

The Noble 371

Chapter 371: Ophelia (R18)

She immediately and instinctively held my head as she began to gently resist my intense attack with my tongue, but as she did so, I noticed something peculiar.

"Mm-mfhh! Lick! Hey, that tastes weird."

"Hnmgh!~... I-I'm sorry."

"No, it's not bad, it's just that... Suck! It tastes a little sweeter, it doesn't taste like anything specific, but... Slurp! It's very weird."

My tongue began to explore her and, like an expert taster, I savoured her.

Of course, based on my experience, no flavour is exactly the same, but hers was so different from the rest that I found it intriguing.

It wasn't a specific flavour, just different, and that made it even better.

Shhhrk... shhrk!... slppp,

I began to be more aggressive with my tongue, carefully exploring every corner, making sure to give her my full attention to heighten her arousal, and it worked: I could feel the heat and moisture increasing.

Finally, I moved up to her most delicate pearl and...

"gyaa! Not that! Ahh, it's sensitive! No... too much... aaah!~"

Without any consideration, I started playing with it. I thought that, as someone who was a virgin and inexperienced, her sensitivity would be low, but it was quite the opposite: it was so developed and receptive that she was quickly losing control.

"Hey, by any chance... did you lie to me? Because it's not just a little bit, is it?"

"...I'm sorry, hng! Ahhh~ your breath.."

"Stop apologizing. What's wrong with doing it? We all have to relieve our frustration somehow; it'd be strange if we didn't... Between you and me, I'll tell you something—I used to be an expert at playing solitaire. You know, my record was... ahem, never mind."

"Mngh! That feels-ah!."

Yes, I think it's not the most polite thing to talk while I'm between her legs; it's not polite to talk with your mouth full.

So I focused again on preparing her properly.

'Did you call?'

'...'

As always, I'm going to think it's a parallel thought messing with me, but in fact, Shenlong was already impatient and began to emerge on its own, so I increased my aggressiveness and intensity even more.

My tongue played with and stimulated her delicate pearl, while my fingers gently explored the area around her entrance.

"Mmnggh~ ahhh, this, is... mmngh! Something ahh!!~♥□"

She began to squirm and release more moans as she held my head tighter.

Her tension was growing rapidly, and I could feel every reaction of her body. She was reaching the edge quickly, so I became even more aggressive.

We switched roles and my tongue went down to play with her petals and entrance while my fingers played roughly with her pearl.

Slrp!, shhik, schlup!, glck!..

She was releasing a large amount of nectar, which I made sure not to waste.

"I-I'm coming. Ahhh! Almost ngh!!ahhh!~♥□"

Her moans were no longer shy; they were loud and unrestrained.

At that moment, I felt her body build up a great deal of tension, and suddenly her pelvis rose with excitement, but I held on tightly to her, making sure not to interrupt the great flow of pleasure she was experiencing.

And in response, she began to release even more of her nectar, which I received without wasting any, while my tongue kept up her rhythm. It was at that moment that she seemed to say,

"Ahh! I can't take it anymore, aahhh!!~♥□♥□♥□"

Pshhh ... Shlk ... schlk...

She couldn't take it anymore and reached her breaking point. Her body began to contract and have involuntary movements that, in fact, helped me stimulate her and prolong this first orgasm.

I was giving it my all in this great prelude, and she was going crazy; it seemed like she didn't know what else to do but take it out on my hair, which I was holding.

If she had been stronger than me, she would have pulled out several strands.

"Ngh!!! Ahhhhh~♥□♥□♥"

Finally, she seemed to reach her climax, and the tension in her body was released until her pelvis fell back onto the bed.

"Haahh~ Haaaah, that-mmmngh~♥♥."

I moved away, but she immediately put her hands between her legs as she hunched over a little, looking like she was still a bit too sensitive.

"I'm glad you liked it. Well, now you're ready for the real thing, right?"

I had already prepared the ground, and she couldn't have been wetter.

Her sensitivity seemed to decrease a little, and I opened myself up again between her legs, making sure to spread them wide and get a good position and view.

I could feel the feminine scent that I hadn't smelt in a long time beginning to surround us, mingling with the pheromones I was emitting, increasing my desire even more.

'My time has come'

Finally, I freed Shenlong from his bonds, who, as always, was ready for action.

I placed him on her warm and now very wet pussy and began to rub him a little so that he could familiarise himself with the place he would soon invade.

"Ahh! This... that's it~"

"Yes, this is my friend. Now we're getting serious. You're ready, right? I'll tell you that even if you say no, there's no turning back; it's just that, depending on your answer, I will or will not be considered a criminal."

"...I-I-I... I am."

"You really don't seem like it, but I won't pay attention to small details. Okay, here goes."

To hell with everything, there was no turning back for me now. I took my friend by the base and began to position it so that it aligned with her tight entrance.

"Mngh~! It's hot."

"Yes, always remember to breathe, and if it hurts too much, just tell me."

I won't stop, but I'll reduce the size a little; that's why I started from the beginning with the standard size, so I have some room for manoeuvre.

"Y-yes, I-I-I"

You don't have to answer, and try not to bite your tongue out of excitement or try to speak; we'll use it later.

"Yes."

"Okay, here I go."

"Ahhh! Ughhhh~ Amngh!!"

Without further ado, I slowly pressed and pushed forward. I was really excited and wanted to thrust in, but again I still had control, so I held back and slowly forced my way into this tight, warm, wet cave, whose depths had not yet been explored.

'Mngh!,...aaaagh!..., ahh!~'

She was moaning with a mixture of pleasure, a little discomfort and a touch of pain, but that didn't stop me.

"It's really tight"

As expected of a virgin, the pressure she exerted on my member was no joke, but that only made it more intense.

Luckily, I was so aroused that I felt my pre-cum beginning to release in large quantities, which made it easier for me to penetrate her deepest parts.

But there was something curious. I was already a third of the way in; by this point, I should have...

'Could it be that it broke by mistake? Or was she just born that way?'

I had entered and was making my way inside her, but at this point I should have encountered her sign of purity, but I found nothing.

I found it curious, since she wasn't lying when she said she was a virgin, so it must have been for another reason.

Anyway, it was just a passing curiosity, and I didn't care about the reason. The important thing was that I didn't have to worry about her feeling pain.

"Mmmng aahhh~ I... this! It's too big!"

"Huehue~, thank you for the compliment. In fact, I'll treat you very well."

Now that I didn't have to worry about something so delicate, I held her legs firmly and, with an intense movement...

Plap!

"Hyaaa!!! ♥□♥□♥□"

I pumped, which immediately took me to the depths of her being; she went from restrained moans to a loud scream.

I felt how my movement drove her wild inside, and as she tried to adapt, her wetness increased and her squeezes became stronger, taking the shape of my length as if she wanted to adapt.

"huaagh!"

I don't know if it was because I was holding back too much, or if her insides were squeezing me too hard, but at that precise moment, just being inside her made me quickly reach my limit and...

"Here comes the first load! Ugh!"

Spurt!! Splurt!.

'Huh!? !! Ahhh!! This isn't it!! Ahhh!!~ It's too much ~♥□♥□♥□'

Shlick!... plip... drip!

I couldn't hold on for a moment, and I wasn't even in rapid-fire mode.

But I started filling Ophelia's insides, while she seemed overstimulated and began to shake and tremble. She seemed confused, but at the same time overwhelmed by the amount and heat of my seed, which also triggered an orgasm in her.

I held her legs firmly and continued to fill her. I really felt her reaching both physical and mental ecstasy.

That feeling of pressure and release escaped along with my essence, which began to invade her insides, making her shudder and tremble. It was crazy how she could squeeze me even tighter.

Ophelia, on the other hand, began to act a little more panicked on the outside, and in the midst of her orgasm, she acted as if she wanted to get away from me.

But I couldn't let that happen, so I leaned in and hugged her tightly, pressing our bodies together without giving her the slightest chance.

"~There's no turning back, pretty Ophelia."

"In a whisper, now that I had her ear close by, I told her the reality of the situation

Slap...Slap,Slap!

And in the ecstasy of the moment, I began to pump as I released everything I had accumulated inside Ophelia.

"Ahhh! Maaag!♥♥ Wait, this...AAh!~"

"Yes!!, that's it, that's what I wanted!"

It really felt like never before; I felt my sanity fading so fast that nothing else mattered, I was letting myself go faster than ever.

"Hhaah~ no, I, aahh, mngh~ aaah~♥□♥..."

Chapter 372: Ophelia (2)(R18)

Finally, I released everything, but that wasn't enough; this had been nothing more than the prelude. My intense pumping continued to increase...

Slap!... Slap!... Slap!

"Mngh! Aaagh!!, this is, amnng!~ yes!!"

The intense sounds began to echo, along with Ophelia's increasingly loud moans.

Perhaps due to the intensity of my movements and my sudden actions, she began to react strongly, her hands and legs wrapping around me with what seemed like all her strength, but that didn't stop me and I continued to move my hips.

My rhythm only intensified, quickly becoming wild; I was turning into a crazed beast. Even though I wanted to treat her gently at first, my overflowing lust wouldn't allow me to.

Slap!!, Slap!!

The sensation was so intense that, at one point, I went from kneeling to squatting and thrusting intensely, hitting her deepest parts hard without taking her inexperience into account.

I hadn't even cleaned up after the first release, and everything became a mess with every thrust of mine.

"Mmmngh~. Aaaahhh!~♥□"

She reacted, letting out moans and soft words, sweet with pleasure rather than pain, removing any small self-imposed restraint in me and giving me free rein to go crazier and crazier.

"Huaaah, again... I... aaah!!!~ ♥□♥□♥□"

At that moment, she seemed to have another intense orgasm and began to move intensely, squeezing me tightly; her insides went wild and squeezed me with such force that I couldn't move freely, but that resistance was what quickly dragged me along with her.

Schloop!...schloop!...schloop!.

"AAAhh!!!~♥□♥□♥"

Squelch...plip... slp!

I released a large amount of my essence into her, it was as if I were in burst mode, but each discharge was intense and in large quantities.

I really didn't care and was focused on the great sensation.

But just at that moment, taking me by surprise, she began to move her waist seductively, as if she wanted to make sure I released every drop of my seed. It was a very stimulating movement.

Plap! Glssshhh! Plpsshhh!

"Uumngh...haaaaamh!~♥□♥♥♥"

Both my pumping and her hip movements increased the pleasure to a new level, and it seemed like it just wouldn't stop. With each intense pump, I felt her insides reacting more and more.

I realised that she shared the quality of the non-humans in my harem; it didn't happen the first time, but now she seemed more receptive, and my seed began to accumulate inside her, causing more reactions and, therefore, more pleasure for both of us.

It was at that moment that I felt she couldn't take any more, but I didn't want to stop.

The little bastard down there could take care of himself, so I just concentrated on continuing, filling her with my essence.

The ecstasy was at a high point; the heat and her wetness felt intense, but I wanted to increase the sensation even more.

With force, I pulled myself away a little from her arms and legs that were holding me tightly, and began to remove the top part of my clothes.

I looked at her: her eyes were cloudy and her face was more than flushed; her heavy, hot breathing was clearly perceptible.

She also had signs of arousal that made her more attractive, so, without remorse that her clothes were new, I abruptly opened her top and freed her breasts.

And instead of bending down, I took her in my arms, stood up, and began to pump upwards as our chests pressed together and the heat increased.

She again clung to me with all her might with her four limbs; I held her waist and continued to pump firmly upwards.

"Haaah, mnghaaahh~♥♥..."

I could feel her heavy breathing in my ear. This was so good that I hoped I wouldn't lose control too much, and I hoped she would last long enough to help me relieve all that I still had built up.

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"Yes, good girl, use your tongue like that and don't let your teeth, let alone your fangs, touch it."

Grhhlp!... glck... schhlp!

I don't know how much time passed, but we had definitely gone through five rounds; she was still conscious.

At this point, many members of my harem would have fallen, and only the most resilient ones like Eira or Lily would have endured without losing consciousness.

And since I wanted to try it, I placed her face up on the edge of the bed while putting my member in her mouth, making her give me a reverse fellatio.

It was fellatio, but basically it was just me using her mouth as I wished.

Or at least that's how it was at first, but suddenly she started to become more active and I felt her clumsy movements, so I began to give her instructions to improve.

Yes, it wasn't just an instinctive movement, she was very conscious because she followed my instructions exactly as I told her.

Gluuck... schlrrrk... grlk!

In that complicated position for her first blow job, she was trying hard, using her tongue and giving me more pleasure, while reaching the back of her throat without any difficulty.

'I wonder if it's because she's a quarter snake?'

But more importantly, as I thought, her peculiar tongue would give me a new experience that I'm really enjoying. I feel like she's very good at this.

I was really liking her initiative. At that moment, her firm breasts caught my attention, so I reached up and began to play with and massage them at will.

'Oh, look at her — so naughty.'

I saw how, despite everything that was happening, she began to touch herself with her hands, without me encouraging her, and she was not at all gentle with herself.

Hrk... glp... slrrrk... hhah!

The intensity matched the force with which she pumped her throat. At no point was there any rejection or complaints; it was as if she allowed me to do whatever I wanted, and I really felt that I could be as rough as I wanted and she would endure it.

"Mnghf!!~"

This awakened something in me: I pulled her nipples hard; she just let out a moan muffled by the fellatio, without stopping moving her tongue, or rather she began to be more active.

That excited me even more and one of my hands went down, I leaned over a little and joined in where her own hands were wreaking havoc.

I took a strand of her lush bush and pulled it firmly.

"Unnmgh!!!~nghfamn~♥□♥□♥"

Quelch... trickle... plip!... slp!..

That only made her writhe more intensely as a huge cumshot came out. She began to shake and lift her pelvis as she released huge squirts that soaked the bed even more, and yet at no point did she stop using her tongue.

Grhhkk... schlrrp... klrk... glck!

I didn't stop; it seemed that the pain excited her even more and, unlike with Alice, I felt that there was nothing to stop me, there were no restrictions.

I leaned over again, leaving her in a very awkward position, and took her lower body; I brought her towards me and stood up again, and in that way she continued performing fellatio while now she was completely upside down. And increasing the difficulty even more.

Gluuck... schlrrk... grk!

But with movements that seemed to come from someone experienced, she wrapped her arms around my thighs, improving her position and continuing tenaciously with my fellatio. She seemed determined to milk me dry, and her tenacity was even greater than Selene's.

Fwwt... slrrp... mhh... shlp...

For my part, I saw her hairy pussy, which had recently had an orgasm, was a little reddish and seemed to tremble a little, and without thinking too much about it, I began to devour it, as if trying to match the intensity with which she was doing it to me.

We both devoured each other, not like in a competition to see who would make the other come first.

At that moment, I finally felt that everything was about to culminate. Her persistence, her tongue and her throat were not those of a novice, but I had no complaints; I increased my pumping even more, not caring whether she could handle it or not.

"Huaaahaahh!! Uaagh!❤️"

"oh yes!!!"

Gush!... gush!... gush!

Then I began to release myself deep into her throat: my seed spurted out and it was truly glorious.

Her throat welcomed it without reserve and swallowed it all, while her hairy garden trembled intensely; she was having another intense release.

She really came very often and they were all intense and uncontrolled orgasms, she was really fascinating.

Some of her essence splashed on my face. Whether she could handle it or not didn't matter *—without hesitation I began to respond.

I decided not to think about anything, I was really enjoying this experience, and nothing else mattered.

I enjoyed my release and at the same time received her sweet nectar with great pleasure and voracity, just as she did with mine.

It was so intense that some hairs even got stuck between my teeth, but it was part of this experience, which was more amazing than I could have imagined.

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Huaaaa.....ah!"

Finally, I felt that my seed had almost been emptied; some clarity came to me and I realised that it might be too much for her, so I pulled away, turned her over and checked on her...

"Cough!, cough!, mnhgh~ cough! Haaah~!"

I noticed that apart from a few coughs and trying to catch her breath, she didn't seem to have any problems; rather, she seemed to want to take her time to savour it between coughs. She was strange.

Not to mention that, in addition to her mouth, the liquid came out the other way, but she was fine, with a swollen stomach, but it didn't seem to be a problem, at least not for her.

Click!.

As always, I quickly tidied up the mess, and despite everything, this wasn't going to end.

"Turn around and show me your bum."

"..."

"Oh!."

She obeyed. Aside from not saying much, she seemed to be in her right mind; she wasn't just moving on instinct as sometimes happens: she was resilient.

'Finally, a worthy opponent!'

Chapter 373: Action Plan (R18)

I felt it: this was getting better and better. Remembering how wild she had been a moment ago, I couldn't help but get even more excited.

She really seemed capable of enduring anything; she was like Eira, perhaps even more so: unlike Eira, Ophelia didn't complain, instead she was becoming more vigorous, and that awakened a competitive feeling in me.

'What is her limit?'

That thought grew, pushing me to lose control in my eagerness to find out.

She was on all fours, showing me that round bum; I didn't hesitate and jumped on her like a beast.

"Ah!!!~ ♥□♥□"

I entered her in one swift movement. The excitement made me so rough that I did something I didn't usually do with the members of my harem: I reached out, grabbed her by the neck and held her firmly.

¡Plssshhhh!... plack! .. ¡slkktkk!

"Ugh!, ackhh~♥□ "

I began to thrust hard. Each thrust was intense, relentless, hitting her depths with persistence, as if I wanted to go further with each movement.

Plack!...¡plssshhhh!

I increased the pace even more as I quickly felt my tension rise to the maximum; the more excited I got, the more the force of my thrusts and the strength with which my hand held her increased.

"Aaack! Aaaghm... mmmngnghk`~♥□"

The intensity was so great that at that moment her legs began to buckle, and it didn't help that I had no consideration and put some of my weight on her.

Finally, they gave way and we both fell forward—luckily, the bed was as soft as a cloud when you need it to be, so we just sank into it and I positioned myself to move my hips better.

One of my hands rested on her head, burying her face in the bed, but I didn't care: I was more focused on seeking my own pleasure.

Plssshhhh!... Plap!!... Slkktkk!

I pumped relentlessly in search of my release; and I was there again, and even though she had already adapted to me, she squeezed me as tightly as the first time.

"Ah! Oh! That's it!"

And just as I was reaching the breaking point, I felt it.

"WGgghhhffmm!!"

My insistence on knocking on her door paid off, I entered where I shouldn't have and went even deeper into her, and right there I began to fill her up.

"Nmmmmggggffmfgh~♥□♥□♥□"

Squelch... trickle...

Once again, I pushed her to the limit with force.

Her face was buried in the bed, but I could hear her muffled cries and feel her insides tighten and squeeze me even tighter.

I don't really know if she was doing it consciously or if it was an involuntary reaction, but every time we were at it, she would start moving her hips seductively as if to make sure she got as much of my seed out of me as possible, which was very effective.

There came a point when I felt like I was being swallowed up by a particularly intense current; I didn't want to stop, I wanted to fill her up as much as I could, I wanted to mark her with everything I had.

"aaaannngghhh a...aaghh!~♥□♥□♥"

With a sudden, quick movement, I withdrew, and in that instant I invaded her other hole, unexpectedly, without preparation or warning, and continued to fill her with my seed.

"Mnghhfff~♥♥.mnnfhhhgmm~♥□♥♥♥!"

She just started to shake even more intensely and her hip movement increased with my intrusion, as if she wanted to fuck herself even more. It was the highest point of uncontrolled pleasure.

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"Yes, that's it, now I finally feel like... ah!"

I finally felt satisfied; at least I felt like I had been able to get rid of everything that had built up inside me over the last few days.

But I realised that I had probably gone too far again, and I took my hand off her head.

The truth was that every time I started, I went crazy and regained my senses when I had already made a mess.

But I had to remember that it was just her and that I was being very rough, although at least I had been able to satisfy myself splendidly, even if she was already silent, it didn't matter.

Now I had to give her first aid, especially because of my sudden and rather abrupt intrusion into something she was completely unprepared for.

But once I removed my hand, she just turned her face slightly, looking at me out of the corner of her eye. Her face...

"Haah... aaahh~♥"

Although a little cloudy, the one eye I could see was fixed on me. Her face was very flushed, her forked tongue carelessly sticking out along with a little saliva, and she was breathing heavily.

But most importantly, she had a genuine, messy, yet seductive smile on her face.

All of this conveyed a single message from her to me:

More!

'I'm really going to go crazy again. This woman is more dangerous than I thought.'

She seemed ready to face and take whatever I gave her; she seemed to get stronger the more intense I was, and I realised that for her, this was also just the beginning.

'Our battle will be legendary!'

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"She's a diamond in the rough, no, she's already a precious, sparkling jewel."

I couldn't help but express it; in fact, I still had fond memories of what I had just experienced.

And, in fact, at this moment we are besieged by the chimeric wolves that attacked us early in the morning, but my thoughts were wandering a bit.

I really didn't know what to think at that moment; to the point that I was a little distracted and sorting through my thoughts, the previous night had exceeded my expectations.

Ophelia held out all night without losing consciousness even once, something that even the strongest being I had ever faced, Akihara, had been unable to do.

Although she went crazy from time to time, like me, she remained conscious and sane the whole time, even better than me.

Not to mention that, no matter what I did or lost control of, and did things I shouldn't have done with a novice, she never complained and was more than receptive. In fact, she also went crazy with me and increased the fervour of it all.

It was truly a hard battle full of pleasure and madness that I enjoyed very much and didn't want to end, and I threw myself into it wholeheartedly.

It wasn't until a little sunlight broke through the thick fog that my parallel thoughts warned me, and I had to stop before we were discovered.

Only when I said we were done did she smile and finally lose consciousness and stop moving completely, including her lungs and heart.

Yes, she basically died, but it was nothing I couldn't quickly fix with a little CPR, lightning magic, and healing spells, though it did surprise me a bit.

'What do you mean "a little"? My heart popped out of my chest! You've exaggerated! And why do you sound like you're telling someone else what happened last night?'

'Hey, we're all one here, so speak for yourself, bastard. "We exaggerate", and I think I started by saying I was organising my thoughts.'

'Yes, the habits of a loner are not easily broken. But talking to each other is the same as talking to ourselves. Hey, we're sure that...'

"Yes, I am immune to mental illness; how many times have we thought about that? That was passive even when we didn't know how to use the blessing."

'Well, sometimes it doesn't seem that way. Anyway, now that you're being reasonable again, what are we going to do?'

'Well, since we're heading straight for those ruins, it means this group will probably enter the sprout site.'

'Yes; it's the most likely possibility, and it explains why whoever did it left them alive, albeit crippled and under contract, so that they would spread the word about this place and it wouldn't become an unknown zone of absolute death.'

'Excellent deduction, my dear Watson, and that person succeeded, because in the memories this was a well-known hunting ground.'

'Hey, why am I Watson? I want to be Sherlock!'

'Shut up!, I'm the original; I'm in charge. Anyway, as I was saying: at this point, it may not yet be a fully developed sprout, so it cannot be moved and must be nurtured until it grows and is usable.'

'Excellent deduction, my dear Watson.'

'Hey, you piece of shit! I told you that as the original, I am Sherlock.'

'Tsk, tyranny!'

'Yes? So what? Are you going to help me set up this scene or not?'

'Yes, yes, whatever.'

'Well, we originally thought that William, with his bloody luck, was the first to find it by chance, since for some reason no one ever mentioned that my brother had an expedition there specifically.'

'But seeing as they're going to that ruin, it's already been discovered, which means all the information has been covered up. Whoever did it knew what they were doing; more visitors would come — to hunt — or, if they are careless, to be hunted, and they would be nutrients for the sprout.'

'Hehuehue, whoever the bastard who did it was, they didn't count on William's bloody luck; considering that they spent years raising it only for it to be stolen by William so easily when it was already mature.'

'Yes, I really should have spat blood. Anyway, the important thing is that now we know that, what are we going to do?'

'Let's see... seeing how this large group was dominated, it must have been a great force; only representatives and faction leaders, whether demonic or human, could...'

'It could also be some old busybody, from the ninth morphogenesis. Well, faction leaders can easily take care of them, unless there are many of them.'

'But no matter who it is, it's out of our hands. Anyone who rivals this group, even if we were in synchronised, acting alone would be risky, pointless, and could even lead to a much worse outcome.'

'Yes; unless there is a situation in which our intervention is truly decisive, it is better not to act.'

'In the end, all we can do is try our best, and if I can't intervene once it's all over, we'll break their contract and see if we can help them. Recent wounds are easier to heal; I hope it's not too serious.'

'Yes, I don't want our family to suffer. That's why, in any case, we'll find the bastard behind all this and eliminate him when we can'

'Oh, that's true, let's bet on it; I say it was the demons.'

'What's the point of betting between ourselves? I'd bet on the demons too, but I guess I have to bet on this side... Now that I think about it, there's more than one insidious bastard in my mind, including that princess with foot fetishes..... Don't I have a better chance?''

'...Hey, come to think of it, why don't we switch? I want your side.'

'No, screw you! You tyrant. Anyway, just so you know: today I'm finally meeting Astrid alone, and I'm going to enjoy it like you wouldn't believe. Let's see if Ophelia wants to do it with me again, considering we almost killed her. Right, I'm off for the day!'

'Tsk, fuck you... fuck!'

I really must stop cursing myself, and although I thought it was the last thing I would want to do, I am seriously considering meeting with Aeloria to ensure that I am immune to mental illness.

'I want to be with the girls.'

And that thought is still very much present. I guess doing it isn't enough: I solved the problem of the body, but not that of the mind and soul.

I really want this to end quickly; anyway, I already had my plan of action ready and it won't be long now.

Chapter 374: Contracts

Even so, she made tonight so wonderful that, if it weren't for the wolf attack, I would carry her properly like a princess instead of like a sack of potatoes as I am now.

She had earned it, and I have to treat her well; there were still a few more days to go.

'A few more healing spells just in case, Corpus sanetur, Lux vitae, Vitae flamma, if that will do the trick, in a few hours...'

AuwwwWW!

'Oh, are they retreating again? These wolves are frustrating. Should I hunt down their leader myself?... Nah, it's not worth it, and we're almost there. And if our group comes later through legal channels, we could get more profit out of them.'

Graawu!

Well, I think this would be their last ambush with our goal so close; I killed the annoying lava wolf, which wasn't really very strong, and I hadn't killed it before so as not to attract attention.

Now I wanted to make sure we went to that specific place.

As always, we were at the back; so I extended my senses and enhanced my hearing with magic, ignoring everything unnecessary, trying to listen specifically to my brother and the other two and what was going on, but...

"Hey, you, what happened to Ophelia?"

"Huh?"

From the side, a woman approached me; it was the first time I had seen someone enter Ophelia's stinky range of their own free will, and I was a little surprised.

"Answer me! What happened to Ophelia?"

"...She fainted... she consumed too much mana."

I gave her what I thought was a reasonable answer. It seemed that Ophelia wasn't as lonely as I thought; at least someone would worry if they saw her fainted.

'What!? She fainted? Where is she? She was your companion and you just left her? No, we haven't moved very far; she can't be far away! With how foul-smelling she is, nothing would possibly go near her.'

"Huh? ... Ah! Hey, for your information, this is Ophelia."

"Eh? She is...? What happened to her!?, and the disgusting smell?"

Yes, already seemed strange to me; well, if I think about it, it would be even stranger to immediately think that a stinky ball of hair could be the beautiful woman on my shoulders.

"Well, she found a rare flower yesterday on the way. She said it was poisonous, tried it, and the smell went away; since she didn't smell, she fixed herself up a bit... Anyway, do you need anything? Or is it an order from your faction leader?"

"No! It has nothing to do with our leader... I'm just her friend; I wanted to ask her about a personal matter, but that can wait. I'll come back later, when she's conscious."

"Oh, really? Well, I'll tell her you came... What's your name?"

"Fatima, she'll know why I came to see her."

"Really? Didn't you just say it was something personal? How would she know that..."

"Ahem! It's something between her and me. Nosy men are not very welcome. Anyway, just tell her I came by."

"Yes, bye."

I said goodbye with a neutral expression, as if I didn't care much about her business, but in fact I am now more than interested; and my attempt to prolong it even by breaking my cover failed.

I really wanted to keep talking because that woman — Fatima — no, whoever she was, since she didn't give me her real name, basically lied about everything she said, including when she denied that it was an order from her faction leader.

'Qetesh! Help me see if Ophelia is under any contract.'

[[...]]

'If you don't, I'll start actively looking for a way to give you a body; I think I can get some good stuff out of Rosy.'

[[Tsk! Bastard, instead of fucking so much, you should learn to use your skills better.]]

'Hey, the guardian of lust is scolding me for feeling lust?'

[[Yours is a different concept altogether, you disgusting bastard, tsk. Fine, just activate the eyes of lust...]]

'You know, it's never pleasant talking to you, but I know you only say things like that to piss me off because you can't corrupt and manipulate me.'

[[No; honestly, I don't care about that anymore. What I always say to you is my most honest thought about how disgusting you are: disgusting scum.]]

'Tsk? I really don't know what the problem is. Honestly, even though I know I'm not a good person, I don't think I'm that bad. Well, the judgement of someone who dedicates themselves to corrupting others and making their users do horrible things isn't really reliable. Oh! So does the opposite mean I'm good? I see.'

[[You're not a disgusting bastard; from any perspective, if you manage to obtain a legacy of virtue, they'll tell you the same thing and even...]]

'Enough, I get it. I'm not going to argue useless things with you. Whatever: I've already activated it; do your thing.'

[[I don't find it pleasant to talk to you either. Well, I see she has three contracts, one being influenced by divinity.]]

'Oh, a contract made by a blessed one? Can you tell me which divinity?'

[[Damn!, you're demanding; and unless you improve your skill one more rank, I can't know that for sure... but from how strong the bond is, I can only say that it's a very powerful deity. It's a god at the height of its authority; it's also more rooted in the body than the soul, and the consequences of breaking it are being drained of all your vitality.]]

'Oh! Well, that limits the options a bit; even so, there's still more than one...'

What he said helps, but there are still many candidates. Contracts are basically a type of magical oath with real consequences.

Here, where the world responds to the call or will to create magic, it can also act as a witness and supervisor to ensure that things are fulfilled: it is a law of this world.

Now, if the contract is weak, or you have the right methods, or even if your strength is far superior to that of the person who created it, it can be broken, since the world is a lax and unconscious entity and does not care if you break it if you are capable, although it is never an easy thing to do.

But divine contracts are not like that. Divine contracts are made by people with a blessing; for those contracts, the effect of the blessing itself does not matter so much: what matters is that the blessing connects to a god.

When the contract is written, the person involves the divinity of some god, immediately making them the supervisor.

And they are not disinterested: the divinity with which it was made ensures that it is fulfilled.

Therefore, even if the person who made the contract has an inherited blessing and not a given one, and someone breaks it, they would make sure to punish them; even if they have no context, or if from their point of view they are just ants doing silly things.

Given or not, it is their divinity and will not be disobeyed or questioned, much less by ants.

That is why, when a contract is signed with the divine, there is no turning back: there are only three ways to break it, apart from the normal way where both parties agree to undo it.

One, you receive help from a divinity that surpasses the one who signed the contract — a difficult thing, as it would consume a lot of karma and be a high price for the god who helps, not to mention that it would antagonise the god who oversees the contract.

The second is that the god who possesses the divinity with which the contract was made wants to break it, but those proud companions do not do so even though it harms them, as it is a kind of dishonour and would make them the laughing stock of the gods.

And finally, the fourteen legacies; apart from that, I know of no other methods.

Anyone with a blessing and the right method can do them — even me. With the peculiarity of Aeloria's blessing, I believe that one of the worst punishments I can impose is to cleanse someone's soul from this world, which is equivalent to killing them.

That's how contracts are: even the most harmless divinities will have consequences; the gods must maintain the balance between worship and fear.

But I haven't done any because that would bring Aeloria closer. The fact that she oversees the contract means creating more opportunities to understand my environment; I can use the protection, but it's not pleasant to have her around, nor her lackeys—one is enough.

In the end, with so many people blessed in the age of the gods, even if not everyone knows how to make contracts, or those who do know have no reason to make them, there will always be one or two in almost every market to be bought.

She, as an alchemist, may have more than one job that requires confidentiality, and as someone who is also very skilled with poisons, she may have done a job that she did not want anyone to find out about under any circumstances, and they made her sign it.

Even so, given how expensive contracts under a powerful deity are, who would use someone so good just for confidentiality, unless it was the person themselves who had created it?

I thought about everything Qetesh said, and a possibility occurred to me, though I still wasn't sure. I looked at the still unconscious—and hopefully not comatose—Ophelia.

'pretty Ophelia, don't tell me you're involved in strange things; I would be very disappointed if that were the case.'

It seems that things have started to move and there are more aspects that I need to take into account.

I needed to be mentally prepared, even to eliminate the one who had caught my interest.

Chapter 375: High Profits

POV: Third Person

"Sir, as you said: further ahead there are ruins of what appears to be a medium-sized city."

"Good! The ancient texts were not lying: here is an important city from the ancient age of the gods."

"It had better be! I spent a lot of resources hiring mercenaries and provisions. Well, as we agreed, it will be 30% for me, 30% for Raphael, and 40% for you, Vasil."

"Hold on; this is not the time to talk about that. I recommend that we temporarily halt our march: now that we have confirmation of the place's existence, let's send more scouts and plan our next steps."

"Well, what you say is true, Raphael; they could just be empty ruins. I don't want thirty percent of empty structures."

"I assure you that won't be the case. According to the texts, this was an important place; even though it was only a report from the lord of the city, it made clear how prosperous it was, not to mention the lunorite mine and the fire amethysts."

"Well, that's why I accept this. There's nothing better than such rare minerals. We could start producing more powerful weapons and get ahead of those pesky demons. If we manage to get these mines, it will all be worth it."

"If this will give us a big advantage... Tomás, order the march to stop, and have the mages put up simple barriers and be on the lookout for another possible attack from those strange wolves."

"Yes, sir."

Vasil, who possessed royal blood from the kingdom of Vasalia, the kingdom ruled by elves, and was the leader of one of the four factions currently in existence, was someone his subordinates described as generous and a great lord to serve.

He always sought the benefit of all those under his command, earning the loyalty of many and making his faction the strongest in Vasalia.

He gave the order to Thomas, his trusted subordinate and one of the first members of his faction, as Raphael's proposal seemed the best course of action.

"Clarens, could you...?"

"Of course."

Clarens was the faction leader of one of only two current factions in Aquila, the dwarf kingdom; he was someone who was well known for his peculiarity, that he seemed to be able to smell money: his instincts always led him to great profits for himself and his faction.

He joined this three-faction alliance proposed by Vasil in this unknown valley because he definitely smelled profits; although his talent did not include sensing danger—which has led his faction into difficult situations—he was someone who knew how to adapt and understand the situation in order to reap the greatest benefit.

He understood what Vasil meant. From his storage, he took out a small box that, when unfolded, quickly turned into a large tent; there, the three of them and their closest subordinates entered.

It was time to discuss their next actions.

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"Sir, That the city is protected by barriers and is devoid of beasts."

"Barrier? Is there still a barrier functioning after a thousand years?"

"Yes, sir. This barrier keeps the beasts away, but it does not repel any of the scouts; we also noticed that it does not prevent the passage of..."

After a few hours, the scouts had returned with more complete information.

Vasil, Raphael, and Clarens listened to all the reports, giving them more clarity about their objective. When the last scout gave his report and withdrew, the room, where there were no more than ten people, fell silent briefly, until Clarens was the first to speak.

"Yes, it really seems like a jackpot. If the barrier is still working, it means it's of unprecedented quality, not to mention that there must be many good things inside. I knew this would bring unprecedented profits."

"Yes, that's good. Honestly, I was a little worried that this expedition wasn't enough to recoup the investment."

"Well, most expeditions are like that. It's like a gamble. But tell me something, do you regret sharing it among us now that we've discovered it's a jackpot?"

"...No. The journey here would not have been easy if it had been just my faction. If I had come alone, there would have been many casualties. Rather, I reaffirm that it was an excellent decision."

"Hmm, that sounds like you. You don't seem to be greedy; I don't understand how people like you think. What do you think, Raphael?"

"...Honestly, I still think it's too early to be happy. I don't think I should make a judgment without seeing this through to the end."

"Yes, always so calm and neutral. You're one of the few pleasant guys to negotiate with. I understand why Vasil asked you for help, and I guess he also came to me because he knew I'm good at keeping secrets and I confirmed to him that there would be profits, based on my instincts. Isn't that right, Vasil?"

"Well, what you said about Raphael is true. And well, Raphael recommended you when I proposed a third faction to him."

"Huh? Was that so? Then why did you recommend me, Raphael?"

"Because of what you said... but that's not important now."

Honestly, Raphael's real reason was because he thought that, among the five kingdoms, the dwarves were the easiest to deal with; and among the two factions, one was already busy on another expedition, so he recommended him by process of elimination.

But he thought it was something better left unsaid.

Now it was time to discuss what to do with the information they had and plan the best course of action. That was why they were there. The three of them and their subordinates talked for an hour and finally...

"Right, it's time to get going if we want to be inside that barrier before nightfall. All right, lads, let's go."

"Yes."

"Let's go get the treasures!"

In fact, those three were one of the few groups that were somewhat compatible among the faction leaders; even so, their personalities contrasted quite a bit. But that was okay; as long as there was a benefit, each faction would do their best.

That's how it had always worked, and it had worked so far.

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"Oh!, so this is the place. It's great: it looks like just an abandoned city; most of the structures are complete. Hmm, from the structure, I guess it was a civilization from our world. Well, no one better than us to inherit it."

"Yes, as the reports said, there are no signs of beasts. I guess that's what the barriers are for. I think it's okay to sleep inside it; it saves us resources. I also think that tomorrow we should split up to search for treasures, resources, or magical technology; that way it will be more efficient for such a large city."

"Yes, but I think we'll go by area and in pairs as we've been doing, so we don't spread out too much in case of any mishaps. Just because there are no beasts doesn't mean there's no danger. Also, have the mages analyze the barrier and see if they can trace its core."

This was the first impression of Clarence, Vasil, and finally Raphael when they saw the city from a nearby hill.

Clarence was more than excited, his eyes sparkling like coins; Vasil was calmer but very happy, as he had been short on funds lately and his faction was running low on resources and money; Raphael was more serene and focused on what needed to be done.

The rest of the group that caught up with the leaders was also surprised: this place was definitely very well preserved and would have many valuable things from the previous era.

According to legends, passed down in the upper echelons of the kingdoms in the past era, this continent was ruled by a single nation, but due to the chaotic and dangerous nature of the age of the gods, it fell during its final stages.

The survivors split up, and without reaching an agreement, the continent became even more chaotic.

But that changed when Maximilian and his group arrived in search of a peaceful place to retreat to; although it may not seem like it, for beings like them, this continent was just that: they easily subdued and brought order, founding the five kingdoms that exist today.

Now, with the opening of the middle kingdom in this new era, the preserved remains of that era or even older ones were very welcome; anything that makes them stronger and, therefore, the kingdoms stronger, is more than welcome.

So everyone has high expectations for tomorrow's exploration, as a first glance already gives a promising impression.

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"Hahahaha! This is wonderful, this is glorious! I'm going crazy! Hahahaha! Someone hit me, I think I'm dreaming; no, even if I am, leave me here. Hahaha."

"...I understand your happiness, but I think you're getting a little carried away."

"Hahahaha!"

"It's no use, Sir Vasil; he doesn't seem to be listening to you."

"Haah~ well, I'm just worried. I mean, have you ever seen a dwarf turn so red? He looks like one of those red demons."

"Yes, he dies; his parts will be divided among us."

"Huh!? Who wants to take what's mine? I'll kill them!"

"Hey, calm down, he just said that to calm you down, right, Raphael?"

"...Yes (¬_¬)."

"Hmph, I don't think so. Well, anyway, how can you not get excited—I mean, everything is so well cared for—there's magical technology everywhere. We found blueprints for weapons; some are even something only a soul conversion person could wield. There was a magic tower with various branches of magic, including spatial magic: magic to slow down entropy! What the hell is that even? In the church we even found a branch of three-element healing magic that I hadn't heard of. How the hell can the poison element heal? And now here's a whole vault of many minerals; forget about lunorite and fire amethyst: there are some I've never seen before. And we haven't even reached the core of the barrier yet, hahaha! With this, with this!"

It was the next day, after arriving in the city, and in fact, thanks to Raphael's guidance, they were very methodical and thorough: they had cleaned out the city, taking everything that would be beneficial to them, and the harvest was not small.

It could be said that it had been the most fruitful expedition so far since it began; the things they had obtained would give them an advantage against the demons who seemed to have discovered space-related magical technology, and would also make their kingdoms and factions very prosperous for a long time to come.

It was not surprising that Clarence was losing his cool; they were still in the process of opening the vault, but they had found a list of its contents, so excitement and anticipation were running high.

"Calm down! Are you blushing again? You look like you're going to run out of air; do you want to lose your share?"

"What!? Who wants to take my money? I'll kill them!"

"..."

"Sir Vasil, he doesn't seem to be in the right state of mind; it's better not to waste your breath on him."

"Yes, I think you're right, Raphael. Honestly, if we hadn't signed a contract, I'd be worried he'd betray us and run off with the money."

"It was good that Miss Evangeline helped us; Aeloria is a very trustworthy goddess."

"Yes, that's right... but hmm..."

"What's wrong?"

"No, it's just that I've been feeling a strange sensation for a while, and it got stronger the closer we got to the city centre...it doesn't seem like anything bad, I just feel uncomfortable! But I think it's best to get this over with and leave as soon as possible."

"It's understandable, things are going too well, it's normal to think that when they reward you, they don't accept the difficulty, something bad is happening. Not to mention that it's a place that hasn't been touched in centuries... I think that even at this point it's okay if we withdraw."

"I feel the same way. As we discovered, we have the decree on our side, and no other faction can come to explore or take possession of it. Our three kingdoms will definitely cooperate, even if we do not manage to open the vault or find the origin of the barrier. Later we can do it more calmly..."

"That's right, we just have to prevent the information from reaching the demons and..."

"Hey, you two, don't even think about it! I'm not going back without opening this. Just because of a silly hunch? If that's the case, I have one too, and it's a very good one. Besides, I'm not going to risk leaving here without this treasure."

"..."

"..."

"Ahem!, but I won't be unreasonable. Let's just open this up, and that's that. The mine and everything else is, as they say, better left in the hands of the kingdoms. Hey! How long until it opens?"