

System 621

Chapter 621: Janet Arrives _6

It has now been transformed into a training ground for the school's children.

On the training ground, there is a shooting range to train children's early archery skills.

The stone dumbbells, which were made, can train the children's arm, shoulder, and back muscle strength.

The wooden longswords that have been processed and made allow these children to practice the basic techniques of the longsword in advance.

At this moment, Lynn is standing at the outermost edge of the shooting range.

His feet are apart, shoulder-width, body facing the target in front, with knees slightly bent.

His left hand grips the bow, positioned slightly below the center of the bow grip, and his fingers naturally encircle the grip.

His right index, middle, and ring fingers hook the bowstring, pulling it from below towards himself, forming a stable triangle.

This state is referred to as 'Full Bow'!

It can store the maximum energy, providing enough power for the Arrow's release.

Lynn's eyes focus through the Arrow, aiming at the target in front.

Then, based on the distance to the target, he makes the appropriate elevation, feeling the wind's direction and force.

Aiming is complete.

Without any hesitation, he releases the triangular Armor-Piercing Arrow pinched between his fingers.

Whoosh!

With the sound of a breaking wind,

The triangular Armor-Piercing Arrow draws an arc in mid-air and accurately hits the straw linen dummy target 150 meters away.

Perhaps due to its immense power, the triangular Armor-Piercing Arrow penetrates a few inches into the target.

The target even wobbles slightly from the impact.

After obtaining the Bow Mastery Skill Book and learning it, Lynn found that, even though it's merely a mortal-level Bow Mastery skill,

it still elevated his understanding of archery by more than one level.

His stance became more standard, his bow grip more adept, his wind control, and his pre-aiming and elevation more precise.

[Hunting Experience +1]

Seeing the panel prompt before him, Lynn felt a sense of satisfaction.

The Hunting skill is one of the easiest for him to grind.

As long as he practices archery, he can gain experience for the Hunting skill.

However.

Every full bowshot is a significant physical exertion for him.

The longbow he holds requires a pull of 130 pounds for a full bow.

Even with attribute points allocated, pulling it continuously 30 to 40 times leads to gradual exhaustion.

[Hunting: Level 2 (315/500)] (+)

After two continuous days.

He only managed to raise his Hunting skill experience a bit over halfway.

A few meters behind Lynn.

Red watched those targets, filled with triangular Armor-Piercing Arrows, his eyes full of bewilderment.

The Lynn before him, is he truly the same Master Lynn he initially knew?

On each target, at least six or seven Arrows are embedded in the center!

Moreover, not a single Arrow is outside the center of the target.

In other words.

Every shot Master Lynn makes, he hits with certainty!

Even after being a Hunter and using a bow and arrow for over a decade,

he couldn't guarantee hitting the center from 150 meters away with every shot.

Not off by a fraction!

While Red was sighing inwardly,

a series of footsteps approached rapidly from afar.

Snapping back to reality, Red quickly went to intercept.

Master Lynn is currently engaged in archery training and must not be disturbed by outsiders.

Red stopped the Guard and asked, "What's the matter?"

The Guard quickly reported, "Captain Red, the Boer Merchant has arrived in the town."

"Along with him are two strangers..."

"The Boer Merchant introduced them as the Frank Manor Lord!"

Upon hearing this, Red raised an eyebrow and told the Guard, "Got it."

After dismissing the Guard, Red glanced at Lynn, who continued shooting, and then stepped forward without hesitation.

Coming to Lynn's side, Red began reporting, "Master, Mr. Boer has brought the Frank Manor Lord to the town."

Whoosh!

Just as an Arrow was released, accurately striking the target's center, Lynn turned to glance at Red.

Considering it has only been a few days since Boer last brought a caravan to his territory,

Such a quick return indicates how much Frank Manor Lord Janet values this cooperation!

Lynn acknowledged and returned the longbow to the bow rack, making his way back towards the town.

...

On Lord's Square.

Janet dismounted her horse, her eyes scanning the surroundings incessantly.

Her eyes were full of astonishment.

Looking at the ten-meter-tall statue of a horse being ridden, Janet's eyes were full of anticipation.

She couldn't help but ask, "Mr. Boer, that statue is of...?"

Following Janet's gaze, Boer responded, "That is the statue of the Lord of this land!"

Despite the introduction, Boer refrained from mentioning Master Lynn's name to Janet.

Janet lightly nodded, stepping towards the gigantic statue.

George, Boer, and Joao followed behind her.

Janet scrutinized the face of the man riding the horse carefully.

Despite being carved from stone,

one could still see the man's resolute facial features.

Even at a glance, Janet could feel the youth and toughness of the man on the horse.

Janet's gaze shifted down slightly, finally resting on the platform beneath the statue.

She clearly saw that the stone wall facing her was engraved with various symbols.

Janet couldn't help but ask, "Mr. Boer, are these symbols... names?"

Boer furrowed his brows, momentarily unsure how to respond, and turned to look at George.

George replied, "Yes, these names are of the warriors who made sacrifices for the territory."

"The Lord had their names engraved on the stone sculpture to ensure the living would remember them."

Listening to George's explanation, Janet felt her heart stir slightly.

To ensure the living remember them?

Indeed, it is a method that can ignite courage and determination in everyone!

What is the most frightening aspect of inevitable war?

Death?

Not necessarily.

It's being forgotten after death!

It seems simple, yet she had never thought of it.

This Lord could come up with such a way, indeed an existence not to be underestimated!

Janet counted the names on the top.

The number was not many, only a few dozen.

Janet's mind raced with thoughts.

In other words.

This mysterious Lord eradicated the Iron Blood Brotherhood Bandit Corps and conquered and pillaged Morrison Manor.

The loss of armed soldiers was only a few dozen!

Janet knew full well that the Iron Blood Brotherhood, after forcefully recruiting some village Townsmen,

had a number reaching over a thousand!

Before being taken over, Aiden had also employed hundreds of Free People as followers at Morrison Manor.

However,

this mysterious Lord managed to address the Iron Blood Brotherhood Bandit Corps and Morrison Manor

at the cost of only a few dozen soldiers!

Chapter 622: Qualified to Negotiate With Me?

Upon entering the city wall and the Weng City, Janet indeed saw many soldiers clad in armor, holding strange long spears.

But such a loss in battle, isn't it a bit too exaggerated?

In an instant.

A bad thought surfaced in Janet's mind.

In Frank Manor, there were only five hundred fully armed soldiers.

Even at just a glance, she could feel that the armored soldiers and weapons owned by this mysterious lord far surpassed her chain armor cavalry!

Janet had already made a decision in her heart.

This mysterious lord, with a higher quality of fully armed soldiers, had defeated the Iron Blood Brotherhood Bandit Corps and the Morrison Manor with fewer troops!

Janet's gaze shifted towards the back of the Lord Statue.

There, lay neighborhoods of red brick houses.

The scale was so large that Janet guessed there were at least two thousand of them!

Assuming a family living scale, with an average of three people per house.

That is to say.

In this small town almost entirely built of red bricks, there were at least six thousand people!

Not just that.

The defense fortress city at the mountain pass led directly to this territory town with a lime road.

After passing through the forest, there was a large stretch of farmland with lush green crops.

Canals dug between farmlands, coated with lime sand, brought water from the Aladia River into the canals through rotating wooden wheels, which could be used for irrigation.

Plus, the tall chimneys in the distance emitting light smoke, and buildings that appeared to be workshops.

And even further, there stood a castle taller than the Frank Manor Castle...

Janet could hardly imagine.

In this corner even more remote than Morgan Town, at the edge of the Aladia River, there lay such a thriving territory.

This territory, a year ago, she had never even heard of!

Observing the newness of these structures, it was clear they were completed very recently.

Thus.

Janet could be very certain.

This territory only appeared recently and rapidly developed to its current scale!

At this thought.

Janet couldn't help but open her moist mouth, letting out a few breaths of hot air.

Even before coming to this territory, Janet was already filled with curiosity about this mysterious lord.

Now that she was in the territory, seeing everything before her eyes.

Her heart became even more expectant!

As Janet marveled in her mind.

Boer's voice, full of respect, reached her ears.

"Master Lynn."

Janet came back to her senses, following Boer's direction, she looked over.

She saw.

A young man, wearing a silk brocade robe, was walking towards them step by step.

His face was stern, eyes deep and steadfast, his steps composed and unhurried.

The silk brocade robe and his black hair fluttered up and down with the wind.

Lightly flowing behind him, with his steady steps, showing the lord's dignity and composure.

In Janet's eyes appeared a hint of surprise.

She had guessed about the mysterious lord's age and appearance.

But she never thought that this mysterious lord would be so young!

He looked as if he had just reached adulthood?

Janet politely followed Boer a few steps towards Lynn, as a gesture of welcome.

Upon reaching him, Boer hurriedly explained.

"Master Lynn, Janet...the manor lord came with my carriage team to your territory."

As Boer spoke, he cast a glance behind.

Seeing Boer introduced her, Janet understood and strode forward, also coming before Lynn.

Janet slightly bowed, saluting.

A gentle voice emerged from her lips.

"Lord Lynn, I am Janet Frank, the recently appointed manor lord of Frank Manor."

Meanwhile.

The round, white cleavage before Janet was fully displayed in front of Lynn.

Lynn's gaze swept over Janet.

A face young and exquisite, but with a mature figure beyond her years.

The luxurious silk robe could not conceal her proud figure.

Lynn merely glanced, disinterestedly withdrawing his gaze.

In comparison, Janet before him was far from Audrey, Kari, and Yaya.

Lynn nodded and said, "Miss Janet, I am Lynn."

Listening to Lynn's calm words, his gentlemanly gaze stopping at just the right point, a hint of surprise surfaced in Janet's eyes.

To know other manor lords or men, upon seeing her, would wish to drag her into a room instantly and whip mercilessly.

Yet the Lynn in front of her merely glanced nonchalantly?

Lynn had no impulsive desire for her figure?

In this case.

Janet felt no gratitude, instead she became a bit disappointed.

More so, her heart was unwilling.

Suppressing her inner thoughts, Janet put on a standard smile, continuing to speak softly.

"Lord Lynn, since you agreed for me to come to your territory, I think we both understand the purpose."

Lynn nodded and said, "Of course, Miss Janet."

"If you don't mind, we could have a drink at the town tavern."

"As a simple welcoming for Miss Janet's distant visit, our first meeting?"

Janet's brows slightly raised.

"Then I'll trouble Lord Lynn."

Chapter 623: Qualified to Negotiate Terms with Me?

Lynn nodded, his gaze directed towards the rear of Boer.

"Mr. Boer, I've asked George to handle your goods exchange matters."

"What do you think?"

Of course, Lynn noticed the figures trailing behind Boer's carriage.

Those figures were dressed in linen robes of various colors, carrying bundles, including men, women, and children.

Clearly, they weren't mere slaves.

The only possibility,

was that Boer had brought a group of Free People from Morgan Town or Kakasong City for him.

Boer nodded, saying, "Of course, Master Lynn, your matters are more important."

"You're too kind."

Lynn responded.

He looked at George, who was walking up, and called him over.

After instructing George briefly, Lynn let him handle the forthcoming transaction with Boer.

Lynn walked with Janet towards the town tavern.

The two walked side by side.

Lynn could clearly feel,

that Janet walking beside him intentionally or unintentionally brushed her hand against his.

Lynn understood inwardly; was this Janet's way of managing foreign relations?

Using her temporary physique and physical contact to dazzle others?

At this time during working hours, the tavern was empty.

Lynn and Janet sat across from each other at a round table.

Without a word from Lynn, Red went to the counter and fetched a bottle of gin.

Under Janet's curious gaze, he opened the glazed bottle; with a flick of his arm, he poured the liquid into Lynn's and Janet's glazed cups.

Watching the golden liquid gently swirl in the cups, Janet couldn't help but ask.

"Sir Lynn, this is..."

Lynn explained, "Lexus Gin, distilled spirits made in the town's brewing workshop."

"Its high alcohol content is favored by some merchants visiting the territory."

"Lady Janet, you can give it a try."

Janet nodded, picked up the glazed cup on the table, gesturing towards Lynn across the air,

and then swallowed the contents in one gulp.

As she swallowed, Janet's brow involuntarily furrowed.

She felt the Lexus Gin, like scalding hot water,

flowed from her throat all the way down to her abdomen.

Comfortable, yet leaving a mysterious aftertaste.

Janet exclaimed in praise, "Good wine!"

Lynn smiled, "Lady Janet, if you like, feel free to have a few more cups."

As Lynn's guard poured for her again, Janet wasn't the least bit shy.

She raised the cup and took another gulp.

Savoring the scalding sensation flowing down her throat.

Putting down the glazed cup in her hand, Janet looked at Lynn.

Without hesitation, directly asked, "I wonder, sir Lynn, if you are familiar with the current situation in Morgan Town?"

Janet, originally fair-faced, now showed a trace of blush.

Lynn hadn't spoken yet when Janet explained, "Sir Lynn, don't misunderstand."

"I mean, if you're not familiar with the latest situation, I can introduce it to you."

Before him, Lynn had managed to wipe out Morrison Manor unbeknownst to the entire Morgan Town and at minimal cost.

If he were unfamiliar with Morgan Town's situation, that would be impossible!

Apart from merchant Boer, who traded with Lynn,

Janet suspected that Lynn had already stationed some spies in Morgan Town to gather intel about the town.

Some might have even infiltrated each manor!

To develop a territory to such an extent,

it's far from achievable by developing it heedlessly.

One must understand existing threats outside the territory and potential future crises.

Have an in-depth understanding of these matters.

Otherwise,

even if the territory flourishes, it ultimately remains somebody else's possession.

Lynn nodded, "Lady Janet, could I trouble you with that?"

Janet responded, "Sir Lynn, the current situation in Morgan Town is somewhat complicated, and the situation is quite tense."

"After my grandfather's passing, the originally stable Morgan Town has become teetering."

"Banaby even went behind me at Frank Manor, inviting Theodore and Lord Will for a summit meeting."

"Their goal is to destroy my Frank Manor and divide Frank's land!"

Lynn remained silent, listening to Janet's account.

"But during the summit, Lord Will suggested re-discussing the terms, citing unequal distribution of benefits from destroying Frank Manor."

"Ultimately, he ceased the Three Great Estates Lords' summit."

"I initially thought Lord Will would stand with Frank Manor out of respect for my grandfather."

"However, I overestimated."

"I invited Lord Will for a meeting, proposing neutrality."

"After I wipe out both Theodore and Banaby's manors, he could choose either one for himself."

"To Lord Will, this was a beneficial deal."

"However, Lord Will said he needed to think about it!"

"In my view, he's already rejected me."

"Which means, Frank Manor will face a joint siege from Morgan Town's Three Great Estates Lords!"

At this point, Janet shifted the conversation.

"So, I reached out to Mr. Boer and found you, sir Lynn."

"Janet wants to form a partnership with you, sir Lynn!"

Chapter 624: Are You Qualified to Negotiate with Me? (3)

The words are spoken.

Janet's eyes stare straight at Lynn across from her.

To demonstrate her sincerity, she candidly shared the information she had previously obtained.

She openly expressed the dire straits facing Frank Manor.

After all, Janet was unsure about how much intelligence Lynn held regarding Morgan Town.

Perhaps, a slight concealment could prevent her and Lynn from collaborating.

So, she decided to lay everything bare.

Lynn pondered for a moment, also directly looking at Janet.

"Lady Janet, what do you need me to do?"

Upon hearing Lynn's inquiry, Janet felt a sense of relief.

Clearly.

Her exhaustive explanation had an effect.

At least, she gained Lynn's preliminary approval.

Janet continued: "Since the Lords of the Three Great Estates want to annihilate my Frank Manor, they must also prepare for their own destruction!"

"Currently in Frank Manor, the armed soldiers..."

Janet hesitated for less than half a second, "Five hundred chain armor heavy cavalry, one thousand light infantry."

"We can fight against two manor lords, but facing the Three Great Estates simultaneously..."

"Lord Lynn, I need your military assistance!"

"If you are willing to dispatch troops, you can certainly obliterate the Three Great Estates in Morgan Town easily!"

Lynn nodded and directly said, "After the Three Great Estates in Morgan Town are destroyed, how should the interests be divided?"

Listening to Lynn's words.

Janet was not surprised.

She never anticipated Lynn would dispatch his army to help her out of friendship or for free.

Going to war definitely entails sacrifices and deaths.

Whether sacrificing a soldier or losing a horse, it's a great loss for a lord.

Therefore.

Without sufficient interests, no one would randomly dispatch soldiers for warfare.

This is the reality.

Janet pondered for a moment, attempting to open, "Lord Lynn."

"Once the Three Great Estates in Morgan Town are eradicated, and including the destroyed Morrison Manor, there will be lands from four manors."

"You can freely choose two among them as the reward for dispatching troops this time."

"What do you think?"

"Of course, if you're not satisfied with this allocation, we can further negotiate!"

Lynn did not hesitate at all, opening his mouth to say, "Apologies, Lady Janet, I don't need the manor lands you mentioned as a reward."

Janet raised her brow, just about to inquire.

She discovered Lynn's words did not stop.

"I need all the properties in the three manors."

"Grain, money, goods, peasants, and various iron products."

"And also half of the annual tax revenue from Morgan Town!"

Originally thinking the demands reasonable, Janet.

Upon hearing Lynn's last sentence, her eyes suddenly widened enormously.

An inexplicable sense of anger appeared in Janet's heart.

Janet did not lash out immediately, she forcibly suppressed the anger in her heart, trying to make her voice calm.

"Lord Lynn, wouldn't your demands be too much?"

If it's just the property in the three manors, she wouldn't have too much opinion.

However.

Lynn in front of her, not only wanted to take away the property of the three manors.

Opening his mouth, he wanted to take half of the tax revenue from Morgan Town!

It was simply extortion!

Lynn seemed unbothered by Janet's change in tone, he said: "Lady Janet."

"In my view, these demands are not too much."

"As you yourself said, you are going to face a joint attack from the lords of the Three Great Estates."

"But, you don't have enough armed forces to resist and counterattack."

"Meaning, your manor is facing a crisis of life and death!"

Janet's face darkened.

Lynn continued, "In such a crucial time, you didn't seek others to help you."

"Instead, you found me through Boer's connection—this stranger lord you've never met and shared no relationship with."

"And pleaded for my military assistance for two manor lands as reward."

"This indicates beyond me, in the whole Morgan Town or the entire Kakasong City, you can't find other military help anymore!"

Saying this, Lynn leaned back, resting against the chair back.

He stared at Janet, smiling, "Lady Janet, it's not that my demands are too much."

"Rather, you must recognize your situation!"

"Do you think you are in a position to negotiate terms with me now?"

Seeing Lynn's casual demeanor as if in control of everything.

A strong feeling of humiliation rushed into Janet's head.

Janet suddenly stood up from the chair, standing up, glaring at Lynn.

Compared to others' physical, eye contact, or hand invasion.

The mental intrusion from Lynn in front was even more unbearable for Janet!

The feeling was like she tried her best to please a man who rejected her.

She even took off all her clothes voluntarily, standing naked in front of the man.

Awaiting the man's care.

But what came was the man pushing her away.

And said, "So easy to obtain?"

No different from being toyed.

Young Joao behind Janet frowned tightly, even placing his right hand on the longsword grip on his waist.

Perhaps, just a command from Janet.

Joao would take action without hesitation.

Seeing Janet suddenly stand up, breathing rapidly.

Chapter 625: Are You Qualified to Negotiate with Me? (4)

The rounded snow-white half looming in front, rising and falling.

And those enraged eyes, Lynn's expression remained calm.

Picking up the Lexus Gin from the table, he poured a glass for Janet, then another for himself.

His actions were neither hurried nor slow, executed perfectly.

Under Janet's gaze, Lynn raised the glass of glazed glass and drank it in one go.

Janet slightly opened her mouth, inhaling sharply, the anger on her face visibly dissipated.

She moved her hand, picked up the gin Lynn had poured, drank it in one gulp, and sat back down on the wooden chair.

Putting down the glass in her hand, Janet said complexly, "Just as you said, Lord Lynn."

"Janet... to be precise, all of Frank Manor except for you, Lord Lynn, cannot request military aid from anyone."

After saying this, Janet paused, seemingly contemplating something.

Lynn waited for Janet to continue speaking.

After a moment.

Janet looked up at Lynn, her words firm and resolute, "As long as Lord Lynn sends troops to help me eliminate the Three Great Estates."

"The conditions will follow what you proposed, Lord Lynn."

"All the properties within the three manors, and half of the annual tax revenue of Morgan Town."

Lynn was about to nod in response when Janet continued speaking.

"Although I now have no right to negotiate conditions with you, Lord Lynn."

"But I still need to try!"

Lynn nodded calmly, "Let's hear it."

Janet said, "The half of Morgan Town's annual tax revenue needs to have a term!"

"A maximum of five years!"

Lynn did not object, standing and stating, "Certainly, Lady Janet."

"Then let's wish for a pleasant collaboration!"

Simultaneously, Lynn habitually extended his right hand.

Listening to Lynn's straightforward tone and seeing the hand stretched before her.

Janet froze slightly.

Soon, she understood.

Likewise, she extended her right hand and lightly shook Lynn's hand.

The two released their hands and continued discussing the details of their future cooperation.

Until an hour later.

Janet and Joao rode horses, leaving for the town escorted by the territory's soldiers.

Watching the two ride away, Lynn finally withdrew his gaze.

On the limestone road, Joao glanced at Janet, about to speak.

Janet preemptively stopped him, saying, "Mr. Boer might still have transactions to discuss with Lord Lynn."

"We don't need to wait for him, let's head back to Morgan Town ahead of time."

Joao immediately understood, saying no more.

Escorted by several soldiers clad in plate armor, Janet and Joao passed through the fertile fields along the limestone road, through the forest.

Finally, as the heavy iron gate opened, the two left Lynn's jurisdiction.

Riding on horseback, Janet looked back behind her.

Even though she had already seen that city wall when they came.

Seeing it again now, she still felt an insurmountable sense of despair in her heart!

Such a city wall was already the kind of defensive structure only a city could possess!

Withdrawing her gaze, Janet looked at Joao and said, "Uncle, what do you want to say?"

Hearing Janet's inquiry, Joao replied, "Janet, are you really agreeing to the demands of that lord?"

"The peasants' property within the three manors is not much, indeed."

"But half of Morgan Town's annual tax revenue... that's a hefty sum!"

Janet had already anticipated Joao's inquiry.

Thus, she wasn't surprised and calmly started to explain.

"Uncle Joao, I now realize how piercingly accurate Lynn's words were."

"Just as he said, the Frank family now is in no position to haggle with him!"

"Even if we were unwilling, what could we do? Hmm?"

"Lynn's territory, though within the range of Morgan Town, is right at the edge!"

"Not to mention the conflict of interests among the manor lords of Morgan Town."

"I feel that as long as Lynn does not do anything outrageous that incurs the wrath of Marquis Ducas and the Emperor."

"Even the flames of the Imperial Authority struggle cannot reach the territory behind that city wall defense structure!"

"Morgan Town is too far from the Royal City of Triumph and Bordeaux City."

"Not to mention, Lynn's territory is behind that mountain range, with a city wall as the only entrance defense structure!"

"He can well guard the city wall defenses, watching the mutual destruction among the four manor lords of Morgan Town."

"Even in the end, he can deploy his forces to reap the whole of Morgan Town!"

Janet continued, "But, since he is willing to make requests of us, it's a good thing for Frank Manor!"

Joao frowned, slightly puzzled, "It's a good thing?"

Janet gently nudged her horse to move slightly faster.

She nodded, "Precisely!"

"As long as Lynn is willing to negotiate with us, we still have room to maneuver with him."

"Uncle Joao, you also saw those soldiers standing on the city wall."

Joao replied, "I saw, fully armed, clad in standard plate armor, and holding at least five-meter-long standard long spears!"

"If equipped furthermore with warhorses... if they form a scale, it will be a terrifying force of heavy cavalry!"

Janet said, "Right, we don't know how many such soldiers Lynn possesses."

"It could be hundreds, maybe even thousands?"

Chapter 626: Qualified to Negotiate Terms with Me?

"Just imagine, if Lynn had thousands of fully armed heavy cavalry."

"Not to mention a few small manor lords in Morgan Town, coupled with some siege equipment, infantry, and so on."

"Even Kakasong City, Lynn could probably make an attempt!"

Joao furrowed his brows even deeper.

Janet continued, "Lynn didn't do this, but instead agreed to my request for a meeting, allowing me to visit his territory for discussions."

"This indicates that Lynn has a very strong military power!"

"But it's far from being able to dominate the entire Morgan Town."

"Moreover, Lynn only needs the property of the Three Great Estates... not the territory within the manor!"

"This suggests that Lynn's territory is still in development."

"He wants to use my military aid to attack the manors in Morgan Town, and gain more goods and peasants through war."

"To expand the production scale and improve production efficiency within his territory!"

"Lynn's territory still needs to continue developing!"

Listening to Janet's analysis.

Joao was filled with admiration.

These insights were beyond his wildest imagination!

With the current ability Janet has shown, she is far above several people in the Frank Manor!

Even compared to his father Jonas, it seems there's not much difference.

Wise and responsible!

Regardless of what methods were used, Janet becoming the manor lord of the Frank Manor is quite reasonable.

Janet naturally didn't know what Joao was thinking about at the moment.

She continued her analysis, "As long as the Three Great Estates are destroyed, even if Lynn takes all the property from them."

"While Lynn develops his territory, the Frank Manor, which controls the entire Morgan Town, can also start growing rapidly!"

"And, relying on the proximity to Kakasong City, the speed of development might even surpass Lynn."

At this point.

Janet's face showed a trace of joy and anticipation.

"As long as the Frank Clan has enough property, they can hire more soldiers and purchase more weapons and armor!"

"Even possibly, forging alliances with more lordships with strong armed forces, like Lord Jon of Kakasong City or some manor lords in nearby towns!"

"With enough armed forces, they can seize the territory Lynn possesses!"

Looking at Janet's increasingly peculiar face and listening to her words, Joao couldn't help but ask.

"Janet, are you suggesting... going to war with Lynn?"

Janet turned abruptly at the face in front.

She looked at Joao, her expression growing somewhat exaggerated.

Excited, filled with ambition.

Janet's voice grew excited, "Of course! Uncle Joao."

"Unifying the entire Morgan Town is just the first step for the Frank Clan."

"The next step is Lynn's territory!"

Janet looked quizzically at Joao and asked, "Uncle Joao, haven't you noticed something different about Lynn's territory?"

After thinking for a few seconds, Joao shook his head.

Janet didn't mind, and immediately began to explain.

"Uncle Joao, Lynn's territory has mineral resources!"

Joao's eyebrows raised.

Janet continued, "That's a whole three types of mineral resources!"

She saw the coal mine carriages filled on wooden tracks, she saw carts transporting fine salt.

And, she saw small boats transporting iron ore on the Aladia River!

If the Frank Clan could completely occupy Lynn's territory.

She could definitely lead the entire Frank Clan to rise vastly!

Janet's heart was filled with endless anticipation!

Originally, she thought this anticipation would take a long time.

But now, after arriving in Lynn's territory, Janet found this expectation to be within reach!

Janet took deep breaths of air, letting her excited heart and body gradually calm down.

Of course, she wouldn't be blinded by the three mineral resources on Lynn's territory.

Instead, they made her understand even more what the next target should be.

The immediate task is to destroy the Three Great Estates in Morgan Town.

And to make a move against the Three Great Estates, she must wait for Godfrey, who has been staying in the brothel, to leave Morgan Town!

She needs a reasonable excuse for Lawrence to depart.

Or rather, an opportunity!

...

In the town.

Lynn strode to the Lord's Square.

A number of townsmen were continuously unloading bulging linen sacks from the carriage one by one.

After stacking piles of barley onto two-wheeled carts, they transported them toward the warehouse.

During the time he talked with Janet.

The barley from ten carriages is about to be completely unloaded.

As Lynn watched the townsmen transport the barley, a voice full of reverence called out from behind him.

"Master Lynn!"

Lynn turned around to see George and Boer coming from the distant merchant guild hall.

Perhaps due to his presence, both sped up their pace a little.

Arriving beside Lynn, Boer caught his breath.

He glanced at George beside him, saw George make a gesture of invitation, and then Boer spoke.

"I apologize, Master Lynn, there's something Boer needs to urgently consult you about, hoping for your understanding."

Seeing Boer bow before him, Lynn responded, "Is it about the Free People?"

Chapter 627: Qualified to Negotiate Terms with Me?

Boer straightened up, somewhat surprised, and said, "That's right, Master Lynn, how did you know?"

Lynn did not speak.

Only then did Boer understand that Master Lynn was guessing.

He awkwardly began to explain, "Master Lynn, Boer has been deeply indebted to your kindness for a long time."

"Boer wants to help Master Lynn as much as possible."

"Therefore, without consulting you, Master Lynn, I took the initiative to set up a Free People recruitment point at the entrance of my firm in Morgan Town."

"And I informed the Free People who came to apply about your generous treatment, including food, accommodation, and education for children within your territory."

"These Free People... a total of three hundred and fifty, all come from Morgan Town."

"Men, women, young, and old, they are all here!"

Worried that Master Lynn might be concerned about the unclear origins of these Free People, Boer quickly explained further.

"But Master Lynn, rest assured."

"I have inquired about these Free People. They have all fulfilled their contracts with the Manor Lords after completing the spring sowing and planting!"

Seeing Boone's humble demeanor, Lynn did not hesitate to offer his praise.

"Mr. Boer, well done! My territory just needs a large workforce."

"The Free People you brought are indeed timely help!"

Gavin and Wilbur, responsible for leading the farmers to tend to the fields, have asked him and Kuisi more than once for additional helpers.

With the three hundred or so Free People brought by Boer.

It just happens to fill the labor shortage in the territory before Grayson transports slaves to his land!

Listening to Lynn's praise, Boer's face rarely showed a hint of smile.

He opened his mouth and said, "Master Lynn, you flatter me."

Lynn suddenly thought of something and asked, "Mr. Boer, these Free People traveled so far to my territory."

"It shouldn't be just for the food and lodging on my land, and also the school, right?"

Boer's face was stunned.

Originally intending to hide the truth, but under Lynn's direct gaze, Boer helplessly sighed.

"Nothing can be hidden from your eyes."

"Before these townsmen agreed to be recruited, I promised them that as long as they come to Lynn's territory for work, they can receive salaries according to different positions."

"However, Master Lynn, rest assured, these costs will be borne by Boer!"

Seeing Boer's serious expression, Lynn shook his head and said, "No need!"

Under Boer's puzzled gaze.

Lynn stepped forward and walked towards the Free People who had been waiting in the Lord's Square.

Because Earl had soldiers guarding them, these Free People dared not slack off, standing on the spot.

Even though they had been standing for nearly an hour, they showed little complaint on their faces.

Because, on their way here, they saw large expanses of already cultivated and planted fields.

As long as there are fields, there must be villages or towns!

Then, most of them, being farmers, would have a place to showcase their skills and secure a job.

When they arrived at the Lord's Square and saw everything before them, their eyes widened.

Faces full of incredulous expressions.

They truly saw the Red Brick Houses that Mr. Boer talked about all along the way, providing accommodation for townsmen!

Not just one or ten houses.

But a whole cluster of Red Brick Houses!

With expectant gazes, Lynn stepped forward to meet them.

The originally daydreaming Free People instantly regained their calmness.

Although the young man who approached was unfamiliar to them.

But from the entourage of Boer and several soldiers in armor following the young man,

They could clearly feel—the identity of this young man was extraordinary!

Lynn stood in front of the Free People, his gaze sweeping over them.

He spoke calmly, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am the Lord of this territory—Lynn!"

A crowd of Free People instinctively bent their bodies slightly.

Even though they are Free People, in front of the actual Lord, they still needed to bow and show respect.

Maintaining the most basic etiquette.

Lynn continued, "There is something I need to inform you all in advance."

"Mr. Boer's promise of daily wages is canceled!"

As soon as the words were out.

The expressions of the more than three hundred Free People changed instantly.

Voices of questioning rang out from their mouths.

"Canceled? Why cancel it?"

"Yes, we came here for the daily salary."

"It can't be canceled; you're violating the contract, showing no integrity, this is fraud!"

"..."

Listening to the shouts, Lynn's face remained unchanged.

Not even stopping these Free People, allowing them to continue shouting.

Until a few minutes later.

The angry townsmen seemed to understand where they were right now.

The shouting began to become sparse.

Until finally, all the noise disappeared.

Lynn continued, "Perhaps, in your view, this is against the spirit of the contract."

"But that's alright, you can leave right now!"

The crowd of Free People, upon hearing this, exchanged glances.

Their faces full of hesitation and complexity, yet not one wanted to leave.

Lynn nodded with satisfaction and said, "It seems everyone not only cares about wages but also other conditions."

"Then let me not waste words!"

"As long as you join my territory, you will get three meals a day."

"You will have the Red Brick Houses you see as places to live!"

"Your children will be arranged to attend school for the most basic education."

"You will be assigned to various positions for labor."

"As long as you work hard, you will receive all the above treatments!"

Listening to Lynn's explanation, the Free People who originally wore confused and angry expressions quickly changed to expressions of joy.

Mr. Boer was telling the truth!

A Lord is truly providing food, housing, and a school!

Seeing their expressions, Lynn continued.

"These benefits, not only for you but also for all townsmen in the small town, they all enjoy such benefits!"

"Of course! There's also the most crucial point!"

"In this territory, a merit-based promotion system is in place!"

"Simply put, as long as you consistently stay on the job and work hard."

"You will have your own—land!"

Upon hearing this.

The Free People, faces full of joy, instantly became shocked.

A collective murmur rose from their mouths!

Chapter 628: Is Mark Crazy?

"Land?"

"Our own land?"

"Is it true?"

"Just by working continuously, and I will own it? That's wonderful!"

"With my own land, can I plant whatever I want?"

"Am I dreaming? Will a lord really give his own land to townsmen?"

"..."

Listening to the murmurs of the Free People, Lynn did not interrupt them.

Instead, he let them digest the information they just heard.

It wasn't until a few minutes later that the Free People gradually quieted down.

Lynn's gaze swept over them again and he asked, "Now, is there anyone who still wants the daily wage of one penny?"

"Or rather, is there anyone who wants to leave?"

The group of Free People said nothing, just widened their eyes, looking at the young lord before them.

Knowing that Lord Lynn would grant land.

Now they naturally were not interested in that paltry daily wage!

With land, even just an acre.

They would have the capital to conduct independent agricultural production.

Planting grain, vegetables, or cash crops.

They could meet the basic living needs of themselves and their families, as well as improve their living standards!

Most crucially.

As long as they had land, their social status would change.

They would no longer be the lowest class without land!

Seeing that no one spoke, Lynn nodded in satisfaction.

Even if the Free People needed to labor for several years to accumulate a hundred military points to exchange for an acre of land.

It was far more practical than earning scattered pence every day.

You have to know, relying solely on the income of a few pence a day, one could never afford to buy an acre of land, even if they worked themselves to death!

After confirming that no one was leaving, Lynn turned his gaze to George, not far behind him.

George caught on quickly and came to Lynn's side, respectfully asking.

"Master?"

Lynn spoke, "Arrange Red Brick House accommodations for them, as usual, one house for a couple with children, one house for two strangers."

"Call Petra the clerk, and register all their information."

"Tomorrow, take them to the fields, and hand them over to Gavin and Wilbur, to be managed by the two of them together."

George quickly responded, "Yes, Master."

Lynn nodded.

He watched as George, with the help of the Guard, led the Free People to the Red Brick residence area.

He withdrew his gaze and looked at Boer.

Lynn got straight to the point, "Mr. Boer."

Upon hearing this, Boer quickly bowed.

Lynn continued, "Mr. Boer, I need more Free People to come to this land!"

"Therefore, you can use the existing conditions of the land as a gimmick to hire Free People."

Boer felt relieved, "No problem, Master Lynn."

"I will always keep a hiring point at the entrance of my firm, and whenever someone comes to be hired, I will bring them to your land!"

Lynn acknowledged.

He also understood that the number of Free People hired to come to his land would not be too many.

Because Free People usually make a verbal contract with local manor lords, ranging from three to five years, or even longer.

Thinking again.

No matter how many Free People Boer could bring him.

For him, it was an increase in labor force.

Better than nothing!

As bags of fine salt were being loaded onto Boer's carriage.

The sky began to change.

The sunlight, which was still suspended above the sky, became slanted to the west.

Under the golden rays of the setting sun, Boer mounted his horse, waved goodbye to Lynn.

And led his carriage team away from the Lord's Square.

Heading toward the distant mountain pass.

Lynn stepped forward, walked to a nearby bench, and sat down directly.

Gazing into the distance, where the golden rays of the setting sun broke through the clouds, spilling over the crops planted in the fields.

Making the green foliage even more lush.

Along with the townsmen busy in the fields, and the horse-drawn carriages on the lime roads...

It was like a countryside sunset landscape painting!

Sitting on the bench, Lynn was just one of the rays of sunlight shining down from the sunset.

Lynn leaned back, resting against the back of the bench.

His arms spread comfortably on the back of the bench, letting the rays of the sun illuminate him.

And in his mind, he was contemplating the conversation with Janet in the tavern.

From the spies dispatched to Morgan Town, who gathered and reported back with intelligence information.

And the information narrated by the merchants who came to the land.

Even before seeing Janet, he felt that Janet was not an ordinary woman.

By relying on the power of the Iron Thorns Mercenary Corps, cooperating with them inside and out, they slaughtered the entire Frank Manor!

Whether her grandfather or her uncle, except for Joao, all were killed!

Even though Lynn didn't know what Janet had experienced in the past.

To achieve this step, it was obviously not something ordinary people could do!

These had nothing to do with him.

What mattered was what he needed to do next.

The agreement he reached with Janet now appeared as a verbal military aid.

In essence.

Was just mutual exploitation between the two.

Janet needed his armed forces to overthrow the Three Great Estates of Morgan Town.

Allowing Frank Manor to unify the entire Morgan Town.

And he needed Janet's invitation, to involve himself in the affairs of Morgan Town.

Which was the opportunity he had been waiting for!

With Janet's invitation, he could justifiably invade Morgan Town, plundering the wealth accumulated by the several great estates over generations.

Chapter 629: Is Mark Crazy? Part 2

Money, food, poultry and livestock, peasants, iron products, etc.!

As for the farmland owned and cultivated by the Three Great Estates...

Lynn naturally wants to obtain it.

However.

With the labor force he currently possesses, he cannot ensure normal productivity on his lands while managing and planting more fields!

Moreover, considering the planting methods of those Manor Lords, after experiencing a winter of continuous snowfall.

It's hard to say how many crops are still alive.

Rather than spending labor and resources on long-distance field management.

Lynn prefers to take away the Manor Lords' properties!

The most crucial thing is.

His lands still have at least two hundred thousand acres of weed-covered wasteland.

As long as there's enough labor, he can cultivate and plant these twenty thousand acres of weed-covered wasteland entirely!

According to the barley yield, at least one hundred and fifty pounds per acre.

Or, wait for the expansion of planting scale of the [Emperor Potato].

Plant all farmland with [Emperor Potato].

He can rely on these three hundred thousand acres of farmland as the core granary of his lands.

To supply daily food consumption for the townsmen and soldiers!

Wait until there is enough labor force and armed soldiers in the land.

Then build garrisons in external fields to strengthen control over expanded territories.

This process needs to be taken step by step!

As for Janet, aside from asking him to annihilate the Three Great Estates, she has no other thoughts.

He has no idea.

However.

He knows one thing deeply.

In the face of absolute power, conspiracies are but fragile illusions!

As long as he has strong armed soldiers, the iron hoof leaves no chicken or dog behind!

He must continue to expand his army!

Create more armor and weapons, acquire more cavalry.

Suppressing the thoughts in his heart, Lynn got up from the bench and returned towards the direction of the castle.

The sun set, and the night quietly descended.

Sitting down at the main seat of the dining table.

Lynn enjoyed dinner while listening to Kuisi's daily report on the land's development.

After handing a bowl of chicken leg soup to Lynn.

Kuisi said: "Master, today the land is developing normally."

"Mr. Boer brought three hundred Free People, they have been arranged to live in the Red Brick House."

Lynn nodded slightly, "Very well done."

Hearing Lynn's praise, a smile flashed in Kuisi's heart.

She continued: "Master, after dinner, shall I prepare hot water for your soaking?"

Lynn responded: "Prepare it, it's been days without soaking."

In these days, he has been grinding [Hunting] skill experience.

Although not like chopping and planting.

But continuous full bow archery is equally consuming of physical strength.

This day's lack of soaking in the bath left him with a trace of sweaty odor.

Lynn didn't mind much.

As a man, often engaging in physical labor and consuming energy.

Having a sweaty odor is quite normal.

As long as regular soaking and cleaning are done to ensure personal hygiene and health, that's enough!

Kuisi replied: "Yes, Master."

Immediately.

Kuisi's gaze shifted to the two maids standing behind waiting for orders.

The maids didn't need any verbal command and retreated knowingly.

They prepared hot water for their Master Lynn.

Until ten minutes later.

Having finished dinner, Lynn rested for a while and entered his private chamber.

He began to enjoy the comfort of hot water soaking and Kuisi's increasingly skillful massage techniques.

...

Thud!

Thud!

Thud~

Sound after sound echoed in the archery training ground.

The deep sound, even frequency, showed almost no difference.

The current Lynn can instinctively draw, aim, and shoot arrows.

And each arrow accurately hits the bullseye!

Until all thirty arrows from the quiver are shot.

Lynn stood tall, only then relaxing slightly.

He handed the standard longbow to Red behind him, and directly sat on the wooden chair at the back.

He picked up a piece of linen cloth from the table and wiped the sweat from his cheek, then grabbed a kettle and took a few sips.

The somewhat exhausted and heated body felt greatly relieved.

His mind moved, Lynn opened the[Heavenly Artifacts]panel.

[Hunting: Level 2 (415/500)](+)

He has continuously drawn and shot arrows at the range for three days.

A few more days at most, the[Hunting]skill will reach Level 3.

Closing the panel, Lynn's gaze rested on the rows of targets.

The target centers are full of triangular armor-piercing arrows shot and hit by him.

Meanwhile, in Lynn's mind, he was weighing the comparison between longbows and crossbows.

With his current physical strength, using the 130-pound pull standard longbow made by the Bow and Arrow Workshop.

In one go, he could only shoot twenty-something arrows.

Ordinary bows and arrows allow at most ten or so arrows before entering short-term exhaustion.

Even losing the power to fight.

With crossbows, the situation completely changes.

For effective range, penetration, and precision, crossbows cannot match the proficiency of archers with longbows.

But the advantages of crossbows are not comparable to longbows.

Firstly, crossbows do not require archers to possess strong arm strength nor long-term training to master the pulling technique.

Chapter 630: Is Mark Crazy? Part 3

It's easy to master, and it's entirely possible to train a large number of soldiers to use crossbows in a short time.

In fact, as long as enough crossbows are manufactured, it's feasible to equip each person with a crossbow!

Secondly, crossbows can fire continuously, forming a dense stream of fire in a short time!

Since the effective range of a crossbow arrow is usually between fifty to one hundred meters.

It's more suitable for defensive and ambush operations.

Then, the crossbow relies on mechanical energy to launch the arrows.

The arrows are usually shorter and thicker, capable of producing great penetration at close range.

Though as the range increases, the penetration power gradually decreases.

But for penetrating ordinary leather armor and some light armor, it's more than sufficient!

Lastly, there's the accuracy of the crossbow.

The manufactured crossbows can have a fixed launching device and aiming system.

To a large extent, it can assist in aiming!

...

After a round of analysis in Lynn's mind, overall, the strengths and weaknesses of longbows and crossbows are considered.

But for him, the advantages of crossbows clearly outweigh the disadvantages!

The development time of his territory has been merely a year.

Compared to the beginning, the total population in the territory has naturally soared.

However, the number of people having proficient longbow shooting skills is only a handful.

It takes at least ten years of training to produce a skilled archer.

Time is precisely what Lynn currently lacks the most.

If they could mass-produce crossbows and equip them for some soldiers newly joined in the army.

Then, through crossbow usage training and aiming instruction, a crossbow unit can be formed in a short time!

Moreover.

The current focus of the territory is still on development.

They can fully capitalize on the advantages of crossbows to enhance the defensive capability of the mountain pass city walls!

Thinking of this.

The resolve in Lynn's mind had already been cemented.

He needed to produce crossbows on a large scale!

Striding out, Lynn left the archery training ground heading towards the town.

Under the gaze of numerous townsmen, Lynn returned to the town, passing through the Lord's Square.

Finally, he arrived at the Bow and Arrow Workshop within the Handicraft Workshop District.

In the Bow and Arrow Workshop, the foreman Jose Morgan was leading a hundred apprentices, making longbows.

Seeing Lynn arrive at the Bow and Arrow Workshop, Jose hurriedly stepped up to greet him.

Standing in front of Lynn, Jose bowed slightly, speaking respectfully, "Master Lynn, you're here!"

Seeing Jose's attitude in front of him, Lynn felt slightly satisfied.

After the last warning from death, Jose had become more honest.

Lynn spoke: "You continue with your work, don't mind me."

Jose raised his eyebrows, momentarily unclear about Master Lynn's words.

But soon after.

Jose understood.

Under his watchful gaze, Master Lynn proceeded to the workshop's raw material storage area and began selecting wood.

The stance clearly indicated he was preparing to get his hands dirty.

Lynn's gaze swept over the pieces of wood one by one.

The next second.

His eyes fixed on a chestnut-colored log, stripped of bark.

[Mulberry Wood]: Tough and elastic, with relatively straight grain, easy to process, suitable for making tools, architectural decoration, crafts, etc.

With a move, Lynn directly lifted the piece of mulberry wood out of the pile of logs.

Arriving at a controlled processing workstation.

Lynn skillfully secured the mulberry wood on the chopping stand.

He picked up the Iron Axe resting at the side with his right hand, tightly grasping it with both hands, and started chopping and processing.

Thud~

Thud~

Thud~

The blade of the Iron Axe fell upon the mulberry wood, producing a low, resonant sound, one after another.

Chunks of wood shavings flew off the mulberry wood.

The incremental experience was continuously increasing.

[Production Experience +1]

[Production Experience +1]

[Production Experience +1]

...

As skill experience increased.

The knowledge and memories on how to make the [Zhuge Crossbow] continuously surfaced and quickly merged in Lynn's mind.

The feeling was akin to long parched concrete ground.

Suddenly a rainfall fell upon the ground, absorbed instantly.

But as the rain transitioned from a droplet to a sheet, the once parched concrete quickly became saturated.

It further pooled into a puddle on the surface...

It's just as if thinking about the item you want to produce, and then taking action, allows you to gain knowledge and memories.

Feeling the increasingly complete production memory of the [Zhuge Crossbow] in his mind.

A sense of realization surfaced in Lynn's heart.

Not to mention the various abilities unlocked through grinding skill experience.

This one ability alone was enough to be considered terrifying!

You must know.

There's no 'Romance of Shu Han' in this world, nor is there a 'Zhuge Crossbow.'

The ability to make one stems purely from the thoughts in his mind.

Then, [Heavenly Artifacts] integrates the livered-out memories with his brain!

That is to say.

The territory's current smelting and forging technology, along with handicraft processing technology, is limited.

Otherwise.

He would never consider making a [Zhuge Crossbow].

At least he would start making a [Matchlock Gun]!

Suppressing the distractions in his mind, Lynn devoted his full attention to processing and making the [Zhuge Crossbow].

In Lynn's continuous work, the mulberry wood on the workstation transformed, becoming rectangular planks.