

TECHNOLOGY 991

Chapter 991 - End Of Meeting: GoodBye Pyno, Hello Romain!

Sirius' eyes darted back and forth, deep in thought, as he looked at the design mechanism again.

He felt like bashing his head in the wall for his stupidity.

Maybe he was too busy with official matters and never had time to think of this?

No! That wasn't the case.

Landon here, even though he was so busy, still managed to always think of something new.

As expected of someone he looked up to.

Sirius was about to look up to the projection again, when a thought struck him.

Eh?

He quickly gripped the document hard before doing some inner calculations in his mind.

And right on cue, Landon finished his brief presentation.

"Any questions or suggestions?"

Heheheheh.

Sirius ousted back his glasses excitedly.

(*□^□)

"Just now, I think we can also cause more havoc by placing large quantities of black powder and shooting at the enemies."

Everyone's eyes lit up excitedly.

Yes! Presently, they already shot black powder on these small arrows while targeting their enemies.

So imagine the effect it would cause when larger amounts got shot alongside the massive arrows?"

William could already see it now: "I think we should start creating them and placing them around the coastal cities, towns and villages, all around the empires. We need to install them fast!"

Landon agreed as well: "Hmm. To make this go faster, I'll send out some soldiers, alongside the Navy, to assist you all in sailing around the shores fast and securing the place. Of Course, the goal is to get things done before the end of Summer next year. First, you all need to create massive supplies of these Ballistas. And when you've created your first batch, we will assist you."

Penelope nodded in agreement: "I agree. If possible, can we also find a way to mount these devices on the lower floors of our ships? Just shooting an arrow of black powder at any pirate ship would bore a hole at its wooden walls."

Damn!

Another brilliant idea.

And Minister Marcus, who was appointed to take down the meeting minutes, was hurriedly jotting down as many points as possible.

Brilliant! Just brilliant.

As expected of Queen Penelope.

Astar, who was sticking on his third lollipop, innocently stretched his head: "Why don't we try shooting ourselves?"

" "

Everyone's eyes lit up in agreement.

"Yes! Prince Astar does raise a good point. We can try shooting other things. Not just an arrow."

"Yes! The entire mechanism works like a slingshot. So if we can make a few adjustments, why not shoot other things down too?"

Penelope, Henry and everyone else added more ideas to the matter.

Minute-taker Minister Marcus was now very impressed with Astar.

What a guy!

Landon: (-_-)

So, they were just going to translate his words from dumb to brilliant?

He couldn't be the only one noticing this, right?

Or could it be that his ears always picked up the wrong words when it came to Astar?

How come everyone always heard some genius idea while he heard another?

Looking at everyone, he was flabbergasted.

Even Henry and Raul looked at Astar in awe while Carmelo kept telling Micheal that he had a good kid.

Of course, Micheal was very proud and laughed loudly while saying his son was Manly.

And everyone else was impressed as well.

Forget it. It looks like he was the only one sane here.

Well, provided they were happy.

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As for the matter of throwing things other than arrows, it was indeed a good idea... Even though that wasn't what Astar meant.

The thing was, there were different kinds of Ballistas. Some great for sniping people, harassing the enemy, destroying armoured targets and so on.

Everything depended on weights, adjustments and other things depending on their uses.

And what surprised Landon was how these people had actually started making changes to his basic design.

Everyone showed their brain power here.

Yes... He was willing to give that last credit to Astar.

~Scribble, Scribble, Scribble

William used his pencil to draw on the side of the document while thinking of another idea.

"Astar just said that we could shoot other things.

So why don't we shoot hand-sized stones?"

Landon heard him and was shocked.

One should know that back on earth, the Romans used Ballistas to shoot moderately sized stones, pots of flashing tar and other horrible things.

The ballista was basically a very controlled slingshot that ensured that it met its target.

So with just a few adjustments, they would widen the thin area meant to hold the arrows, opening it up for moderate-sized stones and so on.

Landon couldn't help giving two thumbs up to William. He even drew a small diagram indicating that the space there should be opened up.

Sigh... The sons and daughters of heaven were truly formidable.

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Sirius, on hearing about stones, thought of another idea: "I think we might be able to throw giant stones at the enemy in future. But not with this Ballista. We will have to come up with something else. I think I'll study this mechanism first and see what I can do."

Micheal: "Hmhm. I think this design gives us a general idea of what we can do in future."

Everyone else nodded in agreement.

Their minds were filled with so many bright ideas.

And to be honest, they couldn't wait to start doing things and testing their theories.

Lucius smiled: "The brat knew that you would get pumped up. So he particularly had some wood and other things sent to the barracks. If you all want, you can spend your next 4 days making a single Ballista. Just to get the feel of things."

"Yes!" Everyone answered excitedly.

Landon chuckled at their enthusiasm.

~Ding.

[Congratulations on connecting the first U.N meeting, as well as Sharing the designs for the Ballista.]

Landon's smile broadened even more.

Good.

Now that this was down and over with, it was time to prepare and set off.

It was time to leave the Pyno Continent!

This was already the last week of November.

And all he wanted now was to have an uneventful December before leaving January 5th.

Could the heavens just do that tiny favour for him?

Nope!

Right now, unbeknownst to him, a few of his men were in a very, very, bad situation.

Chapter 992 - What Now?

The night sky was cloudy, sad and overly quiet without the sounds of night creatures.

~Drrrrrrrrr~

The heavy rain poured down hard on the forest, as it made the land muddy, wet and slippery.

The night that was already filled with gloom, suddenly became tense as 3 men currently scrambled through the forests, as if running away from some impending danger.

The men with all their might, while trying their best to conserve their energy as well.

Josh carefully ran, avoiding all the slippery spots on the forest floors deep in thought.

He was presently running through the thick forest regions alongside 2 other soldiers.

And where were they?

In Deiferus, of course.

Things should've gone by smoothly. But there was a sudden glitch that left them in deep sh**.

F***!

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Josh was out here on a mission, collecting all the thrown and abandoned babies dumped here.

He and his team worked alongside some of Henry's most trusted men to scramble and find all the children they could.

The scene was not pretty.

They found babies already half-eaten, babies whose bodies were badly injured, and even several bones lying about the place.

Some parts of the lakes they saw were all red.

Probably, the babies that got dumped into the water were chewed to death by the creatures in the water.

It was just too cruel.

The forest region around the village was a famous one because it was one of the designated regions where babies were allowed to get dumped.

No matter where one was within Deiferus, they could only throw their babies in only 6 Forest regions spread across the Empire.

And there were specific dates when babies got thrown, which was once at the end of every season.

It was believed that those were the times when the gates of hell would welcome these children back to where they belonged.

After all, disfigured and weak babies were the sign of evil.

There was just a lot of mumbo jumbo involved in these things that made him roll his eyes heavenward in disbelief.

And even though Henry had just taken over, the rules and policy changes hadn't reached all places within Deiferus... Not to talk of the fact that the councils are opposing him for stopping the practice of throwing or killing babies.

That said, a large number of babies are still getting dumped at the middle or end of each season.

During Winter, Babies are dumped on March 1~5th.

During Spring, they're dumped on June 1~5th.

In Summer, it's September 1~5th.

And in Fall, it's December 1~5th.

They usually keep the babies somewhere and feed them well, while transporting them to the designated forest regions that would send them straight back to hell.

Even if the babies didn't die, it's believed that they must still lead a life of suffering to pay for their sins.

That's why many who escape the forest still end up as slaves and so on.

For many, that's what they deserve for being born weak or disfigured.

But now that Henry took over, they had to stop the practice of throwing babies away.

Of course, the news hadn't reached all places within Deiferus yet.

So that's where they stepped in.

Henry, alongside Landon, requested that they collect these Babies.

Henry had already stayed in an orphanage, thanks to the aid of some Baymardians who went to Deiferus as an internship to manage and aid in running the orphanages.

They also proposed that the orphanage should try growing food to cut down costs.

But they shouldn't be cruel or too demanding of others.

They now taught the Deifers how to manage things, care for the children, and so on.

Many in Baymard also donated to this new orphanage as a charity, which greatly pleased Henry.

In fact, Deiferus wasn't the only place that started making orphanages. All other empires did so, taking in abandoned babies and children below a certain age here and there.

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And so, Josh, his men, and Henry's men worked hard finding these lost babies in the woods.

Today was the 8th of December, and funny enough, the mission was already completed, and the babies were now on their way to the Deiferus' Capital.

And while everyone left, Josh and 4 other soldiers stayed behind.

Why? Because they had another mission to complete here.

As planned, they had to go undercover and closely watch a few council members in the neighbouring city.

And so, they turned in all their Baymardian gadgets and weapons, wore farmer outfits, a good quality see-through raincoat, rubber farmer boots from Baymard and started farming.

They were the items that were already commonly used by many.

Of course, while undercover, they couldn't carry Baymard gadgets.

What if they got caught?

The only time they were allowed to do so, is if they were in a swift mission that involved them killing their targets immediately.

But they were here to go undercover and investigate till January 25th.

So they had to be as bland as possible.

Now, they weren't soldiers... but farmers!

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Very quickly, they found an improvised Inn that allowed them to stay if they could take care of horses in the stables.

When the inn meant staying, they didn't say that they would allow them to sleep on a bed.

Nope!

The inn owner emptied one of the stable stalls, asked them to sleep there and keep watch at the horses throughout the night.

They were also in charge of removing horse dung, feeding the horses and so on.

At first, Josh wanted to work as a farmer.

But this arrangement was also good.

They also worked alongside a few arrogant stable boys/men.

Another thing to know about their work is that they typically slept after 2 A.M.

Some customers who were drinking late into the night, would then take their horses to ride back home.

Whether they got back safely or not was none of their business.

The inn owner just wanted them awake to hand over the horses.

Anyway, Josh wasn't complaining about this setup.

It worked just well for him.

At night, 3 of them went out to investigate, while 2 stayed behind to keep a lookout at things in the inn.

That's how they had been doing for the last two days.

But today, things seemed to go completely wrong.

Dammit!

What now?

Chapter 993 - Hidden Answers

~Swish~

Josh plunged through the woods alongside 2 others while carrying a child in his arms.

They panted steadily and peered through the shadowy forest from time to time.

Even with the clouds covering the moon and the Fall rain falling hard, the place wasn't entirely dark.

And as they ran, they could hear several loud so splattering footsteps behind, stumping on the muddy terrain while chasing them vigorously.

"They're over there! Don't let them escape!"

Dammit!

Josh turned around and caught a glimpse of a reddish shirt, making his face grim.

These people had been chasing them for a while now.

There were about 800 enemies and just 3 of them.

To be honest, if the enemies were around 100~150, Josh felt like he and his men would be able to take them on.

But they were a thousand. And that alone was something they couldn't handle.

So their best bet was to run as far as they could.

Looking at the 5-year-old boy in his hands, Josh couldn't help remembering the scenes that led to this chase.

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Earlier on, they had been spying on one of the Council members, only to hear some shocking news.

This Council member was one of the people in charge of kidnapping and shipping slaves to the Pirates.

That's right.

The people chasing him were pirates.

But why exactly were they here?

Shipping slaves wouldn't bring them here, as the council member typically shipped them to a close-by pirate island, where the Pirates would then pick the package up.

So what made them come all the way here?

Surprisingly, the reason had to do with this little kid.

Her identity is a shocking one.

The boy is the only Son of the imprisoned Countess Yanya Shumo within the empire of Abian, in Morgany.

Why was this Miss Yanya imprisoned?

Apparently, her father was a famous person who created some ancient fighting techniques, which defeated countless others and brought fear to the Monarch of Abian.

What caused even more chaos was that it was rumoured that her father also wrote out a design plan of something unknown weapon that could bring destruction.

Though no one was even sure if it would work or not, greed still filled the Monarch and countless others.

And so, as typical fashion, the Monarch, some nobles, alongside the pirates, designed the poor guy's downfall after refused to give in.

They looked at cruelly and wasted no time in scheming against him, hoping to raid his home and find these secret techniques.

But unfortunately, they couldn't find a single thing!

And so, they turned their attention to Yanya.

They felt that Yanya, who was the only child and daughter of their foe, should know where her father hid these things.

Josh had a hunch that she denied knowing where they were, which got her imprisoned.

Well, they probably imprisoned her differently from what many would expect.

Maybe she could be Rapunzel in a tower?

Josh didn't know.

But sure enough, he was right.

They forced her to marry a noble, who in turn tried to woo her and pry her mouth open to find where these secrets were.

And when things didn't go as planned, the man should r.a.p.e, torture, and beat her up, forcing her to speak.

It was a miracle that she could give birth to such a child under the dastardly hands of the Count.

To make matters worse, the count had 3 other wives.

So one can imagine her life there.

Josh didn't know how she did it.

But just when the child was born, he was shipped here by her faithful guard.

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From what they found, the guard was meant to bring the child to Terique.

But somehow, the duo ended up in Deiferus.

Just like that, the boy grew up not even knowing his own identity growing up and thought he was a Deifer.

However, his uncle(hidden guard) had always told him not to get too noticed and live a simple life of a farmer.

The boy wasn't stupid. He could sense that something was wrong and decided to follow in the footsteps of the guard. Always laying low, never getting noticed for anything.

Now, the boy is 5 and has been living as a farmer ever since.

Of course, it wasn't time for him to join the Deifer camp for training yet.

So he just stayed with the guard, who he thought was his uncle all this time.

The duo took on the role of poor farmers.

Yanya lied, telling everyone that her child was dead.

She even had her people look for a dead newborn baby to replace her son.

And so, seeing the hard stone evidence, everyone believed in the lie.

Everything should've been okay.

That is... Until 4 years ago, the secret went out.

Someone betrayed her and even told her enemies where her child was headed to... Terique.

She chose the Pyno contingent because the Morgs were disgusted by the place.

And coupled with The continent's sheer size, finding her son should be challenging.

Too bad that she was unaware of many secret societies and how much people wanted to get into Morgany.

The Morgs promised the Pyno members that if they reported the child, they would get upgraded from rookie members to Lackeys.

And if one was also a Lackey, they could make them Bronze members instead.

Hey. That was better than nothing.

So when many were given portraits of Yanya and her trusted guard, they quickly started looking for a child similar to Yanya.

They also looked for any man who remotely resembled the guard in the portrait.

The Morgs didn't believe that after threatening to take the boy's life, Yanya would still refuse to talk.

The pirates and many others were on the lookout for these people.

And thus, the hunt for the duo began.

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That said, it was a council member who was less than a lackey in the organization who reported the matter, inviting these pirates here.

The council member had already killed the poor guard, cut off his head, to show as proof, while imprisoning the boy.

It just so happened that today, the pirates had come for the boy.

But how could Josh see these things and allow them to take the child?

Looking at the boy whose face was burning up, Josh couldn't help smiling wryly.

He just had to be nosy.

"Quickly! Chase after them!

We have to get the boy!!"

Chapter 994 - Wrong Target?

Josh quickly analyzed everything with a cold glint in his eyes.

Things were really tricky.

~Drrrrr~

The rain, as if reading his mood, intensified yet again, creating more tension to the already nerve-racking situation.

"Edwin! Hoshen! Quickly get on my back now. We have no more time to lose."

The duo looked at each other hesitantly.

Josh knew their worries but felt that now wasn't the time to think of these.

For Josh, ever since staying in Baymard, his strength, speed, flexibility, and several aspects about him had increased tremendously.

He could punch a while right through a brick wall if he used his max strength.

Of course, he attributed all this to the military training, which had made him stronger than ever before.

He had carried many under him during missions before, so his men weren't too surprised about his request.

What worried them was something else.

"Major General, sir!

The topography here is harsh and coupled with the rain, making the place slippery and swampy.

Sir! As taught, water causes less friction, making us expend more energy to carefully run on it.

Of course, we have been trained to run across these sorts of terrains while holding a single person or a hostage.

But sir! You will not only be holding the hostage boy in your hands but also carrying us.

This alone is too risky!

Not to talk of the fact that it takes a toll on you."

The duo were rightly worried.

If it were all too much on Josh to bear, rather than speeding up, he would be running slower than their current speed.

The swampy potholed forest road would take too much energy out of him if he carried them all.

The science here was simple.

The same case also applied to terrains that weren't sturdy.

For example, one needed more energy running on a beach than pavement.

As one runs on the beach, the sand gets moved around, reducing friction.

The mushy, swampy, wet floor here was so soft, moving and slippery that they too almost fell if not for their rigorous training in the barracks.

Look? Even the enemies kept falling while chasing them.

The rain today was too hard!

So their additional weights should have Josh slow down and take his time walking across the forest, which might in turn make their pursuers reach them faster.

Of course, they were thinking all these logically because they had never seen Josh carry so many people across swampy land.

So they don't want to be a burden on him.

They were worried about him most.

Too bad Josh wasn't a regular person, per se.

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Josh looked at their actions and smiled.

He knew their thoughts.

They probably got on to first observe.

If he showed any signs of discomfort, they would immediately get down.

These 2 were a few of his most trusted subordinates, who always had his interest first.

No matter how strong he was, they were constantly worrying about him like a married couple.

Well, it felt good to be cared for.

~Plop, Plop~

The duo smiled helplessly and got on Josh's back just like they used to.

They were ready to get down any moment from now, but Josh's next move left them in a daze with their mouths wide open.

"Everyone, Hold on tight.

It's going to be a bumpy ride."

Eh?

The duo tilted their heads in confusion.

'Bumpy ride?

What does...Ahhhhh!!!'

The duo inwardly screamed as Josh dashed through the mushy terrain as if it were nothing.

The funny thing was that his steps increased so much that it looked like he was jumping and leaping forward instead, at a swift pace.

Edwin's head punched Hoshen's chest, making him bite his tongue hard.

Meanwhile, Hoshen, who was receiving head blows from Edwin, wanted to cry.

Indeed, it was truly a bumpy ride.

The duo kept bumping on each other pitifully during the entire trip.

F***!

Hoshen felt like after his, he might need to have a checkup, just to be sure.

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Josh, who didn't know how many blows the duo had received, was only focused on carefully speeding up to the safe house they created when they first got here.

What a joke!

As trained military personnel, they knew that since they were here to watch the Council members till the end of January, they had to create a place where they could hide if they were discovered.

They needed a safe house. Or, in this case, a man-made safe cave.

If things got too bad that the enemy was looking for them within the city, around the neighbouring villages and towns, then they had to hide somewhere until their comrades came for them... Or until they figured out their own situation and planned another escape way out.

That was their safest bet.

Funny enough, they used up an entire week to create that safehouse.

And if they didn't come back tonight, the other 2 staying at the Inn would know that things were bad.

Of course, they wouldn't come to them immediately.

They would wait a bit before trying to see them.

And during their wait, they would immediately send written messages to the Baymardians close by in English (military language only used by Baymardians).

Presently, another group of soldier spies were also doing a top-secret mission in a town 18 days from here on horseback.

So even though it was a long time, it was still important for them to send word.

That way if they were missing, their comrades could trace everything back.

For sure, Plan A would always be to devise their own escape route instead, since their mission might've already been compromised.

Thinking of all this, Josh seeded up without a moment to lose, dashing ahead like lightning, leaving the enemies dumbfounded.

Erm...What was this operation?

Were they seeing things now?

Just now, they saw 3 figures.

So how come the figures suddenly turned to a giant one?"

Many wiped the falling rain from their eyes in confusion and stared at the disappearing silhouette in an aggrieved manner.

Was the rain playing tricks on them?

Could it be that all this time, they had been chasing a creature rather than a human?

F***!

It looks like they were still intoxicated on the booze they drank a few hours back.

Sigh...

Chapter 995 - Son Of A Bch!**

Like the wind, Josh created great distance between them and their pursuers.

Very quickly, Josh arrived at the edge of a cliff that had fog underneath it.

Below the cliff was a deep abyss that looked like the gateway to the Underworld.

Even when standing here in the Summer, one couldn't fully hear the thunderous rushing water down below, showing how high up they were.

The cliff was more than 10 thousand feet up!

That alone could make the faint-hearted tremble.

But to Josh and the rest, they weren't that scared of heights.

They only hoped that the child wouldn't take up and be scared to death.

"Edwin, Hoshen, gather the thick vines fast! Fast!"

"Yes, Sir!"

Very quickly, the duo cut a lot of thick, sturdy vines, intertwined 12 of them, creating a very thick rope.

Following that, they stretched and pulled the new rope as if testing its strength.

Good!

From there, they braided more vine ropes and noted them together using a few military-style knots, creating a very lengthy rope in the end.

One shouldn't look down on these vines.

They had tested out these vines before and had even used them to build their safe house.

A single vine here was so strong that one could swing from tree to tree at will.

And that was just when using a single vine.

Each vine was the size of 3 fingers joined together.

And now, they braided 12 different vines to create a thick rope.

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Just like that, they first tied the rope to a tree and then a rock.

Following that, they used other vines to strap the kid around Edwin like a baby before securely tying the main rope to Edwin again.

That's right.

They were about to descend the cliff.

Why? Because they had built a safe house at the side of the cliff, just around the fog below.

No one would think of enemy camping at the side of this monstrous cliff.

So, they got down like buildings, used pickaxes and bore a cave several feet below at the side of the cliff.

They kept blankets there, flashlights, canned food and a few other goods that could be bought in the city they were currently residing in.

Again, they always had lighters on them, so making fire would be easy.

They also focused only on canned foods because if the scent went out, it could call massive Ponji Birds around.

Ponji birds were twice the size of a regular adult human and weren't all that harmful.

Provided one doesn't steal their food or eggs, then it was all good.

That said, if a Ponji Bird claimed the food they stored as its own, then Josh and his men would also have these birds as enemies

And they were a very vengeful bunch.

Just like bees, if one got attacked or felt aggrieved, all would come for the attacker.

Of course, they also did some things to make their safe cave bird-free.

They were not ready to take any chances.

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Due to their experience, rigorous practice attempts and knowledge, they were able to do everything within 3 and a half minutes.

Edwin and Hoshen looked at Josh with grim expressions on their faces.

"Sir! With all due respect. What do you mean by saying that you're not coming with us?"

Josh patted their soldiers and grinned.

"You two know the truth of the matter. So why still difficult?"

Even though the rain will wash away our tracks, at the speed at which I went, my tracks are deeply rooted.

If I don't clear them up, as well as your tracks here, they'll notice us.

Also, I need to lead the enemy as far away from here as possible.

Your top priority now is to keep the boy safe.

Is that understood?!"

The duo bit their lips unwillingly: "Yes, Sir!"

"Good. Now go!

We don't have much time!

Don't worry, I'll see you soon."

"Hmm."

With that, the duo grabbed the vines and scaled-down carefully to their hideout.

'Major General. Please be safe.'

The moment the duo reached down, they echoed out some strange sounds, and Josh quickly cut the rope with a dagger.

From there, those below dragged the rope onto the cave, while Josh above quickly took care of the many footsteps.

Typically, from here, the person who cut the main rope should've tied a separate rope on his/her waist and used their daggers to go down the cliff bit by bit until they reached the safe house.

But Josh couldn't join the rest.

Even if he cleared the footsteps here, the ones he made while rushing over were too deep to be washed away by the rain soon.

So they would undoubtedly lead the enemy back here.

And even if the footsteps seemed to stop at a dead-end, as if they vanished into thin air... The enemy would still stay around, searching the entire place nonstop.

They might even camp here just to keep watch on things.

They wanted the boy, and they would do anything to get him.

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5 more minutes.

That's how long he estimated before he met halfway with the enemy.

Now, with the footprints and snapped-away twigs gone, he started walking backwards while clearing everything in his path, making it seem like he was never there.

With his speed, he hastened things up, creating a ton of space from the cliff, before letting out a deep breath of air from relief.

~Din, Din, Din, Din~~

Listening to the approaching sounds from the enemy, his expression now turned solemn as he adjusted his mentality.

Very quickly, he moved in such a way that didn't disrupt the pattern of his previous footprints.

If the footprints didn't match up correctly, the enemy would be suspicious.

And so, everything had to look continuous.

Previously, when the others hopped onto him, the enemy should've already been suspicious.

They might've probably thought that the others hid on trees or something... while he ran away.

So the enemy might have already broken up into 2 teams, one team focused on searching and locating where the other footprints vanished to, and another team that focused on chasing him instead.

Of course, they would never think that he carried them because the speed he ran made it all too unbelievable.

So ever since then, they had been looking for Edwin and Hoshen, who he piggybacked.

For sure, these pirates didn't know who had the boy, so they divided themselves up to find the boy fast.

And right on cue, the group running after him had finally caught up to him.

One of the pirates spotted him and yelled in rage while swinging his sword crazily.

"I've seen him! I've seen the bastard that made his run this far!

The bastard almost made me lose my lungs.

You crazy son of a b**ch!

You better stay right where you are.

This daddy must have his revenge!"

(*^*)

Josh, who 'accidentally' got discovered, grinned and readied himself calmly.

Show Time.

Chapter 996 - Rogue Morg Assassin?

"You crazy son of a b**ch!

You better stay right where you are.

This daddy must have his revenge!"

(*^*)

Instantly, the pirates rushed towards Josh, filled with murderous intentions.

The manner in which Josh ran made them feel very pumped up.

Josh ran while holding something in his arms, making the pirates conclude that it was the child.

"Get him! He has the boy!

Don't let him escape!"

~Splack. Splack. Splack.

The muddy puddles of rain splashed away as the heavy footsteps of the pirates descended on them.

Josh slowed down his pace, always making sure that they were somewhat close to him.

He always made them feel that just a little bit more, and they would catch him.

Some ran behind him, trying to shoot him with their bows and arrows.

But with the fierce wind and the heavy rains, it would be impossible to hit any target.

Many typically thought that pirates weren't archers... But that was a lie.

Even back on earth, Vikings, who were also a different kind of pirates, commonly used bows and arrows in battle.

It was just that unlike battles on land, the battles in the seas were too different.

They needed more swift action and didn't have time to be drawing bows and arrows.

One needed to act fast with their fists, swords or anything else.

They, as pirates, preferred using swords, hooks, stones and other sharp objects.

It got the message through faster.

Archers felt very disadvantageous in close-range battles.

Their enemies would have too many opportunities to take them down.

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~Whoop! Whoop!

The arrows whistle through the air fiercely, But the turbulent winds changed their trajectories, making the pirate archers stop and struggle to catch up with the target.

They raced through the mushy forest, expending a lot of energy along the way.

But they dared not give up.

Their target was just a few steps away from them.

He was so close!

The gang of pirates ran for what seemed like forever, making Josh smile broadly.

He had successfully led them on, running at a slow pace.

Because of the wet grounds, even the outages could run at full speed.

And so calculating everything in his mind, Josh moved at a speed that would ensure that they kept up with him.

Just like that, he had led them too far away from the cliff.

Even though running in the rain had its cons, like getting sick, it also had pros that were all in line with Josh's plan.

Running in the rain doesn't make one feel the heat and stickiness of sweat.

To some extent, it was indeed refreshing, and as they ran, even though it was cold, the body heat created during the run seemed to balance things up.

All these things contributed and aided the pirates to run so long and keep up with him even though they were tired.

And when Josh felt like he was too far apart from the cliff, he decided to take action.

.

As for the Pirates who were just a few feet away from him, they couldn't help opening their eyes wide again when they saw him speeding up.

They had a feeling that he was playing with them, but they had no evidence.

'Brother, why do you still have so much energy in you? Are you sure you're human?'

They looked at the disappearing silhouette in an aggrieved manner.

This was a joke, right?

Josh, who was now far away, quickly found a large puddle of mud and dived into it.

~Splash~

He hurriedly coated his entire body and clothes with thick mud before cutting several leaves from the bushes and sticking them on him.

Alright. It was time to make a big splash!

Of course, he couldn't just leave, even if he led them this far.

Some might think that he was just a diversion and would go back to properly search for the boy.

Even though there was a slim chance that they would find the cliff, Josh wouldn't allow things like this.

He decided to act as if he was really sent by someone to protect the child.

All that time, he had been carrying a stone, making these pirates think it was the kid.

So they would most likely believe in what he was about to do next.

'To make it more believable, I need footprints for the boy.

The kid's footsteps have to go in the opposite direction.'

Very quickly, he printed his knuckles onto the ground and used a stone to adjust, carve and print several convincing child-like prints.

He worked very fast, creating a few that led further ahead just a bit before suddenly disappearing underneath a tree.

Well, this should do for now.

Hopefully, they buy it.

With that, he made a U-turn, stealthily making his way to the group of pirates again.

.

Meanwhile, the Pirates who were now running forward, briefly stopped to catch their breaths.

"F***!... I'll kill him! I'll kill him!

Where did that son of a b**ch run off too?"

"Dammit! Are assassins this adept at running nowadays?"

"What the hell is up with this guy?"

"Hey! Since when did the Pyno continent have such high-ranked assassins?"

"Could it be an assassin from Morgany?"

"No way! No right-minded assassin in Morgany would dare oppose his Royal Majesty Raigen. Because death wouldn't worry any assassin, his majesty would make sure that lives, prestige, and everything else linked with assassination would be stripped!"

"That's true. So, who could it be?"

"I don't know. But it's definitely a Morg. Only Morgs can train such an assassin."

"I think it's a rogue Morg assassin. Those bastards would pick up just about any kind of mission. What a disgrace!"

"F***! Whoever he is, the guy just made me his lifetime enemy!"

(*^*)

The group of pirates continued talking while staring at Josh's footsteps in rage.

They swore to catch the bloody bastard tonight!

With that, the group angrily exclaimed amidst the loud rain and readied themselves to move again.

But unbeknownst to them, a set of fierce eyes were currently watching them coldly.

'Want my life, then come and get it!'

Chapter 997 - What Would You do?

~Drrrrr~::~

The rain fell hard, making many yell every time they spoke.

The night was dark, wet with no stars above.

The pirates felt the impending tension in the air while searching for the rogue assassin and the boy.

One of the pirates around the edge of the group, was currently standing still, with his arms on his waist, while catching his breath and looking heavenwards.

~Whooh... Whooh... Whooh... Whooh~

He had never run so much in his life.

And the most annoying thing was that they hadn't caught the assassin yet.

So were they going to be running like this throughout the night?

His lungs felt squished up as if they would collapse and give up any comment now.

This was ridiculous and damn well annoying.

With his face still facing heavenwards, he closed his eyes briefly to enjoy the wet rain falling on his face.

It was calming.

Suddenly, his eyes opened wide, and his pupils dilated all too fast!

~Swish!

A cold object swiftly moved across his throat. And soon, he saw blood spraying out wildly.

~Pffff

He wanted to scream and yell for help, but the large hand covering his mouth didn't grant his wish.

The heavy sounds of the rain drowned his mumblings.

And before he knew it, he found his weak, dying body thrown into the bushes.

He quickly found the strength within him draining away swiftly, so much so that he didn't have the energy to spit out the clogs of blood in his mouth.

Everything came all too suddenly.

Just like that, he was on his way to see the famous Old Burshark, The Pirate King of the dead.

Eh?

Another Pirate turned towards the direction where the dead pirate used to be and looked around in confusion.

Wasn't there someone just behind him a mount ago?

Or was he hallucinating?

He didn't even have time to think before he saw a cold object piercing the side of his neck.

~Pffff

What?

Looking at the blood spraying out, his heart sank as he tried to tell and fight for his life.

But sadly, his efforts were all in vain.

He trembled vigorously while being dumped into a bush that contained another dead man.

What the hell?

Seeing his dead pirate comrade, he instantly knew who the enemy was.

He desperately wanted to warn the rest to catch this rogue Morg assassin and slice his body into a thousand pieces.

But reality was just too cruel.

In just a few seconds after getting thrown into the bushes, he closed his eyes, never to wake up again.

.

Josh moved like a shadow, trying to kill as many people as he could.

He knew that it would only be a matter of time before they found out.

But he had his escape plan mapped out and was ready fairly confident in his dealings.

He also raided the dead bodies, taking their daggers too.

5 minutes... 10 minutes... 15 whole minutes went by before the pirates found the area where the footsteps stopped.

The skilled pirates stepped forward to analyze the scene.

"The Rogue wasn't alone."

"Crow Face, what do you mean?"

Crow face cooched down and looked at everything around carefully.

"From the twigs snapped and the footprints, the Rogue was probably carrying the child up to this point, before letting the child down.

Even though the rain has washed a few traces of their footprints off, the pattern of their movements are still somewhat clear."

"As expected of Crow Face. He has always been one of the brains in the crew!"

Crow Face felt a little arrogant while recovering the many compliments from the rest.

Of course, his expression remained calm and assertive, as he continued analyzing the facts before them.

"Look! The footsteps lead up the big tree ahead.

So that means that the kid probably climbed up.

But here's the tricky part.

Do you see the big footsteps of the Rogue?

This shows that he turned around after keeping the kid up the tree."

"Then what are we waiting for?

Let's go up and take the kid!"

Crow Face shook his head at them: "Naive! Do you think that the kid would still be here? He's long gone."

"How?"

Crow Face got up calmly: "Didn't you hear what I said earlier on? The Rogue Morg wasn't the only one here!"

What?

Everyone felt like they had been struck by lightning.

They were all taken aback by the sudden turn of events.

What was going on?

Crow Face massaged his chin grimly: "No doubt about it, there was someone up the trees waiting to receive the boy. By now, they should be long gone, jumping from tree to tree. They might even have horses too far ahead that would take the boy out tonight! In other words, they had been prepared."

"But, Old Crow Face, how could they have a person out here all this time? Did they know of our coming?"

"No. Everything today shows that they didn't.

It appears that today, these Rogue Morgs had planned to steal the boy.

It was just that they didn't know or think that we would be arriving to get him today.

From their actions, it could be seen that they were also very shocked by our sudden appearance."

.

The information was too shocking for the rest.

While everyone was still feeling agitated, Crow Face, on the other hand, smiled calmly, as if everything was still under control.

"Tonight, they would definitely leave with the boy and head towards the nearby Coastal town, 5 days from here.

They probably have a ship ready to go any moment now."

"... But that's the place we docked our sh.i.p.s."

"Precisely.

So we need to hurry out fast.

Of course, another team will stay here and properly scout the area, while some of you will hurry back to the sh.i.p.s and inform the crew to keep a close watch on things.

We also need the Council members to search around the neighbouring towns, villages, towns and every other place, just in case they're still hiding somewhere.

Although, I'm more inclined to believe that with the boy, they would do their best to escape tonight!"

"So Old Crow Face, do we go now?"

No... Not yet.

You see, we still have a few loose ends to tie up."

"Everyone looked at themselves in confusion before looking at Old Crow Face again.

Keeping up with intelligent people was hard.

"Old Crow Face, what do you mean?"

Crow Face smiled lazily with a cold glint in his eyes. "Let me ask you all a question, how much do you hate the Rogue Morg we chased?"

Instantly, everyone's eyes burned with rage.

"A lot! I want to grind his bones and step on them!"

"Me? I want to pluck his eyes out and squash them with my palms!"

"The bastard deserves to be thrown into the belly of a Mantia (a giant sea worm the size of a baby whale with 29 different layers of teeth)."

"F***! I hate that rogue!"

(*^*)

Crow Face chuckled: "So you all hate him that much?"

"Of course!"

"Oh? Then what if I told you that you still have a chance at getting revenge?"

"Eh? Old Crow Face, what do you mean?"

Crow Face calmly crossed his hands over his chest and grinned playfully.

"What I mean is simple.

The bastard Rogue Morg we've been chasing, the one you all hate so much... is here."

Chapter 998 - Eh? Who Was He?

"What I mean is simple.

The bastard Rogue Morg we've been chasing, the one you all hate so much... is here."

~Boom!

As if on cue, the thunder clapped loudly, making everyone's hairs stand on edge.

He... He was here?

Their eyes dilated quickly, opening exaggeratedly, as the words sunk into their heads.

Soon, their gazes turned cold as they studied their surroundings with an unforgivable light in their eyes.

Their lips thinned with displeasure when they thought of the Rogue Morg.

Very quickly, they went into defend mode, as those around the perimeters of the ground turned to face their surrounding bushes and roads.

While those at the centre of the group looked upwards to see if the Rogue was on any trees around.

They gripped their swords hard and continuously titled their heads in all directions, trying to find a clue or get a glimpse of where the bastard could be hiding.

Dammit! Where was he?

~Boom!

Thunder clapped out again amidst the heavy rain, creating even more tension than there already was.

Crow Face, who looked relaxed, was very vigilant, darting his eyes in all directions too.

Crow Face's mind was still at work.

Heh. The bastard probably thought that they would leave after a while

But unfortunately for him, they weren't going anywhere until they captured him.

The way Crow Face saw it, the bastard only stayed behind to either continue monitoring them and getting more info, or to take them out one by one to decrease the number of people chasing the boy.

Of course, the Rogue probably thought they would keep chasing the boy for longer, giving him more opportunities to attack them.

But too bad, the rogue miscalculated.

With him stopping the pirates any further, the rogue had no choice but to stop attacking and hide, hoping they left after.

Squinting his eyes and looking at the group of pirates before him, Crow Face realized that some of the pirates were missing, making him more confident in his thoughts.

"Everyone! Have you already noticed the problem with our group? Look around and try to find your comrades."

Eh?

The confused pirates did as they were told, only to find that they couldn't see some of the people they usually hung around with.

"Poison mouth is missing!"

"One-Eyebrow is missing too!"

"Danny Crooked Nose is also missing."

"F***! Where the hell did Spine Breaker go?"

Everyone was perplexed and in a state of alarm as they kept mentioning those who were missing.

What the hell was going on here?

Old Crow Face looked at them and smiled maliciously: "The missing pirates are dead."

"Dead? Old Crow Face, what do you mean?"

"Heh. While we were distracted in chasing and understanding the situation, the Rogue probably snuck up to take care of these missing pirates. You see, he intended to pick us one by one throughout the night. And his plan would've worked if we continued running. But now that we stopped, he had no choice but to hide and pray that we don't find him."

What?

Everyone was pissed.

Now, they were more determined than ever to find the Rogue Morg.

"Bastard! How dare you kill our men?"

"Come out! Come out now!"

"No! The fool would probably keep hiding forever, so we need to search for him now!"

"Yes!"

But just as the pirates were about to begin their search, Josh revealed.

First, he looked at the pirates and spoke in English, leaving everyone confused.

Eh?

What Language was this?

This wasn't the language used by Veinitta, Morgany or even Pyno.

So, where did this assassin come from?

(°_°)

.

English.

That was the military language only used by the Baymardian soldiers, Navy, and Air forces when out on missions.

It was also used by the Prison guards/officers too.

This entire time, even when Josh was talking to his comrades before sending them down the cliff, he was speaking in English.

That way, if someone were nearby and heard their plans, he/she wouldn't be able to do anything about it.

Now, listening to Josh speak, Old Crow Face was not only shocked but curious as well.

Old Crow Face was very knowledgeable about things in this world.

He had so many places, as a pirate, and had gone on missions to places one wouldn't even believe existed with wayward people far worse than those in Pyno.

Of course, those residing in Pyno might only know of 4 or 5 continents.

One should know that because of the control around Pyno by the pirates and the inferiority of these people, they never went further than the bubble secretly created by Morgany.

They limited these people, making them clueless about many things in this world.

Some people don't even know that there were humans with different skin colours.

He had seen the dark-skinned people of Romain before and even the light blue-skinned people of Omania.

And just as the pirates had limited Pyno's scope, they did the same for some regions, especially the region around the continues of Veinitta and Tenola, making the Roma people and the Zohl people somewhat clueless of some parts of the world.

They only visited or travelled as far as the neighbouring continents too.

Many didn't even know that the continent of Pyno existed.

Of course, the only place that they couldn't properly control, were those from that bloody continent Lampe, which was actually very close to them.

The continent of Lampe was busy next to them, making it all the more chaotic.

Now, the bastard continent of Lampe had been renamed Adonis, after the temple of Adonis fought and unified the entire continent.

Those bastards always tried to sneak in and conquer Morgany.

Honestly, they found that all temples were troublesome.

First, their ancestors got driven away by the Temple of Dragmus here in Pyno.

But not long after they placed their roots in Morgany, the Temple of Adonis was born in Lampe.

Of course, decades and centuries back, Adonis only occupied a single state in a tiny town.

Flashed forward to the present, it had already forced everyone in Lampe under its rule, unifying the entire place.

If the temple of Dragmus was why they suppressed Pyno so much, the temple of Adonis was actually the real reason why there were thousands and thousands of pirate sh.i.p.s stationed around Morgany like a fortress.

Those bastards were too bold and were true enemies of Morgany.

And the fact that they were so close, like neighbours to Morgany, created tension and chaos all the time.

Why?

Because if Morgany was the most developed place in this world... Lampe/Adonis was the 2nd.

Meaning that they too had gifted and intelligent people in their memories, who could be the downfall of Morgany given time.

Those bastards also tried sneaking in and stealing countless ideas countless times without number.

All this contributed to the reasons why Morgany was so strict in security.

That said, the pirates were also Morgs and were the main people obstructing several regions in this world, making them all too knowledgeable about the areas in Hertfilia.

So... What the hell was this language?!!!

Chapter 999 - The Muffin Man

Crow Face was taken aback.

He had never heard of such a language before.

Could it be that over the hundreds and hundreds of years since the Pirate Organization got established, they hadn't fully explored all places in this world?

Could there be an unknown continent that they were unaware of?

Even though they, as pirates, didn't speak all languages in this world, they could quickly identify what language was spoken just from listening to it.

So what was this?

Didn't this mean that the people they were facing weren't from the Pyno continent?

Then who exactly were they up against?

He had to report this matter to his superiors fast!

Of course, another matter that needed to be reported, were these strange products from the new empire called Baymard.

They needed to get permission from their superior in Morgany, who would then issue out missions for people to specifically check it out.

It wasn't in their place to act without permission, or it might alert the enemy or make them wary.

When the organization moved, it always moved full speed, attacking its enemies brutally.

They would only report this matter and show all the goods they bought to those there.

Actually, the way Crow Face saw it, by the time he got back to Morgany, someone might've already reported the matter.

For Baymard to produce such unique things and books, meant that it would be a threat to Morgany.

They even bought something called Solar TVs, cassettes, mattresses and many other things.

This was the evidence they collected against Baymard.

Things were seemed to be changing here in Pyno, making the place organized and a little more developed.

But change isn't what Morgany wants for Pyno.

They need to go back to how they were or hand over everything to Morgany if they wanted peace.

Such a place was mocking them, as Morgs.

And just like weeds, it needs to be drawn out from the roots.

.

~Splack. Splack. Splack. Splack~~

The muddy puddles of water parted as everyone chased fiercely after Josh.

Old Crow looked at Josh's back thoughtfully: "Capture him alive! We need to know who we are up against. We'll take him onto the slave ship!"

Everyone gritted their teeth and finally accepted the order.

Heh. Once they get all information out of this assassin, then they'll kill him!

At the same time, Josh, who was about to dash away at full speed, suddenly slowed down a bit.

That's right.

They had sh.i.p.s filled with people they kidnapped.

Even though he promised his comrades to come back safely, his conscience wouldn't let him leave this matter like that.

Whether he liked it or not, he was left here with no fast Baymardian vehicles or any other weapons because he was here as a spy.

So even if he fled now to rush towards the pirate sh.i.p.s, he would still get there around the same time these pirates got back.

Again, from what he gathered, the 800 who came here were just 1/5 of the crew out on the outage sh.i.p.s.

That's right.

These pirates had arrived at Deiferus with 4,000 pirates out on their sh.i.p.s.

What was funny was that the number here were just those out to do this mission.

Or sure, there would be a lot more pirates located at the crew's base.

Heh. Even if he got there a few hours or days earlier than these pirates, he would still have to face those staying at the docks.

He was just one person.

So it was impossible for him to rescue all those kidnapped at once.

Nonetheless, he had to get on one of the sh.i.p.s. From there, he would work things out... Hopefully.

Sigh... There was no helping it.

He had to turn himself in.

.

Josh slowed his pace and acted desperately as if truly overwhelmed by them.

At the same time, while running, he left deep markings with his dagger on the trees.

Each tree had one word in English carved on it.

He would run very far ahead, pretend to be out of breath, and mark away.

It was raining heavily, and his actions were very discrete. So these pirates wouldn't notice what he was doing easily.

He only marked a total of 8 words on 4 trees.

[people kidnapped. Gave In. Pirate Ship. Swain Town.]

Hopefully, they find the message on all trees and link them together.

No matter what, he had to get on the sh.i.p.s in Swain Coastal Town.

Of course, even if he were going to turn himself in, he would still kick asses in the process.

He had to sell his performance as a top assassin from some unknown place or wherever they thought he was from.

All this time, he had also been running as if catching his breath, so he can't just act swiftly again.

Plus, he had to move very far from the trees that he marked.

Thinking like that, he carefully moved leftwards, making a run for it, and as expected, the assassins followed his every move.

Soon, he ran too slow, as if really exhausted, and even fell to the ground, making the pirates pumped up instead.

By the time he got up again, 3 pirates were already closing in fast.

Heh. He said he wouldn't go down without a fight.

So they better be prepared.

.

"You bastard! You're not so tough now, are you? Hahaha."

"Bastard! We've got you trapped. Now, you'll know the real cruelty of the pirate organization. How dare you kill our crewmates?"

[Josh in English]: "Hey! You two really can't understand me? Do you know the story of the Muffin Man?"

"Bro, do you know what this guy is saying?"

"No! I don't!

But looking at how angry he's lashing out, he's definitely insulting us.

Look at how fierce his eyes are?!!"

"Hey! I feel that this guy just called us idiots.

Brothers, they said we can't kill him. But that doesn't mean that we can't beat him silly."

"Yes. We should just teach him a lesson!

You bloody bastard! Who are you insulting?"

[Josh in English]: "... The muffin man?"

"Dammit! You're still calling us idiots?"

Eat my Fist!"

Chapter 1000 - Admiral Trey

~Brrrrmmmm~

Very quickly, the small Coast guard ship speeded ahead, while the rest stayed behind contacting Coast Guard headquarters, who in turn reported the matter to the Navy and Marines.

Just in case danger was afoot, the Navy and Marines had to be aware.

They, as coast guards, were more like look-out people and cleaners around the shores.

They also held peaceful negotiations around these waters too.

Of course, if a battle were truly underway, then they would have to get ready to start cleaning the waters.

For sure, they also got in on the action if there was no other choice.

But with the navy and marines available, they would need to start diverting all tourist sh.i.p.s to one path.

That's right.

Now, they didn't stop all travel during such scenarios.

Rather, they would dictate the traffic towards a faraway lane while covering the battlefield with their sh.i.p.s, ensuring that many didn't see the gruesome battle.

The sea was too large and too big.

So they had to divide a new route miles away from the chaos.

For sure, people would hear what was going on, but hopefully, they would just assume that the distraction was all caused by black powder.

As of now, they weren't ready for Morgany or the pirates.

So they still tried keeping a low profile when needed.

Well, they didn't mind people knowing about guns all that much, but the missiles and cannons would make all major forces come to Baymard all at once.

To control the seas was almost the same as controlling the world since the waters make up most of the landmass.

Baymard wasn't ready for that sort of heat yet.

.

Admiral Trey, who had the highest rank amongst the Coast guards, was on the boat speeding towards the temple fleet.

He came out to observe some trainees alongside some of his subordinates.

But who would've thought that they would run into this situation?

Damn. He was supposed to meet up with Landon and the boys for lunch.

Of course, Josh and Beri (Mother Winnie's son) were the only ones out on separate missions.

So it was just himself, Gary, Mark, and Landon.

With their busy schedules and the fact that many of them had now married and got their own private villas outside the castle, they always tried arranging time to see each other.

Well, it wasn't too bad because Landon was always moving around, visiting them from time to time at their workplaces.

And every Friday night, they visited their favourite pub in the V.I.P section, reminiscing and talking amongst themselves.

It was always boys' night then.

The ladies also liked getting together too once or twice a week in the castle, doing sleepovers at their age and offloading about what made them happy, was or angry during the week.

Their new lifestyles had drawn all of them closer, like one big family.

Apart from Landon, their villas were literally on the same block.

They were all neighbours to themselves.

Well, since almost all of their wives were in the armed forces, their villas were empty all the time.

They were either soldiers, police officers or Navy officers.

The only person who wasn't within one of the armed forces was Grace, who still worked in the palace.

Even at that, she was also never at home.

Their homes were always empty with no one around, except those who came in twice a week to clean up and do their laundry.

The only reason they got villas outside was so that when they had children, they could leave some sort of heritage for them.

The palace itself belonged to Landon's generation.

So they had to create a good place for their own generations in future.

In truth, they spent 85% of their time sleeping outside.

Of course, they saw each other outside during working hours too, since everyone's wife was close by.

Only Josh typically left straight for the palace to chill with his wife after finishing his overwork.

The thing was that even after their shifts, they still had other military-related things to look at... Especially when it concerned missions, emergencies and so on.

Not to talk of solving some mysteries, catching spies and saving people.

The clock was always ticking.

The good thing was that they were in higher positions and could just cancel their appointments for the day or push the work to someone else.

Then again, it was because they were so high in rank that they had so many responsibilities.

Others below stuck to their work shifts strictly.

But those above always had a little more to do.

Anyway, even with all the hassle and the fact that they weren't at home all the time, it was funny that while outside, they were with each other 50% of the time.

From attending the same meetings, eating together, reviewing paperwork together and doing several other things... They met each other way too frequently.

This was how they balanced their lives up.

.

Thinking of the Lunch date they scheduled for 12:30 midday, Trey could only sigh.

There was no way he would be able to make it back on time.

Even if these people were friendly, if they were nobles or royals coming in for the first time, they would still need their help.

But if they were enemies, then he would have to stick around until the end.

Trey squinted his eyes through the glass window thoughtfully.

Who were they? Friend or Foe.

While Trey was scrutinizing the ships while advancing, those on the Temple's vessels were also on high alert.

'Knock. Knock. Knock.'

Instantly, several loud and overly annoying bangs shook Jimosen and Linvor into annoyance.

What the bloody hell?

How dare someone bangs the door of a Primate without any respect?

Linvor looked at Jimosen as if saying: Your crew has no respect.

And Jimosen in turn, looked at him alphabetically and felt very embarrassed as well.

If he were back in the base, he would behead the bastard who dared to do such a thing.

Don't they know that the Dragmus' wisdom flowed through them?

So how can his subordinates disrespect him?

The fact that he had the ring with him should make them humble themselves and prostrate before him.

Their reason better be good, or else someone was going to die today.

And he didn't just mean the Baymardians.

Chapter 1000 - Get Him!

The pirates were really pissed!

"EAT MY FISTS!"

~Bam!

Josh, who was already lying on the ground, quickly tilted to the side, avoiding the blow coming his way.

Very quickly, he kicked the pirate back, making him knock the other pirates behind.

~Splash.

The pirates quickly lost their footing in this slippery weather and fell onto puddles of water.

But Josh wasn't done yet.

Other pirates were coming at him from the sides, while some tried to sneak from his back.

The Pirates weren't allowed to harm, stab or brutally harm him yet.

So they were only left with the option of using their fists or something else that wouldn't heavily injure him.

Dammit. They truly wished to slice him into pieces.

But who made him important?

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"You son of a b**ch. Take this!" One of the pirates yelled before sending several brutal punches all at once.

As Pirates, they were more used to freestyle hand combats when compared to knights.

On their sh.i.p.s, they sometimes punched and fought each other for fun while gambling with booze and food.

It was exciting, thrilling and could make their bellies fuller with extra food and booze.

So why not?

That said, the pirates were fairly confident with their hand combat skills.

Too bad they were up against Josh.

Very swiftly, Josh put up a fight, dodging, rolling, sliding across the muddy floors and punching back when he could.

Those who he punched couldn't help but see stars.

What the hell?

Why did it hurt so much?

What were this guy's hands made of?

F***!

Some of them spat out blood and lost a few teeth just from Josh's punches.

It was so damn painful that some dropped to their knees and held their mouths in agony.

How were they supposed to chew harder meat and food with their mouths so painful and swollen now?

Curses!

If eyes could kill, Josh would've been dead by now.

One of the

~Bam. Pah. Bam. Bam. Splash~~

.

Looking at how much damage Josh was doing, Old Crow Face was genuinely impressed.

From how the assassin fought, one could see that he was really drained and barely held on.

Yet, he always managed to push them back.

Crow Face was more interested in knowing who could train such fine assassins.

This group of people could be a big threat to them.

So no matter what, they had to catch Josh alive.

Crow Face looked at another pirate, who was called Fast Arms.

Fast Arms nodded and made his way towards Josh.

~Boom~

Josh did a split, causing Fast Arms to punch the person behind Josh, sending the pot pirate flying.

Fast Arms, seeing that he missed, quickly sent his legs, intending to step on Josh.

But Josh suddenly sat up and opened his legs wide.

~Bam.

The attack fell between his legs, making Fast Arms grit his grit and angrily stomp on the floor, hoping to crush Josh's legs.

Josh dodged carefully, opening, closing and shifting his legs as if they were playing some game.

Of course, Josh dared not stay on the ground for long because more pirates were making their way over after he sent some flying, knocking the majority back like bowling balls.

With that, he swirled on the ground, Tekken Eddy-Style, using his hands to spin his legs around before standing up again.

Fast Arms tapped his knuckles together and looked at Josh as if saying: You're dead meat.

Josh looked at him and decided that it was time to end this.

Even though he had been acting tired all this while, he still needed to make the grand ending of his performance seem like he had truly lost.

And so, if he was going to fall, he might as well choose a worthy enemy to do the Job.

Not just anyone would do.

He had been observing Old Crow secretly, and the moment the guy sent Fast Arms over, Josh knew that it was time to Fall.

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Very quickly, he landed a weak punch, sending it towards Fast Arms' face.

But this time, the guy caught his fist just before it landed.

Heh. Fast Arms was feeling mighty proud at this moment.

From Josh's move, Fast Arms could tell that Josh would soon be out of energy.

Fast Arms caught Josh's wrist when his punch was a few inches away, feeling mighty.

But suddenly, Josh opened his fist and used his index finger and middle finger to Pierce Fast Arms' eyes... shocking him silly.

"Ahhh... You bastard!" Fast Arm yelled with the authority of a man who wasn't supposed to be crossed.

Dammit!

This bastard's sneak attack momentarily blinded him.

The bastard picked his eyes out of nowhere!

He closed his eyes tightly, batting his lashes several times amidst the blindness.

But even at that, he was still holding onto Josh's 'weak' body.

So he used his other hand to predict where Josh's head would be and punched him hard.

Bam.

Josh fell to the ground from the punch, with his face slightly red.

Meanwhile, Fast Arms' lists felt like they would soon crack instead.

Fast Arms' who was briefly blinded, began doubting if he had punched Josh or something else.

But, even with the pain, he dared not stop.

He quickly used his hands to wipe his eyes clear, regaining his part of his vision, before rapidly rushing towards the fallen Josh, kicking him silly.

His moves looked very brutal, winning a wave of cheers from the pirates around.

They calmly backed off, giving Fast Arms all the space he needed to teach the bastard a lesson.

"Yeah!!!! This is the stuff I'm talking about. Show that bastard what happens when you cross pirates!"

"Get him Fast Arms!"

"Kick his Ass!"

Fast Arms smiled broadly while circling the 'pained' Josh before kicking him hard in the belly several times.

"Ugh. Ugh. Ugh. Ugh."

The sounds of Josh's m.o.a.ns filled Fast Arms' ears with ecstasy every time he kicked the bastard.

Heh. The bastard wasn't so tough after all.

~Pah, Pah, Pah, Pah, Pah