

Chapter 81 - "Cat With Socks"

Ainsley felt her heart sink deep in depression. The baby looked at the twitching tail a few meters in front of her, and the corner of her lips also twitched.

If this cat can't be tempted with dry cat food, I should use my charm and luck abilities.

Ainsley didn't want to use her trump card this fast, but since the sacred guardian was indeed not an ordinary cat, she could only sit down cross-legged and started to use her charm power.

Pink aura slowly enveloped Ainsley's body from her head to her toe, and the next moment, golden aura started to fuse with the pink aura, enhancing it.

Ainsley's charm power gave off a pink wavelength across the field, continuously spreading the pink-golden aura into tiny dots.

Any human being attacked by the wavelength would surely fall to their knees and worshipped Ainsley. Unfortunately, there's no one here except for the sacred guardians.

Thus, Ainsley squeezed her eyes tightly, hoping that her charm worked on these beasts. If she could at least attract the one she saw before, she would be content.

Maybe thanks to her luck ability, the pink aura reached the mysterious cat inside the cardboard and slightly attracted its attention.

The cat inside the cardboard stopped twitching its tail. It stayed silent for a few seconds before a rustling sound came from the cardboard.

Tap.

The cat suddenly leapt out of the brown cardboard, producing a beautiful arc in the air. Ainsley instantly opened her eyes once she heard the soft landing noise.

Sadly, since the mysterious fog surrounded the pavilion tightly, Ainsley didn't see this leap.

She could only see four tiny legs landing on the green grass outside of the marble floor of the pavilion.

The tiny legs were filled with mocha-coloured fur with a hint of white and dark brown. The paws of each leg were so dark that one could say it's black instead of brown.

Since the legs were of a lighter colour than the paws, the owner of these legs looked as if it was wearing four socks!

Ainsley shrieked in silence.

So cute! What kind of cat is that? Persian? That long fur...should be a Persian cat, right? But are there any cats that look as if they're wearing socks?

Ainsley cocked her head, trying to recall what kind of cat could possibly have such an attractive feature. While she pondered, the mysterious cat already trotted over to her place with its tiny furry legs.

This time, since it was getting away from the mystical fog around the pavilion, Ainsley could see its pair of cat ears. The ears stood straight and proud while occasionally twitching or folded back.

Just like the paws, the ears were also black, but the fur inside the ears was white.

Such a unique combination!

Ainsley's heart pounded hard as she saw the cat's tail sticking out of the fog became larger and larger. It meant that the cat was coming to her place! It is approaching her!

Ainsley instantly stood up with the paper bag on her left hand and the backpack on her right hand. The girl tossed the backpack to the ground but kept the paper bag with her.

Her eyes were twinkling as she watched the cat's body slowly come out of the mythical fog.

The first thing that greeted her was a pair of round black eyes like beads. The pair of eyes were so round and large that it looked cute as hell!

Moreover, once the owner of those eyes moved further away from the fog, the sunlight shone upon the black eyes, revealing its true colour.

A pair of sky blue round eyes stared at Ainsley soundlessly.

The owner of the eyes moved slowly but its eyes didn't move away from Ainsley's body, eyeing her with great interest—especially at the thing on her hand.

Ainsley's heart skipped a beat. As time passed by, she could now see the face of the cat coming out of the white fog.

The face of the cat was slightly dark, dyed in brownish black, and only its whiskers were white. Strangely, since its fluffy mane was white, the cat looked like it's wearing a grey-black mask on its face.

Coupled with its black ears and black paws looking like socks, the cat looked absolutely adorable!

Its body was white with a mix of mocha and dark brown fur, looking warm and kind. Its tightly closed mouth was pink, looking feminine yet adorable.

Such a cat couldn't possibly be a ferocious sacred beast!

That's what Ainsley thought as it watched the medium-sized cat around her knees approach her with light steps.

Is this...really a sacred guardian?

Ainsley was doubting the cat's existence when suddenly....

"Auuuu." The cat meowed, but the sound it produced was nowhere near cats. It sounded like a wolf cub's howl, sounding miserable and cute!

Ainsley's amazed face instantly turned blank. The girl's eyes widened as she watched the cat reach out to her left hand.

The...fuck? Did it just howl? Is it a cat, a dog, or a wolf? It's a cat, okay?! What's with that meowing sound?!

Ainsley had the urge to slap the adorable cat and teach it how to meow correctly.

Alas, before Ainsley could do anything, the fluffy cat with its fountain-like tail light raised one of its paws, showing the pink toe bean underneath.

Pa!

The cat slapped the paper bag on Ainsley's hand, instantly throwing it away to the ground. In just a second, the cat jumped to the brown paper bag with its blue eyes shining brightly.

Brugh!

The cat landed on the paper bag and...

Started to roll on it.

Ainsley had the urge to nuke the cat and destroy the world.

Chapter 82 - "Let's Kidnap It!"

This cat— I mean this sacred guardian...what is it doing?!

Ainsley's forehead throbbed, and her veins bulged like mad. Disbelief washed over her innocent face.

This cat...this cat...

The cat rubbed its cheeks, head, and body over the paper bag, showing extreme excitement on its face.

Yes. The cat ignored Ainsley and just played with the paper bag. After rubbing it off, it then sat on the paper bag while narrowing its eyes, looking blissful.

The cat successfully led a peaceful life compared to Ainsley's.

But that was exactly why Ainsley had the urge to tore the paper bag and choked the cat to death!

Though she couldn't possibly do so because the cat was too adorable, still...

Aren't you a sacred guardian? Please have dignity, ah!

Ainsley slumped to the floor, wanting to bawl her eyes out. The girl retracted her abilities and stared eye-redden at the mocha-coloured cat.

I use my best abilities and this is the result? This f*cking cat is just playing with the paper bag?! How do I even tame it and trigger its bloodline??

Ainsley felt the need to sue whoever let these guardians freeload at their house.

'Is it because I'm not competent? Is the charm not enough to entice a cat? This cat chose a paper bag over me?!'

Ainsley glanced at the faraway brown cardboard and suddenly understood that this guardian liked paper bags and cardboard the most.

Even dry food couldn't tempt it but these junks could.

What...a unique guardian.

Ainsley wiped the tears at the edge of her eyes and started to look at the cat who was now showing its belly to the sky.

The cat took a weird sleeping position with its head cocked to the left and its two paws raised up, seemingly taunting heavens.

Nevertheless, that smooth, spotless belly tempted Ainsley to rub it.

Though the baby wouldn't do that since she knew she might die once she angered this weird cat.

Ainsley could only approached the cat, sat down next to the paper bag and laid down on the grass, waiting for 15 minutes to pass by.

She thought of stuffing the damn cat into the paper bag and ran with it once the time was out. Anyway...it is not kidnapping, right?

Ainsley had a bitter smile on her face, thinking that she failed this mission since the cat didn't even approach her and was busy playing with its paper bag.

Little did she know that this cat was an introvert and rarely would let anyone approach it. By showing its belly, it showed how comfortable it was around Ainsley. Well, mainly thanks to the paper bag—

Still, the cat already decided to follow this tiny creature to get more cardboard and paper bags— bah! No. No. It chose to follow the baby because this baby emitted a comfortable aura just now.

Yes, that's the reason. It also was the most adventurous one among the other guardians despite its prickly personality and his heavy trust issues.

Anyway, for the sake of plastic bags, paper bags, and cardboards— ah no. For the sake of conquering the world!

The cat narrowed its eyes once more and purring in a low tone, feeling content with the new master it just found.

It's been a long time since it last went out of the field— ah no. It almost never came out of the grassfield ever since it was born. Only the strongest and the second strongest often snuck out of the prairie to see the world.

With its weak body and as the lowest among the guardians, the adorable cardboard-lover could do nothing but wait for humans to place more cardboard at the pavilion.

But now someone was strong enough to attract its attention, and she could even possibly trigger his bloodline...

I can finally come out and see the world!

The adventurous yet introverted male guardian, the weakest of the packs, wriggled its body in happiness. It decided to stick with this tiny creature to get more cardboards and adventures!

While the cat and the baby slept on the grass field, the abandoned dry cat food laid flat on the ground, waiting to be eaten.

Out of everyone's sight, a pair of blue eyes glowed behind the fog, staring at the dry food on the ground.

Suddenly, black smoke crept out of the white fog, surrounding the dry food. The smoke gradually took the form of a cat paw. It then descended to the ground, approaching the hill of abandoned dry food on the ground.

In just a moment, with no sound nor anything, the black mist paw snatched all the dry food and slowly brought it over to the white fog.

Once it touched the white fog, it disappeared into nothingness. Only the noisy crunchy sound could be heard.

Sadly, Ainsley was too preoccupied with her 'failure' that she didn't see any of this. She didn't even see a pair of red eyes glowing at the pavilion roof, staring at her backpack intensely.

15 minutes passed by, and the golden door was opened with a slight creaking sound. Grandpa Yofan's voice rang from the door.

"Ain, time to go back! Hurry! Or you will be kicked out with force." The old man's shaky voice rang throughout the way until it reached Ainsley's ear.

The baby instantly leapt and stood still. One could see a few stalks of green grasses stick to her purple hair while a drool stained the edge of her lips.

Ainsley widened her eyes in a light shock.

She...she almost fell asleep for real! Bah! What about the guardians?! Ugh...

Maybe...she could only kidnap the cat sleeping on her paper bag. That's the only way to get one..

Let's kidnap it!

Chapter 83 - "A Failure"

"O-owkay! Hwait!" Ainsley couldn't care less about the other two guardians.

The girl immediately snatched the paper bag, intending to stuff the fountain-tailed cat, yet suddenly found out that the cat wasn't sleeping on it anymore.

The few dry cat foods inside the paper bag were still there, but the cat vanished.

It...vanished? It's gone?! Fck? Does it know I'm going to kidnap it?!

Looking at the vanishing cat, Ainsley sighed in disappointment. Her heart felt heavy that she couldn't catch even a single guardian. But there's no time to find that silly cat anymore...

Maybe it's time to give up.

The girl shook her head before picking up her backpack.

The previously light backpack suddenly felt a bit heavier than before. Yet Ainsley didn't care. Maybe the bag became moist or something, so it gained weight.

The girl wore her backpack on her back and gripped the paper bag on her left hand. She then dashed out of the vast prairie, afraid that she would be late to return.

Ainsley ran fast, and she immediately exited the prairie. Once she was out, Ainsley let out a long breath and sighed in relief. The girl put her hands on her knees, panting.

Finally. I'm out. But...I don't tame any guardians.

Ainsley's eyes clouded as she lifted her head. A second after, the golden door closed with a loud BANG sound.

Now, Ainsley couldn't go back until a few months later.

The baby lamented over the fact that she didn't catch even a single guardian and without one of them to guard her, she naturally couldn't go to the casino.

With this...her plan was over. She had to think of a new plan.

While Ainsley was in a daze, Grandpa Yofan looked down at the baby with a worried gaze.

"Ain, how is it? Are you alright?" Grandpa Yofan immediately picked up the baby who wasn't taller than his thigh. Naturally, he carried the girl's backpack and paper bag with him.

"Hwum..." Ainsley looked at Grandpa Yofan with teary eyes. She didn't know what to say for a moment, afraid of disappointing the old man.

Little did she know that even Grandpa Yofan didn't think Ainsley could tame one guardian. Just seeing her went back safe and sound was already a good thing for him.

"How is it? Did you find one? Even if you don't, I'm glad you come back safely." Grandpa Yofan swayed Ainsley's body as he glanced at Elliana. He handed the paper bag to the woman but kept the backpack with him since it's quite heavy.

"Hum...sowwy, glandpa. Ain...Ain dun geth awny gualdian...(Ain doesn't get any guardian.)" Ainsley lowered her head in shame.

Her eyes dimmed, looking extremely stressed.

There's no way she wouldn't feel embarrassed when she said she could get one of the guardians but returned empty-handed.

Indeed, I'm too arrogant...I'm no genius and no protagonist. I'm just...an unlucky person tossed to be a baby.

Ainsley's spirit dampened. She knew that she shouldn't feel too down, but it was her first failure here. Moreover, the failure destroyed all her other plans, and now she had to build one from scratch.

'It seems that I still can't clear the family's debt soon. Maybe...I'll start clearing out the corrupt members first...'

While Ainsley hugged Grandpa Yofan's neck with her head hung low, the old man chuckled. He used his free hand to stroke the baby's hair.

"No worries. No one had been able to tame one of the guardians, not to say triggering their bloodlines. For you to come out without a scratch is already a fortune."

Grandpa Yofan plucked the green grass sticking to the baby's purple hair as he walked to the girl's bedroom.

He thought that the girl should be tired after trying her best and she should be disappointed as well when her attempt failed. Maybe someone had to console her.

Thus, Grandpa Yofan continued to coax Ainsley, soothing the latter's heart. On the side, Elliana also tried to cheer up Ainsley despite her clumsy actions.

When the three people arrived at Ainsley's chamber, they put the girl on the cradle before putting the bags on the floor. The adults didn't leave yet and chose to stay with the girl until lunch time.

"See, Ain, don't get too sad, okay? But you see, grandpa is curious about your experience there. Can you tell us?" Grandpa Yofan sat on the floor while looking at Ainsley, who was rolling on the cradle.

The girl was still sulking even after receiving their consolation.

"Ekspelien?" Ainsley murmured as she turned around to look at Grandpa Yofan. The baby was a bit reluctant to tell others her failure but thinking again...maybe she could analyse which part made her fail the mission.

Thus, the baby crawled down from the cradle and sat on Grandpa Yofan's lap before starting her story.

Elliana sat across Grandpa Yofan, and she listened to Ainsley's story with great interest. Even the old man was no exception.

In no time, the adults listened to Ainsley's story as she spoke in her unclear pronunciation that sounded like an alien language.

Well, fortunately, the adults were used to Ainsley's weird language. Thus, unlike others, they understood the baby's speech without any translation tools.

The baby told them her story for about 30 minutes before she ran out of voice. Ainsley then suggested the others to have lunch now since she was so thirsty.

"Alright, we shall eat now. But first, let's unpack your backpack, okay?" Grandpa Yofan put Ainsley on the floor and let the girl unpack her backpack.

Ainsley obediently followed the old man's command, but she just opened up the zipper when suddenly...

She saw a furry tail inside.

...?!

Chapter 84 - "A Cat In A Bag"

A...tail?

Ainsley froze on the spot. Grandpa Yofan and Elliana also stiffened. The three of them looked at the figure lying inside the backpack with their jaws dropping to the floor.

What they saw was only the furry tail, but as Ainsley opened the bag wider, the creature hidden inside was slowly fully revealed.

It was a white-mocha long-haired cat with its back facing them. The cat seemed to be curling up into a fetus position, deep in sleep.

If this was another world, Ainsley would think that it's just a cat. But how could she think like that when this cat was none other than the one who stole her paper bag a few minutes ago?!

The baby's face instantly flushed red. Steams rose from her head and a surge of fire burned inside her heart.

This...this...

Ainsley clenched her fists tightly until it turned white. Her hands were shaking, and the veins on her forehead bulged violently.

The girl suddenly had the urge to throw away the backpack along with the cat.

'So you didn't leave me, huh, you cardboard lover?! I thought you left me, but you sneaked up into my backpack and slept inside?!'

Ainsley was speechless. The girl could only stare at the peaceful-looking cat with tears in her eyes.

She didn't know whether to cry or get angry anymore.

Ah. Damn it. I thought I failed the mission. But...I did it!

The baby gritted her teeth as she stretched her hand and slowly stroked the cat's back, not caring if it might anger the cat.

Even if the guardian was in the form of a cat, it was still dangerous—or so others said. According to the history of the Sloan Family, these guardians killed those who entered the prairie.

Well, only humans whom they dislike. Thus, every person who entered the magical prairie should try not to anger any guardians.

But right now, Ainsley didn't care anymore. The girl gently rubbed the cat's back, feeling its smooth fur. It's her way to vent her frustration after thinking that she failed her plan.

Seeing the baby was acting so rash, Grandpa Yofan and Elliana stared at the toddler in horror. Both of them trembled from head to toe, silently wishing to kidnap Ainsley and stop her from doing whatever she's doing now.

Stop stroking the sacred guardian! It's dangerous!

Alas, Grandpa Yofan could only watch as Ainsley grinned while pampering the cat. Strangely, the cat didn't mind it. It even lazily stood up and stretched its body before trotting out of the backpack.

Purrr. Puurrr.

The cat started to purr in a slightly low tone. It then approached Ainsley with its back arched down, and its tail curled. The next moment, the cat rubbed its head against Ainsley's calf affectionately.

Purrr. Purr.

The cat closed its eyes and happily circled Ainsley, wrapping the girl's small body with its even smaller tail. After circling the baby, it then continued to snuggle to the girl's leg.

Seeing this sudden scene, even Grandpa Yofan was stupefied. He stared at Ainsley, who was calmly rubbing the cat's head with a grin.

...what's going on? Ainsley suddenly brings back a guardian inside her backpack? And the guardian looks like it favours Ain? It's so tame around her!

Grandpa Yofan met shock after shock, and his begin circuit exploded. The poor old man fell to the floor on his butt with his white beard flared up.

Is this...a dream?

Grandpa Yofan rubbed his eyes and pinched his cheeks. It hurts. It's not a dream.

Even Elliana did the same thing and found out that it's not a dream.

The family head...really brings out one of the guardians?

The adults looked at each other in disbelief. One was an old man sitting on the floor while the other was a mature woman standing straight. The two people exchanged glances several times, trying to convince each other.

...it is real. Ain really did bring out a guardian.

After such a realisation, the adults looked at Ainsley and gaped in awe. Their eyes twinkled, and both of them felt the urge to hug the baby.

She did it! The baby did it! She's the first young family head to bring out a guardian out of the prairie!

Joy, shock, and thrill flashed through the two's eyes, but none of them dared to speak, afraid of disturbing Ainsley and the guardian's bonding time.

Bonding, it's a phrase where the guardian opened up and tightened its relationship with the 'contractor'. The moment Ainsley triggered the guardian's bloodline later, they would automatically be bound by a contract.

Right now, since the cat's eyes were still black, it meant that Ainsley hadn't triggered its bloodline yet.

Of course, Grandpa Yofan knew this from the guardians themselves. To be precise...the leader of the sacred guardians. Only that creature could speak human language even in a cat form.

Others had to trigger their bloodline and shapeshifted into humans to speak human language.

Grandpa Yofan recalled the information regarding these mysterious guardians and hurriedly looked at Ainsley, who already walked to their place with a smile on her face. The cat followed closely next to her, trotting with little steps.

"Ain..." Grandpa Yofan called out to Ainsley but paused after he glanced at the cat. He didn't know what to say or to do, afraid of offending the cat one way or another.

"Hwum. Glandpa." Ainsley politely greeted Grandpa Yofan before grinning from ears to ears.

"Ain ish sowwy. De cath ish inshide de bwag. Ain didh ith! (Ain is sorry. The cat is inside the bag. Ain did it!)" Ainsley let out an apologetic smile before looking down at the calm and unperturbed cat next to her leg.

Now, now...

Chapter 85 - "Fenrir Bloodline"

"Glandpa. Dis cath..." Ainsley naturally wanted to ask about the cat's identity since she didn't know which one she picked from the three guardians. Only Grandpa Yofan and a few elders knew about it.

Thus, the girl didn't hesitate to ask.

"Glandpa, dis cath' idwentitwy..."

Grandpa Yofan's face instantly stiffened. The old man cast a reluctant look at Ainsley.

At first, Grandpa Yofan wanted to ask how Ain could bring a guardian back and how the cat entered her backpack instead of coming out by her side, but then...looking at Ainsley's curious eyes, the grandpa couldn't ask anything.

He could only nod weakly and tried to answer the baby.

"This cat— I mean this guardian is the weakest among the three guardians. This one is a male. His alias is...Code C. He has no name, and you can name him as you wish."

Grandpa Yofan rubbed Ainsley's head with a trace of affection inside his eyes.

"When you give the esteemed guardian a name, the chance of triggering its bloodline will be higher." Grandpa Yofan continued. "Your bond will also be tougher."

"Hwum...I shee...mwale..." Ainsley started to ponder about the cat's name, but before that, she still had some questions for the old man.

"Glandpa. Wat ish itsh bwodwine? (What is its bloodline?)" The baby clung to the old man's leg while walking down the corridor. One could see that the cat also followed beside Ainsley while looking around curiously.

Such an adventurous cat, indeed.

"Hm, the bloodline, huh. I haven't told you this, but...each of the guardians inherits the pure lineage of ancient beasts. They're only using a cat form since they sealed their bloodline."

Yofan started to explain things as they walked toward the dining hall.

"As for why these guardians sealed their bloodline and became the guardians of the Sloan Family...I also don't know." Grandpa Yofan paused his speech.

"But...I know the bloodline of this fellow." He continued.

"Code C, the weakest guardian among the three guardians inherits the Fenrir bloodline. It's actually a giant Fenrir when it recovers its beast form."

This news brought a shock to Ainsley. The baby's mouth opened wide as she looked up at the wise golden-haired elder.

"Fwen...lil?"

Ainsley suddenly couldn't believe her ears.

How could this cat be a Fenrir? Fenrir is like a wolf but mightier than wolves. Since it is a wolf, it should be closed to a dog instead of a cat, right?

Then why does this damn cat own a Fenrir bloodline?! Wait— maybe that's why this fellow's meowing sound is similar to a wolf or a dog's howl!

It all makes sense!

Ainsley energetically nodded her head. The girl then eyed the small creature trudging next to her with great interest.

A Fenrir, huh? Father of all wolves, son of Loki in ancient Greek mythology. It's said that Gods once imprisoned Fenrir.

Maybe that's why this fellow looks so curious about everything and likes small places like cardboard?

Even though this cat isn't the real Fenrir and only possesses its bloodline, maybe it's still influenced by the Fenrir's tendency to break free...

Usually, a Fenrir's power should be its monstrous strength, insane durability and maybe...it had wind elemental power?

Since this one wasn't a real Fenrir, its strength shouldn't be able to defeat Gods but it could still fight the monsters at the town at ease.

This lazy-looking fella...should be awesome.

Ainsley knew from Grandpa Yofan that when this cat was in beast form, it could perform the raw strength of a beast while in a human form, it could even use special abilities!

If she could trigger this fellow's bloodline...she could visit the casino at ease. She could even fight other mafias and just sit back to watch the fun!

At such thoughts, Ainsley almost went crazy from greed. The baby looked at the cat with green eyes, and her ambition soared to the sky, but then...she paused.

She realised that no matter what, she shouldn't misuse this guardian. Even if he's the weakest of the three guardians, its strength could still tilt the mafia world balance.

While the Sloan Family was still weak, it's wiser to just use this cat just like its name.

A guardian.

Also...Ainsley didn't think she could use such a cute cat to fight. If she used everything like a chest piece, the world would be too cruel for her.

Thus, Ainsley took a deep breath and decided to trigger this fellow's bloodline only for safety measures.

It's not the time to rule the world using this sacred guardian. And one couldn't be sure that other families didn't have any sacred guardians like these three.

After pondering things, Ainsley and the others arrived at the dining hall. They had lunch and then discussed a way to trigger the cat's bloodline.

In the end, the method to trigger its bloodline is completely mysterious that Ainsley had to find it out by herself.

The dejected baby dragged her feet to the garden while the sun was high above her head, thinking that Finley might still be at the garden, waiting for her.

The girl paused in front of the tree, outside the shade and looked up. The cat was not with her. It ran somewhere else.

'Will Fin know if I'm here? Is he still here? Ugh, I want to see him right now. How do I contact him?'

Ainsley aimlessly stepped forward. Just when Ainsley's feet touched the shade of their tree base camp...

A strong gust of wind suddenly blew the girl's skirt.

?! The fck—

Ainsley watched her skirt fluttering in the air, revealing her panties as a figure emerged from behind the strong wind.

It was Finley.

Chapter 86 - "Give Her Fin's Belly"

Ainsley didn't know whether Finley saw her panties when the wind blew it up, but her reflex was to shout while clamping her legs.

"Waah! Pelvelth! (Pervert!)" Ainsley crumpled her skirt and glared at Finley, who was just about to walk to her yet froze on the spot because of her scream.

The boy's calm face rapidly changed. He broke in a cold sweat, and his face blushed red.

"Pervert?! Me? Ain, ah! Don't joke around! I didn't do anything!" Finley was anxious. He quickly approached Ainsley to ensure that Ainsley was just joking.

He just arrived here using the wind's power and didn't see or do anything when Ainsley suddenly accused him as a pervert! How could he get married in the future then?

"Nwo! Y-ywou...y-ywou sawh...mai..mai panthies..(No! Y-youi...y-you saw...my...my panties...)" Ainsley panicked. She stepped back and dodged Finley. Her face was already so red that one could mistake her for a tomato.

Seeing the baby was so embarrassed that she could die, only then Finley picked up the misunderstanding. He paused on the track and pondered over Ainsley's words.

Panties? Pervert? I saw her panties? But...I didn't...

Finley tilted his head as he squeezed his fingers, fretting like a little boy. Even though he was already an adult inside when a baby accessed him for being a pervert, how could he stay calm?

The golden-haired boy didn't try to approach Ainsley anymore and only stood there with blank eyes. His mind worked fast at the moment, trying to find a way out of this deadlock.

"L-look, Ain, I just arrived, and I didn't even see anything! Panties? I don't see it. Really. I swear." Finley crossed his fingers and made an oath. "I swear in the name of the fairy royal family!"

His oath sounded solemn, but Ainsley somehow couldn't believe him. How could he not see her panties when her panties were exposed right when Finley arrived? He stood there across her!

"Nwo! Ywou lial! (You liar!)" Ainsley stuck out her tongue and immediately ran toward the tree, which they used as a secret base. The girl hugged the tree's trunk and hid behind its huge body.

Apparently, she hid from Finley out of embarrassment. Assuming that Finley already saw her panties, she couldn't get married anymore!

"A-ain..." Finley muttered weakly as he watched Ainsley hide behind the tree, refusing to come out. Sweats drenched the boy's back, and his palms were cold.

Damn it. Is it my unlucky day?! But I truly didn't even catch a glimpse of Ain's panties! And even if I did, will I even get interested in a toddler's panties?! No way!

Finley bit his lower lips, feeling wronged.

The wind blew softly, and his golden hair fluttered. The wind even carried his faint smell to Ainsley, who was already hiding behind their sacred tree's trunk.

Ainsley sniffed like a dog as she pushed her head from behind the tree trunk. "Pelvelth!" She glared at Finley while accusing him of the third time...

Well, she knew that Finley wasn't wrong, but she was too embarrassed when her skirt was blown away by the wind! She needed to vent her embarrassment somehow.

Seeing Ainsley didn't have any intention to come out from behind the tree trunk, Finley could only sigh and smiled bitterly.

His face was already crumpled as if someone owed him the whole world.

"Fine, then...if Ain doesn't want to see me, I'll go home. It's past my playtime..." Finley spoke in a dejected voice. The pure little angel dropped his shoulders, bent his back and trotted away from the tree, discouraged.

"Even though I wait for Ain all-day long and wants to know whether you succeed or not. But...Ain hates me..." Finley said, depressed. His back looked quite lonely, and one would even shed tears for the pure boy.

Ainsley saw Finley's sorry back and her heart ached for him. She softened her heart and laid down her ego.

"W-waith! Fwin, stayh! Sowwy, sowwy, kay?" The baby slapped the tree's trunk and ran toward Finley with her short legs. She ran as fast as she could and almost stumbled upon the pebbles.

She almost fell a few times already.

Finley halted his steps. He slowly turned around with reddened eyes. He looked as if he just cried, grieving.

"Really? You will let me stay..? You don't hate me anymore?" Finley wiped the tears at the edge of his eyes.

Of course, he simply used his water ability to squeeze a few drops of water into his eyes, instantly making it red, and he couldn't help but cry.

The water entering his eyes was irritating to the eye, after all.

"Yesh, yesh! I folgipe ywou! (I forgive you!)" Ainsley shouted, panicking. She grabbed Finley's arm and tried to stop him from crying.

"Dun cly, dun cly..." Ainsley almost bit her tongue as she tip-toes and used her sleeve to wipe Fin's tears.

Alas, it would look so romantic from afar...if only one didn't see how the toddler couldn't reach the boy's eyes even after jumping several times.

In the end, the baby gave up and just patted Finley's belly to console him. That's such a weird method to comfort someone, but who cares?

Ainsley likes belly. Give her Fin's belly!

Finley instantly stopped his oscar-level acting and hugged Ainsley with a bright smile on his face. He squeezed her body tightly and buried his face on her shoulder.

Speaking of taking advantage...

"So, did you succeed catching the sacred guardian? Tell me!" Finley laughed casually, as if he never cried before. His bell-like laughter assaulted Ainsley's ears.

Still in the boy's warm embrace, she suddenly felt like she had been fooled...

Fin...you were just pretending to cry, right, you motherfcker?!

Chapter 87 - "Becoming A Human"

Ainsley wanted to get mad at Finley, but she was too tired to argue. The girl decided to rub Fin's soft belly to take advantage of the boy, just like how the boy hugged her to his heart content.

Anyway, the two got into a silent agreement before they went to their secret base tree. Finley helped Ainsley to sit on the tree's highest branch, their usual spot.

Once the children adjusted to the surroundings, only then Finley started to speak for the second time.

"So, how is it? Did you succeed?"

Ainsley nodded with a grin. "Ofh course!" She patted her chest with a proud look in her eyes. Well, she had the right to brag in front of Fin, anyway.

Finley's eyes immediately lit up. He took Ainsley's hand and shook it excitedly. "Really?! Which one did you bring out? I heard there are three of them, right?"

Finley knew a lot about the Sloan Family's sacred guardians, just like other strong families in general. As the heir of the Walter Family, he had to know a lot about their family's potential threat, which was the guardians.

One said that the guardians chose to protect the Sloan Family because they wanted to repay the Sloan Family's first family head for his favour.

So far, for more than 30 years, no one could tame the guardians, not even the direct descendant of the first family head. Thus, when Ainsley did it, it's bound to be shocking news!

"Ain, I just know that you can do it! Now tell me, did you get all three of them or only one? Which one did you lure out?" Finley was so eager that he started to look like his age, a child.

He looked like elementary boys talking about Mecha.

"Hwmmm onwy one. Cwode-C," Ainsley answered with flushed cheeks. She was also boiling with excitement after getting that one cat out of the mysterious prairie.

Up until now, no one knew the true existence of that prairie since it looked like a different dimension from the mansion. Maybe someone with space ability created a separate space for the guardians. Who knows?

"Code-C...the weakest one, the one with the Fenrir bloodline?" Finley slightly furrowed his eyebrows. It didn't mean that he looked down upon the weakest member, but it's just that...

The sacred guardian with the Fenrir Bloodline was the trickiest to handle out of the other three. It's relatively easy to lure him out, but so far, the Sloan Family couldn't take him and had to send him back to the prairie space.

Why? Because the Fenrir bloodline tended to be violent. It also had a severe trust issue when it transformed into a Fenrir.

A few lucky Sloan Family members in the past managed to trigger its bloodline, although not perfect, yet they almost lost their life because the Fenrir got out of control.

In other words, it went berserk.

Ainsley listened to Finley's reminder and couldn't help but feel a chill down her spine. She gaped, opened her mouth and closed it like a dumbfounded koi.

"Sho...dangelous..." Ainsley instantly felt relieved that she didn't immediately try to trigger its bloodline. Otherwise, she would have died a thousand times.

"That Fenrir is dangerous, indeed, but it's because the Sloan Family members can't trigger its bloodline perfectly. They can't get this Fenrir to sign a blood contract with them."

Finley shook his head, regretting the famous tragedy in the past.

"But don't worry. Once your charm and luck power are strong enough, I'm sure that this Fenrir will finally get the perfect bloodline inside his blood and will be able to sign a blood contract with you."

Finley rubbed Ainsley's head with eyes full of affection to reassure her.

"When you sign a blood contract with this Fenrir, it will never go berserk and can even transform into a human in the future!"

Ainsley, who was initially scared of the cat she just brought up, instantly dropped her jaw. She looked at Finley as if he just ate cow dung.

"Leally? Bwecome...hwuman?" Ainsley repeated Finley's words with wide eyes. "Ale ywou selious? (Are you serious?)" The girl blinked fast with a face full of disbelief.

Even if this world was a fantasy-modern world, how could a cat become a human?!

"I'm serious. Once your energy source becomes as big as a tennis ball, the Fenrir can consume your power to transform into a human!" Finley grinned, showing his canine teeth.

"Believe me. I read this in the history book. The guardians once transformed into humans to join the Sloan Family's first leader in war!"

Finley became slightly restless, and his face flushed red from excitement. His saliva almost flew everywhere.

"Once the guardians acquired a human form, they will have even more special abilities and can even copy some from others." Finley clenched his fists.

"Anyway, it depends on their bloodline power to see how strong they will be."

Ainsley was silent when Finley explained things. She repeatedly questioned Finley, thinking that the boy was just fantasising. But after repeated attempts, Ainsley finally accepted what Finley said...

It's all true.

'So...they can even become humans?! Then my plan to have a special force on my own...can start from these guardians!'

Ainsley bit her lips. Her eyes shone so brightly that one seemed to see the universe inside.

She was determined to tame those guardians!

But then, Finley suddenly threw a cold bucket of water on Ainsley using his words.

"It's true that they can be humans, but remember, just to trigger a perfect bloodline alone is hard. Especially the Fenrir." Finley squinted.

"Power alone...is not enough." He dropped a bomb, pushing Ainsley to despair.

Using force is not enough? Then what to do?!

.

Chapter 88 - "Not Somebody"

Ainsley was about to ask what Finley meant when the boy beat her to it. He looked at her with a bitter smile on his face.

"Just like what I said before. The guardian you pick with Fenrir bloodline has a trust issue. Using your charm and luck power alone won't be enough."

Finley adjusted his sitting position before he continued.

"What you need is to understand the guardian's wound and try to heal it. It's more of its psychological and mental health that we need to take care of."

Finley stretched his hand and rubbed Ainsley's forehead. He didn't stop talking, as what he said was all for the sake of the baby.

"Remember. Even though the guardians are beasts, they have feelings and emotions like humans. Try to understand this young guardian and make him your life-long companion."

"Get it?" Finley flicked Ainsley's forehead as he smiled slyly.

Of course, he knew all of this because he had seen the future. He had lived it. In the distant future, a foolish Sloan Family member would try to use force to subdue this Fenrir, only to end up dying.

This Fenrir was wounded. Not physically but mentally. It might have something to do with its ancestor or its past experience.

Finley finally concluded that the ones who would govern over the guardians shouldn't be those who saw them as a mere tool. They had to see these guardians as equals, as friends, and family.

"Geth ith, geth ith!" Ainsley spoke carelessly, not really taking Finley's words to her heart. She was just anxious to quickly tame the guardian cat to fulfil her plan.

Finley could see the greed inside Ainsley's eyes, and how she's so anxious to use this guardian for her own benefit. He couldn't help but be slightly disappointed.

Being greedy was not a mistake. It's what most family heads usually thought about. For the sake of the family, they had to use the guardians' power.

But human greed knew no bound. Finley was someone who lived his life twice and had experienced many bitterness in life. He, too, was once an ambitious young man.

With aspiration and greed, he strived to the top, only to fall because of another person's desire.

In the end, Finley knew that it's better to play it safe and cherish those around you. Don't sacrifice people for no reason, and don't be too blinded by greed.

Finley knew that this Ainsley wasn't like the one he had seen. This Ain, the one in front of him, had a boundless desire. She was like a Phoenix craving for heavens.

Alas, if she didn't know how to control herself, she would then be a tyrant. She would use those around her as a mere pawn, as her tools.

He could already sense that the moment he saw how Ainsley chose her guardian to be someone dumb, someone, suitable as a puppet.

The baby already had such a mature thought, and that's amazing. She knew she had to choose a puppet guardian to defend herself but after that?

Would she continue to pick subordinates only to use them as disposable tools?

Finley had seen many family heads like this and they were all strong. They had a vast territory but in the end, they were bound to be betrayed by their own pawns or, even worse, unknowingly became someone else's pawns.

Finley didn't want to see Ainsley like that. The baby was still young. She's indeed a genius, but she had room for improvement.

Thus, Finley carefully advised Ainsley.

"Please, treat the sacred guardians as companions and not mere tools. If you think of them as tools...then I advise you to give up. You will never succeed."

His sharp words instantly stabbed Ainsley's conscience, and the girl immediately fell silent. She bit her lips while her petite hands crumpled her dress.

She's stumped for words. Fin's words had been so direct that it seemed like stripping her ugly heart.

"I...I..." Ainsley wasn't a fool. She realised that Fin already saw through her.

Maybe she didn't mean to be as cruel as what Finley thought of, but she indeed thought of the sacred guardian as a creature that could make her life easier.

She didn't even think that this creature also had feelings and emotions. She only wanted to rush things, get easy money from the casino, and so on.

Ainsley was instantly reminded of her intention when choosing Elliana. At first, she also thought of Elliana as someone she could use at will. What's wrong with thinking like that when she's alone in this world, prone to be someone else's puppet?

She just wanted to survive.

But...she had quite a lot of freedom these days. She had quite a power to govern the family...

Should she still think of Elli and the sacred guardian as tools?

Ainsley didn't know why but her heart ached so badly that her eyes started to feel hot. Tears slowly accumulated at the edge of her eyes.

Yes. She knew that she's quite despicable. But she already thought of Elliana as her family a few weeks ago, which eased her heart a lot.

Yet once she saw the sacred guardian...she saw it as another tool, isn't it? There's no excuse. She didn't think of the sacred guardian as her companion. She just wanted to tame it and used its power to visit the casino.

That's...the truth.

"Wuwuwuw...sowwy....I...I..." Ainsley slowly sobbed and wailed.

The girl finally realised that her mindset had been quite twisted. She was too full of herself since she read a lot of manga and claimed to be an expert.

In reality, she's just an average university student with chuunibyou syndrome—

She's a nobody. Not somebody.

Chapter 89 - "Progress"

"Ain...Ain ish sowwy...sowwy..." Ainsley opened her mouth, and tears slid down her cheeks like a waterfall.

She truly underestimated the sacred guardian, thinking that she could tame it with power alone. Not to mention that her heart wasn't pure. She's already corrupted.

Ainsley felt that she didn't deserve to be a protagonist. Even if this new world wasn't a novel world and didn't need a protagonist, she still felt unworthy to call herself the future protagonist of this world.

What protagonist has a black heart except for the anti-hero?

Ainsley bit her lips and wiped her tears using her sleeve. Finley kept patting her back while consoling her.

"It's okay, there, there. I know that you don't mean any harm. Just...try to accept the sacred guardian as your companion and not a tool." Finley's heart ached when he saw Ainsley cry, but he could do nothing.

Anyway, his advice wasn't wrong, either. Ainsley had to embrace it to move forward.

Knowing that Ainsley was a genius, Finley was a bit reassured since the girl would surely understand his words and not take it to heart.

"Mmm..." Ainsley stopped crying and tried to clean her face. She looked down at her tiny limbs and slowly turned around, refusing to see Finley for a while.

Alas, she just cried! Even though she knew it's because she felt guilty, it's still embarrassing to cry in front of Fin!

Ainsley hid her face behind her palms while Finley helped her to wash her face with his handkerchief, not knowing that his action further agitated the baby.

"Fwin, stoph! Ain ish owkay!" Ainsley snatched the handkerchief and tossed it back to Finley.

She's 20 years old inside, okay?! How could she cry in front of an 8-year-old boy?!

"Okay, okay, I'll stop." Finley smartly followed Ainsley's wish and retracted his hand. He pocketed his drenched handkerchief and just waited until Ainsley calmed down.

A smile hung on his delicate face.

'Mm, good. With this, Ain's personality will be better. She won't need to experience what I experienced.'

Finley secretly circled Ainsley's shoulder and patted the back of her head as a silent encouragement. Of course, the proud baby pretended not to notice it when she actually enjoyed the encouragement.

The two kids went silent for a few seconds, just casually watching the garden from the high tree before Ainsley finally broke the silence.

"Ummm, Ain wilh fowwow youl wolds. (Ain will follow your words)." Ainsley tugged Finley's sleeve and shyly lowered her head.

Okay, this is quite embarrassing, to be told by another boy...but anyway, that's such a good lesson.

Ainsley now swore to treat others around her better than before, not just as a mere tool. The same went for the sacred guardians that would be her companion in life.

"Good. Good. I hope you can heal this Fenrir's wound and bond with it." Finley grinned wide, showing his pearly teeth. "Ah, right, aside from bonding, you also need to strengthen your power."

The boy reminded Ainsley not to neglect her training.

"The more often and the more efficient you use your power, the stronger the power will be. Your energy source will also enlarge."

"Mmm!" Ainsley silently nodded. She already practised to the point of enlarging her marble-sized energy source to the size of a quail egg.

She also unlocked another feature of her charm power, which is ordering others to do as she likes, pleasing her and spoiling her.

Of course, with her current power, she could only influence one person to do this while others were simply showing kindness to her.

For her keen hearing ability, she's now able to track and distinguish more than 100 sounds, including animals and insects. She could use it to track down the people she heard once, or to recognise someone from their voice alone.

Alas, to read a human's mind or animals was still far from her capability, but with her luck power, she might be able to do that in an emergency time...

Her luck ability also grew stronger, and basically, she could avoid minor tragedy or people's direct physical attack.

That's one of the OP features of her luck ability!

Ainsley told Finley her progress, and the tiny teacher nodded solemnly. As Ainsley's unofficial mentor, Finley felt a sense of pride that his pupil was doing so well that he was a bit scared.

Ainsley's progress is really fast. By the age of 10, she might already rival top-notch adult mafia figures in the mafia world.

That's scary.

World domination by a child might be possible soon.

Of course, Finley just treated it as a mere fantasy, not knowing that it would soon become a reality.

"Okay, good job on your progress! Now you only need to strengthen your bond with the sacred guardian." Finley slapped his thigh excitedly. "Ah, right. I suggest you give a name to this guardian to earn his favour early."

Ainsley's ears twitched at the word 'name'. Her eyes turned stern for a moment.

Name, huh? I also heard this from Grandpa Yofan...

"Fwin, swuggesthion? (Suggestion?)" Ainsley tilted her head, trying to ask Finley to help her.

So far, Finley looked omnipotent and invincible. He knew a lot of things and was so wise for a boy. No wonder he's a library fairy.

"Hmmm, a name suitable for this Fenrir...I think you should try something with an initial C. His title is Code-C, right?" Finley gulped. "So, I think anything starting from C should be good."

"Owkay..." Ainsley's mind instantly wandered around a few males names starting from C.

Charles? Carlos? Charlie? Caplin? Coco? No, that's not cool.

Charles sounded the coolest, but...it's still not satisfying.

What name will be the best fit?

Chapter 90 - "Opportunity"

Ainsley didn't know if the cat would like any of the names she found or not. Thus, she saved a few names and would ask him directly. That cat could understand human language, after all. It's highly intelligent!

While Ainsley talked with Finley, at another place inside a warm, luxurious room near the main mansion, a few people were also talking in secret.

Almost every mansion surrounding the main estate had a few higher-ups talking in secret to each other.

News spread fast, and the news of the sacred guardian making its appearance in the prominent family also spread like fire. It's no wonder that the restless branches started to discuss.

The chandelier shone brightly, illuminating a round wooden table inside a small room. The room looked similar to the one Ainsley visited before. But this one was less grandeur with only a few wooden furnitures.

It looked like a secret base instead of an official meeting room.

"I heard that...the main family acquired Code-C?" A young man around 20 suddenly raised his clear, childish voice.

He supported his chin as he looked at the others in the small room. All of them wore black suits and formal attire, looking cool.

"Yes. It's been a long time. The last time we saw it...10 years ago or more?" Another person replied.

If one looked closer, they would see these two people were one of the people who met Ainsley when she was first appointed as the family head. Even the rest of the people in the room also participated in that meeting Ainsley attended before.

"Hm. Who acquired this beast?" A low, hoarse voice suddenly sounded. The owner of the voice hid his face behind the curtain, looking mysterious. One couldn't help but feel eerie and uncomfortable from not being able to see his face.

"I..I don't know, but we saw the supreme elder and the family head's guardian around the beast, " The young man answered with a slight stutter. The middle-aged man who hid his face...was just too threatening.

"Then...it should be that woman, the guardian, who brought out the beast, right?" The mysterious man responded.

One would see a tattoo of a Doberman on the back of his palm. The sound of his fingertips hitting the wooden desk echoed in the room.

"Right, boss. Maybe they want to use it to protect the toddler, or whatever. Anyway...isn't this an opportunity?" This time, a female with a flirtatious face raised her voice. Her high-pitched yet flirty voice was enough to scratch everyone's heart.

"Yes. The guardian is still a cat, not a beast yet. If we trigger his bloodline and make him bond a pact with us..." Another person responded.

Several middle-aged men with cunning eyes in the room glanced at each other. A few sly women next to the men also licked their lips as the potential prey they just heard.

It's a big opportunity, indeed. Once they could tame the beast, they could topple the authority of the current main family!

"Hm, before the other branches try to get the beast, we have to get it first!" A hot-blooded uncle with a bald head clenched his fists as he looked at the mysterious Uncle Dober behind the curtain.

Uncle Dober truly liked to act mysterious and lofty in front of his people until he hid behind a curtain...

Another person next to the baldie nodded in excitement. He immediately supported his bro. "Agree. Let's start with legal means, tricking that old man. If it fails, use force."

"Heheheheh. Good. The main family is too weak nowadays, anyway. I believe our Dober family can replace the main branch." The baldie sneered.

The young man, the youngest in the room, couldn't help but frown at the baldie's remark. He hurriedly put his finger on his mouth. "Hush. Lower your voice! We don't want the main family to accuse us of betrayal, right?"

"Che. Okay, okay. Even though that moron from the main family rules us just because of the previous head's last will..." one of the scary-looking men, the baldie, spat in disdain.

"What a pity. A waste." He continued to complain.

Indeed, the branch families could actually become the main family if the family head belongs to their clan.

From the start, the Sloan Family's first family head had several kids, boys and girls. The girls got married off while the boys, other than the heir, created the branch family to avoid dispute.

The first family head also had several siblings, and each of them built one branch family, resulting in 6 branches up until now.

So far, the 'main family' with the symbol of dolphin was actually just an empty vessel. Any of the branches could replace them overnight, taking upon the 'dolphin' symbol. Well, as long as the family head came from their branches.

Unfortunately, unless the family head, the descendant of the early heirs, was incompetent, there's no way to replace the main family authority. They would always be stronger than the rest.

The Sloan Family looked peaceful above but truly chaotic underneath. Still, since the branches had sworn to protect the main family, there had been no betrayal and such.

Unless...the branch family became stronger than the main. Only then they could replace the main family's authority.

Now, the opportunity came to them like a pie falling from the sky.

The main family got the sacred guardian but still didn't make a blood contract with it! Then...whoever got to make a contract with the guardian, would most likely become the new family head.

After all, like the law of the jungle, the strong rules the weak.

They could replace that vulnerable baby, the puppet head with the real deal!