjoy it?"

Unsatisfied by the lack of answer, Alexander then asked again if Lady Felicia had enjoyed her time with him, as his third finger was inserted into the cozy cave, which it found to be moist and overflowing.

"....." Regarding the query Lady Felicia again only bit her lips, refusing to answer.

The situation was a repeat of that night, and even after how Alexander broke her that day and made her sing like a canary she still refused to learn, stubbornly keeping her silence.

And contrary to popular belief, Alexander did not dislike it, he did not dislike it at all.

For this spicy woman gave a very unique flavor.

A spicy flavor.

A flavor that was absent in all his other four women, even in Mean, for though they might grumble, at the end of the day, they would almost always do whatever he wanted them to do.

But Lady Felicia was not like that.

It was clear he did not like how Alexander came to her, as she felt a certain level of powerlessness in front of him.

But she also could not say no because of the benefit he provided her.

And this bittersweet mixture of reluctance and greed tasted so delectable to Alexander.

Thus, to extract more, and punish the woman for not answering his answer, Alexander suddenly curved the finger inside her up, accurately hitting the lady's sensitive G spot and making her almost roll her eyes.

"Why are you bothering to struggle? Your flooding lower half has already given me the answer, *chup*, *chup*," Alexander commented so with a vulgar smile, producing a nasty wet sound, hearing which Lady Felicia froze.

Although the sound was very muted, so that only she and Alexander could hear it, to her it sounded like the loud, thumping of war drums, and she could not help but look towards the balcony with an almost horrified face.

And water only returned to her heart after seeing all the five kids and the two nannies had their backs turned to her.

Which then finally gave her the frame of mind of at last retorting venomously with clenched teeth, "If you know that, why bother asking?"

And only got to hear Alexander proudly chuckling next to her ear.

But if Lady Felicia thought that was the end of her teasing, then she was sorely underestimating Alexander.

As rather than retrieving that finger, Alexander inserted another one, saying,

"You can handle another, right? You are wet enough." and then moaned, "Ahhh, it's hard to believe you popped Fabiyana through here, so tight!"

But at the instant Alexander mentioned Fabiyana, suddenly Lady Felicia's lower half squeezed in shame, something that Alexander of course did not miss.

"Hahaha, does mentioning your daughter excite you? Fabiyana!" Alexander thus again whispered and got the exact same reaction, which made him produce a nasal smile that sounded very vulgar to Lady Felicia.

And then, as if he found a new toy to play with, again whispered,

"Fabiya! Does it excite you to hear your daughter's name? Fabiya!"

"Look! She is right there! Fabiya! She could turn around at any time! Fabiya!"

"What if she turns around right now? What if Fabiya sees her mother like?" Alexander taunted, and as soon as he said these, he clearly felt the lady's floodgates burst down there like she had peed herself as she heavily came, making her mind go numb. lights

And the burst of water was so strong that Alexander might have actually suspected the lady had peed on his hand if not for the fact that there was none of that distinctive smell.

'Does she have a shame kink?' And the reaction made Alexander think so, as glee filled his heart, for he now had two new toys to play with.

"Perv!" He so again whispered, and felt the lady's body shiver, while down below her muscle clearly spasmed with intense strength, validating Alexander's theory and causing him to continue,

"What a perv!" He disdainfully muttered, "Does it excite you to do these things in front of your daughter? Aren't you a hopeless mother?"

"What will do you if Fabiya turns around, *chup*, *chup*?"

By now Lady Felicia was leaking so much that the lewd sound of splashing water had become much more audible, and this question only added more fuel to her fire, causing her to literally start shivering, as her eyes turned glassy.

"Plea...please..." And sensing herself losing control, Lady Felicia with immense effort squeezed this single word out, begging for Alexander's mercy.

But how could Alexander let such a fun play come to a close so easily?

Thus in a face simply unconcerned for the wishes of the lady, he continued to squirm his finger, loving the soft, wet, tightness of the tunnel, and how it was so magically dancing around him.

The feeling was exquisite and Alexander wanted more.

So he pushed her even harder, "What do you think Fabiyana would think if she were to see her mother like this *chup*, *chup*? Someone who was supposed to be her son in law. Fabiyana would be disappointed right?? She would be mortified to be right?" Alexander felt Lady Felicia again intensely shudder as she clearly came at the suggestion, as Alexander smirked.

And he continued to bully her without respite,

"Or perhaps she would be happy? Maybe she will want to join her mother in doing such things with her husband."

"But then what would society think?" Alexander then posed in a mocking tone.

But he did not get his much anticipated reaction.

"....." For right now, swimming in her own blissful afterglow, Lady Felicia had a distracted glassy look and seemed unable to respond to Alexander's teasing.

So to bring her back Alexander proposed this insane thing, "Should we ask Fabiyana what she thinks? Let's ask her now!"

Then without waiting for a reply, Alexander quickly turned his head to face the balcony and raised his free left hand, as if getting ready to out the little girl.

"Noo!" And this suggested act involuntarily made Lady Felicia scream or more like shriek out in alarm, wanting to stop Alexander.

Something which had the complete opposite intended effect, as her high pitched voice only worked to draw everyone's attention.

"Mommy! Are you alright?" With Fabiyana even leaving her toys away to call out in alarm.

She had hardly ever heard her mother's voice sound so afraid.

But the problem was due to her being in the sun and Alexander and Lady Felicia being inside the darker room, she was unable to see anything except two vague as her eyes had not adjusted to the change.

Which made her want to go see the situation for herself.

Until Alexander's amicable laugh sauntered out,

"Hahaha, everything is fine Fabiyana. I just told your mother a scary ghost story. And she screamed in fright. Would you like to hear it too?"

An offer that Fabiyana flatly rejected by heavily shaking her head, making her long hair float beautifully in the wind.

During the many stays in the mansion, Alexander would sometimes tell the little girl scary bedtime stories, something that she quite liked to hear, and would scream and then hide under her cozy blanket.

But now, that kind of play held no allure to her.

"Ye... yes. Mommy was just a bit afraid. You go back to playing." And relieved to see Fabiyana halt, Lady Felicia quickly chimed in line with Alexander, trying to sound as normal as possible.

Chapter 826 Alexander's Suspicion (Part-2)

Lady Felicia breathed a profound sigh of relief at seeing Fabiyana finally retreat, while Alexander noticed when Fabiyana and the others had turned to look at the two, all of a sudden, the wetness underneath Lady Felicia had decreased significantly, almost as if suddenly someone had turned off the tap.

It seemed that though Lady Felicia was excited by the shameful nature of showing other people what she was doing, if it were to really happen, she would absolutely reject it.

This was the lady's absolute boundary, one if crossed, would surely lead to her turning on Alexander regardless of the consequences.

He understood so with this little event.

With Fabiyana going back to stacking up her toy blocks, and everyone turning their heads back in concert, Alexander too at last decided he had had enough fun, and finally, he retrieved the finger from that place, much to Lady Felicia's relief.

"See how wet you got!" But not before showing off his prize by waving his sticky finger, where there were these long, thick strings between the fingers as it opened and closed, while Lady Felicia blushed with a very angry scowl on her face.

She certainly did not appreciate that little trick Alexander had pulled off.

In fact, if it had been anyone other than Alexander, she would be doing much more than just glaring at him, she would be blasting his ear off.

But unbeknownst to her, for Alexander, this peeved expression was one of the reasons why he had done it, for it was supremely delicious to see the lady balance her desire for power and preference for independence.

And then, as if to show off his victory against her, Alexander very provocatively began to lick the wet fingers and taste the mature woman's scent, a sight that made Lady Felicia's lips twitch.

Following which he even shamelessly offered his own fingers to her, saying, "Here, you have a taste. See how it is."

An invitation that Lady Felicia very clearly rejected by quickly taking a nearby napkin and even before Alexander could react, wiping them dry.

And even before Alexander could say 'thank you', she spoke up to say in a bit of a woody tone,

"If there is nothing more, then I would like to take my leave, my lord."

And then without waiting for Alexander's response, quickly got up and turned up to leave.

It was clear she had not been unimpressed by Alexander's little stunt just now.

"Wait, wait!"

Seeing this abrupt departure made Alexander softly cry out so, and hearing it compelled Lady Felicia to reluctantly turn around.

No matter how much she wished she could not simply disregard Alexander.

"What is it, my lord? Please make it quick!" Though that did not mean she could not very explicitly express her displeasure

Alexander however was unperturbed by this cold shoulder, only lightly chuckling and pointing out,

"Haha, why are so hurry to leave? And even if you do, hide that large stain down there before you go. People will think you peed yourself! Hehe,"

Lady Felicia had leaked copiously during Alexander's teasing, resulting in a large, spherical stain on the lower part of her white gown, a color that made the spot especially noticeable.

And turning her head down, Lady Felicia blushed to the point her ears turned red at seeing the extent of her misdeeds laid bare for all to see.

But she did not immediately go back to sitting down as Alexander hoped.

She would be foolish to again go back to that chair and present herself like a defenseless piece of meat on the table for Alexander

Instead, she rearranged the brown, beautiful shawl that was draped over her shoulder to produce an impromptu cover, one that now extended from her shoulder to knees, thus very naturally hiding everything.

Then curtly saying, "Thank you my lord." turned around to attempt to leave once again.

And when Alexander once again called out from behind, "Wait!", she lightly snapped, "What is it, my lord? I have a lot of work to do... unlike you."

"Haha, don't worry... it won't take too long. I just got one... no two more questions for you!" Regarding the rude reply, Alexander did not even bat an eye, for he was fishing for something much greater, as then turning his eyes turned teasing, he posed,

"You still haven't answered me. Was I better than your husband?"

Alexander still had not forgotten the original question and once again asked so.

"Yes, my lord. You were better. Much better. I have never screamed like a whore as I did with you." And this time Lady Felicia answered obediently,

It seemed that she had learned her lesson.

Or perhaps not, for her tone was blocky and unenthusiastic, appearing like she was simply parroting what was expected of her.

But Alexander did not harp on that, happy that he had at least made some progress.

"Well, that's good to hear!" Thus Alexander nodded appreciatively, and then followed it up.

"Then the second question. That dress you wore when you came to see me... do you usually wear it while doing it with your husband?" Alexander's eyes shone with another teasing light as he asked so. lights

"Of course!" Came another woody, forceful reply and a heavy nod, as Lady Felicia pretended to be offended by the mere doubt of it.

And this was where Alexander decided to spring his trap.

"Oh?" Alexander first produced a facade of shock on his face, as he then pointed out, "Your husband brought such an expensive lingerie for you, yet you guys had sex only once or twice in the last six months? Does it not seem strange to you?"

By now Alexander's teasing look had been replaced by a cunning glint, as he attempted to unearth some very big doubts he had towards this woman.

"My lord, I remember you saying that you would only ask two questions. I have already answered them." Towards the provocative question, Lady Felicia had a very stoic reaction, as her charming face hardened, reminding Alexander,

"But this was the third one I believe." And then snapped,

"Whatever me and my husband do in your bedrooms is our matter. Please do not poke your nose into matters that do not concern you. It is unbecoming of a dignified noble such as yourself."

"May I be allowed to leave now?" Lady Felicia ended with an impatient tone as such, seemingly asking for Alexander's permission, but really expressing her intention.

"Of course! Please." And Alexander seemed ready to grant it to her, as seemingly unbothered by those scalding remarks made, he graciously gestured towards the large wooden door, inviting her to take it.

And Lady Felicia was more than happy to oblige as giving another curt bow, she rapidly turned her heels and started to approach her ticket to freedom.

"Although," But paused for a brief second because she heard Alexander say this, as the other side kept on going as if he was talking to himself,

"It is strange that Lapitus would decide to spend so much and then spend so little time seeing you in it. That dress must have cost what.... at least several thousand ropals? I would know because Cam bought a similar one not too long ago."

"So if I was Lapitus, I would want a hot piece of meat like you to wear it three times a day and keep you nice and filled up all throughout the day."

"Is Lapitus not good in bed? Does he have trouble getting it up?"

"Is that why he bought it? To excite him?"

"But it seems like it did not work."

"Maybe I should go ask him about it? If everything in the bedroom is okay?"

"After all, the road to a healthy life is to have healthy sex."

"And as a caring superior, it is my responsibility to take care of my subordinates. To lend them help in any way I can."

"Besides, who knows, there might be something wrong with the sexy negligee. Perhaps he can tell more."

Alexander said these words as if he was only musing to himself like he was daydreaming.

And up until the middle part, Lady Felicia only halted her steps because it seemed too rude to leave while her superior was bantering to himself.

But when that last part was said out aloud, how could she not see the implicit threat that was made and it made her heart thump uncontrollably.

'Does he know? But how?' She screamed with alarm in her head as she feared the reveal of her affair with Petrino, as the dress was brought by him and Lapitus had no idea, so Alexander's query risked tumbling her entire world into shambles.

It was only now she was beginning to smell that she might have fallen into a trap.

But she did not panic.

Lady Felicia did not get where she was by cracking under pressure.

She was very strong in that regard.

So quickly trying to think of an answer, she found a presumed flaw in Alexander's line of inquiry.

One which brought great consolation to herself as she reasoned, 'No! If he knew about my affair, he would not have been asking these hypothetical questions. He would have directly cornered me.'

That was her clutch!

Chapter 827 Alexander's Suspicions (Part-3)

After talking and interacting with Lapitus for the last few months, Alexander had come to know the man quite a bit better than from the initial three hour interview back then and felt he was much different than the monster in Lady Felicia's tale.

OF course, there was certainly the possibility that Lapitus was a superb actor who had managed to hoodwink Alexander even during all Athose interactions for all these months.

But that was unlikely.

For Alexander had not come to this conclusion using just one source.

To verify his suspicions, he asked some of Lapitus's officers and subordinates about their boss and they all described him as an upright and frank man.

He then asked some of his family members about him, like his cousins who might hold some jealousy towards the much more established member of their family.

And though some grumbled, calling him petty for not giving them more money, Alexander only snorted at these leeches.

He very well knew the extent Lapitus went for these people, and notwithstanding the legality of the actions, there was no doubt that Lapitus held a deep love for them.

Following this, Alexander also turned to the people, or more accurately the person who would know him the best- his daughter Fabiyana.

He had asked some subtle questions on the sly to her when Lady Felicia was not in earshot during one of her many play times.

These questions were not explicit in nature, so as to not warn the quarry as Alexander feared the child might blurt all their conversation to her parents.

But these implicit, prodding attacks yielded very telltale results.

Regarding Lapitus, the daughter had generally expressed a great love, only finding fault in the smallest of things, such as how Lapitus drank a lot and stank at times, or how her mother would scold the man for dirtying the rooms.

And towards these answers, Alexander of course brought it at face value.

For he did not believe there was any way an honest and expressive kind of child like Fabiyana would see her mother getting so heavily abused as described by Lady Felicia and then still lie about loving her father very much.

So either Lapitus was a supervillain who was able to hide everything from his child even though they all lived in the same house or Lady Felicia had lied to him.

And naturally Alexander tended to lean on the latter.

Further, aside from these, Alexander also received word of some suspicious behaviors from Fabiyana regarding her mother in some of their talks.

Alexander particularly paid attention to Fabiyana claiming that she remembered seeing a strange man regularly coming into their house and 'touching' her mother in various intimate ways when she was very young.

'He was touching her boobs!' The girl clearly recalled.

And when asked if she remembered what that man looked like, although she was unable to give a facial description as she was too young to remember, she did reveal that the man was always very well dressed and regularly brought various expensive gifts for the two.

When she had gotten older, she never again saw that man, but replacing that, Fabiyana recalled how her mother would sometimes go out during odd times of the day, saying she was visiting her friends and leaving Fabiyana with the maids.

With the weird thing being that Fabiyana rarely met those 'friends' of her mother as it was only her mother going to visit them, but they never came to visit their house.

Or, occasionally she would be taken out the house during odd times of the day, with the enticement of visiting the market or going on a boating trip around the River Diannu with a few servants, while her mother stayed behind.

And when she would come back, she would many times find her mother wearing a different set of clothes, with her hair wet like she had just taken a bath and there would almost always be various gifts waiting for her.

Regarding this, Fabiyana did not think anything.

In fact when she was retelling these to Alexander, she was reminiscing them in a joyous voice, saying that whenever her mother would return from 'seeing' her friends, she would always come home with gifts.

Or if Fabiyana was the one to leave the house, she would either be given a new toy during the trip or get back to find shiny presents waiting for her, where her mother would tell her that it was her grandfather who had to visit them but Fabiyana missed him since she was out.

And going by Fabiyana's story, it seemed that was always the case, she somehow always managed to miss meeting the old man.

And if the girl threw a tantrum saying she wanted to stay in the house and meet her grandpa, her grandpa would not appear, suddenly having an 'emergency' situation that would pop out of nowhere that he would have to go deal with.

Fabiyana had a very sad face when telling that particular piece, like she missed her grandfather, rueful that she had never really met him.

And hearing this Alexander initially felt a bit awkward because he was the one who really killed her grandpa.

But such a fleeting thought quickly turned ephemeral as a far more distressing thought filled his mind, one that sent alarm bells ringing inside his head. lights

'Never met him?' Alexander was stunned at Fabiyana's casual reveal for that claim completely contradicted what Lady Felicia told him about her father's love for her and her daughter.

And combining it with all the previous things Fabiyana had diverged, Alexander had very strong reason to be very suspicious of Lady Felicia.

The stench of foul play was clear to him from miles away but unfortunately, although Alexander was sure Lady Felicia had hidden things from him, he was unable to put all the pieces together and form a clear picture no matter how hard he thought about it.

He felt he was still missing a crucial piece of the puzzle, the centerpiece, the man who was surely at the center of it all, the one, true smoking gun.

And he was right, because although he suspected Lady Felicia of having an affair, he was unable to determine who.

And that was because Alexander did not know Petrino, the man being too insignificant to come under his eyes.

His main focus of learning had been on the main lord of Thesalie, Lord Ponticus, and Alexander only knew that the man had a wastrel of a son as a supplementary scrap of knowledge that he quickly forgot he even had.

And even if Alexander knew about Petrino in great detail, he would still have to be a prophet to immediately and definitely connect him to Lady Felicia just from that vague description.

The man coming to visit Lady Felicia very well could have been any other of the tens of noblemen living in Thesalie at the time, or a playboy, a lover or even a slave.

Furhtemore, who was to say that the man was singular?

Perhaps Lady Felicia had multiple such trysts and all these men came bearing gifts.

There were so many possibilities when Alexander thought about it.

So, upon first hearing this, Alexander had first asked Camius to send a small group of spies to keep an eye on Lady Felicia and try and catch her in the act.

But naturally, they saw nothing.

They could only helplessly report that Lady Felicia was always around other people during the day and rarely left the house at night, preferring to spend time with her daughter and husband.

This meant either Alexander was wrong, which was unlikely given the explicit damning testimony Fabiyana had given.

Or something had happened to her lover/ lovers.

Lady Felicia could have cut ties with them, though that possibility was very implausible as given the power she wielded, surely he/ they would come to her secretly to fish for benefits.

They had spent so much on her over the years, there was no way they were going to just take the rejection and be happy with it.

And if they did, Camius's spies should have detected some clues.

But since they had not, the greater possibility was that they were dead, either killed during the battle and subsequent sacking of the city or the far more fearful possibility by her.

But the latter possibility was once again low given the covert surveillance Alexander had placed on her, so had to be the former, though that did not really help Alexander narrow the list of potential suspects any further, as in addition to Petrino, many, many noblemen, civilians and even slaves and servants had died during those days.

Thus, unable to find any more clues, Alexander had little option other than to prod the culprit herself.

It was with these thoughts that Alexander returned to the current situation, as he once again asked, "What do you think? Should I?" referring to if he should ask Lapitus about her sexy negligee.

Lady Felicia had yet to given an answer, only presenting her back like a wall of silence.

It was like she was stunned into silence and Alexander had a very smug in his face.

But Lady Felicia was out yet, not by a long shot!

Chapter 828 Alexander's Suspicions (Part-4)

Lady Felicia did not flinch a toe at Alexander's subtle threat and refused to budge one bit.

Instead, not willing to be solely on the defensive, she turned on her heels to face Alexander, as Lady Felicia aggressively counterattacked, cleverly pointing out,

"But if my lord really were to ask my husband this, how would you explain the way you came to know about my dress the first time?"

"Is my lord willing to expose yourself just for the sake of a few small doubts you have regarding me?"

"Will that wise given your status? Given our relationship?"

Gone was the mirthful, light smile on Lady Felicia's face, replaced by a cold, regal countenance, as she looked at Alexander like a fearless lioness circling his prey, threatening him with social death.

And indeed the lioness had bared some sharp fangs.

For although Alexander would have been able to brush the relationship with one of his subordinate's wife, as such occurrences were a dime a dozen, but relationship with one's mother in law was far more frowned upon.

Alexander had just captured Thesalie and was in the midst of conquering Tibias, so if this were to get out, he would bet all the gold he had that rivals and rebels would spring up the very next day, spreading news of his loose morale in very excruciating detail and no doubt adding hyperboles that would make even the best selling authors feel ashamed.

But Alexander, seeing this attitude, did not back down one bit.

Narrowing his eyes as a way of accepting her challenge, as he at first smirked noticing that Lady Felicia had called Lapitus not by his name, but by her relation to him- husband.

This was probably the first time he had heard him say it,

However, although externally very confident, internally, he cursed for how sharp witted the woman was at having detected this weak point.

That was indeed a detail that he had been musing over but was ultimately unable to find a solution.

As a matter of fact this was a big reason why Alexander was even having a conversation with Lady Felicia in the first place, wanting to bluff the lady into making her confess.

Or else Alexander would have already confirmed things with Lapitus prior to the meeting.

And so he had really hoped that Lady Felicia would not be able to find this weakness.

But alas!

Lady Felicia definitely won with this round, for Alexander though ever suspicious, was unable to find evidence of her misdeeds.

And he was no tyrant who would punish others without evidence even if he knew there was wrongdoing.

"No!" Thus Alexander followed the only option that was available to him. retrieving the threat for he was unable to risk his reputation right now.

And then even produced somewhat of a small apology,

"I hope Lady Felicia will not take into mind whatever I just said. I was too curious and did not know my boundaries. It will not happen again."

"Whatever you do with your husband is your business. Whatever you do with anyone outside your husband is also your business. As long as it does not affect your work in any way I will not pry."

He sounded very sincere.

And regarding this, Lady Felicia produced a victorious smirk, "It's okay, my lord, I know you are young and have much to learn."

"But remember that it is not good to have jealousy. I'm more than willing to be your mommy and teach you these things any time you like. Just call me."

The sarcasm and joyous parade of emotions as Lady Felicia said this did not go undetected with Alexander, with Lady Felicia feeling especially elated to see the smoldering fire deep in Alexander's eyes at being implicitly called a child, feeling happy that she had at least managed to get some sort of small revenge for all the teasing she was made to endure.

If this had been anyone with a bit more temper, Lady Felicia might have had her neck snapped right here, right now.

And Alexander did have to restrain himself for a brief moment so as to not do anything irreversible.

Knock, *Knock*, *Knock*

But just as the explosive powder keg of an atmosphere was about to go bust, suddenly, by the machinations of fate, three crisp taps resounded on the door, followed immediately by Cambyse's recognizable voice,

"It's me. I'm coming in,"

Thus the tense air was inadvertently broken, as Cambyse, dressed in a dazzling red and white chiton immediately entered the room with large, strong steps without waiting for Alexander's permission.

And since Lady Felicia was so close to the door when it was strongly swung open, she was the first person Cambyse laid her eyes upon.

And was then greeted with an angry glare by the mistress of the house.

Cambyse had made it very clear that she did not like Lady Felicia, the reason plainly being, as in her words, 'She reminds me too much of Gelene.'

It had taken the smart woman three days to come to that conclusion, as opposed to Alexander's seven, showing that sometimes her nose was sharper than Alexander's.

And after that glare, Cambyses further icily added to Lady Felicia, "I'm surprised to see you are standing. I was sure I would find you on your knees, your mouth filled with my husband's cock!"

Cambyses really left no room for civility in their meeting with this lowly vulgar saying, making it crystal clear that she knew of the two's affair but did not at all approve of it.

"..." And against this hostile attack, Lady Felicia found it wise to only shut up and take it, though she did have some very choice words to describe Cambyses by in her mind, words such as: low, skank, gutter slum, etc.

But outwardly, she kept her head low and her mouth mute, for what was she going to say anyway?

She knew Cambyses was not only the headmistress of the house, and not only did she hold significant power in the form of being able to command a part of the city guards, but most importantly she was heavily favored by Alexander, having his ear almost any time of the day.

And since Cambyses had said this so loudly, the man of the house had surely heard it, and if he had wanted to object, he would have objected already.

Or rather, the lady would not have gotten the guts to say these things in the first place.

But since he did not, of course, the wisest thing for Lady Felicia was to shut up and not let this hostile force find any openings.

And this tactic worked, as seeing her opponent not take the bait but simply avoid her eyes, Cambyses, feeling victorious moved on to the real reason she was here, beelining straight towards Alexander.

"Haha, come on Cam. This is no way to speak to a guest. Lady Felicia is a highly valued member of our city" While Alexander, hearing Cambyses's harsh words did try to play the mediator, though his breezy chuckle lacked any real strength, and sounded more like a light slap on the wrist.

Cambyes had made it very clear that although she would not dictate who Alexander could or could not see and sleep with, for she did not dare try and push Alexander that far, but she would absolutely not play ball with this distasteful woman,

A statement that Alexander was helpless to accept.

Any woman was by her nature jealous, and Cambyes was too, but she was especially hostile to Lady Felicia, something which Alexander really did not get.

He had even asked her about it and Cambyes simply replied, "Instinct!"

Though they did say a woman's intuition was a sixth sense.

"Here! Congratulations!" Upon approaching the table, Cambyes held out a small rolled scroll, and hearing the words and knowing Menes was scheduled to fight soon, Alexander instantly connected the situation as his heart filled with glee, even completely forgetting the verbal battering he had suffered at Lady Felicia's hand.

He hurriedly glanced at the already opened piece and eagerly read exactly this.

'Won battle! Date:..... Men lost ~ 2,000.

Enemy ~ 40,000. Men lost 5,000 to 10,000.

Resting currently. Will soon march to the capital.

A rider will come bearing more details.

Addendum: A messenger named Manuk came from Adhania. Sent him on a boat to Thesalie.'

Alexander read and reread the tiny words on the scroll multiple times, until he almost memorized the handwriting, feeling very happy but also a bit surprised at the information.

Both his casualties and the enemy's number were much more than anticipated, especially the latter which was double than what Lord Theony had indicated to him.

And then understanding that Menes had won a brilliant victory against such an outnumbered victory, the pain of losing those 2,000 men quickly dissipated, as Alexander broke into a wide grin.

"Menes did well. Hahaha, Menes did well," Alexander felt overwhelmed as he nodded his head with a large grin, while Cambyzes followed suit, grandly claiming, "Yes, Tibias will soon be ours."

Even Lady Felicia could not help but join in with a small smile, feeling much of her current acrimony wash away.

The sooner Tibias was defeated, the safer she would be.

Chapter 829 Honey Trap

Upon receiving the news of Menes's victory and having read and confirmed it a few times, Alexander was naturally ecstatic but remarked to Cambyzes and Lady Felicia,

"Keep it a secret for now. Let us wait for the rider to come and let us know the details. Then we can announce it."

Alexander was a patient man and did not want to speak up without knowing the full contents.

He also wanted to see which opportunistic nobles had the intelligence network and mindset to flip before the time was up, for as soon as he announced the results, he was sure if not all, at least ninety percent of the nobles would flip on the spot.

Alexander reasoned that although the great news of such a huge victory could not be hidden, given the technology of the time and that they were in Thesalie, not their usual fiefdom, only the best and richest nobles would be able to confirm the result before Menes's rider arrived.

And then these nobles would have a choice.

Act on it and surrender to Alexander in exchange for the benefits he had promised for those proactive ones.

Or don't, and still hope for a miracle.

Thus in a subtle way, this was Alexander's last test to see which nobles held true power in Tibias and were eager to serve him, to try and separate the wheat from the chaff.

Of course, the two women did not understand these deep considerations and simply nodded because Alexander said so.

And with that said, Lady Felicia was allowed to excuse herself from the room, while Cambyses was tricked into taking her place by a disguised invitation from Alexander, who alleged he wanted to discuss what Amenheraft could have to talk with him.

But then of course Alexander got up to his naughty antics, happily teasing his main wife, by the end of which her lower half of the gown was literally soaking wet, courtesy of the girl being a squirter.

It was even to the point that Cambyses had to fake spilling some wine onto her dress just to escape that extreme embarrassment when she attempted to get up.

But that got a cheeky laugh from her daughter Alexandria, as she pointed her infant finger and called her mother names such as clumsy.

While the middle aged nannies pretended very hard to appear convinced that Cambyses had indeed spilled her wine and there was not another distinct smell wafting out of her, as the lady in question kept

subtly glaring hatefully at her husband, being sure this was her punishment for those remarks she had made towards Lady Felicia.

For dinner, in joy of learning of Menes's victory, Alexander asked the chefs for a rich feast that he shared with his four women.

Following which, in a rare show of instance, he took all four of them to his bedroom, enjoying them to his heart's content for hours, until he was fully sated.

And that was where Alexander currently was, reclining against the bedstand fully bare.

He had Opehenia and Gelene resting their tired heads on his broad shoulders, their abundant chest pressing against his sturdy arms, making him feel heavenly, while his own hands were on their fluffy butts, kneading and squeezing them and them purr.

Cambyses was lying on his muscled abs, eyes drooping with exhaustion after the intense act, while the petite girl Mean actually was still not done, for she had her mouth stuffed with his exhausted brother in her mouth, cleaning it and the two largely hanging jewels thoroughly, giving them a good tongue bath.

It was in this afterglow of a state that suddenly Alexander remembered his predicament and brought up Lady Felicia's matter to the four, who gave their own responses.

Mean, the least interested in politics simply did not care and continued her ministrations, like a Cheshire kitten still wanting her milk.

Ophenia, too did not respond, but more so because she was particularly exhausted.

Being the most beautiful of the four, Alexander had favored her in this session a bit too much, making her lower half be sore, while the other girls being jealous bullied her hard by playing with her piercings, with each getting to play with their own one.

Cambyses had been especially rough, playing with her clit piercing a bit too much and making Ophenia nearly faint from pain and pleasure.

So by now, the tired woman had already drifted off to a deep slumber.

But the other two were very enthusiastic at the mention, and as Alexander revealed much of findings, Cambyses, who just a moment ago appeared to be on the verge of sleep, now almost had shining lamps for eyes.

"I knew it! I told you she could not be trusted. But did listen? No.. that...."

The rant and rebuke were quite long as given the chance, this matriarch of the house did not let her husband off the hook.

While Alexander, knowing this would happen, put on a straight face and took it, internally saying to himself bitterly, 'This is why I did not want you to know.'

And it was only after Cambyses had used up all her ammo and chimed down that the bare, ebony beauty Gelene got her chance, and she actually gave useful input.

Snuggling herself even closer, she cooed, "Master, this is very easy. Just trick that man into sleeping with a whores."lights

"She can dress up in something very similar to that negligee and based on what that man says seeing it, all will be clear."

Alexander was stunned by the simplicity of the solution and turning to look at Gelene with an almost incredulous face, he blurted, "You can do that?"

"Hehehe, leave it to me, master." And pleased at the reaction, the buxom lady bared all her pearly whites, reassuring, "I have a few similar dresses in stock. And I also know a girl who is around the same figure as that Lady Felicia. With a bit of makeup and a wig, she will look just like her."

The way Gelene knew such a working girl was of course because Ophenia had asked for her help in managing that red district establishment, as its rapid growth in popularity necessitated the extra hand.

"Hahaha, great! *Pah*, great!" And this naturally pleased Alexander, as he slapped that voluminous, chocolate butt in joy, eliciting a lustful moan from the other party, who then coyly asked,

"Then... about my reward ...master."

Naturally, Gelene wanted to be remunerated for her idea.

And Alexander was never stingy with his giving, promising, "If your girl can get me the information I need, you can ask for anything within reason. Be it land, gold, jewelry, slaves."

"Great!" And the curvy lady did not stand on ceremony, accepting the offer with an elated cry and pronouncing, "Then master my fief needs some good draft animals. About one hundred. And I would also like to sleep with you every day for a week."

Her first demand went mostly unchallenged as Alexander found the price within his means, but the second one got a far more venomous snap from Cambyses, who cried in anger,

"What! You cow!"

The girls had strictly divided the seven day week with their own personal schedule for sleeping with Alexander and this proposal was clearly stepping on that.

"Hahaha, well aren't you being greedy," Knowing that Gelene was likely asking for the maximum prices here, Alexander chuckled in amusement, before bringing his other hand that was until now on Ophenia's smooth butt to pull on the ebony lady's recently pierced nipple ring, as a kind of light punishment and getting a soul stirring moan for his efforts.

Gelene had seen the other three's changes to their nipples due to their pregnancies, and then feeling she was getting left behind, decided to do this with Alexander's permission.

Towards Gelene's asking price, Alexander thought for a second, and then wanting to treat the woman, nodded with a smile, "Okay. I will give you everything you want." though there was a caveat, "But the information better be worth it."

This naturally got a cheer from Gelene followed by a promise of quality, while Cambyses sulked, primarily angry with herself that she was unable to think of the solution.

The preparation of this honey trap naturally took some, as that girl in question had to be transported from Zanzan to Theaslie, along with Gelene's dress that was in her shop.

And so Alexander waited, he sensed the air around the present nobles' subtle change.

There were far less gregarious meetings and far more whisperings and hostile looks at each other.

It seemed the results of the battle had already leaked and there were factions forming with the group.

Those who wanted to surrender.

Those who wanted to officially wait for word from Perseus.

And those who oscillated between pretending to surrender and bide their time or rebelling right now regardless of the consequences.

And over the following week, as Alexander had suspected many nobles surreptitiously came to him proclaiming their fealty in exchange for the reward, though of course, the quality of the various benefits they were given was a lot watered down.

And then around a week later, Menes's messenger at last arrived, with a very long letter that caused some headaches for Alexander.

Chapter 830 Alexander's Dilemma

In Menes's letter, aside from the details of the battle, the one other thing that he greatly emphasized on was the capture of foreign troops, which also went on to explain how Perseus was able to gather double the estimated force.

In that letter, the general highlighted the finding of many dead bodies bearing telltale signs of armor designs identical to Thesos as well as the capture and confessions of many such men, who all claimed to be from various city states, and were sent here by their rulers to help Perseus defend the homeland of all Thesians.

All those men spoke with very distinct dialects and had unique gestures and clothing that gave irrefutable evidence of their identity.

And as Alexander read this, he found a loophole in this thinking, a possibility that he had not considered.

It had not even entered his mind that wars were not necessarily a two man's game, in fact, it rarely ever was.

But because Alexander mostly fought alone, with only the occasional mercenary support from Pasha Farzah, he had assumed the other side would too.

That was a mistake and a flaw that was further highlighted upon reading the latter part of the letter, which described how there were also forces belonging to Amenheraft, particularly Matbar (Marquiss) Kyuam in that attack too.

Menes had managed to capture not only trained soldiers but also a few high level officers, who were low tier nobles like Shordars (Barons) and Talukders (Viscounts).

But according to the generals, none of these men agreed to speak anything useful, like why they were here and why they were fighting on the side of Adhania's hated rival.

Even when Menes tried to gaud them by saying things like, "Amenheraft's lackeys have truly fallen far. To be even licking the feet of Tibias. Heh! Aren't you supposed to be proud nobles? Why are you so ashamed of the things you did?"

They revealed nothing, only repeating the name of their house and lineage and demanding to be treated accordingly.

"Send word to my family. They will pay the ransom. Till then we demand to be treated as befits our station."

Seemed to be their standard answer.

And due to their identity, Menes was wary of trying more extreme methods without Alexander's permission.

This news came as a much more unexpected revelation to Alexander and one that made him restless.

He did not know what to do with it.

On one hand, he felt that he should rejoice, as this meant that once he was done with Tibias, rather than keep his army idle, he could use this situation as a caucus belli to attack that Matbar (Marquiss) who was situated to his west.

Alexander would admit he had been eyeing those territories for quite some time now.

And it was not because they were particularly valuable or anything.

Rather, it was because the lands of Matbar (Marquiss) Kyuam were really boxed in from all sides.

To his north was Ptolomy's Adhan, and to his east was Alexander, while his west and south were the ocean.

Meaning if Alexander were to attack, there would be little chance of the man receiving any outside reinforcements, at least by land.

Furthermore, using the presence of these Adhanian troops, Alexander could discredit Perseus, by showing to the people and more importantly the nobles that their king was little more than a puppet serving Amenheraft.

These were the upsides.

As for the downside, it was obvious- the appearance of many more troops that he would have to grind through.

One should never underestimate the number of men even a Matbar (Marquiss) of a huge and populace country like Adhania could summon.

Also, just because Alexander could obtain a caucus belli from this did not mean he could use it without any worry, for Amenheraft was not necessarily going to simply clap his cheeks and accept Alexander eating a powerful man of his faction.

The self proclaimed king could certainly decide to intervene even at the risk of tearing the treaty.

Thus Alexander wondered, 'Where is Manuk? Why isn't he here yet? Shouldn't he be here by now, meeting with me to discuss these things?'

'Did his boat run into some kind of trouble? But the weather has been pristine and the rivers calm as a lake.'

Given the fast boat, Menes said he had given Manuk, it should have taken the man at best three days to reach the city.

Now it has already been a week.

Thus, worried about the delay, Alexander sent out scouts that very day, and within two days they returned with news.

They of course did not find Manuk, but the sharp noses of these hunters aided by locals did manage to sniff out the wreckages of several burnt boats, and a subsequent dive around those areas quickly revealed burnt, eaten by fish corpses, still wearing that telltale Zanzan chainmail, leaving no one in doubt to their identity.

'He killed them? But why?' And upon receiving the report, Alexander wondered so.

He was unable to understand Manuk's rationale for killing some regular, no named grunts.

And the reason for his confusion was because he did not know about the rift that had opened up between Manuk and Perseus.

The result of their thorough break meant that their cooperation had come to a screeching halt, which naturally meant Manuk would not be sending any more soldiers to Tibias.

Hence the smart priest saw no reason to waste his efforts discussing ransoms and prisoner transfer with Alexander.

For there was no need for Matbar (Marquiss) Kyuam's services and thus no need for him to get the man's soldiers back for him.

Diplomatically it was far more advantageous to simply act like these soldiers never existed as this way, Manuk and Amenheraft could clean themselves of all responsibility by simply claiming it all Matbar (Marquiss) Kyuam and his retainers' personal idea, who acted on their own accord.

As for whatever happened to the captured belonging to Matbar (Marquiss) Kyuam, well that was his and Alexander's headache, not Manuk's or Amenheraft's.

Ah, the tragedy of being only a pawn.

But unaware of all this, Alexander spent two whole days swimming in confusion, trying to solve this problem from every angle he could think of.

He even considered the possibility that there might be someone of very special status among ten men and fifteen sailors, being disguised like that and that Manuk's true target was them.

But he of course came up empty handed.

And then, seeing no solution in sight, ultimately decided to give up, opting to send a messenger bird to Adhan, briefly explaining the situation to the court and asking particularly Pasha Farzah for insight on how to proceed.

And with that done, he turned to more important things he had to attend to.

Such as the capture of Parthenigh- The capital of Tibias

Alexander had already ordered the capture of the city as soon as Menes felt he was ready, and in the letter, the sturdy man had mentioned that by the time Alexander reads the letter he would be in front of its walls.

And that given Perseus's defeat, as well as the catapults they carried, the walls would not be hard to take.

Hence Menes invited Alexander to set for Parthenigh as early as possible.

And Alexander felt inclined to accept the offer. For it would be of great propaganda value.

And when planning for it, Alexander also decided to take the Tibian nobles here in Thesalie with him, as a way of showing off to them, to cement in their memory of Alexander stepping with their capital and claiming it for himself.

Furthermore that way, Alexander could also show the captured prisoners to them and let

them decide who they want to follow.

Hence, with an escort of 5,000 soldiers, Alexander decided to take a huge fleet of boats down the River Diannu, expecting to reach the capital within a week at the latest.

But before that, he had to solve one last problem, that one matter about Lapitus and Lady Felicia.

Gelene had informed him that the working girl had arrived, and so one opportune night, Alexander arranged for a feast with Lapitus and some of his offices, the official reason being that since he was about to depart for the capital, he wanted to have one last party with them, to bond with them and make sure they would properly garrison Thesalie while he was away.

While in reality, Alexander wanted to get Lapitus drunk and then throw him into the hands of the girl Gelene brought and wait to see her do her magic.

This was quite a common practice as lords and army commanders rewarded their subordinates as such.

So Alexander was sure this would not raise any suspicion.

An assumption that actually proved to be wrong as when Lady Felicia first heard of this, she had first urged her husband to not go.

'Say you are sick!' She had whined in a soul stirring way.

But in one of those rare instances, she had failed in her persuasion, for Lapitus pointed out, "If I do not go to that feast and feign sickness, I will no longer be the garrison commander. The pasha will surely choose someone healthier."

And thus the dice of fate rolled.