

TECHNOLOGY 1021

Chapter 1021 - Brotherhood!

"Help me! Help me! They forced me into joining this temple. I'm innocent!"

" "

Yara and the rest froze for a bit when they saw 4 dragias kneeling before them.

And just when they were about to make heads or tails of what was going on, a few sneaky bastards at the side of the door with their hands raised up, quickly lowered their swords, hoping to strike Yara's head.

She rolled her eyes heavenwards and swiftly stepped out of the room, away from the door, missing their attack by a few inches.

~Swish

A whistling sound echoed out when the swords sliced through the air.

The dragias welding them had used their entire strengths to land that attack.

So the swords ended up getting stuck on the ground.

Yara, who was holding up 2 guns, hastily shot her targets brutally before calmly walking over the tilted swords stuck on the floor, running straight into the room like crazy.

~Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!~~

"Ahhhhhh! To think a mere woman would be able to put me down!"

"I don't accept this! I don't accept this!"

I am a mighty dragia! Why does a wan have to be my downfall?"

"Dragmus won't let you go for your sins!"

~Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!~~

"Ahhhhhhhh!!!"

Yara watched them fall and felt it ridiculous.

The number of times she had heard enemies talk about their shame of being killed by a woman was so many that she pondered whether to start charging them for it or not

Ignorance was indeed a sin.

Honestly, if they saw the potential in women, they might have succeeded in becoming more invincible in this world.

Lowering one's guard because they were a female was the most idiotic thing anyone could do.

To her, both men and women were dangerous.

So looking down on any group would lead to failure.

"Oh?"

Yara once again rolled her eyes and wished she had brought her wedding ring to the battlefield.

Idiot.

She was already married, alright?

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~Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!~

Like flies, the enemies dropped to the ground before they even had a chance to retaliate.

Presently, Yara was still standing a few inches in front of the door.

And standing on her left and right were 6 others who came in the room to assist her: 3 squatting and 3 standing.

Within the darkroom, all that the enemies could see were flashy lights shooting out of the guns, flowed by the thunderous sounds of bullets raining on them.

They screamed in agony and terror each time they got hit.

With their thermal vision goggles on, Yara and the rest could see everything... Even those hiding behind the barrels and trash.

Some also tried climbing the creaking wooden ceilings but were shot mercilessly too.

Funny enough, at this time of desperation, some managed to destroy the door leading down the ship.

What a joke!

When one's life was flashing before their very eyes, they would be able to even pass through the eye of a needle.

Talk less of destroying the door.

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40% of the door shattered into pieces and stopped to the ground, leaving only the hinged part of the door still attached to the walls.

All that was left was for one of them to send their head in saying : [Here's Johnny!]

But of course, they were the prey in this case and not the hunters.

So the situation was flipped.

In a flash, those at the back started forcing themselves through without a care.

"Move! Move! Get out of the way for me!!!"

They forced themselves through, tearing their flesh against the broken wooden parts still attached to the wall.

Of course, those who were on the other side this whole time were more terrified seeing limping zombie-like men coming their way.

They tumbled down the stairs painfully until they got to the floor just beneath the deck.

But the stairways heading towards the lower floors were once again blocked off and those below them.

Dammit!

Who did they offend in their past lives?

Seeing that they are running out of time, they decided to try their luck by finding a room on the floor to hide in.

Sadly, no matter what door they tried opening, it just wouldn't budge.

There were already people in the hallway who were also locked out as well.

So what chance did they have?

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~Oooooooooo

They had no tears but wanted to cry.

They anxiously joined those in the hallway, banging on the doors like frightened kittens.

~Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!~~

"Please. Please. Let us in!

The enemy isn't here yet. So help a brother in need."

"You bastards! Didn't we swear an oath always to help fellow dragias out?

What happened to our brotherhood? What about our promises?"

"Look! If you let me in, I promise to donate all my wealth to you all once we flee from here."

"F***! You motherf***ers better on up or else if I survive, I will hunt every one of you till you for!"

"I'll report this matter to his excellency in person if you don't open up!"

"Even if I become a ghost, I will remember this betrayal! Dragmus will avenge me!"

"You scoundrels, let us in! Let us in now!!!"

~Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!~~

(:TOT:)

....

What was terror?

This was terror!

Everyone was sweating buckets along this dark hallway while silently praying to Dragmus in their hearts.

They wanted revenge. And they wanted to stand up and fight.

But against such an enemy, was it even possible?

Could it be that Dragmus had offended some other God in the heavens?

Chapter 1022 - Protection

F***!

What do they do now?

Everyone felt a wave of fear slowly inched its way into their hearts.

And coupled with the darkness all around them, they felt genuinely helpless.

Whether it was day or night, the hallways always remained dark unless one moved with a flaming torch by them.

Of course, there were always unlit touches against the walls that typically got lit once in a while.

But since the entire ship was made of wood, no one played like that.

If the ship burned, they all drowned. That's why torches were only lit when need be.

Plus, the eye patches help them adjust from day to night when they move in and out, back and forth the deck.

Be it pirates or even merchants, they all covered one eye with a black scarf or eye patch from time to time.

This way, the light and changes don't just blind them all at once... Especially when running out to face an enemy.

Soon, it wasn't long until they heard loud footsteps calmly walking down.

Mommy?

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Everyone tightened their grip on their swords while waiting for the enemy to show up.

There was no greater fear than knowing you're going to die but feeling helpless and weak with no way to stop it.

There was no way to be completely silent on these sorts of floors.

It creaked too damn loud.

Even the walls creaked when one touched them.

Yara took in a large whiff of air and slowly breathed out before gesturing for a few marines to step closer.

It was completely dark now, so the enemies shouldn't be able to see them.

Nonetheless, in a wave of panic, the enemies might try shooting their swords or weapons towards them in fright.

So the first thing they needed to do was momentarily affect their enemies.

Previously when fighting in that tiny room, the enemies didn't even have time or the chance to do so.

But now, along this long hallway, it shouldn't be a stretch for them.

Because the dragnias felt as if their ears were about to explode, before finally getting deaf momentarily.

Not to talk of the fact that they were rendered blind and confused while feeling a loss of combination and balance, wobbling around with no thoughts in their minds.

Honestly, they forgot what it was they were doing and briefly took on the role of mindless zombies.

Good.

Without wasting any time, Yara and her team swooped in, shooting them down in the head.

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~Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!~~

Plop.

It didn't take long for the entire hallway to be swept clean.

Wasn't that the sound of thunder coming from the hallway?

The scariest thing was that even though they heard people drop to the ground, they didn't hear the screams.

So what happened?

Of course within some of the rooms, people didn't waste any time bursting through the floor and jumping down onto the floors below.

Some created holes on the walls, making windows.

With the formation very tight.

They tried their best to jump onto the next sh.i.p.s and stab their daggers into the wooden walls, hoping to climb up onto the decks and flee.

Now, everyone wanted to dash towards the sh.i.p.s at the central regions of the formation.

Some even wanted to get aboard the sh.i.p.s belonging to the Primates.

Each cabin or room had people thinking in their own ways.

Okay?...

Yara didn't know how to feel seeing this.

Were they so scary?

Just surrendering will keep these people alive.

So why go through all this?

She even saw someone who had accidentally fallen into the water below.

Sigh...

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They ended swiftly killing all enemies on the sh.i.p.s, with none willing to surrender... Especially when they realized that it was a woman who was leading the group.

Some felt that it was too humiliating and demeaning.

So they preferred death.

Yara quickly contacted Ruby and her rescue team, who were now waiting on the deck.

And just like that, they broke the chained slaves, found a few enemies amongst them and took them out too.

Yara and her team just cleared the first floor below the deck and left Ruby's team to deal with the other floors and free the prisoners.

From there, Yara and her gang jumped onto the next ship, ready for action yet again.

The heavy machine guns on the battlesh.i.p.s stopped firing, and now, many of the Navy officers stayed aboard the battlesh.i.p.s assisting the slaves and ensuring that the enemy remained trapped.

At the same time, other Marine Companies still aboard the towering battlesh.i.p.s acted as snipers, as they did their best to take down those on the 3rd and 4th inner lines of defence.

~Peeup! Peeup! Peeup! ~

The enemies within these inner lines started dropping to the ground silently, confusing the other dragias when they saw no arrows on the fallen.

Soon, a few realized the matter and almost peed themselves.

Wasn't this too supernatural?

"Run! Run! They have sorcerers with them!"

"Run! They have mysterious beasts with them!"

"Everyone, head below deck! These creatures can only kill us if we are under the sun!"

"Screw this! I'm heading towards the center for protection!"

"Yes! If we stay close to the Primates, then we should be safe! They are the most blessed people amongst us. So Dragmus will descend and create a miracle once we stay with them!"

(°Δ°)

...

The entire place went crazy, as some either ran towards the lower decks or continuously leaped towards the 8th inner line, which was the center.

Jimosen and Linvor looked at the scene before them in a daze.

Why?

Why was this happening?

Were they going to stay here and await death?

No!

They had to come up with something, and fast!

Chapter 1023 - Leaving!

Looking at the chaos around them, Jimosen and Linvors' eyes were blood red in rage.

There was no way that they as dignified Primates would go down like this.

They looked around and quickly seized the megaphones that had dropped on the floor earlier on.

"Everyone! Stay calm!

These bastards haven't tasted our full power yet.

So far, we planned to use everything we've got when we get to Baymard.

But now, that can wait!

Quickly! Bring out all the Black powder and fire away to any who dare get close!"

"Yes, Primates!"

Thinking of the black powder that had just been sitting there, the men suddenly felt very courageous.

That's right!

But matters were very urgent now.

So that could wait

Very quickly, word went fast, spreading towards the 5th inner line.

And just like that, everyone had barrels and barrels of black powder ready for use.

And when they needed black powder, they would open up a cork-hole at the side.

At least this was how they got rum and other things out of the barrels.

Unbeknownst to them, their move of placing rows and rows of black powder on the deck had somewhat saved them.

The Baymardians were scared that any wrong move and these sh.i.p.s could blow up, sinking thousands of chained-up slaves who would drown helplessly alongside the vessels with no way out.

With the heavy chains on their feet and hands, forget it... They would be headed down into the deep waters.

It looks like it was time for Operation C to commence.

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Seeing the Baymardians somewhat hesitant, the dragias who brought out the black powder were more confident than ever.

"Hahahhahahahah!"

It looks like we scared them now."

"Damn. It feels good to put these bastards in their place."

"Hell! Why didn't we do this earlier?"

"Hahahahaha! I knew that the Primates would always find a way. With them, we are sure to have Dragmus by our side."

"If we didn't panic earlier, I think we should've already been fine. In the end, it was our fault for getting scared and almost losing faith in Dragmus."

"Yes. That's right! That must be the case.

Dragmus was probably angry with us when he saw how frightened and weak we became

But now, it's impossible for us to lose."

"Heh. Stupid Baymardians! What are you scared of? Do you think your beasts will be able to survive against black powder? You better flee before we decide to get serious with you all."

"That's right. Flee and give us way, or else you'll regret it!"

"Look! Those Baymardians who have gotten on the sh.i.p.s in line 4, are now hiding away in fear of our arrows. Heavens! This black powder is really blessed and sacrificed by Dragmus just as the Primates had said."

"Hmhm. After this, I'll be sure to offer more tributes to Dragmus back in the teme. But first, we have to teach these bastards a lesson before we leave."

"Of course! This is the will of Dragmus!"

(^_^)

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Nonetheless, they still knew that the most important thing right now is to use this to their advantage and clear a path for themselves fast!

Linvor massaged his chin and passed on another message to the rest.

At that point, it didn't take too long before the sh.i.p.s from the 5th to 8th line (center) started moving like a new unit, with the slaves paddling away.

And on their decks, the dragias smirked painfully while continuously pointing their arrows at the Baymardians.

"What! What are you looking at?"

Heh. That's what I thought!

You just keep doing you, and we'll keep doing us."

" "

The dragias badly shouted back to those on the 4th line, as if they were bullies.

This shove was already reckless because they started puncturing and letting in water into the sh.i.p.s.

But they were ready to sacrifice these 3 sh.i.p.s to get the result they wanted, riding and creating a clear path for those behind them.

And once they had cleared enough, they would ensure that the damaged sh.i.p.s stayed on the sides of the cleared space, before jumping onto the other sh.i.p.s behind them.

As for the chained-up slaves, what did it have to do with them?

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Seeing the Baymardians giving them face and allowing them to do what they wanted, Linvor and Jimosen couldn't help smiling broadly.

Even though they lost, at least Dragmus still accompanied them.

At least, they were alive and would soon get their revenge!

No one could've foreseen that these Baymardians would have such magical creatures with them that could do this much damage.

That's why they had to report this matter to his excellency fast before the pirates discovered this secret.

Dragmus had probably let them lose so as to fully grasp the capabilities of these creatures locked within these Baymardians sh.i.p.s.

Once they got back, it was best for them to collect as many Baymardians fairytale books about the myths and legends, to understand just what they were dealing with.

Was the creature blind and only s.e.n.s.i.t.i.v.e to sound?

Did the creature like eating flesh? Or just liked seaweeds?

They had to get the answers.

Maybe this was the miracle they were waiting for.

With this sort of news, they were very unlikely to get demoted.

So they didn't worry much about their position.

His excellency might even reward them instead.

He would look at them like heroes and send them back for revenge.

And by then, they would teach these good-for-nothing Baymardians what happens when one crosses the Temple!

Chapter 1024 - Ghosts!

~Bam!!!!

"Ahhhh!!!"

The 3 front-line sh.i.p.s pushed the already infiltrated dragia sh.i.p.s forcefully.

And the more they created space, the more damage their sh.i.p.s underwent.

Sadly, the slaves below thought that once they escaped from here, the dragias would also take them along before the ship sank.

But little did they know that the door heading up and out of the bottom floor was completely sealed.

To the dragias, they hoped to buy more time by sealing the door and preventing water from flooding in and up.

It wasn't until the water reached bench-level, did they feel real fear.

Some even saw fish in the water too, making them drop the paddles and start screaming.

"Ahhhhhhhhh. We're trapped here! We're really trapped! I knew those bastards would care about us. They told us to paddle away, promising to rescue us. But it was all a lie!"

"What do we do? What do we do now? Dammit! I regretted ever borrowing money from this evil Temple!"

"Me too! My mother was so ill that she was almost on death's door. I tried everything in order to make her better. Then one day, a doctor came by and said they'll be able to help her if I pay 4,000 copper coins. He also said that he knew one very kind temple that could loan the money out. I did as he said, borrowed and paid him. As promised, he even cured my mother. Or at least that's what I thought. She seemed better but died only after 2 months. I couldn't pay the heavy debt and was taken in as a slave. It's only after that I learned that the good doctor was the one who poisoned her in the first place. I hate this temple and their evil ways!"

"Every slave here has suffered in their hands. My sister is also somewhere on one of their bases. I don't even know if she died or not. I haven't seen her in 7 years. My father sold us to these bastards all for enough money to be with his mistress! From what I know, my sister was used for baby-making to produce more Dragias. Just thinking that all my nephews and nieces were now born as dragias is one of my biggest regrets! I really regret it! I should've killed that bastard father of mine when I had the chance! Now, he's probably enjoying his life with his mistress while my sister and I suffer."

"Crying won't solve the issue now! We have to flee before it's too late. I can't die without having revenge!"

"But how can we flee without these chains on us?"

What do we do?"

(:ToT:)

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Everyone looked around anxious, as their eyes were filled with sorrow and unwillingness.

They all had a story filled with endless regrets and wanted nothing more than to avenge themselves.

But looking at it now, was that even possible?

Some thought of pulling their limbs from the chains and even cutting them off if possible.

So if they did that, then wouldn't they be crippled all over with no feet or hands?

Some had already given up and sat still on their paddling benches, waiting for death to take them.

Then suddenly, they saw something that spooked them silly.

With the reflected sunlight through the small gaps around the paddling holes, this floor wasn't as dark as the other floors.

A fraction of sunlight shone inside, giving them some view of things.

So of course, the moment they saw the scene before them, they all leaned towards the walls in height as if wanting to blend with the wood.

First, they saw several big bowl-like glass heads submerge slowly from the water.

And then, the bowl-heads grew into tall sticks.

"Monster! Ghost! Monster!"

It's the underwater Ghost monster of the fallen pirates!

The legends are true!!"

(+°0°+)

Everyone trembled and freaked out, as if they had ever seen such a thing in their lives.

No matter who it was, experiencing such a thing would put the fear of the dead in them.

No one. Not even those back on earth would sit still and watch something they had never seen before without fright.

Soon, these strange beings approached them swiftly.

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"Help! Help! We're about to get eaten!"

"You... You don't want me! My meat tastes like sh**t. Look, it's true! I... I... I don't want to die!"

"Help! Help! You damn dragias need to get us out of here! We are about to become ghosts!"

"Help! Help! Help! Help!!!!!"

(:•Δ•:)

At this moment, even those who had accepted death earlier on couldn't accept this.

Dying by drowning or getting eaten by fish was fine and good.

But why then did they have to be eaten by strange supernatural creatures that lived underwater?

This was too cruel, right?

The slaves watched these people approach them quickly, making them pee in fright.

But when they thought these strange creatures would attack them, they soon heard the sounds of chains breaking, leaving them in confusion.

~Ping!!!~

But why?

Instantly, they then saw a few of the glass heads light up and glow, revealing several heads inside.

Oh, no!

Were these creatures severing and collecting heads?

Everyone panicked even more.

It wasn't until these heads spoke that they calmed down.

Earlier on, the Baymardians didn't say anything or made their underwater helmets visible because they weren't sure if the enemies were still checking in on the slaves or not.

They didn't want to alert the enemy, at least until the other slaves in the other sinking sh.i.p.s were rescued.

The slaves were so happy that they broke into even more tears.

In a way, they were somewhat pleased that they got chosen to come here with the dragias.

They couldn't help feeling bad for the other slaves trapped and locked away in the many dragia bases.

They gained their freedom, but what about others?

"Everyone, quick! We have to leave fast!

Take very deep breaths, hold on tight to this role and pull yourself downwards.

We have boats directly under this ship.

So head downwards!"

Everyone did as they were told and saw at least 50 round vessels under the water.

This... this was too crazy!

I'm afraid that if they ever told anyone this, no one would believe it and think they were crazy.

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Just like that, they were saved in the nick of time.

At the same time, some underwater teams began infiltrating the other sh.i.p.s.

This battle was going on for too long.

They had to end it fast and carefully.

Chapter 1025 - Petty Distractions

"Hahahhahahah! I told you.

They should be scared silly now!"

"Hmmm.

In this way, we can finally get out of here.

It's just that something doesn't feel right.

I still have this uncomfortable feeling in my heart."

"Well, it's normal for them to still think of a way to take us down.

So of course you'd feel like that.

Provided we still have the black powder with us, they won't be able to do much.

Trust me. When have I ever been wrong?"

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Both Primates spoke calmly while still vigilantly keeping their eyes on their surroundings.

Presented, they were halfway out of the formation as their sh.i.p.s sailed through the paths created for them.

They who were at the center, had to move past the already infiltrated perimeters of the formation.

One could imagine their formation as an 8-layer ring... With the 8th layer being the innermost layer.

Presently, those on the 5th to 8th had created a straight path, with everyone trying to flee from there.

And, as they fled, the Baymardians on the 1st to 4th line infiltrated Dragia sh.i.p.s, watching them leave carefully... Or at least that's what the Primates and the rest thought.

While some of the Marines distracted them by gritting their teeth and pointing their weapons at them viciously, other Marines slowly submerged from the water and began combing the dragia sh.i.p.s.

They dared not climb any centre sh.i.p.s for fear of being discovered.

With the Navy watching everything, they repeatedly got instructions on where to go.

And coupled with the marines on the other enemy sh.i.p.s who controlled and distracted, no dragias were looking down.

They hadn't seen any Baymardians jump in and swim towards them.

So how could that be possible?

"Damn you, Dragia sc.u.m!

How is this fair?

You come over here, bully us and what to leave?

If you have the guts, stay where you are!!"

"How did you all get so much black powder?

Why did you all bring so much here?"

"It's not fair! Are we just going to watch them leave?"

"Sigh... What else can we do?

Can't you see that they have such godly weapons with them?"

"Why do they always want to bully our poor empire?

What did we ever do to them?!"

"Dammit! Now that I look at them, they seem very terrifying.

And coupled with their weapons and strength, how are we supposed to win?

Could it be that their God truly is powerful?"

The marines continued to act weak and gritted their teeth unwillingly, making the Dragias even more confident in their escape.

Some marines even acted vulgar as if they couldn't take this blow.

"Hahahhahahaha!

I knew it! Even with their big sh.i.p.s, they are nothing more than that.

Those sh.i.p.s are only big for the purpose of transportation.

So we have nothing to fear!"

"Just look at them? Truly rubbish!

Now, I don't even know why we were terrified in the first place."

"Right!

It even looks like they don't dare release those beasts anymore."

"Heh. With the amount of black powder we have, those mysterious creatures would be blown away in a heartbeat."

"That's right! Dragmus is always with us. So what do we have to fear?"

(^_^)

As usual, the Dragias were at it again, praying Dragmus for his protection.

They had given their full attention to the Baymardians currently pointing those black sticks called tasers at them.

They dared not take their eyes off these people, or else they could end up miserable without knowing it.

But they failed to notice that just below them, several Baymardians were climbing up from the corners of their sh.i.p.s.

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Down below at the front of the enemy ship leading the formation away, Jishi, who was on his first mission, couldn't help trembling while climbing upwards.

'I can do this... I can do this... I can do this...'

Jishi continuously gave himself pep talks while slowly advancing behind a few veterans.

The gang climbed up amidst the crazy commotion made by their comrades.

And soon, they were almost at the top.

They instantly froze, waiting for the signal.

Meanwhile, a few hidden marines on the enemy sh.i.p.s quickly communicated a few words to the Navy.

And when all climbers had been reported to have reached certain positions, all battlesh.i.p.s fired pink smoke bombs high in the sky at once.

~Pfff!

Eh?

What was all this?

The dragias subconsciously looked up at the pink smoke in confusion and anxiousness.

And in these split seconds of confusion, the marines on the sidelines calmly shot at these dragias.

"It was a trap! It was a trap. Take cover!!"

The moment the dragias at the edge of the sh.i.p.s backed away, the climbers revealed themselves and got onto the decks.

What?!!!

The dragias looked at these people like ghosts.

When did they get here?

Dammit!

They had been fooled!

"Kill them! Kill these sons of b**ches!"

~Peeup! Peeup! Peeup!~

"Ahhhhhhhhh!"

The climbers used their silencers to do the job, killing quietly.

In the meantime, those who were just previously watching from the sidelines all jumped in, joining the action.

And because the situation was urgent, they started throwing the barrels of black powder onto the waters.

~Plop. Plop. Plop.~

In they went.

These things were just time bombs waiting to go off.

So they had to diffuse the issue fast!

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Jishi joined the veterans, carefully taking his time and making his first kills.

But when he finally got to the last level where the slaves were, he was met with a very tricky situation.

The veterans, although taking the matter seriously, stepped back a bit, giving him a few other rookies the opportunity to handle the matter.

Of course, the veterans were already coming out with countermeasures and would never let things go wrong.

Jishi's hands trembled slightly as sweat quickly filled his palms.

What should he do now?

He gritted his teeth and coldly looked at the enemies before him.

"Let go of the hostages now!"

Chapter 1026 - End Of Battle - Part 1

Within the last floor below deck, several streaming dragias held knives against the necks of some slaves calmly.

Earlier on, they had noticed that these Baymardians didn't seem to have any interest in killing the slaves, so they wanted to use these bastards as bargaining ch.i.p.s for their lives.

Provided they could leave, they didn't care who died.

The hostages were so frightened and shaken that they started shouting and begging frantically.

"Don't kill me!"

"Don't kill me!"

"Help! Help!"

"I...I don't want to die. Save me!"

Their shrivelled screams of fear made Joshi shake even more.

This was the first time he felt the real weight of someone's life in his hands.

If... If he made a mistake, wouldn't they die?

Seeing that these Baymardians weren't doing anything, a grim-faced Dragia quickly lashed out angrily: "Hurry up and let us go or else this guy will be dead meat! I mean it! If you don't let me go, then I give him here and end it all. We want to set off now! So prepare us a boat and let us out of here honestly!"

"Yeah! You do as we say, and there won't be any problems. And while we're at it, we don't like being threatened. So drop your weapons!"

Jishi and a few others dropped their weapons on the ground calmly and stood with their hands up defenselessly.

"Alright. We've dropped everything, so let's act civilized and talk everything through.

Just release the prisoners and chat properly, okay?"

The lead dragia scoffed in disdain: "Pui! You expect me to believe that you all won't try tricking us? You slippery Baymardians are not to be trusted. How are we sure that you won't try stabbing us after we let go of the hostages? What do you think we are? Stupid?"

(*^*)

A few of the veteran marines almost rolled their eyes at them.

At times, some criminals who got scared ended up doing as they said in confusion.

So there was nothing wrong with trying their luck while negotiating peacefully.

And the moment he heard the English word/signal given slipped in one of the conversions, he knew it was time.

He started talking animatedly, with his hands moving around a lot, calling everyone's attention to himself.

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On the ground, a few veterans were carefully pointing at the enemies silently.

Earlier on, the moment they came in and witnessed the hostage situation, the veterans at the very back had quickly backed away, as if heading up the stairs.

But rather than going towards the deck, they only dropped to the ground and crawled at the sides, trying to blend in with the frightened slaves seated on several benches, leaning at the sides.

Some slaves did see them and even aided in hiding them.

The moment the marines came in saying they were indeed the Baymardians, the slaves were filled with hope.

Those on the grounds quickly hid behind the bodies of many while pointing their pistols towards the skulls of these dragias.

Of course, the dragias were still fully focused on their conversation with Jishi, who talked in a calm but overly animated way.

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"That's right! We want a boat! And we want it now."

"No! We have to take something bigger!

We want one of your sh.i.p.s and the beasts inside!

That's the fastest way we can get out of here without you all double-crossing us!"

"Well, come on... Run over and tell your people that we want a ship now!

You tell them..."

~Peeup! Peeup! Peeup!~~

The dragias had no time to react when they suddenly felt a frightening pain bore into their heads.

Their eyes opened wide in shock and panic as they struggled to fight back.

How?

How did it become like this?

Weren't they the ones with the weapons?

It was really true what they said about death.

Time seemed to move too slow, as everything froze in place.

They didn't know if it was an exaggeration or not, but they saw everything in slow motion and could even feel death's breath against their bodies.

Cold.

It was like falling down an endless dark well, as the only source of light grew smaller and smaller.

And no matter how they struggled to climb out, they just kept falling in fear.

~Bam!!!

Their bodies dropped hard on the floor, and the slaves started crying and exclaiming gleefully in tears.

They looked at the Jishi and the rest bowed their heads and thanked them heartedly.

This... So this was the feeling of successfully saving people?

Jishi's heart was filled with honey and out for these slaves.

And as he broke the chains binding them, the slaves once again thanked him warmly.

The way they handled today's matter made a few veterans look at the rookies in satisfaction.

"You all did well. I'll be sure to award merit points when we get back."

"Thank you, sir!"

"Heh. Don't thank me yet.

We still have a battle to finish. And the most important thing is to keep your lives in check.

Now, let's go!

I just got word that there are only 3 more sh.i.p.s to attack."

.

Linvor, Jimosen and their most trusted men, rushed towards their chambers in disbelief at the scene before them.

What do they do now?

They thought they had a chance.

But it seems that all of this was just their wishful thinking.

The enemy will be here any moment now, and they had no thoughts of dying without warning his excellency.

Jimosen paced back and forth with his hands on his head frantically: "Old friend. You're usually smarter than me. So don't you have a plan yet? Think! What would Dragmus do?"

"Sh! I'm thinking! I'm thinking!"

Dammit! I don't see how we can slip out of here without them noticing us.

I don't see it!... I...."

Linvor paused the moment he spotted a few rum barrels.

That's it!

Jimosen followed his eyes in confusion.

"Old friend. You want us to drink rum?"

"No fool! The barrels are our rides!"

Chapter 1027 - End Of Battle - Part 2

Time passed by very swiftly, with Yara, Ruby and their teams disposing of the dragias.

In this battle, only about 2% of them surrendered.

The rest preferred to die and reunited with Dragmus.

Of course, those who did surrender, did so thinking that his excellency would rescue them.

They might've lost this battle, but with how powerful their temple was, it was impossible for Baymard to win against them.

Today's defeat was only because these Baymardians had been hiding their strength all along.

Coupled with the mysterious beasts around, they felt that losing was indeed somewhat expected.

In thinking that, their egos weren't all that hurt.

At least, even if they were captured, they could also gather information for his excellency while staying here.

They didn't believe that they, who were trained and skilled from birth, would lose to this newly established empire filled with former slaves.

Of course, all dragias didn't know who their mothers were.

They just knew that there were women kept in a massive estate that birthed dragias out like crazy.

And when a dragia was born, they would be taken to several other estates with different caretakers who did their chores for them, while they trained and got educated with dragia men who brainwashed them.

Again, when they turned 13, they were officially allowed to enter the bases or do undercover missions.

From birth, they only knew that Dragmus was their almighty.

Well, their situation was indeed not their fault as that's just the way they had been brought up.

They didn't know how else to live and thought the rest of the world were either sinners, idiots and lower species who needed to be brought to death since they weren't Dragmus followers.

Again, when a kidnapped woman reached 26~30 (menopause in this era) or was already at that age, the woman wouldn't be a baby-making factory.

She would be taken to one of the caregiver estates and would never be allowed to leave the estate till the day she died.

These women were strictly watched, as there were guards everywhere in every room, even watching them sleep.

They had no room to say or plot their escape.

Some did try but died the moment the words were uttered out of their mouths.

The hidden guards always acted quick.

Of course while in these estates, just to be sure that these women couldn't get pregnant anymore, their w.o.m.bs would be made barren from the potions they drank.

For sure, these dragia children also used them for p.l.e.a.s.u.r.e.

They would all gather in one room and do all sorts of crazy things to these women.

They were taught to always suppress them even when intimate by beating them up and showing their best strength.

So why bother about the dead ones?

Of course, by the time these women reached 40, 98% were killed by these dragia children, while the rest were allowed to live and train any new caregivers.

That was the circle of life for these women.

From the age of 4, all dragias made their first kill.

They also tortured and learned all sorts of pain-inflicting techniques too.

At times, they would let these women run wild and begin hunting them for sports.

Even if these women wanted to retaliate, it would be impossible since hidden guards watched vigilantly and would take care of them fast.

In short, the whole thing was one big mess.

They knelt and surrendered, thinking that they would still have a chance to properly serve Dragmus in the fixture by entering the enemy's den and sabotaging things while collecting info.

"We surrender for Dragmus!"

"We surrender for Dragmus!"

"We surrender for Dragmus!"

[Marines]:... Okay?

The marines who were buffing them up and disarming them, had black lines on their faces.

They couldn't help rolling their eyes speechlessly.

Was it too much to just admit defeat honestly?

They made it sound like they had lost due to some fluke or something.

Yara frowned while looking at the marines approaching them.

"Found them?"

"No, General. Their leaders are still missing."

"Cleaning crew is on their way. In the meantime, we'll keep looking for them.

There's nowhere else they can go. So they should still be hiding somewhere on board."

"Yes, General!"

With that, Yara and her team searched the entire place clean.

Where could they be?

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~Shwah! Shwah! Shwah!~

Floating below the sh.i.p.s were a few massive barrels, moving to the rhythm of the waves.

Some of the barrels were filled with black powder, while others seemed to be filled with something else.

Unlike the rest, Linvor and a few of his men had heard and seen these things from a few pirates who tried to escape his grasp.

Barrels naturally floated. But there was a technique one had to use to steer within and flee.

So earlier on, he quickly informed Jimosen and a few on what they should do before entering barrels and making some of their men 'accidentally' knock them overboard.

The deck was filled with rows and rocks of black powdered filled barrels.

So in the heat of panic and chaos, they could 'accidentally' push a few down, no?

Those who sacrificed to let them escape, quickly rallied a few more to surrender.

There was a flame of hope in their hearts that the other dragias would come for them.

Presently, the rainy Fall season was coming to an end, and at this time, the water waves were harsh.

So all the barrels were quickly floating away.

Many times, people would try to grab what was next to next.

After all, it was impossible for paddling sh.i.p.s to swim in all directions to gather everything... especially in this sort of windy violent weather.

And after this battle, they figured that the Baymardians would try to leave here as fast as possible so as not to get any more attention for fear that Dragia backup might be close by.

That's why they assumed that the Baymardians would let these Barrels wander off.

Looking at how far they went, they couldn't help smiling within their barrels.

Now, they were free!

Chapter 1028 - Finally Over!- Who?

Damn, it was cold in here!

Linvor shivered a bit and gritted his teeth after rolling and spinning around like a hamster on a wheel.

Of course, the barrel wasn't that spacious for his burly figure, but at least it wasn't tight, seeing that he could adjust his hands and legs when he wanted.

He only prayed that some creature I wouldn't put on the surface and swallowed him whole.

Well, there were too many barrels floating around.

So it shouldn't be his that got targeted, right?

Tiny streaks of water did come in, but it wasn't that much and wouldn't do any much damage or make him sink.

After all, these barrels were capable of holding liquor for years. So he was safe.

And coupled with the cold water temperature of the sea hitting the outer surface of the barrel, he was gradually losing heat and getting cold instead.

Fortunately, he did enter here with what looked like a little blanket

Even if it got wet later on, it wouldn't be that bad.

He had also taken a few chocolate bars and 2 small water bottles that the spies had brought from Baymard earlier on.

The spies had brought all these things, coupled with newspapers and many other goods, for them to analyze Baymard's capabilities.

He didn't know how long he would drift away, so he took a few just in case.

.

~Drrrrr~~~

They rolled away for quite a bit, before balancing and positioning his barrel in a way that the cork area at the side was slightly above water, facing the fading sh.i.p.s.

Thanks to the winds, water waves, and his rolling movements, he got very far from all the commotion.

Now, he and a few others could communicate if need be.

They had been carefully rolling away, making sure that they were somewhat close to each other.

Of course, there was no guarantee that they would be close to one another.

But before they got dropped into the water, they first decided where they were going, which was one of the Arcadian coastal villages.

"Jimosen! Jimosen!"

"Linvor! Linvor!"

"Primates!"

"Hahaha! We're here!"

"Linvor! You should be ahead of me. So do you see my eyes now?"

I've positioned my while to face your barrel. If that's you, then blink."

(^v^)

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The gang were genuinely excited to have somehow escaped using Linvor's crazy idea

Who would've known that barrels could save the day?

Even though things were slow, it didn't matter.

If they could just get close to any nearby tourist sh.i.p.s, things would go faster.

It might take way longer for them to get back to shore, so running into a passing ship wouldn't be bad... Unless they were pirates.

They weren't afraid that anyone would take them in as slaves because the moment they got on land, with their experience, they should be able to deal with such things.

The Temple had spies in almost all regions.

So sending word or fleeing wouldn't be an issue.

Of course, all of this was if any sh.i.p.s did decide to take them away.

In the end, they might have to drift and roll for days trying to find the right wave that would push them towards the shores.

The sea waves moved in all sorts of directions.

So getting the right wave was the important part.

After that was done, they wouldn't need to spin like hamsters and let the waves do their thing.

Now that they were this far, it was impossible for the Baymardians to hear them.

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"Hahahahaha!

We did it! We actually did it!"

"That's right! Now, we just have to let his excellency know, and the rest will be history!"

"Heh. Who asked them to go against us, Dragias?"

From birth to now, I have never been more insulted in my life!"

"I think Dragmus allowed us to get defeated in order for us to get a clear picture of their strength.

This time, we'll be sure to pay them back in full!"

"Primates! When we get back, we must properly inform his excellency about those hidden creatures before the pirates or those Morgs get news of it."

"Yes! And after getting our revenge, we will throw these Baymardians into the belly of these creatures... Especially the woman I saw from a distance who calmly raised her middle finger at us.

Primates. I don't know what that meant, but I feel it was an insult. And we dragias can never be insulted by women. We are the suppressors and not the other way around!"

So, it was too insulting to have a woman stand as their equal.

They couldn't help feeling pity for the dragias who died at the hands of these women.

They were sure that if given the chance, those dragias would prefer to stab themselves than let such a thing happen.

Everyone shuddered at the thought of such a thing happening to them.

What a disdainful way to die.

"Alright. Even though it might look like we're safe, it's best for us to go further.

One can never be too sure."

"Right!"

With that, they looked at their surroundings one last time, did some estimates, and corked their barrel holes again before rolling away again.

Everything seemed peachy and fine, that is until after 6 minutes or so, they heard several loud sounds coming their way.

They tried steadying themselves yet again and leaked out their corks, only to see several Baymardian sh.i.p.s coming their way.

How could they be so unlucky?

(Y^Y)

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Landon, who was watching everything unfold, couldn't help chuckling up a bit.

Well, the battle was finally over.

With that, he went about his day as he usually would.

Well, in 2 more weeks, he would be leaving Pyno.

Now, he could breathe a bit.

But while Landon was now steady and relaxed, far away within the Pyno continent, some people were not so calm.

A young lady looked at a portrait calmly, with a playful smile on her face.

Seeing their lady's terrifying grin, the maids couldn't help stepping back a bit.

At the same time, they were more curious about the portrait than anything else.

Who was it?

Who was the young lady looking at?

Chapter 1029 - The Young Lady

--Madison Estate, Capital City, The entire of Deiferus--

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Within the very luxurious and colourful room, a young stunning 18-year-old girl looked at the portrait silently while listening to the maids calmly set her meal.

From a distance, everyone might seem like, and many might even think that the maids here loved their jobs, as they smiled while arranging everything neatly on a circular table close to the overly large balcony doors.

If it were summer, they would've set it up at the young lady's terrace outside and have her enjoy her meal alongside her plants on the balcony.

The 2-floor building they were currently in belonged to the young lady's mother, Countess Avery, the 2nd wife of Count Madison.

And as standard, each wife had their own courtyard, which had a 6-foot wall surrounding it, as well as a lovely pond, trees and flowers in them.

Of course, each wife's estate is spread far apart from each other, giving them a little privacy.

Within all noble estates, one would find courtyards arranged in this way.

Some with single floored large buildings, while others with moderately sized 2-floored ones.

The weather wasn't suitable for eating outside, so the maids arranged everything within the lady's enormous room.

Everything looked warm and fuzzy, that is until one carefully observed the stiff smiles on the faces of these maids.

Their hands trembled vigorously as they tried not to make eye contact with the lady.

The air was always tense around this famous 'delicate' lady loved by many in the Capital.

The lady kept staring at the portrait playfully before frowning and swiftly turning her head, facing one of the maids close by.

"Did you just look at it?"

The maid's body stood rooted in the spot in fear: "I...I... I..."

The young lady's scorching gaze pierced through her body, making her subconsciously step back in fear.

And coupled with the young lady's deep, stern invoice that showed no vestige of sympathy, the maid was utterly scared to the bone!

Her c.h.e.s.t grew tight the more she looked into the young lady's cold eyes.

Her breathing became heavy, with every heartbeat that funded louder and louder.

Why? Why did she have to look?

Her mother had always told her that her curious nature would get her in trouble.

But she always brushed it off.

Now, she had fallen into the lady's pit!

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The poor maid trembled vigorously as sweat quickly filled her back the more she fought about her lunacy.

On the other hand, the young lady, who still looked expressionless, calmly looked at her from head to toe before moving around her in a circle, as if observing her body figure properly.

"I know your type.

But let me make something clear. I will never allow a b**ch like you to seduce my man!!"

The maid had tears in her eyes when she heard the young lady.

She wasn't thinking about seducing anyone.

She was just curious about the person the young lady had been staring at for the last 3 hours.

Where would she have the courage to seduce the lady's man?

She hadn't even met him in person before, alright?

(:TOT:)

The lady's expression grew grim the more she looked at the maid before her.

"In future, my man will come here often, so I can't have you walking around my estate.

No! I can't have you walking around the Capital city. So don't blame me for being cruel.

Tell me... Wasn't that your plan all along?

Weren't you only here to wait until my man finally notices you in future?

Speak? Why aren't you speaking?"

~Pah!

A loud, crisp sound echoed within the luxurious room, making the other maids tremble and wobble in fear.

The poor maid that had been slapped hard, almost fell to the ground from the force of the slap.

But even though she felt aggrieved and wronged, she dared not show it.

Right now, her mistress was in her Psycho phase.

And any mistakes could lead to her death.

The look in the lady's eyes was similar to that of a ghost hunting someone.

The maid's expression turned bleak when she heard the lady's words.

She just hoped that things wouldn't escalate more.

Sadly, her hopes were all crushed the moment she saw the lady take a dagger and smelly advance towards her again.

No! No! She didn't want to die!

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"My lady... My lady... Please, calm down.

Killing servants or maids is now forbidden in Deiferus." The maid said while using her hands and her b.u.t.t to move backwards in fear.

Her lady was crazy!

The young woman sneered and scoffed in disdain when she thought of that stupid rule.

At first, servants worked all through the clock.

And even if they slept, they were still on high alert... Especially those who were personal servants or maids.

Those ones had to sleep on the floors outside their master's or mistress' bedroom chambers, just in case they needed anything kate at night.

They had no free time and were always working or having limited hours of sleep on the clock.

But now, there were regulations in place, with these lowly people even given the rights to complain if need be.

Every bloody thing in this place was now messed up!

Looking at the harlot maid before her, she took deep breaths and finally calmed herself down.

Even though she hated to admit it, the harlot was right.

With the many Baymardian around helping these lowly peasants, killing might not only place her family in trouble, but might also make her plans fail.

Her family's enemies were always waiting for such an opportunity to drag her down.

So she couldn't do anything to this maid for the time being, even if she wanted to.

Dammit!

These rules were truly annoying.

Chapter 1030 - A Crazy Lady

Dammit!

These rules were truly annoying.

The young lady ran her hand through her hair as the muscles on her jaws tensed up.

Realizing that she couldn't kill for the time being, she then dripped the dagger before squeezing her hands several times as if trying to warm up.

"Kneel!"

"Y...yes, my lady."

Seeing that the blade had already been kept away, the maid felt a little better.

At least, the mistress wasn't going to slit her throat or something like that.

In fact, she didn't think the young lady would do anything else to her.

The young lady looked at her coldly while fisting her palms tightly.

Very swiftly, the young lady's fists smashed her jaws hard.

~Pah!

"B**ch! You think you can dream about seducing a man without facing my wrath?"

~Pah!

"I live off b**ches like you!

Why don't you look into the mirror and see your ugly face before thinking of servicing my man?

Or do you think that those lumps of fat on your c.h.e.s.t are what you can use to get him?"

"No, young lady... I..i..i.."

"I-I-I... What?"

Why don't you speak clearly if you're not guilty?

Well, answer me, harlot!!"

~Pah! Pah! Pah! Bam!

(XOX)

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The young lady brutally destroyed the maid's face, beating her to the point where it was all purple and swollen.

And if she saw any part that wasn't coloured purple, the young lady would target that region.

The poor maid's facial muscles twinkled uncontrollably as terror coursed through her veins.

But this wave of beatings didn't seem to be enough for the young lady to vent her pent-up rage.

"You 6! Quickly, pin her with her legs and arms spread open!"

"Y..yes, young lady."

With that, 6 maids stepped forth to do as they were told, lest they end up like their comrade.

The poor maid shivered and tried to break free but failed woefully.

"No! No! No!

You let me go!!

Killing is legal! I have the right to live!

Killing is illegal!

The Baymardians won't let you go!"

The maid's expression looked like that of a frightened rabbit cornered with nowhere to go.

Her shaky voice carefully captured all her emotions as she pleaded and begged for her life.

Her eyes darted all around, begging for her comrades to free her.

Occasionally, her eyes would also fall on the demon lady before her and the dagger.

"You... Please... Please... Forgive me..."

Tears flowed from the eyes falling sideways, as fear caught her throat.

What will the demon do with the dagger?

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The young lady demon squinted her eyes and smiled playfully, looking like a full psycho.

"Look. It's not that I'm wicked or something, but didn't your mother ever tell you not to try looking or taking things that didn't belong to you?

Well, since she didn't, then as your young lady, the responsibility falls on me.

So seeing that you're still this energetic only means that you haven't learned enough yet.

That said, there's no way I can calm down without seeing your blood.

So you can't blame me for being cruel, right?"

~Pfff!

~Ahhhhhhhhhh!

The maid screamed in agony before forcefully opening her eyes and looking at her side belly in disbelief and shock.

Her lips quivered when she saw the pool of blood slowly forming on the fool.

Her body felt weak and lightheaded.

But even after seeing her purple-paled-face expressions, the young lady still wasn't satisfied.

~Grahhhhh!!!!

Blood continuously sprayed out from the many stab wounds, accompanied by the maid's gruesome cries.

Pain.

So much pain.

"Whooo-whooo-whooo"

The maid breathed out after screaming as if going into labour.

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Seeing her like this, the young lady was too lazy to care.

Who asked her to look at what she shouldn't have?

And there was no mistake in her gaze.

The maid definitely thought the man in the portrait was handsome.

Heh. Want to take her man?

Over her dead body!!!

She glanced at the maid coldly and brought the dagger close to the maid's face: "Don't think you can ever threaten me with those disgusting rules. I'm only letting you go because you haven't met my man yet. Trust me. If you already did, you would've already been swimming with the fish, and no one would say anything about it. As for the rest of you, keep your eyes where they are supposed to be. Let this be a warning to you. In a while, my beloved will surely visit me. So if I see any of your eyes on him, even accidentally, I will chop off your heads clean! And we wouldn't want that, would we?"

Immediately, everyone shook their heads sideways.

"No, my lady. Never."

"We are too cheap for him and are not within his class. How can we, as worms, fit him?"

"Only the young lady fits him."

The young lady smirked in disdain at the way these women were almost kissing her feet.

As expected, fear was the key to everything... not this new set of rules that crumbled the very society they were used to.

"My lady..."

"All of you shut up and get out of my sight!

And take your friend with you!

Don't make me change my mind!"

"Yes, young lady."

"Yes, young lady!"

With that, the maid, as if receiving amnesty, dashed out of the room carrying the injured maid, without ever looking back.

The injured maid secretly thanked her lucky stars and swore never to work here again!

No... That wasn't enough.

She swore never to appear before the young lady, be it in public or private.

Even if the sky were falling, she would never show up before this crazy lady.

Never!!

.

With the maids gone, the room turned silent.

The young lady calmly sat down and crossed her legs while pushing her hair back with her bloody hands.

"Clouds! Come out!"

~Whoosh!

"We are here, mistress."

"Mm... Is everything ready?"

"Almost."

"Almost isn't good enough!

I want all the competition dead before the end of the week."

"As you wish, mistress."

"Good.

I'll talk to mother first."