

SYSTEM: BUILD MY OWN TERRITORY

Chapter 1211: Chapter 328: Raven Killer (10K)_2

Helena slightly shifted her rounded hips sitting in the middle of the soft cushion of the carriage.

She leaned against the edge of the carriage, her gaze following Lorenzo's line of sight.

Helena's amber eyes were wide open.

In Helena's view.

Dense figures arranged into a phalanx, stood firm in front of the two-story high manor castle.

Perhaps because there was someone delivering a speech.

A wave of shouts and responses occasionally erupted from the phalanx crowd.

The sound was so loud, the momentum so grand...

Helena had never witnessed something like this!

Strong curiosity emerged in Helena's mind.

The Morgan Town of Lord Lynn actually had so much labor force?

Upon entering Morgan Town by carriage, Helena saw the number of farmers easily exceeding three to four thousand!

They were reclaiming arable land, digging canals, and so forth.

Besides these farmers at work.

In front of that manor castle, there were so many figures standing.

Soon.

Helena thought of the message conveyed by the guards from Alba Town who had gone to Wells Manor.

It was about a fully armed cavalry troop from Alba Town marching through to the neighboring Rasio Town!

Clearly.

This labor force originated from the manor of Jon Zuck's supporters which had been eradicated!

Such a massive number, evidently not just from Rasio Town.

Helena speculated.

Lord Lynn must have accepted and brought over all the labor force from the manors of Jon Zuck's supporters!

Thinking of this.

A hint of envy, even admiration, crept into Helena's heart.

If she could have such a labor force in her manor like Lord Lynn.

The development speed of Wells Manor would surely advance quickly!

Not only that.

She could also recruit more soldiers to strengthen Wells Manor's military force!

Of course.

Helena admits this is just her wishful thinking.

She couldn't have done what Lord Lynn did, during Viscount Jon Zuck's assembly and leadership of a group of supporter manor lords to launch an attack.

To think of using a forest fire attack to bury Jon Zuck's army in a fiery sea.

It seemed like simply igniting Lorin.

But the coordination between each link, the grasp of timing, effective execution of orders, etc...

How could it be easy?

The most crucial point is, Lord Lynn looks no more than just coming of age!

However, Helena also understands.

This precisely proves Lord Lynn's extraordinary abilities!

While Helena was sighing inwardly, the carriage procession was continuously advancing.

Passing through large tracts of farmland, they arrived in front of the manor castle.

The armored soldier stationed at the gate of the manor castle directly stopped the carriage procession at the entrance.

Riding on horseback, Lorenzo spoke to the armored soldier.

"Please notify Lord Master Lynn."

"As per Lord Lynn's instructions, Lady Helena from Wells Manor of Alba Town has brought a group of farmers, wanting to inquire and learn about the advanced planting techniques in Lord Master Lynn's territory."

The armored soldier scanned Lorenzo, and cast another glance at the carriage and farmer group behind Lorenzo.

The armored soldier responded in a voice, "Please wait."

Lorenzo bowed his head slightly in gratitude, as a response.

Helena in the carriage watched as the armored soldier entered the manor castle.

Helena's gaze swept over the manor castle in front of her.

The towering walls, nearly eight or nine meters high, bore evident marks of grease burns and bloodstains.

The soil on the ground now presented a deep reddish-brown, stained thoroughly by blood! Clearly.

Recently, this manor castle had undergone a siege war with substantial casualties!

Helena turned her gaze to the left side of the carriage cabin.

There.

A young man clad in armor was issuing commands to a group of guard peasants.

Though Helena could hear the armored man mention 'garrison soldiers' and 'land allocation'.

She completely did not understand its implication, and could only retract her gaze, continuing to wait.

Moments later.

The sound of footsteps emerged from within the manor castle, heading towards the carriage procession.

The armored soldier who had entered the manor castle to report, arrived at the front of the carriage procession.

"The Lord Master has instructed, you may enter, please follow me."

Lorenzo bowed his head slightly in gratitude.

The carriage procession entered the castle.

Stepping down from the carriage cabin, Helena turned her gaze, scanning the interior of the manor castle once again.

Besides patrolling armored soldiers and farmers transporting various farm tools.

One could hardly see any disorderly or idle personnel.

Everything was in such perfect order.

The dozens of farmers brought from the manor were settled in the open space square.

Guided by the armored soldier, Helena led Lorenzo towards the distant wall steps.

Climbing up the steps, they arrived at the open-air courtyard on the second floor, entering the reception hall.

Helena immediately saw the young lord sitting on the throne!

Even without approaching.

Helena could already feel the aura emitted by this young lord.

Commanding respect without anger, inspiring awe within people!

Following the armored soldier from behind, Helena and Lorenzo approached Lynn.

Finally.

Their footsteps halted, standing several meters in front of Lynn.

Helena slightly bent in salutation, her words respectful.

"Helena expresses gratitude for Lord Lynn's audience."

Chapter 1212: Chapter 328: Raven Killer (10,000)_3

Lorenzo, standing behind Helena, quickly followed by bowing, not daring to utter a word.

Even Helena needed to bow and kneel to Lord Lynn.

As the Guard Captain, he naturally had no right to speak.

Watching Helena bent over in salute, lowering her body, displaying that smooth, white curve in front.

Lynn slightly raised his eyebrows and inquired.

"It's only three days since Helena Manor Lord last visited."

"Is there anything this time?"

Helena looked up at Lynn and found his gaze resting in front of her.

If anyone else had looked at her with such frivolous eyes, Helena would unhesitatingly issue a warning.

Maybe even directly gouge out their eyes!

But now.

The one appreciating her figure is Lord Lynn!

Helena's heart not only felt no anger but instead a hint of delight.

Helena subconsciously straightened herself, making the smooth curve in front even more prominent.

"Just as the lord said last time, Helena has brought a team of farmers from the manor who are eager to learn."

"They wish to learn the advanced planting techniques in your lordship's domain and apply them at Wells Manor..."

Lynn responded, intending to order the guards to summon Gavin.

Looking up slightly, he saw Gavin already waiting outside the meeting hall.

Outside the meeting hall, Gavin naturally noticed Lynn's gaze.

Without Lynn needing to speak, Gavin stepped into the meeting hall, striding confidently to Lynn.

Lynn looked at Gavin approvingly and began to introduce.

"This is my Agricultural Officer, Gavin Wright!"

"Helena Manor Lord can hand over the farmers she brought to Gavin for training."

Helena turned to look at Gavin and spoke to Lynn.

"Thank you, my lord."

"Then, Helena will retreat first to arrange the farmers she brought..."

Lynn responded with a nod to indicate his agreement.

Gavin was about to lead Helena and Lorenzo to leave the meeting hall.

Helena, having just taken a step, halted, her face revealing a smile as she spoke.

"Lord, after tasting Lexus Gin last time, Helena has been longing for it."

"I wonder if today I might be fortunate enough to stay at your lordship's domain for dinner and enjoy Gin again?"

Seeing Helena's charming smile, Lynn calmly replied.

"Of course."

"As long as Helena Manor Lord enjoys it, you may come to the Manor Castle anytime for Gin."

Upon hearing, Helena's smile became even more radiant.

"Thank you, my lord, then Helena won't be polite."

Lynn nodded, turning his gaze to Gavin.

Gavin immediately understood, speaking to Helena.

"Helena Manor Lord, please follow me."

With Gavin leading, Helena and Lorenzo stepped towards the meeting hall.

Watching her in a black off-shoulder gown, her full hips swaying with every stride.

Lynn's expression remained calm.

In less than a week, Helena came to Morgan Town twice!

Whether it was the first time delivering six thousand sets of linen robes and dresses.

Or this time bringing farmers to Morgan Town to learn planting techniques.

Lynn naturally understood Helena meant to draw closer, attempting to become more familiar.

Perhaps wanting to learn the advanced planting techniques in his domain.

Or perhaps trying to show her allegiance to him.

Or maybe harboring other intentions...

Lynn was unconcerned.

Because.

Whether Lynn's personal strength or the military power within his domain.

It far exceeds Helena and her Wells Manor.

Upon sensing any anomaly, Lynn could instantly annihilate Helena and her Wells Manor!

When possessing powerful strength, Lynn need not worry about any schemes!

Just then.

Heavy footsteps sounded outside the meeting hall.

Lynn slightly raised his head and glanced, it was Wesley.

Wesley strode in front of Lynn, quickly bowing and respectfully began.

"Master, we have completed the selection of 3,100 garrison soldiers..."

"However, the physical fitness of the peasants selected as guards is limited."

"Wesley merely did his best to select some physically healthy men."

"To engage them in battle might require prolonged cultivation and training..."

Lynn was not surprised and instructed Wesley.

"The soldiers selected in two rounds total 5,600."

"They will be divided into five Thousand Households, each Thousand Households will have 1,120 men."

"Each Thousand Households will oversee ten Hundred Households, each Hundred Households will have 112 men."

"Each Hundred Households will establish two General Banners, each with 50 men."

"Under each General Banner, there are ten Small Banners, each with ten men!"

"The leaders of Thousand Households to Small Banners in the garrison should be chosen and appointed by you."

Lynn paused slightly before continuing.

"During free time, you will be responsible for leading these 5,600 soldiers in military training."

"Right now, I need you to lead these garrison soldiers to the farmland."

"Hand them over to Gavin, let him lead and instruct the garrison soldiers, in planting."

Wesley raised his eyebrows promptly, responding.

"Yes, Master!"

Lynn acknowledged with a nod and continued.

"Among the 5,600 garrison soldiers, I need cavalry, infantry, and archers."

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"The composition of troop types... will be arranged according to the actual situation of each Garrison."

Weiss bent at the waist and lowered his head, once again answering respectfully.

"Yes, Master, Weiss understands."

Lynn replied, "Aside from the garrison soldiers, I will reassign the remaining seven thousand-plus laborers to the Construction of Morgan Town's infrastructure projects."

"As for the weapons and Armor needed by the five thousand six hundred garrison soldiers..."

"We'll wait for the Double-chamber Reflector Furnace in the territory's Blacksmith Workshop to be completed."

"Once we've smelted and Forged higher-quality Weapons and Armor, we'll then supply and equip the garrison soldiers!"

Weiss hurriedly responded.

"Weiss will follow all of the Master's arrangements!"

Lynn pondered for a few seconds, and after confirming that all the matters he wanted to Instruct had been covered, he simply dismissed Weiss.

Watching Weiss turn and leave the audience hall, Lynn withdrew his gaze.

From beginning to end.

Lynn had always clearly understood the strengths and weaknesses of the Garrison System.

Its strengths were:

Soldiers and Farmers in one, easing the fiscal burden.

Strengthening the Lord's centralized authority and stabilizing local rule.

Adding defensive lines along the territory's edges.

Its weaknesses were:

Officers encroaching on the allotted farmland, leaving the garrison soldiers without their distributed plots.

Having to both farm and undergo military training, the garrison soldiers are exhausted, and their combat effectiveness declines.

The income from the land worked by garrison soldiers is extremely low, their livelihoods not guaranteed, leading to desertion and other problems.

There is even the possibility of the highest Commander of a Garrison holding troops in his own hands, carving out his own domain, beyond control!

For most people, the drawbacks of implementing the Garrison System far outweigh its advantages!

But for Lynn, it was a different story.

Lynn directly optimized and reformed the Garrison System!

He adopted a recruitment system to replace the original hereditary system, ensuring a stable source of garrison soldiers.

He privatized land distribution, collecting only one-tenth of the yield from the farmland as grain tax, guaranteeing a stable life for the soldiers and their families.

There would even be surplus crops that could be used for trade, improving the living conditions of the garrison soldiers.

Most crucial of all.

Lynn possessed Heavenly Artifacts!

He could clearly see the Loyalty Value of every resident in the territory.

He could also remain in the Manor Castle, keeping everything that happened within the territory firmly under his control.

The selection and recruitment of the Manor Castle's garrison soldiers had been completed.

The establishment of the first Garrison in Morgan Town could be considered initially in place.

What needed to be done next was to let the garrison soldiers grow familiar with their future way of life.

By that time.

Morgan Town would enter a phase of stable development!

Lynn had naturally also considered recruiting more garrison soldiers to invest in Morgan Town's development.

However.

Very quickly, Lynn cast this idea aside.

Selecting five thousand six hundred garrison soldiers to control the twelve hundred thousand mu of territory around Morgan Town.

Whether for opening up land for Planting or for military control, it was entirely sufficient!

The one hundred twenty thousand mu of land would follow the three-field system for Agriculture production.

Which meant that in any given year, only eighty thousand mu of farmland would need to be opened up and Planted!

Calculating that against the five thousand six hundred soldiers in the Garrison.

Whether it was spring plowing or autumn plowing, each garrison soldier would only need to Plant fifteen mu of farmland.

As long as suitable farm tools are Forged and Produced for them, along with draft cattle and Heavy Plows.

Finishing the opening and Planting of the land within two months would not be any sort of difficult task!

Even if more laborers were投入 to join in opening and Planting the land, it would only be a waste of manpower.

Lynn's aim was precisely to use the Garrisons and their soldiers to free up more labor from the fields.

So it could be投入 into other posts and industries that needed manpower more urgently.

Rising from the throne, Lynn walked out of the audience hall and into the open courtyard.

He looked into the distance, toward the vast stretches of farmland beyond the Manor Castle.

Patch after patch of Farmers were engaged in opening the land and working it.

On the stony, muddy paths between the fields.

Gavin was leading a group of Farmers whose clothing was clearly of a different standardized style, heading toward the distant farmland.

Obviously.

That group of Farmers was the team Helena had brought.

Within the Farmers' team, Helena, dressed in a black long dress, stood conspicuously among them.

Lynn felt a faint hint of puzzlement.

Manor Lords or Lords who prided themselves on their noble status would never personally参与 in Agriculture production.

Because in their eyes, that was something only the lower classes would do!

Yet Helena was clearly different from other Manor Lords.

After watching for a short while.

Lynn withdrew his gaze and walked down toward the base of the city wall.

It was still only mid-afternoon.

Lynn could completely make use of this time to keep grinding Hunting Skills Experience!

With the soldiers and Farmers of the Manor Castle standing at attention and saluting, Lynn arrived at the archery training ground.

He took a Standard Longbow and a set of Triangular Armor-Piercing Arrows from Red's hands.

He nocked an Arrow and drew the bow, aiming at the bull's-eye of the target ahead.

His right-hand fingers, pinching the Arrow's nock, relaxed.

Whoosh~

Thunk!

With a piercing sound of the Arrow cleaving the air, it struck the bull's-eye dead on.

[Hunting Experience +1]

As Lynn kept nocking Arrows and drawing the bow to shoot, his Experience increased bit by bit.

At the same time, the sky gradually changed.

The originally bright, azure sky slowly turned golden.

The sun set in the west.

...

Meanwhile, on the other side.

Kakasong City, bathed in the golden glow of the setting sun.

The Church building, pure white in its entirety, seemed even more imbued with a sacred radiance under the sunset's light.

Some pedestrians walking along the streets even stopped at a distance to stand at attention and salute.

Their eyes were full of a trembling, devout light.

At this moment, inside the Church.

Four Guards clad in Armor marked with the sign of the cross were standing watch before the double wooden doors of the bedchamber.

Chapter 1214: Chapter 328: Raven Killer (10,000 Words) (Part 5)

The Church Guards wore grave expressions, several pairs of eyes warily sweeping the corridors on both sides, as well as the dome above the hallway.

Inside the luxuriously decorated bedroom.

Guard Captain Samuel stood by the large bed with his body slightly bent, listening to the instructions spoken by Bishop Semo, who lay upon it.

"An entire day has passed, and you still haven't captured the black-robed assassin?"

Feeling the anger and coldness in Semo's words, Samuel tensed, and hurriedly replied.

"Lord Bishop, Samuel has already dispatched the Church Guards to garrison the two city gates of Kakasong City."

"Anyone wishing to leave must undergo a thorough inspection!"

"We have also contacted the Free Nobles, wealthy merchants, and Workshop Masters in the city to search together."

"Furthermore, we have posted wanted notices for the black-robed assassin all over the city..."

Samuel's words were not yet finished.

Semo's displeased rebuke cut him off outright.

"Useless! Utterly useless!"

"An assassin infiltrates the Church to attempt to kill this Bishop, and you knew nothing of it?"

"As my personal Guard Captain, as a former Temple Knight, is this how you protect your Bishop?"

Samuel did not dare offer any excuse; his already bent back lowered even further.

Semo continued, "If this Bishop did not possess some measure of Power himself, to drive the assassin back."

"Then at this moment, this Bishop would not be lying on the bed in his bedroom!"

"He would be lying in a coffin, receiving the prayers of the clergy and the faithful!"

"Cough, cough, cough~"

A fit of urgent coughing burst from Semo's mouth, and a thread of fresh blood trickled from the corner of his lips.

Samuel, head lowered, hastily took a clean silk cloth from the bedside table and offered it up with both hands.

Semo glanced at it, reached out to take it, and wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth.

"No matter what means you use, this Bishop gives you three days to find that black-robed assassin!"

"This Bishop very much wishes to see what grand figure would actually hire a Raven Organization killer to assassinate him!"

Samuel had just been about to answer when something suddenly flashed through his mind, and his words shifted.

"Lord Bishop, then about going to Morgan Town, to collect the Tithing from Lord Lynn and to handle the matter of burning Lorraine and damaging the environment..."

Hearing Samuel's words.

Semo's expression darkened slightly; his eyes turned, as though pondering something.

A few seconds later.

Semo spoke in a deep voice, "You will depart for Morgan Town early tomorrow, enter Lynn's territory, and collect the Tithing for the month of August."

"At the same time, in the name of the Church, you will censure Lynn."

"Demand that he pay a certain amount of Penance Money for environmental damage."

"Go quickly and return quickly!"

Semo paused for a moment, then continued.

"As for the black-robed assassin... you will investigate again after you return."

Samuel immediately bent and answered, "Yes, Lord Bishop."

"Samuel takes his leave."

Semo gave a contemplative hum and directly dismissed Samuel.

Only when Samuel had withdrawn from the bedroom, and after the sound of the door closing rang out.

The flush of anger on Semo's face faded, replaced by a deathly pallor.

With a movement of both hands, Semo pulled aside the thin quilt covering him and slowly opened his robe.

A ghastly wound appeared upon Semo's chest.

Strangely.

On that wound there was a faint, pure white radiance, slowly flowing and turning.

Within the flow of that white light, the hideously crimson wound was actually slowly knitting closed...

It was only a matter of time before it fully healed.

Seeing this, Semo's heart loosened slightly, and he could not help but let out a cold snort.

Because of last night's assassination attempt, he had been gravely wounded.

He had even been forced to cancel this morning's prayer ceremony.

As well as what had already been planned.

To announce to the residents of Kakasong City that he would serve as the new leader of Kakasong City.

Even though the black-robed assassin had not yet been captured and tortured for interrogation.

Semo could already guess.

The mastermind must surely be among the Free Nobles in Kakasong City who were dissatisfied with him becoming the new leader of Kakasong City!

Semo could even roughly infer who the mastermind was!

But Semo understood.

Even if he could guess who was behind it, without sufficient evidence.

He still could not act directly against that Free Noble.

Because.

Semo currently had only fifty Church Armored Guards; his military strength was far too weak.

If he were to arrest that Free Noble.

It was very likely that he would thereby enrage all the Free Nobles of Kakasong City!

If he could not obtain the support of the Free Nobles, wealthy merchants, Workshop Masters, and the like.

It would be very difficult for Semo to seize Kakasong City fully into his own hands.

This was why Semo would rather delay the investigation and capture of the black-robed assassin.

And instead send Samuel to Morgan Town.

To seek out Lynn and collect the Tithing and Penance Money.

Semo needed more funds to purchase Armor and recruit soldiers, to strengthen his military Power!

As thoughts turned in Semo's mind.

A single idea surfaced within his heart.

Why not cooperate with Lynn, and together suppress and eliminate the Free Nobles of Kakasong City?

Though Lynn was now called the "Flame Demon" and "Fire of Lorraine" by the residents of Kakasong City.

Yet with his status as a Church Bishop, and the influence he wielded among the faithful of the Church.

Even if he could not make all the believers gladly lay down their lives for him, march to war, and fight.

At the very least, he could easily change the impression Lynn held in the minds of the city's residents!

So long as he branded Jon Zuck with the titles of invader who sought to launch war, or sinner steeped in slaughter.

Chapter 1215: Chapter 328: Raven Killer (10,000 Words) (Part 6)

As long as Lynn is crowned with the name of defending the homeland or of salvation.

The meaning of the Lorin campaign can be easily rewritten!

Lynn might even win the worship and admiration of the residents of Kakasong City.

But very soon.

Simo discarded this idea.

With the military power Lynn possesses, plus the cooperation of his Church Bishop, he can certainly easily wipe out all the Free Nobility in Kakasong City, and even all other obstructing forces, completely!

However!

After clearing away all obstructing forces, if Lynn, relying on his powerful military, occupies Kakasong City and refuses to leave...

The consequences of that are not something Simo can bear!

Given the Free Nobility and other forces currently in Kakasong City,

as long as he recruits enough Guards or soldiers, he can fully suppress and clear them out.

But if Lynn occupies Kakasong City,

Simo can forget about ever becoming the new leader of Kakasong City in this lifetime!

In other words.

In Simo's eyes, Lynn is far stronger and more terrifying than all the Free Nobility and other forces in Kakasong City!

Even if Lynn is now honestly paying Tithing to the Church,

Simo still thinks so!

...

Only when night was falling.

After grinding Hunting Skill experience for half a day, Lynn left the Archery training ground with Red.

Walking along the bluestone road inside the Manor Castle.

Lynn's mind stirred; he opened the Heavenly Artifacts panel and checked it.

[Hunting: Level 3 (380/1000)] (+)

Looking at the Skill Level experience, Lynn frowned slightly.

Clearly.

Relying only on repeated Archery no longer yields Hunting Skill experience efficiently.

However.

Once the development deployments in Morgan Town are fully arranged,

Lynn can return to his territory, enter the forests in his lands, and accelerate Hunting Skill upgrades through hunting.

At the same time, he can search for more mineral resources that can be mined and used.

Turning past the brick-and-stone building ahead, several figures entered Lynn's field of vision.

At the very front was Helena, just returned from the fields.

Helena also saw Lynn, and joy instantly appeared on her face.

Her words carried excitement. "Lord, the Planting techniques you possess are truly too powerful!"

"Heavy Plow opening the fields, topdressing fertilization, watering irrigation..."

"If we Plant according to this method, we will certainly achieve a great harvest!"

Lynn glanced at Helena, then turned his head toward Gavin beside her.

Gavin hurriedly explained.

"Master, according to your instructions, Gavin has told Helena Manor Lord about the deep-tilled Planting method for barley."

Lynn nodded slightly, looked at Helena again, and spoke.

"The most important part of deep tillage is using oxen to pull the Heavy Plow for deep tilling."

"If there is no Heavy Plow and you only shallow-till with a Light Plow pulled across the fields, it is far from enough to turn up the deep, fertile soil."

Helena's brows instantly lifted.

In the afternoon, when Gavin was explaining, Helena had already heard the term 'Wheel Plow.'

But every time Gavin spoke of it, he would speed up his speech, trying to gloss over it.

Now hearing it again, Helena couldn't help but ask.

"Lord, please forgive Helena's offence."

"What exactly... is a Heavy Plow?"

Hearing Helena's question, something immediately occurred to Lynn.

He gave Gavin a glance, did not conceal anything, and spoke directly.

"It's Forged and Produced using a large amount of high-quality iron, making a Heavy Plow weighing eighty jin."

"Plus the matching chassis, the total weight is around two hundred jin."

"It requires two fully grown draught oxen and at least two Farmers working together to pull and open up the fields."

"The Heavy Plow can penetrate twenty centimeters into the soil."

"Under the oxen's pull, it can easily turn up the deep, fertile soil of the fields."

Helena's eyes widened, her gaze full of hope and curiosity, as she repeated Lynn's words.

"Total weight of two hundred jin?"

"Penetrate twenty centimeters?"

"Deep, fertile soil?"

Helena shifted her words and quickly asked.

"Lord, Helena understands that being able to become a supporting Manor Lord for you is already an honor for us."

"But Helena still wishes to consult Master Lynn."

"How can we exchange for or purchase a Wheel Plow from you?"

As the Manor Lord of Wells Manor, Helena naturally wants the fields of her Manor to achieve a rich harvest!

As for whether requesting this from Lord Lynn would cause her to lose face...

Helena knew very well in her heart.

When they, fearing Lord Lynn would launch an attack on them, came to Morgan Town to pledge allegiance to Lynn,

their dignity as Manor Lords had long since been thrown away.

Now, the only thing they still have is to eke out a living under Lynn's rule.

If Lord Lynn is willing, they can continue to survive as Manor Lords.

If Lord Lynn is unwilling, he can wipe out their Manors at any time!

In front of the strong, the weak have never possessed any dignity or face!

Lynn casually glanced at Helena's expectant face.

As he stepped onto the stairway up the wall, he spoke indifferently.

"A Wheel Plow requires a large amount of high-quality iron and consumes tremendous time and energy from the blacksmiths; it places very high demands on their Forging techniques."

"Even for me, the number of Wheel Plows I have is extremely limited."

Following behind Lynn, Helena couldn't help but show disappointment in her eyes.

However.

From Lord Lynn's explanation just now, Helena also understood how precious the Heavy Plow is.

Setting aside the Forging techniques the blacksmiths need.

Just the seventy or eighty jin of high-quality iron required for a Heavy Plow alone.

Because the war of Imperial Authority has now erupted, high-quality iron is even more in short supply.

The market price of high-quality iron has reached at least eight pence or nine pence per jin!

Converted like this, the price of a Wheel Plow is nearly Three Gold Pounds!

If you convert it simply into the price of Peasants,

the high-quality iron needed for one Wheel Plow is worth thirty-two healthy Peasants!

Such a Wheel Plow is not something an Ordinary Manor Lord can afford to use.

Even if they possess enough Gold Pounds,

Manor Lords would still be unwilling to spend it on a single Heavy Plow for opening fields!

Lynn continued speaking.

"You can wait until the number of Wheel Plows I need has reached saturation."

"Then bring thirty physically sound and robust male Peasants and exchange them with me."

With the iron mines Lynn currently owns and blacksmiths who possess Forging techniques,

Forging Wheel Plows is not too difficult.

The biggest cost is not raw materials, but time.

If Helena can use thirty healthy and robust male slaves to trade for a Wheel Plow, Lynn will naturally be very willing to accept.

To rapidly forge a steel torrent,

to drown the entire Karedi Empire and even the whole Garonia Continent within it,

he naturally has to do his utmost to recruit and expand the number of soldiers through every channel!

Chapter 1216: Chapter 329: Helena Attends to Your Bath

In Lynn's mind, the goal was to create a million-strong army, an iron tide.

It wasn't just about forging and producing a large number of weapons and armor.

It required clearing a large amount of farmland and planting vast quantities of grain.

Moreover, it required a large population base from which to select physically fit soldiers!

For instance, despite optimized forging, a single set of weapons and armor required at least thirty pounds of quality iron!

To create a million sets of weapons and armor, at least thirty million pounds of quality iron would be needed!

For example, soldiers' daily grain consumption was still calculated at three pounds per day.

A million soldiers would consume three million pounds of grain daily!

In ten days, thirty million pounds.

In a year, over a hundred million pounds!

As for drafting a million soldiers...

The number of soldiers drafted was determined by productivity.

When the productivity of the territory couldn't provide enough food for the soldiers,

the number of soldiers would surely decrease, and the focus would shift to agricultural production.

Lynn estimated.

Based on the productivity levels of other lords' territories,
the full-time soldier count was about 1% to 2% of the total population.

This was why Lynn insisted on building a garrison in Morgan Town!

Farming during the busy season, training in leisure time.

It ensured soldiers could be self-sufficient with their food sources.

It also ensured soldiers had enough combat power for defense or external campaigns!

Following beside Lynn, Helena arrived at the second-floor open courtyard, her face unchanged.

As expected!

The weight of quality iron required for just a wheel plow was equivalent to that of thirty peasants.

Lord Lynn only requested to exchange thirty healthy and strong male slaves.

Lord Lynn did not charge her any crafting technology fees!

For Helena, it was undoubtedly a gain.

Thinking this, Helena expressed her gratitude, saying.

"Thank you, my lord."

Lynn responded with a nod, acknowledging.

Glancing at the guest hall, where guards were setting food on the dining table.

Lynn turned to Helena and said.

"Helena Manor Lord, it's getting late, shall we have dinner together?"

Helena also glanced at the guest hall, her delicate eyebrows slightly raised, without any refusal.

"Helena is honored to accept your invitation."

Lynn nodded slightly, leading Helena into the guest hall, sitting at the head of the dining table.

Having accompanied Lynn for a meal previously,

Helena habitually sat beside Lynn.

Watching Lynn's personal guard pour drinks for them again.

Seeing the golden liquid flow from the glazed glass bottle, swirling continuously in the goblet.

Smelling the strong aroma of the gin.

Helena's amber eyes slightly widened.

Just by looking at the color of the gin and smelling its aroma, one could salivate.

Until Red finished pouring the wine, Helena extended her slender white right hand, holding up the glass, lightly raising it to Lynn.

Helena's face revealed a gentle smile, her moist, rosy lips slightly parted.

"Thanks for the dining invitation, my lord. Helena won't hold back."

Seeing Helena's actions, Lynn also raised his glass, clinked it lightly with hers.

The crisp clink of the glazed goblets echoed in the guest hall.

Recollecting his arm, Lynn took a small sip of the gin in his glass.

Just about to put down his glass, he realized Helena had already downed hers in one go.

A transparent lipstick mark was the only thing left on the cup.

Noticing Lynn's gaze, Helena smiled and explained.

"Sorry, my lord, I spent the entire afternoon in the field, learning to plant with Gavin Agricultural Officer."

"Indeed, I was a bit parched and hungry."

Lynn replied, "Then, Helena Manor Lord, feel free to start."

Hearing Lynn's unbothered words, Helena nodded gratefully.

Without any further words.

As the sound of tableware clinking against plates and meat being cut resounded.

Lynn and Helena dived into their dinner.

Until half an hour later.

Lynn and Helena finished their meal.

The two of them walked out of the guest hall, arriving at the open courtyard, stopping at the edge of the wall.

By this time, the sky had completely darkened.

The black night, like a giant curtain, shrouded the world.

Breezes carried scents of tilled soil and green grass.

Blowing Lynn and Helena's hair and clothes.

Helena took a deep breath of fresh air, her figure, already prominent, emphasized even more.

But Helena seemed unconcerned, as she opened her mouth, exhaled.

After several inhales and exhales, Helena seemed to make some major decision.

Helena turned, looking at Lynn standing beside her, who was nearly a head taller than her.

Just about to speak, Lynn spoke first.

"Helena Manor Lord, it's late, traveling back at night could be dangerous."

"If not urgent, you can stay at the manor castle."

Hearing Lynn's sudden words, Helena was slightly surprised.

The next moment.

Helena understood.

Lord Lynn must have known what she wanted to say.

So, he spoke first, cutting her off.

Chapter 1217: Chapter 329: Helena Attends to Your Bath

Helena replied: "Just as the Lord said."

"Although Morgan Town and Alba Town are adjacent, traveling by carriage at night is indeed inconvenient."

"Helena respectfully follows orders..."

Lynn nodded, about to open his mouth to speak.

A thundering sound of hooves rang out beyond the manor castle.

The sound approached from afar, heading towards the manor castle.

At night in Morgan Town, both farmers and residents had all gone to rest.

Except for patrolling cavalry, there were hardly any residents moving about.

Lynn couldn't help but turn his head to look.

Not only Lynn.

Helena, and Red and Lorenzo who were standing behind, all turned to look into the darkness beyond the manor castle.

There.

A torchlight stretched into a long line was quickly approaching.

As the sound of hooves quickly approached.

With the light from the torches held by the cavalry and the burning brazier on the walls.

It was clearly visible.

A lone unarmored cavalryman was riding towards them.

The cavalryman arrived beneath the walls and entered the manor castle.

In less than half a minute.

The sound of rapidly climbing the wall stairs echoed.

Lynn turned to look, Balin in his linen robe was striding towards him.

Under everyone's gaze, Balin stopped a few meters in front of Lynn.

Bowed and greeted, speaking respectfully.

"My Lord, Balin has urgent news to report to you."

As Balin's words fell, the open courtyard immediately fell into silence.

Standing aside, Helena instantly understood.

Clearly.

This middle-aged man, who returned overnight, had gathered secret intelligence that she couldn't know.

Helena promptly spoke to Lynn.

"My Lord, then Helena will not disturb you..."

Lynn nodded, turned his gaze to Red, and spoke.

"Arrange a guard to escort the Helena Manor Lord to a clean bedroom and provide her with needed items."

Red responded immediately, saying.

"Yes, my Lord!"

As the response fell, Red directly summoned a guard to deliver Lynn's instructions.

Under the guidance of the guard, Helena and her Guard Captain left the open courtyard and entered the reception hall.

Eventually, disappearing around the corner of the corridor.

Lynn withdrew his gaze, looking at Balin before him, and spoke.

"What urgent report?"

Balin bowed again, respectfully explaining.

"My Lord, according to the intelligence gathered by my subordinates."

"The Raven Organization's assassin attempted to assassinate Simo!"

"But the assassin should have failed, Simo survived the assassination."

"And has issued orders to strengthen inspections of personnel leaving Kakasong City."

"The city has also posted the assassin's portrait for a city-wide manhunt and capture..."

Lynn's eyebrows slightly raised.

The Raven Killer Organization, Lynn's mind held only a faint memory.

An obscure killer organization scattered across every corner of the Garonia Continent.

As long as the price is paid, the Raven Organization assassins will make attempts on various targets!

More information, Lynn did not know either.

Lynn thought for a moment.

If Simo had died in the assassination.

The Church would surely dispatch a new Church Bishop to Kakasong City to take office and manage.

Thus.

The mineral resources, armored soldiers, or other assets in the Lynn Territory would likely be known to the new Church Bishop.

What crisis would unfold next, Lynn could not control.

Simo surviving the assassination.

Was rather beneficial to Lynn.

Even if continuing to pay tithing to Simo did not concern Lynn.

Thirty Gold Pounds a month, three hundred sixty Gold Pounds a year.

For Lynn just starting to build his fortune, this amount was indeed unaffordable.

However.

For Lynn, now possessing several economic industries, it was a drop in the bucket!

Paying negligible Gold Pounds.

Let Church Bishop Simo unilaterally recognize Lynn's legal ownership of Morgan Town.

This alone was worth it!

Lynn looked at Balin opposite him and continued to ask.

"Aside from this intelligence, is there anything else to report?"

Balin's eyes turned, hesitated slightly, then replied.

"My Lord, that is all for now."

"Captain Gaspar instructed us that any effective intelligence obtained in Kakasong City must be promptly reported back to you."

"Only in this way can the value of intelligence be maximized."

Lynn nodded, asking.

"I instructed you to relay to Gaspar to make contact with Sir Ludovico Dons in Kakasong City, has there been progress?"

Balin explained in response.

"My Lord, making contact with Sir Ludovico Dons is something Captain Gaspar is personally undertaking, Balin cannot know temporarily."

"However, rest assured my Lord, once I return to Kakasong City, I will promptly relay your inquiry to Captain Gaspar!"

Lynn pondered aloud.

"If there are no other matters, then you may withdraw."

"Ensure safety on your return journey!"

Listening to the Lord's care, Balin was filled with gratitude, hurriedly bowing.

"Yes, my Lord, Balin takes his leave."

Balin bowed and withdrew.

Within moments.

Balin mounted his horse and exited the manor castle gate.

Galloping away into the vast darkness beyond the manor castle.

Lynn remained standing in the open courtyard, watching Balin's figure disappear into the darkness.

The more chaotic Kakasong City becomes, the more advantageous it is for Lynn.

Chapter 1218: Chapter 329: Helena Attends to Your Bath

Lynn has more time to develop Morgan Town, develop the realm.

Red, who guarded Lynn's side, spoke to Lynn.

"Master, the guards have prepared hot water. Do you need to soak and bathe for a while?"

Upon hearing Red's words, Lynn withdrew his gaze and responded.

"I need it."

Although the temperature in September was gradually cooling down.

Lynn, after archery training and labor, was covered in the sticky smell of sweat.

Lynn stepped forward into the reception hall, heading deeper into the corridor.

Walking through the carpeted corridor, he turned several corners.

Lorenzo, waiting at a door, appeared in Lynn's sight.

Clearly.

That was the room the guards had arranged for Helena.

Lorenzo, guarding the door, also saw Lynn and Red walking over.

As Lynn approached, Lorenzo quickly bent down to salute, respectfully saying.

"Lord!"

Lynn glanced at Lorenzo, and a thought occurred to him.

Lorenzo's Personal Attribute Panel instantly emerged.

Other than possessing Level 3 Swordsmanship, Level 2 Riding Skill and Archery, he had no Talent or Skills.

Closing Lorenzo's panel, Lynn spoke.

"The Manor Castle is safer than you imagined."

"If you're tired, you can also rest in the adjacent room."

Listening to Lynn's calm voice, Lorenzo gratefully replied.

"Thank you, Lord."

Lynn responded briefly, stepping past Lorenzo and heading toward the main bedroom.

Arriving at the bedroom door.

Red, following close to Lynn, quickened his steps to thoughtfully open the door for Lynn.

Oil lamps on the walls illuminated the entire spacious suite bedroom.

On the heavy walnut wood desk equipped with writing tools.

The candleholder with yellow-brown animal fat candles was also burning brightly.

In front of the desk, on the carpeted space, there was a large wooden bathtub.

Inside the bathtub.

Petals swirled in the hot water, constantly steaming.

On the adjacent wooden table, a clean set of satin clothes was placed.

Lynn, having already lived here for several nights, was accustomed to the bedroom environment.

Lynn said to Red at his side.

"Go rest, I'll bathe myself."

Without Kuisi or Janet around, it was fine for Red to serve him meals.

But for such private matters as bathing, Lynn didn't want much involvement with Red!

Red quickly bent down in reply.

"Yes, Master, rest early. Red takes his leave."

With Master Lynn's response, Red bowed and retreated.

As the wooden door closed, the spacious and bright bedroom fell into silence.

Lynn, without any concern, removed all his clothes and stepped into the bathtub.

As Lynn sat down slowly.

The comforting and warm water rose steadily.

When it reached Lynn's chest, it stopped at just the right level.

Neither overflowing nor compromising the comfort of soaking.

Sitting in the wooden bathtub, Lynn gazed directly at the bedroom's ceiling.

Thoughts quickly turned in Lynn's mind.

The development plan direction for Morgan Town had been mostly completed.

Lynn just needed to delegate the ideas in his mind to different managers for high-level execution.

Morgan Town could then enter a stable development phase.

Once everything was arranged.

Lynn could return to the realm and plan for further development!

Even though Morgan Town boasted 120,000 acres of farmland, abundant labor, and 5,600 garrison soldiers...

In Lynn's view, Morgan Town was always just a line of defense for the realm!

The focus of all development could only be on the territory beyond Weng City!

The core must be the realm, expanding step by step to the surrounding areas for a radiating rule.

Only this way.

Could a fortress-like nation within a nation be built!

Thud~ thud~ thud~

As Lynn pondered while looking at the bedroom ceiling, he raised his eyebrows and looked at the double wooden doors in front of the bathtub.

After several rounds of strengthening his body.

Lynn's keen sense and hearing.

Naturally picked up on the faint yet noticeable footsteps outside the bedroom.

Neither linen shoes nor leather shoes.

Lynn felt it was more like barefoot steps crossing the carpeted hallway's sound.

Moreover.

The footsteps grew closer, approaching his bedroom.

In Lynn's attentive listening, the footsteps drew nearer.

Finally, they stopped before the double wooden doors where Lynn was gazing, and his brows furrowed slightly.

Knock knock~

Light, not heavy, door knocks sounded.

Before Lynn could speak and inquire.

Outside the door, a woman's magnetic voice inquired.

"Lord... have you fallen asleep?"

Such distinctive words were naturally Helena Wells.

Lynn replied, "Not yet."

"Helena Manor Lord, it's so late, is there anything?"

After Lynn's words, the outside of the double wooden doors fell silent.

Although there was no sound outside.

Lynn could clearly hear and sense a rapidly beating heartbeat and slightly quickened breathing from outside the double wooden doors.

Helena was standing behind the closed double wooden doors.

After a few seconds of silence.

Helena, as if making up her mind, spoke with a hint of determination in her tone.

Chapter 1219: Chapter 329: Helena Attends Your Bath (10,000) (4)

"Lord, may Helena come in?"

Hearing the sudden words, Lynn's eyebrows slightly rose.

"Helena Manor Lord, I'm currently soaking in the bath."

"If there's something, it can wait until I'm finished bathing."

Just as Lynn's words fell, Helena's voice sounded again.

"Lord, Helena would like... would like to come in now... would you mind?"

Lynn responded, saying.

"If Helena Manor Lord doesn't mind, then come in."

"The door isn't locked."

As Lynn's words fell.

The double wooden doors, closed and slightly ajar by Red, were slowly pushed open.

Helena's exquisite and mature face.

Illuminated by the oil lamp's glow, came into Lynn's view through the gradually opening gap in the wooden door.

As the double wooden doors were continuously pushed open by Helena.

Helena, wearing a black off-shoulder silk gown, appeared at the bedroom doorway.

Just as Lynn had guessed earlier.

At this moment, Helena had already taken off the pointed leather shoes she was wearing.

Her fair, petite pearl-like feet stepped onto the ground.

Perhaps due to nervousness, a faint blush appeared on Helena's delicate white cheeks.

Leaning back in the bathtub, Lynn had his arms draped over the edge, staring directly at Helena at the door.

"Helena Manor Lord, is there something urgent?"

Stepping forward, entering Lynn's bedroom, Helena casually closed the door.

She came to a few meters in front of the bathtub.

Helena looked at Lynn's tan body in the bathtub, broad and strong yet not overly praised arms.

In the bathtub's hot water, those vaguely visible abdominal muscles...

Without saying a word, Helena's arms moved, unfastening the black dress she wore.

In the next instant.

The black dress fell straight to the ground.

Helena's voluptuous and well-proportioned body was completely exposed to Lynn's eyes.

Feeling Lynn's wanton gaze sweeping across her body.

Helena's nervousness grew even stronger.

Her words came out intermittently from her mouth.

"Lord, perhaps... perhaps you have already guessed Helena's purpose for coming here at this late hour."

"Perhaps... in your eyes, Helena is no different from a brothel woman."

"Or perhaps... as Morgan Town's only lord with formidable military power, you don't care about Helena's body at all..."

Lynn said nothing, merely staring at Helena.

Helena continued, "But for the Wells Manor, even if I am ridiculed by you, Lord, or lose my life."

"Helena still wishes to seek your favor."

Lynn's voice was calm as he spoke.

"Seek what?"

Suppressing her inner tension, at this point, Helena had no reason to feel nervous or fearful anymore.

Helena looked directly at Lynn and spoke.

"Lord, Helena wants to become, like you, the only Manor Lord in Alba Town."

"To become your only supporting Manor Lord in Alba Town!"

"Just as promised before, Helena, who would control the entire Alba Town, can still continue to fulfill."

"That is, to pay you fifty percent of Alba Town's total production as a tax."

"During busy farming or times of war, offer you labor or soldier support unconditionally."

"In public settings, acknowledge your identity and follow your orders without question..."

Letting out all the long-repressed thoughts in her heart in one breath.

Helena, with amber eyes full of hope, looked at Lynn and tentatively asked.

"Lord, what do you think?"

Lynn's gaze swept across Helena.

Instead of answering, he asked in return.

"If I agree with you, I must send soldiers to attack Alba Town."

"Launch an attack on Kennedy and Orlando Manors, who have already sworn allegiance to me, for suppression."

"For my armored soldiers, this is no difficult task..."

"To be precise, wiping out all the manors in Alba Town overnight is not a difficult task!"

Listening to Lord Lynn's calm words, Helena's heart was heavy.

Naturally, Helena knew that Lord Lynn was warning her.

As long as Lord Lynn wishes.

He can dispatch armored soldiers at any time to wipe out the three manors in Alba Town!

Lynn looked directly at Helena and asked.

"Alba Town is already under my control."

"With the existence of three manors, the development of manors in Alba Town can be balanced and restricted, preventing a single family from becoming too dominant and eventually escaping my control!"

"If I agree with you, wouldn't it allow your Wells Manor to develop rapidly?"

"This offers me no benefit!"

Listening to Lynn's orderly words, Helena's mood was tense and low to the extreme.

Sure enough.

Lord Lynn had long anticipated this!

Helena originally thought.

That upon hearing her narrative, Lord Lynn would agree to her request.

Because, in anyone's eyes, managing one manor in Alba Town is far easier and more relaxed than managing three.

However.

Lord Lynn immediately sensed her inner thoughts.

Helena even felt that in front of Lynn, there was no privacy at all!

Helena's mind rapidly turned, trying to respond to Lord Lynn's question.

Chapter 1220: Chapter 329: Helena Attends Your Bath (10K) (Part 5)

Lynn, soaking in the bathtub, had no rush at all.

His arms rested on the edge of the tub, submerged in the hot water, relishing the comfort it brought.

A few seconds later.

Helena seemed to have thought of something and quickly spoke to Lynn.

"Lord, Helena can limit the number of guards in the manor."

"Ensure that the number of armed soldiers in Wells Manor is under your military power control!"

Just as Helena's voice faded.

Lynn's response suddenly echoed.

"Then, it is possible."

Helena's delicate brows arched instantly in disbelief.

"Lord... Are you saying you've agreed?"

Lynn nodded: "Yes!"

"As you mentioned, once I dispatch the armored soldiers to subdue Orlando and Kennedy Manors."

"Wells Manor will become the sole manor in Alba Town."

"And you, Helena, will become the only manor lord in Alba Town!"

Listening to Lynn's tone, as if pronouncing her fate with plain words.

Helena's bare body trembled instantly.

Lord Lynn agreed to her request so simply!

There were no additional demands for benefits from Wells Manor.

Nor were there any demands upon seeing her body.

The feeling led Helena to believe.

Even if she hadn't tried to get closer to Lord Lynn by coming to Morgan Town repeatedly.

Even if she hadn't shed her robe and stood bare before Lynn.

As long as she revealed all her thoughts to Lord Lynn entirely.

Lord Lynn would still agree to make her the only manor lord in Alba Town!

So what was the meaning of all she was doing now?

An intense sense of shame grew in Helena's heart.

Lynn continued to stare at Helena and spoke.

"If there is nothing else, Helena Manor Lord, please retreat and return to your room to rest."

Indeed!

Even at this point.

Lord Lynn had no other thoughts about her body?

Helena felt full of disappointment, responding.

"Yes, Lord."

Helena bent down, intending to pick up her black dress from the floor to put it on.

A strong feeling of unwillingness surged within Helena's heart.

Helena released the black dress in her hand, slowly standing upright.

Her amber eyes gazed straight at Lord Lynn in the bathtub.

Seeing the surprise on Lord Lynn's face.

Helena didn't care.

She stretched her long legs, stepping towards Lynn.

Under the gaze of Lord Lynn, Helena lifted her right leg, stepping into the bathtub.

The comfortable warmth of the water immediately enveloped Helena's right leg.

Despite the height difference due to their standing and sitting positions.

That view appeared before Lynn's eyes, yet Helena remained unfazed.

After stabilizing her right leg, Helena lifted her left leg, stepping into the bathtub again.

Seeing that Lord Lynn had no words to stop her.

Helena slowly crouched down.

The water in the bathtub began to rise quickly.

As the water reached Helena's front.

The round fullness before her floated slightly upward.

Determined earlier, Helena couldn't help but feel tense again.

Because.

The bathtub Lynn soaked in isn't large, meant for single bathing.

As Helena crouched, their bodies were mere centimeters apart.

Helena was even crouched between Lord Lynn's spread legs.

The rounded fullness in front of Helena occasionally floated out of the water, visible to Lynn.

Such proximity.

Feeling the warm breath from Lynn's nose and mouth.

Helena's fair-skinned surface bristled instantly.

Helena, a bit nervously, said.

"Lord... Lord, Helena shall attend to your bath..."

"Hmm!"

Before Helena could finish her words, she noticed the water before her rapidly surged.

Before she could react, Lord Lynn's powerful arms crossed the distance between them, encircling her waist.

With a force appearing.

Helena's body instantly leaned against Lynn, pressed tightly against his broad, warm chest.

Meanwhile.

Lynn's handsome face approached quickly.

In a moment.

Lynn's lips pressed against hers.

Helena's eyes widened instantly, her delicate brows arched immediately.

Even though before coming to Lord Lynn's bedroom, Helena had thought of what might happen.

But everything happening now was entirely different from what Helena had imagined.

Helena thought.

Lord Lynn would make various demands of her manor and her body before agreeing to her request.

But now.

Helena, driven by her unwillingness, willingly entered the bathtub where Lord Lynn soaked...

Feeling a strong, warm hand begin to wander across her body.

Feeling the fullness before her becoming distorted.

Helena showed no resistance, closing her eyes and immersing herself in the moment...

Her long eyelashes trembled under the exploration of Lynn's right hand.

Until several minutes later.

Lynn's hands settled on Helena's waist, applying slight force, lifting her gently to place her in front.