

Stay At home 1061

Chapter 1061 When That Happens, I Will Still Bring You Up

“Hm?” Mag looked at Firis and was suddenly a little flustered. This lass wouldn’t...

“Actually, I am the elf princess’s servant. She needs me now, so I have to return to her side to help her.” Firis looked at Mag resolutely.

Mag raised his brow. Luckily it was not like what he thought.

He found it a little funny how he was the one who brought this lady over to Chaos City, but now she was feeling apologetic for not coming clean about her identity.

However, it seemed that Firis had also seen the proclamation, and that was why she was so anxious to quit and return to Irina’s side.

She knew that it was dangerous, but she did not hesitate at all. Mag was a little touched by that loyalty.

The situation the night elves were in right now was indeed pessimistic. They were a rebellion group that was formed in a short span of time. On top of that, most of them were slave elves with meager powers. Their fight to overthrow the deep-rooted might of the Wind Forest was akin to ants trying to move a tree.

“I’ve also heard some things about the elves and Princess Irina. I will not stop you if you insist on going back to help her.” Mag looked at Firis. Irina really needed someone who could take care of her.

“However, before we leave, I want you to ponder over two questions.

“Do you know where to look for the princess? If you really find her, what help can you be of, or will you become a burden instead?”

“I...” Firis opened her mouth. She thought for a while and shook her head in despair. “The princess is definitely not in the Wind Forest anymore. I don’t know where to look for her, either, but I think I can take care of her. She doesn’t know how to cook, but is very picky about her food. She would rather starve than eat things that she is not used to.”

Mag recalled how Irina finished all the dishes on the menu on her own yesterday. He felt a little upset. Firis was right, Irina had to have not had a proper meal in a very long time.

“If you want to take care of her, or be of a certain use in the rebellion army, I think you should master faster and more culinary techniques and dishes. The food that you used to make is too delicate. One dish is only a mouthful. It’s not suitable as a source of energy for the army during the war. If you’re willing, I am going to teach you how to make Yangzhou fried rice and Roujiamo. For the time being, I will help you find out where the princess is. You can go anytime once we are certain of their location and are sure that they are safe,” Mag said seriously as he looked at Firis.

Irina was the one who slept beside him last night, and his heart would of course ache for the mother of his child. If it were not because the situation did not permit it, he would have gone to the frontlines to cook for her.

Although Firis was a very outstanding student, if she was willing to cook for Irina, and he would feel more at ease so naturally, he would not force her to stay.

“Mr. Mag...” Firis looked at Mag with tears welling up in her eyes. He was simply too good to her. He was actually willing to do so much for her. Other than the princess, no one had ever treated her like this before.

Mag saw the tears glimmer in Firis’s eyes, and thought that it was because he sounded harsh. He quickly said, “If you’re in a rush to leave now, I can go over to the city lord’s castle to ask. They might have some news.”

“No, Mr. Mag, you’re right. I should become a useful person, and not just a burden for the princess like how I made her worry for my safety and was of no use at all the last time.” Firis shook his head. She looked at Mag with resolution. “Please teach me how to cook!”

Mag smiled. Nodding, he said, “Sure. Then we will start from this morning’s rest time. I will teach you how to make Yangzhou fried rice first.”

“Mm-hm.” Firis nodded hard.

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“Mr. Mag. I might have to quit. If I were to leave this time, I hope you can help me take care of Anna for a period of time. If... I don’t make it back, I hope you can take good care of her,” Shirley said with a solemn expression to Mag.

She arrived at the restaurant earlier than usual today. She glanced at Anna, who was playing with Amy and Ugly Duckling.

“You’re leaving too?” Mag raised his eyebrows. It was a surprise to him, but he had expected it.

Shirley and Sally were both noble descendants of the elves, and Mag was very clear about that.

However, they were a little different from those elves who were interpellated into the hierarchy. They once fought for the freedom of the elves at the bottom of the hierarchy, and Shirley adopted Anna.

Irina’s proclamation was actually a call for enlistment to the elves in the Norland Continent.

A fight for freedom!

What a real and noble motive.

The elves who had been oppressed, the elves who yearned for freedom... When they saw that proclamation, they would probably be burning with passion.

“Yes, my people need me.” Shirley nodded without any hesitation.

Mag looked at Shirley. This elf who looked even more beautiful than most women had currently risen in rank in his heart.

“You can set off anytime. I will take care of Anna. She will have everything Amy has,” Mag said with a nod.

“Thank you.” Shirley smiled. She looked around the restaurant, and said, “This is a farewell. Please help me say goodbye to the rest.”

Mag looked at Shirley and nodded slightly. “We’ll bid our goodbyes here. Take care.”

Shirley turned and walked out of the door.

Mag looked out. Shirley bent over and picked up Anna clumsily. She whispered some things to her ear, and then turned to leave.

The little girl gripped tightly onto the corner of her shirt with her eyes red.

Shirley turned her head around with a smile, and said to Anna, “I will be back when the war is over. When that happens, I will still bring you up.”

Anna looked at Shirley and sniffed. She reached her little pinky out. “Promise that you will come back.”

“Alright.” Shirley reached her pinky out and hooked pinkies with Anna.

“Pinky swear,” Anna said seriously.

Shirley retracted her hand and raised her exquisite chin with a smile as she said, “Don’t worry, a person as beautiful as me won’t lie.”

After saying that, she turned to walk away briskly and waved while her back was facing the restaurant.

Anna looked at Shirley’s back view and started crying.

What’s going on, why is there so much sand in the wind today? Shirley blinked and quickened her steps. Soon, she disappeared from the square.

“It’s alright, Big Sister Anna, you still have us.” Amy walked over and hugged Anna lightly. She reached her hand out to help her wipe the tears off her face with a smile, and said, “I heard that those who are good-looking usually wouldn’t die very easily. Big Sister Shirley is so good-looking. She definitely won’t die easily.”

Chapter 1062 System, I Want To Use A Lucky Draw Chance

In the elven embassy, Yngwie closed the door and looked at Shirley as he agitatedly said, “Young Master Blour, you’ve really thought things through and decided to join the rebellion army? Once word gets out, the chief will definitely cut all ties with you in order to protect the Baibilly Family. You will lose everything. Although Princess Irina is very powerful, she is leading only a group of slaves. Nothing will change!”

Shirley looked at Yngwie calmly, and said, “I am just here to bid farewell. Thanks for your care during this period of time. I’ve finished what I wanted to say. I’m off.”

Yngwie watched as Shirley turned around and opened the door. With a frown, he said, “Last night, the chief sent me a secret message to bring you back.”

“Do you also think that what they are doing is right?” Shirley said without turning back, her hand on the door handle.

"I don't know about what is right or wrong. What I know is that if you go, you will die," Yngwie said.

"I know that you know." Shirley pulled open the door, and the sun cast a glow on her.

"I will work hard not to die." Shirley smiled and walked out.

Yngwie raised his hand holding the magic staff and lowered it slowly. At last, he let out a heavy sigh.

"If I were a hundred years younger, I would probably walk down the same path too..."

"Freedom, being young..."

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"Take care of the child. If I don't make it back this time, tell her that her father died for freedom. This is the soul of the elves."

A middle-aged elf carried his luggage and kissed a little elf who was still asleep.

The female elf who was watching with her eyes reddened gave him a tight hug, and said, "Come back alive. Our child and I are waiting for you."

That elf hugged her back tightly and whispered softly by her ear, "Take good care of yourself. If I don't make it back, find a nice guy and live on."

"No, I'm only waiting for you." She shook her head hard very resolutely.

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Similar things were happening in the different areas of Chaos City. Some of them were high officials in the gray temple and city lord's castle, and some of them were shop owners in Aden Square, while others were just workers in small workshops south of the city.

However, because of one proclamation, they put everything down, carried their bags and their bows and arrows, and started the journey towards the Wind Forest.

They left the Wind Forest back then precisely because they did not like the restrictions there.

Now that Princess Irina had started a rebellion, they were willing to give their all for the forest of their memories.

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In the restaurant.

Mag looked at the group that had already arrived and tried to remain calm as he said, "Shirley left. She told me to bid farewell to all of you on her behalf."

"She... will be coming back," Anna said softly. Her eyes were still red.

"Why is she just like Sally? Leaving without a word..." Yabemiya said with devastation.

The others were also a little down. Everyone had gotten along well during this period, and they complemented each other quite well at work too, so now that Shirley had left abruptly, they felt somewhat reluctant to part.

“Alright, let’s have breakfast first, then prepare for our opening.” Mag smiled and stroked Anna’s head. He said to Elizabeth, “Elizabeth, I need you to take over the cleaning roles since Shirley is gone. Can you do it?”

“Mm-hm.” Elizabeth nodded. She did not appear very affected.

“Then I’ll leave it to you.” Mag nodded. With her 8th-tier powers, it was a waste to have her only do a little cleaning.

I must make my feelings known to Miss Shirley today. I hope she will be able to understand my feelings for her with this diamond ring, Constantine thought nervously as he stood at the front of the line with a small, exquisite box held tightly in his hand, trying to look into the restaurant.

Although Miss Shirley did not seem to have expressed much interest in him throughout this period, at least he was seen every day and had become a familiar face.

The torture of longing for her day and night felt like a roller-coaster ride.

He could no longer continue like this. He had to make his feelings known to Shirley today.

Be it acceptance or rejection, he just wanted a conclusion and not elusive hope.

In the midst of the anxious wait, the restaurant doors opened slowly just as usual. Boss Mag stood by the entrance and greeted everyone with a smile. “Goodmorning, welcome to Mamy Restaurant.”

The restaurant staff stood on both sides of the restaurant’s aisle.

Constantine soothed his clothes and walked towards the door, past the familiar faces, but there was no sign of Shirley.

She’s not around? Constantine was dumbfounded. The crowd moved in, and he moved along into the restaurant with the crowd. He looked around the place, including the kitchen, but did not see Shirley anywhere.

“Boss Mag, where’s Miss Shirley? Why isn’t she around today? Is she on leave?” Constantine asked Mag, who was about to go to the kitchen, nervously.

“She quit and left.” Mag looked at Constantine. This man who insisted on coming to the restaurant every day to please Shirley could be considered the restaurant’s regular.

“Quit and left?” Constantine’s face changed. The exquisite wooden box in his hand fell, and a purple-gold diamond ring dropped out. The gem shimmered as light was reflected in it.

After recovering from the shock, Constantine did not care about the ring. He quickly grabbed Mag as though he was his last lifeline, and nervously asked, “Then... Then do you know where she went?”

“She did not say, but I think she probably left Chaos City by now.” Mag shook his head.

“Left...” Constantine let go of Mag’s hand as though he was suddenly sucked out of all his energy, and he walked out depressedly.

For some people, the moment they turned around, it became farewell.

He suddenly felt a little regret. If only he had mustered the courage yesterday.

Even if he were to be rejected.

He was once a man many women chased after. He had wealth and looks.

However, in front of him, he was just like someone chasing after the light, hiding miserably in the shadows.

When Mag picked the ring on the floor up and lifted his head, Constantine was already out the door.

Although I can’t congratulate him, I can’t really say much. It should be bliss to be unaware. Mag looked at the ring in his hand and put it carefully back into the small box. He’d better return it to him on another day. He should be feeling terrible today.

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After the morning operation hours, Mag started teaching Firis how to make Yangzhou fried rice.

This was actually not a simple dish of fried rice if one was to go into detail about the cooking procedure, the size of the flame, and the technique of stir-frying.

Luckily, Firis was indeed quite talented, and as she also liked to stand at the side to watch Mag quietly when he cooked, she was able to get the hang of it very quickly.

“System, I want to use a lucky draw chance.”

Mag lay on the lounge chair outside the restaurant, sunbathing, when he tapped on the lucky draw wheel.

The past two days had been too exciting that he almost forgot that he still had two lucky draw chances.

Chapter 1063 Why Is Mr. Mag So Happy?

“On account of the host’s good attitude and seriousness in completing the system’s missions, the top-tier recipe repository will be opened for this round’s God of Cookery lucky draw, and the host will have the chance to win a top-tier recipe!

“There are two lucky draw chances. Please get ready to do the draw!”

The system sounded, and the names of dishes flashed on a big red wheel. It was not like in the past where there were set dishes on every section of the wheel.

“Top-tier recipe? What’s that?” Mag could not help but be curious. It was the first time he heard that. Were the recipes that the system gave him previously all considered low-tier ones?

“There is no ranking when it comes to delicacies, but in this world, the effects each dish brings to its consumer could be ranked.

“Yangzhou fried rice is able to provide energy and boost recovery to a certain extent, similar to a recovery potion, so its effects are considered low-tier ones.

“Tofu pudding has beautifying and scar-removing properties in it. To women, it’s akin to giving them a new life, so its effects are considered middle-tier ones.

“Beggar’s chicken has a certain ability to allow sea creatures to breathe on land, so its effect can be considered to belong to the top tier, but because of its specific target consumer and the need for a certain amount of coincidence, overall, it could only be considered a middle-tier one.

“Those that had left its mark on the history of delicacies, being able to provide a strong effect on most of its consumers, are considered top-tier dishes,” the system replied.

It works this way too? Could this be the legendary Isatis tinctoria [1. A Chinese herb]? Mag pondered.

The system’s ranking was very simple and clear. It was just based on the effects of the dishes. The more powerful its effect, the higher its tier.

However, this ranking based on effects also differed from people to people. For example, roujiamo should be considered a top-tier dish to the Burning Legion, but when a normal person ate it, they would only gain a little strength without that much of an effect.

A top-tier dish that had a strong effect on everyone really raised his expectations.

Mag was expectant. He rubbed his hands together and got ready to spin the big wheel.

“There is no need for the host to be overly excited. This time, only a very limited number of top-tier recipes is available. The chance of the host drawing a top tier recipe is 3%.”

The system very quickly extinguished his excitement.

“F*ck.” Mag suddenly came to his senses. He thought for a while, and asked, “System, what’re the chances of getting ‘thanks for your participation’?”

“30%.”

“System, fish you! Fish you!”

“Block! Block!”

Mag rubbed his glabella. The chance of getting “thanks for your participation” is 10 times more than that of obtaining a top-tier recipe. That’s so depressing!

After taking two deep breaths to calm down, Mag looked at the big wheel and used his consciousness to spin it.

The red wheel spun furiously, and the words on the spaces of the wheel also flashed furiously.

What would it be?

Mag watched on nervously.

The wheel started slowing down, and the words on the wheel also became clearer.

Pan-baked pork fillet, Big plate chicken, Pork stewed with cellophane noodles...

Just looking at them made Mag swallow his saliva.

What familiar names. Just thinking about them would make one swallow their saliva.

However, the blank spaces also made him a little worried. There were quite a few blank spaces. If he were to get a blank space, all his efforts in doing the missions would be gone to waste!

The wheel came to a slow stop under Mag's intense watch.

"Youtiao and soybean milk set meal?"

Mag blinked. After confirming that he did not make a mistake, he asked, "System, is this a top-tier recipe? It's the first time I saw a set meal."

"No," the system replied calmly.

"Soybean milk and youtiao. I'm really very unlucky." Mag sighed. He looked at the other recipes on the wheel and felt a little complicated inside.

This youtiao and soybean milk set meal was the simplest and lowest-tier dish on the wheel.

Besides, he did not really like youtiao. He did not think that the oil that was used repeatedly would be clean. On top of that, it was greasy, and when it first came out from the pot, it would be too hot, but after it had cooled down, it would be too tough.

However, he would be able to have a few sticks if it was dipped in hot pot.

The texture of youtiao when it was blanched in hot pot and taken out immediately was quite good.

He was quite fond of soybean milk, but it had to be freshly ground soybean milk.

"System, what's the effect of this soybean milk and youtiao?" Mag asked.

"Please figure it out yourself," the system answered coldly.

Fine, I'll just take it as an alternative for breakfast. It is quite weird to have fried rice for breakfast every day anyway. Besides, the system's youtiao and soybean milk should be a little different, Mag comforted himself. Although he had a little grudge over not drawing the top-tier dishes, it was already good enough that it was not "thanks for your participation".

I still have one last draw. A problem that cannot be solved with money makes it even more exciting. Mag breathed out and spun the wheel again.

The wheel began spinning wildly, and the dish names flashed past.

Mag clenched his fists subconsciously as he watched the wheel while holding his breath.

The wheel started slowing down, and finally came to a stop.

"Ding!"

"Congratulations on drawing a top-tier recipe: Buddha jumps over the wall!"

“Holy f*ck!”

Mag bolted up straight and looked at the glimmering words “Buddha jumps over the wall” in his mind. Compared to the usual gold glow, there was also a hint of red, making it even more dazzling.

Mag blinked and asked with uncertainty, “System, is Buddha jumps over the wall really a top-tier dish?”

Although his luck had always been not bad, the chances were 3%, after all, so getting it felt surreal.

“Buddha jumps over the wall, also known as ‘fragrance in a pot’ and ‘fortune and longevity’. It is a famous dish of Fujian cuisine. It became famous because of ‘the aroma wafted when the lid is opened, the Buddha forsakes his sutra and jumps over the wall to give it a try’. It was said that the owner of the restaurant Ju Chun Yuan, Zheng Chunfa, created it during the Qing dynasty.

“As one of the representative dishes of the Fujian cuisine, the taste of Buddha jumps over the wall has been widely recognized, and it even had a high reputation in the soup category.

“It had become a delicacy that is both delicious and highly nutritious because of the presence of a variety of expensive ingredients used that were still perfectly harmonized.

“Therefore, the Buddha jumps over the wall is worthy of its rank as a top-tier dish.”

The system was very serious in its explanation.

“Alright. I am very satisfied.” Mag was already grinning from ear to ear. He had tried it once, but thought that it was mediocre. It was probably because it had not been authentic.

But now that the system had given him a recipe that was even an improved version, the taste would definitely not be bad, since it was categorized as a top-tier dish.

Of course, what he was more curious about was the special effects this Buddha jumps over the wall, which was categorized as a top-tier dish, had.

“Why is Mr. Mag so happy?”

Just then, a voice came from behind Mag.

Chapter 1064 Please Figure It Out Yourself

Mag, who got lucky just now, suddenly opened his eyes and turned back to look at Scheer, who had been standing behind him. He realized that he was so absorbed in the lucky draw that he had let his guard down on his surroundings.

“I just had an interesting dream.” Mag went over it with a smile. He stood up and looked at Scheer. “I wonder what Miss Scheer is here today for?”

“If I said that I am here to have a cup of tea with Mr. Mag, would you agree to it?” Scheer said with a smile.

“Since Miss Scheer is already standing here, can I still reject you?” Mag asked in reply, and motioned for her to take a seat beside him. “The weather is very fine today. Why don’t we have a cup of tea while enjoying the sun.”

“Sure.” Scheer nodded and sat at the table.

Mag went inside and brought out a tea set. He put the purple sand pot over a small stove to boil the water, and added some red tea after that. The tea’s aroma wafted out, and just the smell of it was enough to calm someone down.

The sun in the winter morning was shining brightly.

Both of them sat facing each other, without talking, with a pot of red tea boiling in between them.

Scheer watched Mag for a very long time. He merely watched the purple sand pot calmly without even looking at her.

She had seen several men, and there were often those who didn’t look at her. However, it was because those men were trying to hide their nervousness, so they shifted their gazes elsewhere on purpose, but their shifting gaze very quickly exposed their inner thoughts.

Mag, however, was different. His gaze was very calm, and he was very focused as though there was something on that little pot that was looking better than her, so even sparing a glance at her was a waste.

She had never met such a man.

This fellow is too much. Are my looks really incomparable to a teapot? Scheer felt indignant. Although she did not care about men’s gaze, it was still a little uncomfortable to be ignored after getting used to being the center of attention.

“System, what’re the effects of Buddha jumps over the wall?”

“Please figure it out yourself.”

“System, the effects of this top-tier dish are so powerful, would there be any side effects? What if someone falls sick because of it?”

“Please figure out yourself and think about the complimentary medi— dishes.”

“What’s the use of having you.”

Mag could not help but roll his eyes inside. What was the use of this system when it barely answered any of his queries?

“This tea is pretty fragrant.” Scheer broke the silence. She did not have the patience to sit here with Mag all afternoon under the sun.

“Mm-hm. It’s a good tea.” Mag finally ended his conversation with the system, so he naturally replied to Scheer. He picked the teapot and poured her a cup of tea. The aromatic tea was clear and beautifully colored.

This tea was Da Hong Pao from Mount Wuyi, which he bought from the system, so it naturally would be a good tea. He did not have a lot of it, so if Scheer had not requested to have tea with him, he would never have born sharing it with anyone.

Scheer received the small white porcelain tea bowl. The aromatic tea was very palatable, and her eyes lit up.

Other than loving red wine, her grandfather also loved tea. Recently, he had been fishing and drinking tea in his leisure time, and she would have some tea with him when she was free, so she had some knowledge of tea leaves.

Her grandfather's favorite tea was Assam black tea from the goblin's Assam valley. Because of its low production, it was difficult to buy it.

A few years ago, because he was unable to buy the black tea, Scheer's grandfather bought the entire Assam valley and built a tea leaf base where he would plant and harvest it just for himself. Sometimes, he would gift some of it to his good friends.

Mr. Mag's tea had a stronger aroma than the Assam black tea.

She picked up the tea bowl and blew on it lightly before taking a careful sip.

This taste!

Scheer's eyes lit up. It had a rich fragrance and a strong, sweet aftertaste. After swallowing the tea, the fragrance would still linger in her mouth and make her feel more spirited.

"It's a good tea."

Even Scheer, who had tasted several good teas, could not help but praise it.

Even her grandfather's favorite Assam black tea paled in comparison.

Grandfather would definitely like this tea, Scheer thought to herself with certainty.

Mag took a sip of tea and put his tea bowl down with a smile as he asked, "Miss Scheer, you're so busy, so I don't think you're just here for tea, right?"

Scheer was a strong independent woman who did not come to the restaurant often. She would only appear when she had something she needed to do.

"The steam train's upgrade is completed, and Bourell had been leading the team in adding some magic spell formation in the locomotive to increase its speed. There was a breakthrough in the progress recently, but we ran into some problems during the practical tests. I hope Mr. Mag would be able to give us some help," Scheer said as she looked at Mag.

"Upgrading the train with magic?" Mag was shocked.

Scheer apologetically said, "These are not part of what we agreed upon in our cooperation, so I am really sorry that I have to trouble Mr. Mag to help us."

"I don't know much about spellwork, so I might not be of much help. However, I am quite interested in this train that's upgraded with magic. I might not have enough time in the morning, but I can go over to take a look during the afternoon break." Mag nodded. He neither rejected her nor gave her a concrete reply.

He was indeed curious about how things would turn out when technology met magic.

A train upgraded with magic?

Could the speed go anywhere near a bullet train?

“Alright. Someone will come over to pick you up this afternoon.” Scheer smiled. After that, she pulled out a piece of paper and put it in front of Mag.

“This is?” Mag asked.

“This is a contract. I want to hire you to be the overall advisor for this steam train project. That way, I would feel less apologetic if I needed to ask for your help again,” Scheer said.

Mag glanced at that seven-digit annual pay and pushed the contract back to Scheer. He shook his head with a smile. “If I were to sign on this, I would be the one feeling more apologetic if I were to reject you.”

“Is it because you think that the salary is too low?”

“No, I just don’t like to be restricted.” Mag shook his head. “As for the steam train project, I am more than willing to take part where I can be of use if I am free. After all, I can be considered one of the stakeholders. But, the precondition is if I am free.”

Scheer stared at Mag for a while before keeping the contract. Smiling, he said, “Alright, then I’ll have to trouble you, Mr. Mag.”

Scheer finished her tea quietly and put her tea bowl down. She curiously asked, “I wonder what tea this is? How much do you still have with you, do you mind selling me some? My grandfather loves tea, and I am certain he would like such great tea.”

“It’s just some wild tea leaves. I don’t have much left, so I can’t sell it to you.” Mag shook his head resolutely. The system only sold him less than 500 grams, and he even found it too little for himself. How could he possibly sell it?

However, according to the system, that was because it was only the first year of harvest. The production of the tea leaves should increase subsequently.

Chapter 1065 Isn’t It Just A Slideshow? What’s The Fuss About?

After watching Scheer leave, Mag poured himself another cup of tea. He looked at the rising steam and squinted his eyes as he looked askance at a tree not far away.

A figure was leaning on the tree, looking as though he was spying on him.

This figure had been here for a while, and his unprofessional stalking quickly caused Mag to notice him.

He was wearing a full set of black clothes in broad daylight and even had a cap on. All he was lacking was the four words “I am a spy” written on his forehead.

An enemy? Or is he eyeing me to make some money? Mag raised his brow. He could sense that the person was a human around 6th-tier, and he obviously came for him.

Mag could not deduce anything, as there was too little information.

The man in black stood behind the tree for quite a while before he pressed his cap down and turned to leave.

Mag thought for a while and decided not to follow him.

The power of a 6th-tier could not even get past the restaurant's automatic defense system, so he was not much of a threat.

Since he came to spy in the day, he would most likely take action at night. Mag decided to wait till nightfall to find out what exactly he was up to.

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In a deserted alley, three men in black clothing and black caps gathered. There was a tall and thin man, a short and fat man, and a lean and muscular man.

"Boss, are you really done spying? We are aiming to make a huge profit. As long as we succeed, the three of us will not have anything to worry about anymore," the thin man said.

"Nonsense, when did anything go wrong when I am the one on the job? As long as fatty's information about the restaurant having a magical tool that could automatically make delicious grilled fish is correct, we will definitely succeed tonight," Colby said with a confident smile.

"It's definitely correct. I saw the owner taking out delicious grilled fishes from that black magical tool with my own eyes!" The fatty nodded with certainty. He smiled schemingly, and said, "The fish was superb, and each fish was sold at 2500 copper coins, yet there were so many people ordering it. As long as we can get our hands on that magical tool, in the future, all we need to do is lie down and collect the money. On top of that, we can still have delicious grilled fish every day."

"You're already a ball of fat, and all you can think of is still eating." Colby slapped the fatty's head and smiled. "When I am rich, I want to drink the strongest alcohol and ride the wildest woman!"

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"One, two, three..."

When the afternoon operating hours were over, Mag saw Gina counting mud casings happily in the corner. He could not help but ask, "Gina, why are you keeping so many mud casings? You can't possibly eat so many of them even if you were to have it for supper too?"

Gina stared at Mag for a while before she understood his question. She pointed at the mud casings and then at her mouth, and waved her hands to indicate that it was not for her. Then, she motioned out her tail, and said, "Me, people, they, eat."

Mag took quite some time before he understood Gina. So Gina was keeping these mud casings for the merfolk just like her. It seemed like she wanted them to have the ability to breathe on land.

However, Gina could not even clearly say where she was from, and she did not even know where her home was. No matter how many mud casings she collected, she most probably would not be able to give them to her people.

Besides, what Mag was curious about was something else: wasn't the merfolk living well under the sea?

There were no disputes over land, and they led a life of freedom with countless number of fishes to eat. Why would they want to come out on land to vie for survival space with the other species?

"Big Sister Gina cannot speak or write, but she can draw. Why don't you let her draw to communicate?"

Amy walked over with Ugly Duckling in her arms.

"That's right, that is a good idea." Mag's eyes lit up. He actually did not think of such a simple way. Children could indeed find the simplest and most effective way.

"Gina, draw out what you want to tell me." Mag passed Gina a piece of paper and a pen, and then he motioned his message to her.

Body language could help them with basic everyday conversations, but complicated dialogue was plainly impossible since different species had different worldviews.

Gina's eyes lit up when she saw the pen and paper. She picked up the pen clumsily, and quickly learned how to control her strength to draw lines on the paper without breaking the pen or tearing the paper under Mag's guidance.

Gina sat by a table, and everyone in the restaurant crowded around curiously.

Everyone was curious about Gina's background, but because they could not properly communicate verbally with her, they could not figure out where she came from, and why she came even after so many days had passed.

Gina thought for a while and started drawing.

Very quickly, merfolk with a human body and a fish tail started appearing on the paper. They formed a circle around an elevated platform that appeared to be an altar. At the center of the altar stood an old merfolk with a long robe. He seemed to be hosting some solemn and secretive ceremony.

Although it was her first time drawing on paper, Gina was surprisingly good at it. She might have left out some details because of the speed she drew at, but the simple lines could still deliver the solemn atmosphere at the ceremony with all the merfolk.

"There are so many mermaids. What are they doing? Are they praying for food to fall from the sky?" Amy sat kneeling on a chair and was filled with questions when she saw the drawing.

"It does look like a huge tribe of Merfolk." Mag pondered. Although there were only a few merfolks drawn on paper, there were a lot of wavy lines that probably represented a large crowd of merfolk.

Gina did not explain, and quickly went on to her second drawing.

A ray of light appeared above the altar, and a projection appeared in the sky. The merfolk all wore a surprised expression.

"Could it be a revelation?"

Elizabeth gasped softly in disbelief.

“A revelation?” Everyone looked at Elizabeth curiously.

“What’s that, Big Sister Elizabeth?” Amy asked.

“It was said that there were Supreme Gods living about the Norland Continent. The different races pray to different gods. The elves pray to the God of Life, the forest trolls pray to the God of Strength, the orcs pray to the God of Totem... No one had seen the gods, but there would be occasional revelations, so many still believe the existence of gods,” Elizabeth explained.

Gina could not understand their conversation, so she did not explain further. She moved on to the next drawing.

The chaotic images paused on an image of a restaurant, with a young man standing in front of it, appearing on the revelation.

“Isn’t that Father? And our restaurant!” Amy exclaimed softly.

Everyone was also shocked when they saw the drawing.

...

“Isn’t it just a slideshow? What’s the fuss about?” the system muttered.

Chapter 1066 It Is A Waste Of Talent If You Don’t Become A Mangaka

Mag looked at himself in the drawing, feeling a little confused. The distinct black-and-white uniform, his face with sharp features, that iconic moustache, and the restaurant behind him with the signboard “Mamy Restaurant” all highlighted his identity.

It was indeed he who appeared in the revelation picture that Gina drew.

What was going on now? Could the God that brought him here be the same as the god that this world believed in? Or was he targeted by some other gods again?

Mag couldn’t figure it out, either. This was way beyond the limit of his understanding.

He looked at the first picture again. There was a thick darkness above the altar that made people feel suppressed, and the merfolk’s facial expressions were full of expectation and hope as if they were praying for the appearance of God.

After the revelation appeared, the merfolk were looking at him in the scene with ecstasy, which was similar to Gina’s expression when she first saw him.

But, what did this have to do with him?

No matter how one looked at him, he looked like a chef and not a savior, right?

Mag looked at Gina. He wanted to know what happened next, or what the meaning behind this divine revelation was.

Gina raised her eyes to look at Mag, and then continued drawing.

The fourth picture quickly appeared underneath her pencil.

In the picture, Gina appeared. She was standing in a circular teleportation portal. The high priest in black and the middle-aged merman wearing a crown were standing next to the altar. Further away, crowds of merfolk were surrounding the teleportation portal. They were all gazing at Gina in the teleportation portal.

“Is Big Sister Gina the hope of her whole village?” Amy mumbled.

“It sure looks like it.” Mag wondered. After looking at those four pictures, he roughly knew why Gina had appeared here.

The merfolk were inspired by the revelation to search for the person in the scene, and he was the Chosen One that the merfolk were looking for.

Gina was chosen as the representative of the merfolk, and she took a ride on the ancient teleportation portal to get here. Very luckily, she had soon met him.

A mermaid who could not survive on land, Gina, the merfolk princess, came on land with a one-way ticket without any hesitation just because of a revelation that appeared suddenly.

What a stupid idolization.

Wasn't it akin to playing her life?

“Why?” Mag asked. He still couldn't understand why the merfolk did that.

It was quite nice to live under the sea, right? Why did they have to come up to the land?

Gina saw Mag's doubts. She thought for a moment before drawing on the paper again.

It was a black screen that hung horizontally above and blocked all light. Merman after merman launched an attack against the black screen. Some fell down after they were injured, and others just died inside the black screen. However, not a single one of them could go through the black screen.

Even though it was just a stationary picture, everyone felt a little suppressed looking at it.

“What is that?” Mag asked Gina, speaking slower than usual.

Gina put down her pencil and shook her head with an equally perplexed expression, but she quickly took up the pencil again and continued drawing on the paper.

The altar activated, and she appeared in the middle of a desert. She was walking carefully on it, with a smile on her face and a gleam in her eyes. Everything she saw had never appeared underneath the black screen.

A change of scene, and she appeared in the middle of a barren canyon. That was the location of her second teleportation.

Even though her surroundings were barren and she had lost her source of water, her expression was still bright.

The scene changed again, and she appeared in the middle of the restaurant. Mag, who was emitting golden light all over, appeared again and saved her like a savior.

Maybe I have my own special golden light effects in her eyes? Mag raised his eyebrows and tried not to laugh.

A picture of Gina waking up followed after. She still had that blissful smile on her face, but she had a big bubble wrapped around her head which was filled with water. She obviously didn't fit into this world.

The scene changed again. Mag, with his own special golden light effects, was holding a little wooden hammer in his hands. There was an egg that emitted golden light in front of him.

"It's the Beggar's chicken!" Amy was the first to recognize it.

"What does it have to do with Beggar's chicken?" Yabemiya couldn't understand.

"Gina, most likely, was able to breathe on land after she ate the Beggar's chicken," Mag said thoughtfully. He knew about that.

As expected, the next picture was Gina eating a piece of mud casing and the beggar's chicken with her hands.

The water bubble burst, and Gina discovered that she had gained the ability to breathe on land. In the picture, she opened up her arms to hug this world with a pure smile on her face.

Everyone couldn't help but smile with her too. They felt that they were healed by this story.

Gina's pencil didn't stop. The scene changed. Under that black screen, hundreds of merfolk were still gazing upward hopefully as if they were expecting something.

"Smack."

Gina put down her pencil and looked at Mag. Her expression was just like those of the merfolk looking upward under the black screen. There was hope in her eyes too.

The restaurant was in complete silence.

Everybody's gazes landed on Mag.

The silent pictures had depicted the struggles of the merfolk living under the black screen vividly, and all their hopes were directed onto Mag alone.

"Father, why don't you make more beggar's chicken for them? They look so pitiful," Amy said adorably with pity.

Mag wasn't in a hurry to make his position known. His gaze swept across the pictures on the table. Deducing from the pictures, the merfolk should be trapped at the dark bottom of the sea by some kind of seal or curse. Their location should be deep under a sea somewhere.

There weren't any coordinates, nor any specific depth.

Although he already had a 7th-tier power, he didn't have the ability to deep dive under the sea, nor could he breathe at the bottom of the sea. Moreover, it was impossible for him to make beggar's chickens for them at the bottom of the sea.

Even though he did pity Gina, he really wasn't a savior. He couldn't make any promises so hastily.

“This place. Where?” Mag asked Gina, pointing at the first picture.

“Lan-tis-de,” Gina said haltingly.

“Lantisde.” Mag repeated after her. Although he didn’t know where this place was, this name might become an important point of breakthrough.

There was a knock at the door, and Miya went to answer it. She swiftly called out at the doorway, “Boss, he says he is here to pick you up.”

“Okay, I am coming,” Mag answered. It seemed like Miss Scheer’s people were here. He kept away Gina’s drawings and couldn’t help praising her. “Gina, it is a waste of talent if you don’t become a mangaka[1]. Your drawing style and storyboard are both at genius level.”

“Mangaka?” Gina repeated after Mag as she looked at him perplexedly.

Chapter 1067 I Need To Go Back To Cook Now

“I am going out now. We will talk again when I am back.” Mag kept the drawing behind the counter with a smile before he walked toward the door.

The person who came to fetch Mag was still the one who came previously. They nodded to each other in acknowledgement before they climbed onto that enclosed horse-drawn carriage.

Lantisde... What kind of place is that? I wonder where I can find information about it. Mag was still thinking about Gina’s story in the carriage. He was sure that Gina wasn’t lying, but he had no idea how to get the merfolk out their confinement.

Maybe I can consult Miss Scheer later, Mag thought. The carriage went out of the city and continued for over half an hour before stopping. Mag exited the carriage. The location was still that cliff from the previous trip.

“Please come in, Mr. Mag,” that assistant said smilingly as a tunnel appeared on the cliff.

“Thank you.” Mag nodded and strode into the tunnel passage way.

Behind the tunnel, there was an immensely wide cave.

“Mr. Mag.” Bourell, who was standing at the entrance, quickly came forward to welcome him. He grabbed Mag’s hands, and appreciatively said, “Thank you very much for making the time to come here to instruct us.”

“You are too kind. Miss Scheer told me you guys have improved the steam engine tremendously. I am very interested too, so I want to come and see for myself too. But I am definitely not here to instruct anybody.” Mag swiftly shook his head.

“This way please, Mr. Mag.” Bourell led Mag into the deeper part of the cave as he said, “We have some tentative suggestions, but we encountered problems with practical application. Hence, we specially invited Mr. Mag here to have a look. As the designer of the steam engine locomotive, maybe you could bring us some new perspective. First, please have a look at our results for the past few days.”

The inner part of the cave had already been cleared, and a black steam train was placed on the tracks. The giant beast with distinct angles looked awe-inspiring under the fire's beams.

The tall chimney of the steam engine locomotive was especially eye-catching. There were very thick metal bumper guards at both sides of the cabin. Above them, half-a-meter-long spikes were installed. It looked just a porcupine.

Compared to the half-finished product previously, this version of steam engine locomotive was extremely impactful.

"We have considered the possibilities of encountering enemies and magic beasts during the journey. So, we have added defensive armor on the exterior of the steam engine locomotive to make sure it would not be damaged easily," Bourell explained.

"This is quite a good improvement." Mag nodded. Different from Earth, this world had fierce magic beasts. Even though this would increase the weight of the steam engine locomotive to a certain extent, it brought a greater measure of safety.

"Please follow me, Mr. Mag." Bourell walked toward the steam engine locomotive and boarded it. Mag followed suit.

Bourell opened up the bottom of the cabin's interior, and pointed to the spellwork drawn with complicated lines. "Please have a look. We added an anti-gravitational magic spell formation at the bottom of the steam engine locomotive. This magic spell formation is normally used by street magic casters to perform levitation. We want to borrow this spell formation to make the steam train levitate and increase the speed of it."

Anti-gravitational magic spell formation? Isn't this the alternate world version of the mag-lev train? Magical levitation train? This high-end magic spell formation actually only needed this little magic spell formation to be completed. Five black stones were embedded at the points where the lines intersected one another. They should be providing the necessary energy for the magic spell formation.

It only took them one step to jump from steam engine locomotive to mag-lev train. This giant leap that ignored the basic rules of technical developments made Mag raise an eyebrow.

"But we have encountered a very tricky problem with practical application. Although the anti-gravitational magic spell formation could levitate the train, we couldn't make it run stably on the tracks. Whenever there's a little deviation and curvature, the train will derail and flip over. We have been working on this problem for many days, but we still couldn't find a solution for it." Bourell looked at Mag as he scratched his head, and said, "Mr. Mag, do you have any opinions on this?"

Mag rubbed his chin. "Can you make the train run for me have a look, please?"

"Of course." Bourell gave instructions to start the train.

Mag alighted and stood slightly further away.

The steam locomotive's ignition was much faster than the previous time. They should have done some improvement on the ignition too.

The white water steam gushed out and the locomotive began to move.

At the same time, the anti-gravitational magic spell formation started to work. The second half of the steam engine locomotive seemed to be grabbed by a giant hand and was lifted up gradually. Except for the first four wheels of the locomotive, the wheels of the back had already levitated and left the tracks. It presented an angle of inclination as a whole.

“Woo...”

The steam train began to move forward as if it was a train that was held up by a hand. It ran forward quickly and lightly. The ignition speed and travel speed were obviously faster than in the previous testing. It was also much faster than a normal steam train locomotive.

Ponderment appeared in Mag’s eyes as he looked at the steam train that was vibrating very obviously in its acceleration. He had a grim cast to his gray eyes this day. He already had a rough idea.

There was a bend with a very small curvature. The steam engine locomotive began to decelerate right before it was about to go through the bend. It crossed the bend at an extremely low speed, but the body of the locomotive still displayed a very obvious tilt, and there were signs of derailment at the tail end.

However, the test driver should have accumulated plenty of experience in dealing with flipping over. He managed to stabilize the train by decelerating. He decelerated and stopped.

“The progress of the track laying is quite successful, right?” Mag asked Bourell.

“Yes. We have completed about one-third by now.” Bourell nodded, not quite understanding why Mag was asking this suddenly.

“In this case, we cannot make changes to the tracks anymore. We can only make changes on the train.” Mag nodded. He walked toward the steam train at the end of the track, and said, “Please give me a pen and paper.”

“Alright.” Bourell received the pen and paper from his assistant and quickly caught up.

Mag walked around the steam train once as he checked on the wear and tear on the first four wheels before asking about the various parameters of the steam engine locomotive. He took the pen and paper from Bourell, and started to draw a draft and do the calculations.

“I heard that he is a cook. Does he really know how to design?”

“He designed this steam engine locomotive, so do you think he knows or not?”

“But he is simply looking around like this, can he really solve the problem of the train’s incapability to make a turn? We had been pulling so many all-nighters to work on it for the past few days. We came up with so many ideas, but none of them could solve the issue.”

The other engineering staff were watching at the side. Some of them couldn’t help but mumble softly in doubt.

Mag only raised his eyebrows when he heard their mumbling, but he didn’t make any response.

“Looking at the current situation, I have drawn all the areas that I personally think could be improved here. You may look at it as a reference.”

Approximately 10 minutes later, Mag stopped drawing and passed the three sketches to Bourell. Then, he glanced at his watch, and smilingly said, "I need to go back to cook now."

Chapter 1068 He Is A F*cking Human Search Engine

"He really is a cook!"

All the engineering staff's expressions began to get a little weird. Even though the steam engine locomotive was designed by Mag, they still felt a little queasy having a cook instructing them in their profession.

Mag knew very well what they were thinking, but he wasn't very concerned. He was just too lazy to waste too much time there. If he rushed back now, he could still go to the information agency to check on the information on Lantisde.

It seemed that Scheer wasn't at the base, so he could only come up with the solutions himself.

"Alright. Thank you for making this trip." Bourell took the sketches and arranged with his people to send Mag back. His gaze was totally attracted by the sketches in his hands.

Although they were just sketches, the lines and labelling were still stringent.

Bourell was looking at them seriously, and his eyes began to light up slowly.

Did he really make any constructive suggestions? All the engineers thought as they looked at Bourell's expression.

Those problems had been bothering them for many days, and they still couldn't find any substantive solution, yet Mag found the solution simply by just looking around?

"Genius! Mr. Mag is really a genius!" Bourell praised as his hands trembled with the sketches.

An engineer couldn't help but ask, "Chief, did he really come up with a solution to solve the problem of derauling at the bend?"

Bourell spread the sketches out on a table and waved everyone over. "Not just about the derailment at the bend. There is also the tilting of the cabin, improvement on acceleration... Mr. Mag's suggestions were all on point. All of you, come and take a look."

All the engineers came forward and studied the sketches on the table carefully.

"Reduce the energy of the magic spell formation appropriately. Reduce the levitation height of the cabin. Convert the aft wheels of the cabin into side roller wheels that are parallel to the ground. Separating the locomotive from the cabin will solve the tilting of the cabin after it is levitated..."

"The side roller wheels will ensure that the train will not derail, and reduce the resistance to the greatest extent. Moreover, the most important point is that this improvement does not need to change the train tracks at all!"

The method of separate connection could also be used for connecting the subsequent carriages. This type of connecting method gave them more freedom, and the soft connection could solve the problem of the train unable to cross the bend for being too long.

“This... is probably what people call ‘genius’.”

The engineers got rid of all their previous doubts. There were only amazement and dejection in their eyes.

Smiling, Bourell said to all of them, “Since we have the solutions now, let’s try to come up with feasible design plans by today.”

...

“I will get off here. I want to take a walk.” Mag alighted from the carriage when it reached the Aden Square.

Lantisde. I wonder if Gina pronounced it correctly. Transliteration of location names has a high probability to be wrong. Mag went into an alley to change his clothes and wore a mask. Then, he proceeded to an information center.

10-odd minutes later, Mag came out of the information center with nothing. He continued on to a second information center.

Mag had gone to almost all the information centers at Aden Square, but he still couldn’t find any information about Lantisde.

Either that place doesn’t exist on the Norland Continent, or it isn’t called that in the continent’s common tongue. Mag changed back his clothes and sighed.

He passed by the Kayson Bookshop on his way back. Mag went in to pick a couple of books as usual. He saw the old bookshop owner lying in a lounge chair when he was making payment. He was always reading a book in this position whenever he visited; only the book in his hands differed.

“Boss, have you read all the books in this bookstore?” Mag asked curiously.

Hearing Mag, the owner Kayson put down the book in his hands and sat up gradually. He looked at Mag and nodded. “I have already read this book 23 times.”

“In this case, have you read about a place called ‘Lantisde’ in any of the books before?” Mag asked casually.

“Lantisde?” Kayson thought for a while before walking over to the bookshelf.

Does it exist? The eyes of Mag, who was just asking casually, lit up. He watched Kayson remove book after book from the shelves with proficiency before returning to the counter.

“This place ‘Lantisde’ was mentioned in this book once, mentioned in this book thrice, mentioned in this book five times...” Kayson introduced them one by one.

He is a f*cking human search engine... Mag stared at Kayson in astonishment.

After listening to the old owner, Mag pointed to that stack of books. “I will take all of them. How much do they cost?”

The owner did his calculations, and said, “15 books. The total is 620 copper coins.”

“Keep the change, please. Thank you.” Mag passed seven silver coins over before leaving with two bundles of books. He didn’t expect to find the information he needed in the bookshop when he couldn’t find any in the information center.

Back in the restaurant, Firis was cooking Yangzhou fried rice in the kitchen. The colorful ingredients were flying around in the wok, resembling a rainbow.

Anna and Ugly Duckling were sitting in front of the table, flanking Gina who was drawing.

Everyone was engrossed, and didn’t notice that Mag had returned.

Mag didn’t make a sound, either. He stepped forward curiously to take a look.

Gina was still drawing the underwater world, but compared to the slightly oppressive style in the afternoon, the stuff that she was drawing now was more relaxed and interesting.

She used magic to produce different colors. She colored as she drew, and created colors as vibrant as a watercolor painting.

Semi-transparent fishes had a light on their heads. The jellyfishes in a group had their formation broken up by the big fishes. Merfolk was riding on the backs of the fishes, holding tridents in their hands. A strange underwater world was depicted vividly under her pencils.

“Meow~”

Ugly Duckling stared at the schools of fishes and swallowed its saliva.

Gina got a shock and dropped her pencil.

Mag bent over to pick it up.

“Mr. Mag.” Gina stood up immediately.

“You drew very well.” Mag smiled at Gina.

This girl was indeed a genius at drawing. She had just learnt how to hold a pencil, but could actually draw pictures that made people’s eyes light up.

Gina could see that Mag was praising her. She replied perfectly with the common tongue, “Thank you.”

“Who taught you the common tongue?” Mag asked curiously. He was almost done in by her that day.

“Big Sister Gina is very studious. She will ask us to teach her some common words, and she learns them very quickly,” Anna said.

“So that was what happened. Our Anna is a little teacher.” Mag patted Anna’s head with a smile.

“Alright, continue with your drawing. I will be reading some books upstairs.”

Mag brought the two bundles upstairs. He put the bundle that he bought on his own aside, and took out a book from the bundle that the owner recommended to him. He sat down and read seriously.

Mag spent the whole afternoon reading through that whole stack of books once.

“The Lost Land?” Mag closed the last book with a thoughtful look.

Chapter 1069 The Defense System Detected An Enemy Invasion!

Exactly like the Kayson Bookshop owner said, these eight books did mention Lantide.

Taking away the three novels which should have just made up the name, the other five books all mentioned Lantide.

Deducing from the trivial clues, Lantide had once been a human kingdom on the Norland Continent, but it had always kept a low profile.

However, about 1000 years ago, everything about Lantide disappeared as if it was erased from the Norland Continent in an instant. Everything, including all the records about it, disappeared mysteriously.

All the clues pointed in one direction: Lantide was already lost, and nobody knew where it was.

Gina said she came from Lantide, and the scenes she drew look like the bottom of the sea. Seems like Lantide had sunk then, and was sealed at the bottom of the sea. However, they had also obtained the ability to live underwater from this...

This plot sounds rather familiar?

Mag rubbed his chin with a thoughtful look on his face.

Nobody knew where Lantide went, but Mag found an approximate location of Lantide before its disappearance.

The Boundless Sea. Isn't that close to the territory of the demon tribe? Mag got up to look at the map of Norland Continent hanging on the wall of his study, and drew a circle with a pencil on top of the Boundless Sea.

It is quite a distance away. I could bring Gina there directly to confirm the location if not for that, but looking at the situation now, we can only consider that on the rest day two days later. Mag turned around and went downstairs.

He finally had some idea about Gina's origins, but as for how to bring her there, it gave Mag a headache.

Ah Zi was naturally the fastest, but he wasn't supposed to be exposed.

Mag told everyone this piece of information during dinner that night.

Amy's eyes lit up in delight as she said, "Wow, then can we help Big Sister Gina go back home? This is so cool!"

"The Boundless Sea is so far away. How far do we need to walk in order to get there?" Yabemiya said worriedly.

Gina couldn't understand their conversation, so she simply sat there and looked at everyone quietly.

Elizabeth glanced at Gina. "If necessary, I can bring all of you there."

"That's fantastic." Mag's eyes lit up. He had forgotten that Elizabeth was an 8th-tier Frost Dragon. Even though Ah Zi was slightly better than her, she was indeed fast enough.

“Big Sister Elizabeth, can I come along, please?” Amy raised her little hand and looked at Elizabeth expectantly.

“Yes.” Elizabeth gave a slight nod.

“I...” Miya looked at Elizabeth with some expectation too.

“Whoever is interested to go, you can come along with us,” Elizabeth said calmly.

“Hurray! I can finally get out of the city!” Miya said excitedly. She had never left Chaos City before in her life.

“A group excursion seems like a rather good idea. Let’s take it as a team building activity for our restaurant. It is our day off two days later, let’s depart on that day.”

“Okay, okay.” Amy nodded ecstatically.

Mag told Gina about the information that he might have found Lantisde.

Gina stared at the circle on the map in a daze before jumping up in excitement to give Mag a big hug.

“It’s just a possibility. I still cannot confirm that Lantisde is really under that sea.” Mag disentangled Gina’s legs from his waist and prepared her mentally.

...

After the dinner service was over, the ladies all went back, and Gina returned upstairs to her tank too.

Mag looked at Anna, who was gazing out of the door melancholically. He walked in front of her and crouched down, placing a hand gently on her head. “Don’t worry, he will be back.”

“Yes.” Anna looked at Mag’s warm smile and felt her heart warm up.

“Big Sister Anna, if you are feeling unhappy, come and squeeze Ugly Duckling’s chubby face. It’s very comfortable to squeeze.” Amy carried Ugly Duckling over. Her two little hands were kneading Ugly Duckling’s face into squares and circles repeatedly.

“Haha~”

Anna looked at the despairing Ugly Duckling and released a peal of melodious laughter. She joined in to “torture” Ugly Duckling.

“Alright. Let’s go up to sleep,” Mag said to the little ones having a good time. He turned off the lights and brought them upstairs.

The fatty poked his head out as he watched the restaurant shrouded in darkness, and whispered, “It’s already closed for business, Big Brother. Do we begin now?”

“Let’s not rush. Wait a while longer. We came to steal today, so we’d better keep a low profile and not get discovered.” Colby stood on a branch and shook his head.

“Boss is so wise,” the thin man praised as he poked his head out of the bush.

Colby's expression began to get smug as he smilingly said, "After we get our hands on that amazing machine, we'll leave Chaos City for Rodu. I heard the people there are richer and they love to eat. We'll establish ourselves there!"

Hope appeared on the faces of the fat guy and the thin guy.

The three of them squatted there for quite a while. The restaurant was totally dark and silent. The boss seemed to have fallen asleep.

"Let's move!" Colby jumped down from the tree and sneaked toward Mamy Restaurant. The fat guy and thin guy followed behind him closely.

Colby got to the door and pasted his ear against it to listen in.

Bam!

A knock sounded right next to his ear and gave him such a shock that he sat on the ground. Colby looked at the fat guy who was standing in front of the door with a big hammer. He got up and gave him a kick in his butt as he angrily said, "Damn fatty, what are you doing!"

"I am trying to open this door for you, Boss..." the fat guy said innocently.

"Scram, you idiot!" Colby kicked the fat guy aside. He gazed around and heaved a sigh of relief after making sure that nobody was around. He gravely warned, "Idiot, we came to steal. You would have crushed the door if you had smashed the hammer down. Can it still be considered as stealing? It will be a robbery! We thieves don't do such a thing."

"Yes, yes, yes. Boss is right." The fat guy nodded profusely, but as he looked at the door which didn't even have a scratch on it, he couldn't help but mumble, "Why isn't there any damage to the door?"

"It's good that it isn't damaged. Otherwise, you would have to compensate for a door." Colby waved to the thin guy. "Skinny, you get this door open."

"Alrighty. This is my area of expertise."

Skinny got a metal wire out from his head[1], and began poking around the keyhole haphazardly.

"Ding!"

"The defense system detected an enemy invasion!"

Mag, who had just finished blowing dry the two little ones' hair, saw the surveillance video that appeared in his head. An amused smile appeared on his face.

"Father, what story are you going to tell us tonight?" Amy, who had just changed into her little bear pyjamas and was wearing her hair loose, asked Mag curiously.

"Do you girls want to listen to a bedtime story or play around with a few dumb thieves before you sleep?" Mag asked smilingly.

Chapter 1070 A Mermaid Would Sleep In The Nude Too?!

“Stupid thieves?” Amy’s eyes lit up, and she immediately grabbed hold of Mag’s arm excitedly. “Where? Father, where are the stupid thieves?” Anna, too, looked at Mag expectantly.

“They are downstairs right now. We can watch them secretly.” Mag brought the two little ones to the bedroom and turned off the lights. Then, he drew open the curtains and looked at the heads huddling at the front of the restaurant’s entrance.

“What are they trying to do?” Amy asked quietly.

“They should be trying to get in to steal,” Mag said smilingly. He had overheard them talking about some amazing machine.

But when did the restaurant ever have any amazing machine?

This made him perplexed too.

These three chaps shouldn’t have any idea about his identity. Otherwise, they wouldn’t be so stupid to try to steal from Alex’s restaurant.

“Grandpa said thieves are horrendous people. They are lazy, and are always trying to reap without sowing. They will do anything to steal valuables from people.” Anna stared at the three people down there, and angrily said, “Once, a thief stole the last 10 copper coins we had, and we ended up spending a night sleeping in the snow. Grandpa and I almost froze to death.”

“How dare they steal money from Big Sister Anna. The thieves are indeed too horrible. I want to destroy them with one fireball!” Amy said seethingly as a little golden-purplish fireball appeared on her palm.

“The thieves who stole Anna’s money may not be the same ones as down there.” Mag quickly grabbed Amy’s little hand, exasperated, and said, “Furthermore, we are still in the room. Keep the fireball away first. Don’t release it so hastily.”

Mag didn’t like thieves, either, but they were not sure about the three thieves’ motive yet. Hence, it was not very humane to simply send them off to heavens with a fireball immediately.

Amy kept the little fireball as she asked Mag, “Then, what should we do now? We can’t just watch them steal from us, right?”

“Grandpa said that if we couldn’t subdue them, then we should stay away from them,” Anna whispered.

“This is our home. The thieves should be the ones to stay away, and neither are we going to watch them steal from us.” Mag shook his head. After some pondering, he said with shining eyes, “Why don’t we scare these thieves off by making our restaurant into a haunted house? It would serve them a lesson too.”

“A haunted house?” Both Anna and Amy looked confused.

“Is it a vampire’s house?” Amy asked.

“Or is it a devil’s house?” Anna followed after.

“Errr...” If they were on Earth, both could be considered as haunted houses, but in this world, they were not scary enough. After all, they could always see vampires walking around upside down on the roofs when they were walking on the streets of Chaos City in normal times.

As for vampires, Mag was reminded of the vampire countess that he had bound up with the tortoise-shell technique. He no longer feared vampires anymore.

“They are both not. A haunted house is a house that makes one feel scared. It is a house that people scream in fear when they enter.” Mag described it after some thought.

Amy raised her hand and said, “I know. It is a house where the monsters lived in the legends. There will be many brave men going there to challenge them. Teacher Luna told us this kind of story before.”

“But, which one of us looks like a monster?” Anna looked at Mag and then looked at Amy before looking down at herself finally. They didn’t look scary at all.

“Oh yes! Big Sister Gina!” Amy said as her eyes lit up. “If she changed into her mermaid form, which nobody had seen before, and if she put on some weird clothing, she would be very scary.”

“This is a good idea.” Mag nodded. They could see all kinds of weird species in Chaos City, but merfolk were indeed a rare species. Gina could even be the only one on the whole continent now. Her sudden appearance at midnight, coupled with some light effects... Her scary index should be rather high.

“System, can you lend me a haunted house backdrop? One I could use instantly. I will return you after one night,” Mag said in his heart.

“Host, this system is an authentic God of Cookery Cultivation System! Please do not call on me to entertain this kind of issue that is beyond my business scope!” the system said righteously.

“Why is this an issue beyond your business scope? System, this is exactly part of your business scope. Think about it. If I want to become a God of Cookery that everyone looks up to, that means I will have to accept challenges from all the chefs in the world. If my psychological bearing capability wasn’t strong enough and I got depressed and committed suicide after I am badmouthed, wouldn’t you fail to complete your mission?” Mag said with a serious expression. “A haunted house is a form of edutainment that can train a person’s psychological bearing capability. Don’t you think the potential God of Cookery candidate should have a go at it?”

“If you say so...”

“What I have said makes perfect sense. Moreover, I will only borrow it for one night, and I will pack it up by tomorrow morning. It will not affect the restaurant’s business at all. You can decide what design will suit the horror tastes of this world. If some high-end special effects could be added, it would be the best. We will use the three thieves out there as our lab rats,” Mag continued for the system.

“This...” The system was still a little hesitant.

“Let’s agree on this. I will pay 100 copper coins as a deposit first. I don’t need you to return this deposit even if I am not satisfied with the effects later. I will take it as my loss.”

“Deal!

“Ding! 100 copper coins have been successfully deducted! The haunted house is in the midst of designing. The template of the haunted house will be ready in one minute!”

“Oh, yes. We can add Gina in as an element,” Mag reminded with a smile on his lips. The system was as stupid as before.

Mag knocked on Gina’s room door. The door was only opened after some time. Gina was pressing the two seashells onto her bosoms. She opened her blurry eyes to peer at Mag as she puzzledly asked, “Mr. Mag?”

Mag glanced at the two shells that Gina was holding onto with her hands and the wet fish tail. His eyebrows rose up.

Shocking!

A mermaid would sleep in the nude too?!

“Wow. Big Sister Gina is not wearing any clothes?” Amy, who poked her head out from behind Mag, said in shock as she stared at the seashells in Gina’s hands.

“Is this really fine?” Anna, who poked her head out, asked with worry.

Gina became clear-headed instantly when she saw the two little ones. She blushed and swiftly shut the room’s door. She only reopened it after some time, and she had already changed into the school swimsuit.

“Gina, we need your help.” Mag gestured to Gina.

The way Gina looked now wasn’t much better than how she looked when she was holding onto the two seashells.

The school swimsuit is simply the best!

“Help?” Gina was confused.

“It is like this.” Mag brought Gina to the window to see the three thieves below. Then, he took out a pen and paper, and started setting up his battle plan.