

Last Days 221

Chapter 221 Contract Scrolls

"Did something happen?" Samuel asked as he sheathed his sword back.

"You don't have to look like you're seeing an enemy, Sam." Stephen looked at his friend helplessly. "I just want to ask what do you know about beast master."

"Beast master?" Samuel arched his eyebrows. "Are you worried about Murin? Don't worry, if he still wanted to stay in the Magic Association, he had to learn to curb himself and did not cross the lines anymore."

Because if Murin dared to do that again, it was estimated that there would be more and more people who would protest against the Magic Association. At this stage, Magic Association and Martial Arts Association needed to recruit more people first.

After all, they needed to collect resources and without members to help them, they couldn't really do anything effectively.

Murin should also understand that since he was not the only person who returned from that world, he was not the strongest. The greatest advantage of a beast master was the fact that they could fight together with their magic beasts. But at the same time, their greatest weakness was their own bodies.

There might be some magic beasts who were also relatively strong but most of the time, the beast masters were not very strong.

After all, the magic contract would make their abilities rely more on their magic beasts.

Unless they could modify those contracts, then it would be possible for them to become much stronger. But from what Samuel knew, it was hard for them to modify those contracts.

Though, he didn't know the exact details.

After all, Samuel was not a beast master.

"No, it's not about him." Stephen shook his head. Being friends with Samuel for a long time, he also understood that Samuel's strength was far above Murin. If there was anyone who should worry, that would be Murin.

Because if Murin dared to come here again, it was estimated that Samuel would greet him with his sword.

"It's about my sister. She formed a magic contract with Melly... in case you forget, she's our family's dog."

Samuel was stunned and then asked, "How did you form the contract?"

"A magic scroll?" Stephen replied, his tone was not entirely sure. "She said that Riya gave her a magic scroll that would allow her to establish an equal contact with magic beasts. If she wanted to use it, she just have to tore it apart."

Sophia didn't have any mana before.

Now that she had formed contract with Melly, Stephen could faintly feel that both Sophia's physical strength and mana had grown tremendously. It might not be comparable to him yet, but if Melly continued to get stronger, she might even surpass him.

Moreover, Sophia would not assume the position of a frontline fighter or warrior.

She would stay at the back and command Melly to do things that she wanted to do. In this way, Sophia's strength was actually enough.

"Magic scroll... ah, the contract scroll..." Samuel's lips twitched.

He felt that the more he knew Riya, the more he felt that there was nothing that Riya didn't know.

Oh wrong, she didn't know how to practice to become warrior.

Because her path was not that of a warrior.

Samuel knew very well that beast master had to learn the contract formation if they wanted to form a contract with magic beasts. But for some people who had no talent to become magician at all, they would have to buy the contract scroll.

If Samuel was not wrong, there were two types of contract scroll. First was the master and slave contract and the other one was the equal contract.

The master and slave contract was cheaper but the chance of failure was also greater.

Because it was basically forcing the magic beast to submit to them. And those who used the contract scrolls were usually ordinary people.

Magic beasts might not have that much intelligence, but they have their own pride or perhaps arrogance would be more accurate. How could they be willing to submit to someone weaker than them?

Thus, the chance of failure was usually higher than 90%.

The other one was the equal contract, which was the magic contract that formed equal relationship between the magic beast and their master. This contract required them to communicate with the magic beast and if they couldn't convince the magic beast to form the contract, it would end up in failure.

Most of the time, it would be easier for them to form an equal contract with a magic beast that they had emotional bonds with.

For example, Sophia and Melly.

The two of them were close because Sophia basically raised Melly and always played with her dog during vacation. In this way, it would be easier for Sophia to form a contract with Melly.

Of course, not all beast master would use that contract scrolls.

Those who had learned meditation and has mana would prefer to form their own contract through making the formation themselves. The formation was not difficult and even for rune master and formation master, they could learn it at rank 1.

So if they wanted to do it themselves, all they have to do was to make sure their mana reached the rank 1 standard and then studied the formation.

And then they had to make the contract.

There were also many magic tools and potions that could help them to forcefully reach rank 1. Even if those things were also quite expensive, but for those with low to nonexistent talent, it was also an option.

Otherwise, they would have to buy these contract scrolls.

And those contract scrolls were not cheap either.

"I see..." Samuel nodded thoughtfully.

If Riya knew how to make those contract scrolls, she could basically sold them to allow many people to become beast master.

When Samuel thought about this, his expression turned strange.

It seemed that if Riya wanted to, she could absolutely promote magic in the entire world singlehandedly.

Chapter 222 Bicker

While Riya didn't know any warrior's path and their training, but in terms of magic, Riya's knowledge was really vast.

Perhaps there were many magicians who were more powerful and more knowledgeable than her in that world. But in this world, Samuel believed that Riya's knowledge was one of the greatest that existed in the entire Green Planet.

This was also the first time Samuel realized that rune master's profession was really good.

It could be used in various fields.

Though, the intersection might not be that big but allowing people to become beast master... it was clearly one of the few things that many people in Green Planet valued the most right now.

Because once they found out that they couldn't become magician, they would have to turn to become warrior.

But what if their talent to become warrior was also low?

Moreover, training to become warrior was not that easy either.

And then there was another path, which was to become beast masters through using the scroll...

Samuel was sure that many ordinary people would flock to Riya without hesitation just for the sake of that magic scroll.

'But Murin might intervene.'

After all, what Murin could teach was the authentic method to become beast master. Through making their own formation, they could become beast master and there was no need for them to look for the magic scroll.

It was just that... they had to become magician first.

Samuel was silent for a moment.

Forget it.

This was not his business.

Besides, Riya didn't really state that she wanted to promote this method. And Samuel had already made Riya angry when he tested her out. If he cheekily came to her and asked for this method...

Samuel was sure that a magic spell would be blasted to his face.

"Samuel?" Stephen saw that Samuel was in deep thought and couldn't help but call out. He didn't want to spend a long time waiting for Samuel to come back.

"Yes?" Samuel asked back and then apologized, "Sorry, I was thinking about something else. Is there anything else you want to ask?"

Stephen rolled his eyes. "I want to know if you know any method to test Melly's aptitude."

Ah...

Samuel could guess why Stephen wanted to ask about this matter.

After all, Melly is now Sophia's magic beast. If Melly could get stronger faster, it was estimated that Sophia would be pushed to the forefront.

But if Melly's aptitude was low, then Sophia could play soy sauce at the back and didn't have to face so many things.

Samuel arched his eyebrows. "Do you want specific answer or... do you want to be told in accordance to your wish?"

"I want the truth." Stephen took a deep breath. "She deserved to know the truth of her potential and how high she can reach. As for what she will do afterwards, it's up to her and I'll listen to her."

Hearing Stephen's words, Samuel nodded. "You're a good brother."

"Heh." Stephen chuckled. "I care for my sister but I can't control her life. Anyway, there'll be time when she has to live her own life. For now, the only thing I can do is to help her to the best of my ability."

Samuel nodded and looked at Stephen thoughtfully. "You're also more suitable to become a magician rather than magic warrior, Stephen."

When he tested their aptitude back then, Samuel noticed that Stephen and Ruben were more suitable to become magicians while his two younger siblings and Arnold were more suitable to become magic warriors. Unfortunately, there were not methods to become magician that reached high enough rank, so Samuel let them become magic warrior temporarily.

Stephen arched his eyebrows. "Do you have a way?"

"Yes... technically." Samuel rubbed his chin. "But you might have to sell cuteness."

Stephen: "..."

Bang!

"Speak human, you b*stard!"

Samuel laughed when he saw Stephen got angry and then explained that Riya is a pure magician. If he or Ruben could become her disciple, then they might be able to get that meditation technique.

But...

"Doesn't that mean I'll be one generation lower than you?" Stephen looked at Samuel dangerously. He felt that his friend was really unreliable.

"Otherwise?" Samuel shrugged. "Any meditation technique that crossed rank 4 is not something that you can buy. Even if you sold your body, I don't think you can get it."

Sold his body?

Stephen looked at Samuel unkindly. "How about if I sell you to her instead?"

Samuel: "..."

Bang!

The two of them fought again.

And of course, Stephen was completely rubbed to the ground by Samuel.

"You're the one who need the meditation technique, so you think of a way yourself." Samuel snorted.
"Becoming her disciple wouldn't really cost you anything either."

"Is it?"

Stephen sighed and then shrugged. "It's still another matter whether she wants a disciple. What if she wants a slave instead?"

"Then you can become her slave."

Bang!

For the third time, the two of them fought.

Amelia, who passed by the backyard, was speechless when she saw the fight between these two people.

She felt that Brother Stephen was really stupid. He knew that he was not a match to Samuel but he still dared to fight him.

Why not like her?

She would only fight with Sean because she might beat her younger brother.

If it was Samuel... Amelia naturally didn't dare.

After seeing that these two people were still fighting fiercely, Amelia silently retreated. She had no intention of staying here any longer in case her brother felt that beating Stephen was not enough and wanted to find another person to be beaten up.

"Huh... you're really strong." Stephen rubbed his hand helplessly.

Samuel rolled his eyes and then said, "Come to the research institute tomorrow with Melly and Sophia. I'll bring Riya there to check Melly's condition."

"Ok." Stephen smiled.

As for the matter of the magician's meditation technique?

Well, just forget it.

Stephen couldn't really bring himself to apprentice himself to someone younger than him.

Chapter 223 Melly will always be the best in my heart~

The next day, Riya looked at Samuel who looked for her early in the morning speechlessly.

She wanted to run away and didn't want to interact with him but after Samuel mentioned about Sophia and Melly, Riya had to stop.

"Sophia form the contract with Melly?" Riya asked, a bit surprised, but at the same time, she was also happy.

Because Riya had the feeling that the world would become more dangerous in the future. She hoped that her friends would have some methods to protect themselves.

So far, Amelia was under the care of Samuel, so her strength would definitely get stronger in time.

Of course, Amelia's laziness was still a problem.

Thankfully, she has a competitive nature against her younger brother, so the two of them were making trouble and making progress together.

Ruby was in the research institute and Riya guessed that Ruby should not want to follow the path of training to become stronger. Perhaps, she would spend some time meditating but her focus would be researching.

Considering that the researchers might become important position in the future, Riya chose to leave her be.

After that, there was also Sophia.

For Sophia, Riya was not entirely sure which path was suitable until she saw the interaction between Sophia and Melly. A beast master would be the best path since it didn't require Sophia to train by herself.

With Sophia's personality that liked to play even more than Amelia, Riya felt that it would be the best.

Because she only needed to do what she loved to do.

As for Victoria...

Riya was not entirely sure.

After all, she was not too close to Victoria and the latter didn't usually spend time with her when they were in the university back then. So Riya chose to wait and see if there was any suitable path for Victoria in the future.

For now, she would let her live her own life first.

"Yes." Samuel nodded. "Stephen asks me to help their family check Melly's aptitude. It's not that easy to check a magic beast's potential, so I hope you can come along to see."

Riya showed a thoughtful look. "How do you plan to test it?"

"Test the speed and power of Melly. Afterwards, I'll check the mana concentration within her blood."

There were not many things that they could do. But with some data, Samuel should be able to know how strong Melly is.

"Check her reaction speed too," Riya added. "Melly might need to fight on the frontline a lot, so if her reaction speed is not fast enough, she might die. A good magic beast should be able to do it."

Samuel nodded. "Sure."

"In that case, let me bring Mo to come along." Riya thought about her white tiger. "He might provide a good comparison. This white tiger's strength is only around rank 1 magic beast but he's growing very quickly."

Well, he was growing up quickly because Riya fed him a lot of magic beasts' corpses.

In that small space, Mo has been feasting since yesterday. Thanks to that, his strength and mana had grown considerably.

After that, Riya helped Mo to digest quickly.

"Ok."

Samuel readily agreed.

In this way, the two of them made their way to the research institute with Mo following behind them. Amelia was actually curious too but her brother provoked her again, making her choose to go to work instead.

Riya looked at the two siblings and felt amused with this interaction.

Every day was very lively because of Amelia and Sean.

Sophia and Stephen were already waiting at the research institute along with Melly, who was busy scratching the dog pillow handed to him. The doll was completely destroyed because Melly's strength had increased and Melly couldn't control his strength well and just have fun.

"Brother Samuel, Riya," Sophia greeted the two people with a smile.

"It seems Melly is still no different from before." Riya chuckled and rubbed Melly's head.

Woof! <Of course! Melly is the best!>

roar <Master! Why don't you pay more attention to me?>

The white tiger behind Riya looked at his master aggrievedly. Unfortunately, he didn't form any contract with Riya, so the other party couldn't understand what he was saying.

"You have a tiger?" Sophia was stunned and then her eyes flashed with interest. If it was not because her brother said that it was dangerous, Sophia had long wanted to keep various species of pets at home.

Now that she saw a white tiger... she suddenly want more pets.

woof! <Master, do you not want me anymore?>

Melly suddenly came to Sophia and clung her paws on her shoulder, acting like a baby. From its aggrieved tone, it seemed as if Sophia wanted to abandon it. The contract allowed Melly to sense the fondness Sophia emanated for the white tiger.

So she felt threatened.

Sophia patted Melly and rubbed her head tenderly. "Don't worry, Melly will always be the best in my heart~."

The others: "..."

They looked at the dog speechlessly.

The white tiger belonged to Riya and she definitely wouldn't give it to Sophia. The sudden jealousy from Melly was definitely unnecessary.

"This is your magic beast?" Stephen asked as he looked at Mo behind Riya. The white tiger looked quite docile but he had seen those magic beasts outside.

If these magic beasts were not convinced, they would never look like such a harmless creature.

"Yes." Riya nodded and rubbed Mo's head. "His name is Mo and he's my mount."

Mount...

The others looked at the white tiger and then thought about themselves. They felt that cars, motorcycles or others were still better.

If Riya were to know what they were thinking, she would tell them that Mo can go faster than those vehicles.

There was no doubt about that!

"Alright, Mo and Melly will be tested in the underground base," Samuel said. "Follow me."

No one else in this room had access to that place, so he had to be the one to bring them there.

Chapter 224 Magic Beast's Examination

"The research institute is already very complete?" Stephen asked, a bit surprised.

"No, but it's being expanded as of now carefully," Samuel replied. "And we're using materials constructed with magic to supplement some areas so that it could withstand the fierce testing."

They took elevator and Samuel swiped his card before a few additional button at the bottom came out. He clicked one of them.

Riya looked at this and fell into silence.

Sometimes, she forgot that the technology advancement in Continent Z was actually quite good. But many things were not available for the public yet and could only be used by some people with certain profession.

This secret floor was one of them.

Ding!

They reached the floor and Samuel came out with the others following him. The hall was a still a bit messy with some things stacked at one side but the other areas were very clean. There were also a few people in lab coat already waiting for them.

"Which one will go first?" Samuel asked.

"Wait, can you tell me the content of the test?" Sophia asked, feeling a bit uneasy. She didn't want Melly to be subjected to any strange test. After all, she loves Melt so much.

"It's just speed test, strength test, and reaction test," Samuel replied. "Later on, we'll draw some blood to test the mana concentration. Blood test is not very accurate but this is the only method."

After that, Samuel explained that the strength test was only to test Melly hitting some materials from the relatively fragile to somethings that were more compact. Through the depth of the death and other marks, they would be able to estimate Melly's strength.

The speed test was even more simpler because Melly only have to run in the specified treadmill that had been prepared.

The last one, it would require Melly to avoid incoming light within a small circle and see how many times she was hit.

"Oh."

The detailed explanation made Sophia relieved and thus, she instructed Melly to listen.

The others watched at the side.

"Hmm, it's not bad." Samuel looked at the data in his hand with surprise. He turned to look at Sophia. "How many non elemental magic core did Melly take?"

"Two in total," Sophia replied.

"It's good. The strength and speed are comparable to rank 1 magic beast, to be exact, her strength had reached the middle rank," Samuel said and after thinking for a moment, he added, "From the way it looks like, Melly's speed is higher and her strength is lacking, so it should be heading towards speed based magic beast."

"I see." Sophia smiled brightly when she heard this.

Speed is good.

Because this meant that if Melly couldn't beat her opponent, she can order Melly to run away.

"When magic beasts grow up, they will also grow bigger. So you don't have to be surprised if Melly become even bigger than a tiger," Samuel added.

Even bigger than a tiger?

Sophia blinked her eyes and turned to look at Mo not far from them. Does it mean that Melly might surpass Mo's size in the future? For some reason, Sophia anticipated that moment.

"As for reaction speed... it's a bit lacking." Samuel looked at the data and saw that Melly got hit many times. He looked at Sophia helplessly. "If you want her to fight on the frontline, you need to train her."

"Ah... got it." Sophia blushed.

Melly used to be nothing more than a pet, so they didn't care that much about her fitness. As long as Melly was healthy, it was good enough.

But now that they wanted to let Melly fight against other magic beasts...

Yeah, she had to get stronger.

"Two non elemental magic core and it's already the middle rank 1?" Riya's expression was a bit strange when she listened to this. She murmured in her heart and silently looked at Mo.

If she was not wrong, Mo ate several more magic cores, right?

After all, Riya never slacked off in giving Mo resources.

How come Mo needed more resources?

"Next is just to draw some blood. Is Mo ready?" Samuel nodded and then looked at Riya.

"He's ready."

Riya patted Mo and pushed him forward

roar!

Mo shook his body in dissatisfaction but he still stepped forward and followed the instruction like Melly. But from his performance alone, it was clear that he crushed Melly in all aspects. The speed alone was more than double Melly but his strength was nearly four times of Melly.

Melly, who was quite proud with her strength advancement, fell into silent when she saw this.

It seemed that she was too arrogant.

Woof! <Master, I'll grow to become stronger than him.>

"I believe you." Sophia smiled and rubbed her dog's head. She looked at Mo on the field and then asked, "Is he already rank 2?"

"...No." Riya shook her head and finally understood why it seemed strange that Melly was far weaker than Mo but still categorized as middle rank 1 magic beast. "Sophia, let Melly eat the magic beast's meat more. Only using the magic core will mainly increase the mana. While the overall performance seems good, the stamina is actually lacking."

"Ah?" Sophia was stunned.

Samuel seemed to understand what Riya was saying and added, "The performance of Melly is fluctuating during the strength and speed test, which meant that her control over her strength was not stable. The peak performance was comparable to middle rank 1 but the average is still at early rank 1."

"Can you help me train her?" Sophia asked with a frown. She looked at Melly and was unsure how to train her dog.

"Well, you can train her like how those competition dog train pets," the researchers gave suggestion from the side. "Let me show you..."

With that, Sophia ran to the side and looked at the series of training methods that the researchers had complied.

Before this, they had known that they would test some magic beasts.

And these magic beasts belonged to some people in City A Base.

They were also not from the Magic Association.

So many people were excited and naturally made thorough preparation.

Chapter 225 Magic Beast's Examination (2)

While Sophia was busy looking at the training pamphlet, Stephen thought of something and looked at Riya. "How did you train your white tiger?"

"I let him fight against magic beasts," Riya replied simply. "I don't do other training aside from letting him eat a lot of magic beast' meat and also helped him to digest through sparring with him."

Anyway, just a few magic spells were enough to bombard Mo.

Poor Mo had to train in the space after he had finished eating to consume the mana and energy that he had absorbed into his strength as fast as possible.

Riya glanced at Stephen. "Don't replicate it. Sophia won't be able to do it and Melly might not survive with her current reaction speed."

"I know." Stephen nodded.

It seemed that they had to take one step at a time.

But it was good.

Soon, the testing was over and Mo's rank was officially the late stage of rank 1. Looking at the magic beast that was already at the peak of rank 1 and themselves who were only at middle rank 1 at best, Stephen suddenly felt that he was not as good as a magic beast.

It seemed that he had to train harder after he got back.

Stephen decided to reduce his work and focused more on his training. He believed that his parents should understand why he made this decision.

"The blood tests are done." Samuel looked at the test result and said, "The mana concentration in Melly is still relatively low, so she's officially at the early stage of rank 1. On the other hand, Mo's mana concentration is really high, so he'll be stated at the late stage of rank 1."

To be honest, Samuel wanted to say that this amount should be enough for peak rank 1, but Riya shook her head.

Her meaning was clear: Mo should not be placed too high.

So Samuel made this evaluation.

"Good." Sophia smiled and then asked, "And how do you know how good her potential is?"

If she was not wrong, Stephen said that they would test Melly's potential, right?

"I don't have any other method." Samuel glanced at Riya.

He didn't know any methods to test the potential of a magic beast. What he knew was the strength of each magic beast's rank and thus, he would let them test the strength and so on.

But for how high Melly could reach in the future...

Samuel didn't know.

"Well, let's see your element first, Melly." Riya coughed and stepped forward in front of Melly. "Sophia, let Melly release her mana."

After she said that, Riya took out a clear jade from her world that has been cut into the shape of a cube. She placed it below Melly's paw and then looked at Sophia.

"Ah, ok."

Sophia quickly communicated with Melly while Riya looked at the jade in her hand.

What Melly took was the non elemental magic core, which allowed the mana it absorb to be in accordance to what suit her the best. So Riya prepared this elemental testing cube that had been engraved with runes.

It was just that the runes were carved on the surface but it still looked extremely clear.

Swish!

Color came from inside, swirling for a moment.

Riya nodded and said, "You can stop now."

Woof <Wow! There are more colors!>

Melly was attracted to the colors in the cube while Riya looked at Sophia and smiled faintly. "She's of wind and earth element. When you feed her, try to give her the meat of wind and earth element magic beast for the best development."

Sophia nodded, her eyes were firmly locked on the cube. "That's..."

"This is just a simple mana element detector," Riya replied. "Do you want to test your mana? Since you formed a contract with Melly, your mana element should be the same, though."

"I want to!"

With that, the jade cube switched hands and Sophia looked at the jade that was empty once more before injecting her mana. The mana stayed for a moment and turned into two colors just like before.

If one didn't know better, they would think that it was Melly who injected her mana again.

"It's really the same...."

While Sophia was attracted by the cube, Stephen looked at Riya and asked, "Is there any way to know what height Melly could reach in the future?"

"Unfortunately, I can't tell you for sure." Riya shook her head. The animals in the Green Planet was different from that world. She was not entirely sure how high Melly could reach in the future.

But from what she had seen, both Mo and Melly seemed to be pretty good.

How high they reached in the future would also depend on how they were raised, though. After all, a good environment

"But most of the time, magic beasts can reach rank 4 within short period of time as long as they're given enough resources," Riya added.

"Wait, really?" Stephen was stunned.

Samuel nodded. "As long as they're not the type of magic beasts that couldn't absorb mana well, they will be able to reach rank 4 within a year's time. And from how Melly performed just now, she should be able to reach this rank."

Many magic beasts would be able to reach rank 4 as long as they were given enough resources and time.

This was one of the reasons why he wanted to hunt those magic beasts outside when there was still time and these magic beasts were not very powerful. Because if he did nothing and allowed these magic beasts to grow, it would be too late for them to respond at that time.

As for how strong the magic beasts would be, Samuel didn't know.

"Is rank 4 powerful?" Sophia asked as she turned to look back at Samuel and Riya. She didn't have clear concept of how powerful a rank 4 is.

"A rank 4 magic beast is capable of destroying a building," Riya said. "That should be the easiest explanation."

Chapter 226 Magic Beast's Examination (3)

Destroying a building?

When Sophia heard that, her eyes widened in surprise. "Isn't it very powerful?"

She had seen Amelia made a move but it was nothing more than causing some marks on the ground.

As for destroying a building?

Amelia was far from it.

Samuel thought for a moment and said, "Some rank 4 magic beasts can also destroy nearly half a city depending on their abilities. Of course, training and proper magic is required, but most of them are quite powerful."

What he didn't add was the fact that there were higher ranked magic beasts and magic warriors who were more powerful.

He had seen them flattening mountain, destroying an entire island, and so on in that world. It could be said that for those high ranked magic warrior, changing landscape was nothing more than a flip of their hands.

But for them to reach that height, there were a lot of hardship on the way.

"I got it." Sophia looked at Melly with some anticipation. She wondered how strong Melly would be in the future.

Riya smiled faintly and rubbed Mo, who was looking in her direction. Since Mo evolved from ordinary animals to become a magic beast, it had never seen the real power of higher ranked magic beasts.

"Don't worry. With me here, you will be able to reach higher rank," Riya whispered.

Even if Riya didn't know how to nurture magic beasts, she had a lot of resources. She was confident enough to raise Mo to become a powerful magic beast in the future.

Hearing this, Stephen nodded thoughtfully and said, "I'll bring them back and talked with the elders."

He felt that he had to have a good talk with his family about Sophia and Melly. Even though rank 4 might not be that powerful in the future, that rank should be more than enough to protect the younger generations.

Besides, how many people could reach rank 4 so quickly?

"Ok."

"One more question, which one can grow faster, magic beasts or human?" Stephen suddenly asked.

Samuel arched his eyebrows. "Depends on how much resources you invest, either one of them can be faster."

In other words, if they invest more resources, Melly could even advance faster than humans. Just like how Melly reached rank 1 in a short few days. If she had more non elemental magic core and also eat magic beasts' meat...

She would be able to reach rank 2 within a months' time.

"Got it." Stephen nodded and beckoned for Sophia to follow him.

Sophia could guess from her brother's expression that her life might not be the same from now on. Thinking about this, Sophia only smiled faintly.

She's ready.

From the moment she made a contract with Melly, she knew this possibly exist and she would listen to them.

The two Carson's siblings left.

Neither Riya or Samuel had any interest to know what the Carson Family would do.

Riya took the cube back amidst the fiery gaze of the two researchers. It was clear that if they didn't know how strong Riya was, they would have long wanted to snatch the cube for further study.

"Let's go back."

"Yes."

The two of them had no interest to stay in the research institute any longer. Riya played with the jade cube in her hand for a moment before putting it away before they stepped out of the research institute.

"You have many things that many people might covet, Riya," Samuel suddenly said. "It's better to be more careful."

"I'm already careful enough." Riya glanced at Samuel and then said, "Besides, don't you have something similar?"

Magic element's detection was not exactly a rare thing. Besides, this device could only detect one's magic element after they have already meditated, which was actually quite tasteless.

Because this couldn't detect one's talent.

Samuel arched his eyebrows and asked, "Why did you think that way?"

"Because you know your friends and sibling's element."

"Ah..." Samuel nodded thoughtfully but didn't explain to Riya. He didn't really use any tools but only use his element familiarity after they have meditated and produced result.

In a way, it could be said that he was using human's detection.

The two of them stopped talking and Riya looked into the distance. It seemed some people were making trouble there.

"I have replaced the people who guard the inner area," Samuel said slowly. "They will no longer betray the people here so easily."

Those people who were not doing their work properly were already laid off. Samuel had no need for people who didn't know what was good for them.

"Ok." Riya nodded.

She was not very interested in this matter.

But it was good if there would be less people who could bother her.

She hoped that her father would not come here and made trouble like how her mother did. It would be very troublesome for her if those two people came to find her in the future.

Because Riya didn't really want to kill them unless it was necessary.

And even if she did... she had to do it covertly.

After reaching the Jones Family, Samuel looked at Riya deeply and said, "If you need more resources for Mo, you can ask and you don't have to come out so often."

Riya looked at Samuel with surprise. "I have enough for the time being, Senior Samuel."

"That..."

"I know I shouldn't come out so often."

Anyway, the research institute was still in the inner area.

Samuel could only nod when he saw Riya's attitude.

"If there's nothing else, I'll go back to my room, Senior Samuel."

Samuel had nothing else to say to Riya, so he nodded. The two went their separate way as Samuel headed to his practice room while Riya went back to her room and continued her daily activities and only came out occasionally.

In this way, half a month passed by peacefully until they heard news from other bases. News that there was a problem with the water source.

Chapter 227 Contamination

During this period of time, Riya spent most of her time drawing talisman and also meditating. She had reached the peak of rank 4 and would reach rank 5 soon, but it would still need some time, depending on her meditation and resources.

Samuel had already reported about the crack and the situation inside, but the people above couldn't really spend time to care for this.

Just taking care of the bases alone were already difficult.

They didn't have time to care for the cracks.

The situation stabilized in the past week and Riya heard that Samuel planned to go to the crack.

But before it could be implemented, they heard earth shattering news.

There was problem with the water source.

"What's wrong with the water?" Amelia asked during breakfast, holding her glass but didn't dare to drink the water inside. She felt that she might die from drinking it.

Samuel looked at Amelia's posture and rolled his eyes. "The water you drank came from the magic core, so it would not have any problem. The problem is in various water sources in many cities."

In the first place, it was not that easy to get clean water. The earthquake had destroyed many underground channels and there was no factory working anymore. Who knows how many things have been destroyed by the earthquake before.

One thing for sure, there were many of them.

Riya looked at the distance and then asked, "The violent mana seeped into the ground and contaminated the water?"

Her sentence seemed like a question but her tone sounded more like a statement. Because this was something that had happened in that world too. The death of so many magic beasts contaminated the water, making it hard for them to drink clean water.

Because of this, they could only take water from the designated well that had formation placed inside. The formation would filter the water they drank, allowing them to drink clean water.

Of course, for those who had money, they would rather choose the water from magic core.

Because they knew that water that was formed from magic core was 1000 times better than the water from those wells.

The formation could only filter the water to a certain degree but part of the contamination would still enter their body. This would not cause any problem in short term but long term consumption could affect their bodies.

When Riya entered that world, she had traveled to various places and learned about this matter.

After all, she was not rich.

But after she found out the side effect of the well water, she forcefully learn the water runes and bought water magic core for her drink. She didn't dare to use those well water. In emergency situation, she could even conjure water with her magic spells instead.

It was safer too.

"Yes." Mr. Jones looked at Samuel helplessly. "The magic core is leaked out and now some people are clamoring for us to share with them."

After that short beast tide, there were more rank 1 magic core and Riya formed runes on them. This allowed City A Base to have a lot of water and this water was used for consumption of people in inner area.

Their own family was even more lavish because they have a personal water magic core for drinking at home.

"No." Samuel shook his head. "It's not possible for us to give those magic cores."

He knew very well how precious resources would be.

The earthquake had destroyed many places and it was hard for them to find clean food and water. Now that the ground was also contaminated... It would be even harder for them to live.

First of all, they had to solve the problem of the water sources for the people in City A Base.

So far, they have only used the water from the magic core for the people in inner area. For the people outside?

They take water from the mountain.

There were not much problem so far but who know how long this would last.

"What's your plan?"

"Ask them to try distill the water first." Samuel pursed his lips and then said, "And doesn't the people from the Magic Association had an answer how to solve this problem?"

The people from the Magic Association?

Mr. Jones' lips twitched. "I think you should not hope anything from them."

From what he knew, the people from the Magic Association was very selfish. Even if they could produce water, they might not be able to provide enough for the entire world. Besides, does the people from the Magic Association knew how to form these runes?

He had never heard about it.

"First of all, it's impossible to transport the water from City A Base to the entire world." Samuel looked at his father blankly. "And do you think that other places aside from ours didn't have any other methods to solve it?"

Mr. Jones sighed. "The problem is that in some areas, there are people going crazy and the professors stated that it came from the water. Some people with weaker bodies would be affected and then become crazy."

Crazy?

Riya arched her eyebrows.

She knew that what contained in the water was not only the violent type of mana that these magic beasts possessed but also some other particles that came to this world with the appearance of these magic beasts.

But she couldn't do much about it.

Or...

Riya turned her head to look at Samuel.

Samuel frowned.

He knew that the water in that world was also contaminated. But as the prestigious young master, he was protected well and didn't have to drink from those well water. There would always be water magic core prepared for him.

"First, let's call these professor to start researching the water." Samuel took a deep breath. "After that, we have to try filtering these water through heating up and many other methods so as to minimize the effects."

This should be the best method that they could do.

Chapter 228 Contamination (2)

Mr. Jones nodded. "That might be the only way."

Amelia and Sean were listening to their father's words and then they looked at the water on their glasses. "Does it mean that this water is safe?"

"Yes, it's safe to consume."

"Good."

The two of them drank the water with relief while Mrs. Jones were frowning. She was the one taking care of the supplies, including water. Thinking that she would deliver these not so safe water for the people in the base to drink.... Mrs. Jones really felt uncomfortable.

"Also, you can use the purification spell," Samuel added after thinking for a moment. "The purification spell usually worked when we cleaned up the magic beasts' meat, so there's no reason for it not to work for the water."

Purification spell.

When Mr. Jones heard this, he nodded thoughtfully. "The problem is, I don't think there are many mages out there."

"Isn't there still the mages from the Magic Association?" Samuel sneered. "If they wanted to keep their reputation, they should care about helping to lessen the burden of the people."

Those people from the Magic Association kept on trying to take advantage of the situation and didn't want to contribute much. There were even cases when they asked for more resources but they didn't do much.

Now that this happen, they would have to work even if they didn't want to.

Not many people have the talent to become magician and in the future, they would have to come up with something that could replace magic.

As for what it was, Samuel didn't know.

Because in that world, there were not many pure technology without magic. Most magic was very powerful and thus the most powerful technology and weapons had to use magic.

Samuel was also not involved in the research, so he couldn't say much.

"Good idea." Mr. Jones' eyes lit up.

He had long been annoyed by those people from the Magic Association, so this should be a good idea.

"Purification magic." Mrs. Jones also nodded, somewhat relieved that this magic would work. She felt that whoever invented this magic in the first place was very powerful and kind.

He or she knew that the world would need such simple and easy to use magic just for their lives.

"That should be all." Samuel couldn't think of anything else and looked at his father.

Mr. Jones also nodded. "I'll go to the meeting first."

Since his son had said that it was impossible for them to help then he could only deliver this piece of news to the others.

How they wanted to do it was up to them.

Hopefully, they would truly use those annoying magicians from the Magic Association to work for them.

As for the payment?

It was not his business.

Mr. Jones was glad that there were several magic warriors in their family and in City A Base. There should be enough people to work under his wife to purify the water.

"Alright, you two, go to work and don't forget your training." Samuel looked at the two of them.

"Yes!"

"Yes!"

The previous control training was not over yet. After the first stage, in which Amelia won by narrow margin, the two of them proceeded to the next training. Since the things they have to control become more difficult, these two hadn't finished that training yet.

Besides, Samuel arranged for them to train their bodies too as mana control was not really the main focus for magic warrior. In this way, their training pace has become slower.

Not that they minded it that much, though.

"Senior Samuel," Riya called out before Samuel could leave.

Mrs. Jones saw this and quickly walked out and dragged her two children to leave.

"Mom, don't pull me."

"You're about to be late. And after you're done with work, I want you to come and help me."

"Momm!"

The two siblings protested heavily while Samuel stood still and looked at Riya.

After the two of them came back from that trip outside, Riya has been ignoring Samuel. It could be seen that she was still angry at him and Samuel didn't know what to do, so he keep his distance.

Perhaps Riya would stop being angry after some time?

Facts proved that it worked.

Because Riya simply ignored Samuel and returned to her calm life. She didn't seem to mind him that much anymore because she also understood why he had to test her.

It didn't mean that she was not angry, but she could accept his behavior to a certain degree.

"Yes?" Samuel asked.

"Why do you not ask for my help?" Riya asked. After he had probed her strength and capabilities before, Riya wouldn't believe he didn't know about her real capabilities. There was no way for him not to know that Riya was capable of making purification runes.

Samuel arched his eyebrows and then said, "There are more than enough magicians in the entire world to take care of the food problem. Why can't they also extend their abilities to purify the water too? It's impossible for the entire world to rely on one person."

Rely on one person?

Riya pursed her lips. "I don't mean that."

"Do you wish to be asked for help all the time?" Samuel asked this question instead and looked at Riya. "I know you're capable but you're also only one person. Besides, the main reason why you never showed your abilities before, isn't it because you didn't want to be found?"

Yes, that's right.

Riya didn't want to stand in the limelight and be forced to do many things that she didn't want to do.

Because when she stood on the forefront, it was destined that her life would no longer be her own. She would have to take care of so many people who stood behind her.

And this was something that Riya didn't want to.

Riya looked at Samuel and said, "I thought you will say that it's the obligation."

Chapter 229 What Reason is the Last One?

"Obligation..." Samuel shook his head and laughed faintly. "Whether you want to help or not is up to you. I can't force you to do what you don't want to do. Even if you have the ability, it's your right to decide what to do with your ability."

He looked into the distance and then said, "Say, how many people do you think will devote their entire ability for the nation and worked for them? For example, many researchers only cares for money and choose to work in private institute because the welfare is better for them and they could earn a lot of money.

Those who are purer in their research might be wiling to devote to the nation and gave their research result to the nation but can still earn some remuneration that's definitely not comparable to private institute. But how many people are so pure like that?"

Many people are selfish.

They cared for their own benefit more than the entire world.

Because why should they care about other people who didn't have any relationship with them in the slightest bit?

Whether they live or die had nothing to do with them.

Samuel looked at Riya and smiled faintly. "Did you watch too much savior movies? Those people are indeed capable, but the question is are you in the position to care about the entire world? You're just one person, hiding from the world and have some capabilities. What makes you think that the entire world will revolve around you and that they need you so much?"

If Samuel had to be honest, this was something that he questioned himself before.

Because he came back with this memory, power, and artifact.

But if he was asked to use his ability for the sake of the entire world... he would be unwilling.

Because he didn't think that it was his position.

He's just Samuel Aldrin Jones, the eldest son of the Jones Family, the son of his parents, the older brother of his two siblings, the businessman who lead the Jones business. Those were his identities and it was also these identities that constrained his actions.

"I can do something but I won't," Samuel said slowly. "Because I'm not the 'savior' of the entire world. I'm just a human being who wants to protect the few people close to me and live my life comfortably."

Riya blinked her eyes and looked at Samuel in front of her.

She understood.

He was telling her not to think that the entire world's problem is on her shoulder. Because no matter what, their abilities were limited. They might have experienced a chance that was rare and no other people might experience in their entire life.

But in the end... they were just a human being.

They have their own life.

They have their own position.

They have their own duty and responsibility.

But the entire world's problem... has never been their full responsibility. They had their own share and what they had to do was to work their best within their share.

"I shared some methods to allow the world to be better and you... don't have to do the same." Samuel shook his head. "You can be a villain for all you want for no one can force you to give up what belongs to you."

Or it should have been that way.

And Samuel knew very well that the moment one faced those annoying politicians, they would be forced to hand over what they knew to them. He had seen them and they tried to guilt trip him, use various methods to coerce him to listen to them and even as far as using his own family.

But Samuel was firm.

He can help a bit, but he's still his own person and would not be willing to hand over everything to them.

As for what others did, Samuel didn't care.

It was their own.

It was up to them what they wanted to do with it.

"Also..." Samuel looked at Riya and shrugged. "You're already angry at me because I tried to force you to show your abilities. If I were to probe deeper, wouldn't you become even angrier at me?"

Riya: "..."

What reason is the last one?

Seeing Riya's speechless look, Samuel smiled faintly. "Don't think too much. If you want to help, then I'll welcome you. But I don't want you to think that you have to help. It just depends on what you want to do."

He didn't have anything against those people who wanted to do something for the entire world or those who would give up everything for the nation. If anything, he respected these people.

But he couldn't do the same.

So if they asked him to do that...

He had to refuse.

Because first and foremost, he's just an ordinary man who cared for his family and the people around him compared to the entire nation and other people whom he had never met before.

"Who would want to give up everything...?" Riya murmured under her breath.

One of the main reasons why she chose to hide her strength was because she was unwilling to face people who might covet her abilities. Because Riya knew very well that her greatest ability was in her runes and not herself.

As long as they could get these runes... they might use many things that she had to force her.

So Riya chose to stay low key.

Even if the world had changed, Riya was still unwilling to show too much.

But she also knew that for her to get better treatment, she had to show some capabilities. So she chose to show a bit of what she knew in front of Samuel and his family because she had accidentally revealed some of them when she helped her friends before.

It was just that she didn't expect it would make Samuel try to test her.

So Riya was angry.

And she didn't expect that he would not try to ask for help even if he knew that her possibility of solving this case was higher than him trying to seek out those people from the Magic Association.

Chapter 230 Smile

"First..." Riya looked at Samuel solemnly. "You're free to ask for help and whether I want to help or not is also up to me. But you need to state whether you need it or not first because I don't know if you have any other methods to solve it."

Samuel smile turned brighter when he heard Riya's words. "I do need help. The purification method might work for food because there are not many people who want to eat meat. But if we have to use purification magic spell all the time for the water, it's estimated that their mana would not be enough."

When he proposed this method, Samuel knew very well that there would be a lot of manpower needed.

Because purification magic spell still consumed a lot of mana.

And the range for purification spell would depend on their mana pool. Most of them were only rank 1 magic warrior, which meant that their mana pool was relatively small. Even rank 1 mage could have twice of their own mana or even more.

In this situation, it would be hard for them to come up with enough water for everyone in the base.

City A Base might be a bit better because there were more powerful people but it was still limited. Even Samuel could not guarantee that he would be able to provide enough water for everyone in the base.

Other bases...

Samuel was not sure.

But there might be more and more people dying in the end.

Riya nodded. "I can make purification formation on top of a well, so you need to arrange the water source to form some kind of well or canal. The purification is not perfect and after a few decades of consuming it, there might still be a chance that the accumulated properties will make them crazy but the chance is low."

Samuel's eyes flashed when he heard this.

This formation was the same as the formation that he had encountered on his journey in that world. There were some well that was purposely built and arranged formation for the people to drink.

But the formation's ability was limited.

The good thing was that the formation was driven by the mana in the air, so it didn't need to consume anything.

"It's good enough." Samuel smiled.

Riya looked at Samuel blankly and shook her head. "I'll provide you the drawing and then... I'll give you the basic runes for the water element magic core."

When Samuel heard this, he was genuinely surprised. If Riya were to give this to him, it meant that she was basically handing over her knowledge to others.

And...

"Is this not good?" Samuel asked with a frown.

If there were more people who knew about this, then Riya wouldn't be able to use it to benefit herself.

Is she that kind?

From what Samuel had seen, Riya was closer to him in this regard. That they would prioritize their own needs compared to others.

Riya shook her head and then shrugged. "It's not very important for me. The more people who knows about this, the more it will benefit people. Besides... if you really want to draw the runes, you need to have talent in this area."

She could provide the drawing, yes.

But she didn't say that she would teach them how to draw it. They would have to rely on their understanding of it for them to be able to make. The instructions she left would be very simple and whether they could draw it or not depended on their talent.

This was one of the few methods for them to find whether they have talent in runes or not.

Samuel arched his eyebrows. "Do you want to find students?"

Riya looked at Samuel blankly. "No."

She didn't really have time to care for students. Besides, taking care of others would be so tiring. If she liked to take care of others so much, she would not let her puppets be the one to manage the farm.

Rather than teaching others, she liked to research and study on her own more.

"Alright." Samuel chuckled and then asked, "Do you want to hand it over to the association or the nation?"

There would be differences between the nation and the association. If it was the nation, it was estimated that Riya would not be able to get anything aside from a promise from those officials. Moreover, there was a chance that these officials would try to poach Riya to be closer to them.

No matter how the world changed, they still have factions within them and would not tolerate others who breached or tried to take their authority no matter what.

It was quite complicated.

Samuel felt headache when he thought about those officials.

Thankfully, some of them truly cared for the people and willing to work for them. Even if he was still using the power for his own benefit from time to time, he was also doing his work well.

So the others chose to turn a blind eye of the little things he did.

"Both," Riya replied. "I'm sure they'll be happy with this method and willing to spread it out."

Spread it out?

Samuel arched his eyebrows and then nodded. "I can arrange it. What do you want from them? Another promise?"

The previous time, Riya had gained a promise from Martial Arts Association for the purification magic spell. The purification magic spell itself was updated in the website and it seemed that many people prefer this one.

Well, those who wanted to learn the previous magic spells should have strong second dimension passion or was a great actor.

Most others would pick the normal magic spell.

Samuel thought about Peter and wondered whether that man knew that there was a new purification spell or not.

If he knew, Samuel wanted to see how that man reacted.

It must be fun.

Well, Samuel had to admit that sometimes, one's happiness is built on other people's misery.