

TECHNOLOGY 1261

Chapter 1261 - Prisoners Secured! 2

Plop!

Several people fell to the ground after emerging victoriously.

Some chose to sit, while others fell on their backs while spreading their hands apart in relief.

And then following their relief came laughter as they thought of how adrenaline-packed today's experience was.

SS-class intruders! They dealt with SS-class intruders!

'Hahahahahaha!'

They laughed, placed their hands on their faces and even touched their wounds in glee.

Some had already begun performing first aid on themselves while staring at their captured prisoners with pride.

But above all, the moment they were done, they turned on their Walkie-Talkies and reported their situations.

They weren't talking to their brigade commander, so their conversation amongst themselves wasn't really formal.

[All good on your end, McKenzie?]

"Good! Good! I can subdue an SS-class opponent!"

[Hahahahaha! I knew you could do it! Well done, Micky! Well done!... But... On a serious note, any injuries?]

"F***! Of course, I have injuries. My thighs have gotten stabbed 4 times now, and I'm not even sure I can walk, not to talk of standing up."

[Pff~... Did you hear that, guys? Our poor little Micky got stabbed... Heh. Maybe my mentor is a little rusty, but Who was the one who said he would come out of this with no injuries?]

[Hahahahaha!... I still remember this guy bragging earlier on, so what happens now?]

[Com'on Gina, no teasing the little guy... But then again, his earlier speech was just too damn hilarious... Bahahahahaha!]

Mckenzie's face turned red in embarrassment after recalling his words before.

If possible, he would like to dig a while and bury himself in it at this moment.

Ugh!

Could this be what people meant by shooting themselves in the foot?

(-_-)

The gang teased one another for a bit as if trying to keep their minds off their injuries.

And soon enough, the medical airforce team arrived on the scene in a jiffy.

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In the sky, several Airforce units continuously communicated with Jonah below, listening to his words diligently.

"Airforce, here are their locations!... 4 on the 1st Hillside, 6 on the 2nd, 3 on the 3rd... Blah blah blah blah blah~"

[Got it! We'll find them and descend in no time. Over.]

With that, the air force units continuously used their heat and night vision goggles to peer through the do while looking for suitable landing spots.

One should know that before these new air force units arrived, there were other airforce teams above that focused on scanning the territory, making sure that no enemy escaped.

So now, the newly arrived air force units were only here for specific duties.

And in a flash, they all landed with no time to waste... All except a few.

That's right.

Above the sky, a few 12-passenger hot air balloons were hastily zooming around several specific locations

This particular group of people were from the Police force and were fully dressed like S.W.A.T officers.

With their emotions high, they quickly strapped themselves to the baskets, and stood on the newly-designed ledge modifications that had been placed all around the arm force baskets.

Several men and women stood on the ledge with their hands behind their backs, holding onto the baskets tightly.

"This way! This way! We can't let them escape!" A few of them yelled.

And of course, the people they were chasing were 3 in number.

Of course, Poison Blade seemed to be amongst them.

But all 3 ran broken out, running in different directions.

Thus, those above had to break out as well.

ZOOM!

The hot air balloons moved as fast as they could, all the while lowering themselves steadily. And soon enough, they were at a close range that would allow the men to do their 'Leap of Faith!'

Well, rather than a leap of faith, it was better to say that just like rock clocking, they first jumped to a specific height before lowering themselves even further.

Hehehe... With all their training, this was nothing to them.

The police officers all took in deep breaths before letting go of their baskets without delay

~Swish!

Crazy. Crazy. Crazy!

It all happened just like a crazy blockbuster movie, with the officers speedily descending onto the scene like angels.

And by the time they were somewhat close to the ground, they disconnected from the ropes, rolled onto the floor with their weapons at hand and quickly picked up the pace towards their targets

"All units move! Move! MOVE!"

Din. Din Din Din. Din~

The men dashed through the scene like crazy.

And like so, the chase was on.

However, that wasn't all that was going on around the scene.

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At this moment, the several two 16-passenger Hot air balloons hastily handed across the various landing Zones, picking up both injured prisoners and soldiers.

They immediately gave first aid to those who hadn't received it before getting everyone onto the hot air balloons and taking off yet again.

This medical team came directly from the Prison forces and not the Main Police forces.

Yes. In a way, prison guards/correctional officers were still police officers... But, they were in a slightly different category altogether.

So they had their own somewhat private resources as well.

Of course, following that, the Barracks sent their forces to collect the bodies of the deceased intruders because they would need to search their clothes for any hidden messages or clues about them.

F***!

Even the bodies had to get searched as well.

Why? That was because some organizations had tattoos or burn marks that they gave their members around their tongues, knuckles or other regions.

So it was good for them to find out about these sorts of things.

After all, the dead bodies of the Witches all had spider marks on their bodies.

What was the essence of that mark? Why a spider?

Now, they knew that if they ever saw a lady with that particular marking, she was from the Witch society.

Of course, tonight, they would only do this much.

But for the next few days, they would have to search the entire Valley, as well as the route that these people had used to enter District B.

Why? Because for all they knew, these people might've buried a hidden message somewhere or accidentally dropped something along their way.

So they had to look around during the daytime when the fog got lifted.

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Like so, everyone worked in harmony until all prisoners were finally Secured.

Good.

Chapter 1262 - The Truth About The Thieves

Like so, several groups of men hastily took on various rules, doing the best they could to sustain the situation.

And eventually, all prisoners were successfully captured.

Scarface's body trembled in disbelief and rage as he got supported onto one of the Hot air balloons.

F***!

Both of his calves were shot, making it near impossible for him to walk at this moment.

So after they searched and took away any hidden weapons on him, they then placed him on a stretcher and lifted him towards the hot air balloon.

Heh. One might think that it was better to place their arms under his shoulders and support him.

But that would've been a fatal mistake.

That is, this person was a deadly intruder who was also unwilling to admit defeat

So, from his frustration, pain, anger and everything else, if they got too close to him, Scarface might actually bite their ears off or even their necks.

That is, looking at his fierce eyes, the man seemed determined that he didn't want to go down without a fight.

At the moment, Scarface had heavy handcuffs around his hands.

But even at that, they dared not allow him to get too close to their shoulders, neck, ears or even face.

And as for the handcuffs in his hands, they were thick and heavy as well!

One has to know that in Baymard, there were a variety of handcuff sizes and thicknesses, depending on what sort of prisoner they were getting.

Those other tiny handcuffs, these men could probably break and snap the chains connecting both handcuffs apart.

And even the handcuff sizes around their wrist would only feel as light as a wrist-chain to these men.

So they placed the big guys on them.

The thick, several pounds, heavy-weighted cuffs were the ones they used on them.

Of course, now, with these thick handcuffs on them, those transporting that indeed calculated and made preparation for just how much weight the several seater hot air balloons could carry.

And that's why some hot air balloons left with fewer people aboard than required.

Anyway, they dared not get too close to their prisoners now. Thus, they carried them using the stretchers as though they were patients.

Of course, some were indeed injured among the pack.

So it was only right to do so.

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Dammit!

Scarface felt unwilling at how things turned out in the end.

Why? Why did it go this way?

He felt like the information they had received about Baymard was too insufficient!

No! Baymard was just the decoy.

So it can be seen that the other empires were this scheming.

And what exactly injured his calves from earlier on?

Even though he saw their weapons on their sides, he assumed that this weapon was the one that made people feel as though they had been struck by lightning (taser).

Hmhm.

Down at the ports, the guards all had these things on their belts.

And from the gist and stories he pulled out, it seemed as though it was common knowledge for everyone to know what these things were.

Again, he learnt that those weapons couldn't actually kill one but just make them immobile for a bit.

So looking at the weapon, he didn't think it was the thing that injured him.

Then, could it be that these people had some secret weapons in the bushes?

(?^?)

Scarface coughed out his intestines, as the internal injuries from Jonah's hits had caused blood to force its way through his throat without warning.

~Pfff!

His throat itched with displeasure.

And soon enough, he kept glaring at Jonah, who was walking beside the people carrying him on the stretcher.

"You lowly thief! I at least deserve to know the truth! Tell me, all these things in Baymard came from a carried prisoner in Baymard, right?"

" "

Everyone briefly stared at him in a daze, which made Scarface think that they were guilty instead.

Yes! It was pure guilt. And the more he spoke, the more confident he was about the situation here.

Amidst his pain, he raised his nose arrogantly as though concerning them all.

"You all are thieves! Nothing but pretentious thieves. Yes! All your current glory is a result of your empire's constant stealing of information and resources. No! Not only your empire but the entire Pyno too. How dare you steal from the greatest power of all? How dare you all capture and extract classified information from the true, naturally born leaders of this world? That's right? How can your lowly Pyno continent produce all these? You are too stupid, ignorant and not smart enough to know all this. So fess up! You all are just bloody thieves, right?"

" "

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Everyone listened to him speak and only felt it ridiculous.

Please!

Right from the start when Baymard was barren, where did they even have the opportunity or strength to steal such information?

No way!

If it was true, then information like this should've been guarded within the powerful continents in just about the same way they were guarding theirs.

Additionally, when thinking of how weak and small in numbers they were at the start, how could it have been possible for them to March and head towards another mighty continent to steal information?

Please!... Some things were just too hilarious, to say the least.

As a matter of fact, during their first year of growth, they had stayed in Baymard as though they were hiding.

And occasionally, some of them would head towards Riverdale city under the orders of his majesty.

But even at that, they would dress so poorly, as though they were beggars in the streets. At times, they only went there to buy common tools since they hadn't begun making some of the tools yet.

So assuming that all these years, they had been extracting information would be ridiculous!

Moreover, some of the things in Baymard were invented by the Baymardians themselves during Research Mania.

Even those within the armed forces were always asked to submit any thoughts on the weapons they had.

And wouldn't you know it, some military weapons had indeed been improved due to their suggestions.

After all, they were the ones using them.

So they knew what attributes about the weapons plagued them the most.

So it was a joint effort. And to say that they were too stupid to create these things was even more ridiculous.

Well, no matter what Scarface thought, they didn't even bother defending themselves.

That is, why should they bother talking to an idiot?

Chapter 1263 - Revenge In Motion!

"Fess up! Fess up! You're all just lowly, despicable thieves?"

(*^*)

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Scarface continued to sing his tune, wanting to know the truth of the matter.

Of course, even though everything he said was what he believed, he also said it to stimulate these people into actively confessing the truth.

Why? Because after getting captured, the fact that they tried to treat his injuries made him realize that they wouldn't put him to death.

So now, all he could do was collect as much information as he possibly could while waiting for those within the T.O.E.P to recognize his absence and track him down.

And by the time they finally reached Baymard, things would definitely blow up 10... No 50 times more than what occurred today.

Dare to mess with the T.O.E.O members?

That was akin to seeking death!

Of course, there was another reason why they would orally come to Baymard.

And that was because they still had to rescue Prince Ulric out.

Yes! The T.O.E.P had already made up their mind to use that lovestruck Miss Ezenia, the former fiance of Ulric.

She was an essential chess piece that they had strategies and long planned to use in Deiferus.

That is, the leaders all the way in Morgany had taken their sweet time to plan the trajectory of how this would be in Deiferus for the next few years.

Everything was supposed to go perfectly okay. But who would've known that they would reach a stumbling block over here?

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The more Scarface thought about it, the cruller his smile became.

This stage was the perfect stage they needed to keep that idiotic lovestruck, Pyno miss Ezenia indebted to them.

It was all in the plan.

And the same way they could put Ulric on the throne, was also the same way they could pull him down if she dared to cross them.

So it was sort of like holding Ulrich hostage.

And she, who loved him more than her life, would definitely become their puppet.

They needed her as an obedient puppet and nothing more.

After all, she was a woman. And even though she joined the T.O.E.P, they never intended to look at her the same way they looked at a man.

Moreover, Pyno women were inferior.

Look... They only gave respect to T.O.E.P females from high-ranking continents.

Pyno was and would always be garbage.

So, that Ezenia would undoubtedly be a puppet. And that's all she could be. No more, no less.

But of course, she wouldn't even realize that she was a puppet because, in Pyno, she would still be higher than the rest.

She would be higher than many influential men in Pyno and get away with a lot over here.

More importantly, her influence and power would also help her man firmly secure things in Deiferus.

So bottom line, she would be one of the hidden top movers and shakers in Pyno.

From openly hosting several Morg visitors and showing that she had some connections, do you know how envious and in awe those here would feel?

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Poor thing.

They would keep her like that, the same way they kept so many Pyno members.

And these people would also feel as though they were too blessed to be members.

What's more, even after seeing the prominent T.O.E.P members in other continents, they would only feel that things should be this way.

Again, even though it was hard as hell, they did have chances to climb up the T.O.E.p member classes.

So... They would only feel that the reason why they're still in that position was that they didn't do much compared to others.

Heh.

Ezenia was to be their next Pyno puppet. And funny enough, by the end of it all, she would even be too pleased to be one.

This was their brainwashing.

Of course, throughout the T.O.E.P establishment centuries ago, there had indeed been 3 or 4 people who weren't that easy to fool.

Of course, Alec Barn was amongst these people.

And before him, the last person was something from over 300 years ago.

Once in a while, stubborn people like these popped out every now and then.

But Alec was the first Pyno member to go so far up the class ranks.

And if he were still alive, he probably would've gotten way higher, despite the fact that he garnered hatred from the majority of members.

They hated him, but they knew that he was essential if they wanted some things in Arcadina done.

He was both annoying and very efficient at what he did.

One could say that his results and yields were always exceptionally great. And this was what annoyed them the most because he, from this desolate continent, was almost standing shoulder to shoulder with some other lesser but great continents... Like Veinitta.

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Anyway, freeing Ulric was too important to let go

So, you best believe that when they don't return, more and more people will come to do the same job.

And if more accidents occur, what do you think the T.O.E.P would do then?

Heh. The results would be disastrous!

That's why Scarface provoked these people, hoping to get some information out of them.

Again, he had a hunch that they might lock him in that prison.

So wouldn't that be the perfect opportunity to study the place, find the location where the mysterious Morg is being locked up and flee the place the captured Morg altogether?

Hmhm.

This was not the first time he had been captured before

Please! Sometimes, he would purposefully get captured just to infiltrate a place, only to flee the scene intact later on.

So he felt that even though these people had strange technologies, if he could understand how the place worked and even master the way, then fleeing shouldn't be a problem.

Additionally, it looked like there was still a chance for him to walk. So all he needed to do was heal properly before executing his grand escape.

Good!

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Scarface calmed his kind after thinking things through.

Gather info, break free, flee...?before coming back for revenge!

Chapter 1264 - The Will Of The Heaven's

Scarface felt as though a big rock had been dropped off his shoulder the more he thought of things.

Heh.

Maybe this was heaven's way of letting him find the Captured Morg.

At first, he did plan to only rescue Ulric before returning on a later notice to save the captured Morg.

But it seemed as though destiny and fate wanted him to stay back in Baymard, just to find out all he could for Morgany's interest.

Additionally, he had been given the opportunity to enter the same place where the mysterious captured Morg was hidden.

So wasn't this the will of the Heavens?

Now, he only hoped that he would be placed in the same dungeon cell with his men who survived tonight's battle.

In this way, they would be able to communicate and work things out together.

One should know that when talking about the prison cells, Scarface thought they were similar to the regular dungeon cells because.

After all, who would spend time and resources to better a place where the enemy was locked up?

That didn't make any sense!

Heh.

If the Baymardians knew his thoughts, they would only roll their eyes to the sky

Okay. It might not make sense to him.

But to them, the dungeons in this period were breaking not 1, not 2, but over 20 different health codes and violations alone!

And that wasn't the half of things because apart from health violations, human rights and several aspects were also considered in Baymard.

So it might be dumb to Scarface, but to them, it was necessary.

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In essence, it was a given that during this era, dungeons or prison cells were dark, smelly, gloomy, with several rodents and rats all around.

Mould, bacteria, fungi, and all sorts of things crawled within these places.

To put it simply, it was a disease-infested place where people pooped and peed on the floors or in buckets if necessary.

And what was so messed up was that they still had to eat their food within that same cell.

At times, their food would sometimes be thrown on the ground mercilessly, making them lick and eat off the floors.

Other times, they wouldn't be given any food at all and would have to bite and eat dirty fat rats raw, not even caring whether these things carried diseases or not.

In desperate times, some prisoners turned into cannibals, especially when someone within the cell died.

Don't joke with the seriousness of the dungeon setup.

There, the prisoners got treated in any fashion the guards wanted, unless those from above told them not to.

Bottom line, prisons were intentionally done in this way to intimate prisoners and make them feel as though they were going through hell.

This was the sort of prison lifestyle that Scarface was used to seeing.

So no matter how nice the outside of the Baymardian prison looked, he felt that the prison should be no different from what he was used to.

After all, even glorious and eye-stunning royal palaces that shone with beauty, still had dungeons hidden away within their property.

Like so, Scarface secretly made his plans for the future, feeling as though everything could at best be described as destiny, or a sign from the heavens, telling him to infiltrate the prisons and gather everything he could.

Yes! He was the chosen one!

(*^*)

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Even after thinking things through, Scarface still continued provoking the Baymardians into 'confessing.'

"Com'on! Fess up! Fess up, you yellow-belly thieves. I know what you've done!"

Everyone stopped paying attention to him as they hauled him away and secured him aboard one of the hot air balloons.

So far, they only had 26 prisoners.

The rest were all dead!

And just like that, the curtains were lowered, and the action on the scene was finally over.

But while things came to an end here, in several other areas around Baymard, the heat was still on!

That's right.

At the moment, the police were all over the place, keeping a lookout just in case more crime was committed tonight.

Yes. The hostage had been safely retrieved.

But who's to say that there were other enemies around?

As for the hostage, his entire body was covered with purplish bruises.

It looked like he had been punched and hit hard multiple times.

And the culprits for this were 2 other intruders who stood guard and kept an eye on him.

From the looks of things, it's estimated that if Scarface and the others didn't return by a certain period, these men would've probably killed the hostage and fled Baymard to report all their findings.

Because at that time, it would be assumed that the plan didn't go well, and the others were in danger.

Hmhm.

These men had long thought about things, as well as their method of escape from Baymard.

But that was even the most hilarious thing of all.

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You see, these men honestly thought that they would be able to take Ulric out and leave via land without getting detected.

For one, Ulric didn't have any passport or documents that would make him bypass port security.

So how?

How were they going to do all this?

Could it be that they had some other ingenious plan that they, the Baymardians, had overlooked?

In life, no system was 100% guaranteed. There was always room for improvement. So could it be that there was a blind spot in their defences?

All these assassins kept coming in and challenging them at will, as though they could flee all the checkpoints and escape the Capital city.

So what was giving them this confidence?

It could also be that these people underestimated them due to their egos and thought they could bypass security without so much as a hassle.

Or, it could be that they did have some master plan in action.

So either way, they had to find out everything for themselves.

Additionally, they still had to retrieve these people's weapons that had been kept away at the port.

And, they would also have to retrieve all their luggage at the hotel they were staying at.

Sigh... Tonight, there was just so much to do.

But fortunately, the crisis was contained.

And Landon, who was now drinking his wedding wine with his guests, finally received the news from another guard nearby.

Good. It was finally over!

Chapter 1265 - Who Out-bested Whom?

The crisis was finally contained, unbeknownst to the many guests at the wedding scene.

Hehehehhe!

All this time, the ceremony had already progressed and even got completed too.

Well, it wasn't entirely over yet.

At the moment, Landon was having a significant meal with the guests, while Lucy had long entered the bedroom chambers, waiting for his arrival.

Of course, Landon had prepared a lot of snacks to be snuck into the bridal chambers while she lay in wait.

Lucy said that she wouldn't eat a bite and wanted to uphold the tradition strictly.

But whatever she said went through Landon's left ear and came out the other.

He still placed snacks there for her just in case she changed her mind.

And at this time, Landon was entertaining everyone else in the massive hall.

There was food, drinks and laughter all around them.

Of course, even though Landon joined in the celebrations, he still looked at his watch from time to time.

That's right. He didn't want to keep Lucy waiting for too long.

So he planned to spend at most an hour here receiving everyone's warm congratulatory blessings.

And after that, he would leave the scene and head to his wife.

Of course, just because he was leaving didn't mean that the party would stop.

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The meal and celebrations were scheduled for the next 4 hours max.

And by then, almost everyone should've long left the palace.

In short, he estimated that after 3 hours, many should be on their way out by then.

After all, tomorrow afternoon, they still had to attend his Majesty's 2nd wedding ceremony.

So they had to go home and sleep.

Typically, the wedding should be at 8 A.M or 9 A.M.

But because of tonight's celebrations, tomorrow's wedding will start at 2 P.m and end at 4 P.M.

Of course, guests were expected to arrive around noon or even 1 P.M.

Without a doubt, during the entire day, the streets would be filled with all sorts of delicacies for people to eat.

And after the wedding at 4 P.M, they would begin the festivities and fun.

From games to other planned activities, all over District D and G, one would experience a lot within these places.

Hey! Who doesn't want a chance to win free items?

Even bobbing for apples was a fun way to spend the day as well.

And, the night parades will also be a thing... Not to talk to the fireworks and open dancing on the squares.

Some places will have open theatre shows, retelling the story of how Lucy and Landon got to this point.

In short, tomorrow night would definitely be a wild one.

And luckily for them, after the wedding celebration, they still had a 2-day holiday period to relax and return to their working state yet again.

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"Congratulations, brother Landon. Here's to you and sister-in-law."

"Yes. Yes. To you both! May your marriage be blissful like the stars in the sky."

"No way! Isn't that too boring? I say, may your marriage be exactly like mine!" Santa said proudly while raising his cup to give a toast.

All sworn brothers looked at each other for a bit, stood up and inched themselves closer to Landon with warm smiles on their faces.

"All for one..."

"One for all!"

~Cling!

They clicked their goblets together, making some of its content spill out a bit

But they didn't care about that at all.

The bond they shared at this moment was magnetic and could very much make some people envious to have such a strong connection like this.

The gang chuckled, finally taking their seats yet again.

Their seats were all fairly close to one another, as the setting was arranged in a U-shape manner, allowing them to talk to each other effortlessly.

And Micheal, Uther, Beverly, Carmelo, Lucius, Mother Kim, Mother Winnie, Mona (William's mother) and a few others, all glanced at the merry friends and felt very much infected by the scene.

Micheal smiled with playful banter: "What, Bullocks! Do these youngsters think they can outdo us?"

"That is, they don't even out us in their eyes," Lucius added.

[Carmelo]: "I say we show them what we've got."

[Mother Kim]: "I second that."

[Uther]: "Agreed."

[Mona, Beverly, Mother Winnie]: "Agreed!"

"Agreed!"

Then it's decided.

Immediately, they too stood up majestically, with their elegant goblets in their hands.

"All for one... and one for all!"

~Cling!

Landon and his gang looked over, only to find these bunch of old guys looking at them provocatively.

" "

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Landon and the rest didn't know whether to laugh or to cry.

Okay? Who here wants to compete with you all?

Isn't this just too childish?

The gang of parents and elders sat and raised their noses as though they had won some competition.

And before they knew it, another group of competitors came onto the scene.

Very swiftly, Penelope and the gang of ladies also stood up proactively.

"ladies! ALL for all... and one for all!"

~Cling!

Hmph!

Now, it was the girls who were provoking the boys.

But if one thought things would end here, then think again!

Up next, the overseers stood as well.

And later on, even those in the ministries, the Zalipnian elders and other government heads in the various Pyno empires also began mimicking the same action proudly.

What. Do you think they would miss this opportunity?

No way!

"All for all... and one for all!"

~Cling!

Many people, whether invited famous musicians or other celebrities, all joined in the fun, hitting their glasses against one another merrily.

~Cling! Cling! Cling!~

"Hahahhahahahah~~"

The hall instantly became even more boisterous as several people laughed and enjoyed the scene.

It was little things like this that reinforced the unity amongst them.

Again, it reminded them of how peaceful they were with one another too.

And you know, the media was always there to take every possible shot from various angles.

Heh. They could already see it now.

[New Catchphrase of the season: All for one, and One for all!]

[His majesty and friends out-bested by the King-Father and Friends!]

[The royal ladies show their vigour, with Queen Penelope leading the toast!]

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Like so, the reporters on the scene laughed evilly while capturing the scene greedily.

Bahahhhahahaha~

Come on! Show me what you've got.

Smile for the cameras!

Chapter 1266 - End Of The Wedding!

~Cling. Cling. Cling!

The boisterous room was continuity filled with the sounds of laughter, as well as people clashing their cups and goblets together.

Hey! The scene somehow managed to open up those who were specially invited from other empires, allowing them to burst out of their shyness and speak to one another as though they were campers telling stories around a fireside.

At the tables, they were all mixed and scattered about, showing a vast range of diversity around the hall.

Old friendships were reinforced, and new friendships were made too.

After something as comical as this, the gang of guests all drank and enjoyed their time while getting to know one another too.

"Ah!!!!... So you're the famous Merchant Gideon of Terique? I've heard so much about you. And might I say that I read your Baymardian interview about the Pyno Merchant Association's new policies."

"Yes. Yes! It was all over the newspapers. You did a fabulous job when tackling and speaking on some of the issues all merchants faced. You know, the annual meeting place alternates yearly. And next year, it will be taking place in Carona. So what are your plans for them? What surprises should we look forward to?"

"Holy Heavens! Are you the famous Dean Nobaku, the famous Dean of the Culinary and Bartending Academy? Great! Great! It's such a pleasure to be meeting you in the flesh, sir. I'm the newly appointed Arcadinian Minister of Health & Safety. My second daughter is studying within the Academy and has told me so much about you!"

"Doctor Silvia? Doctor Silvia Escalon? Wonderful! Wonderful! You treated my long-time internal injuries 2 years back. So how could I ever forget you? Hahahaha! Seeing that we are seated at the same table, then it must be fate... Speaking of which, Doctor... You're still so young. And it just so happens that my dashing third son is also around the same age as you are... So, are you married yet?"

" "

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....

Like magic, everyone on their respective, and even their neighbouring tables, all gisted merrily.

All sorts of topics emerged, with some even arguing about what Baymardian eatery was the best from all their recent visits.

Their topics ranged from any and everywhere.

And in this month, they truly felt like school children, talking and gossiping so intently.

It made them feel so young, vibrant and alive that they didn't even notice how fast time flew by.

Of course, the media and camera crew also did their jobs, interviewing a few people briefly, letting them say a few congratulatory words on video for the couple.

Hey! They also zoomed on several tables, showing everyone lifting their glasses and saying Congratulations all at once.

Indeed, the night was truly a festive one.

And Landon, who peeked at his watch, suddenly smiled and stood up merrily.

It was time for him to meet the bride.

He had planned to stay for a maximum of 1 hour before going.

Luckily, he managed to round things up with his boys and everyone else fast within 40 minutes.

Yes! He had received all the congratulatory words from those closest to him.

So now, he wanted to use the remaining 20 minutes to walk around table by table, talk, greet and say his goodbyes.

William, Santa and the rest chuckled while watching him get up.

"Big Brother Landon, say hello to sister-in-law for us."

"Hmmm... Little bro... Make sure to go easy on her, unless you don't want her to attend her own wedding tomorrow."

"Heh heh heh! Go easy on her, bro."

William and Sirius smiled and chuckled at the comments from the rest, only looking at Landon calmly:

"Go... Extend our warmest congratulations to your wife."

Josh, Gary, Trey and Mark also said the same sentences, making Landon's embarrassment ease up greatly.

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Josh and the rest were also very good friends with Sirius and the others too.

Maybe it was because they spent time together whenever the gang came into the empire. Additionally, Josh and the rest held high power within their respective Jobs. And many at times, they had to discuss eminent problems with the rest whenever they saw them.

That is, Landon would attend some of these meetings too, since it concerned Pyno's safety as a whole.

Also, one shouldn't forget that their wives were all good friends with Penelope and the rest.

So there have been so many opportunities that led them to also bond with these Pyno Monarchs.

Like when Josh has assisted Henry to maintain the order in Deiferus after he placed Henry on the throne.

Do you think that all those times Josh stayed protecting Henry, they didn't become close?

Or like the time when William stayed hidden in Baymardian for several months while waiting for Alec Barn to attack Baymard.

At that time, do you think that he didn't get close to all 4 of them?

They were Landon's sworn brothers who were like his left and right-hand men... so you best believe that when he wanted to send word to William in disguise, he would use the hands of his brothers.

Even at that, William used to train with the 4 of them while staying here.

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Again, one shouldn't forget that Santa was the first to get close to them way back during those times when Baymard was weak, and the people were few in number.

Santa was also close to Gary too.

Additionally, there was the time that Astar and Sirius had come down here after almost getting assassinated.

Heh. They stayed here for a bit and got close to Mark and Trey as well.

In short, no matter how one looked at it, Baymard had solved and housed all the Monarchs at their worst times or during some special events.

And without a doubt, Landon used up so many opportunities and missions to ensure that his sworn first 4 sworn brothers were close to his newly formed ones.

At present, do you know that Henry invited Josh to revisit him when Josh's next vacation was up?

Astar also liked Mark. Maybe because the duo were true foodies, and Mark's office always had a wide variety of goods in it.

In short, they had personal relationships with one another, which was also good for all empires in the long run!

Chapter 1267 - End Of The Wedding! 2

"Elder Brother Landon, don't kill sister-in-law tonight."

"Yeah. Take it easier on her, okay?"

(*_-_-)

Landon looked at the gang and laughed awkwardly to mask his embarrassment.

Dammit! What sort of brothers did he have?

Okay. He wasn't too concerned with Sirius, William, Josh and Gary because they were rather on the quiet side, knowing what to say and what shouldn't be said.

But when it came to Santa, Henry, Astar, Mark and Trey... these bastards were a little too much!

Okay. Okay... It could be said that Henry, Astar, and Mark were just a little too dense or too shy (in Henry's case.)

No! The real troublemakers were Trey and Santa.

Landon felt that these 2 were definitely born with the sole purpose of giving him high blood pressure now.

Landon quickly picked his steps and hastily dashed away as though he was running from something.

And as he moved, the ladies and the royal gang of parents who heard the comments, only giggled and laughed at his fleeing silhouette.

Hahahahahaha!

They never knew that they would see him like this one day.

Mother Kim poked Lucius's belly: "You dare to laugh at your son?"

"Laugh? Me? No way! Could you be mistaken?"

" - "

...

Like so, Landon hastily left their vicinity, doing what he planned to do in a hurry, before finally leaving the hall altogether.

Of course, during this time, people wanted to stand as a sign of seeing him off, but he told them to sit instead.

And in a flash, he was out of the Grand Hall.

Sure enough, one of the Camera crews captured his exit before alerting another free now outside.

Hmhm. Landon had informed them that he would at most stay an hour indoors.

So after 30 minutes, a few went out to get ready to capture Landon's final scene for the Traditional Wedding Video.

And the moment Landon stepped out, a camera van drove right beside him, capturing his every move.

You best believe that shortly, historians will also explain his every move, adding commentaries where they dimmed fit too.

Like so, Landon moved with his hands behind his back in his gorgeous traditional attire.

And as he moved, 2 guards holding golden spears also moved behind him.

And from time to time, they would swing the spears in different directions, as though choreographing a Spear dance.

But this was just an old Baymardian ritual that had to be connected as his groom moved towards the bridal chambers.

~Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

The camera crew who captured the stunning scene, felt their bodies boil in awe at the splendour of it all.

The spear moves were so captivating and enticing that it made them feel as though they had been transported to Baymard's past.

And at this moment, they felt very proud to be Baymardians too!

~Swish! Swish! Swish!

The spearmen played their part as best as they could until they finally arrived at the main building, 15 minutes away from the building they just exited.

Of course, with the pace they were moving, they only arrived at their destination 24 minutes later.

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Soon enough, the moment Landon was spotted from a distance, those within the main building quickly lit their flame torches and marched towards Landon in 2 rows.

~Din! Din! Din! Din!

They marched gallantly and quickly surrounded Landon before leading the way back to the Main building.

And at this moment, the loud and majestic sounds of drums echoed out across the scene.

The beats weren't rushed but very steady and slow as well.

Bam!... Bam!... Bam!

It sounded more like a calling than a dance tune.

And indeed it was. Because the moment Landon stepped in, the drums all stopped.

Of course, for the indoor procession, another free that had been waiting was now ready to capture the stunning scene.

Heh. The entire floor plan space was covered with all sorts of decorations.

And the moment Landon stepped in, someone quickly rushed towards him with 2 golden bangles on a red cushion.

"Your Majesty, the Sacred Ancestral Bangles are here."

"Hmm. Thank you." Landon said while picking the bangles up. One was for himself, and one was for Lucy.

They were to keep wearing it for the next 7 days to thoroughly blend and integrate with each other as one.

Of course, Landon didn't believe in this. But since Lucy was an advent believer of the ancestors, he chose to see it through.

And the moment he picked up the bangles, everyone calmly went on their knees hastily.

"We wish the Monarch and his new wife a blissful marriage!"

Landon smiled, nodded and began to ascend the stairs.

Of course, there was an inbuilt elevator on the far end of the room.

But hey. This was a traditional wedding.

So he had to give all the drama for the future historians and watchers to marvel on.

Like so, he calmly walked up the stairway, making sure that the Camera crew filmed all they could.

And during this time, the others still had their heads bowed while on one bended knee too.

That is, only when he could no longer be seen could they raise their heads once more.

And sure enough, on the 2nd floor, someone rang a handbell after Landon passed through.

~Ding!

His majesty was gone.

With that, the recording was over.

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Like so, the Camera crew and everyone else finally relaxed before leaving the scene.

They had worked so hard to get this whole thing right.

And now, it was time for them to return to the other hall, join and eat as well, before calling it a night.

As for Landon, just because he passed the 2nd floor didn't mean that his journey was over.

But since they weren't recording the scene anymore, he chose to use the elevator all the way to the top.

The elevator was an open one, where everyone could see who was on it at all times.

For safety reasons, this was the best choice at the moment.

In future, he would also make access keys just like most hotels did back on earth.

Ding!

Landon stepped out of the elevator and was met with several guards stationed around there.

The floor itself could be considered as 3 floors all in one.

He arrived at the great hall or floor entrance, nodded at the many guards stationed around before ascending yet another stairway to head towards his wing.

Good. It was time to meet his wife!

Landon almost hopped along merrily when he thought of tonight's matter.

But unbeknownst to him, while he was busy gallivanting merrily, another deadly storm was once again in motion!

Chapter 1268 - McClaine's Suspicions

The day was bright and fair as summer sat upon the land, radiating and wrapping the land with its warm embrace.

The birds and numerous creatures all sang in tune, expressing their excitement during the season.

The flowers bloomed and shone even more brightly, showing off the various colours and patterns of their petals.

The ground was heated up, making the rocks and even the dust-filled roads feel so hot that if one were to place their feet on it, they would no doubt feel a tingling burn the longer they walked.

Yes! It was still August, one of the pique moments in summer.

And now, countless people doubled up the number of water bottles or jugs they had with them.

God! It felt as though they would melt off any moment from now.

One couldn't stay in this sort of weather without a somewhat full belly or at least 2 or 3 cups of water or rum in them.

Damn!

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The weather made some start seeing double, and at times even triple.

But, no matter how heavy the weather was, it all boiled down to knowing what to do and what not to do.

And so, on the busy streets, one could see people wearing massive, lightweight hats, some made of straw, while others made from fabric.

Their clothes were also airy, enabling them to work all day without feeling too burdened.

Yes! It was summertime, so all this was to be expected.

They say that Spring was the initial blossoming point of the flowers, ushering in new love to many.

Yes! They say Spring was the season of love.

But, Summer was the reason to reinforce that love that was formed then.

It was the perfect season for both women and men to show off their most attractive inner and outer qualities, including their trained skills.

Cooking, hunting, the ability to manage a harem for one's husband as the future head wife, military accolades, painting, poetry skills, and so many more were shown off at will.

All these skills and qualities found in both men and women were very much appreciated by others.

That is, one man's food is another man's poison.

So it vastly depended on what the individual people were looking for.

Summer was indeed the season for these husband or wife-looking peacocks to start spreading their wings apart.

And all over the massive city, parties of all sorts were hosted, from standard tea parties during the day, to boisterous ones at night.

Even the peasants gathered around their backyards to meet others and celebrate too.

In short, Summer seemed to be the pique period when Love was in the air!

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~Giggle. Giggle. Giggle~

In a massive estate, several ladies held up their fans and giggled while glancing at the young Master Daymon shyly.

Oh my!

He was the young man who had just returned from a 3-year trip to the famous Tenola that was said to be as mysterious as Morgany's existence.

That is, they, as well as countless others, had no real idea about this Tenola place.

Firstly, even the merchants hardly left to travel to Tenola because of the many disadvantages they had received when doing so.

So over the years and periods, the word Tenola wasn't that discussed within the people's discussions.

After all, how could one talk about a place that they didn't know?

Again, it would be good if they had strangers from Tenola, who would tell them how the place was or even show them how the people looked like.

They knew that there were Blue and Dark-skinned people in this world.

So what about Tenola? What sort of people were they?

These ladies, as well as several novels, had no clue about what Tenola was like.

All they knew was that it was a very stormy continent that was far superior to Pyno.

And that was the end of it.

So it was astonishing news when they all heard of Young master Daymon's return.

But maybe what was more attractive was that he had returned alongside his men, whether a mistake of those he left Pyno with and those he enlisted from Tenola.

It was then and there that many of the ignorant people finally got to see how real Tenola people looked like.

Their skin was as fair as snow and very eye-catching amongst the crowd too.

Like so, the news came down fast, as Young Master Daymon's father quickly hosted a grand banquet to welcome his son back into Yodan.

That's right. They were in Yodan's Capital city.

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At the moment, the celebration was the talk of the city.

And even King-Father McClaine (Sirius' father) also had his ears perked up to this matter.

Tenola? That powerful Tenola?

The shocking thing wasn't the fact that the boy got to Tenola.

No. The shocking aspect was that the boy managed to stay there for 3 whole years in a very comfortable position.

So how did he do it?

What sort of surgery did he pull off there?

Looking at the Royal-sized ships he returned with, as well as the famous 2-headed Stallions he came back with, there was no doubt about it that his position was a high one.

The horses had 6 legs and a mean bodyweight that could shake off any enemy charging at them.

Damn!

The 20-year old Daymon boy was now the most eligible bachelor in the city.

Maybe he did have a few concubines back in Tenola, but how would they know unless they ask?

McClaine felt very uneasy about the matter of his return.

Why? Because Daymon's father, Duke Trigun, was McClaine's paternal cousin.

And as it stood right now, if anything happened to Sirius and his sons, Trigun's family would step in.

McClaine was the only child of his parents still alive. But his late father also had brothers and sisters.

Of course, that's where the whole cousin thing came from.

Thinking of so many plot twists in his head, McClaine now felt an impending danger on his lineage.

No! More specifically, he felt like Daymon's return might not be as simple as everyone speculated.

Why come now?

And what was he coming back for?

McClaine was not at ease!

Chapter 1269 - Enter Young Master Daymon!

Why come back now?

McClaine's mind went spiral in action whenever he tried to brainstorm and theorize on Daymon's return.

At the moment, he had already lost 4 of his most beloved sons to the Temple of Dragmus, who had decided to take down all powerful sons all at once.

At the time, they also aimed at Sirius. But luckily, Sirius' friend, Landon, had come just in time to warm himself and Astar about the bastard temple.

His other sons were far away in their own territories, so it was near impossible to travel several months and warn them before the enemy struck.

McClaine had over 22 children, both men and women. But the first 5 princesses were his only priorities and the only ones he gave some amount of love to.

So seeing all 4 out of the 5 die just like that, his entire body felt as though he had been run over by a thousand horses.

To him, his other children... Except for the first 3 princesses, were just like strangers to him.

He had never even said so much as a single word to some.

And no doubt about it, he honestly couldn't recall what many of them looked like.

With 5 official wives who could be called Queens and 2 concubines who went worthy enough to be called Queens, it could be said that he did his job at spreading his royal seeds out graciously.

Of course, he used to have 6 main wives, that is until mother Winnie was driven away by him.

Anyway, at the moment, 2 of his official wives and all 2 of his concubines had died... Mainly from poisoning, Haram scheming and whatnot.

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Anyway, all 4 out of 5 sons he truly cards for died.

And even though his other unworthy sons and daughters were still alive, they were all too weak to sit in the position of Monarch.

So if for example, something happens to Sirius, the enemy would definitely be able to kick those worthless children of his aside and sit on the throne effortlessly.

And this was his worry because knowing that bastard cousin of his, he might try putting Daymon on the throne instead.

So was this their plan?

Was their plan to secretly attack while building a firm reputation for themselves?

After all, Tenola was indeed a powerful place, and if this Daymon had great influence there, then many of the nobles might have to sway to his side in order to keep their heads intact.

Over time, Sirius had done a great job at slowly uniting several nobles to his side.

But there were still a few nobles that secretly hated the new rules reinforced into Yodan.

No slaves, no whipping people to death, no disturbing, no nothing.

Then how were they supposed to keep the reasons and everyone else fearful of them?

Fear was an excellent way to control the public into not daring to do what they, the nobles, didn't want.

But now, these new rules started telling peasants and even slaves that they should deserve to be happy and live good lives?

What silly ass rules!

These nobles were grumpy after losing so much money by paying monthly wages to the slaves that they, by the way, bought for a few copper coins.

In short, Sirius still had his fair share of issues to handle.

But during this period, what if Daymon made a move on him?

McClaine was so panicked that during today's welcoming celebration, he had long sent his representatives to 'on the surface' show face and welcome his distant Nephew back to Yodan.

Like so, the entire estate was filled with people of all noble ranks, all curious to know more about this Young Master Daymon.

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"Excuse me... Young master Daymon?"

A very soft voice called out, causing Daymon to turn around calmly.

And the figure he saw was that of a little girl of 16 or so, that looked just like a white rabbit in his opinion.

Raymond maintained his casting smile, but if one looked at his eyes deeply, they would realize that he was secretly looking at the girl in disdain.

That's right.

To him, Pyno women were dogs and weren't even deemed enough to carry his shoes.

So after spending time with real women (Tenola women), he had nothing but disgust for these barbaric women over here.

That is, he hated their complexion, which wasn't as fair as those from Tenola.

And, he also hated blue and dark-skinned women as well.

Of course, Morg Women were more or less similar to Pyno women.

But rather than disdaining them, he still liked them because of their identity.

In other words, he would be merely managing if he was with a Morg woman.

Daymon had so much disgust in his heart and had also forgotten that inasmuch as he hated Pyno women for their complexion, his mother, as well as himself, looked exactly like the people he hated.

So he was a hypocrite with a complex!

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Raymond swallowed his disgust and smiled charmingly at the woman before him.

"Yes, do you have anything you want to ask?"

Bubuum!

The little girl instantly became lovestruck after staring at his face for a while.

Ahhh! So handsome!

She blushed while glancing at him shyly: "Young Master Daymon... Have you been with any women before?"

"Yes... I've been with women. So, would you like me to speculate on the number of women I've been with?"

"No! No!" She blurted out while turning as red as a tomato: "then that means you've already taken in a wife?"

Raymond glanced at her and broadened his smile: "No."

"Then, are there any women waiting for you?"

"Hmmm. I imagine there are several waiting for me." He said casually, before looking at her heatedly:

"Yes. Several women want me. But I can only marry one."

Boom!

The girl's mind went black with excitement.

Did Young Master Daymon think about her?

Raymond looked at her and sneered.

He just said what she wanted him to say.

Marry just one?

Impossible! He wanted to live like Tenola monarchs, with a haram of over 50 women.

So how could 1 be enough?

Tch!

Everything he did was in preparation for his future plans.

Thinking of all his preparations, Daymon's eyes shone even brighter than before.

So what if that long distant cousin of his had Baynard behind his back?

Could Baynard compete with the forces backing him in Tenola?

Heh.

Soon enough, Yodan will be his!

Chapter 1270 - Nosy Baynardians!

Damon quickly dismissed the disdainful creature of a woman before him, and calmly nodded to several other ladies while making his way to his father.

The duo glanced at each other in understanding before smiling and walking about as though they were having some deep father-to-son talk about finding a wife.

Well, at least that's what everyone thought because from time to time, Duke Trigun would gesture at a few of the ladies as though telling his own to try and mingle with them.

And likewise, Damon would also act as though he was considering the matter.

Again, as they passed by, if someone were so close to them, they would quickly switch their conversation, talking about who he should marry next.

And all this made the girls who were watching, blush whenever the father and son duo would look and gesture their way.

Oh my!

Their lashes quickly fluttered as they used their hand fans to cover their button faces and move their eyes shyly, yet seductively.

"Heavens! I can't believe Young Master Damon looked at me just now!"

"Look at you? Heh. Do you think Young Master Damon is sick to look at you? That is, with the size of your feet, it would be a miracle for any man to give you a single glance!"

"Oh yeah? Then what about you then? Do you think your non-existent bosom can make any man feel attracted to you? You better back off now because Young Master Damon is mine!"

"Says who? I don't even know why you both are opening your mouths and spreading your stench all over the place. Anyone with a brain can see that Young Master Damon and Duke Trigun we're gesturing at me. So why bother? Why do you all like getting beaten so much?"

"Screw you! Young master Damon is mine. I have the best advantage here and will definitely give him the most happiness amongst all."

"How very tacky of you, Evelyn. I think you're confusing true happiness with whatever you do lying on your back, you whore!"

"I?... I am a whore? Then if that's the case, then you're the Grand Master of whores, you floozie!"

"Why you!...."

"Oh, please! Can all you ladies just shut it? Young Master Damon is also of royal blood. And according to the rumours, seeing that his majesty Sirius doesn't intend to take in another wife after his first, then for sure, Young Master Damon is now the most eligible bachelor in the empire. So who else can fit his status apart from I, the 4th daughter of Marquis Anthony? Like I said, all of you should back off now!"

(*^*)

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The ladies who were quarrelling with one another, did so while still looking as charming as ever.

Heh.

Thanks to the fans they held, their mouths that moved their machine guns were very much disguised, only leaving their seductive yet gentle eyes for all to see.

Such a skill was something they learnt right from a young age.

As nobles, they had the most gracious looks, trying their best to hide their flaws seamlessly.

Too bad the target of their admiration secretly disdained them because of their complexions.

Damon squinted his eyes coldly, before withdrawing them from a group of men who would look at them from time to time.

McClaine!

"Father... The dog man has sent his people to stare at us, just as we predicted."

The chubby Trigun sneered: "Heh. The dog is indeed getting a little impatient, seeing that we haven't made any moves yet. But we don't have to worry about him because we also have our people staring at him. It's just that gaining access into the Palace has now become too strict when compared to earlier times."

Damon frowned briefly before returning to his charming gaze for all to see: "I know, father. I heard that since Baynard's interference, security has gotten tighter within the palace."

"Yes." Duke Trigun said coldly.

Baymard! Baymard! Baymard!

Those nosy sons of b**ches!

As in, who sent them here to 'help' their empire?

Who said Yodan needed help?

The old Yodan was perfect as it was. So what was all this?

You know, after the rules came out, the poor slowly stabilized their lives, becoming well-to-do. But they, the rich, had lost too many resources, which should've been there in the first place!

Their budgets per month had slightly gone down, and now, they had to place several of their plans on hold because of this.

You know money was needed to finance wars, battles or even plans for their enemies.

So after paying all staff monthly, do you know how much money was generally lost?

F***!

They also couldn't raid villages or overtax the people within their territories or jurisdictions.

There were now rules and laws to put everything in place, unlike back then when they could probably bully people and collect tax from the peasants 2 or even 7 times a season if they felt like it.

Heh. They never wanted to touch the money in their vast treasures, hoarding it as though they were Scrooge McDuck.

So who suffered in this case, the poor.

But now, the poor had rights, and what should be taxed would get collected justly by the newly formed tax offices and whatnot.

Heh. Before, Taxes were collected by the lords and owners of these regions, who would then send a majority back to the palace.

And you know, the taxes would be used for emergency wars, drought situations and anything of importance that needs done.

But as many middlemen in these times, they would play several tricks to collect more money from the people, taking a larger chunk out and replacing their pockets before sending the rest to the Capital city.

Of course, they would then change the books because they didn't want their actions to get discovered.

But now, Sirius had appointed and sent spec groups of people all over the empire, who would start taking charge of that.

So one can imagine how frustrating this was.

Dammit!

Damn those nosy Baymardians and their stupid suggestions!

