

**Chapter 1271 - The Wheels Of Change Will Turn!**

Damn!

They had lost too much money recently.

That said, with Sirius's men stationed all across the place, no nobles were allowed to collect taxes in their territories anymore.

This meant that no city or town lords were allowed to collect tax as they deemed fit.

And you know, this move is one that several nobles liked.

Why? Because the nobles that were town or city lords always bullied other nobles in their territories too.

That is, just as the city lords collected taxes from the peasants, they also robbed the other nobles in their territories as well.

And in large cities, over 30 or 50 different noble households existed there.

So can you imagine how much money the city lord or territory owner extorted out?

That's why many of these nobles residing in these areas had to lick the feet of the territory owners, praising them and wiping their asses just to be friends with them or henchmen.

Now, in those territories, the territory lord was akin to a monarch in his area.

And after a few households successfully became henchmen to the city lords or town lords, they would then prevent others from climbing up too.

Yes! Because if another person climbs up, they might one day be kicked down.

And that's why they secretly sowed discord, making the territory owner start excessively bullying other households in the place.

In this way, the targeted noble households always suffered because during tax collecting periods, the amount asked for was always astronomical, so much so that they had to make up the difference from their vaults.

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It was things like this that kept their resources low.

And even after their salaries as Army men got sent, the city lord would bite into the money and give them what he wanted.

So yes.

Over 7/10th of nobles were secretly pleased with these Sirius' new laws.

First off, they felt as though the days of being oppressed were finally over... Especially lower-level nobles like Kaymen, Barons and Viscounts.

Hell! Even the middle-class nobles had no problems with the rules. Because to be honest, in as much as they did lose money by paying the slaves and peasants monthly, as nobles, they were also businessmen.

So the money would come back in a full cycle.

It was just that their yields would be less since they now had to subtract wages and balance their accounts in this manner.

Earlier on, no wages were subtracted for slaves and so on. So, they received full yields, only removing money for food and whatnot.

That is, nobles had lands and fields of crops that they made the slaves work on.

Additionally, some even had vineyards.

You know, they also had stores, entertainment sites, buildings, eateries, and so many items in their names.

They also had building/construction businesses, which typically took on big jobs like constructing chapels or several massive medieval-style buildings.

In short, from pottery making, tavern running, restaurant eateries, fish supplying and so on, Nobles, even though a minor fraction to the general population, actually owned over 60% of the market.

The rest were just peasants selling their finds from hunting and whatnot.

So, they weren't broke or going out of business anytime soon... Well, unless their competitors burn down a few of their shops, poison them or steal their markets, which was a normal and everyday thing for nobles to experience in business, because the more money they received, the more money they would have to finance and grow their armies!

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With all this said, a vast majority of nobles didn't have a problem with the new rules since it lessened their burdens from dealing with the territory owners.

Hmhm. You heard them right.

They would rather pay the wages to the servants or slaves, than get constantly extorted by the territory ruler who always wanted an incredulous amount altogether.

They were indeed OK with this arrangement.

But of course, the opposition, though a small fraction, was fiercely against these new rules!

With Sirius' sending people to collect taxes, the usual money they get in their pockets would decrease.

And their greedy bones just couldn't sit on this!

In essence, nobles and their men were also knights and soldiers for the empires.

So they had a certain military cut.

Likewise, if that noble was a territory ruler, they were in charge of running their territories too

So some money would get allocated for them to do so.

In this world, things have always been like this for the past centuries.

The territory rulers would take out their cut from the overall taxes before sending it to the Capital city.

It was just that with their overtaxing, they indeed took out way more than what was required.

So now, with Sirius' team on the matter, these men would only receive what they should receive and nothing more.

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Taxes were collected by seasons, which Sirius had no plans of changing.

But you see, the territory rulers that liked to have people 4 or 5 times during a single season, were now grumpy about how annoying these rules were.

Say they go into a fierce battle with an enemy and end up losing many resources.

They typically made up the resources by hastily tasking again before sending out more forces as they pleased.

The money hardly and almost never came out from their private vaults or treasures.

So, now, was Sirius telling them to spend their own money on such measily things?

Blame that stupid Baymard for being too nosy and filling Sirius' head with trash.

Why? Isn't the territory theirs?

As territory owners, why should they pay a dime?

Several people were furious with these so-called new rules that favoured the poor and maybe favoured the middle and bottom feed nobles.

What about them?

What about they, who were already at the top, standing there as Gods!

For sure, they didn't like Sirius' Ruling regime.

That's why under the leadership of Duke Trigun, the opposition party got formed in secret.

And soon enough, the wheels of change will turn!

### **Chapter 1272 - Trigun's Ultimate Move**

Trigun and Damon continued discussing things with their ever-pretentious smiles on their faces.

If they were women, they would've definitely been the scheming white-lotus kind because their smiles and soft expressions were in stark contrast to their real nature and thoughts.

And it's precisely because of this that most women were already so captivated by Damon.

They had already begun fantasizing about a life with him as their husband.

And seeing that they all wanted to talk to him, Trigun decided to wrap things up quickly, lest they make many overly suspicious.

"Son... Remember. If you must capture the hearts of these women, then make sure to target the ladies on the topmost end of high society. I won't allow any rats near you... Understood?"

"Father, who is your son? Say no more. I've already seen the portraits of the most important ladies at the party, whether they are engaged or already married. Of course, women of their calibre will never be without a fiance from birth or the ages of 9 or so. Women like them should be formally engaged or already married. But so what? We need to secure the support of some of our allies, as well as infiltrate some enemies with watchful eyes. So if we have to use a stupid love-struck woman to do so, then why not? Heh. The fact that they have fiances or are already married hasn't stopped them from staring at me possessively. So don't worry, father. I'll be able to hook as many pawns as I can within the next few months." Damon said playfully.

"Wonderful!"

Trigun listened to his son and was incredibly proud: "Spoken like a true son of his father!"

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Yes. Trigun felt that if he were Damon, he would also move in that manner.

It's best to make all women become enemies of one another while staying a little distant too.

In short, the women would start fighting, and soon enough, some might die or implicate their families here and there.

Families would start having feuds, and with his control, all pawns would act as they pleased.

That is, even though the duo had no respect for women in general, they also understood that though women were useless when deeply in life, they were extremely stupid and the best pawns that could cause the most ground-shaking catastrophes in the end.

Throughout history, some Main noble households in the Capital have been executed just because of their beloved daughter.

Heh. Sons would rarely go too far off their points of interest. But daughters made the best pawns for such dangerous games.

Thus, this event was here for him to capture the hearts of countless maidens.

And after today, Damon will begin his plans of making them all dance to his tune like fools.

Trigun massaged his jaws merrily: "How long did you say we had to wait?"

Damon chuckled mysteriously: "Father, my master loves me dearly. And come winter, my master's people will arrive at the Capital city!"

"Winter? Good! Good! Good!" Trigun said while genius bursting out into laughter: "Winter is excellent! This Period is when everyone genuinely lets down their guard, giving us the perfect opportunity to strike. We will also gather the forces of our supporters to act during then too. That is, winter will be when that bastard distant nephew of mine dies. And by then, you will become Monarch!"

Trigun's eyes glistened excitedly.

Monarch! Monarch! Monarch!

Bahahahahahah!

He had dreamt about the day when he would finally steal the Royal throne from the direct McClaine line, shifting it to his own side.

You know, his family name wasn't McClaine because his mother, who was McClaine's father's sister, married a nobleman.

From a young age, he had always been jealous of the McClaine's who were secretly more respected because they had the McClaine name.

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Again, his grandfather never paid particular attention to him or those birthed by the royal daughters because they didn't carry the McClaine name.

So if they were put on the throne, then the mighty McClaine name would fade into non-existence.

That's why when growing up, even though Trigun and several of others were above all other nobles in rank and respect, they were still somewhere lesser to their cousins with the McClaine names.

And this of course made Trigun mad.

Why? Was it his fault that he came into this world via his mother?

From a young age, he secretly hated his mother for being so worthless too.

Why couldn't she do what other mothers did and strive to fight and put any of her sons on the throne?

It was as though she was telling them that they weren't worthy enough for her to try.

His Grandfather, who was now Damon's late great grandfather, had a total of 7 wives and 6 concubines.

And wouldn't you know it, those women birthed his father's generation of 33 princes and princesses.

Who in turn married to produce his own generation.

Of course, as for his father and his numerous aunts and uncles... Heh... Even though they were vast in number, only about 7 out of the 33 survived.

And in his own generation, only 3 of them survived until this day too.

The Royal household was a bloody one. And though each generation might start with having over 20 siblings or so, in the end, how many siblings would survive?

Look at Sirius' generation?

All his main competitors in his household are already dead.

And even till now, the other weak siblings were still at risk of facing death in future.

So whether they could survive and grow old was still a topic up for debate.

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When Trigun thought of his mother, he had nothing but hate for that woman. His other royal aunts were struggling to place their children on the throne, but his mother adamantly refused to do so like the coward she truly was!

So wasn't it her fault that he ended up with the title of a mere Duke?.. Well, he was indeed an Archduke to be specific, which showed that he was a royal prince since the title was particular to Royals.

But so what?

He wanted the throne. And have it he shall!

They had their ultimate move up their sleeves!

And soon, the McClaine house will Fall!

### **Chapter 1273 - Honeymoon Life?**

Trigun massaged his chin playfully.

He had always known that he or his family were destined for greatness.

And now, the time had come for him to take the throne once and for all.

Bahahahahaha!

Come winter; things would finally change around here.

And no one, not even that nosy Baynard, would be able to stop what was about to come.

Trigun smiled cruelly.

'Nephew, are you ready?'

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Like so, the father and son duo wrapped up their schemes and quickly departed with their motives in check.

But whether they could succeed in the end, on my time would tell.

Meanwhile, back in Baynard, Landon had been too busy, to say the least!

Okay. Okay. He had indeed planned to have a honeymoon trip. But Lucy rejected his proposal.

Look! Their friends were all here now.

So she didn't want to leave Baymard on any trip.

That's why for the next 4 days after their wedding, they had seemingly clear and empty schedules instead.

Of course, Landon's schedule could never be completely free because he had to once in a while step into the barracks or Medical & Healthcare Academy to talk to the superior about the 2 most important missions at the moment.

One mission was to treat the virus, and the other was concerning princess Tilda's rescue.

So they were now racing against time here.

At least for the Princess Tilda mission, those involved had already been briefed about a while back.

The official leaving date was September 12th, which was 16 days before the girl's birthday and coming of age ceremony.

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Anyway, for the past month and a half, the team assigned to the mission had been busy working their butts off to strategize and test out several scenario outcomes for the missions.

And now, they were left with just 3 more weeks before they set out.

For sure, they still trained diligently during this time too.

And in the meantime, another group of people took care of stocking up on supplies, diligently went over the list to ensure that everything was in place.

That is, non-perishables like toilet paper, and weapons, were the target for this period.

And food would also be placed into the ships on a day very close to departure.

Hey! When it came to the Princess Tilda matter, they had long been prepared for it.

But now, this virus matter was too abrupt, meaning that people would have to busy their brains and work on the clock to get everything ready in 3 weeks.

Yes! He decided that the team would also leave on September 12th.

So the ships, supplies, protection units, and medical staff had to be arranged pronto.

The Zombie Plague had to be contained before it turned from an epidemic to a pandemic!

Truly and surely, even though he wanted a proper honeymoon where he shut himself from the world to be with Lucy, he couldn't afford to do that.

Luckily, she too didn't want to do so, seeing that their friends still planned to stay in Baymard for an entire week.

As she said, they had an entire lifetime to see each other every single day. So why not take things the way they are now?

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Additionally, the school semester had officially begun.

And even though she had cancelled her classes for this week, she was still busy making a few critical changes to her class notes and plans.

Yes. Orientation was just last week.

And now, classes were in full swing, with some of the new students seeing their teachers for the first time

Of course, if she missed this first week of classes, she didn't feel that it should affect her teaching plans for the semester all that much.

Nonetheless, she still made readjustments to make on her lecture notes.

Additionally, she still went over some governor documents, as well as private royal documents too.

Moreover, she was still a busy person, visiting the orphanage and whatnot.

So, even though her schedule was no longer jammed-packed, Lucy quickly found herself busier than Landon instead.

And just like that, the duo enjoyed their honeymoon in this manner.

Why? Because they typically had their entire mornings to themselves, only going out after 11 A.M or 1 P.M.

Hehehehe... They slept way into the mornings, enjoying each other's company as much as they could.

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9:15 A.M.

Mrrrrmm~

Lucy moaned while hugging Landon tightly in her sleep.

Her beautiful face lay on his chest as she subconsciously listened to the sounds of his heartbeat.

And soon enough, her biological clock wasn't having it anymore.

Flutter. Flutter.

Her long eyelashes fluttered in brief confusion before finally coming into acceptance of its awakening.

"Wife, good morning," Landon said warmly while playing a kiss on her forehead, which brought an even broader smile to Lucy's face.

"Hmmm... Good morning husband..." She said while leaning forward to give him a morning kiss.



And immediately after that, she fell back into a state of 'slumber.'

Of course, she wasn't sleeping but just resting her eyes to adjust herself for the day ahead.

Landon shook his head wryly, not daring to move or disturb her precious 'sleep.'

For people like them who were used to discipline, they typically woke up around a specific hour of the day.

For him, he typically woke up at 6 A.M.

And Lucy also woke up around that time.

That's why ever since 6 A.M, Lucy had already woken up more than 3 times now.

It was just that even though her mind was telling her to wake up, her body was still a little exhausted.

And it was all his fault.

Sigh... Blame him. He shouldn't have tossed her around so much last night.

Landon looked at the little lady in his arms and chuckled while still thinking about his plans for today.

That is, the Medical team, from the soldiers, navy, marines, nurses, doctors, and everyone else... had all been picked out just as he wanted.

Alright. Things would go faster from here on out

And in a blink of an eye, he would be leaving Baymard once more.

The system stared at Landon for a bit, before briefly disappearing mysteriously.

~Puff!

It had to be quick!

### **Chapter 1274 - What Exactly Was That Thing?**

~Swish!

In a heartbeat, the system vanished, as though it was never there in the first place.

And Landon, who was still enjoying the early morning hours with his newly wedded wife, had no clue about its abrupt actions.

Woosh!

At a snap of a finger, the system appeared in another region within Hertfilia.

It stared at the humans below, feeling the impending danger of what they were about to discover.

And at the same time, it also listened to the voices of those above.

Their calm and steady voices were very thunderous to any who heard them.

The voices were heavenly, seeming to be without any worries at all.

But if one listened carefully, they might be able to pick the hints of worry in those voices from above.

[It looks like the humans are about to find the Holy core.] A voice said.

And instantly, the temperature dropped even more, as the mood of those speaking was enough to cause rain and thunder to start falling within this overly bright sunny day.

This was not supposed to happen!

[Avidiatis. It looks like the thing we buried for centuries and areas ago is finally resurfacing yet again. But now, it has fallen into the wrong hands.]

[Indeed. However, we can't descend as per the rules and regulations placed in the worlds and galaxies of these sorts.]

[Yes. If this were a world of cultivation where immortals, Gods and Devils could mix, then it wouldn't be a problem. But for worlds such as these, the natural order must follow. And we can only get the Tasker to complete the jobs enlisted to them.]

[Ahhh~~ I'm so mad. Why my world? Why did you stupid old fogies choose to place that thing in my world?] A childish voice grumbled while staring at the scene in anger.

That stupid Holy core had been placed in one of her worlds when she clearly remembered voting against it.

Dammit! Dammit!

It was just unfair to get bullied this much!

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The system listened to the voices above while saying nothing at all.

Yes! The plan was for the tasker, its host, to find the Holy Core and bring its powers back to the system.

But now that it was discovered, it looks like that plan wouldn't be feasible anymore.

Of course, it could still give the host a quick mission allowing the host to vanish and fight to recover the core at this very moment.

The system knew that it was already too late.

It was hard to explain, but what has been done.

And now, the host will have a more challenging, if not the near-impossible task of winning the future as they planned.

The system stared at the scene below, only feeling pity for its host.

Technology vs what was to come.

Sigh... May the gods be with its host.

Bang!

Thunder clapped loudly in the sky as heavy rain continued to drizzle like no man's business.

And those below only looked at the weather with an ominous feeling in their hearts.

Eh? Where did this storm come from?

And how could such a storm exist in the pique of summertime?

Several people covered in mud and rain swallowed hard while staring above for a bit.

"What strange weather. It flipped so fast without anyone even seeing rain clouds approaching."

"Yes! My thoughts exactly. It looks as though the clouds just popped out of thin air and began pouring hard on us... So do you think that the heavens are against our actions?"

"Could be... Or maybe it's a phenomenon caused by the thing we're about to retrieve."

"Yes! Yes! It must be that thing. So we must get it fast before those jerks from Lampe find this place."

"For Morgany!"

"For Morgany!"

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Bang!

Drizzle. Drizzle. Drizzle~

The rain kept falling hard, turning the entire place muddy all of a sudden.

But did this deter the men?

No.

Thousands and thousands of men all stationed themselves around the massive Volcano mouth, with countless chains in their hands.

And behind them were also a few contractions attached to the chains.

Yes!

If one looked carefully, one would find that the mechanisms had the same principle as the draw ridges and whatnot.

They were rolling the chain back to bring out whatever was hidden within the Volcano.

And in this rainy and windy time, it was indeed an extremely difficult task.

But so what? They would never give up on recovering such a treasure!

"Pull! Pull! Pull!"

The scene was as though it was a blockbuster one, as thousands of men held onto several sections of the ridiculously long chains, pulling their asses off to bring out whatever was hidden within.

Pop. Pop~

Their veins popped out of their arms and even their necks, as the weight of whatever they were pulling out seemed to be astronomical.

Dammit! What the heck was that thing?

"Pull! Pull! Pull!"

The Captains and all those in command of the operation continuously yelled out words of encouragement while also standing close to the edge of the volcano, estimating how much more the men had to pull and whatnot.

From the volcano's mouth all the way down, was a far journey that needed lots and lots of chain length.

But luckily, they had been prepared for the task and had specially designed all tools needed for the job.

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Drip. Drip. Drip~

Commander Bonesaw stood as mighty as a towering pillar while getting soaked by the thunderous rains that seemed to be against them.

And beside him were of course, 2 of his most trusted men, who were very baffled by the entire scene before them.

You know, the men were pulling hard for something that wasn't even taller than them in size.

No! That thing was at most waist level and shouldn't be so heavy as to need the help of thousands to pull.

And the way they saw things now, for them to safely transport that thing away, they might have to dedicate 2/3 of an entire ship to it, just to balance out the weight of things.

F\*\*\*!

What exactly is this thing?

### **Chapter 1275 - The Holy Core**

~Gulp!

The 2 men swallowed hard while staring at the scene in shock.

"Commander... What exactly is that thing?"

Commander Bonesaw squinted his eyes calmly: "That thing is Morgany's future!"

Eh?

The duo gave each other a brief look before following behind their leader as calmly as possible.

They looked calm, but deep within them, their entire bodies were trembling whenever they thought about things deeply.

That is... For the fact that their leader hadn't told them about it yet, meant that whatever that thing is, was definitely top-secret, that couldn't be said, probably until the thing got back safely to the Morg Head Association located in all 3 Capital cities in Morgany.

Yes. As many know, Morgany had just 3 empires; The empire of Abian (where Ren is from), the empire of Andorian (where the first Siege weapon was invented), and the empire of Klaus.

And within all 3 empires, some would find the same associations in all their Capital cities.

So each Morg empire shared knowledge with one another, unifying their continent as one

And when it came to this matter, the plan was to take the thing to Abian since it was closer to where they were currently at.

But if they met with enemies, got ambushed or had to take another voyage route, then they might end up closer to the other Morg entries instead.

Nonetheless, no matter which Capital city they headed to, this wouldn't be a problem because each empire had its representatives and people in the other memories, studying, teaching, researching and taking high positions in the various academies and Associations within Morgany.

So before the team got dispatched, letters had long been dispatched to the various researchers in the other empires, permitting them to hop aboard the research team once the thing arrived.

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That's right. Finding this thing was a joint effort of all 3 empires.

So it was long agreed upon that once the thing was brought in, all 3 researchers on stand-by in each empire would hope aboard the scene like crazy.

What that meant was that if for example, the thing got to Abian's Capital successfully, the standby Researchers from Andorian and Klaus would join the research teams as fast as they could.

Of course, because a special Pirate unit was tasked with retrieving and doing the heavy lifting, they too had their own researchers who would also join in on the task.

Make no mistake. The Pirates were still Morgs. But, they also liked to get involved at the heart of all matters like these.

Why? Because those who aren't involved first hand, would have to wait for who-knows-how-long before they reaped a few benefits from it all.

But if they jumped in at the start, they would be the first group of people, along with the Monarchs, to taste the sweetened fruits of it all.

So how could they miss this chance?

No way! Their leader, who was one of the most feared people in Morgany, placed his foot down and joined in without worry.

Heh. What a joke!

Who could miss such a Godly opportunity?

The crumbs would go down to the lesser, and the chunky loaves of bread would get eaten by the sharp thinkers.

Sure. They say the patient dog gets the fatter bone.

But who wants to eat bone when they could pick out the fleshy meat and then discard the bones to the lesser ones below?

In particular, the pirates were the ones who actually solved the puzzle as to where this Holy core was hiding.

And it wasn't an easy task.

They had been trying to piece things out for over 500 years.

And it was only now that the last piece to the puzzle had been picked out and solved.

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Grrrrrrr~~~

The men gritted their teeth hard while struggling to pull out whatever was hidden within.

Their muscles clenched hard, and even their entire breathing became heavy with every breath that they took.

And those at the end of the volcano kept staring at the item that was slowly being raised, as directing the king men on what to do.

A beauty!

The thing was strange.

Hmhm.

From a single glance, the thing looked very majestic, as though it was something entirely out of this world.

Its ever-shining Golden surface was very hard to miss, even in this disastrous weather.

And maybe it was their imagination, but the things seemed to be giving off a compelling aura, as though they were standing right next to a God or something.

Strong! Very strong!

"It's coming! It's coming! Just a bit more!"

"Pull! Pull! Pull! Pull hard you some of b\*\*ches!"

~Gwahhhh!

Bam!

The golden object was finally above the volcano, resting at its very tip.

The men looked at the thing and suddenly burst out in glee.

"We did it! We did it! We finally yanked it out!"

"Hahahahahaha! Hooray for Morgany!"

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The men all cheered briefly while feeling their bodies quake and ache hard.

Pulling that thing off was indeed the hardest bit of the task. And now, the simplest thing was to lean the item to the side and carefully roll it down the steep mountainside.

F\*\*\*!

Some people's hands were already bleeding from all the pulling they had been doing.

It was as though they had been pulling a ship for a long impossible distance by hand.

But that wasn't all. It was best to imagine pulling a ship that was about to go down the thundering waves of a waterfall.

That is, do you know how much every day they used to do so by hand?

At the start of their pulling saga, gravity and the thing's weight had actually caused several people to get pulled in and fall off into falcons instead.

That's right. Some people had already died at the start, falling deep down the volcano's abyss.

So this moment was indeed a celebratory one for them.

It was just that, how could things go so smoothly, especially with how angered the Heavens were?

"Hooray! Hooray! We got it out!"

"Yes! Yes! Whether it's the heavens or even the devils themselves, who can stop us now?"

The men all cheered merrily when suddenly, a deadly lightning bolt struck the spot where the item rested.

Bam!

Instantly, everyone's face turned grim.

What was going on here?

**Chapter 1276 - The Danger Of The Holy Core**

The heavens were furious!

And in this split moment, everyone was instantly filled with dread while watching the thick lighting bolt descend from above.

Zap!

The mighty bolt struck the floor below the object, breaking it into several pieces.

And before everyone could say the words Abracadabra, the stone-like object that stood at the tip of the volcano's mouth, was now falling backwards along with some of the crumbling pieces of ground too.

"No!!!!!!~"

Several people screamed in dread as it all happened in slow motion right before their very eyes.

Woosh!

Several groups of unprepared people were dragged in with the thing, as they suddenly found themselves falling into the Volcano's greedy mouths.

"Ahhhhhhhh~"

The force of gravity on the falling object caused several of them to get yanked into the air, flying across the scene and falling directly through the volcano's mouth.

Horrible! Horrible!

The weight of that thing was just so horrible that it caused such a reaction from those who were unprepared a second ago.

Just a while back, they had been holding onto the chains and feeling mighty proud for retrieving the object from below.

What were the words that some of them said?

Ah yes... Didn't they say that be it the heavens or devils, no one would be able to stop them from retrieving the item?

"Ahhhhhh~"

Instantly, several people fell to their doom as they got swallowed up by the volcano.

But of course, even with the misfortunes now, only a minority of people fell to their demise.

"Everyone, stand firm! Stand firm and pull! Pull! Pull! Pull!!!!!"

Drizzle. Drizzle. Drizzle~

Bang. Bang. Bang~

"Pull! Pull! Pull! Pull!"

In the heavy rain and thundering weather, the men all struggled to firmly plant their feet to the ground while exclaiming loudly and pulling as hard as they could.



"Grrrrah~~"

~Boeing!

The object now stopped falling, getting suspended in mid-air down below the volcano's mouth, yet again.

The volcano's mouth was very narrow, while its insides were so broad, vast and very intimidating for any who looked into it from above.

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Dammit! Dammit!

Bonesaw gritted his teeth in anxiety while staring at the scene before him.

He had never failed a mission before, and he sure as hell wouldn't be failing this one.

So no matter the weather, forget it. They had to retrieve the core, even if it meant sacrificing half of the army.

This Holy core must never fall into the hands of those bastard Adonis people in Lampe, Ir any other forces that might use it to rise to the ranks.

No! No! No! He would never allow that to happen!

With fierceness in his eyes, Bonesaw quickly joined the gang of people, putting in his own efforts in retrieving the item from the volcano's mouth too.

That's right.

Because of his record and accomplishments, they had explicitly selected him for the job.

So how could he fail his superiors?

Bonesaw sneered deeply.

He didn't believe that this was the wrath of the heavens, but that this was the work of the Holy core.

Oh yes! He didn't know the detailed history of the Holy core, but he felt that given the secrecy of the mission, it should be the reason for the terrible weather above.

So... Was the weather somehow triggered by the fact that they were extracting the Holy core from its resting place?

The superior did say that the Holy core was a mysterious object altogether. So it's most likely that it was all caused by the Holy core.

Yes! Yes! The heavens were always by their side, so how could the heavens be mad at them?

Impossible!

.

"Pull! Pull! It's almost out again. Pull! Pull! Pull!~~"

The system watched the scene below as the men swarmed and gathered around like ants in a colony.

Sometimes, a person along their line would slip against the wet floors, causing a few disparities here and there.

The struggle was real.

And each and every person down there was fighting not just gravity, but the weather and the business of the ground too.

This volcano was indeed a dormant one, as it hasn't erupted for hundreds and hundreds of years.

So grass had already started taking root on it, and the ground had indeed begun softening and giving way for other species to nestle in it.

But whether the volcano was extinct or not was unclear to many.

That said, the rains here had done a great job of muddying the grounds, making the task a whole lot harder for these men.

But the system knew that soon enough, they would be able to bring out the Holy core from its resting place.

And just like they had said, for various reasons, it was already too late to stop the enemy's involvement in the matter.

Firstly, the enemy had over 5 different backup fleets stationed around the island and even stationed in other positions along the place too.

That is, if one team failed, another would always step in.

These Morgs had spared no expense to get the Holy Core in their hands.

But that wasn't all.

The Holy core had already begun reacting. So it was already too late, to say the least.

As for the Holy core's capabilities, heh... They were also shockingly frightening.

The Holy core was a gift to humanity ages ago when humans were still a minority of the world's population.

It was gifted during the time when the heavens gifted special humans with powers too.

The Holy core was sort of a last resort for humanity, just in case they couldn't overcome the giant creatures roaming around the place.

But you know, after things started looking good, the books on the Holy core mysteriously started getting destroyed.

And as time went on, those who knew about the Holy core died ages ago.

So now, who can remember anything about the Holy core?

It was something that the heavens had painstakingly tried to hide.... That is, until today.

### **Chapter 1277 - A Change In Plans**

The Holy Core.

People would treat it as a myth or a made-up story if anyone ever told them about it.

It was akin to someone telling a modern-day person to believe that the legends of Hercules weren't just myths.

No matter how one examined it, people would take it as a made-up story of some sort.

And that was how the Holy core matter was treated.

In fact, over 99.9% of people had never even heard of it in their lives!

Holy core? What was that?

(?^?)

There was hardly any information about the Holy core.

But as you know, in human history, there were always people who always found ways to be black sheep amongst the herd.

That is, way back ages ago, some greedy people tried to gather information about the Holy Core, trying to steal it for themselves.

But before they could lift a finger, they all met their demise, and their books and records of it all were destroyed... Or so it seemed.

hehehehehehe!

Those people had been leaving clues to the matter in places that one wouldn't think to look at.

And It wasn't until centuries later that a young man found a journal of his ancestors, mentioning something bizarre in them.

.

Hmhm.

That young man happened to be the Head of the Pirate organization at the time.

And thus began his search for this treasure that no one had heard of or believed existed.

Now, 500 and something years later, the man's dreams have been fulfilled through his descendants.

Of course, they also worked alongside the Morg monarchs because some of the clues were located in places that they couldn't access without permission... Like the Abian treasury, which had a single art style painting that was a clue to the whole mystery.

The revelation was so mind-blowing that it shocked countless people silly.

Some clues were also hidden in other continents too.

And at one point, they had even risked it to infiltrate Lampe and steal something from those Adonis bastards.

F\*\*\*!

They had done a lot just to get to this stage.

All Monarchs in Morgany were in on it, as well as several nobles who kept the matter top secret too.

It was also one of the real reasons why they conquered the seas and dominated the lands.

They were out on a treasure hunt, as though they were in some sort of Indiana Jones movie.

And now, since they knew practically nothing about the Holy Core, they had to research, experiment on it to find out what was so special about this Holy core.

Nonetheless, the system knew that it should take a lot of time before these Morg humans could understand and fully grasp the terror of the Holy Core.

However, that didn't stop it from feeling the impending danger from the situation.

The Current Technology vs the Holy Core's capabilities.

Sigh... Its host was bound to have a difficult time in future.

.

[You old bullies! I knew it was a bad idea right from the start. Didn't I tell you all not to gift my world with that Holy Core? Bad guys! Bad guys! You're all bullying me because of my age, aren't you?!]

[Alright. Alright, settle down everyone. There's no use getting angry over what's done and over with. The core is already uncovered, so we must focus on what to do next.]

[Hmhm... Even though we can't directly interfere with what's going on in this world, with the tasker around, we should be able to turn the situation around pretty, no?]

[It's hard to say when it involves the Holy core. The tasker might not be able to pull this off.]

[I'm afraid I have to disagree with you, Claudius. The thing is already reacting now. So we only need the tasker to deal with things before the Morg humans unlock its full potential. It's just that with the tasker's current strength, it's impossible to have a chance against the Holy Core's potentials. And that's why we should gift the tasker with new Alien technologies to prepare for the worst.]

[Hmmm... Not a bad idea. But whatever we gift the tasker with, shouldn't go against the natural order of things. And while these Morg humans focus on finding out all they can about the core, the tasker can also develop faster. Because just as you said, with his current strength, it would be impossible to go up against the Holy Core's powers!]

[Hmhm. The tasker needs to develop fast and acquire the Holy core before the Morgs can unleash 100% of its powers, or else it would be too late for the tasker.]

[Then it is decided! Now Go back to the tasker at once.]

Bang!

The system, who had been patiently listening and waiting for its orders, swiftly vanished from the so it as instructed.

Its host may not know it, but at this moment, the wheels of change had already begun, leaving him in an unfavourable position.

That is, because of the emergence of the core, they couldn't afford to waste time anymore.

It was time to speed things up!

Look.

After the Holy core got retrieved, then they would afford to slow down again.

But for now, things would get a whole lot quicker and faster than one could imagine.

And Landon, who was still thinking about planning a sweet honeymoon with Lucy in the near future, would soon find out that he wouldn't even have a second's rest from here on out.

Why? All because the heavens had left their stupid core in Hertfilia.

(:T^T:)

.

Back in Baymard, Landon had already freshened up, taken his shower and had also eaten a scrumptious breakfast in bed with his darling wife.

Landon smiled so much that his cheekbones were already hurting a bit.

But did he care? Nope!

Bahahahahahahahaha!

For the last few days, that evil system of his hadn't bothered or hijacked him as he feared.

You know, in the beginning, he was afraid that the bastard would kidnap him on his wedding day.

But he waited and waited, with no sight of the dog system. And even at this relaxation time after the wedding, the system hadn't bothered him at all.

So how could he not be happy?

Landon felt as though bells of joy were ringing all around him for having the liberty to enjoy these past few days in peace.

Well... Now, even if he had to brief those going out for missions, that was essentially the only thing he had planned.

Other than that, he just had to spend time with his friends and Lucy, as though they were tourists in Baymard.

Aiyy~

What a good life this was.

Ding!

[Host. There's been a change of plans.]

' '

Landon's smile suddenly froze in place...

F\*\*\*!

### **Chapter 1278 - A Worried Monarch**

[Host. There's been a change of plans.]

' '

....

Vrrrrmmmm~::~

Landon sat in the back seat of his vehicle, alongside Lucy, as they now made their way towards the Briefing hall for the big meeting.

This meeting and briefing event was a huge one scheduled to take place in a mutual location, which was within one of the government buildings that had the 6th largest Auditorium in all of Baymard.

You know, this briefing was in a way, a formal meeting which also involved members from various ministries like that of Health, would be attending as well.

Of course, since the Monarchs from other memories were here, it would also be good if they attended too.

This was an epidemic that could go global if any mistakes emerged.

So they were first going to give a presentation and general knowledge about the Zombie Virus.

And during this time while the fight for treatment was going on, merchants and several travellers should be the ones that had to be extra careful too.

Anyway, apart from role and responsibility appropriations, there were many things that had to be discussed in the meeting too.

That's why it was paramount for the many invited members to be in attendance for the matter.

Additionally, when the cure finally got made, they might need to import a lot more raw materials from some empires.

So it was just a heads up because during that time, everyone had to work efficiently and fast, just like how nations and countries back on earth worked hard to collectively find cures for several viruses in human history.

.

Well, they were now on their way to the meeting.

But unbeknownst to Lucy, Landon's mind wasn't particularly focused on the document in his hand.

'System, what do you mean?'

[Host... As I said, there's been a change of plans. And just this once, you've been rewarded 2 new alien technologies for all your hard work so far.]

Landon listened to the system and smirked in disbelief.

Hard work? Why notice his hard work only now?

Impossible!

It was impossible for this black-bellied system to be this kind all of a sudden.

So what was the catch here? What was all this about?

Heh.

As the saying goes, there was no free lunch in this world.

So he would be a fool to believe that these gifts wouldn't come with responsibilities.

And you know, the more he thought about it, the more his insides went to a state of chaotic frenzy.

His muscles clenched, and his arms now became riddled with goosebumps on this hot sunny day.

Danger. Danger... He could sense that soon enough, he would have to face something dangerous in the near future.

And this only made him feel paralyzed for a moment.

What was it?

What could it be that would make the system award him with not 1, but 2 alien technologies?

No.

Now, he wasn't annoyed about the system's intrusion anymore.

Why? Because he now felt as though the real fate of the entire Hertfilia might be riding on his victory in future.

So for his family, friends, his people and everyone else, he knew that only he could step up and protect them all!

.

'System... It's bad, isn't it.'

[Smart host. It is indeed what you humans say bad.]

Grim.

Landon's face turned grim with anxiety after picking up the heaviness of the matter from the system's time alone.

And during this time, his gloomy aura immediately caused the temperature in the vehicle to drop too.

"Hubby... What's wrong? What's the matter with you?"

Lucy also had goosebumps just from sitting next to Landon.

Wrong!

His entire aura made her feel as though she was swimming in ice water, which was ironic, seeing how hot the weather was outside.

Indeed.

Being a monarch wasn't an easy one at all.

And you know, even before she became Queen, her princess duties also caused her to think and worry a lot as well.

So imagine how much her poor husband had to think about?

He was the father of the nation, the ears to listen to everyone's concerns and worries.

So she understood just how much he had on his shoulders since she too had a lot to worry about as well.

But at this moment, she couldn't help worrying about whatever was troubling her darling husband now.

No! The worry and gloom emitting from him were so strong that she almost felt as though Baymard was about to get invaded at this very moment.

That was how heavy his aura was.

.

"Hubby... Husband, what's the matter?"

Eh?

Landon quickly shook his head and snapped out of his thoughts, only to come face to face with her worrisome gaze.

Sigh... Blame him for worrying his baby so much.

With a gentle touch, he ran his finger across her neck to her ears lovingly: "Wife. I'm fine... I'm just bothered about the virus matter. It seems to be a really troublesome issue altogether."

Lucy's eyes lit up in understanding since she too felt very panicked and terrified the first time Landon gave her a teaser on the matter.

Goodness! What would they do if Zalipnian or the entirety of Pyno got affected?



Lucy bit he is in worry, as now, she too had a grave expression on her face as well.

Landon looked at her and felt it funny.

~Flick.

He flicked her forehead playfully: "Wife, have I ever told you how pretty you look when you're serious?"

" "

Shameless! Shameless!

She was married to a shameless man!

Lucy felt her face turn red after listening to Landon's sugar-coated mouth.

And sure enough, she had already forgotten about what she was worried about a few seconds ago.

The Zombie Virus?

What was that?

(?^?)

.

Phew.

Like so, Landon had finally managed to control himself and ease his worried wife in the process as well.

But deep down, he was still panicked more than anything else.

'System. Talk! Who or what exactly am I up against?'

### **Chapter 1279 - Alien Tech?**

'System. Talk! Who or what exactly am I up against?'

[Host... That's a good question. However, I won't say too much about the matter. For now, all you need to know about the situation is already sent to you, along with a few new missions as well.]

New missions?

Very quickly, Landon's eyes glowed with a strange light as he hastily opened the invisible blue screen hovering opposite his face.

And since Lucy was right beside him, he could only use his thoughts to control the blue panel board.

Tick-Tock. Tick-Tock.

Time seemed to jump too swiftly, as 4 whole minutes went by in a flash.

And by the end, Landon's entire palms felt sweaty and clammy.

Now had a somewhat clear understanding of what he had to do.

As expected. The fate of the world might truly lie in his hands. So he couldn't dare to slip up or fail!

But now, something else bothered him again: 'System... Why can't I know more about the Holy Core? If I'm to retrieve it before it gets 100% of its powers unleashed, then shouldn't I at least be allowed to know more than what you've given?'

[I'm afraid not, host. You'll have to work with what you have and overcome the difficulties ahead by yourself.]

Landon sighed and nodded his head in understanding.

Well, at least he tried. Better to ask and try than not to. Hey. Who knows... Maybe he would've gotten lucky just now.

.

The Holy core.

Landon massaged his chin deeply.

For now, he already understood how the thing got to Hertfilia.

It could be said that in this matter, the Gods and Goddesses had indeed shot themselves in the foot.

That is, don't they know the greediness of humans?

It was like putting gold somewhere and asking people not to touch it forever.

Even if the majority agree, there will always be a few black sheep that would risk it all for their own selfish desires.

And maybe at the time, humanity truly needed that aid and even felt tremendously grateful to the heavens, so much so that they began destroying all knowledge of the Holy Core.

But even then, you'll still find people who would choose to start from the flock.

So yes. Landon wasn't surprised by how things turned out.

Well, at least, he had to give credit to the human descendants who took it upon themselves to destroy all relative information they could at the time.

You know, back then, the presence of the heavens was way stronger than it is now.

And people firmly believed and feared the wrath of the heavens too.

So they collectively did as they were told, no questions asked.

That is, they didn't even know the powers of this Holy core and didn't dare to find out about it too.

Sigh... The people back then were not the people of now.

So even when a very sparse and limited amount of information about the core was discovered, the Morgs still held onto that tiny glimmer of hope, trying to find out if they were on to something or not.

Their actions were akin to someone trying to find Pandora's box back on earth.

Everyone knows it's a legend. But would people truly risk so many resources and years just to find it?

Landon thought almost no one would do it.

But believe it or not, some people still formed cult groups, looking for Pandora's box with all their might.

Who knows... Maybe they would get lucky, just like the pirates did after piecing everything for 500 and something years before they could get to this point.

Looking at it now, Landon didn't know whether to smack them on the head for how much work they had now given him, or get impressed by their firm hearts, joining about looking for the Holy core when they had almost nothing to go off on.

Sigh... Humans were truly a terrible group of species.

And even now that he was trying to solve the virus thing, do you know that someone pimple would still want to play with the virus to see if they could create an even deadlier one?

Even though he was human, Landon sometimes felt that humanity belonged in the garbage bin.

Just throw them... Throw them all away.

.

Landon shook his head wryly while cursing those damn Morgs in his mind.

'System, what do you mean when you say that the core is already activated?'

[Host. Simply put, the moment the core was taken off its resting place, it already became active.]

'Oh... Then doesn't this mean that as time goes on, the core will only grow stronger and stronger as well?'

[That is correct, host. But this is just the catalyst and not the key factor that would make the core unleash its full potential.]

Landon listened and understood something.

So? Did this mean that it all depended on how much the Morgs could bring out?

'Hmmm... System, you still haven't examined what this 'reaction' thing is all about. So I take it that it's the sole reason why you can't send me to swoop in and take the core?'

[Yes. Host. Moreover, your system space cannot contain the Core. And the host doesn't currently have enough points to upgrade it yet. So after raking up more points, then the host can talk to this system.]

'Oh.' Landon responded while checking on all his points.

Sigh. The system was right.

Whether it was technological points, Bonus points or even Development points, he found that he always used them up speedily.

Hey! There was always so much to do here, so he spent his points whenever needed.

Again, he also bought some minor technology patterns and knowledge from the system using his points. So yeah. If he wanted to upgrade his space to accommodate the Holy core's raw energy and being, then he would have to wait until he completed more tasks.

The good thing was that from the system's words, the core had just left its resting place on a faraway island.

And from estimation, it should reach the closest Morg Capital city in another 10 and a half months.

That is, he had all this time before the Morgs began researching that thing.

Good.

.

Forming his plan in mind, Landon now focused on his new missions.

Eh?

Alien tech?

How interesting.

### **Chapter 1280 - How Can This Be?**

Without a moment to lose, Landon quickly opened his mission tab hastily.

But before the missions could open up, a strange notice tab popped up first.

[Notice: Before commencing, please accept the heavenly gifts bestowed on to the host.]

" "

Blink. Blink.

Now he was confused. But thinking about the alien technology the system called about, these gifts should be it, right?

'Accept.'

[Permission granted. Due to the Host's acceptance, the system will transfer all knowledge of the gifts to the host's mind in 3... 2... 1... Brace yourself, host.]

Eh? Brace himself?

Landon was taken aback.

At this point, shouldn't he be used to recovering the host's usual level of pain every time he received or absorbed information?

So what was so different about this time?

Or could it be because of the alien tech?

In just this second alone, Landon's mind was filled with countless questions and guesses.

He honestly thought that the pain level wouldn't be too far off than what he typically received.

But how could he have known that the system was secretly trying to kill him?

F\*\*\*!

What sort of pain was this?

.

'Grrrrr~~

Landon's veins popped, and his entire body quaked from the daunting pain in his brain.

Like a spider that had successfully nestled its prey in its web, the pain seemed to wrap itself around Landon's entire body too.

His breathing speeded up, and even his great pores began releasing salty water from them.

But how could Landon give up without a fight?

Very quickly, he used more than 90% of his strength to stabilize himself as fast as he could, even though his brain felt like it was about to split into a million pieces.

Lucy was seated next to him, working on her documents. So he dared not allow her to notice his current state.

'Come on, man. Brace yourself!'

~Grrrrr~~

Landon bit his lips and clenched every muscle in his body while quickly absorbing all knowledge from the heavens.

And the more he assimilated, the more shocked and awed he was.

Everything lasted for just 5 seconds.

But to him, he seemed to have lived for a million years instead.

Pain. Pain. Pain.

This was the highest level of pain he had ever received, both in his past and present life.

F\*\*\*!

Even getting hit by Truck-Kun wasn't this painful, alright?

The pain was so much that his entire body, including his models, were almost at their limit.

So if he dared to relax his guard, do you know how embarrassing the situation would be?

Landon couldn't help frowning hard.

'Note to self. Future Alien tech must be assimilated in private.'

Yes. He couldn't allow such an embarrassment to occur.

Of course, more than anything, he desperately wanted to release a long sigh from relief and express his glee for getting past this tough time.

Too bad Lucy was right beside him, so all he could do was bottle it all off.

.

Landon stealthily massaged his temples away from Lucy's corner eye while going over things once more.

It took another 4 minutes for his numb brain to settle down after the immense pain it received.

And the end result didn't disappoint Landon at all.

Tsk. Sure enough. Alien tech was indeed Alien tech.

Landon couldn't go marveling at both gifts he received.

[Gifts: Metal Enhancer Technology from the D-rated Planet Juangia, and a high-tier mechanical builder design from the D-rated planet Nebun.]

Landon was very pleased with the rewards.

However, something else shocked and bothered him too.

'Eh? D-rated planets? System, how could such awesome technologies be from D-rated planets? Is there some mistake somewhere?'

[Host. You seem to have forgotten that the current planet you are in is but a K-rank one. And even your former planet was at best an F-rank one. Worlds rank up to A-rank, before getting to the top-tier S, SS, and SSS rank ones. So to you, maybe these items are godly. But I assure you host; they're nothing to be so shocked about.]

Landon almost slapped his face in disbelief after realizing that the heavenly gifts he received were just casually gifted, to say the least.

But to an earthling like himself, this was just too great a technology to dismiss!

Lying trough.

So the earth was only an F-rank world?

He recalled that the system had once told him this. But because he hadn't particularly received any alien tech. He dismissed it.

However, after recovering these 2 godly gifts, he was taken aback because they came from D-rank planets.

To him, they were both Triple S-class and not D-ranked. So how can this radiation not shock him?

Now he wondered what those triple S-class worlds would look like.

Maybe to them, these D-class goods are ancient and old-fashioned instead.

Nonetheless, Landon was still eased and satisfied with the gifts he received.

That is, it might be trash to those in the upper worlds.

But to him, these goods were no doubt heavenly and would make things a whole lot faster from now on.

.

Of course, Landon was shocked again by the mere fact that he arrived in a K-class world.

Then those worlds that were still in the stone age or way further back in the prehistoric times should be far worse than this K-world, right?

Too shocking!

Suddenly, he felt a little sorry for any taskers who were set back to those pre-historic times in hopes of developing the place.

That is, wouldn't their work be heavier to deal with than his?

Pity. Pity.

Hopefully, they have nicer systems to accompany them instead.

Landon shook his head wryly.

Well, there was no use thinking of these things any further.

At least for now, he still had his missions to complete. And that was getting the alien tech built A.S.A.P.

But what exactly were these in techs?

They might look simple, and many who don't understand might be disappointed by these seemingly simple-named Technologies.

But what if he said that now he could build sturdier but lighter planes in just under a month?

And... what if he said that part of the technology also involved levitation?