

BABY MAFIA 501

Chapter 501 - "Purple-haired Guy"

Ainsley felt her teeth aching at Evan's words. The baby couldn't help but shudder.

'My family...might be targeted? Because of the illegal auction? Damn it. Why did no one tell me sooner?'

Ainsley let out a long sigh.

'Evan just told me now because the force also recently popped out...oh but, they did their work a few weeks before the auction was held...so there's a possibility my family is already targeted.'

Evan didn't tell Ainsley about the news until now since he's not sure whether the force would go to the Roane region or not.

After all, the Roane region had quite a few influential figures in the mafia society.

If the mysterious force dared to attack a mafia gang in the region, it would risk disturbing the much stronger mafia gang.

"Anyway, make sure you quickly go back home and protect your territory." Evan added.

Ainsley immediately nodded solemnly. "Yes, uncle..."

"Right. About the mysterious force...the victims said they spotted the logo that one of the attackers had..."

Evan inhaled before continuing.

"The logo they had is a golden scale. Thus, we name the mysterious force 'The Golden Scale' gang."

"The Golden Scwale..."

If it's a scale, it represents justice. Truly sounded like a force coming from the government.

"Owkay, I'll be careful." Ainsley told Evan once more before Evan got reassured.

"Good. That's all I wanted to tell you. I will leave now with my son. You should rest too." Evan stood up and shortly left the venue along with Finley.

In the end, only Ainsley's people were left backstage, but some guests were still at the auction hall, discussing things.

Seeing the remaining guests, at first, Ainsley thought of socialising with them. However, she was worried about her family due to Evan's sudden news.

Thus, she commanded her people to leave the building quickly.

"Let's go, let's go home. We can leave now." Ainsley was in a rush. After gathering her people in a hurry, she led the group out of the building.

"Go, go, go back!"

Ainsley was running across the auction hall, and was about to exit the building when a familiar wavy purple hair suddenly caught her attention from the corner of her eyes.

Swoosh.

Whoever it was, they just passed by Ainsley from behind, leaving a blurry after-image.

Only their striking purple hair was what people could see.

Surprisingly, the purple hair looked so similar to Ainsley's own hair, but this one was short. It should belong to a man.

Ainsley's heart instantly skipped a beat. In the dark night, she squinted and tried hard to see the owner of the purple hair...

But no one was in sight anymore.

The baby couldn't help but halt her steps for a few seconds, bewildered. Her heart was still thumping loudly in her chest.

That...who was that?

Ba-thump. Ba-thump.

Striking purple hair...the Sloan Family direct descendants' unique characteristic...

Ainsley had a guess, but she subconsciously shook her head, denying whatever she just thought of.

No, no, it can't be that person. What is he doing here, anyway? Why didn't I see him before? I must have seen the wrong guy or something...

The baby gritted her teeth.

Or maybe...I'm too tired? Or is it an illusion?

Ainsley resumed her footsteps while silently asking Zev.

[Zev, Zev, you there? Is this an illusion or not?]

[I'm here, host. You're not trapped inside an illusion.] Zev hurriedly replied.

At Zev's words, Ainsley sighed in relief.

Good, good, so it's not an illusion...

But Ainsley still couldn't believe that she saw the wrong guy or something. She truly saw someone with purple hair...and if it's not an illusion...

In the end, while riding the carriage back to her mansion,

Ainsley couldn't help but ask Zev for confirmation instead of asking her people.

[...Zev. Did you see the purple-haired guy back then? He passed by my side...]

Zev, the usually talkative spirit, suddenly didn't speak. He was silent for a long time before speaking in a hoarse voice.

[I...I don't know what you're talking about, host.] Zev averted his eyes. He even hid behind the Godfather, further alarming Ainsley.

The baby looked up at Zev and the Godfather with a squint.

[Godfathel, what abwout ywou? Ywou must have seen the guy too, right?]

The Godfather thought that Ainsley wouldn't ask him. The poor guy was caught off guard!

The Godfather instantly averted his eyes and scratched his cheeks.

[Sorry, lil lass. This Lord didn't see anyone like that...]

Actually, we did.

But the person went invisible right after...so they must have used their ability once more, or they immediately consumed an invisibility potion when it ran out earlier.

But the Godfather and Zev didn't want to tell Ainsley about it. Both of them had tacit understanding to say nothing.

After all, they had a feeling that...

The person was someone that's not supposed to be at the auction, and someone that Ainsley didn't want to see either.

Unfortunately, both Zev and the Godfather were too nervous that they clearly looked like liars. Ainsley couldn't believe their statement at all.

The baby pouted. She silently crossed her arms and looked at her people in the carriage.

[Fine, then. I'll ask them—]

Before she could ask, out of the blue, her phone rang. It was such a coincidence that Zev and the Godfather instantly sighed in relief.

Thank God she's distracted.

[Hurry, take the phone call, Lil Lass. Maybe it's something important.]

[Yes, host! Hurry!]

Both spirits beguiled Ainsley to take the phone call first, and Ainsley reluctantly put aside the matter with the purple-haired guy.

However, she had just taken the call when someone shouted from the other side of the phone.

"Boss, our family is under attack!"

Chapter 502 - "The Golden Scale Force"

"Boss, our family is under attack!"

That sentence triggered Ainsley's nightmare about the first invasion that the Sloan Family got a few months ago.

In that instant, Ainsley held her breath. Her mind got dizzy for a little while.

"What...what do you mean?" The baby forced herself to speak calmly. She also didn't put the call on loudspeaker, so her people weren't alarmed yet.

'Calm down, calm down. Maybe this isn't a military invasion like before...'

The caller, one of the 9 generals, immediately elaborated on the news.

"It's like this, boss. We were patrolling the main territory when we caught sight of suspicious people lurking around..."

"Then?"

"Then, when we went to chase after them, we discovered that there were some acidic and poisonous instances on the ground...it spread fast and even affected a lot of areas..."

Ainsley gripped the phone tighter. She gnashed her teeth in silence.

It's the golden scale gang! It must be them!

"Any other damages?" Ainsley asked in a soft voice but her chilling cold tone couldn't mask her current emotion.

Jorden, the one called 'the Jupiter', one of the 9 generals, took a deep breath before continuing his reports in a hoarse voice.

"W-we immediately checked the other territories and found the soil and the crops were ruined. The water source was also contaminated with poisons."

"The water source?"

"Yes. The river, the well, the pond...everything."

Ainsley's heart couldn't help but ache a lot as she listened to the reports. Sweat started to drip down her face as she glanced at her people, who didn't know anything about this yet.

"Are there...any victims?"

"Thankfully, no. It was midnight, and the villagers were asleep. Our mafia members also didn't know about this. Only us, the patrol guards, discovered the problem..."

"Hmmm, you said our family is under attack...you mean this, right? Attacking our territories but in secret?"

"Yes, boss, that's what I mean. This general thinks that someone or a force is behind the whole thing...so this general said that we are under attack."

Ainsley couldn't help but hold her breath. Indeed, they're under attack.

"Did you catch any of the suspicious people?"

Ainsley secretly hoped she could catch at least one of them to know more about the golden scale gang and why they did this to the mafia gangs.

Are they truly from the government?

Unfortunately, Jorden shook his head.

"I'm sorry, boss. We can't catch even one of them...they are too fast, and they're all assassin-type ability users. It's hard to detect them in the first place."

It was why Jorden even suspected whether these people showed up only to bait them or something.

Why would the patrol guards suddenly discover some suspicious people when they could clearly hide their traces perfectly?

Jorden shared his thoughts with Ainsley before softly asking in a low tone.

"How is it, boss? We have notified the supreme elder too, and now we are trying to restore the damaged territories, but the mysterious force..."

"Hmm, yes, their action is indeed suspicious. Be careful...maybe they use this matter as bait to create a bigger problem or something, purposely diverting our attention."

Ainsley held her throbbing head and frowned. At the moment, she was too tired and sleepy to think, but she forced herself to be awake.

"F-for now, check all of our territories, including t-those outside the inner area. R-report...uh...the damage...and clean them up if you can. If you can't...I'll think- of a way."

"Alright, boss. We will also collect the poison and acidic instances so that you can see them."

"Good. For now, prioritise...the water source. Make sure...no one drinks from the contaminated source...okay?"

"Okay, boss."

"Good. I'm...on my way back. You can announce a mission...to the mafia members to...help you with the case. However, don't...don't alert the villagers yet."

"Sure. We will be waiting for you, boss."

Ainsley's calm and collected way of handling the problem secretly took Jorden by surprise. However, he didn't show it and faithfully listened to Ainsley's order.

Once the two cut the call, Jorden immediately went to the mission hall to submit a new mission for the mafia members.

It was still 1 a.m in the morning, but it didn't matter. The mission would grant many contribution points for the members!

While Jorden and the others at the mansion worked hard to solve the sudden trouble,

Ainsley took her time informing her people despite feeling so sleepy that she might suddenly fall asleep.

The baby pinched her thigh to remain awake while explaining the trouble to her people.

Once she finished, Jevon was the first one to react.

"The Golden Scale Gang...they are way too suspicious! Why are they doing this? It's as if they only want to annoy us..."

Damaging the territories, the rice fields and the water sources weren't that harmful to the family, but low and mid-rank mafia families could suffer a lot from this.

Thankfully, Ainsley's family was established enough to withstand the pressure.

"I agree with Jevon. Their way of attacking us is strange. It's as if they're only warning us or something..." Alvaro couldn't help but chip in.

"Still, to ruin the soils, the rice fields, and the water sources...our family is in trouble. If another mafia gang attacks us at this time, we will be done for."

Marietta spoke solemnly, expressing her worries. It was actually one of Ainsley's worries, so the baby couldn't help but respond.

"We can use Godzwila to protect us in an emergency.."

The baby already secretly pocketed Godzilla into her dimension bracelet before riding the carriage.

"For now...let's find a way to repair our damage..."

But, what should we do?

Chapter 503 - "The Priests"

Ainsley was in deep thoughts for several seconds before she finally spoke.

"First, make sure none of the members and villagers come into contact with the contaminated water or soil."

Ainsley didn't use her cutesy language anymore, too tired to act cute.

However, her people didn't think it's strange. At most, they thought the Godfather influenced the baby just like before.

"We have to tell the villagers that we are reconstructing the territories, so a lot of dust and trash got mixed with the soil and water source. This will not alert them of our problem."

"Agree, boss." Nouvan, the group's healer, nodded at Ainsley's words.

"Hum. Quickly gather food and clean water for the villagers while we fix the damage. There must be a way to clean up the contaminated water and soil..."

We only need time.

At Ainsley's command, Jevon and the others immediately contacted the people at home to make a move. Before the sun rises, they had to finish collecting food and clean water for the villagers.

"Let's do this!"

While the group was busy contacting those at home, the carriage finally arrived at the mansion. It was 1:30 a.m, and the sky was still dark.

However, the Sloan Family's main mansion was still bright. Those in the estate didn't sleep, and all of them moved to do their best to fix the problem.

Ainsley and the others immediately got off the carriage and entered the mansion.

Coincidentally, Grandpa Yofan, the 6 elders and the other higher-ups were gathering at the main hall, so when Ainsley and her group arrived, they saw each other.

"Ain!" Grandpa Yofan immediately rushed to pick up Ainsley even when the baby hadn't even stepped into the main hall.

"Hewlo Gwandpa..." Ainsley hugged Grandpa Yofan's neck while smiling bitterly. Her eyelids already felt so heavy that she could sleep anytime, but the baby bit her tongue to stay awake.

"Gwandpa, I have heard of the issue. What's the condition now?" Ainsley didn't waste time and immediately asked while Grandpa Yofan brought her to her throne.

"Ah, so you have heard the report...well, it's lucky we discovered the problem early. By now, we have finished mapping all the contaminated territories."

Grandpa Yofan put Ainsley on the throne that was stuffed with thick butt pillows plus a warm blanket before taking the tablet from Elliana.

"Here, look. This is our territories' whole map. The ones marked with red are the contained territories. You can see the details if you click on the red area."

Grandpa Yofan showed Ainsley the tablet containing the territories marked maps. Ainsley immediately took the tablet and zoomed in the several red areas.

She clicked on the red area and saw the detailed reports listed.

-Poisoned well.

-Corrosive soil.

-Burnt rice fields.

Each of the damage types was represented with a small symbol next to it, making things easier for Ainsley to see the location of the damaged areas.

They got blue skulls for the poisoned water sources and added the type of the water source, for example a well symbol, a river symbol, or a pond symbol.

They used green acidic symbols for the corrosive soil areas and red fire for the burnt rice fields.

With the symbols, Ainsley managed to understand the whole situation in mere minutes. Whoever made the reports was undoubtedly talented!

"Hum, almost all the water sources are contaminated. Only those inside the mansion stay clean..." Ainsley murmured while clicking the tablet's screen.

"50% of the rice fields are burnt...we might face famine if the summer is unbearable. Also, the contaminated soils...those can't be used to plant anything or rear livestock."

The problem was quite serious, but as long as she could clean up the contaminated water and the contaminated soils...

'Can potions make this happen? Or maybe Marietta's plant control ability...'

Ainsley decided to find someone to ask Axelle about this whether he could make any potion to clean the contaminated water and soil.

15 minutes later, the messenger went back to the hall with Axelle, who's still in his pyjamas. The blue-skinned elf was still groggy as he stood across the throne at the main hall.

"W-we...can make a purification potion...b-but the ingredients...are rare...it's hard to find."

In other words, it would be faster to rely on other things aside from potions.

"Hmm, I see. Can we use chemical products or something? Like maybe cleaning the water source manually..."

"I-I just checked, and the poison in the water source...is...f-from an ability user..." Axelle tried to stay awake as he answered Ainsley.

"N-normal method won't work...the after-effect will still linger there and can be controlled from afar..."

It means that there could be another poison breakout in the water source as long as the ability user triggered the remains inside the water source.

The bad thing was to remove the remaining power; one couldn't do it manually!

"T-the same goes for the contaminated soils. Only the burnt rice fields are safe. We can just r-replant the wheat and other p-plants...Lady Marietta can help with that."

"I see..." Ainsley turned off the tablet before giving it back to Grandpa Yofan.

At the moment, Ainsley's eyes already started to see nothing but blurry images. Her head was ringing...yet Ainsley gritted her teeth and persevered.

"What about using Nouvan's healing power to remove the status ailments?"

Ainsley remembered that Nouvan had this special healing ability. He surely could purify the water, too, right?

Unfortunately, Nouvan shook his head.

"I'm a healer. It means I can only heal living beings...I can't purify the water or soil. For that, we need the priests!"

"The...priests?"

Ainsley tilted her head, bewildered.

What's that? A new, hidden occupation?

Chapter 504 - "We Are Mafias"

A priest...

It was the first time Ainsley heard of this occupation since the healers were more popular and in high demand.

"Yes, family head. A priest is a side deviation from healers. They can't heal living beings, but they usually purify items or areas that got negative status ailments from ability users."

Nouvan started to explain about the priests.

"The priests' ability is often called purification or cleansing. Unlike healers who usually join the healer guild or join other big families, all priests ought to join the temple."

"The temple..."

"Yes, family head. The temple isn't that famous, not as famous as the healer guild and other guilds, but many families come to seek their aid to purify curses or other negative things."

Ainsley's groggy eyes instantly lit up at Nouvan's words. The baby slapped the armchair and laughed.

"That's it! Why don't we invite the priests then? You said they can purify things...corrosive abilities and poison are things they can purify too, right?"

"Yes, family head. I'm also about to give you this advice. Luckily, we have one small temple in the Roane Region. Should we invite them now or wait until morning?"

Nouvan was slightly excited that he could help Ainsley's problem. Thank God he's a healer and knows bits about priests. Thus, he had the idea of calling the priests.

"Hmmm...what's the temple rule? Are they open 24 hours a day, or do they have office hours?" Ainsley propped her chin as she yawned.

"They're open 24 hours a day but to invite them outside of the office hours, they usually demand a higher price..."

"What's the price? Dollars, energy crystals or other items?"

"Usually energy crystals and other unique items."

"We don't lack them." Ainsley secretly sighed in relief while massaging the area between her eyebrows.

By now, her body already felt so heavy that her head also became muddled.

'I can't stay awake any longer. Ugh...let's finish this fast and sleep.'

"Alright, Nouvan. Quickly contact the temple. Send as many priests as they can. We have to purify all the water sources and soils before the villagers wake up...."

Nouvan immediately kneeled on one knee while bowing at Ainsley. "As you wish, family head! I'll contact the Roane temple now."

Nouvan hurriedly got up and left the hall to call the temple.

As a healer, who was a better version of the priests, it's not surprising that he got easy access to the temple.

After all, the priests looked up to the healers, and they were much more friendly to the healers than any other occupation.

However....there was one thing that Nouvan didn't expect.

Not all temples were neutral and supported all sides. Some temples were actually the government's dogs...and the Roane Temple was one of them.

"What? Purifying water sources and contaminated soils?"

"Yes, sir. Can you—"

"Are you from the Sloan Family?"

Nouvan paused. He slowly nodded. "Yes...is that a problem?"

The one on the other side of the phone seemingly froze for a second before clearing his throat. "Well, our Roane Temple has a rule..."

"What rule?" Nouvan started to get an ominous feeling. He didn't know why but...it seemed that the other party was going to make things difficult for him.

Indeed, the other party hesitated for a few seconds before sighing.

"Our head temple said that the Roane Temple couldn't help those involved in the mafia society. So..."

Nouvan's heart skipped a beat. His face instantly darkened.

"What do you mean? I never knew the Roane Temple had this rule?"

Sensing Nouvan's annoyance, the other party hurriedly apologized. "I'm sorry, sir healer, but it's been our tradition. Please contact other temples!"

Without waiting for Nouvan to reply to his words, the other party already cut off the call, leaving Nouvan hanging on the thread.

When Nouvan realised that the other party just ditched him, he almost threw his phone to the floor.

"What the heck?! Why are they so biased? What kind of rule is that...they can't help those in the mafia society? No wonder the Roane Temple remains a small temple!"

The Roane Region was full of mafias, so for a temple to refuse to help the mafia...it's already good that they're not burned to the ground.

There must be another force backing them from behind, and this force didn't like the mafias.

Frustrated, Nouvan went back to the main hall dejectedly. He immediately told Ainsley what just happened, and the baby couldn't help but clenched the armchair tightly.

"They're not going to help a mafia family...are they related to the governments?" Ainsley instantly recalled the culprit behind the silent attack.

The golden scale.

Evan said that the gang was suspected to be a force created by the government to suppress the mafia society's growth in the Godlif country.

Now...it sounded plausible!

It was then Ainsley realised that her mindset and point of view had been too narrow. She didn't think that there would be many troubles outside of the mafia society...

Her enemies wouldn't be only from the mafias but also those outside that disliked the mafias!

After all, the mafias were the bad people, no matter what. Many forces outside of the mafia society would try to destroy the mafias...

But Ainsley didn't feel the pressure yet because the mafia society was strong and influential in the Godlif country.

It's just that...her family was now slowly rising to the top. The 'wind' became harsher.

"So...what to do, family head?" Nouvan braced himself to ask Ainsley.

In the end, they still needed the priests!

Ainsley paused at Nouvan's words before slowly tugging the corner of her lips.

"We are mafias. We do things in a mafia way!"

Chapter 505 - "Kidnapping People"

When Ainsley said that they would do things like a mafia, Nouvan and the others shuddered. They looked at Ainsley while gulping nervously.

"Uh...what do you want to do, boss?" Nouvan braced himself to ask.

At Nouvan's words, the baby smirked while yawning like a baby dino. "It's easy. They don't want to help us when we want to hire them...then just kidnap them."

! Kidnap?!

"K-kidnapping the priests?" Jevon, the other 5 buds, Elliana and even Grandpa Yofan, shrieked in reflex.

"Yeah. Kidnap! The temples aren't connected to each other unlike the guilds, right? The other temples won't hold grudges against us if we kidnap the priests from the Roane temple."

Ainsley wiped her tears from the yawning before and sighed.

"I'm sure that other mafia families in the Roane Region had tried to do this too. But maybe they're too afraid to do so."

Grandpa Yofan and the others rolled their eyes.

Of course, ah. We will go against many priests at once...who in the right mind will do that? The priests are weak, indeed, but it doesn't mean they don't have any forces protecting them.

The government was one of the forces protecting the temple!

Usually, the big shots wouldn't be so idle as to send troops to kidnap the priests. They didn't need the priests in the first place. However, Ainsley coincidentally needed them...

And she wouldn't mind using force to do that.

"How is it? Kidnapping the priest. We can just kidnap all the priests in Roane Temple to work for us. Of course, after that, we will still pay them. I'm not going to enslave them."

Ainsley crossed her legs and yawned once more. Her eyes already turned red from lack of sleep, yet she didn't want to sleep when the matter wasn't solved.

Seeing Ainsley like that, the others instantly knew what she's thinking about.

Ah...the boss just wants to deal with this trouble as fast as we can...and kidnapping the priests is indeed the fastest method.

The group couldn't help but think that Ainsley got the idea from a certain spirit.

It must be the Godfather's suggestion!

They didn't believe that Ainsley could have such an 'evil thought' without the Godfather teaching her from behind.

Thus, the poor spirit got all the blame while the group looked at Ainsley with pity in their eyes.

'Our good boss...you have suffered!'

Not knowing her people's thoughts toward her while they rubbed their eyes with their sleeves, Ainsley yawned for the n-th time already before slowly rising from her throne.

"How is it? Do you guys agree with my idea?" Ainsley scanned the twenty or so people in the room.

The people flinched at Ainsley's gaze and thought that it's the Godfather controlling Ainsley's body.

Can we not agree when the Godfather is the one pushing us?

One by one, they looked at each other and sighed.

"There's no other way to solve the problem faster than your idea, boss. So...let's agree."

One of the 9 generals represented everyone to reply to Ainsley's question.

"Good! It's settled. Let's go kidnap the priests!" Ainsley immediately clapped her hands before beckoning the five buds to follow her.

"I only need the five buds to come with me."

Ainsley stepped down from the stage and slowly approached Grandpa Yofan and the other higher-ups.

"For safety measures, I'll leave a mother monster outside of the mansion. Okay?"

Grandpa Yofan and the others who didn't leave the mansion didn't know what monster Ainsley just bought.

They thought it would be the mother raptor she used to play with...

And they couldn't help but smile bitterly.

What can a middle-ranked mother monster do to protect all of us? The elders and the 9 generals are more than enough...

"Okay, thanks Ain. We can rest assured with the monster guardian you will leave to us." Grandpa Yofan lied without batting an eyelid.

On the other hand, Ainsley genuinely thought that the oldies would feel safe. She giggled before speaking in cutesy language.

"Alright. Gwandpa, wait for me to come bwack." Ainsley hugged Grandpa Yofan's legs for a few seconds. She then let him go and turned around to leave.

"Bye bye!" The baby waved her hand at Grandpa Yofan. She truly looked energetic despite dying to sleep.

Grandpa Yofan saw Ainsley's bright face and immediately waved back at Ainsley while escorting her out of the main hall.

"Hmm, bye bye. Take care, Ain. Don't get hurt!"

"Owkay. No worries!"

Ainsley's group left, but Grandpa Yofan's group stayed at the mansion. Of course, they escorted the departing team to the field behind the mansion.

A few minutes later, Ainsley and the five buds already mounted their beasts or monsters, ready to sprint across the field.

However, before the baby left, she looked back at Grandpa Yofan and grinned.

"Here's the guardian monstel!"

Ainsley waved her hand, and out of the blue...a 'mountain' appeared in front of everyone, blocking the whole field.

The 'mountain' came without sound and only created a muddy fog around its feet...

Yet its towering body instantly blocked the moonlight, creating a shadow above everyone else.

At that time, the others who hadn't seen Godzilla thought that they had just faced their doomsday.

What...WHAT IS THAT??

The 6 elders' knees went weak, and they almost collapsed. The 9 generals gripped their weapons tightly. Sweat dripped down their faces.

The other higher-ups either fainted or fell on their knees.

What...what kind of monster is that?

Amidst everyone's fright, the monster straightened its spiky back and roared to the sky.

"ROAAAAARRR..."

Her roar blasted the trees and dust around the field, even sending a strong wind to everyone at the field.

SWOOOSH! SWOOSH!

Chapter 506 - "Sneaking Into The Temple"

The wind blast was so strong that even Ainsley almost got swept away by the wind if not for Cellino protecting her with his windshield.

Just one roar, and it's already...so destructive!

Everyone's ears rang in pain as they squeezed their eyes tightly.

Is that really our Sloan Family guardian monster? The fck? That looks like a war machine!

Where did the family head find this monster??

Ainsley didn't summon out the 10 Godzilla children and only summoned Zilla, the mother. However, it already brought so much impact to those who had never seen her before.

Grandpa Yofan, in particular, was so shocked that he almost bit his tongue.

"A-ain, this...?"

"This is Zilla, Godzilla-type Mother Monster. She's a monster with strength on par with a sacred beast!" Ainsley wiped her dirtied face with her sleeve before whistling happily.

"Zilla can defend the mansion in case another family with a sacred beast attacked us."

"Oh...oh...okay, okay. This is...good." Grandpa Yofan gulped as he looked at the towering monster that almost filled the whole field due to its sheer size.

The height was also unbelievable that one could only see the pink glint in her eyes amidst the clouds.

This...this is really one of the biggest monsters in monster catalogues...

Grandpa Yofan wasn't sure whether other big forces also had such a monster, but now he was sure that the big forces must be hiding this kind of monster too.

Or maybe beasts.

Anyway, it's possible that if Ainsley could get one, the other more experienced and stronger families could afford one too.

'No wonder someone said that the troops the Aretha Family sent back then was just a tiny bit of their entire forces excluding Vallan...'

Vallan was just an exception since he's truly one of the family guardians. But of course, he's not the only one.

The Aretha Family had a high possibility of rearing another monster on par or even stronger than Vallan in terms of raw strength or destruction potential.

Thinking like this, Grandpa Yofan touched his thumping chest and silently exhaled.

Thank God the Aretha Family didn't think to send too many troops...if they did, maybe back then, Ainsley had to sacrifice even more things to defend the family.

She might even...lost her life.

Grandpa Yofan shuddered at his own thoughts. He quickly shook his head and sighed.

No, no, we can't think like that. The most important thing is...Ainsley should come back safely tonight. And the guardian monster is also another reassurance for the family.

Grandpa Yofan tossed away his negative thoughts and immediately shouted at Ainsley, who's quite far from his place.

"Ain, please return before the sun rises, okay?"

"Hum. Get it!" Ainsley nodded while hugging Cellino's neck. She also didn't want to be out for a long time anyway...

She wanted to sleep!

Thus, after settling Zilla at the field to guard the mansion, Ainsley whistled as she took the forefront position with Cellino as her glorious mount.

"Five buds...let's gwo!"

At Ainsley's command, the group immediately departed while riding their mounts.

Jevon used one of his flying-type monsters. Alvaro summoned several creatures for the others while the rest of the five buds followed Alvaro's arrangement.

With that, the group flew across the sky, heading to the remote Roane Temple, near the border leading to several regions before the Kana Region.

Speaking of Kana Region, it was the region where the 7 sacred families place their main base camps, such as the Aretha Family's main mansion.

Ainsley couldn't help but be more cautious.

Although the temple was still far away from the Kana region since there were many regions in-between, one only needed 15 minutes to come here if they used air transportation.

Thus, Ainsley asked her people to be more low-key in case some spies spotted them. They also had to be careful when crossing another family's air territories.

The families could have shot them down thinking that they're a scout group from their enemy camp or something.

After 10 minutes of flying across the forests and other families' territories, Ainsley and her group finally spotted a pure white church building standing mightily among the lush green forests.

It's undoubtedly the Roane Temple.

Even though it was called a temple, the building was leaning more to a church that Ainsley used to see in a fantasy-setting world.

The baby couldn't help but click her tongue.

So that's the Roane Temple. People said it's a small temple...but it looks quite big, isn't it? It's almost as big as the Roane alchemist branch guild's building.

'The priests aren't as influential as the alchemists or the healers but to have such a grand church...no wonder Nouvan said they might be backed by the government.'

Ainsley silently signalled her people to descend not far from the church. They immediately entered the lush forests surrounding the church to hide their traces.

Once they touched the ground, Ainsley got everyone to hide their mounts while Cellino shrunk into his cat size.

From this distance, one could still see the white church shining under the moonlight, despite the bushes covering everyone's sight.

It's clear that the church was built using a unique material...

And that's why Ainsley was cautious.

The baby looked at her people behind her and whispered.

"Let's sneak into the church and see whether they have a neutraliser tool or something."

If they do, that will be bad!

At least, Ainsley had to cover herself with the golden luck armour first to be able to neglect the neutraliser effect.

At Ainsley's suggestion, Alvaro raised his hand and volunteered.

"I'll be the scout, boss. One of my special abilities is invisibility."

Ainsley immediately agreed.

"Okay, go on. Be careful!"

Chapter 507 - "Creating A Map"

Alvaro went to the church while activating his invisibility ability. At times like this, he's really suitable to be in a scout team.

In just less than 5 minutes, Alvaro already entered the church area, and he cautiously moved forward.

So far, Alvaro saw nothing but the front yard and decorative plants. There's no guards or patrols around...and the church was silent.

It was truly a desolate and small temple, if not for the majestic church building blinding everyone's eyes.

Alvaro kept advancing, and when he saw the church's gate, he finally stopped. The young man looked around and slowly placed his hand on the wooden gate...

Nothing happened. There's no trap either. However, Alvaro couldn't push the gate alone. Maybe it was locked, or they got a protective array or something...

Speaking of the array, Alvaro didn't notice it at first, but several tall palm trees strangely formed a neat formation. It resembled an array...an invisible one.

Alvaro couldn't help but retreat from the front gate and tried to find another path to use. He checked the large windows, the back door, or the chimney...

Well, there's no hidden path or anything that could be used for outsiders to enter.

If they wanted to break in, they had to break the window because all the windows were locked.

For such a desolate temple, whoever lived here must be overly cautious despite not having guards around.

Alvaro didn't rush to enter the church despite the lack of guards around. On the other hand, he went back to Ainsley's place and reported all the things he saw earlier.

"Hum...you suspected there's a protective array there? But there's no array master..." Ainsley forgot to use her cutesy language.

The baby was thinking hard about the situation, trying to be more cautious since she didn't know the temple was that weak.

If the temple was so weak, there must be news about other mafia families kidnapping the priests...but so far, there wasn't, right?

Is it because of the array?

When Ainsley mentioned the array, Alvaro slowly raised his hand. "Family head, I think the array they used is a permanent array created from plants and rocks..."

"Oh? I thought only array masters can form a formation using their body or something?" Ainsley was taken aback.

She knew that in manhwa and novels, an array didn't need the array masters to continuously keep it active.

However, she didn't think it was the same in this world too!

"The one setting up the array is an array ability user, but this kind of array only needs special items to create the formation..."

Alvaro paused before telling Ainsley more about array knowledge that he knew.

"I suspect the trees are not ordinary trees. They should be emitting special energy that can sustain the array without an array master."

Ainsley's face darkened even further.

A small temple like this had several special trees used to create an array? That's far too suspicious!

"Do you know what array the temple has? Is it a protective array to withstand airstrikes...or something else?"

At Ainsley's question, Alvaro subconsciously rubbed his chin while his friends surrounded the two of them.

"I think it's a protective array...just like a barrier. However, it doesn't deflect any strangers or outsiders...that's why I can go up to the main gate."

The array enveloped the front yard too, but Alvaro could enter easily. It shouldn't be a big deal?

"Mmm...I'm just afraid that the array turns out to be an AOE neutraliser formation or something..."
Ainsley didn't want her people to be useless and become the enemy's hostage.

To avoid such things from happening...

"I'll sneak alone. You guys wait here, okay? Prepare a sack or something...ah, a big carriage to lift all the priests I'll be kidnapping."

! Jevon and the others instantly tensed up.

What? The family head wants to sneak alone...that can't do. What will we say to Elliana if she knows about this?

She stayed at the mansion to control the situation, but if she knew that we were putting our boss in danger...

She will kill us!

Jevon and the others were about to protest when Ainsley left Cellino to them before activating her golden luck armour.

"Prepare as many carriages as you can, okay? Once I kidnap all the priests, we will leave immediately!"

Ainsley made sure that she had enough recovery potions and energy crystals before dashing to the church.

With her 'luck armour', she didn't need to worry about a sudden neutraliser formation or anything sealing her other abilities.

Ainsley was already so far from the group in just a few seconds. Thus, the group could do nothing but follow her order.

They immediately went to find a carriage or anything that they could use to carry the priests.

At the same time, the Godfather, who was tailing Ainsley as usual, silently spoke.

[Lil lass. If you need this lord's power...]

[Yeah, I know, Godfathel. I'll make sure I only use the shaman ability for 5-10 minutes.]

Ainsley stroked her storage necklace, ready to take out the golden pacifier if her body showed signs of discomfort or identity crisis syndrome.

[I'll be owkay. I'll use my charm ability as my first option.]

Ainsley reassured the worry-wart Godfather, and without her knowing, she already arrived in front of the church gate.

Just like what Alvaro said, there's indeed a hidden array here...

That's why, before sneaking into the building, the baby calmly opened her mouth and activated her radar ability.

"Pyak. Pyak. Pyak."

The ambiguous noise slowly rang throughout the area, even bypassing the church's wall and echoed inside the building as well.

Ainsley is creating a map of the church's interior structure!

Chapter 508 - "They Didn't Budge"

Ainsley wanted to make a full map of the whole church, but unfortunately, her radar range wasn't that wide.

That's why, when she used her radar ability, she could only create a 3D map of the church's front area, which included the main hall where they usually received the guests and several praying altars.

So far, she didn't see anyone at those places. Thus, she had to sneak in first before expanding her radar range.

And this is where her luck armour played a part. With her luck getting a significant boost, Ainsley managed to find a window near the church's main hall with a rusty lock.

Ainsley tinkered with the lock for a bit, and she could immediately open the window. The window was large enough to fit a child, and it was also located near the ground, typical of windows in this world.

From the 3D map, Ainsley knew that the main hall was on the first floor, yet there are the second and third floors.

She couldn't see the detail, but since the church's shape was getting narrow toward the end, the second and the third floor didn't seem to be as big as the first floor.

Though...that must be where the priests resided.

Thus, Ainsley immediately opened the window she just unlocked and stealthily entered the building.

The moonlight seeped into the building with her, shining upon the baby's purple hair, yet no one was there to see this.

It was late at night, close to dawn, so how could there be anyone still awake?

Ainsley entered without a hitch, and she immediately closed the window to avoid anyone spotting this. After making sure the window was closed tightly, Ainsley began to explore the main hall, heading to the second floor.

She didn't forget to keep using her radar ability to update her map.

"Pyak. Pyak. Pyak. Pyak."

By now, Ainsley's map already showed the stairs leading to the second floor. Ainsley ignored everything else on the first floor since her target was the people.

The baby tiptoed to climb the marble stairs even when she wouldn't make any noise due to the stairs' material.

Alas, Ainsley was pretty alert.

Thus, she didn't mind looking like a dumb little thief while climbing the stairs.

After a few minutes climbing the stairs that were quite steep for a toddler like her, the baby finally arrived at the second floor...and the map showed the second floor was actually a dorm.

In the dark night with no light except for the moonlight since no one turned on the lamp, Ainsley could only rely on the shining 3D map that only she could see.

In this range, she could finally envision half of the second floor...and she finally spotted her targets.

The priests!

By now, the map has formed several rooms with four people sleeping in each room. The people were all wearing a white nightgown despite being male, typical of fantasy-like priests.

Upon further observation, all the people on the second floor seemed to be male priests. The female priests should be on the third floor!

The higher-ups should be sleeping in the room on the third floor too.

Ainsley rubbed her chin as she carefully used her map to determine the number of priests on the second floor.

She walked down the corridor to complete the map that had limited range...and in the end, she found 40 priests on the second floor.

There were five rooms on the left and another five rooms on the right side of the corridor. Each room had 4 people sleeping on bunk beds...

40 priests. That's quite a lot.

Ainsley suddenly thought that she didn't need to kidnap all the priests. She only needed 20 at most, right?

If so, things would be easier...

Ainsley immediately targeted the first three rooms on the left side of the corridor since the sign on the door was golden, compared to those on the right side with silver door placards.

Those with the golden boards should be the senior priests...they would be more useful.

After making her pick as if picking fresh fish at the market, Ainsley tiptoed to the first room, trying to sneak into the room.

She thought that the door would be unlocked...who knows that the damn priests never forgot to lock their dorm doors too.

The poor Ainsley had to tinker with the lock for a while before sneakily opened the door.

Creak...

The door gave out a squeaky noise despite not being that old yet. Ainsley had to stop her movement for a few seconds before sneaking in.

Her small body was definitely an advantage here since she could enter the room without opening a big gap between the door and the wall.

Once she's inside, Ainsley didn't wait for too long and immediately used her charm ability.

Her pink aura spread from her body onto the four priests just like a wave crashing into the shore.

Once Ainsley was sure that her charm ability had seeped into the priests' body, the baby instantly whispered in a low tone.

"Get up and follow me!"

Ainsley expected the priests to wake up with hearts inside their eyes, looking crazed with affection for her. However, to her surprise...

The priests didn't budge! None of them moved...and they peacefully continued their sleep.

One of the priests snored loudly. Another one kicked their quilt. The third priest yawned while rubbing his cheek to the pillow while the last priest slept like a dead log.

They...weren't affected at all!

Ainsley instantly broke in cold sweat.

Did they consume anti-charm potion beforehand? Or are there anti-charm talismans here? What is it? Why isn't the charm effective?!

Something is wrong!

Chapter 509 - "Blatant Kidnapping"

When Ainsley saw that her charm was ineffective, she almost collapsed.

What the heck?! Is my charm ability suddenly degrading or something? It can't even affect these people!

Ainsley's mind was spinning around, not knowing what happened or what to do when the Godfather suddenly spoke in her mind.

[Lil lass. You really don't know your charm ability's weakness, huh...]

Ainsley paused. She looked up at the Godfather with wide eyes. [My...charm ability weakness? Isn't it an anti-charm potion?]

Ainsley didn't use cutesy language at all, too occupied with her thoughts.

However, the Godfather chuckled at Ainsley's answer. [No, that's man-made weakness. Your charm ability still has one natural weakness.]

[What...is it?] Ainsley subconsciously gulped. After all, her charm ability was always effective on many people as long as their luck level was low.

These priests didn't have a high luck level...

What went wrong?

The Godfather looked at Ainsley's confused face and couldn't help but laugh. [Lil lass, your charm affects people's minds and feelings, right?]

[Right.]

[But to have minds and feelings, they have to be conscious, right?]

[Right– ah! Could it be...] Ainsley vaguely guessed what the Godfather wanted to say, and the Godfather's next words confirmed her guess.

[That's right. Your charm ability won't work on anyone with no consciousness. In other words, if they're sleeping, fainting, in a coma, or not conscious, your charm ability has no effect.]

! So...so it's like that!

Ainsley slapped her forehead and almost cursed herself for being dumb.

Of course, the charm wouldn't work when the target didn't even pay attention to the charm user. They're sleeping...how could they see how cute the charm ability user was?

It's not as if Ainsley could enter their dream or something...that's not her expertise at all.

In other words, if the target weren't conscious, they wouldn't get affected at all. But that would mean they're vulnerable to Ainsley's other abilities...

This...is unexpected but as expected at the same time.

Ainsley kneaded her eyebrows and sighed. [Should we wake them up first, then? Or what? It's easier to kidnap them if they come with me voluntarily.]

At Ainsley's troubling question, the Godfather only tugged the corner of his lips and snorted.

[Do you know that blood manipulation can do so many things?]

[Huh?] Ainsley almost bit her tongue at the Godfather's confident words. Of course, she didn't know what blood manipulation could do aside from making people faint...

The Godfather hadn't used any of the skills!

As if knowing Ainsley's thoughts, the Godfather chuckled and shook his head.

[This lord is willing to use the blood manipulation ability, but 10 minutes won't be enough to transport 20 priests.]

The Godfather grinned from ear to ear as he looked at Ainsley slyly.

[Good luck waking them up and charming them, lil lass.]

Ainsley almost wanted to lower the Godfather's luck level to iron.

HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?!

After saying that the blood manipulation ability could do many things, you suddenly gave up on the idea and told me to work on my own?!

This was the first time the Godfather trolled Ainsley. The baby couldn't help but puff her cheeks and sulked.

Godfather...are you so bored that you want to tease me? If you're bored, just go and bother Zev, not me!

Ainsley stomped the floor while approaching one of the four priests in the room. Since the Godfather wouldn't help, she could only wake them up one by one and then charm them.

As for how she did it?

Ainsley lifted her hand, looked down at the sleeping priest with ruthless eyes and...

SLAP!

The baby mercilessly slapped the priest's cheek until the priest's face almost deformed.

"WAH!" The poor priest instantly woke up from the pain. However, he hadn't even known what's going on when the baby poked his cheek.

Poke. Poke.

"What—" The priest subconsciously looked at Ainsley's direction, and the moment they locked eyes, Ainsley's charm ability attacked his forehead.

Bam!

"Hewlo, pwish, wake up the others and fowwow me!"

The priest's pupils already turned into pink hearts. He instantly got off his lower bunk bed and saluted.

"Yes, your holiness!"

He acted as if he had just seen the bishop or something...or maybe the pope...

Still in his white nightgown, the first priest climbed the bunk bed and woke up his friend.

His friend woke up a few seconds later, but before he could understand what's going on, Ainsley already winked at him.

"Uwncler, gwo and fowwow me!"

"Y-yes, your holiness!" The second priest's face flushed red as if he had just seen his idol or something. He instantly jumped from the upper bunk bed without going down using the mini wooden stairs.

In just a few minutes, the duo woke up their other friends in the same room and just like that...four 'zombies' were formed.

The 'zombies' followed Ainsley just like a little chicken as the baby went to other rooms to slap the senior priests awake.

SLAP!

"Wake up for me and fowwow me!"

SLAP!

"Fowwow me! Wake uph the others!"

Punch the stomach

"Weki weki, fowwow me! Huwwy, huwwy!"

In less than 15 minutes, 20 senior priests woke up and silently woke up the others before following Ainsley mindlessly.

They did create some disturbance, but with Ainsley's charm ability, she easily knocked out the other parties and left the second floor with 20 senior priests with her.

The priests created four neat lines behind the baby and marched toward the first floor as if they're a trained royal army or something.

Once the priests arrived at the first floor, Ainsley purposely opened the front gate by force...

And boldly walked away, bringing the priests with her.

Blatant kidnapping!

Chapter 510 - "Collapse"

Ainsley boldly marched out of the church with 20 priests following behind her.

Once she's out of the church area, her people were already standing still with 4 carriages ready to fly with the flying-type beasts.

No one knew how they got the carriages in the middle of nowhere but probably they robbed the nearby mafia families, right?

The carriages could only house 5 people, and the beast pulling it was a typical avian beast...a bald eagle.

It was the cheapest magic carriage one could find, so even the low-ranked mafia families could afford one.

When Ainsley saw the four inconspicuous carriages, she immediately stuffed the 20 priests into 4 carriages.

Then, she got Marietta, Nouvan, Alvaro and Ethania to be the coachman for each carriage.

Jevon took the rearguard while Ainsley led the group with Cellino as her glorious mount.

"Let's depart before the other priests realise what's going on!" Ainsley hurriedly ordered her people to depart with the kidnapped priests.

Since they got four carriages, it would look too suspicious to travel together, especially when they would be crossing other families' air territory.

Thus, they departed one by one, with Jevon overseeing the whole group and Ainsley paving the path in front, making sure there was no sudden attack from the families on the ground.

That night, Ainsley arrived at the mansion at 2 p.m with 20 priests fully charmed to the bone. Once the priests arrived, Ainsley immediately got them to work.

However, what she did isn't possible to be kept under the rugs forever. When the priests at the Roane Temple woke up at 4 p.m, they realised that their senior priests were gone.

"Intruder! Intruder! Someone— someone broke into the church!"

The head temple instantly woke up and inspected the church, only to find the broken front gate and an unlocking side window near the main hall.

The head temple broke in a cold sweat.

"Someone sneaked in..and they even kidnapped 20 senior priests? How come none of us knows about this??"

The head temple, a bald, middle-aged guy, was so enraged that he looked like a boiled octopus.

"Find them! Find our priests! Contact the government to see who kidnapped our people!"

The head temple didn't believe that none of them realised that someone had just kidnapped twenty priests right under their noses.

Unfortunately, it truly happened. Whenever someone woke up from the noises and found the twenty priests leaving the room, Ainsley would knock them out with her charm, instantly returning them to deep slumber.

Yeah, Ainsley could order the people to sleep using her charm, but the effect wouldn't be long. Fortunately, the priests were sleepy in the first place. Thus, they only woke up a few hours later.

That's how the baby successfully kidnapped the twenty priests and got them to purify all the areas that got contaminated.

It took 2 hours for the priests to clean up the contaminated areas. At the same time, they already exhausted their energies, even easier to kidnap here and there.

Ainsley didn't want to return the priests by herself. Thus, she got the priests to return home after giving them some energy crystals and money. Of course, the priests were still under her charm effect...

And it totally drains Ainsley's energy.

While the head temple and the other priests were panicking because the senior priests disappeared overnight, Ainsley and her groups wobbled to the main hall.

It was 6 a.m, and the sun had slowly risen into the horizon. Ainsley and the gang exhausted themselves completely...especially Ainsley.

"Hwaaa..." the baby yawned a few times as she walked to the main hall, wanting to meet Grandpa Yofan and Elliana once more.

Since the problem was already solved, they could finally relax. However, they still had to report things to Grandpa Yofan and Elliana...

Unfortunately, the moment Ainsley met Grandpa Yofan and Elliana, she couldn't hold back anymore, and the exhaustion hit her all at once.

"Gwand...paa..."

Ainsley's body swayed. Her vision blurred, and the next second...it turned dark completely.

The baby's body fell to the floor with a soft thud.

Brugh.

!

"AIN!!!" Grandpa Yofan's face was drained of colour. He instantly dashed to Ainsley's place while Elliana and the five buds crowded around the baby with pale faces.

"Boss!"

"Family head!"

"Oh sh*t, bring her to the bed! Quick, summon doctors! And healers!"

The people in the main hall descended into chaos.

Grandpa Yofan hurriedly scooped Ainsley and brought her to her bedroom.

The others had called the doctors, and healers and all of them reacted quickly.

"How is it?" Grandpa Yofan tucked the blanket for Ainsley while asking Nouvan and the other doctors.

The old man's face was already so dark that one could squeeze ink from his skin.

"What's wrong with Ain? Did you guys find anything?"

Nouvan, the doctors and the healers' representative straightened his back and nodded solemnly.

"Rest assured, supreme elder. The family head is just exhausted and sleep-deprived. She didn't sleep for a whole day and she exhausted her charm ability's energy..."

Nouvan let out a long sigh.

"The family head is burdening her body. She also has a lot of stress accumulated from the past few months' events..." Nouvan paused before biting his lips.

"We suggest the family head to rest for a week. She shall do nothing and shouldn't use her abilities either. She...really has to relax..."

Ainsley might be clever, strong, overpowered, and awesome, but in the end, her body was still a toddler.

Even when her body was slightly stronger than normal toddlers, thanks to various medications...she's still a toddler!

Yet, she shouldered tons of burden and stress...

Ainsley's body finally couldn't bear it anymore and collapsed.