

The Pathway Of Wisdom #Chapter 61: The God of Wisdom is with Us! Part-3. - Read The Pathway Of Wisdom Chapter 61: The God of Wisdom is with Us! Part-3.

Chapter 61: The God of Wisdom is with Us! Part-3.

Saint Alex personally gave Paul the flask of healing with his own hands.

Paul drank the golden liquid, and his entire body felt as if it was embraced by a warm and gentle power!

All the wounds on his body started healing rapidly, and his broken ankle returned back to its original state in a matter of mere seconds!

All the pain disappeared, and Paul's entire body healed instantly, causing Paul and all the other members of the organization to open their eyes wide in shock and awe!

"A miracle! That's the miracle performed by the Saint!"

"All hail the god of wisdom! All hail his holiness the saint!"

Everyone started cheering and clapping loudly in sheer excitement after seeing that scene.

Even Old Man James, who was an experienced person with the knowledge of a lot of herbs and medicine, could not help but feel shocked.

"T-this is... divine power... this is the miracle of the gods! A potion of divine healing!!"

"Your holiness... I have heard the legends of this miraculous potion... isn't this supposed to be extremely expensive?"

"Y-you really are a benevolent saint... you used such an expensive artifact for a mere farmer... I am ashamed of ever doubting the god of wisdom..."

Even Alex was surprised after hearing the words of the old man James, but his reason was different.

'Wait... when did I hire this old man to play the role of hyping me up?... he's really good at buttering up others...'

Originally Alex was worried that these poor folk might not even know what Alex had done and what that potion was.

And if they didn't even know the value of the potion, how would they understand how much Alex had sacrificed for them?

That's why Alex was thinking of hiring some thug to promote and reveal the real value of that potion later, but old man James made the work easier!

All the people looked at Alex as if he were really a genuine benevolent saint!

"Paul has proved his faith and his courage; he's sworn to himself that he would bring a new change and order to this rotting world!"

"Listen, everyone! From today onwards, whoever earns great merits and devotes themselves to the teachings of the god of wisdom with all their heart will also receive my and our benevolent god's protection!"

"Do not fear any obstacle that may arise in your path! We are all heroes who are going to save this land from the hands of those who have oppressed us!"

"We will spread the faith of our benevolent god to every corner of this land!"

Alex looked at Paul and then everyone else before declaring loudly,

"The god of wisdom is with us! Even if your limb rots away, even if death embraces you! He will guide your soul!"

"I will do my best to keep you alive; the miracle of our benevolent god will support you! And even if you die, you will ascend to the kingdom of my benevolent god!"

Alex's words lit a fire in everyone's heart in that moment.

Paul, who had been blessed by Alex with the blessing of the god of wisdom, felt as if everything around him was a dream.

He had almost given up hope of ever walking properly again.

But Alex came just on time and saved him once again, just like the previous time.

In his eyes, Alex had become a messiah sent by the gods to show him and everyone else the right 'path' in life!

Without hesitating for a single second, Paul stood up straight and kneeled towards Alex with a respectful and solemn look on his face.

"I Paul! I swear with my life on the line that I will not bring shame to the great name of the god of wisdom!"

"From today onwards, I will follow his teachings and will always be a devoted believer of the god of wisdom!"

Paul swearing that oath worked as a detonator that triggered a chain reaction, and everyone else also knelt on one knee and swore the same oath!

Seeing that scene, a wide smile appeared on Alex's face.

'Good... the preparations are slowly starting to fall in place... it won't be long before the time for a new revolution will come... hehe...'

Alex knew that just words and promises alone won't be enough to earn the absolute loyalty of anyone.

But he was ready to create a scene that would help him earn the heart of all his subordinates.

Alex had personally come and healed Paul because of this exact reason.

Healing Paul by using a powerful healing potion was indeed a big loss.

Making a single divine healing potion is no joke, and each one takes a lot of effort and time to make.

But Alex still decided to use it on Paul because he needed to give a statement.

By using it on Paul, an ordinary farmer, Alex proved that the organization cared about each and every one of its members, and he, as its leader, also cared a lot about them all.

This way they will be able to devote themselves more and will unite better to work for the greater cause of the organization without questioning.

In this world where medicine is still in its infancy, a healing potion is more or less a miracle manifested in the form of a potion!

Just by showing it, Alex had proved that their organization was not just a simple group of random people; it had immense power and resources to not only support but also save them all in times of need!

"Everyone! I am happy that you all have accepted the teachings of our benevolent god of wisdom, but just verbally saying it out loud won't be enough..."

"Don't worry, the organization will not let you all down; we will teach you everything that you need to know about what it means to be a true believer of the god of wisdom!"

Alex waved his hand towards Ethan, who brought out a thick bundle of papers and handed one paper to each of the members of the organization.

"The teachings of our benevolent god have been engraved on these papers; do not lose them..."

"Read them, learn them, and commit them all to your memory!"

Chapter 62: An organization built with 'Tactics'.

After everyone got a copy, Alex spoke out loud,

"Our land and our people are in great peril right now, just like you all were!"

"The people who are leading our land want us all to suffer and have continued to do cruel things to us!"

"This place itself serves as a symbol of their cruelty!"

"They used this place to torment poor souls for their pleasure and entertainment! We can't let such people continue to rule us!"

Alex's words rang loud and clear in everyone's ears.

All of them were people who had suffered a lot in the past; although they hadn't suffered as much as 'Paul,' they were not too far behind either.

"All of our brethren who are unaware and are living in this land are in danger right now!"

"We can't let the fake rulers keep tormenting poor civilians! We will have to rise up and fight back against this fake regime of control and intimidation!"

"Read all the teachings of the god of wisdom and learn what true freedom means!"

"The 'Path' forward will become clear on its own!"

Alex continuously brainwashed everyone with his words for a while before sending them off with their respective sheets of paper.

There were several rooms in this place, and everyone was assigned a room for their own personal usage.

Paul and the other new recruits were also assigned rooms before they were sent off.

After a while only Alex, Jake, and Ethan were left standing in the open area.

Once everyone was gone, Ethan hesitated a bit before asking,

"Lord Saint... is it really okay for us to do this though?... Count Foley has never had any conflict with our church... us attacking him like this might not be a good idea..."

Hearing Ethan's hesitant words, Alex shook his head and replied in a calm voice,

"You are considering the situation by the wrong perspective, little Ethan..."

"Count Foley has actually attacked us with a tremendous fatal attack; it's just that it's not a physical type of attack..."

At Alex's words, both Ethan and Jake were confused and seeing their confusion, Alex explained in his usual arrogant tone,

"He's hell-bent on making his older son a paladin of the church of the goddess of war and combat, which is a clear betrayal towards the god of wisdom!"

"All of the ancestors of the Ilma family and even the founders of the Ilma county were once firm believers of the god of wisdom..."

"He has abandoned the faith of the god of wisdom that his ancestors all believed in, which is a great blasphemy!"

Alex knew that Jake and Ethan both were righteous people and wouldn't agree to things that were blatantly wrong and openly evil.

But Alex was no idiot; he was able to easily fabricate lies and complicate and twist the truth of the situation so much that most people will end up believing his words without questioning them.

"Moreover, by making his son a paladin of another church, he's clearly creating an opportunity to sabotage the church of the god of wisdom..."

"In fact, I believe that in the past years, the main reason for such a drastic decline in the numbers of believers of the god of wisdom is also because he's been secretly plotting and reducing our benevolent god's influence!"

Alex shook his head and showed a look of regret on his face.

"Although I also don't want to do this to him, we are devoted to our benevolent god and can't let his faith get destroyed by a mere count!"

"We must not let him tarnish the name of our benevolent god no matter what!"

"If his son becomes the paladin of the goddess of war and combat and then becomes the lord of this city, our church will cease to exist!"

"Everyone will forget the name of our benevolent god! And we will be the sinners who let this all happen!"

Alex looked at Ethan and Jake before asking,

"Do you want to be the sinners who let our benevolent god's faith die just because you were afraid of taking a strong stance?"

"What will you say to our benevolent god after you ascend to his kingdom after death? Will you be able to stand before him without feeling ashamed?"

Hearing those questions made Ethan and Jake feel ashamed for even doubting Alex once!

"Forgive me, Lord Saint, I am not as farsighted as you so I couldn't understand your plans..."

Ethan bowed his head slightly in apology and didn't ask any more questions.

What he didn't know was that Alex was purposely making and twisting things in such a way!

This was a simple mental manipulation tactic!

Moreover, even the people chosen to recruit in the organization were actually hand-picked!

Alex had cooperated with Zeil and asked him to track down people in the city who were either drowning in immense debt or were facing immense problems in life in general!

In fact, the knights and soldiers who took over Paul's farmland were Zeil's thugs that were ordered specifically to make Paul's already difficult life more difficult!

Paul was just one of the people that Alex had manipulated and recruited into his organization in the same way!

Using the same method of breaking people apart from the inside out and then giving a helping hand in times of need was a tactic that Alex used with Zeil's cooperation to recruit diehard and loyal members for the organization.

They all thought that Alex was their messiah, their great hero who cared a lot about them, but in fact Alex was using them like pawns and increasing the numbers of his organization.

Zeil had no such subordinates that could lead the organization, and he himself couldn't get out of constant surveillance, so he was incapable of being the leader of this organization.

Thus, Alex decided to do it himself.

'Well, the food and all the expenses are being taken care of by Zeil so I don't mind working a little bit extra on my end...'

Gathering all these people underground was no simple task; there needed to be food, clothes, furniture, and all the other necessary stuff.

Zeil had provided the funding for the organization and all of that, while Alex was personally leading it all!

Deceit, fraud, lies, and tricks—all were used for the hidden organization 'Revenant' to come into existence!

Chapter 63: The Fire of Revolution has been started.

Paul was just one of the few people who were recruited and chosen because of their bad circumstances.

Ron, the ex-soldier, was a veteran who had fought on many battlefields and was very experienced in surviving in wars fought in the barren plains of the Ilma county.

He had grown up in a well-off family and joined the military early in life; his parents were soldiers, and they died fighting monsters on the battlefield.

With him being a temperamental person with a distant and cold personality, he never managed to marry and make a family of his own.

The women he liked died in battle due to the wrong decisions and tactics of the commanders, and that loss broke him from inside.

Ron left the military after that and turned to alcohol, and he often pickpocketed to get money.

He was spotted when he tried to pickpocket one of the soldiers on active duty and then was put in jail.

But Zeil secretly freed him at Alex's order.

Alex and Zeil had made a massive list of people who were unsatisfied with society and were prone to manipulation tactics.

Although Zeil could not brainwash and command those people himself, he was still able to use the knights and subordinates belonging to him to find people like Paul and Ron.

People might suspect why Zeil was investigating people like them, but there was no regular pattern in choosing, and the people were chosen completely irregularly to prevent any traitor from infiltrating the organization.

The earliest batch of the people that were recruited were almost entirely from the various jails located in the city.

Some were accused of being frauds, as they were in heavy debt; some were offenders who had stolen things, and some were in jail due to getting in petty arguments and brawls with random people.

Most of the people that Alex and Zeil chose were not serious criminals but not innocent people either.

Only a few were like Paul, who was genuinely a misfortunate soul burdened by his circumstances and bad luck.

Nonetheless, the organization was slowly taking form after three weeks of continuous efforts.

There were already around forty people in the organization, and they were all handpicked for specific tasks and missions.

In a week or two the count of Ilma will return, so Alex and Zeil were starting to run out of time; thus, they had to start fast.

While making his way back from the hidden organization's headquarters through a narrow tunnel that led directly to a hidden basement of a house near the church, Alex thought about various things in his mind.

'Forty people is quite low but I have no other choice as time is running out. I was hoping to recruit at least one 'Pathwalker' but it seems that would be too difficult for now...'

The moment people become 'Pathwalkers' in this world, they become qualified to get a lot of benefits, and none of them are unemployed or in any kind of financial trouble.

So it was not possible for Alex to just recruit them out of nowhere in such a small amount of time.

'Well, I will message Zeil to keep an eye on the whereabouts of all recorded 'Pathwalkers' in the city and see if any of them has anything particularly interesting in their resume...'

Despite being 'Pathwalkers,' they are still human beings after all; there is no way they will not be swayed by anything in the world.

If you can't find a person's weakness, that means you are just not looking for it hard enough!

'Talking about Pathwalkers... I might have to start dealing with the Pathwalkers that are loyal to the count of Ilma one by one... to prevent them from getting in my way...'

Normal people like Paul and the others can't do their missions properly if some Pathwalker gets in their way, and thus they need to be dealt with before they can create problems in the working of the plan.

'Sigh... I wonder when I will become a 'Pathwalker' myself... it's quite difficult...'

Alex had already read through several dozen books in the past three weeks, and his knowledge about this world and this nation was expanding at a very rapid pace.

Learning new knowledge and expanding his own wisdom to become the most knowledgeable man was Alex's goal and his 'Path' in life.

He was surely working hard to accomplish it, but until now, Alex felt no visible growth at all.

According to what Ethan said, his physical fitness was steadily improving, and his aura was also getting stronger, but it was still far away from reaching the standards of a Pathwalker.

'Sigh... I need to speed up my acquisition of this county; only then will I be able to speed up my growth...'

Once the county is his to rule, Alex will have massive resources and money; he can then use them to create massive campaigns for the god of wisdom and recruit many priests in the church.

This way he will increase the divine healing potion-making capacity of the church and will use them for his own training speed enhancement!

The process is long and very time-consuming, but once Alex manages to create a stable supply chain of those healing potions, his own personal strength will skyrocket, and he will easily be able to reach Phase 1!

"Lord Saint, Antonio has been sent to the old mill to perform the mission... he might have reached there by now, I think..."

Jake's words snapped Alex out of his daze and he nodded his head.

"Good... If things go right, once Antonio finished this mission of his, and comes back, give these organization members the task of spreading rumours about what he had found during his mission..."

Alex handed over a piece of paper to Jake that had a few names written on it, which belonged to a few members of the organization.

Once Alex handed that paper to Jake, Jake nodded his head and didn't ask a single question before putting that paper in his pockets carefully.

'Little Antonio~ make sure you succeed in lighting the haystack I have prepared... I need the fire of revolution to spread in the entire city of Ilma...'

'I have high hopes for you~'

Chapter 64: Antonio's Little Adventure. Part-1.

City of Ilma, Outskirts.

An old abandoned mill existed far away from the slums area of the city of Ilma.

It was located on a small hill and was abandoned decades ago because the owner of the mill committed suicide inside the mill due to going bankrupt and being buried in debts.

Rumor has it that the grieving soul of the mill owner still haunts that abandoned mill; due to this reason, no one has bought and renovated this place again.

A few local thugs even used the abandoned building as their hideout for a while, but even the thugs refused to stay there after some time because of various strange incidents that happened quite often.

Antonio, who once used to be a textile merchant and fraud, was sent to this location at the orders of the leader of the organization he had just joined recently.

His mission was simple: go to the abandoned mill and make a report of any irregular thing happening inside the mill.

"Ugh... I seriously don't like the vibe of this place... thankfully, I came here in morning at least..."

Wearing a coat and a hat, Antonio stood in front of the abandoned mill as he scratched the back of his neck to calm down his nervousness.

"This place is giving me chills even though it's early in the morning right now... how horrific would this place look if it was at night, I wonder..."

Just thinking about such a scenario made Antonio feel scared.

The abandoned mill had three buildings and an open area in between and a massive wooden-wall boundary surrounding the entire area.

The road leading to the front gate of the mill was barely even visible due to not being maintained for a long time and was completely covered by grass and various wild plants.

Antonio was thankful that he had a habit of wearing leather boots, and he didn't have to worry about snakes or other insects biting his legs while walking through this dense vegetation.

He slowly made his way to the front door of the boundary, and there was a massive wooden signboard hanging on the wide-open and half-broken door.

{Do Not Enter,

Cherish Your Life,

Su*cide Is Not A Good Option.

There Is More To Life Than Depression!]

The person who hung that signboard seemed to be openly telling people not to commit su*cide by entering this place.

Even the signboard had dried blood marks on it, so Antonio felt his legs go weak the very moment he saw it.

'I-i... Do I really need to go inside?... I already wanna go home though...'

Thinking about home, a look of pain and regret appeared on Antonio's face.

Antonio was a textile merchant; he travelled from one place to another all year round, but he was also not an honest person. To earn a lot of money, he often did a lot of fraud work.

He would often take tons of loans, buy cheap clothes, and then sell them to ignorant people before running away with both the loan money and the money he earned through taking advantage of the people.

Then he would repeat the same cycle in the next town or city.

He had been doing this business his whole life and had also been caught a few times.

But he was often able to escape by bribing the officials and the people in charge of the jail, but this time was different.

When he tried to do the same thing in the city of Ilma, a traveller recognized him, and he got caught.

He wasn't even able to make money before being thrown into the jail and couldn't even bribe, as he had no money at hand in that moment!

Alex freed him and asked him why he was doing all this endless fraud.

Antonio's reason was simple: he needed money. His entire childhood had been spent in poverty, and he had seen his family members starve to death because of lack of money!

Antonio was obsessed over money because he had seen how crucial it was for life!

His own sister had starved to death just because they had no money to feed her!

That day Antonio swore to earn money by whatever means possible, and the only way he knew was swindling and doing fraud!

Alex smiled at him gently and offered him a great deal.

"If you work for me... I will offer you the opportunity to do trade and earn a tremendous amount of money in the entire city of Ilma!"

Antonio agreed to it very easily!

And this was his first mission since entering the organization!

'Ugh... standing guard at the door for the organization was boring but I for sure didn't want this much of thrilling job either...'

'I just hope that the paycheck makes up for all the suffering later...'

Shaking his head, Antonio placed his hand on his waist, where a small hidden dagger was, and took it out.

While holding the dagger in his hand tightly, Antonio entered the old mill.

"Whatever is here, just don't come out... I am here only for the sightseeing... I will go back after I am done wandering around a bit..."

"I have a sick mother waiting for me at home so please take pity on me and just let me be..."

The old mill was covered in vegetation, and even the buildings were heavily damaged from wear and tear due to a long time of lack of maintenance.

The biggest building was the main mill, the second one was a warehouse, and the third one was a cabin for the mill owner to stay at night.

The small cabin was nearly completely broken down, so there was no need to explore it, but Antonio needed to explore the rest of the two buildings to complete his investigation report.

'I seriously do not understand why I was the one sent here... shouldn't they have sent Ron here...'

'That guy's got combat prowess and much better survival skills...'

Although Antonio was scared, for the sake of a better future, he was not going to back down.

Chapter 65: Antonio's Little Adventure. Part-2.

****Rustle* *Rustle****

As Antonio walked forward, his feet brushed past the weeds growing in the area, causing a rustling sound.

Although the sound was being created by his own movements, Antonio felt that the sound was oddly echoing in the area too much for some reason.

Usually, he wouldn't feel that his own footsteps and his own clothes rubbing with his body made this much sound, but today it felt oddly loud to him.

Every step forward seemed to make him feel more and more nervous.

****oooohhhh~~ ooooohhhh~~~ oooohhhh~~~****

Suddenly a random pigeon sound started to rang out in the area.

It was not loud but not too quiet either; it almost seemed as if the pigeon was sitting right on his shoulder and screaming at him from a very close range.

Antonio could hear that sound very clearly.

But to his shock, there was no pigeon around him.

Not to mention a pigeon, there was not a single insect in the area.

Despite having tall grass and weeds all over the place, Antonio didn't even notice a single ant since coming inside the abandoned mill.

It was almost as if no living creature wanted to stay anywhere close to that place.

"D-don't scare me like that... like I said, I will leave right away after I am done exploring a little bit..."

"Just a teeny-tiny bit.... Just enough to make my report... I don't want to return empty handed..."

Antonio was in a great dilemma at the moment.

Although he felt fearful and nervous, he also didn't want to return so easily; his obsession with money was pushing him forward.

And this was one of the main reasons why Alex chose Antonio to be the one to do this mission.

Ron was an ex-soldier; he had survived many battlefields, and that meant his danger senses were honed to the point that he could distinguish that this place was not worth it.

If he was sent on this mission, he would have retreated the moment he reached the front door, as his senses would have warned him of the possible dangers in this shady place.

Antonio was different.

Unlike others in the organization, his main motive and driving force was money!

He didn't want to retreat just because of personal fear and nervousness.

Moreover, being fearful and nervous was a usual thing for him because he himself knew that there was a big risk in doing fraud and illegal work.

He was actually more efficient at working when under stress and danger!

Alex had noticed this trait of his when he got him freed from the jail with Zeil's help.

To Alex, it didn't matter what the other party's past or present was; he only cared about their 'motives,' their ambitions, and how useful they might be to him in the future.

'That warehouse is giving less eerie vibes... I guess I will explore it first...'

Looking at the warehouse, Antonio took deep breaths and slowly made his way there with slow but steady steps.

Oooooohhhh!!!* *Oooooohhhh!!!* *Oooooohhhh!!!

'F*cking pigeon... can you stop shouting... you will scare me to death at this rate...'

Holding the dagger in his hand, Antonio arrived at the warehouse.

The door was shut tight with a big lock and several chains binding it, but there was a meter-wide hole at the bottom of the giant door.

It seemed as if something had bitten and broken its way out by destroying the door with force.

'I don't have a good feeling about this...'

Antonio looked around the entire warehouse for some possible entrance, but there was no other inside.

He glanced around vigilantly, and seeing that the area was safe, Antonio squatted down and lay down on the ground.

Without wasting time, he crawled his way inside the warehouse through that hole in the front door of the warehouse.

'Ugh... What is this horrible smell...'

While crawling his way in, a horrible stench assaulted Antonio's nose.

It smelled so bad that it was difficult to breathe properly, and just the stench alone made Antonio feel disgusted.

When he finally crawled inside, what greeted him was a sight so disgusting and disturbing that he almost vomited on the spot!

Antonio hurriedly got up from the ground in dismay!

The inside of the warehouse was filled with old clothes and shoes; it was impossible to guess if they were the abandoned products made from this textile mill or the clothes of victims that met a horrible fate.

Although there were tons of abandoned clothes, they weren't the main cause of Antonio's disgust.

The horrible stench was from rotting internal organs scattered everywhere inside the big warehouse!

Antonio had no idea if those internal organs belonged to animals or humans, but just the look of them freaked him out.

There were dozens of weird circles and engravings carved on the floor and on the inner walls of the warehouse with blood!

It was all dried blood, and internal organs were either scattered around those engravings or were nailed to the walls like some kind of psychopath's collection!

"D-demonic r-rituals.... S-someone's been doing d-demonic rituals here recently!"

Demonic rituals are the type of rituals in which you use animals or humans as the 'energy' source and use their blood and vitality to establish a stable channel with demonic entities!

Many holy books of the various churches across the world have mentioned the existence of demonic entities and people using cruel methods and the power of 'souls' to contact them.

All churches and all gods have publicly banned these kinds of dark practices all across the world.

And whoever is caught doing this kind of thing is hunted down by the paladins of the churches all across the world and then immediately executed!

"T-there's a Black Magic user in this area!?..."

Black magic is the common name given to the skills and techniques that use 'soul,' 'life-force,' and 'miasma' as their energy source!

These kinds of skills and techniques not only harm others, but they are also harmful for even the person who uses them!

There's an old-age saying,

{Never trust anyone or anything related to the abominable power called 'Miasma' and 'Corruption'!}

Chapter 66: Antonio's Little Adventure. Part-3.

According to the legends and myths of this world, Miasma and Corruption are the abominable powers that are detested by every god and every being in this world!

Those who use them end up getting corrupted themselves due to miasmatic corruption!

And those who fall into the hands of miasma and corruption never end up well!

Miasma is the type of power that makes a mockery out of every existence and living creature!

It corrupts and decays even inanimate objects like rock, water, and air, let alone living creatures!

Those who fall in its grasp have their souls extracted and corrupted to the very insides!

Miasma doesn't even let you die!

If you die, it will keep torturing your soul with eternal corruption and decay! To it, all living beings are just playthings!

Thus, those who use it and those who get tainted by it always inflict tremendous damage not only on themselves but also on the others too!

Due to which they are hated and hunted by everyone in the world!

Antonio couldn't hold on for too long, and he vomited on the spot after thinking about what was happening here and how horrible this place was.

He didn't want to waste a single second here, and he immediately rushed toward the door and crawled out of the place as fast as possible!

Unlike before, his face was pale from fear and disgust!

Once he managed to crawl out of that horrible place, he immediately lay down on the ground and took deep breaths to calm himself down!

'T-this place is horrible! I-I need to report what's happening here back to the organization as fast as possible!'

'If whoever is doing this is not caught... they might end up causing hundreds of thousands of people in the city of Ilma to die!'

Although Antonio was a fraud and a liar who had scammed many people before, he was not a murderer.

He had never killed a single person, and he hadn't even seen too much blood in his life either.

He was just an ordinary guy with no combat prowess and no extraordinary experience!

"I must leave now-"

oooohhhh~* *ooooohhhh~* *ooooohhhh~

Just when Antonio was thinking of leaving, that same pigeon sound started to ring in his head once again.

But this time it sounded very calm and gentle.

It was as if that sound was comforting him and was relaxing him.

Antonio felt his body relax after hearing that strangely calming sound; this time the pigeon's voice seemed even clearer, and he could even tell where it was coming from.

The voice was coming from the abandoned textile mill's direction.

For some reason, Antonio felt the urge to go inside that place.

"N-no... I need to leave... I can't go there... this is a trap..."

Antonio tried to calm down his heart and tried to reason with himself, but his body refused to listen to his commands!

His body stood up on its own, and he started walking while staggering in a very weird way.

"N-no... wha-what's happening to me... wha... noo... no, no no..."

It felt as if something was pushing him from behind and forcing him to walk towards the front door of the abandoned textile mill.

Antonio tried his best to stop his body from moving; he even tried to bite his own tongue to wake himself from this nightmare with the pain.

But nothing worked.

His eyes went bloodshot, and he started crying!

Despite trying his best, he couldn't even blink, and his eyes remained wide open as tears flowed out of them uncontrollably!

A wide unnatural grin spread on his face as his facial muscles twitched wildly at the same time!

If someone was there to see this all happen, it would have seemed so scary that they would have fainted on the spot!

With his legs half bent and his arms flailing around like a broken doll's, Antonio walked towards the abandoned textile mill.

CREAAAKKKK!!!

The giant door of the mill opened on its own as Antonio walked inside, controlled by an invisible power!

He felt like his body had become a puppet that was being controlled by someone, and they were making him laugh and cry at the same time!

His face looked extremely creepy with him grinning with his teeth showing and his tears running continuously while his eyes became more and more bloodshot with each passing second!

crunch!* *crunch!

Once Antonio reached the inside of the textile mill, his body stopped, and he stood there rooted on the ground at one spot.

Inside the mill, there were dozens of human bodies hanging from the tall ceiling with their own intestines being the 'rope' that bound them and hung them from the ceiling.

There was blood everywhere on the ground, and those corpses were all either rotting or still leaking blood.

Some even had their internal organs spilling out of them, and Antonio could even see that there was one corpse whose brain had fallen out of its skull and whose eyes were still attached to it intact.

Those two eyeballs were staring at Antonio with horror and despair, making him feel scared to the very bottom of his heart.

OOOOHHHH!!!* *OOOOHHHH!!!

The weird pigeon sound rang out again as Antonio's eyes fell on the entity making that sound.

It was a doglike creature, but it was standing on two legs; its entire body was covered in mouths all over, and dozens of tongues were hanging out with dark black saliva dropping from all of them!

Just looking at that bizarre creature caused Antonio to feel as if his mind was about to break apart and split into pieces!

It was as if looking at that bizarre entity was enough to cause horror beyond human comprehension!

As if noticing Antonio's presence, the doglike creature, which was facing the other side, turned back and almost caused Antonio to faint on the spot.

That bizarre creature had a humanoid face with a mouth as big as Antonio's face itself!

And it was eating a human hand with that mouth.

****Crunch!* *Crunch!****

The sound of bones being crushed by those sharp teeth rang out in the entire mill, causing Antonio to feel a chill run down his spine.

"HEHE... IT'S TASTY... YOU... WANT ONE?... HEHE...."

To Antonio's absolute horror, that creature grinned at him with an extremely evil look on its face, and it talked just like a normal human being!

It was a sentient creature!

Chapter 67: Why hurt me? Part-1.

"N-no... t-thi-this can't be... thi-this can't be... it's not true... it's not true..."

Seeing that horrific sight in front of him and hearing that bizarre creature talk like a normal human, Antonio started to deny the reality itself.

He refused to believe that it was all true and there was such a horrific being standing right in front of him.

It was as if his entire body was feeling repulsive at the very thought of staying closer to that bizarre creature, and it was sweating like crazy, and his skin was covered in goosebumps!

His eyes couldn't stop crying, and his mouth was twisted in a weird grin as if his body's emotion regulation capabilities were broken from the inside!

****ooooohhhhh~* *ooooooooohhhhh~* *ooooohhhhh~****

The creature had hundreds of mouths, and several other mouths made the noises that Antonio had been constantly hearing since entering this abandoned textile mill.

It was the sound of a pigeon; only now did Antonio understand that it was no pigeon that was making such a sound—it was something far more sinister.

That bizarre creature seemed to have taken interest in Antonio, and it walked on its two hind legs like a normal human being.

And its two front legs were transformed into the shape of weird twisted tentacles that were holding several severed human arms in their grasp.

SLUUUUURRRRRPPPPP!!

The monstrous humanoid face of the creature slurped the blood veins hanging from the hand as if it was eating some kind of noodle and gave a satisfied look as it walked towards Antonio.

"YOU.... SMELLLLLL.... SMEELLLLLL.... NICEEEEE... HEHE... HEHE... NICEEEE... SMELLLL NICEEE... EHEEHE..."

ooooohhhhhh~ *ooooooooohhhhhh~**ooooohhhhhh~*

The bizarre creature talked in a hoarse voice that was very uncomfortable to hear as it smelled Antonio with its disfigured nose.

Antonio was on the verge of collapse in that moment, and he wet his pants the moment that creature said that he smelled nice.

Perhaps it was an attempt to smell bad, but all it did was raise that bizarre creature's excitement even more.

"HUMAN.... HUMAN... MEAT.... MEAT OF HUMAN... AHHH... IT'S SO SOFT... SO DELICATE.... AHHH...."

CRUNCH!

A loud crunching sound rang out in the area as the creature took a bite out of the human hand and shattered the bones in that hand effortlessly with a single bite.

Human bones seemed as fragile as a potato chip to that creature!

In fact, the bones were adding a crunchier and tastier feel to it, causing the creature to feel almost overwhelming pleasure from eating that hand.

THUD!

Antonio knees gave way, and he collapsed on the ground in sheer fright; his body froze in shock and refused to react.

He couldn't even bring out a scream or a single groan in that moment; he was so frightened that his body just kept shivering but refused to move an inch!

"AAHHHH.... IT IS NICE.... SO NICE.... AMAZINGLY NICE...."

Unfortunately for Antonio, the closest alive creature to that monster was him!

BOOOOM!!!

The monster stomped the ground and launched at Antonio with speed faster than the speed of sound!

Just its bodily movement itself broke through the sound barrier and blew half the old building of the abandoned mill apart with the power of the shockwave it created in that moment!

"KILLLLLLL!!!!!!!"

The monster reached close to Antonio in a matter of mere milliseconds and attacked Antonio with the giant left tentacle!

Its tentacle muscles tightened to create a biological spear with a sharp pointed tip at the front!

Just when that sharp tentacle was about to pierce Antonio's head and blow it apart into pieces, a sword strike got in its way!

[Lunar-Fall Sword Art: New Moon: Absolute Parry!]

Clang!!

The sword strike moved in a perfect curve as if it was representing the appearance of a 'New Moon,' and it hit the hardened tentacle from the side, parrying the attack and redirecting its power in the wrong direction!

BOOOM!!!

The monster's tentacle hit the ground beside Antonio and pierced right through the concrete floor, creating a hole in the ground instantly!

Before the debris from the ground could hit Antonio, he noticed that someone grabbed him by his shirt's collar and dragged him away from the monster!

Everything happened so fast that Antonio could not understand, but the moment he finally came to his senses, he found himself sitting far away from the main door of the collapsing old mill.

"How odd... this 'beast' class monster is stronger than we expected... has it mutated to the next level due to consuming too many humans?"

A calm and gentle voice brought Antonio out of his daze.

He looked in front of him and found a man in heavy paladin armor standing close to him.

His silver-white armor had gold patterns and designs of books and ancient scrolls all over it.

His bright red cape swayed along in the wind along with the man's brownish hair.

In his left hand was his armor's helmet, and the right hand was holding a double-edged sword.

The sword looked extremely beautiful as it shone brightly in the sunlight.

Antonio could even see the intricate and beautiful silverish-golden patterns shining, engraved on that sword's blade.

"Thankfully, I made it here in time..."

Just hearing that man's calm and gentle voice was enough to put Antonio's anxious heart to rest.

He felt as if he was suddenly embraced by warmth, and he almost cried once again as he felt grateful that someone came to save him.

"S-sir Ethan! T-thanks for coming to save me! Thank you!! Thank you!!!"

The powerful savior was none other than Ethan Schild himself!

Hearing Antonio's words, Ethan only gave a slight nod as he immediately donned his helmet and took his stance.

"Stay back here; don't try to move from this location. that 'Beast' is tough... hmm, no, it would be more accurate to call it a 'pseudo-monster' class creature from the amount of 'aura' it is radiating..."

"I might have be able to go all out today after such a long time..."

****Shhhhhiiiiieeeee!!!!* *BOOOOOMMM!!!!****

An arrow flew past from far away and hit the monster right in the chest just when it was about to throw some broken debris in Ethan's direction, breaking its stance and causing it to stagger and fall!

"As expected of the strongest archer in the city of Ilma... even those blunt arrows are quite strong..."

"He's not called a 'Knight Killing Specialist' for no reason, after all..."

Ethan didn't come to this monster-hunting campaign alone; Alex had negotiated with Zeil and asked him to arrange a strong enough ally for Ethan's help.

Ethan was the strongest person under Alex's command at the moment, and Alex wanted to reduce any possibility of permanent harm being inflicted on Ethan's body.

Thus, he made sure that Ethan won't have to fight this battle alone; Zeil had arranged a teammate for him!

The person was a veteran Pathwalker and a powerful archer capable of killing knights donning heavy armor from afar!

His blunt arrows were powerful enough to create shockwaves and physical impact so strong that even the heavy armor wouldn't be able to protect a person!

Those powerful arrows were extremely ideal for doing damage to monsters that had tough external defenses like thick skin or bone armor!

This was the main reason the other party was given the nickname 'Knight Killing Specialist' of the city of Ilma!

With such a good teammate providing support, Ethan didn't need to worry about Antonio's safety or the monster escaping mid-battle!

It was a rare opportunity to fight a powerful monster head-on for the first time in a long while!

'Lord Saint, last time I let you down by not being able to deal with that monster, but this time for sure I will prove my worth!'

'I am not just a 'Little Ethan', I am the strongest paladin in the city of Ilma!'

Chapter 68: Why hurt me? Part-2.

The monster was no idiot; it understood that it was stuck in a difficult situation at the moment, and it was pointless to continue fighting.

But the moment it tried to retreat or escape, an arrow came flying its way and blocked its path of retreat every time.

Thus, it had no other choice but to stay and fight!

"IIIIITTTT HURRRRRTTSSSS!!!!"

Noticing that it was in a difficult situation, the monster changed its voice and started screaming in the voice of a helpless woman to make Ethan and the others let their guard down.

But Ethan and the archer were both veterans; they had seen many monsters before, and they had been fighting monsters their entire lives.

They both completely ignored the monster's deceit tactics and didn't get tricked by its change in voice at all!

Ethan suddenly made several signs with his hand to inform the archer behind him that he was going to jump into close-range battle and he should switch to a precise support role now.

After giving the hand signs, Ethan didn't waste time and took his stance.

He placed his sword around his waist on the right and held its handle with both arms.

His aura became concentrated as he bent his knees a bit and stared right at the monster's location without a speck of fear on his face hidden under the helmet.

[Lunar-Fall Sword Art: Half-Moon: Double Moon Curves!]

****BOOOOM!!!****

Ethan stomped the ground and launched straight at the monster like a cannonball; he bent his waist a little and sliced upward with immense force!

The monster seemed to have predicted that Ethan was going to do that, and it moved slightly to the side, easily escaping the upward sword strike.

"Hehe... got you..."

A smirk appeared on Ethan's face, and the sword that was raised high in the air was immediately swung downwards with even more force than the first attack!

"AHHHHHHH!!!!!!!"

The sword sliced the monster's torso almost in two pieces; the monster managed to retreat a bit at the last second.

Otherwise, Ethan could have divided it into two pieces on the spot!

The force of that sword strike was so strong that the monster flew away from the sheer impact and hit the remaining intact concrete pillars of the destroyed mill building.

BOOOM!!!

The old concrete pillars broke apart almost instantly, and debris flew in all directions as the monster went right through the building and fell far away on the ground with black blood leaking everywhere from its body!

"Why do you think I have double-edged sword?... It is especially good at dealing with partially self-conscious beings like you; that's why I have it..."

Ethan swung his sword lightly and shrugged off the black corrosive blood from his sword before it could do any particular damage to the sword.

SHIIIIEEEEEEEE!!!!

While Ethan stood in place, another arrow came flying, and just when it was about to hit the monster, the monster hurriedly moved to the side, causing the arrow to fall on the ground and create a one-meter-wide crater on the solid concrete floor!

Concrete and debris flew in the air, causing more pain to the open wounds of the monster by hitting it in the wounded areas!

"DOOOONNNTTTTT HURRRRRTTTT MMEEEEEEE PLEASSSSEEEEEEE!!!!"

The monster switched to a child's voice in that moment and started pleading for its life.

If it was someone who had seen this situation for the first time, they might end up hesitating and might get distracted, but Ethan was completely unaffected!

"It's going to do its desperate attacks now... phew~ got to be more careful from here onwards..."

Ethan knew from his long experience that partially or fully self-conscious monsters like this start using desperate methods and almost do anything when they are cornered.

Ethan has seen quite a few people die due to being careless or being taken by surprise when a monster enters its desperation state.

BOOOM!!!

Ethan stepped forward and didn't give the monster the chance to breathe or recover; he charged at him instantly!

[Lunar-Fall Sword Art: Full Moon: Consecutive Curved Arcs!]

Ethan swung his sword in a horizontal manner, and his sword strike made a curve in the air as it shone beautifully under the sunlight!

But that sword strike was anything but beautiful!

With Ethan being so strong and fast, his sword strikes were faster than the speed of sound and carried force comparable to being hit by a sniper rifle!

The monster had already gotten a taste of Ethan's powerful sword attacks, and it dared not let Ethan strike it again; thus, it shrunk its body and squatted down on the ground to avoid that horizontal swing!

****WHOOOOMMM!!!****

Just the sword swing in the empty air created a powerful air pressure that blew away the nearby debris far away!

"Hoh, you are a fast learner!"

Seeing that the monster avoided his sword attack, Ethan wasn't too surprised; he took advantage of the momentum created from the previous swing and let his body spin a bit.

Then he redirected that momentum to a new downward strike right away!

His every move and his control over his strength were so precise that even while fighting, he seemed like he was doing an elegant dance!

But each of those elegant moves carried insanely high lethality!

Each of those sword swings was strong enough to easily chop boulders into two pieces with a single strike!

****Clang!!!!* *boom!!!****

The monster used its toughened tentacle to stop Ethan's downward sword swing, and the moment the sword hit the tentacle, it seemed as if Ethan's sword had hit metal, and a loud bell-like sound rang in the area!

The monster was overwhelmed by the impact of Ethan's attacks, and the ground beneath its feet cracked as he sank down in the ground several centimeters due to the sheer force of that attack!

****SHIIIIIEEEEEEEEE!!!!* *BOOOOM!!!!****

Taking advantage of the fact that the monster was immobilized, the archer stationed far away fired another powerful arrow that hit the monster right in the side of his abdomen!

The impact of that arrow attack was strong enough to break the monster's balance and lower its defense for a second.

And that single second was enough for Ethan!

[Lunar-Fall Sword Art: Half-Moon: Holy Moon-Cross!]

Ethan bent one of his knees and tilted his body to one side as his sword lowered to the ground.

Then he swung it upward with immense force before redirecting that momentum once again to create a half-circle in the air and bring the sword back to the down position once again!

And then he completed the 'X' type attack by swinging in the opposite direction the same way as the first time!

"AHHHHHHH!!!! UUUGGGGGGHHHH!!!! AHHHHHHH!!!!!"

The first strike remained unsuccessful again because the monster was able to barely defend it with its tough tentacle, but the second one hit it right on the same spot where it was heavily injured!

Its already fatal injury became even more severe, and it lost its balance as it rotated 90 degrees to the left as it flew in the air from the force of that attack!

****SHIIIEEEEE!!!!****

The moment that monster was thrown in the air while its body was being rotated by the impact of the sword attack, another arrow came flying with immense force and hit it mid-air!

****BOOOM!!!****

This time the arrow was different!

It was a sharp arrow with a purple poisonous coating on it!

It hit the monster right in the deepest part of its wounds, and the poison covering the arrow immediately started circulating inside the body of the monster in a matter of mere seconds!

The monster's body twitched wildly, and it crazily thrashed its limbs in all directions as if it had gone mad from the pain and poison.

It had no idea that moving your body too much while poisoned will only cause the poison to circulate much faster in the entire body!

"This archer guy is really quite strong... I have never met an archer as strong as him..."

Ethan was quite surprised by how good that person was and how amazingly he could coordinate with Ethan, even when this was the first time they had worked together.

What Ethan didn't know was that the archer himself was quite shocked at how strong Ethan was and how his sword swing was capable of moving so fast that it was near impossible to perceive it with the naked eye!

"AHHHHH!!!! IT HURRRRTTSSSSS!!! ITTTT HURRRRTTTTSSSS!!!!!!"

The monster kept thrashing wildly as Ethan stepped forward and moved to its side.

As Ethan raised his sword to deliver the final strike, the monster started crying and asked Ethan with a voice of child,

"Why hurt me?... I JUST WANT TO LIVE... WHY?"

Usually, Ethan wouldn't reply, but since the archer was here today, he replied in a confident tone with a loud voice.

"You are incompatible with this world... moreover, you are able to speak in a child's tone because you have eaten one, right?..."

"Otherwise you couldn't have mimicked its voice... so your own voice serves as the proof of your crimes..."

"Don't do such crimes in the next life... maybe then you will not be hurt by anyone then..."

Without wasted anymore saliva on the monster, Ethan swung the sword in a downward manner!

[Lunar-Fall Sword Art: Full Moon: Setting Moon!]

****BOOOOM!!!****

With that strike, the monster's entire head was blown apart and cut off from its torso in just a single second!

The ground cracked, and the monster's body sank several inches into the ground from the impact of that attack!

But Ethan did not stop there; he squatted down and placed his hand on the monster's dead body as he channeled divine power into it!

Using divine power, he completely purified that corpse of any miasma and made sure that it was really dead and had no signs of life left.

Whatever chance of living it might have had was destroyed with diving power!

"May the god of wisdom grant forgiveness to your soul..."

Chapter 69: There are plenty of fishes in the sea!

Antonio felt relieved that the monster finally died; he calmed down his trembling body as he looked at Ethan standing not too far away with a look of awe.

With this smooth victory, Ethan had proved that he was truly an exceptional paladin and was fully capable of completing difficult missions easily!

****Step! *Step!****

Just when Antonio was admiring Ethan's bravery, footsteps rang out from behind, and he hurriedly turned back to see who was coming.

"No wonder they all sing tales of his bravery; the god of wisdom church might only have one paladin but he alone is quite strong..."

A middle-aged man walked inside the wooden boundary of the old mill while holding a large bow in his left hand and a thick cigar in his right hand.

He was wearing a hunter's robe, and a brownish hat rested on his head.

"You... are you the archer who was helping us? Thanks for saving my life! I am really grateful!"

The middle-aged man waved his hand as he hung his bow behind his back.

"No worries, dude, I am actually happy that I got to see Sir Ethan at work with my own eyes!"

While smiling at Antonio, the man brought out a rope, and with great swiftness, he tied Antonio's hands together before Antonio could even react!

"Wha-wha-what!? What are you doing!?"

The archer ignored Antonio's words, tied his arms and legs forcefully, and then placed him above his shoulders like a sandbag.

"No hard feelings, man, I am just following orders... question your Sir Paladin if you want to..."

Hearing the archer's words, Antonio looked at Ethan, who was walking over to their side with a look of confusion and questioning.

"S-sir Ethan, wha-what's the meaning of this?"

Hearing Antonio's words, Ethan scratched the back of his neck and replied,

"Err... well, I also don't know the details but Lord Saint gave me the order... 'Deal with the situation with the old mill and Bring Back Antonio tied up'..."

"Don't worry Sir Antonio, the organization will definitely not treat you badly..."

With that said, Ethan took out a cloth and stuffed it in Antonio's mouth to prevent him from screaming.

The middle-aged archer gave Ethan a wry look and spoke.

"Your lord Saint seems like quite a cunning and dangerous person... you sure you should be working for him..."

"If it was me, I would just run away the next day, you know..."

Ethan shook his head at the man's words and replied with his usual gentle voice,

"I am a Paladin of the god of wisdom; I will never abandon my faith just because of mere shift in feeling and emotions..."

"I have devoted my life to this cause..."

The middle-aged Archer was a hired thug; obviously his loyalty to Zeil was limited, and he wasn't dedicated enough to give his life for the mission, and as a person who valued money and his own life more, he couldn't understand Ethan's motives.

"Well, everyone's 'Path' is different in life; who am I to question... Let's just get going; I still have an appointment with a pretty lady to tend to in the lovely evening..."

With that said, the man took wide strides and started running straight towards the main door of the city of Ilma!

Ethan didn't want to be left behind; seeing that the other party was quite fast, he shook his head and hurriedly caught up to the other party.

Although Ethan was wearing heavy armor, and the other party was carrying Antonio, a fully grown man, they both were very fast and didn't seem to feel tired at all.

In fact, they were still able to do casual chat while running at such a fast speed!

"With your age, I thought you would be a married person Sir Vincent... I am surprised you are still fixing dates with women at such an advanced age..."

Hearing Ethan's word, Vincent almost tripped and kissed the ground as he was taken aback!

"Advanced Age!? I am only 38, you know!! I am still in my prime! I still have a lot of time to play around and enjoy my youth, you know!"

At Vincent's reply, Ethan scratched the back of his neck and asked with an innocent smile,

"Haha, you must be joking, Sir Vincent. No way you are saying that the age of 38 is still your prime, right?..."

"By that age, some people's kids become adult at that age you know..."

In these medieval times, where the normal life expectancy of people was barely 50-60 at most, people tended to marry early, and a person was already considered a fully grown adult at the age of 16!

Most people don't even make it to their adulthood due to diseases and how dangerous this world actually is.

Just a random walk to the woods can result in an encounter with an eldritch horror capable of killing veteran knights, let alone ordinary people.

Low life expectancy is one of the major reasons as to why people marry early in this world and have lots of children so that at least one or two of them will survive until their later years.

The 'Pathwalkers' are completely different, though.

They are above ordinary people in terms of life hierarchy and have powerful vitality.

Even a Phase-1 Pathwalker has a life expectancy of 100-120 years, and just like their body, their immune system is exceptionally strong!

Diseases don't affect them mostly unless those diseases are being spread by some kind of powerful monstrosity or something like that.

But overall, they have a more robust body and a long life expectancy.

Ethan, who had married at the age of 21, was already criticized by many for marrying quite late; thus, in his opinion, it was very odd that Vincent was still unmarried even though he was already reaching close to 40!

Even Ethan's son, Jake, is already 16 and is considered an adult by now!

"Cough! Cough! I-I am surely not that old, Sir Ethan!"

"Also, you must keep in mind that I am a Pathwalker! We Pathwalkers have a long-life span, so obviously I still have a long time left..."

Vincent smirked at Ethan and continued,

"There's no fun in being tied to a single woman all your life; as a Pathwalker with a long life span, tying yourself to one partner will only cause you loneliness and depression in your later years of life, you know!"

Although it sounded rude, Vincent's words were not entirely false either.

Pathwalkers have a long lifespan, and stronger Pathwalkers can live for long times, due to which their partners end up getting old and dying much earlier than them.

Watching your loved ones die one by one in front of you is a very painful experience.

Ethan was also aware of this dilemma; he himself is a Pathwalker, but his wife is an ordinary person, and she will likely get old and end up dying much earlier than him.

He will have to live the rest of his life in loneliness and depression if that happens.

This is also the main reason why many Pathwalkers teach their children and disciples not to marry ordinary people, as losing them might affect your own 'Path' to ascension in the future.

The most famous quote about this matter was once given by a famous scholar of this world,

{The further you walk on a 'Path,' the lonelier and more difficult it becomes!}

The stronger you get, the longer your lifespan, and the more loved ones you see departing from the world while you remain stuck in this material world.

Over time, you become accustomed to this loneliness, and you become accustomed to walking alone on this lonely 'Path' of ascension!

This is the 'price' of strength many have to pay.

"Still... I believe that the person I love is the only one for me... I will leave worrying about depression to the future version of me..."

Ethan's thinking was simple, his son was a talented person; as long as he becomes a Pathwalker, at least he will be there to accompany Ethan in his old age.

In Ethan's opinion, meeting his wife was a great blessing from the gods themselves; letting go of it was not a possibility.

"No wonder you are a 'Paladin,' Sir Ethan... you have an admirable personality and big heart..."

"I hope you and your wife a long happy life... but I personally prefer staying alone and enjoying all kinds of fruits in this world..."

"There are plenty of fish in the sea! Waiting to be tasted!"

Ethan sighed and nodded his head at those words.

"I guess it differs from person to person... as you said before, everyone has a 'Path' in life; who am I to question it..."

Ethan and Vincent chatted enthusiastically with each other, while Antonio's existence was completely ignored by both of them.

He was carried like a sandbag and couldn't even resist at all!

Antonio had no idea why he was tied down like that and what they were going to do to him, but he had no other choice and let them have their way with him!

He was too weak to protest against these powerful people!