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進 の 美 4

知らないうちに
勝ち組人生

モンスター文庫

SHINKA NO MI

The Seed of Evolution

~Before I knew it I was one of the champions~

- Volume 4 -

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[Translated by: Raising the Dead]

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4

知らないうちに
勝ち組人生

「……ナンダコレ」

柊誠一
人間

「な、なんて雄々しい」

「ああ……これこそが、
英雄の姿なのだろう」



ルルネ
ロバ

アルトリア・
グレム
冒険者

「私はサリアですっ！
誠一のお嫁さんだよ〜！」

「おや？
そちらの方々は？」

「お、オレは
アルトリア・グレムです。
えっと……
誠一の彼女……です」

「私はルルネだ。
主様を護る
騎士にして下僕だ」

サリア
カイザー・コング

ルイエス・
バルゼ
剣騎士

「ああん……いいですわ
……久しぶりに、
骨の髄まで
しびれましたわっ！」

エリス・マクレーヌ
受付嬢

ガッスル・クルート
ギルドマスター



CHAPTER 46

CURSES AND DETERMINATION

Left in the training ground by myself, I activated my new skill [World's Eye] .

This skill is passive but apparently, that's only for the effect of Mind's Eye, the Enemy Search effect has to be activated.

For the time being, I activated the skill and looked for anyone trying to leave the royal castle.

Then, a mental image like that of a certain radar showed up in my head, with what seems to be Ruiesu-san and her unit displayed as blue markers, and conversely, a red marker trying to leave the royal castle with great speed was caught on the radar.

Back when it was just the Enemy Search skill₁, it wasn't this detailed, but it seems the skill now arbitrarily judges who can be considered an ally, and displays them as blue dots, and for existences judged as enemies to me, displays them as red dots.

Thanks to that, it seems I'll be able to instantly determine who's an enemy and who's an ally. But, hm... Is it not possible to get more specific information? The skill description said it'd be able to grasp details, after all.

The moment I thought that, more in depth information about the red dot was displayed.

[Origa • Carmellia]

Birthplace: Kaiser Empire

Race: Beastman

Gender: Female

Occupation: Assassin

Age: 8

Level: 455

Current State: Subordination

Alias: Twilight Assassin

Three Sizes: ——— ...

“Oooooooooout!”

I unintentionally Tsukkomi'd the information given.

(Note : Tsukkomi refers to a role in Japanese comedy duos, much like the western “Straight-man”. In this case, the main character plays the role of the straight man by reacting (somewhat critically) towards the information provided by the ability)

This skill doesn't give a crap about privacy, does it?! Rather, joke aside, information surpassing “details” came out! More so, as far as her three sizes!

Of course, I averted my eyes from the Three Sizes part and onward. My sense of morals prevented that. Good job, me.

I can't check her offensive ability, so does that mean you can only do that with a different skill? Well, even then the amount of information obtained is too great.

That aside, a bunch of data to Tsukkomi came out, huh.

First of all, the fact that her birthplace is the Kaiser Empire. Isn't that the place that summoned Shouta and the others?

The Kaiser Empire, are the ones that hated the demons so much they summoned the heroes to deal with them, so if you think about it like that, then this country's king that wants to co-exist with demons became a hindrance... or something like that?

Moreover, the assassin seems to be a female. On top of that, she's a beastman, and she's also considerably young. Considering that, the fact that she's over level 400 is also weird.

But I turned my eyes to another bit of data even more worrisome than that information.

“This state of subordination... What does it mean?”

That's right, only that part, I couldn't really understand.

Is it that? A slave-like existence?

Since I arrived in this world, I hadn't seen a single slave so I thought they didn't exist here but...

If this is actual slavery, then I'd be concerned about the well-being of Shouta and the others.

Because, like the hero in Abel's diary, they might end up being used for all they are worth and then thrown away.

Also, the concept of slavery doesn't sit well with me.

On Earth, there's a saying "to be worked like a slave" but it doesn't mean to actually be a slave.

Although I thought that because the summoned heroes circulated technology, a level of technology close to that of Earth would be in the process of spreading, but as expected, if there's stuff like slavery, you can only say that it's still behind.

Besides, to me who was born on Earth, no matter what, the word "slave" is unpleasant.

While I was thinking about that, the assassin was heading in the direction of the training ground I'm at.

As I spontaneously turn my eyes to the entrance leading to the inside of the royal palace, a black shadow suddenly came rushing towards my direction.

Seeing the shape of the shadow, I accidentally leak out my thoughts.

"Hmm... You really do look like an assassin, huh."

"-?!"

The black figure who jumped out wore a jet-black robe like me and had a small build. I couldn't see her face though.

This black shadow should definitely be the assassin.

When I calmly looked at the assassin, she looked in my direction, astonished.

"...W-why... can you... ?!"

"Huh?"

What's she saying? Though the atmosphere seems like she wanted to say [Why can you see me?!] .

As I was tilting my head in confusion about the atmosphere, the robed girl pulled something out from her breast pocket and threw it at me.

“-!”

“Eh-?! Hold on?! You're attacking all of the sudden!?”

Ugh, it's turned into a bad situation.

Well, other than aiming for this country's king, she would probably also need to remove anyone who saw her.

That aside, it seems like my opponent threw two throwing-knives at me.

This is where I have no choice but to dodge it in a normal way, and on top of seriously holding back, incapacitate her, right... If I hit her seriously, she'd disappear from the face of the earth. Really, I can actually feel that I've quit being human...

While gazing at the approaching knives, I was thinking about that, and—.

“-?!”

“Eh?”

My body, like it did in the fight with Ruiesu-san, suddenly started moving.

And so, my body moved to catch the two knives flying at me, one between my forefinger and middle finger, the other between my middle and ring finger, and in the same instant sent them flying back to their owner.

“Wai-?!”

I've fought and defeated demons, but right now I don't have the resolve to involve myself in a fight to the death with humans or beastmen.

Even though they are both living beings however no matter what, I can't bring myself to think of demons and people as the same.

I know it's a really naive mindset but no matter what, it seems I can't do it.

That's why, I felt tremendous fear at my actions just now. When I was fighting Ruiesusan, I had no idea what was going on, so it was a case where I didn't even have time to feel afraid. But right now, it is different.

Most likely, my skill [Reflexive Defence] activated, but because of that I'll end up killing the assassin... or so I thought.

But, the Skill [Reflexive Defence], was even better than I had imagined.

"Ku...!"

The speed of the knives I threw back, while it wasn't extremely fast, it wasn't a speed you could dodge.

That's why, I was sure they would pierce the assassin's body, but... The knives I threw pierced her robe, lodging themselves into the castle walls.

Because of the speed and force of the knives, the assassin was pulled along with the robe and stuck to the wall. Normally, I think the thrown back knife would have just gone through the robe and that would be it, but having evolved, my body just went and easily pulled off a supernatural skill sealing the opponent's movements. Is it really okay to be happy? About this.

Then again, like its name implies, the skill did stop at just defending me, so I guess it's okay, this time. Yeah.

Just when I was trying to convince myself it's okay, the assassin who was stuck to the wall immediately cast off the robe and slipped out of her entrapment.

"Oo-!"

And, seeing the true appearance of the assassin without her robe, I let out my voice unintentionally.

"..."

As to why, it's because the assassin just like me, had black hair. Furthermore, on her head was something that looked like cat ears, and from her lower back extended a tail

of the same colour as her hair.

The assassin scowled at me, still with her guard up, so I took the chance to re-examine her.

Raven-black short hair, and similar to a cat, she had golden pupils. She was cute, like someone would expect from someone her age. But, because she was glaring at me with narrowed eyes, her cuteness was cut by half.

I'm thinking she's probably a black cat beastman. She had black cat ears after all, and her tail was black too.

And, the clothing that little girl was wearing, it was as if she was wearing a ninja costume, she was covered in jet-black clothes, and on her neck, was a collar-like thing of the same colour.

I don't know if the concept of ninjas exists in this world, but it's for sure that her outfit was quite assassin-like.

No... Still, for there to be the same black hair as me, I felt amazingly relieved. Though I did get attacked.

Because thanks to her, I realized that there was no need to be that conscious of having black hair.

As I was feeling satisfied about being able to coincidentally confirm that truth, the assassin suddenly jumped at me with surprising speed. What's more, she had a knife in her grasp.

“———!”

“Attacking again?! Let's calm down a little, yeah?!”

What kind of horror film is this, for such a cute child to be trying to kill me with a knife.

While grandly clicking my tongue internally, it was the second I put all my strength into my legs to avoid her attack.

Once again, my body began to move without permission.

“Wai-! Stop!”

My body’s been completely taken over by the skill, huh.

While I was unable to even restrain my body, my left hand caught the incoming knife between my fingers, and my right hand lightly poked her forehead.

“—-!!??”

With just that, the assassin girl’s eyes rolled into her head, and she fainted on the spot.

“Oops-”

I caught her before she could fall to the ground.

Hahaha... It seriously only takes a light poke to make an opponent faint? I see. It’s definitely not that these streams of liquid flowing down my cheeks are tears or anything like that.

While thinking of such stupid things, I once again checked the face of the unconscious assassin in my arms.

...Hmm. While she’s sleeping like this, she really does look like an ordinary child, huh.

I shuddered unconsciously at the thought that this was a world where it was normal for children to go around killing people with knives.

Until now, I didn’t even think about paying attention to such things, but now I felt the terrors of this other world once again.

I can’t really say this after having defeated demons, but even so, it feels like I might’ve started thinking that taking a life is a natural thing, and that scares me.

This, even more so than the ridiculous status I’ve obtained, scares me the most.

I want to defeat my opponent because of the reason that they attacked me – the fact that I have ended up with this kind of logic is already abnormal, is what I realized at this late hour.

But in this world, that’s natural, otherwise you can’t survive.

I'm not on... Earth anymore.

Even though I understand this in my mind, it seems it's still difficult for me to understand this in my heart.

I relaxed my stiff shoulders and let out a sigh.

By doing so, I let out all the pent-up tension in my body, and once again I felt hurried presences approaching me from within the castle.

Moving my line of sight to that direction, I saw Ruiesu-san and the rest of the Valkyries coming over to the training ground, all of them with grim expressions.

When Ruiesu-san confirmed that it was me, she rushed over to my side.

"Shishou. I'm very sorry for the sudden situation, but could I ask you to go home for now?"

...Looks like it's decided that I'll be called Shishou.

"Yes, I don't really mind... Ah, Ruiesu-san."

"Please call me Ruiesu. No need for politeness either."

I lost to Ruiesu-san's "won't take no for an answer" attitude, and decided to just go along with what she said.

"A— ... Okay. Then, Ruiesu. I think I caught the criminal who attacked the King, but..."

"...Come again?"

Ruiesu paused for a good while to let my words sink in, and then asked so.

Well, I guess that's normal. I mean, anyone would be surprised if I suddenly said that I've caught the criminal aiming for the King's life.

While of thinking of such things, I showed them the assassin girl that I was holding in my arms.

"Here, it's this girl. It's because she rushed out from the castle and then attacked me,

you see...”

...Huh? I wonder why. The way I said it really made it sound like an excuse.

However, not minding me, Ruiesu looked at the assassin girl in my arms, and her eyes shot wide open in surprise.

And so, for a while, Ruiesu looked at the girl, as if she was studying her. In that moment, I felt like I saw her eyes shine for a moment.

During that moment, as Ruiesu observed the female assassin, I remembered.

That was from before I came to this world, back in the classroom where Ouki used his skill [Analyse] to check my status without permission, the feeling was exactly the same as that time.

In the instant when Ruiesu’s eyes lit up, my skill [Clairvoyance] activated as well, and showed me the skill that Ruiesu used.

It seems like she’s checking the assassin girl’s status and such. Wait, I thought Ruiesu couldn’t use skills? Or perhaps that’s limited to offensive skills? Either way, her slash attacks were already abnormal enough without skills!

“This child is... Lorna.”

“Yes! What is it?”

With a grim expression on her face, Ruiesu called the nearby Lorna.

“Her interrogation, I’ll leave it to you.”

“Understood!”

Lorna-san was told, and I handed the assassin girl to her.

Carrying the girl, she left to go somewhere.

Even so... Interrogation? Is it alright to leave such a task to Lorna-san?

While thinking very rude things, I tilted my head, Claudia-san then approached me.

“It’ll be alright if you leave it to Lorna. She won’t do anything bad to that girl.”

“No, I’m not particularly concerned about that... Is it really alright to leave the interrogation to Lorna-san? Ah, no, it’s not that I don’t trust her or anything but...”

To me unintentionally ending up saying stuff that sounds like excuses, Claudia-san smiled wryly.

“Hahaha. I get what you’re trying to say. But, she’s the best interrogator in this country.”

“Really?!”

“What’s more, she’s completely mastered the advanced levels of the [SM Course] taught by the Guild’s Miss Eris.”

(Reminder, that’s the Sadistic guild receptionist. Not the cheat receptionist though ;3)

“Eris-san’s name makes an appearance here?!”

There were people who were willing to take such a ridiculous course?! And what’s more, isn’t it super pointless to perfect even the advanced classes?!

Is it possible that, there might even be people who took Gassur’s course to learn how to efficiently build muscles?... This is bad, I can’t deny the possibility.

I shuddered at the thought that the courses I thought there was no demand for, were actually flourishing in unexpected places.

“Aside from that, Seiichi-kun. I’m sorry about this, but we’re going need you to leave for today.”

“Ruiesu said that too.”

“Yes. Sorry, Shishou. Even though we were the ones who invited you here...”

“No, that’s not really a problem but... Is the king okay?”

The expressions of the two turned grim when I asked them that.

“...Because of the recovery magic from the soldiers of the magic division, he narrowly

managed to escape death. However... ”

“?”

I tilted my head in confusion when Ruiesu didn't continue, and Claudia-san took over.

“...His Majesty has not awoken.”

“Eh?”

He hasn't awoken? Ruiesu just said he managed to escape due to recovery magic though... Is it a problem with his body?

Or so I guessed, but I was wrong.

“Seiichi-kun, since you already know the King has been attacked, I'll tell you but... about this situation, can you keep it a secret?”

“Ye-yeah. I never intended to tell anyone from the start though...”

“Then, I'll tell you. His majesty was attacked by that assassin but... It seems like she was using a weapon called a [Cursed Tool] ”

“Cursed tool?”

When I tilted my head at the unfamiliar term, Ruiesu explained it to me.

“Shishou. Cursed tools are, as their name implies, tools or weapons possessed by evil spirits or a curse, that bring harm to people. Among the different types of possessed tools, there are even ones that can easily kill their user or other people... But in this case, it seems a knife with a curse called [Eternal Slumber] was used.”

“Eternal slumber...”

Curses, eh... That reminds me, Al had the curse [Person Who is Burdened With Disaster] and had her luck status become negative.

And, according to Al, there was no way to remove the curse.

In other words —

“...His Majesty is likely to never open his eyes again.”

“...”

Claudia said, with a voice that sounded like she'd crushed various emotions.

“...The only saving grace is that the crown prince His Highness Robert, second prince His Highness Gionis, and first princess Her Highness Lattice-sama, were not targeted because they were at school.”

Even though Claudia-san said that, I could see that she hardly considered it a blessing with that dark look on her face.

Ruiesu too, looked really depressed, maybe because of her inability to protect the King.

...Is there anything I can do for them... ?

This isn't a problem about whether I should stand out or not or things like that.

I genuinely think this country is amazing after all, and despite my short time here I've really come to love it.

I don't know whether the current King is governing well, or if it was the previous King's work.

But to me, this country full of smiles looked very bright.

And yet, Claudia-san and Ruiesu both have such miserable looks on their faces.

Though the atmosphere was pleasant until just now, it was completely destroyed in a moment.

I couldn't endure this kind of unreasonableness.

That's why, if possible, I'd like to lend my strength to them.

On Earth, I was always being helped by others, not having a chance to do so in return.

But, now I should have enough power to help others. No, I definitely do.

Hoping I had a magic that could cure the curse, I recalled the effects of all the magic I know.

But, no matter how much I looked, there wasn't any spells to break curses.

...Is it really no use after all?

Just when I thought so.

I noticed, there is one method to do it.

That method was————

“...If there isn't one, then we should just make one.”

“Eh?”

At me who quietly muttered words like those a certain queen, Ruiesu and Claudia-san tilted their heads.

(TLC Note: He is referring to a certain queen does this sound familiar? If they don't have bread then let them eat cake. Mary Antoinette. -Renbo)

That's right... Isn't it precisely times like these that I can demonstrate my ridiculous status?

I was controlled by my own skills, and I don't even understand magic properly.

Till now, I've been averting my eyes from this power and trying to escape from reality.

I've kept on just obtaining it, and continued to grieve over it.

That's why, I think I should properly face it this time.

My skill... [Magic Creation] .

This the first step to facing my power, and my first time creating magic.

With a strong will in my eyes, I turned my eyes to face the two of them ———.

“Please bring me to where the King is.”

——— I said.

CHAPTER 47

REVERSAL MAGIC

“This is where His Majesty sleeps.”

The Valkyries, hearing the resolution in my words, brought me to the King’s chambers.

Normally, it would be unthinkable for a person of unknown birth and background to be brought to the King like this, but Louise said that in the first place if I had wanted to inflict harm on the King, then I wouldn’t have needed such a roundabout method. Apparently, that’s how strong I was. A certain battle race would even be surprised!

That’s why I was allowed to see the King. I can’t just be happy about thisss.

(Note: He’s having trouble accepting how easy this is apparently.)

While I was depressed about the turn of events, we reached a room. It seems that this is where the King sleeps.

Just looking at the impressive wooden door, it gave off an aura as though the room belonged to someone crucial.

When I entered, though contrary to what I had imagined, the room had a silent and calm atmosphere... Well, there is a huge canopy bed in the middle of the room, though! As expected of royalty...

Like that, Claudia-san and Louise, as if they were escorting me, accompanied me to where the sleeping King was.

And, looking at the person with their eyes closed calmly in the bed, I was shocked.

Because it was———

“Ranze-san?!”

It was Ranze-san, whom I had met at the café Accoriente and who listened to my troubles.

But unlike at the coffee shop, in place of the simple clothes he had on back then, was a grand outfit.

“Wh-what does that mean?”

While I was understood nothing and was completely lost, Louise asked with a puzzled voice.

“? Are you familiar with His Majesty?”

“Eh? A-ahh... at the Accoriente café, he listened to my worries...”

When I said that, Louise nodded as though she understood.

“I see Noado-san’s cafe. His Majesty was checking up on the commoners, but having his face known is inconvenient, so I was surprised to see someone recognise him, but... if that’s the reason, then I can understand it.”

Who the heck exactly is Noado-san? *(TLC note: Not that he doesn’t know who Noado is, just that Noado is pretty darn mysterious)*

I was surprised by the fact that Ranze-san was the king, too, but compared to Noado who casually had connections with such people...

This is bad. Too many things are happening all at once.

Also, even though when I met him at the cafe he was so energetic, now he’s a mere shadow of that.

He was breathing alright, but how do I say this... it seems like he is in some sort of deep slumber.

When I was thinking about that, a new group of people entered the room.

“Are you the one? Who said he might be able to release the King from this sleep...”

In that group, everyone was wrapped in the same kind of white robe, so how do I say this... Their appearance made them look like a bunch of magicians.

Of those there, the one at the very front called out to me.

“Yeah. Well, I don’t know whether I can do it or not, though...”

“That is fine. As long as there is even a 1% chance of waking him, then we shall cling to that hope. That’s why... I’m begging you.”

Saying that the leader bowed down to me. Following that, the robed group behind him also lowered their heads.

...Ranze-san, you really are loved by your people.

In my case, because he listened to my troubles, I felt like I owed it to him. But even if I didn’t, if I could, I would still help him.

“I got it. I will try everything I can.”

“...Thank you.”

The leader said so, pulling off his hood.

Then, from underneath his hood, appeared a good looking young man, with clear blue eyes like water and silky light blue hair. On top of that, he had a gentle smile on his face. Is that smile for free?

(Note : He means to say that the smile is good enough to charge money for.)

“My apologies for the late introduction. I am Florio Barze, of this Kingdom’s Magic Division.”

“Ah, um... I’m Seiichi.”

“I see. Well, then Seiichi-kun. I shall entrust His Majesty to you.”

The foremost person—Florio-san, moved to a corner with the rest of the robed figures after he said that.

...Huh? What is this? I feel like that person just now is really similar to someone...

“Shishou. That was my older brother, the leader of the Magical Division that had been continually casting recovery magic until just now.”

“Heeeeee...”

So, he was Louise’s older brother. Certainly, they have the same coloured hair and eyes, and they are both good-looking too. I’m convinced.

After I arbitrarily accepted that fact on my own, suddenly there was, though faint, an expression of unease on Louise’s face.

“Shishou... Is it really possible to awaken His Majesty?”

“...I don’t know either. It’s my first time doing this after all.”

I grandly declared I could before, but I’m not sure how much I can do to help.

But, I think it’s better than to regret not doing anything. When I think about it that way, I can’t just do nothing.

“...Shishou. This might be insensitive toward your good will, but don’t push yourself too hard.”

“...”

“A [Curse] is something that, once received, can never be dispelled. That is the result of the long years of experimentation by many wise-men. That’s why———”

“It’s fine.”

I said, interrupting Louise.

“It’s fine. Because I’ll absolutely accomplish it.”

“...I understand.”

Hearing that, Louise stepped back.

Seeing that, I once again turn my attention to Ranze-san.

...This is bad, what should I do.

As soon as I declared that, I started feeling nervous.

...Though it's already too late for me to pull out.

Unintentionally, I had a wry smile on my face, as I stretched out both my hands over Ranze-san.

And then, I took a big, deep breath.

“Suuu... Haa...”

(Note : “Suu” = sound of inhaling, “haaa” = sound of exhaling)

I felt a lot of eyes on me from behind.

To start off, for the activation of [Magic Creation] , it was necessary to have a clear mental image and chant the name of the spell.

But, once I've said the name of my magic and activated it, I will be able to activate it with my skill [Chantless] from then on.

That's why, in the beginning, the most important part is to have a clear image.

...Huh? An image to dispel curses... What is that like?

If it's a flame or so, I can imagine what it's like but... What should I do for a curse dispelling image?

Once that thought popped up in my head, my whole body broke out in cold sweat.

This is bad bad bad! C-ccc ccc calm down, me!

Is it something like... “Fuwaa-!”?... Ah, this is hopeless. My lack of imagination is so disappointing.

A-anyways, let's try using the image of Ranze-san getting well first.

...But I can't understand that either!

First of all, let's try to repeat [Get Well!] in my head, shall we?... No good. I can't get an image of what comes after that...

Ah, I give up! There isn't anything else I can imagine either! Now it's come to this I'll just try desperately!

Well then, I'll start... Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well Get Well...

As if I was a broken record, repeated that over and over in my head.

But, could it have been a bad idea to repeat that in my head I wonder.

I was only repeating it in my head, but it should be imaged enough already... I thought so, so I decided to think up the name of the spell and say it, and right then...

"Get well!"

(Note : And so the sound of a thousand face-palms resounded through the halls that day)(TLC: Legends says that even to this day you can still hear the facepalms happening in unison when you walk down those halls -Renbo)

It was done magnificently.

Aaaaaaaah! Now I've done iiiiiiiiiiiit!

I unconsciously said it out loud?! This is bad, the stares from behind are painful... !

I felt as though a cold wind blew between me and everyone else in the palace.

Well. I wonder why that was. After I made such bold statements, this is the pitiful result. Can I cry?

While I still had, both hands stretched out with cold sweat pouring out even more than at first, I froze.

However, in the next moment, everyone else froze too, for a different reason.

Suddenly, both my hand lit up with a brilliant light, and that light flew into Ranze-san.

It was such an unexpected situation that both everyone's thoughts and their movements stopped.

And then, we were hit further by another shock.

“...nn... ah..?”

Amazingly, Ranze-san, who should have been in a deep slumber until mere moments ago, awoke.

Slowly sitting up, Ranze-san looked over his surroundings and said.

“...Ah? Why is Seiichi here? Moreover, even you guys———”

[UWAAAAAAAAAAAA!] *(Note : Crying sounds)*

Interrupting Ranze-san’s line, everyone rushed to his side simultaneously

Seeing their state, Ranze-san was really flustered.

“Oi oi oi oi... What exactly happened here?!”

Florio-san and Louise calmly explained the situation to the astonished and bewildered Ranze-san.

Hearing what had happened, he had a bitter expression on his face.

“...I see. I was almost cursed to death...”

“You Majesty. What will you do? As we previously explained, it seems like the assassin was sent by the Kaizer Empire but...”

“Nothing. Too much of a hassle... Besides, this time the case is special. Unexpectedly, this time there was only one person sent... And with only one target, neither “Mountain” nor “Sea” can really do anything. Just being warier next time is enough. Plus, there’s no need to deploy our army, and distress the citizens, right?”

“That’s true, but...”

Somehow, they started a conversation that I can’t really understand. Sea? Mountain? Are they going camping or something?

While I was thinking about such trivial things, suddenly Ranze-san turned his attention

to me.

“———Seiichi.”

“Eh? Ah, yes!”

As I didn't expect him to be the king, my answer came out tense.

At my sorry state, Ranze-san smiled wryly.

“Don't be so tense. You saved my life after all.”

“Alright...”

“And so? Seiichi. How did you manage to dispel the curse? No, in the first place, why did you decide to help me? Did you want to use my name as a shield or something?”

Completely changed from a moment ago, Ranze-san had a serious expression on his face as he asked that.

But, you know... Even if you ask me why I did it...

“...If I had to say, it was for my satisfaction, I guess.”

“Your satisfaction?”

“Yes. I came here today to claim my prize from winning the Royal Cup. During that process, I got mixed up in this whole situation, and ended up helping you out.”

“...”

“When I heard you collapsed... No, at that time I still didn't know you were the King, but when I saw Louise's and the others' expressions when I heard that the King had collapsed, I couldn't stand to watch it. I mean, they were smiling just a moment ago, but that crumbled away so quickly. I might have only seen the bright side of this country, but in this city full of smiles, those sad expressions were just something I could not stand seeing.”

“...”

“And also, to be honest, it was a gamble as to whether I could dispel the curse on you. After all, it was my first attempt!”

“You experimented on me?! I am a King you know?!”

Yeah, seriously... Sorry.

“It was because I couldn’t be concerned about appearances anymore. The funny thing is, I don’t even know how I dispelled the curse on you myself.”

“Oi oi oi... From what I heard, you were using a new spell weren’t you.”

“Yeah. I somehow managed to create it.”

When I said so, Ranze-san had a very tired expression on his face.

“...Is it even a thing that can be “somehow managed” to do? Florio.”

“It’s impossible. Do you know how difficult it is, to create new spells... Because we are also magic users, we understand that. That is especially true for a magic that could dispel [Curse] , something that hasn’t been achieved until now... ”

“...And, there you have it.”

“Ohh, I somehow did something really amazing without knowing, didn’t I.”

“...I give up. And? Let’s leave aside how the spell was created for now. But still, you must at least know the effects of the spell, right?”

Even if Ranze-san asks me that, I have no clue what the effects of the spell I cast earlier were.

...Yeah. If I were to say I don’t know, they would probably ask me all kinds of questions, but in reality, I don’t know so it can’t be helped!

And so, just as I was about to say that.

In my mind, I heard a machine-like voice.

[Skill [Magic Creation] has activated. Reversal Magic [Get Well] has been created]

GODDAMN!

I unconsciously retorted. In my heart.

No no no! What's up with the magic's name?! Also, it's not magic to dispel curses or something like that, but Reversal Magic?! What is that?!

Well, I'll just assume that the Reversal Magic is alright. It actually has magic in its name after all... But what the heck is up with the name [Get Well] ?!

While I was still retorting, the effects of the spell displayed themselves in a way which only I could see.

[Reversal Magic: Get Well]... Magic to reverse [Curses] into [Blessing] on target.

...Yup. Sensei, I don't understand.

Tilting my neck in confusion, not understanding the displayed information, Ranze-san had a suspicious expression on his face.

"What's wrong? Are there any effects that are hard to talk about?"

"Eh? No, that's not the case, but..."

There's no point in worrying about it myself, so I just honestly told Ranze-san and the others.

Everyone was at a loss for words.

U-umm? Did I, do something again?

Putting the uneasy me aside, Louise turned over and stared at Ranze-san intensely as if she was observing him. At that moment, her eyes lit up for a moment, a sign that her skill [Appraisal] had activated.

"Yo-your Majesty... The [Curse] [Everlasting Sleep] , has turned into the [Blessing] [Everlasting Health]..."

Hearing what Louise said, everyone was stunned.

I didn't understand, so while it might be impolite, I activated my own Appraisal skill on Ranze-san.

<<Ranzelf Forde Winberg>>

Race: Human

Gender: Male

Job: King

Age: 48

Level: 134

Magic: 1000

Attack: 2500

Defense: 3000

Agility: 5870

Magic Attack: 1110

Magic Defense: 3300

Luck: 3000

Charm: Immeasurable

<<State>>

[Everlasting Health]

Wow. The King is strooong.

...That's not it! Eh? What is this? Does every King in this world have a level surpassing 100? Well, in any case, that's not something I should say. Even so, let me say this. I'm so envious of his Charm!

Leaving that aside, what does the state [Everlasting Health] mean?

When I thought that, the effect of [Everlasting Health] was displayed to me.

[Everlasting Health]... Blessing. Target's life span is increased by 10 years, and can no longer fall sick. Furthermore, it is harder to get injured.

It turned out to be a pretty outrageous effect!!

...Is this because the effects of the curse [Eternal Sleep], which was meant to make someone sleep for the rest of their days, was inverted?

If my hypothesis is correct then... Uwaa. I feel like I understand why everyone was speechless...

In the end, everyone including me was shocked, but regarding the result, I was safe, and I managed to dispel the curse successfully.

CHAPTER 48

BATH

“Once more, let me thank you and formally introduce myself. I am the Ruler of Winberg, Ranzelf Forde Winberg. For removing that curse placed on me, I thank you. Also, like before just call me Ranze.”

(Note: For those who have forgotten, Ranzelf or Ranze is the middle-aged man he chatted with in coffee shop Accoriente in Ch 34)

[Thank you very much!]

Right now, I’m in a so-called audience chamber, and everyone lowered their heads to me.

“No, it’s fine, so! Please raise your heads!”

On Earth, no one had lowered their heads to me in gratefulness, so I ended up feeling bad.

“You say that, but do you know Seiichi? You saved me, a king, you know!”

“That might be the case, but please stop it! I’m going to mentally die!”

“It’s that bad?!”

As they somehow understood how desperate I was, everyone raised their heads for me.

And this time, with a slightly serious expression, Ranze-san says,

“However, I am obligated to at least give some sort of reward to you.”

“Eh?! Bu-but like I said, I don’t particularly—”

Hearing me repeat myself, Ranze-san smiled wryly.

“Well, I understand that you did it out of goodwill. However, doing nothing and just saying [Okay, goodbye] when a country’s king has been saved is out of the question.

That's why Seiichi. You can request something that you want. If it is within my power to, I shall grant you whatever you wish. That's how much meaning your actions hold."

"Umm..."

I didn't know how to reply to Ranze-san words.

I don't really understand it very well, but nations have to keep up appearances, so thinking about it, just declining for the sake of my own convenience is a bit...

As I was thinking about how to deal with this situation, I suddenly remembered something.

"Umm... In that case, there is one thing."

"Sure, what is it?"

"Please help me with training my magic and skill."

[...Huh?]

Besides me, everyone tilted their heads in confusion at my proposal.

"It might sound strange, but... The truth is I can't handle my magic or skills well. To be specific, I can't precisely adjust the strength, I'm at the mercy of my skills and magic, and so on... In any case, I can't use them properly at all. That's why, since there happen to be several experts in their fields, it would be nice if they could teach me~? Or so I thought..."

I don't think it could be helped that my speech had gradually lost its momentum towards the end. After all, everyone was staring at me with dumbfounded looks on their faces.

'For example, although Louise can't use any attack skills, I thought she could still teach me her body movement technique, but... After all, she is known as the country's greatest combat power, so maybe that wouldn't be allowed?' was what I nervously thought inside.

"Shishou... You're still striving to get stronger... I respect that."

“Hm... Seiichi-kun’s drive to improve himself is impressive.”

“Being able to use magic at such a level, yet still being unsatisfied... I still have a long way to go.”

Huh? They have an unnecessarily positive impression of what I just said. Even though I just stated the truth.

Their reaction was so good that it made me feel silly about worrying in the first place.

Then, Ranze-san called out to Florio-san and Louise.

“Florio, Louise.”

“The two of you shall assist Seiichi in his training. Hey, it’ll be good stimulation for the two of you, too.”

“Yes! As you wish.”

Oh... It was given the OK after all. No, I’m happy about it, but you know?

My concerns really ended up as needless anxieties.

This time it was I that was dumbfounded, and so the two siblings in front of me, Florio-san and Louise approached me.

“Shishou. I would like to learn together with you too so I will be in your care.”

“Me too, I’m interested in your peculiar magic. Well, the magic that dispelled the curse on His Majesty seems to be a unique magic that neither I nor anyone else could replicate, but... Even so, this could be a good stimulus for my magic. I’ll be in your care.”

“Ah, yes!”

And so, I was able to find the necessary teachers to help me learn to manage my power.

“Yosh! Well then, leaving the formal stuff aside for now... Seiichi! You should go take a dip in the bath here!”

At Ranze-san sudden proposal, I let out a dumb-sounding voice.

“This city doesn’t have any public baths after all... Seiichi, you haven’t taken a single proper bath since you came here right?”

”Eh? Ah, yes.”

Certainly, much less since I’ve arrived in this city, I haven’t had a chance to take a proper bath since I’ve come to this world... By those words alone, I’m hella filthy, but I can just clean myself with magic.

But not getting that refreshing sense from bathing, is quite regrettable.

“Well don’t think too hard about it! Just get in.”

Although I was worried for a moment about how my hair is black, I realised it was a bit late since I just remembered that when Rurune changed into human form, I had already taken the robe off.

And so———.

“Then... I’ll take you up on your offer.”

And so I decided to take a bath. I mean, if you’re a Japanese you’ll understand it right? Baths are the best after all.

After that, the talk turned into Ranze-san coming along into the bath, and so he personally guided me to where it was.

The changing room was already about the size of a public bath on Earth, so while I was being overwhelmed by the spaciousness and grandeur, Ranze-san quickly stripped off his clothes and headed for the bath.

I also hastily took off my clothes, and put my feet into the bath.

As I entered, I was shocked by its magnificence.

Of course, there was a Merlion-like statue, from which water was gushing out, and there was a water fountain in the bath as well.

Looking around, I saw a Jet Bath and an electric bath just being there like it was normal, something which can also be found in bath houses on Earth... It was likely to have been

created with magic... Magic is really versatile, isn't it?

As I was unintentionally astounded, Ranze-san came over.

“Oi oi, don't just stand there staring, hurry up and get in the——”

Seeing Ranze-san suddenly stopped and his eyes opened wide in shock, I tilted my head in confusion.

“...Yo-you have quite an excellent thing...”

“Where the heck are you looking at?!”

I quickly covered up my lower half.

Even though I expected him to be talking about my black eyes and hair if anything!

Just when I was exposing a foolish side of myself to him by covering up my lower half while we're nude, Ranze-san nodded with a convinced expression.

“I see... With such a splendid tool in your arsenal, no wonder you're popular... This is the first time I've seen something of your class.”

“That's wrong! Leaving aside the matter of me being popular or not, that's definitely wrong!”

I'm not an exhibitionist of the guild, I wouldn't be showing it as if it were a natural course of action right?!

While I was heating up before even entering the bath from feeling ashamed, Ranze-san laughed it off with a “My bad” before getting into the bath.

Before entering the bath, I poured some water over myself, washing away my shame to some extent before I got in.

“Ah... Aaaaaaaaaaaaaah... This feels so good...”

I wonder why. When you enter a bath, that ends up getting said reflexively, right?

“Hey, Seiichi. It seems like you are quite familiar with bathing. On this continent,

normally only the nobles and royalty have baths. Is it different in the Eastern countries?”

“Eh? Ah, well... Something like that, I guess.”

Sorry to every one of the Eastern countries. I told him some random customs.

But, the thing about me being used to baths, is probably because of me being Japanese.

Foreign countries back on earth seem to not have a habit of soaking in baths, but it doesn't seem to be the case in this world.

When you're busy, I think showers are fine, but when fatigued from a hard day of work, then soaking in hot water is really the way to go. Baths are the best.

As the bath was so comfortable, my facial muscles relaxed to a slovenly state, and at that moment Ranze-san said with a serious face,

“You know, I... Someday, not just this in this city, but even in the many towns and villages of this country, I want to build public baths. No, not just in this country. I wanna have all kinds of people know that such an amazing thing exists. Doesn't matter which country or race they are from. However, with all these pointless wars nowadays, I don't have the time, and embarrassingly enough, I don't have the money either.”

“...”

“Even so, I dream that someday, people from all kinds of countries can stop warring, and take baths together while naked, just like this.”

“...”

“You can call me an idealist, or a dreamer, or whatever. But what's wrong with talking about my dreams? It's not about whether or not you can realise it, but just by having dreams, you can put in the effort to move, even just a little, toward that direction. After all... You only get to live once. Reckless, impossible, bring it on! You'll lose out if you don't dream right?!”

Ranze-san laughed as he said so.

“Ahhh... I acted really out of character there... As expected, baths are amazing. They can

even exposure your true feelings... Well, I, too got somewhat troubled and wanted to complain a little anyways. Just forget about it.”

To the Ranze-san who said that sounding somewhat lonely, I replied.

“...Invite me to have a bath again sometime. At that time, I’ll try inviting some of my acquaintances from the guild too.”

The Ranze-san who was stunned by what I said—.

“Yeah!”

Finally smiled at the very end.

“...”

Zakir Gilford was walking in Tsezaar Castle with a fierce look on his face.

Then, men in luxurious armour unlike that which Zakir was wearing came from the opposite direction.

Seeing that, Zakir’s frown deepened further.

Gradually, the distance between Zakir and the men was reduced, until the head of the group of men noticed Zakir.

That man had darkish blond hair, and red eyes also containing the colour of contempt. Although he had a handsome face, his horrible personality was oozing out of him, and he had a constant expression as if looking down on people.

”Oh~? Why why, if it isn’t the country’s strongest Zakir-kun~.”

“...”

Zakir tried to do a light nod and pass through, but the group of men walked into his path and blocked him.

“Why so cold, aren’t you and I comrades?”

“...What is it.”

Zakir felt disgusted inside.

—Leader of the first unit of the Kaiser empire, Aurius Fencer.

That was the name of the man, who picked a fight with Zakir whenever anything happened.

“No no, I don’t particularly have business with you or anything, but... Nn~, I’ve heard a rumour. Of all things, that <<Shien (Death Smoke)>> targeted His Majesty.”

“...”

“Furthermore, without being able to capture <<Shien (Death Smoke)>>, you let him escape... Oh dear, the <<King’s Blade>> sure has fallen far.”

“...”

At Aurius’ words, the other men sneered.

Ignoring those men, Zakir once again tried to move away from them, but Aurius pulled Zakir around by his shoulder and whispered in his ear.

“That’s what happens when the likes of you commoners get full of yourselves. In the first place, your Second Division made up of commoners, is merely a pawn meant to be sent to exhaust the enemy before we come in to crush them.”

“...”

“Well, I’d rather not have clean up after your messes when you do poorly. Try your best to not to anger His Majesty. If you were all to disappear, then it would be troublesome for us, wouldn’t it? Fuhaha.”

“...”

No matter how much he was insulted, Zakir carried on with his deadpan expression, not even letting so much as an eyebrow twitch.

Annoyed by that attitude, Aurius clicked his tongue loudly and pushed Zakir away.

“Tsk! What a boring person... We’re leaving, you guys.”

[Yes, sir.]

In the end, all Aurius did was quarrel as much as possible with Zakir before he left.

The sole remaining person, Zakir, leaned against a wall and murmured softly.

“...This sword of mine, what is it suppose to be used to protect..?”

No matter how much he stares at his hand, the answer isn't written on it.

And then, the words of the escaped <<Shien (Death Smoke)>> once again came to him.

“...It was as he said. To feel joy from killing others... is messed up. It is to nurture a life that's a hundred times harder.”

Zakir was someone, who couldn't do much other than wielding a sword.

Through that, he was able to save many people.

But he realised, that to save one, he would only be able to do so by killing another.

And so right now, his very reason for existing was crumbling.

“—a pawn, huh.”

It held a different meaning from what Aurius had meant it to be, but still, it pierced deeply into his heart.

I—Takamiya Shouta, and everyone from my class, were spending our days at the Barbador Magic Academy, training to subjugate the Demon King.

While Zakir-san and we didn't know, the other students arbitrarily decided by themselves, and then together with that robed old man... if I remember correctly, his name was Helio? They negotiated with him.

As a result, we were sent to this Magic Academy, learning all sorts of magic, and receiving training in the ways of the sword. I wasn't really bothered by it, but it seems like the others were quite displeased with Zakir-san's basic training, and because of the accumulating stress, they ran wild.

And right now I was in the middle of the discussion about being at the academy, with my childhood friend Araki Kenji and Kannazuki Karen-senpai the three of us, in the academy's courtyard.

"...Kannazuki-Senpai, do you think alright for us to continue on like this?"

When I asked that, I could immediately tell from looking at Kannazuki-senpai's face... That she didn't think it was alright.

As for a reason as to why this discussion was being held...

"If we were to continue as we are, we'll be completely isolated from the academy."

Yes, ever since a certain day, the relationship with the previously enrolled students have steadily gotten worse.

The reason was likely the arrogance of us heroes.

"...Who was the cause for this situation again?"

"It's the fault of those guys who were in the same class as Seiichi, Aoyama and them."

Kenji practically spat out those words, but Kannazuki-senpai was calmly shaking her head.

"It's true that they might be one of the causes of it, but the main cause of it is something else. It is——"

"Oh? You there, what are you three doing over there?"

A voice suddenly interrupted us.

We all turned our eyes at the same time towards the direction of the voice and saw 3 guys standing there.

"...Kisaragi Masaya."

Kannazuki-senpai murmured, annoyed.

Just from looking at her behave like that, I understood everything.

...That these 3, were the main cause that Kannazuki-senpai was talking about.

“Please don’t glare like that, Kannazuki-san. It makes your beauty go to waste, you know?”

The person who said that frivolous warning without any hesitation, is Kisaragi Masaya.

A third-year student, like Kannazuki-senpai, and the leader of an idol group that flourished not just in Japan, but globally.

In truth, Kisaragi-senpai, with his silky brown hair, and his sweet looking face, continued to charm a large number of women.

And above all, he was the former captain of the soccer club. If I remember correctly, he handed over his position to the Aoyama and quit the club, with the reason that his time for playing around would shorten or something stupid like that, didn’t he?

“So? What were you talking about? We wanna join in too.”

“...This doesn’t concern you bastards.”

“Woah! Scary~! But, forcing such a fierce girl to submit is fun too.”

Being glared at by Kannazuki-senpai and showing a savage smile, was Ooyama Tsuyoshi.

With muscular sun tanned skin, the shade of mocha and red hair styled in a soft mohican.

Formerly of the Boxing club like Kenji, but he too gave a random reason and stopped attending.

Belonging to the same idol group as Kisaragi-senpai, his overflowing wildness was apparently quite popular with female students.

From behind Ooyama-senpai, a man with a Host-like hairstyle appeared.

“Tsuyoshi, don’t scare girls like that alright? Look, she’s completely afraid there.”

Spitting out a line that disgusted Kannazuki-senpai was Tougou Rento.

A long blonde hairdo that's so gaudy it's annoying.

His face is like the others in Kisaragi-senpai's idol group, good looking.

But I haven't heard any good things about him from my female friends... But, that applies to all of the guys standing in front of me.

In front of those 3, Kannazuki-senpai glared at them with cold eyes.

But, as if he didn't mind that, Kisaragi-senpai continued talking.

"Now, now, don't be so cautious. We only came here out of pure curiosity. Look, if you don't tell me... then I might just cause some trouble, alright?"

If the worst among the female group were Nojima and her friends, then among the male group it would be these guys for sure.

And associated with them, would be Seiichi's classmate Aoyama.

Nojima's group had a lot of bad rumours going around them on Earth, but since they've come to this academy, they have yet to cause any problems. Above all, if you talk to them, they are nice enough that the rumours seem like lies.

Hearing Kisaragi-senpai's words, Kannazuki-senpai had a bitter expression on her face for a moment, but it quickly changed back, and she straight-to-the-point replied,

"Then, shall we talk. About the reason why we're being isolated in this academy."

"Oh, so it's just about that."

Hearing what Kannazuki-senpai said, Kisaragi-senpai let out a voice that sounded bored.

"That's obviously because of us."

And then, he pointed his group out as though it was obvious.

"You say we're getting isolated, but that old man... Helio-san was it? When he stated his conditions, besides sticking these bracelets on us, there was one more condition."

“...What?”

“Like—I—said— ... he wants us to show off the power of us heroes.”

“That’s... ”

Certainly, it was something that he had said.

But, aside from equipping the bracelets, there shouldn’t have been any other condition that we needed to absolutely fulfil. Well, I don’t really understand the meaning of these bracelets either, though.

“Furthermore, don’t talk about the school, even in this world, being able to control 2 attributes is already amazing. Yet, we can use 4 you know? See, it’s this special power that sets us apart from them. Even the magic taught in class, with just a little practice, we learnt to use it casually.”

“Yeah—Yeah—. I had a number mock battles, but... weren’t they too much like small fries? It’s seriously hilarious. At this rate, beating the Demon King will be seriously easy.”

“Also, Helio-san even said it. Beastmen and demihumans and the like are lower lifeforms. Especially the demons, they’re the Demon King’s followers, so their lives aren’t worth anything, he said.”

“Even so... ! What all of you are doing is too much!”

Kenji, tired of what his seniors were saying, shouted.

...As of late, the heroes have begun to develop a tendency of looking down on those around them, and with having obtained powers that were unthinkable of on earth too, a severe discrimination mindset had started growing.

It’s not like we directly saw the seniors do something, but we’ve seen Aoyama and his friends assault the enrolled students and stopped them.

From what I’ve heard, there was a guy who tried to take advantage of a girl by flaunting his power. Fortunately, the situation didn’t take a turn for the worse.

The seniors who pissed off Kenji had an uninterested look on their faces.

“Huh? What are you saying? We’re heroes, you know? Obviously, it’s fine no matter what we do. After all, we’re going to fight to save the world.”

“Kenji... if you get too cocky, I’ll crush you, get it?”

“Seriously cold... actually, that passion is annoying as hell.”

“Aaaahh?!”

Truly, an explosive atmosphere.

But, Kannazuki-senpai cut into that atmosphere.

“...Whatever. Kenji, Shouta, let’s go.”

“No, but..!”

“It’s fine.”

Called strongly by Kannazuki-senpai, Kenji felt reluctant but backed off.

And so, as we were passing by Kisaragi-senpai and his friends, Kisaragi-senpai said loud enough that we could hear.

“Isn’t it natural that the weak obey the strong? Even in Earth’s society, people were kicked down, used, or just crushed. That’s why we, the strong, are just using that privilege. Why can’t you even understand that.”

Kannazuki-senpai ignored that voice, and together with us, walked back towards the academy building.

CHAPTER 49

KYARASUTI ART COMPETITION

After saving Ranze-san and it was arranged so that skill and magic training will be overseen by Louise and company, one month has already passed.

During that one month, I spent my time shopping with Saria and Al, and doing collection requests and easy subjugation requests such as slime subjugation.

Saria and Al were not told of the events within the royal castle. I promised not to after all.

But I told them that, as the prize for winning the Royal Capital Cup, I am getting some help training my skills and magic.

In this regard, for some reason Al had a grim expression, Saria also had a complicated expression. I wonder what's the matter?

Rurune, who did not return to her donkey form since then, often tries out various food from the street stalls while walking together with me... Though there is no need to worry about money, Rurune's appetite is incredible. She can easily eat twice as much as me...

Anyway, though I was passing every day enjoyably, because of certain business today, I have to go out.

That business, is the Kyarasuti Art Competition.

Because Clay and May are both participating in the competition, I have to go take a look.

When I told Saria, Al, and Rurune, the three of them said they would come along, so we are now headed toward the venue together.

“Painting, huh... it's a world that I don't quite understand...”

Altria, who clasped her hands behind her head, grumbled.

“Hmm... I might not understand it much either. How about you, Seiichi?”

Saria who responded to the words of Altria, asked me so I answered honestly.

“No, to be honest I don’t understand it well either. Rurune doesn’t understand it either, right?”

“Eh? I do understand it though?”

“Wha!?”

Because of the unexpected reply, I involuntarily blurted out. Even though she’s a donkey... she can understand art..?!

Thereupon, Rurune stuck out her chest and answered.

“Art... basically, is a meal, right?”

“Good, she doesn’t understand.”

It is a relief that Rurune is the same as usual.

After that, having a trifling talk while walking, we have arrived to the venue of the tournament.

“It’s held here, huh...”

The place where Kyarasuti Art Competition is held, was the town square where I met May for the first time.

Usually there are many street stalls open, but today not even one was open, and instead, a huge stage and a lot of people filled the area.

“Incredible... Although I don’t think all of these people are participants, among them, a good number of them are probably painters.”

“Hey Seiichi, is it okay to not meet up with that May person?”

Al asked, as I was in a state of surprise at the sheer number of people gathered at the venue.

“It’s okay. Besides, with so many people, it will difficult to locate her right?”

“Certainly...”

Altria too floats a wry smile towards the crowd of people.

However... there is really a lot people. Probably because of that, there is a lot of incredibly strange people though.

For example, there is a person who have an appearance similar to a clown (pierrot). With this dense number of people, as one would expect, you can't really do a performance.

In addition, there are people who put on outfits with indescribable design, people who walk around carrying bizarre sculptures and more; there are many eccentric-looking people that I've never seen in town gathered here.

“As expected of artists... Their desire for the limelight isn't half-baked...”

While I'm inwardly shuddering at the surrounding people, suddenly an announcement, like the one at the royal capital cup, is heard.

“—We're very sorry for the wait. Without further ado, the Kyarasuti Art Competition will now begin.”

“””Uooooooooooooooooo!!””””

After the young man's announcement, the people at the venue get excited.

“Wow! That's some amazing enthusiasm!”

“You're right... I didn't expect this competition to be the type that would incite this level of excitement...”

I agreed with Saria as she voiced her admiration.

Al and Rurune are similarly baffled by the cheers from the surroundings.

“Well then, now I will introduce the judge of this competition. Serving as the judge of this competition, one who has established numerous methods of drawing and painting, a prodigy in painting—Leon Berger-sama”

After hearing the voice of an announcement like that, voices of surprise can be heard from the surroundings.

“N-no way?! That [Master Painter] Leon!?”

“Not only did he spread the now popular abstract painting, but he is also the pioneer of perspective and shading technique and so forth...”

“The existence of that person, is said to have made modern painting advance by 100 years, he's that type of person...”

At the contents whispered in a small voice, I am surprised.

These techniques are par for the course for painters on Earth, but in this world, it's different, so if someone created techniques that even I know in this world, then that person is quite amazing.

Or rather, I feel like I've heard the family name Berger somewhere...

Without being able to recall where I heard it, just like the royal capital cup, in the sky by means of magic projector, one old man is projected.

That old man, who floated a gentle smile, is probably the person named Leon-san. Although he's aged now, you can tell he was a good-looking guy in the past from his facial features.

Then, Leon-san speaks in a gentle voice.

"I look forward to your best work with all of your passion poured into it."

"U000000000000000000000000!!"

An even greater level of enthusiasm enveloped the venue.

Incredible. This old man, it seems his existence is an aspiration for the painters, to such a degree.

"Leon-sama, thank you very much. Then, I let us move towards the examination immediately. Number 1, if you please."

Thus, the Kyarasuti Art Competition began without any problems.

However, the thing that's a bit disappointing is that since there is too much people, it is impossible to get closer to the stage, hence it's difficult to really appreciate the work, there is no other choice but to review it by the image projected on the sky.

As for this, there is no conclusion to come to but that it can't be helped.

As we were watching the projection in the sky, a bunch of different artworks were shown. Among them, there were some drawings of landscapes that were so realistic they could be mistaken for the real thing, as well as some that were hard to understand like Clay's; there was quite a variety.

And so, Leon san politely evaluated each and every one of them, and talked about both what was good and what was bad about it.

Since it wasn't just the bad parts that were being pointed out, but also the good parts as well, each participant that was being evaluated seemed very moved.

"—Well then, it's come down to the last two people. Then, next person, if you please."

And so, after that was announced, The one who appeared on stage, with a dignified manner of walking, was Clay.

...Ahh, I see! I was wondering where I had heard that family name, it's the same same as Clay's!

Realizing it a bit too late, I was in a state of surprise, and I overheard some voices coming from my surroundings.

"He is the [Master Painter]'s grandson..."

"I suppose that confidence he's showing is to be expected then."

"Hmm... What kind of piece is he going to show..?"

Everyone put their attention to Clay's work.

I don't really understand Clay's art, but that probably can't be said about the surrounding artists.

As I was thinking that, I watch Clay, who's projected onto the sky.

Then, what appeared was a work that was twice the size of Clay's height in length and width, covered in a cloth.

"I-isn't that a bit big? The other paintings were much smaller right?"

Asked Al next to me, in response to the hugeness.

...I've only known him for a short time, but I've come to know that Clay carries a large amount of confidence, so for me, it wasn't really a surprise.

"Clay Berger-san, please give us the name of your work."

Prompted by the announcement, Clay confidently revealed the name of his work and tore off the cloth that was covering it.

"The name of my painting, is, [Art]!"

Underneath the cloth was a completely red sun drawn over a pure white canvas.

Yes, it was a [Sun].

"A-a drawing from that Clay is... actually decent?!"

"...I wonder why. Right now, I feel like I'm being made fun of..."

Giving slight notice to the projected Clay, who had complicated expression as he murmured that, I was truly surprised.

I mean, this was a guy says that a triangle was [During a sunset, watching the setting sun as the maiden thinks about him] you know?

But right now, projected in front of me is an enormous sun, burning up in pure red.

“Seiichi. Your friends actually draws some amazing paintings.”

“Yeah yeah! It’s a wonderful sun!”

Al and Saria were also surprised at Clay’s art.

“Hm... to me it just looks like an apple...”

Rurune-san. That’s just you.

But still, a sun drawn onto a pure white canvas... It’s almost like the flag of Japan.

Even though I end up thinking that, there’s probably no one here who would understand that.

“Clay-san. Now, please introduce your work.”

“Very well! For starters, included in this piece is my ideal in regards to art! The hot burning ideal... It’s like the flames of a matchstick right?”

That’s a seriously small scale ideal..!

Wait, you’re saying that’s not a sun?! At that size, it’s just a matchstick flame?! Even though looking at it, it’s a sun?! Even though you even carefully drew out the sun flares!

“With that said, my painting is different from everyone else’s in that there isn’t a single useless part drawn into it. This pure white canvas is my body, and this match flame in the middle is my passion for art.”

“I-I see... In my eyes, I see a sun though...”

“It’s a match’s flame! I would like for you to not make that mistake.”

“Uh-huh...”

Clay. You are you, the same as always, huh...

Even though I thought it was a legit painting, I was in a sense relieved in the end that Clay had not changed a single bit.

And so, now, Leon san will start judging.

Leon san hadn’t spoken in a while, and so he slowly opened his mouth to speak.

“—I too, see it as the flame of a matchstick.”

You too?!

In response to Leon san's words, I retorted in my mind.

Up until now you've given some legit evaluations, but now you don't have to show that you have the same blood as Clay right?!

I had an expression of amazement and once again I hear the voices of the surrounding people

"...It's esoteric."

"Yeah... It's esoteric."

"As expected of the [Master Painter]'s grandson... "

"To be able to say that that is a match flame... "

Why are you trembling?!

Am I the odd one since I'm just a normal person? Artists are scary.

While I was getting frightened by artists by myself, Leon spoke up with a gentle voice.

"Clay... You have been, since long ago, a kid who draws very honestly. Certainly, there have only been works that have been hard to understand by the people around you, but even so, your drawings have always had one of your ideals mixed into it. This time as well, even though it looks like a sun, you don't say it is, and call it the flame of a matchstick. That is because you wanted to express that instant, where it will end up burning out soon, right?"

"As expected of grandfather... My life is not as big as the sun. But in my small life, my ideal burns violently enough that it would be mistaken for the sun... That is my art."

That's deep..!

That's really deep, Leon-san!

No, it's Clay, who drew the piece that's amazing, huh.

From listening to Leon-san's explanation, I somehow felt like I understood what Clay was trying to express.

...As expected, it's a field an ordinary person like me wouldn't be able to comprehend. So then, does that mean the triangle painting, that I don't even understand if it's okay to call so, is actually a drawing of [During a sunset, watching the setting sun, a maiden thinking of him]? Crap, I don't get it at all.

"Fufu, Clay... Your passion has been well conveyed. That's why you should put in some effort so that you can convey that ideal to not just me, but to much more people. That is your task."

And with that, the evaluation of Clay's work ended.

And that means, the next person will be the last one ———.

“...Well then, at last, it’s time for the final entry. May Cherry-san, if you please.”

——It’s May’s turn.

After the announcement, though nervous looking, May appears on stage... May, your hands and legs are coming out at the same time... *(TL note: I’m guessing it’s like when your right arm and your right leg move at the same time when normally, it’s supposed to be alternating)*

Following May was a work that was the same size as Clay’s, shown covered by a cloth. Looking at May frozen stiff from nervousness, Al, beside me, spoke up with worry.

“H-hey... Is she alright? That girl. She’s making me nervous just by looking at her.”

“Ahh... yeah, you’re right. But it’s not like we can do anything about it...”

Yeah, we can’t do anything about it.

That’s exactly why, May has to get through this herself or it’s no good.

I watch May, supporting her in spirit.

“Well then, May-san. Please introduce the name of your work.”

She’s really nervous huh.

Having the announcement call out to her, May’s dog tail stood on its end and she stiffened even more.

But, May managed to ease that stiffness by her own power. She slowly took a deep breath, and calmed down her emotions.

Then——

“Thi-this is... my piece!”

The moment May tore off the cloth, there stood——.

In the same pose as the hero Napoleon’s portrait of the famous Bonaparte franchissant le Grand-Saint-Bernard by Jacques-Louis David, was me drawn straddled on Rurune in donkey form.

CHAPTER 50

HERO

There a picture of me sitting astride a dignified Rurune in donkey form, in a pose similar to Napoleon's.

.....The heck is this.

Furthermore, I don't even have a hood on.

Black eyes and hair are casually drawn in. Ever since I came to the capital, I have yet to see anyone else with black hair and eyes, so no matter how I think about it, that's me in the picture. Rurune's drawn exactly the way she looks too.

...Is there a chance that the hood came off without me noticing? That's impossible...

Or so I thought, but thinking back again it took all I had just to keep both my hands on Rurune's leash, given how wildly she was moving, I realised it was possible that I couldn't keep my hood on.

...If so then what was all my struggle till now for... ?

Well, having black hair and eyes is rare, but I've confirmed that it's not impossible to have, so that's not really the problem.

That's right, the biggest problem is ———

“Wha-what a gallant figure...”

“Aah... This is indeed the figure of a hero in a fairy tale...”

“He's so gallant that I'm falling I'm love, so cool...”

———The figure of me riding on Rurune, is glorified to an abnormal degree.

The drawing was so ridiculously good looking and dignified that it looked like it would give out a sound effect like “Kiri !!” (*TLC : Kinda like shing, or something*)

「……ナンダコレ」

柊誠一
人間

「な、なんて雄々しい」

「ああ……これこそが、
英雄の姿なのだろう」



.....

Who the heck are you?!

I mean I know I got a little thinner, but?! The heck? That uselessly excessive beautification! I was drawn as an insanely good looking guy!

...Ah, is it possible that it wasn't me, but some other dude who was the model?

If I think about it carefully, there's no way I would be chosen as a model right? By coincidence, there might have been a good looking guy who has black hair and black eyes who just happened to be riding a donkey that looks like Rurune.

I see, if I think like that, I can accept it.

But a good looking dude riding a donkey... man, there sure are some strange people out there!

[Well then May-san, please go ahead and explain your piece.]

[Ye-yes... This picture is a drawing of a particular person, who was the one to give me the courage to enter this competition. This person is an amazing person who entered the Royal Cup last month with a donkey and won first place. That moment when he won, was a view unforgettable to me even now.]

It really is me after aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa?!

I collapsed on the spot.

She even said last month's Royal Capital Cup! There's no one else other than me who won riding a donkey! There's no way to escape this!

First of all, there aren't any hot guys who'd pose coolly riding on donkeys anyway!

To me who has already suffered great damage, May carried on with her merciless assault.

[I see... So, what is the name of this piece of art?]

[Its name is [Hero] !]

STAAHHP! I'll die of embarrassment you know?!

It wasn't just the embarrassment, but also the crushing sense of guilt! I'm sorry! That I am this kind of hero!

As I pulled my hood on further, twisting my body in shame, Saria called out.

"Seiichi's cool isn't he!"

"Yeah... He's cool."

Go see an eye doctor! Or rather, you guys have already seen my true face, haven't you?!

"As expected of Master. Heroic enough to make people fall in love."

"What kind of comment is that!"

I unintentionally retorted to Rurune's comment, but I immediately felt embarrassed afterwards.

What kind of embarrassment play is this... !

But, leaving aside the matter of my face, I think that May's drawing is really great.

In this world, there's no one that should know of the iconic painting of Napoleon, so May's painting is probably made from painting what she's seen and felt.

But the thing that's different from Napoleon's painting is that it's not of climbing mountains, but rather of kicking wolves around!

As I was half falling into despair, Leon, the judge, calmly opened his mouth.

[— — — — Splendid.]

Please spare me already.

Hearing Leon-san's spoken word, I thought so from the bottom of my heart.

[The placement of the person, pose, and the surrounding environment... Taking everything into consideration, absolutely perfect. With this alone, I can tell that you are

overflowing with talent.]

[Su-such...]

[However, your rough use of colours stands out. But, that just means there is still room for growth. May-san, I hope you continue to make such wonderful art from now on.]

[! Ye-yes!]

May, who received a high evaluation from Leon-san, had a huge smile on her face.

[———With this, the art showcase has ended. From here on, Leon-sama will choose the winner. He'll take some time for consideration so the announcement will be in 30 minutes.]

Upon hearing the announcement, the people gathered in the hall began to scatter off for breaks.

And so, Clay and May ended the art showcase without any problems.

The result was, May was selected as the winner, and Clay took the runner-up.

At that time, May was so overjoyed that she cried, and Clay gave honest praise to her work.

After all, that's said and done, Clay is a good guy in the end. He's good looking, too.

While thinking that, I headed over to where May and Clay were.

Saria and the others have already returned to the inn, so it's just me.

While avoiding the crowd, I managed to somehow make it over to Clay and May, and it seems like they also noticed me.

"Hn? Ah, it's Seiichi."

"Ah, Seiichi-san!"

"Good work. You both had some amazing art."

Hearing my honest opinion, May smiled bashfully, and Clay puffed up his chest as though to say it was natural.

“Isn’t that par for the course? I’m the one who drew it after all!”

“You still have your usual confidence, huh. I’d thought you’d be a little more frustrated...”

When I said so with a wry grin, Clay turned to me with a serious expression and replied,

“I’m frustrated, of course. But, above that, what she... what May drew was amazing. That’s why, in a sense, I’m satisfied.”

“Hmmm... Well, if you’re satisfied by it, then I think that’s fine. Except that, this time’s art contest really made it clear to me, I really can’t understand the thoughts of an artist.”

I mean, I can’t follow what they’re talking about at all.

Even if I think an art piece is good, an artist will examine it from all sorts of different angles... Really, it makes me feel like a normal person like me is a completely different existence

But, Clay responded to my comment with a shake of his head.

“That’s not right, Seiichi.”

“In the first place, music and art are unnecessary things for us to continue living, and so we, artists, who pursue these are certainly existences that can’t be understood.”

“...”

“But, when these unnecessary things move people and are understood, that is when our work first becomes [Art] . Art that cannot be understood by people, no matter how outstanding a piece of work it is, it’s just junk in the end.”

“...”

“If put that way, my art is just that. After my grandfather told me, I finally realised it. What first hooked me onto drawing was also because my grandfather praised my painting. To be honest, no one else has praised me for my art since. There were people

who bought my art only because they were interested in my art as the grandson of my grandfather. There was no one who saw value in my art for itself.”

Clay’s expression as he said those words seemed, for the first time, a little sad.

But in the next instant, it swapped back to the usual expression overflowing with confidence.

“Even if I say that, though, it does not mean I’ll stop drawing, and I’m also proud of what I’ve done so far. After all, the first person to appreciate my work and thereby make it into [Art] was none other than myself, the one who drew it. Not other people, if I cannot understand it, then it will not be able to become [Art] , after all.”

I felt a sense of respect toward Clay, as his rational thoughts reached me.

This guy is strong. And him being called a genius, I think that isn’t a mistake.

Then May, who had been standing beside us listening in to the conversation, also seemed to have the same thoughts, and softly murmured under her breath.

“Clay-san... really is amazing.”

“That’s true...”

Not noticing what we were thinking, Clay enthusiastically said,

“Well then, I’m going to have to ask you to excuse me! Now that I know my points needing improvement, I have the urge to pour this feeling onto a canvas right this moment! Then... until next time!”

Saying so, Clay quickly left the area. What an energetic fellow he is...

As the two of us see him off, May turns to face me.

“Um... Seiichi-san. Really, thank you for everything you’ve done!”

“No, I didn’t really do anything, though...”

“That’s not the case at all! Because of you, I was able to gain the courage to appear during this time’s competition, and above all, it is because of what you did, that my

painting was completed!”

“...If I was able to be of help to you then that’s great...”

Remembering that picture, my heart sunk back into a state of depression. I’m sorry that your hero is someone like me.

“In any case, thankfully it ended without issue. You were so nervous when you appeared on that stage, that just looking made me feel nervous too.”

“Th-that’s... I’m ashamed.”

As Mei said that, her dog ears shyly flopped down, and her head hung down. Yup, she’s just like a little puppy.

As I was thinking such thoughts, May raised her head to face me, and this time she had a look of determination, much like that of Clay who had left earlier.

“Seiichi-san. I think I’m going to go to the Capital of Art... [Amuria] to learn about paintings.”

“Amuria?”

“Yes! It is the town where famous artists, like Leon-sama who was the judge for this event, gather. Earlier, Leon-sama asked me if I wanted to go there to further my skills...”

“Ooh! Isn’t that amazing?”

I wonder if this is similar to getting scouted?

Like Clay had said, this seems to be a major art event, so I guess it wouldn’t be strange for such invitations to occur.

“Because of that, I’ll soon be saying my farewells to this town...”

“Ah, is that so... That’ll be kind of lonely.”

“Yes... um, I really cannot thank you enough. In that square, the very first person to buy one of my paintings, and the person who gave me the courage to stand here, all of it was

thanks to you. That's why... ”

“That's wrong. All of it was because of your ability. The reason I bought the painting, the reason for receiving the highest award in the Arts competition, was because your art was amazing. That's why I think it's fine to stick your chest out with pride.”

Hearing me say that, May smiled joyfully.

“Then, Seiichi-kun. Could you do me the honour of being the first person I draw after I've properly learned how to draw and return from Amuria?”

“Eh? A picture of me?”

...That wasn't a double entendre, right?

“Yes! Seiichi-san's picture!”

“...I feel that a drawing of me would be rather dull, but... but, the thought makes me happy. Then, shall I ask that of you?”

“Yes! Please look forward to it!”

In the end, May had a brilliant smile on her face.

———That was the beginning of the tale of the two called the [Genius of the Abstract] and the [Hero of Art] , and never in my wildest dreams would I have thought that this piece of art, [Hero] , would become world famous.

CHAPTER 51

KATSUDON

———In the middle of a dark room, a man was talking to a crystal.

“Nhinnhinhi... Is the plan advancing?”

A voice flowed out of the crystal, in response to the man with the creepy laughter.

[This side is going as planned. More importantly, how is your side?]

The voice coming from the crystal sounded like that of an old man.

The man shouted, face completely red, at the old man’s question.

“Nothing is going right! Because that little girl kept doing unnecessary things, there had to be large changes made to the plan!”

[...Ah, it’s about the Alliance with Winberg Kingdom, huh...]

“That’s right! At this rate, my wish will...”

[Don’t be mistaken. It is not just your wish. It is our wish.]

(TLC note: Special emphasis was put on “our”.)

“Nfuu... my bad.”

In response to the old man, the man apologised obediently.

Then, as though he didn’t mind it, the old man changed the topic.

[Good. So, how are the preparations going on your side? As for my side, everything is already ready to go.]

“Nhinnhinhi! This side too. The plan might have changed, but the objective has not... Even if disasters occur, we will achieve our goal!”

[That's right. It seems it was the right call to gather the region's monsters just in case...]

"Indeed... That reminds me, is that drug complete?"

At the man's question, the old man heartily laughed and answered confidently.

[Kukuku... It is done. My finest work.]

"At last... ! The [Growth Drug] to forcefully raise levels!"

[Yeah. I can guarantee the effects. So, what will you do? For this time's plan... Do you want to try it on the monsters?]

At the old man's words, the man thought for a moment, and then an evil smile appeared on his face.

"...No, not yet. This time's plan, will not use them yet. If we do use them... it would be when we erase that little girl."

[I see... but, she is still the Demon King's daughter right? Is that okay?]

"I am like you, serving a supreme being to which the Demon King is insignificant. For small fry like them to disappear is only natural... Well, as long as they have worth I'll continue on using them."

Saying so, the man let out a disgusting laugh.

[Well, I won't say anything to you... Well then, shall we start advancing the plans soon?]

"Yeah, let's do so———"

———Everything is for the sake of the Demon God———

(TLC note: Again, emphasis on "Demon God")

"Good... Just like that... That's it..."

"Gugugugugu..."

The day after the Kyarasuti art competition, in order to do the training that had started to become a habit, I had come to the Royal Palace.

...Thinking about it now, having a robed male of unknown origins, freely wandering around inside palace is pretty dangerous isn't it... No, even before that, is it even alright to be able to come to the palace so easily... ?

When I tilted my head unconsciously, thinking of these little questions that crossed my mind, Florio-san pointed out to me.

“Come on, Seiichi-kun. You're getting distracted by idle thoughts again. The spell's going to collapse.”

“Ah, sorry.”

Right now, by having Florio-san teach me, I'm training to control my magic.

The contents of this training, consists of using relatively safe, elementary water magics... like maintaining a [Water Ball] the size of a basketball.

At first, because I was unable to control it, I made a Water Ball of a ridiculous size capable of flooding the entirety of Terveil, but now if I just focus I can maintain it at the size of a basketball... I was seriously panicked the first time. I mean, it was elementary magic that could damage the entire capital, you know? I don't even know what the meaning of elementary magic is anymore. Fortunately, because [Magic Hall] activated instantly, it invalidated the spell, so there was no harm done, but...

...You know, I think these are precisely the moments for Evolution to shine.

But... It's not responding at all. It's shocking how silent it's been. Is this the rumoured Hybrid?... Nah.

Even though it announced the acquisition of my cheat skills so much, it's unresponsive. Is this a new form of bullying?

But, I already somehow expected that.

This is just speculation, but I think that the skill [Evolution] , can only let you grow in a way that makes you stronger, but never in a way that makes you weaker.

But, I heard from Florio-san that if I continued to repeatedly train like this, eventually I will learn the skill [Holding Back] , so without getting depressed with my lack of progress, I continue with this basic training.

“Alright, that’s enough. It’s alright to stop your spell now.”

“Haaaaaa! Sooo tireeddddd!”

Getting permission from Florio-san, I stopped my spell and dropped onto the floor.

This technique to stop my magic was also something I picked up after starting these lessons.

There wasn’t much physical fatigue, but because I had to continuously concentrate I was quite fatigued mentally.

Normally, I would be dismissed by now, but today’s practise had one difference. And that was———

“Seiichi! Look look~!”

A ball of flame was being played with by Saria as though it was a beanbag.

On the other side, Al was manipulating a 5-meter tall bird made of ice she had conjured.

And near Al and Saria, I could see the figure of Rurune staring at the two in interest.



That's right, for today's practice, Saria and the others have also come along.

"Ooh, that's some dexterity..."

"I can even do things like this!"

Hearing the admiration in my voice, Saria's smile deepened, and she formed flames around both her hands and feet.

"Tadaa! Isn't this cool!"

"I'm shocked by the high specs of Saria and the others..."

It seems that Saria and Al have not been able to use magic up to now, but once the skill I had previously obtained... [Guidance] activated, the two of them became able to use magic. Furthermore, it happened just today.

...This [Guidance] skill is pretty ridiculous.

I understood it when the skill first activated, but as long as I use this skill, I instantly draw out a person's hidden potential.

However, as you can hear the words hidden potential, if they don't have any potential from the beginning, then I can't draw anything out.

That's why, because Saria only has potential in the fire attribute, and Al in the ice attribute, they are unable to use any of the other attributes at all.

Besides, when not drawing out a person's latent ability and just trying to teach them something, it simply shows me in my head the best way to explain it to them in a way they can understand.

"Hmm... Seiichi-kun's skill is really amazing. I too, could only use ice attribute magic, even being called the [Demon of Ice]... To think that, I even had affinity with the earth attribute too."

Watching my exchanges with Saria, Florio-san laughed as he made a lump of soil float in the air, transforming it into various shapes and forms.

Actually, I'm not just learning from Florio-san and Louise, but I'm also teaching them

whatever I can.

For the sake of doing so, I've read all sorts of books and expanded my knowledge from a certain library room within the palace, so now I'm at the level where I can explain magic and skill to a certain degree.

And so, just like with Saria and the others, when I activated the skill [Guidance] on Florio-san, his talent with Earth attribute magic bloomed.

"With this, I have found another path that I should devote myself to. Besides, watching Seiichi-kun, I've come to keenly realise that there is still plenty of improvements to be made, even with my ice attribute magic."

"Hahaha..."

In response to Florio-san's words, I unintentionally expressed a bitter smile.

From what I've learnt from the books in the library and heard from Florio-san and the others, the strength of magic is determined by its magical power and the magical attack power status.

Also, from the magic power consumption information that was input into my brain when I stole the magic from the Aqua Wolf and Sandman, and from what I researched in the palace's library, I learned that with each magic's consumption, there is a lower limit of magic power needed to activate the magic, but an upper limit doesn't exist.

If the bare minimum amount of magical power needed is surpassed, then the strength of the magic is multiplied by the magical power used.

That's why, when I release magic, I put in an excessive amount of power so the magic produced is of an absurd scale and strength.

As such, for my training now, it might be more accurate to call it training to control my magical power rather than training to control my magic.

But, because my Magic Attack is abnormally high, even if the magical power was suppressed to the bare minimum, if I were to use it normally then it could cause a catastrophe.

But, by using the bare minimum magical power needed, I can control the strength of

the magic. Inversely, if I were to exceed it too much, then I would no longer be able to control it.

While I was sorting out my newly gained knowledge in my mind, Al who was practising ice attribute magic, walked over to my side with Rurune.

“Fuu... Magic is difficult.”

“Al, good work out there.”

“Ou.”

Giving a short reply, Al formed a palm-sized chunk of ice, and began to put it against the nape of her neck and so on, to cool off her heated body.

“I made a bird capable of moving using magic, and tried to engage in a mock battle with it but... though a magic made by me, it was quite a troublesome opponent.”

“...While you say it was difficult, I’m shocked that you were able to simply do it... ”

“D-don’t praise me so much... ”

“Damn it! The irony of the situation is not getting to her... !”

I’m envious of her talent, damn it!

Even for me, if it weren’t for effects of evolution, I’d still be a normal human... No, I would be even lower than a normal human being. Why is it? Saying it somehow makes me feel really sad now?!

As I fell into the spiral of depression, Rurune who had remained silent till now, spoke out.

“...A bird of ice... It looked delicious... ”

“You serious don’t change huh!”

Actually, even if you call it a bird of ice, it was born out of Al’s magic, and above all, eating ice of that size will give you stomachache... Huh? I can’t imagine Rurune getting stomachaches?!

Whenever food is involved, Rurune's peerlessness is extraordinary.

I had learned the details of the black coloured wolf that she kicked during the Royal Capital Cup afterwards, but it seems like it was an A rank monster.

Incidentally, from what I've heard about the relationship between monster ranks and adventurer ranks, it seems they're not the same. For example in order to take down a C-rank monsters, it would need 5 C-rank adventurers, though if it was a B-rank adventurer they could defeat it alone, and similarly for a monster whose rank is the same as the adventurers, it seems they would need at least 5 people to hunt it.

Also, like it takes one B-rank adventurer to hunt down a C-rank monster by themselves, even 1 rank difference will result in several magnitudes difference in ability.

However, there seems to be a huge jump from B-Rank to A-Rank, because even if 5 B-rank adventurers try to hunt a B-rank demon, there are still cases where the adventurers are wiped out.

Thinking about it that way means that the demon that Rurune kicked down was a monster that even 5 A's might not be able to beat.

And, even if it is the same A-rank as the wolf Rurune defeated, the Bahamut is said to be much more dangerous, but that Louise easily captured it, showing how amazing Louise is. As expected of the Kingdom's strongest knight. She's at a level surpassing even the top S-rank adventurers.

The me who could battle her, and come out unharmed is pretty monstrously strong too. Got a problem with that!

While I was still feeling depressed and down, I noticed a person heading towards us from the castle.

That person was Louise, whom I was thinking of in my head.

"Good afternoon, Shishou. Is your training for today over?"

"Yeah, just now."

"Is that so... Hm? Who might they be?"

When Louise noticed Saria and the others, surprise spread across her expressionless face as she asked.

When I was telling Florio-san about their participation in today's training, I had already introduced them to him, but I had yet to introduce them to Louise.

Thinking that, I turn around to introduce Saria and co, and they all had a surprised expression on their face.

“Waaa... What a pretty person~!”

“Y-yeah... This girl is the leader of the Valkyries (Sword Saints of the Holy Maiden), the famous Louise also known as the Knight of Swords (Sword Knight)... ”

“Master, the girl over there, she somehow looks like Florio-san, huh.”

It would seem that they are shocked at Louise's beauty.

Certainly she is good looking enough to call her beautiful, but Saria, Al, and Rurune weren't inferior either, and in a sense, with my built-up bishoujo resistance, I wasn't as surprised as they were... But suddenly being challenged, seriously surprised me!

Besides, while it's not bad to be good looking, but as expected I think someone with a beautiful heart is the best. And I might have slimmed down now, but I'm not in a position to judge since I used to be fat and clumsy.

Really, Saria and the others are too good for me...

As I once again reminded myself of my happiness, the 3 of them introduced themselves.

“I'm Saria! Seiichi's bride~!”

“I-I'm Altria Grem. Umm... I'm... uhh... Seiichi's girlfriend.”

“I am Rurune. I am a servant who protects my master as a knight.”

ルルネ
ロバ

アルトリア・
グレム
冒険者

「私はサリアですっ！
誠一のお嫁さんだよ〜！」

「おや？
そちらの方々は？」

「お、オレは
アルトリア・グレムです。
えっと……
誠一の彼女……です」

「私はルルネだ。
主様を護る
騎士にして下僕だ」

サリア
カイザー・コング

ルイエス・
バルゼ
剣騎士

“What kind of self-introductions are those!?”

I really didn't expect them to drop bombs like that in their self-introduction!

While it might not be wrong for Saria to call herself my bride, and Al to say she's my girlfriend, but Rurune calling herself my servant is really bad!

See, Florio-san and Louise are both dumbstruck!

While I was blue in the face, thinking about how to explain myself, they two of them suddenly had a look of acceptance on their face.

“As expected of Seiichi-kun... To be even more devious than me...”

“Shishou... I'm proud to have a teacher such as you...”

“Your impression of me doesn't go beyond a certain limit, huh!”

Just once, I'd like to ask all my acquaintances about their impression of me. What on earth do I seem like to them?

When a tired expression appeared on my face at my reaction to the two, Louise suddenly had an expression as though she remembered something, and called out to me.

“Ah, that's right. Shishou, I would like to ask a request of you...”

When I replied with a stupid look on my face, Louise lowered her voice.

“...It's the matter of the assassin that attacked His Majesty. Around her neck, is a magic tool called a [Collar of Slavery], and it cannot be removed carelessly. As such, I would like to ask for your help Shishou...”

“Collar of Slavery...”

I frowned at what Louise said.

Because I was reading all sorts of books, I had also gained knowledge regarding the [Collar of Slavery].

Firstly, the [Collar of Slavery] , as the name implies, is a tool that forces its wearer into subordination.

Furthermore, it was not a Cursed Tool, but a Magic Tool instead.

A cursed tool isn't something that can be used to control someone, but in the case of the magic tool [Collar of Slavery] , the person who put it on the wearer can give any order they please. Furthermore, there is no limit to how many orders can be given, and the wearer cannot harm the person who put it on them.

Also, the wearer cannot remove the [Collar of Slavery] by themselves, and other people who forcefully try to remove it will cause the wearer great damage.

By the way, there is also a degraded version of the [Collar of Slavery] , called the [Bracelet of Slavery] , and aside from there being a limit to the number of orders that can be given, it has the same effect as the [Collar of Slavery] .

“At the moment, the effects of the Collar of Slavery are being sealed off with a barrier, and Lorna is interrogating the person, but...”

“But even barriers have their limits, huh...”

“Yes. The Collar of Slavery is an abnormally strong Magic Tool, so a barrier that is equivalently strong must be prepared.”

“I understand the situation. If I can, I want to try to do something about the situation.”

In this past month, if it could be of help to others, I learned to not hesitate to use these monstrously strong powers of mine.

That's because, with Florio-san and Louise's training, I have become able to manage my power to some degree.

If my ridiculous power could save that young girl, then I'll lend my hand in whatever I can.

“Thank you very much, Shishou. And also, there's one more thing I should tell you.”

“Thing you should tell me?”

“Yes. That said, I’d like to settle the girl’s matter first, so shall we head to the interrogation room.”

And so, as I was about to follow Louise, and move to the place where Lorna was using for interrogation, Saria and the others reacted.

“Huh? Seiichi. Where are you going?”

“Eh? Ah, no, I just have some business...”

“...With just you and Louise-san, what kind of business is that?”

“Well, it’s not particularly going to be just the two of us...”

“Master... can’t you bring me along too? Are you already tired of me?!”

“Rurune, stop going around saying lines that would invite misunderstandings!”

I had no clue how to answer the three who were asking where I was going.

If I were to honestly say I was going to the interrogation room, then there would be a need for me to explain why I was going there, and they would also end up finding out that Ranze-san was attacked.

While I was racking my brains to come up with an answer that would satisfy them, Louise and Florio-san huddled together in discussion, before finally, Louise began to talk as their representative.

“Shishou. If they are related to you, then there’s no need to keep it a secret.”

“Eh? But... is that okay? To just tell them like that.”

“Yes. However, I would like the 3 of them to swear to keep everything they see and hear from now on a secret...”

At Louise’s pause, Saria and the others looked at each other for a moment and immediately answered.

“Yeah, I got it! I’ll keep it a secret!”

“I-I’m fine with it too...”

“I was not interested in it in the first place. I’ll keep it a secret.”

“...Thank you very much. Well then, I shall explain as we move. Please come with me.”

And so, following Louise, she guided us to the room that Lorna was using for the interrogation.

“No way... For the King to be targeted...”

As we headed to the room, Louise simply explained the events that happened a month before, and Al’s expression became serious.

“But thanks to Seiichi, he was saved, right? As expected of Seiichi! How cool!”

“Y-yeah? Thanks.”

But conversely, the way Saria spoke sounded like she was completely not worried and Rurune wasn’t interested from the very start... This donkey, she really doesn’t show interest in anything aside from food.

Since she was unfazed by the whole thing, I had an odd mix of feelings... something like shock, and respect, when suddenly Louise stopped.

“This is the interrogation room. But, please think of the room we’re in now, as a place to view what happens in the interrogation chamber.”

We were told concisely, but in actuality, this interrogation room or whatever, was similar to rooms used in detective dramas where other detectives can listen in on interrogations, and there was only one door leading into the interrogation chamber.

But, compared to what is seen in Detective Dramas, this interrogation room has one difference.

That is, that unlike in detective dramas, where they use one-way glass to see into the other room, this room had surveillance magic, much like the one used in the Royal Capital Cup, which was projecting the scene to us.

“It seems the interrogation has just resumed.”

When Louise said so, we turned our eyes to the image, where Lorna-san, and girl that I caught who we think is a black cat beastman, were seated facing each other.

Lorna-san was, like when we met before, in armour, but the girl had been changed from her Shinobi costume-like attire to more plain clothes.

[...Ojou-chan, if you were to confess already, it'd make it easier you know?]

Lorna-san, what kind of manner are you questioning her with.

I retorted internally, at the Lorna-san who purposely lowered her voice, bringing out a fitting atmosphere.

[So you're staying silent, huh... but you know? Ojou-chan. We already have evidence against you!]

BANG! She strongly slammed the table, or so I thought she did, but in that posture, she said.

[...Want some, katsudon?]

You just wanted to say that, didn't you!?

I really wanted to shout that out, but I desperately restrained myself. Actually, why does Lorna-san even know about the kind of things detectives on earth would say... No, she's probably doing it unknowingly, right...

As we watched the exchanges between the two with lukewarm eyes, Lorna-san brought just one katsudon.

And, putting that bowl of katsudon in front of herself———.

[Itadakima~su!]

“So you're the one eating it!”

Finally unable to resist any more, I retorted. Or rather, how terrible!

The girl gulped down her saliva, staring intently at Lorna-san digging into the katsudon making it look delicious.

However, Lorna-san was completely indifferent to her stares, and began purposely showing off her eating the Katsudon as though it was delicious.

[Nn~, delicious! Oh, how regrettable~! If you just honestly fess up, then you'd be able to enjoy such delicious food too~!]

[Here, please look! Just looking at it makes me hungry, and above all that smell is... Mufu—!]

[U-ho?! The combination of this dripping egg, and the crispy cutlet is irresistible!]

“Are you a demon!”

Unable to resist anymore, I burst into the interrogation chamber and shouted. As expected I couldn't resist! No matter how you look at it, it was too pitiful.

The moment I opened the door, the confused Lorna-san had a shocked expression since I had just broken into the room in the middle of the interrogation, but Louise quietly slipped into the room, and without blaming me, called out to Lorna-san.

“Lorna.”

“Yes? What is it? Louise-sama. Actually, why is Seiichi-san...”

“Your dinner for tonight is forfeit.”

It seems that Louise decided that Lorna-san actions were too cruel, and so she coldly announced.

“You know... Even for an interrogation, there should be better ways to do this. Why did you choose to do this?”

“Umm... I thought that showing her some really good food while she's hungry and saying you can have some if you give me information, would be an easy way to get her to talk...”

“The person is still a young girl you know? There's this thing called prudence———”

While I was looking at Louise lecturing Lorna-san, Rurune shuddered in fear and said,

“W-what a frightening form of torture...”

“You’re making too big of a deal out of this.”

How attached to food is this donkey!

Florio-san was staring at the scene with a wry smile on his face, and Saria and Al were completely out of it, and shocked still.

“Haaa... Florio-san, could you prepare another bowl of katsudon?”

“Hm? I don’t mind but...”

When I said so, Florio-san called out to his subordinates, and asked them to bring katsudon.

And so, since the katsudon had to be prepared, it took a while, but I brought it with me as I went over to the girl.

“I’m sorry that that Nee-san was mean to you. Look, we prepared another of the same thing, so eat as much as you want.”

“...”

“Huh?! Why am I the bad guy here?!”

“Lorna, I’m still talking.”

“Please forgive me already! It was my baddddddddd!”

Ignoring Lorna-san’s sorrowful cry, I gently told the girl, and she looked up at me, with teary half opened eyes.

I smiled wryly at her figure and patted her head.

“It’s alright, it’s okay for you to eat it. Go ahead and eat as much as you want.”

Hearing my words, the little girl hesitated a little but soon began to eat the katsudon little by little.

Other foods would have been okay too, but if you see a person eating katsudon in front of you as though it was so delicious, then you would want to eat katsudon too. For some reason whenever you see people eat something it always seems delicious.

While I was thinking about such trivial things, the girl was happily eating the katsudon.

CHAPTER 52

SIBLINGS

After the girl finished eating Katsudon, I decided to accomplish the original objective that Louise had asked of me.

The [Collar of Slavery] has an atrocious effect where if you try to remove it by force, it will inflict an abnormal level of pain to the wearer, and in the worst case scenario, kill them.

Because of that, prohibition on its use has been widely spread to countries around the world, but it looks like that restriction has not been established in Kaiser Empire.

Anyway, my first priority for now is to remove the collar from the girl in front of me.

Even if it's just a little, I wanted to make her feel at ease, so I crouched to her eye level and tried to speak with as gentle a tone as possible.

"I'm going to remove the collar that is attached to your neck now."

"-?!... You can't possibly do something like that."

"Yeah, I think your reaction is correct. After all, it is said that the only person who can remove [Collar of Slavery] is the person who installed it."

"Don't worry! Leave everything to Onii-san!"

I answered, brimming with confidence to her hopeless appearance, because even if it's just a little, I want to give her some hope.

I myself am really afraid of my monster-like stats because there's a proverb saying a great power will destroy oneself.

But if my power can save people, then I will stop holding back no matter how much is necessary.

That is the only time I can feel prideful about having power that can save others.

I reach my hand out to the collar attached to the girl.

Chances are that against this collar, my original magic [Get Well] will have no effect.

After all, [Get Well] is a magic that changes a [Curse] into a [Blessing] .

Besides, to remove the [Collar of Slavery] , only the person himself who installed the collar can remove it, things like magic that can remove it doesn't exist.

Therefore, it's necessary for me to create a new magic.

I'm definitely not going to mess up again like with [Get Well] , okay?! I'm not kidding!!

That being said, what kind of image should I use for getting released from the [Collar of Slavery] ? After thinking up to that point, I stopped.

...Hwuh? More than the time when I made [Get Well] , I can't create an image??

N-not yet! It's too early to give up! Th-that's right, I just have to think of an image based on the idea of releasing from slavery or servitude.

Err... Sl-slave? Servant?... I CAN'T IMAGINE IIIIIIIITTTTTTTT— —!

Ah no, it's not like there's nothing, actually there's one thing I can use.

But you know? The knowledge I have of emancipation of slaves is— — —

“Is of President Linc*ln... !!”

[TN : referring to President Abraham Lincoln]

DAAAAMNIIIIIIIIIIITTTTT!!!

I did it again! Look, see everyone's face! They're making a face that says [Eeh... President Linc*ln? What's that?] !!

I want to run away right now.

But immediately after that, my reached out hand began to shine, that radiance flew towards the girl's collar, and the collar burst open at the moment the radiance touched

the collar.

“Uwaah!! Dangerous!”

I avoid the fragments as they burst out with great force.

By the way, since I’ve been accumulating practice in controlling my skills with Louise, to some extent, I have started being able to move my body by my own volition. While not completely, I am starting to be less at the mercy of my skills.

Fortunately, there’s no damage to the girl, it appears that I was the only one that the fragments were about to hit... I wonder why?

That aside, it took a little while for the girl to notice the collar has been detached, finally she softly touched her own neck, confirming there was no collar.

“See, it’s done!”

Though I made a big mess of it after all, but the collar managed to be removed so all is good in the end, right!

I uselessly puffed up with pride with that logic, but then I heard a voice in my mind.

[[Magic Creation] skill was executed. Hence liberation magic [President Linc*In] was created.]

Sorry... Looks like it’s still not settled...

Even though I thought I was being super careful about it, a magic with a weird name was created after all!

Foremost, rather than the name of a magic, it’s a name of a person right?! I mean, it’s because I shouted it, but still!

Still with my appearance looking prideful, my mind goes into agony, and then explanation for my new created magic displayed in my mind.

[Liberation Magic : President Linc*In]··· It’s a magic that can release something from any and every restriction and bond.

Even so, as usual the effect is pretty damn crazy!

By the looks of it, this magic doesn't apply just to slavery, but it seems like it has the force to activate for various other types of restraint magic and such as well right!?

Damn... As expected of the President of The Land of the Free..... Who's spitting out such good lines?... ————Me huh...

While I was engaging in a sad nori-tsukkomi on my own, Louise called out from behind.

(TLC note: A nori tsukkomi is when the tsukkomi person delays his tsukkomi and goes along with the joke for a while before throwing in the retort)

“Shishou. This... we can call this a success right?”

“Yeah, probably.”

Since the collar came off, I once again check with my skill [World Eyes] , and the [Status : Slave] entry has also completely disappeared.

“...How can... really... ”

“Hm? What's wrong?”

Noticing her unexpectedly weird state I called out to her, but in the next moment, the girl began to cry.

“u... uuu... *sobs*”

“Wha?! Wai-... Why are you crying?!”

“Heey heey! Seiichi-san made a girl cry!”

“Lorna-san, please shut up! “

I retort as such to Lorna-san when she tried to put a weird influence on the conversation, and since I didn't know what to do, I couldn't do anything but be flustered.

While I was doing that, Saria, who quietly watched the events unfold until now,

approached the girl and hugged her.

“There, there, it’s alright~. You’re so happy that you couldn’t help but cry right~?”

“...*sobs* ... Un”

“That’s right, huh... I don’t know what happened but, this girl took was harmed by the [Collar of Slavery] , a tool that a low-life would use. And so, being released from that, there’s no way she isn’t happy ya know.”

When I noticed, Al had also approached the girl and was patting her head.

“munch munch, I don’t really know what happened but good for you, munch munch”

“When did you get Katsudon?!”

Rurune was the same as always.

After a while, the girl that was being comforted by both Saria and Al, eventually stopped crying and opened her mouth to speak.

“...Nn, thank you.”

“Don’t worry about it!”

Seeing the girl wipe the corner of her eyes, and honestly giving her gratitude, Saria smiled happily.

“...My name, Origa Carmellia.”

“You’re called Origa-chan? I am Saria! Nice to meet you!”

How do I say this.

Saria always easily befriends and opens her heart to girls!

“...Nn, Saria Onee-chan.”

“Onee-chan? Me? Ehehe, that’s somehow embarrassing.”

She's even being called Onee-chan!?

I couldn't help but shudder at Saria's disposition of taking care of others.

After that, the girl———Origa-chan turned her glance towards Al.

"...What is onee-chan's name?"

"Hm? Oh me? I'm Altria."

"...Altria Onee-chan?"

I thought Al was dumbfounded being called Onee-chan but, now she was visibly getting flustered.

"Wh-wh-what should I do, Seiichi. Somehow being called Onee-chan by this Origa girl... I feel something... warm from inside my chest?!"

"Isn't that feeling happy?"

What's with that roundabout way of speaking.

While I was calmly retorting, for some reason Rurune uselessly puffed up with pride and announced herself.

"Origa was it. I'm Master's servant serving as his knight, Rurune!"

".....The glutton?"

"Why!? Why are you calling those two Onee-chan, but not me?!"

"I think it's the result of your own habit. Or rather, you wanted to be called Onee-chan huh..."

While we were having that conversation, Origa-chan left Saria's side and moved to where Louise was.

"...Onee-chan."

"Hm? What is it?"

“...Your name is?”

“Aah, come to think of it I haven’t introduced myself. My name is Louise. Nice to meet you, Origa.”

“...Un, Louise Onee-chan.”

Louise seemed like she had received quite a shock with the way her eyes were wide open in response to Origa’s words.

“...Onee-chan, huh... Since I only have an older brother, the sound of that is... pleasant.”

“Hahaha. That’s true, Louise has no other sibling besides me.”

Because Louise is a younger sister, it seems she had the desire to be called Onee-chan, and as a result, she showed much more of a reaction than expected.

As I cracked a wry smile to Louise’s situation, Origa-chan pulled on my robe.

“...Name.”

“Me? I’m Seiichi. Nice to meet you, Origa-chan.”

“...Nn, Seiichi Onii-chan.”

When she said that, Origa smiled a little.



...What is this... this feeling...

I've been called Onii-chan by Shouta's sister Miu, but when being called by Origa-chan, an indescribable sensation runs through my body.

I can't say that Al was exaggerating anymore...

When I was thinking about that, Lorna-san said excitedly,

"O-Olga-chan! My name is Lorna!"

When that happened, Origa hid behind my back, and murmured.

"...I hate that person."

"Whyyyyyyyyyy?!"

"...Because she was mean."

It seems like Olga-chan's first impression of Lorna-san couldn't possibly be worse.

After finishing each of our respective self-introductions, Origa-chan's interrogation began again.

Except, when Lorna-san tried to interrogate her, she refused to say anything, so since it couldn't be helped, Louise took charge. Also, we were made to participate directly in her interrogation... I've heard that Lorna-san is an excellent interrogator, but I'm starting to doubt whether or not that's a lie.

"Well then... Origa. Why did you attack His Majesty?"

"...I, actually didn't want to attack. But, my body wouldn't listen to me..."

"As expected..."

At Origa's reply, Louise frowned.

We already expected it, but it's not like Origa would attack Ranze-san because she wanted to.

All of it was by the order from the [Collar of Slavery] .

Basically, there's no way to refuse the order. That's because their body would move of its own accord, following the given order.

Even then, if she tried to resist, Origa would be attacked by intense pain.

Thinking about that, I too frowned unintentionally, and when Origa saw that she sent a sorrowful glance at me.

"...Sorry, Seiichi Oniichan. I was given the order [Kill All Witnesses] , but it's still true that I attacked Seiichi Oniichan... "

"Me too, I'm sorry."

Origa-chan didn't expect me to apologise to her, so her eyes were wide open in shock.

"Although I only lightly poked Origa-chan, but the impact must have been great right? Did it hurt?"

"...Nn, I'm fine. I'm already used to feeling pain... "

The expression on Origa-chan face as she said that, was impossibly sad and pitiful.

Looking at her expression, we felt as though we couldn't breathe, and she continued in a soft voice.

"...As you can see, I'm a cat beastman. But... I was a Cursed Child."

"...To the cat beastmen, Black is the colour of misfortune and disaster. That's why, I used to get hit a lot by mother. [Unwanted Child] , is what I was called over and over."

"...But, I wanted to be acknowledged. Wanted to be petted. Wanted to be smiled at. Wanted to be loved... !... But now, it will never come true. Because I was sold to the Kaiser Empire as a slave."

At the many appalling words that came out of Origa-chan's mouth, all I could do was listen in silence.

For your parent who bore you, to treat you as an unwanted child, is a helplessly cruel

experience for one so young.

My family got along very well.

I thought that was a natural occurrence, but that doesn't seem to be the case.

My parents who unconditionally loved me, no matter what I was like, were really amazing, and above all I feel I was really blessed.

"...After that, I was soon bought up. The people that bought me, was an assassination unit under the Royal family. There, I———learned assassination techniques."

Such a young child, made to learn techniques to kill people...

"...Because I am still small, I wasn't made to do things that would please men. But, instead, I was made to kill lots of people. That, was all the worth that my existence had to them. That's why, I'm... filthy. Although I harmed the King under orders, my hands are still tainted."

Saying so, Origa looked down.

...This child, has only been able to see her own worth in killing others.

That's because, since she's been young her parents have treated her violently, and she hasn't had a chance to feel any true form of love.

When I thought that, my body instinctively moved.

I pulled Origa-chan into my arms, hugging her, who looked so frail that she might break.

"It's fine. Origa-chan is not filthy. Because, a truly tainted person... would not even be able to cry."

Origa-chan was crying.

Unlike just now, these were tears of sadness.

If they were tears of joy, then cry as much as you want.

But, no one wants to see you cry such sad tears.

As I gently stroked her head and back, I continued.

“See, if you want to be petted, then I’ll pet you, as many times as you want to. If you want smiles, then including you, we’ll smile as much as you want. Besides... look.”

I pulled back my hood, and revealed the color of my hair.

“See? Just like you, my hair is black right? And to top it off, even my pupils are black. Looking at us, we might really look like siblings huh? Our faces aren’t alike, though...”

“Si... blings... ?”

“Yup yup. Also, what do you plan to do from now on, Origa-chan?”

“...I have nothing to do anymore. Because, I no longer have a place I belong to...”

“Then, wouldn’t it be fine if you just joined us.”

At my suggestion, Origa-chan looked up at me, her face coloured in surprise.

But, she immediately faced back down, shaking her head in refusal.

“...No. If I were to go together with Seiichi Oniichan, then Seiichi Oniichan will be targeted by the Kaiser Empire too. Traitors cannot be forgiven no matter the reason.”

“I see. If that’s so, then I’ll protect you with all my strength.”

Once again turning her face up, Origa stared at my face.

...To be completely honest, I feel quite unpleasant.

In addition, speaking of the Kaiser empire, my friends... Shouta and the others were summoned by that country as heroes.

It’s a country that would uncaringly use the [Collar of Slavery], so I’m feeling impatient.

Are Shouta and the others safe? If I remember correctly, I’ve heard rumors that they’ve started going to an academy.

Including that, if anything happened to my friends, then I———would absolutely not

forgive them.

Even if I were to be called a monster, I'm confident that I would throw away every bit of restraint and rampage.

...But what I can do right now is to protect Origa-chan that's in front of me, from the Kaiser Empire.

"...Is it, really okay...?"

"Yeah."

"...will you pet me again, like just now...?"

"I'll pet you as much as you want. I won't mind it even if your hair's become a complete mess!"

"...will you smile at me?"

"Isn't that obvious? Actually, I'm fundamentally a rowdy person. So you better be prepared. I won't be the only one laughing, because I'll get you to laugh with with me too, got it?"

Hearing my words, Origa-chan once again broke into tears.

But, these weren't tear of sadness, but of joy, so go ahead and cry your heart out.

Holding Origa-chan close to me, I gently pat her back, and directed my gaze towards Louise.

"...With that said... Louise. Could you leave Origa-chan under my care?"

It's fine to have just gone ahead and progressed this conversation along, but Origa-chan is the perpetrator of the attack on Ranze-san, and she is also an important existence that knows information on the Kaiser Empire.

That's why, there's no way for them to just simply hand her over to me———.

"It's fine. Because it's Shishou."

“I’m afraid! Recently Louise is trying to clear up situations just using the single word Shishou!”

I was easily given permission. Huh? Strange.

“In the first place, I had wanted Shishou to take care of her.”

“Is that so?”

“Both His Majesty, and I, had intended to protect this young child. I am unable to bring myself to punish such a young child. As such, the suggestion that I should take her under my protection came up, but as I am a knight who protects His Majesty, I am unable to look after Origa-chan to that extent. It might have been alright to leave her with my brother as well, but he is somehow a busy person, so...”

“Hmm, he does seem to be busy, now that you mention it.”

“That’s why, if possible I had wanted to leave it to Shishou. If it’s Shishou, then even if the Kaiser Empire sent assassins after her, she would absolutely be safe with you.”

“Absolutely safe... How exactly do you see me?”

“? As Shishou, but..?”

“I was an idiot for bothering to ask!”

The word [Shishou] , is gradually turning into an all-purpose word.

“Haa... well it’s fine. In any case, I’ll be in your company from now on, Origa-chan.”

“...Nn, I’ll be in your care, Seiichi Oniichan.”

“Yay! Origa-chan will be together with us!”

Then, Saria flew over and hugged Origa-chan.

“...? Saria Oneechan too?”

“It’s not just Saria. I’ll be there together with you too.” (Al)

“Humph, I was Master’s knight in the first place. So we shall be moving together.”
(Rurune)

“...Altoria Oneechan and the glutton...” (Olga)

“Oi! Stop calling me a glutton already!” (Rurune)

“No, it’s the truth though.” (Seiichi)

“You too, Master?!” (Rurune)

Finding out that I had thought of her as a glutton up till now, Rurune was visibly depressed.

“...I see. I am just a glutton. I see, I see...”

“There’s no need to get so depressed... After all’s said, I am quite fond of how Rurune looks as though everything she’s eating is delicious.”

“I-is that true? Master...”

“Yupyup, that’s why, cheer up.”

“...Yes! I will devote even more of myself to food from now on!”

“The object of your devotion is weird.”

What the heck. It doesn’t seem like Rurune will ever change no matter what happens. No, that’s that a good thing, but...

Almost as if the atmosphere just now was a lie, we were all bathed in a harmonious atmosphere now.

That is———with the exception of one person.

“Pl-please let me join in too!”

“...No. I don’t like this person.”

“Whyyyyyyyyy?!”

It seems like Lorna-san is quite disliked by Origa-chan.

...Or so I thought, but from her small smile towards Lorna-san who had her head hanging down, I don't think she actually hates her.

"...grudges held over food are scary, you know."

Correction. She might really hate her after all. I put my palms together in prayer for Lorna-san.

"Oh yeah, in the end what was it that you wanted me to do?"

Once the matter of Origa-chan was roughly settled, I asked Louise.

"Oh yes. My request of Shishou is that you guard His Majesty while I am absent."

"Eh? Me as Ranze-san's guard? Or rather, you're going somewhere?"

"Yes. Actually, there's a person called the [Black Paladin] who's working with me, but unlike me, he mainly patrols around the Winberg kingdom, and solves various problems while doing so. And, just recently, this [Black Paladin] contacted me and reported that it seems that monsters around the border have been getting more active."

"I see... And so, you were called to help out?"

"It is as you say. While the [Black Paladin] is known to be a master of protection, he is only one person. If he's concentrating on one place, then he cannot go to any other place, so I will command the Valkyries and go there."

"So that's how it is... But, for such an important thing, rather than someone like me, wouldn't it be better to request this from another, like an excellent soldier from the castle?"

"No, no matter what, if I compare them to Shishou, they're unreliable... Besides, even though I said to guard, it doesn't mean you have to stick with him all the time."

"Is that so?"

I'm somewhat shocked by Louise's unexpected words.

I thought i'd be asked to be with him for every waking moment.

“What I am requesting, is that while I am away, you remain in this town of Terveil. As long as Shishou is in this town, I will feel much more at ease.”

“You seem to be quite trusting of me, but I'm just an adventurer...”

“Shishou. Just any ordinary adventurer cannot beat me... the [Knight Of Sword (Sword Knight)]”

“Okay, I'm sorry.”

This is bad. A gap is developing between what I feel and what others around me feel.

“Well I guess it's fine. If that's the case, then leave it to me. Well even if I say that, it's really only me not leaving Terveil...”

“That's enough. Thank you very much, Shishou.”

“Don't mind it. So? When are you coming back?”

“I don't intend to take much time, but just traveling will take at the very least 1 week, I estimate.”

“I see... It seems it would be better for me to consider that this would take about 1 month.”

“Once again, my apologies for troubling you, Shishou.”

“It's fine. Louise too, you should be careful.”

Louise replied to my words, with a slight but visible smile on her face.

Since then, Louise has left together with the rest of the Valkyries.

But I couldn't help doubting the world would be so kind as to let everything end uneventfully.

That was one week after Louise and the others left.

CHAPTER 53

ABNORMAL EVENT

After the departure of Louise and the rest of the Valkyries, 1 week has already passed.

But, even so, as if nothing had happened, I continued to go to the Royal Castle to train my magic. Incidentally, since Saria and the others are each taking their own requests today, they're not here with me. Origa-chan is also going together with Saria and the others.

And now, I have finally achieved a certain level.

“-!”

“Woah!”

Suddenly, without any particular concentration, the beginner water elemental spell [Water Ball] finally succeeded in stopping at the size of a basketball.

“Amazing, Seiichi-kun! I can't even feel any instability in the magic... Doesn't this mean you've obtained the skill [Holding back]?”

Florio-san who had been acting as my coach also said so, and moreover I also confirmed myself that I obtained the [Holding back] skill.

Finally, with this I won't end up creating anymore pointless destruction... !

My tears of happiness flowed as I praised myself for keeping up the hard work throughout this 1 month. Good job, me!

And then, as usual, the announcement flows in my mind.

[Skill [Avīci Hell (Endless Hell)] has been obtained]

<TLN: The Avīci Hell is the eight and most painful of the eight hells in Buddhism. I use this naming since it really fits the description, but from here on I will just use Endless Hell as its normal skill name to not confuse anyone.>

What happened.

Wait a minute, calm down, it's all right, don't jump to conclusions.

I repeatedly took deep breaths, and remembered the announcement that was just now announced in my brain.

[Skill [Endless Hell] has———]

“DOSSEI!”

(TLC: it's kind of like yelling out with spirit, like Yossha! Or Yoisho!)

“?!”

I hit my head against the ground to confirm my sanity.

Florio-san was very shocked, seeing my weird conduct.

“W-what's wrong? Seiichi-kun...”

“No, nothing is wrong. It's just, no matter how hard I try to recall it, I didn't hear the acquisition of the [Holding Back] skill so I thought there's something wrong with my head, that is why I directly asked my body like so. Yes, absolutely, nothing, wrong.”

“Yup, you're not alright at all, huh.”

Florio-san says so with a bitter smile.

I can't endure it anymore! WHAT?! [Endless Hell]?! Where did the [Holding Back] skill disappear to!?

What the heck happened in the time I was trying to get the skill [Holding Back] that would transform it into something as dangerous as Hell... !

Among all the skills I've acquired, this skill is definitely the one with the most dangerous name!

...No, wait a minute. Calm down.

It might be too early to give up hope, right?

I mean, ultimately I've gotten to the point where I can hold back, it's just the name is dangerous, the content of the skill itself might not be that awful, right!?

That's right, even if the name sounds dangerous, it doesn't mean that the content will be dangerous too!

I found a sliver of hope and immediately checked the skill that I obtained.

[Endless Hell]... A skill to inflict infinite agony to the target. While this skill is activated, the target will not die no matter how much attack it receives. As a result, it will be a pain that makes the target feel that death is better. Holding back normally is also possible. Active Skill.

IT IS AS THE NAME SAYS, ISN'T IT!!

So scary! What is this skill?! It's a skill that someone that can boast of their monstrous stats like me must not obtain, right?!

Also, at the end of the description it briefly mentioned that it's possible to normally hold back! It's really treated as an extra, isn't it!

...What should I do? It's not really progressing in the direction I want at all. Where has my future gone?

Although it's different from the skill I wanted, it is, after all, possible to hold back, and understanding that, I was able to recover a bit.

Then, I saw a person that I normally shouldn't see here.

"Huh? Gassur?"

"Hm? Ohh, if it isn't Seiichi!"

"Huh? Oh, it really is."

Of all things, the ones I came upon in the royal palace is the guild master and the receptionist Ellis-san.



While Ellis-san wore the receptionist uniform, Gassur, with just his boomerang trunks as always, freely shows his naked body. There should be a limit to a lack of common sense, you know! Or rather, you should stop him too, gatekeepers!

“Why are you here, Seiichi-kun?”

“As the prize for winning the Royal Cup, I’m training with Florio-san and Louise here.”

“...You are doing various things we don’t know about, eh.”

To my words, Gassur smiles bitterly.

“Rather, why are you two here?”

“We’re here to take a certain person to His Majesty.”

“A certain person?”

Without knowing who the man they mentioned is, I tilt my head in confusion, and then an old man behind Gassur comes into view.

“Hohoho. It’s the first time we meet, right? Youngster.”

“Uh, ah, hello...”

My first impression for the old man was, a “Hermit”.

Long, white eyebrows and hair. An even longer white beard. On top of that he also wore a white robe, so that makes for a completely white person.

His height is not that tall, and his back is straight, but he has a huge cane that is as tall as me.

From his gentle eyes and his whole atmosphere, he was an old man that made you feel fully wrapped in a sense of security.

“I am Barnabas Ablitt. I don’t mind if you call me Barna.”

“Ah, I am Seiichi.”

Barna-san greets me with a very friendly atmosphere.

I told him my name as well, but Florio-san, who remained silent until now, muttered something, overcome with emotion.

“T-to think I could meet with that [Magic Saint] , Barnabas-sama... !”

“Eh? You know of Barna-san?”

“Of course! When it comes to Barnabas-sama, it’s wouldn’t be a stretch to say that he mastered the world of sorcery, he is the world’s greatest magician!”

“I-I see... ”

I could only reply like that due to getting overpowered by Florio-san who was unusually excited.

Still... I guess he really is a great person since Florio-san spoke to that extent.

“Hohoho. Nothing will come out even if you praise me you know? [Graceful Demon of Ice] -dono.”

“Y-you know about me?!”

“Umu. Quite the superior magician, I often hear from Ranze.”

“-!”

With just one sentence from Barna-san, Florio-san started crying.

...I wonder if this is the same mental state as a crazy fan that got to converse with a famous idol. Anyway, I think it was good since I was able to see an unexpected side of Florio-san.

“Also, I still haven’t mastered sorcery. Since I’m an elf, I have lived a long time, but there is still much sorcery that I haven’t seen... ”

“Eh? Barna-san is an elf?”

“Yes I am. Look, my ears are long right?”

While saying so, Barna-san shows his ear to me.

Then, just like Barna-san said, he has long ears with sharp tips that are different from normal humans.

Or rather, this is my first elf sighting in the otherworld, you know. Moreover, he seems to be an amazing celebrity.

While secretly deeply moved about that, I saw the figure of a person coming from the royal castle, heading toward this place.

“Ou, Seiichi. How is your training?”

“Ah, Ranze-san!”

“Ou, or rather, why are Gassur and everyone here too?”

Would you look at that, the one who came over from the castle was this country’s king, Ranze-san.

And, Ranze-san who noticed Gassur and everyone else beside me and Florio-san made a dubious facial expression.

And Barna-san lightly talked to Ranze-san.

“Are you healthy? Ranze.”

“Hm?... Wait, Barnabas-sensei?!”

When Ranze-san noticed Barna-san, as if it wasn’t enough, he got even more surprised, and he also straightened his posture.

“I-it has been a long time! Sensei seems to be well too... ”

“There is no need to be so tense right? You’re already the head of a country. There is no need to fuss about a senile old fool like me, you know?”

“Th-that’s out of the question!”

...Who are you, Barna-san?

Huh? Isn't this a pattern where I, too should add -sama? I talked very non-chantingly with him, but...

Seeing Ranze-san who is a king with this kind of surprisingly humble behavior, it can't be helped to think like that, right.

"Umm... Ranze-san. What is your relation to Barna-san here?"

"Eh? Ahh, Barnabas-sensei is, just as I called him Sensei, he is my teacher I'm indebted to."

I see. So that is why Ranze-san can't act on an equal basis with him...

When I understood the true identity of Barna-san, Gassur tells me more information about him.

"By the way, Barnabas-sama is also the Principal of Barbador Magic School."

"Barbador Magic School?!"

I was surprised at the name.

Because, that very school is... Where Shouta and everyone goes to now.

While I am surprised by that fact, Ranze-san asked to Barna-san with a perplexed expression.

"And, Sensei. Why did you come here? I think there wasn't particularly an arranged meeting or anything, but?..."

"Umu, actually I have something to tell you..."

"Something to tell me?"

"It's about your sons."

"!"

To what Barna-san said, Ranze-san's expression changed.

...That reminds me, when Origa-chan attacked Ranze-san, Claudia-san mentioned the first and second princes...

While I was recalling the words I'd heard before, Barna-san continued talking.

"Right now, my school is currently under slightly special circumstances. Do you know why?"

"...The existence of the heroes, am I right?"

"That's right. Because of that, it got a bit problematic in my school..."

"Problematic?"

"That is———"

It was right at the moment Barna-san about to convey what happened.

Suddenly one soldier came running to the training ground with a desperate expression.

"Y-Your Majesty! It's terrible!"

"What's wrong? To have you panic so much."

So Ranze-san said, after seeing the soldier's appearance.

"Monsters... A swarm of monsters are invading Terveil!"

[?!]

At the information from the soldier's mouth, everyone's complexion changed.

However, Louise said that the rise in monster activity was at the country's border, but...

"What happened? The increase of monster activity should have been at the country's border... Also, there should be Louise and [The Sacred Black Knight (Black Paladin)] to subjugate those monsters..."

Ranze-san seemed to think of same thing as me, and when he asked that, the soldier continued to report.

“Regarding that, just now there was contact from Captain Louise, it seems that the monster’s invasion is also occurring there! Same also where the [Black Paladin] is at!”

“What’s going on? How can the monsters move at the same time like this... ?”

To the soldier’s report, Ranze-san seemed to be lost in thought, but Barna-san criticized it.

“Hey, Ranze. Put aside the cause for later, I think what’s important now is how to take care of this situation.”

“Sensei... That’s right. Hey, do you know the number of the monsters?”

“Yes! According to the recon unit’s report, there are approximately around five thousand.”

“Five thousand you say?! What a ridiculous number... !”

Ranze-san clicked his tongue after hearing the information from the soldier, and issued instructions at once.

“Hey, how many units can we assemble immediately?”

“That is... Besides the soldiers that are stationed within Terveil, all the other units are on expeditions in various areas at the moment.”

“I see... Alright, then go gather all the soldiers within the Royal Castle. As for the recon unit, tell them to temporarily return to Terveil. Now go!”

“Y-yes!”

“Florio.”

“Yes!”

“As soon as the recon unit returns, find out the position of the monsters, and send out the Magic Camera. As for the amount of people, use as few as you can, while still being able to keep maintaining the video recording. As for the rest, go to subjugate the monsters along with the other soldiers.”

“As you wish.”

After receiving instructions from Ranze-san, Florio-san immediately started moving.

As soon as the royal castle got busy, Gassur and the others also started to move.

“Is our guild’s power also needed?”

“I’m sorry, it appears so. Could you cooperate?”

“Though we won’t cooperate in wars and such, but in this emergency situation, there is no reason for us to not help, right.”

After saying that, Gassur suddenly did a muscle pose and gave instructions to Ellis-san.

“Ellis-kun! Quickly go to the guild for a monster subjugation appeal!”

“Understood.”

“I’m grateful. Also for the reward, the Kingdom will properly take responsibility.”

“Hahaha! That will make the adventurers fired up! I, as well, will go on a rampage for the first time in a long time!”

“I too will participate in the fight at the front lines this time.”

“Eh-?! You two will also fight?!”

Well, Ellis-san has swung that whip around, but isn’t that a technique for SM, and definitely not something that can be used in battle?

As for Gassur, there is no point in having those muscles if they don’t get used in these situations.

“So rude! It’s definitely during these times, that my Muscle Power gets on fire! Also, isn’t this a chance to show everyone my muscle!”

“That last part is your true objective right?!”

Damn. Gassur’s muscles, are they just for show... ?

“Me too, before I became a receptionist, I was quite wild, you know?”

“I can’t imagine it...”

Also, isn’t that expression weird?

Putting aside my complicated expression, Gassur and Ellis-san just returned to the guild as is.

And finally there was only me, Barna-san and Ranze-san here.

“Hohoho. Let’s see, should I also lend my power here.”

“Eh?! Sensei will also fight?!”

“My student is in a pinch. Isn’t it obvious?”

“Th-thank you very much!”

Ranze-san bowed while saying that.

“With someone like Sensei who is a <<Transcended One>>, with you lending us your power... It’s this type of situation, but we were very lucky this time.”

“Transcended One?”

Ranze-san tells me about it when I tilt my neck because of the unfamiliar term.

“Didn’t you know? Transcended One is a term that is given to people who break the limit. Louise has reached the peak of humanity, level 500. Such people, even though rare, can still exceed the limit and become stronger than that.”

“That genius child right? If it’s that girl, it’s only a matter of time until she becomes a Transcended One like me.”

Whoa, even though it’s rare, but to think that there are people who pass the upper limit of levels...

...Wait? I wonder why. I have an amazingly strong feeling that I’m going to end up becoming a Transcended One...

I-it's alright! My level is still just 15 after all!

...Though the fact that a Lv.15 can beat a Lv.500 is already a weird situation, don't worry about it. Don't worry about it!

"And? Seiichi. What will you do?"

"Eh?"

"Just like Gassur said, although this situation is an emergency, adventurers will participate through the request. That is why, it's not like it's compulsive, but..."

"I will also fight, you know? I mean, I like this town after all."

With me honestly saying what I think, Ranze-san opened his eyes widely for a moment, and then smiled happily.

"I see... Then, please lend me your power!"

"Roger!"

Thus, I march on this town, determined to fight the swarm of monsters.

-----Going back in time a bit.

Within the room that is ruled by darkness, a man raising strange laughter while pleasantly smiling towards the crystal put in that room.

"Nhinhinhi! I did it! And with this... The revival of Demon God will be one step closer...!"

In answer to that man's voice, another voice can be heard from the crystal.

[Humph, the one who made the preparation is me you know? Just who do you think approached the Terveil's [Mountain] and planted the Teleportation Spell there?]

"I am properly thankful for that help. But, I gathered the monsters for that. If you look at the outcome, we both did just as hard work, didn't we?"

[...Humph.]

To the man's words, the crystal let out a snorting sound, seemingly displeased.

"Oh well. The [Mountain] that lives in Terveil would make a move if we sent a huge number of soldiers, but if we send monsters then no matter how many there are, "that" won't move. Despite the [Mountain] being an existence that walls off Terveil, "that" too is a monster after all."

[Well as expected, we weren't able to set up a Teleportation Spell near the [Sea] , but...]

"That can't be helped you know. Installation type magic must be assigned precisely onto a land coordinate, if it's not like that it can't have an effect after all. However, I hear that there is no human that able to use space magic in Terveil. Thanks to that, if we lure the [Sword Knight (Knight of Sword)] and [Sacred Black Knight (Black Paladin)] to the area around the national border, we could trample down Terveil within that time. And the people's deaths and despair will become nourishment for Demon God-sama."

[But, the [Graceful Demon of Ice] and [Man of Iron] are still there you know?]

"Hmph. No matter how excellent an individual is, there is a limit to their power. Quality can never surpass quantity."

[Well, whatever works. If this plan succeeds, we will be one step closer to Demon God-sama's revival after all.]

"There is no way it will fail, right? According to your investigation, you aimed for the time with the scarcest amount of soldiers. It will surely succeed."

[That is right... There is no reason for this to fail.]

The crystal's voice also consented to the man's words.

"Nhinhinhi! All is for the sake of Demon God-sama———"

He muttered the oath of absolute loyalty of the organization the two belong to.

But, those men still do not know about it.

——That in Terveil, there is a [Human (Monster)] that surpasses the Demon God———.

CHAPTER 54

NEW CHARACTER INTRODUCTION

<<Winberg Kingdom Side>>

[Claudia Asterio]

- ●A member of the [Valkyries (Sword Saints of the Holy Maiden)]
- ● A girl that seems like a handsome man
- Looks like the male characters played by the Takarazuka theatre troupe.
 - (Note : Takarazuka Revue is a theatre troupe in Japan.They feature Masculine females as male characters)
- ● One of the few people with common sense.

[Lorna Kirizasu]

- ●A member of the [Valkyries (Sword Saints of the Holy Maiden)] .
- ●Enthusiastic
- ● Was the announcer of the Royal Palace Cup.
- ●Has mastered up to the advance level of Eris' [SM Lecture] .
- ●A master interrogator... or so they say.
- ●During the interrogation, because she was mean Origa-chan, she's now disliked by her.

[George-kun]

- ●Intelligence Section
- ●Said to be capable.
- ●Was severely scolded by Louise.
- ●Since he was abandoned by Lorna, he has yet to be seen.....
- ●Is alive. (Note : Reference to Ch 44's George)

[Louise Barze]

- ●The leader of the [Valkyries (Sword Saints of the Holy Maiden)]
- ● Has the nickname of [Knight Of Sword (Sword Knight)] .
- ●A person with inhuman ability besides Seiichi.
- ● Is one of the strongest knights of the Winberg Kingdom.
- ●Because of her ability, and overly perfect good looks, she is well known both inside and outside of the country, and is overwhelmingly popular with people.
- ●After losing to Seiichi in a mock battle, she now calls him Shishou.
- ●She's unable to use skills, but when faced with her opponent's swordplay or skills, not using it as a skill, she can learn it and use it directly by her own technical ability.
- ●The younger sister of Florio, head of the Magic Division.

[Florio Barze]

- ●Head of the Magic Division.
- ● Holds the nickname [Graceful Demon of Ice] .

- ●Best magician in the Winberg Kingdom.
- ●Became able to use Earth attribute magic after training with Seiichi.
- ●Louise's older brother.

[Leon Berger]

- ●Has the nickname [Master Painter] .
- ●Clay's grandfather.
- ●The person who not only spread abstract painting, but also developed many art techniques.
- ●Genius at painting.
- ●A kind and good person.

[Origa Carmellia]

- ●Person of few words.
- ●8 years old.
- ●Black cat beastman.
- ●Because black is a symbol of misfortune and disaster for cat beastmen, she was abused by her parents and sold to slavers.
- ●In the Kaizer Empire, she was taught techniques to kill people.
- ●Under the effects of the [Collar of Slavery] put on her by the Kaizer Empire, she attacked Ranze.
- ● Nicknamed the [Twilight Assassin] .

- ● Holds a deep sense of gratefulness to Seiichi who removed the collar, and Louise for standing up for her during Lorna's interrogation.
- ● Besides Rurune and Lorna, she calls everyone Oniichan or Oneechan.
- ● Seems to hate Lorna.
- ● Will be moving together with Seiichi now.

[Barnabus Ablitt]

- ● Elf.
- ● Formerly Ranze's teacher back when he was a student.
- ● Has the nickname [Magic Saint] .
- ● Principal of the Barbador Magic Academy.
- ● A person known as a [Transcended One] , and seems to have passed level 500.
- ● World's best magician.

<<Kaizer Empire Side>>

[Aurius Fencer]

- ● Leader of the first battalion of the Kaizer empire.
- ● Noble.
- ● Despises commoners from the bottom of his heart.
- ● It is unclear how strong he is.

<<Hero Side>>

[Kisaragi Masaya]

- ●Leader of an idol group which was active on Earth
- ●3rd year student
- ●Has silky brown hair and puts up a nice front to others.
- ●Former soccer club captain.
- ●Seems to be able to use 4 attributes of magic.
- ●Has an attitude looking down on people and disrespecting others.
- ●There are no nice rumors about his relationships with girls.

[Ooyama Tsuyoshi]

- ●Member of an idol group which was active on Earth.
- ●3rd year student
- ●A wild good looking man with red hair styled in a soft Mohican with muscles and tanned skin.
- ●Formerly of the Boxing club.
- ●Seems to be able to use 4 attributes of magic.
- ●He's very rude and vulgar.
- ●There are no nice rumors about his relationships with girls.

[Tougou Rento]

- ●Member of an idol group which was active on Earth.
- ●3rd year student
- ●Good looking man with long, blond hair in an irritatingly gaudy hairstyle.
- ●Feels like a host. (Note : Refer to Host Clubs)
- ●Seems to be able to used 4 attributes of magic.
- ●Every part of his behaviour and speech is conceited.
- ●There are no nice rumors about his relationships with girls.

CHAPTER 55

ONSET OF WAR

“This is...”

I—Louise Barze, unconsciously frowned at the sight that unfolded before me.

“U-hya— ... what a ridiculous number of them.”

“Truly... It’s really jampacked, huh...”

Two of my subordinates, Lorna and Claudia, were similarly overwhelmed by the scene before them.

We, the [Valkyries (Sword Saints of the Holy Maiden)] accepted the [Black Paladin (Black Holy Knight)]’s request, and upon our arrival at the top of a hill near the border of the Winberg Kingdom, we discovered monsters swarming at the base of the hill.

Furthermore, I had earlier received word from a soldier from the Royal Capital, that for some reason, an army of monsters was heading towards it, too. When I found out about that, I had wondered if it was better to hurry and return, but while I was considering it, I remembered that His Majesty’s former teacher Barnabas-sama had just gone to visit him, and while it was more or less a gathering of people with various faults, the abilities of the adventurers of the guild could be counted on, and above all, my Shishou was in the Royal Capital, and so all my worries disappeared. We were truly fortunate.

[Fumu, that’s a nasty piece of work down there.]

“...I agree.”

A voice processed by magic, which sounded neither like a male or female.

The owner of that voice was standing next to me, and like me, looking at the approaching horde of monsters.

Turning my gaze towards that direction, the first thing that popped out to me was [Black].

His giant 2 meter tall body, covered in full-body jet black armour was overflowing with an intimidating atmosphere.

On his back was a large sword, its length far surpassing my height.

The person next to me, was a colleague, and the only person to be my equal——— that person was the [Black Holy Knight] .

By the way, let alone I, not even His Majesty knows the true identity of the [Black Holy Knight] , as they were a person whose sex, age and everything else is a mystery. But considering their height, I do think he's a man.

“So? Have you already finished defeating the other monsters?”

[That is without question. Those evil beings has't been did burn so th'roughly by mine own black flame yond those gents cannot coequal returneth to the cycleth of rebirth.]

(That is without question. Those evil beings have been burnt so thoroughly by my black flame that they cannot even return to the cycle of rebirth.)

(Note: This guy has an archaic form of speech, so to reflect that I'll be using Shakespearean English. There's a proper English version of it underneath to aide in understanding)

I cannot understand anything that he's saying.

Can I take it as that he has already defeated all the monsters in the other places?... Well, considering he's here now, that should be the case.

[By the way, Louise. Doesth thee not needeth to returneth to His Majesty's side? Are evil beings not advancing on the Royal Capital? You und'rstand yond if 't be true that whe'er thee art not thither, then the Royal Capital may falleth into chaos right?]

(By the way, Louise. Do you not need to return to His Majesty's side? Are evil beings not advancing on the Royal Capital? You understand that if you are not there, then the Royal Capital may fall into chaos right?)

“...About that, there is no need to worry. Barnabas-sama just so happened to visit, and the adventurers from the Guild Headquarters should help too.”

[Oh? Yond Transcended One Barnabas-sama is th're aye.If so then th're nothing to w'rry about]

(Oh? That Transcended One Barnabas-sama is there eh. If so then there nothing to worry about.)

“Besides...”

“My Shishou is there too.”

[What... Louise's Shishou thee say... ?]

(What... Louise's Shishou you say... ?)

At my words, the Black Holy Knight cried out in a surprised voice.

[Louise. Thee hadst a Shishou? I totally assum'd yond thee hadst only did obtain yond pow'r through the results of yer hellish training, but...]

(Louise. You had a Shishou? I totally assumed that you had only obtained that power through the results of your hellish training, but...)

“No, it was something that happened only recently. Shishou is truly strong.”

[Someone yond can maketh Louise sayeth yond is...]

(Someone that can make Louise say that is...)

Saying so, the Black Holy Knight crossed his arms, and groaned.

While we were having a light conversation, Claudia called out to me.

“Louise-sama. If we don't start moving out soon, then the damage to the nearby villages will...”

“That is true. It is about time for us to start moving.”

I replied, silently drawing my rapier out from it's sheathe on my waist.

[Thine sw'rd is quite quaint as ev'r...]

(Your sword is beautiful as ever...)

Seeing my sword, the Black Holy Knight let out of sigh of admiration.

[Rapier of the Water God] . That was my Mythology class weapon, and even though I could not use magic, as long as it was of the water attribute, my weapon had the effect of allowing me to use up to even the highest class of magic.

No, in the case of this sword, the words “being able to use magic” may not be entirely accurate.

It's not that it's simply using magic, instead magic flows into the sword so that the sword can be clad in the highest level of power of water magic.

I started pouring magical power into the sword right away.

[...That's not the amount of magical pow'r yond a p'rson who is't cannot useth magic wouldst have, Louise.]

(...That's not the amount of magical power that a person who cannot use magic would have, Louise.)

“Black Holy Knight. How about you start preparing for battle?”

It felt uncomfortable to be stared at for so long, so I retorted unintentionally.

[My deepest apologies, but as I didst nary expect thither to be such a large numb'r of evil beings in the oth'r places, it hath left me unable to doth much. Howev'r, my black flames, have enow pow'r remaining to the extent wh're I can protecteth all of yee but... Louise and the oth'rs might not needeth it.]

(My deepest apologies, but as I did not expect there to be such a large number of evil beings in the other places, it has left me unable to do much. However, my black flames, have enough power remaining to the extent where I can protect all of you but... Louise and the others might not need it.)

“No, that would be very helpful. ———Well then, onward.”

Saying so, I dashed into the fray.

[Rath'r than running, t looks m're as though she's flying... well yond is fine. I shouldst moveth out too.]

(Rather than running, it looks more as though she's flying... well that is fine. I should move out too.)

When I heard his voice from behind me, suddenly, the top of the hill was covered by a raging jet black flame.

On the top of the hill was where the rest of the Valkyrie members, and other soldiers were, but I was not worried at all.

That was because, the jet black flame, was not causing us any harm at all.

[Well then, evil beings. Can thee heareth the footsteps of death?]

(Well then, evil beings. Can you hear the footsteps of death?)

(Note : Maybe "the Sound of Death approaching" might sound better?)

He announced, as he plunged into the midst of a group of monsters, covered in jet black flames.

"Valkryies... Charge!"

Claudia shouted from behind, and prompted by the sound of her voice, all of the soldiers at the top of the hill knew to simultaneously charge down at once.

"Now, why don't we finish this up quickly, and return to where Shishou is."

Because there was still plenty left to learn from him.

I——— Hiragi Seiichi, together with Saria and the others, were gathered at the gates of the Royal Capital together with the other adventurers.

"What an amazing amount of people..."

I was shocked by the number of people gathered at this place.

Just moments ago, Ranze-san being the the king of the kingdom, broadcasted to his people about the existence of a group of monsters.

But, the citizens of the city were shockingly not panicking.

So, when they were following the instructions of the soldiers to take shelter within the castle, they finished up at a speed and with an attitude that would make you think it was not an emergency situation.

Before we moved out, when we asked Fina-san and the others, the owners of the inn we were staying at, about it...

[I mean, the soldiers of this country are excellent. Besides, the least we could do is listen to the soldiers and evacuate promptly, right?]

[That's right! We'll just cause the soldiers trouble if we panic. The Guild's Headquarters is here too, so I'm not that worried. I mean, if the soldiers and others are useless, then there's no way we're going to be saved. Making noise is just a waste of time.]

[Hahaha. What Mary said might be too extreme, but that's the gist of it I guess? But before that, I think you guys will end up fighting the monsters because you're adventurers. But, don't overdo it okay? If you think you can't handle it, then escape. Got it?]

That was the reply I got. Lyle-san, while he was a man, felt the most motherly.

“But, a monster invasion huh... It feels somewhat ominous...”

When I murmured that out loud unconsciously, the nearby Al replied.

“While I've been active as an adventurer for a while now, it's the first time I've had to face 5000 monsters as my opponents.”

“This is really unusual after all, isn't it?”

“It sure is. Of course, there are some monsters who have a habit of grouping up in herds, and then it wouldn't be strange, but from what I've heard about this time, it seems to be a gathering of various types of monsters. That's why, it's unusual, and strange too.”

While of I was thinking about that, Saria clenched her fist and said to me,

“Seiichi! Let’s do our best!”

“Ou, that’s a given!”

When Saria heard my reply, her smile grew even wider, and she began to do something like shadow boxing... Does she really intend to fight with her fists? Though, I have yet to see her fighting in her human form before, but...

While I was thinking about that, I unconsciously looked around, and I spotted Rurune with somewhat of a strange atmosphere around her.

“He-hey. What’s wrong? Rurune... ”

That atmosphere was completely abnormal, to the point where I was unconsciously overwhelmed while asking her that.

“...Master. I, realised something.”

“Wh-what?”

“About what will happen if the monsters attack the Royal Capital... ”

“In the Royal Capital, there’s still plenty of delicious food, that I have yet to eat with Master. And yet, if the monsters attack the Royal Capital... then I won’t have the chance to eat all the delicious food anymooooooooooooore!”



“In the end food is still your number 1 concern, I see.”

In my Top 10 Regrets, the day where the act of “Me giving Rurune human food” will move onto the list might not be too far off.

“If it’s for the sake of delicious food, then I would even kick god to death.”

“The fact that you might actually do that is scary.”

If god took food away from this fellow, then it seemed as though she would send him flying with all her might. Huh? Wait, this fellow is a donkey right?

As I stood there, unable to stop my face from twitching, my robe was suddenly tugged on.

“Hm? What’s wrong? Origa-chan.”

Actually, Origa-chan also tagged along for this time’s monster swarm subjugation request.

That’s because, Origa-chan herself said she wanted to do it.

“...Seiichii-oniichan. I will do my best.”

“Ou, I see. But be careful alright? I wouldn’t want Origa-chan to get hurt okay?”

“...Nn. But, if I try my best, pet me?”

“O-ou!? A-alright, leave it to me!”

When hit by Origa-chan’s surprise attack of looking up at me from below, while stuttering I answered her like so, and when she saw that, though only faintly, she smiled happily.

“Hahaha! Seiichi, you ready yet?”

While we were mixing in with the other adventurers and conversing as such, Gassur came over to us.

But, he did not look like he was dressed for a fight, still in his usual boomerang pants.

(Note : Boomerang pants = Speedos)

“Gassur are you really going to fight? Even though you’re a Guildmaster...”

“But of course! How could I just sit down and wait while the Royal Capital Terveil faces a crisis?”

“And the real reason is?”

“A chance to show off my beautiful muscles... !”

“I thought that would be the case!”

No, rather it may be because he is the guild master that standing in the front lines has meaning. Saying things like “how’s the beauty of my body” are likely just jokes.

“Well, regardless of how each of them are, I think that in the end everyone shares the same feeling. The feeling of wanting to save Terveil... that, is something that is the same for all of us. That is why, let us defeat the approaching evil together!”

“Gassur...”

“And once this turmoil is over, us adventurers of the guild will indulge in our desires even more than ever!”

“Because this kingdom will provide lots of rewards. Besides, we will be treated as heroes who saved the kingdom. That means that it will be easier to release our desires which are normally suppressed by the kingdom’s soldiers.”

“Rather than the monsters, aren’t you guys more evil!”

“Hahahahaha-! Gentlemen! Let us free our desires! ITS, MY, JUSTIIIIIIICE!”

(TLC note: Last three words are said in English)

“Ah-, wai... don’t run away!”

Gassur, while saying whatever he wanted, jumped away from this place like a rabbit.

...Once this is over, the next subjugation targets will be the adventurers of the Guild

Headquarters.

I swore to myself, in my heart.

After that, it was while I was spending the rest of my time talking to Saria and the others.

Suddenly, a broadcast was sent through magic to our location.

[A group of monsters has appeared-!]

After the broadcast, I noticed that the atmosphere around here was slowly getting fired up.

And then, following the previous broadcast, a new piece of information was sent to us.

[A-and also... The estimated strength of the monsters are, on average... A-A Rank, apparently...]

When that announcement passed by, in an instant, silence dominated the place.

That would be the case. Because, I hear that an A rank is at a level where it needs 5 people of Al's strength to take it down.

Furthermore, in this town, excluding Al who's an A rank adventurer, they didn't even have any of B ranks, and the rest were only C rank adventurers or below.

In this case, it would be hard to not feel despair...

"Now I'm reaaaaaally fired up!"

"Yeeaaaah! Punishment for the monsteeeeers!"

"Don't think you can just target the town we live in, and get out safely...!"

"Destroy... Let me break theeeeeeeem!"

Weird. This is definitely weird.

This definitely isn't the atmosphere of a town being attacked by a swarm of monsters.

While I was still dumbstruck and unconsciously retorting at the situation within my heart, Barna-san came over to where I was.

“Hohoho. As expected, these are adventurers from the Guild Headquarters. Something like A rank monsters won’t even faze them.”

“Barna-san. Um... what do you mean by that?”

“Even if you ask me what I meant by that... O-to, it looks like Gassur and his company are taking vanguard position and charging in already, you know?”

When I looked outside the gate in surprise, Gassur, Ellis-san, and the adventurers from the guild whom I could recognise, were standing tall.

Furthermore, before we knew it, even the swarm of monsters were already in visible range.

“Hum... I had heard that they numbered 5000, but it looks like it’s around double the amount...”

Unexpectedly, Barna-san murmured that while having his eyes turned towards the sky, and when I turned to look in that direction, I saw that a scene was projected there using the same camera magic that was being used in the Royal Capital Cup.

There, a scene of a large number of monster forces running simultaneously was projected.

“What a sight. Rather than just A-ranks, there are also plenty of S-ranks in their midst.”

Though the contents of what he just said was very severe, for some reason Barna-san didn’t seem to be panicking at all.

“Um... How are you able to stay so calm?”

As expected, it is it because Barna-san is one of the few monstrous existences known as Transcended Ones? Well, I’m quite a monster myself too, though!

“What, just take a look at Gassur and the others. Together with your previous question, I’ll tell you the answer.”

With a bunch of question marks floating above my head, I turned my gaze towards Gassur.

When I did so, I saw Gassur standing there with a Muscle Pose as he declared,

“Do you think you can hurt these muscle of mine?”

The moment he uttered those words, he jumped from where he was, and from up high he crashed straight into the swarm of monsters.

While I stared at the scene speechless, the bodies of the monsters around where Gassur crashed into were simultaneously launched into the air. Specifically, 10 of them.

“HAHAHAHAHAHA! Excited muscles! Roaring muscles! Rampaging muscles! Being seen by all of these people, my muscles are elated!!”

Gassur chortled away, and in that fashion, went on to send monsters flying one after another.

Then, as expected of high ranking monsters, they seemed to have high intelligence, and began co-operating to fight Gassur, and using their nails and fangs, launched a brutal offensive on him.

“Weak... So weak! Don’t think you can even scratch my muscles with those attacks!”

Gassur was so easily defeating the ever-increasing monsters attacking him. Furthermore, there wasn’t even a single scratch on his entire body.

While I was still stunned by the absurdity of the situation before me, Barna-san calmly told me something.

“Gassur Clute. Right now, he acts as a Guildmaster for the Guild Headquarters, and controls the adventurers there, but with his high defensive power and overwhelming offensive power, he is a former S rank adventurer who has successfully taken on countless high difficulty requests in the past. From the way he fights, people have given him the nickname [Man of Iron] . There, take a look at the projection.”

Following Barna-san’s suggestion, I turned my gaze back to the projection, and this

time Ellis-san's figure appeared.

Ellis-san, was not in her usual receptionist attire, but in a bondage suit, and in her hand was a long whip called the Bullwhip.

“Ohohohoho! Now, lowly livestock! Kneel before me!”

As she shouted that out, Ellis-san brandished her whip keenly.

PAAAAAAN!

When such intense cracking noises were heard, monsters were split open and sent flying off one after the other.

“Nnn! It's so good! More, scream more for me!”

PAN! PAN! PAN! PAN!

The cracking sound rings out continuously. Whenever Ellis-san used her whip, some piece of a monster would get cut off without fail.

“How boring. Even though I could go M too...”

Though she had a disappointed look on her face, her cheeks were flushed and she seemed to be in ecstasy.

“Ellis MacLaine. Before she was working as a receptionist, she was once called the [SM Queen], a former S rank adventurer feared by others. Even though she took on the job of being a receptionist, her abilities seem to have not declined since then.”

I was dumbstruck.

No, um, yeah. This is bad, I can't organise the thoughts in my head at all.

But, Barna-san who didn't know that, followed up with another bombshell.

“There, take a look at those two.”

The next two that appeared, was the Lolicon and Exhibitionist duo.

Hold on a second. Don't tell me, these two are also———.

“Really, what an outrageous bunch.”

“Truly, Slan-shi. The little girls must be terrified.”

(Note : Shi is an honourific like San. Shi is used in formal writing, and sometimes in very formal speech, for referring to a person who is unfamiliar to the speaker, typically a person known through publications whom the speaker has never actually met)

“Me too, because of this whole situation, I can't get anyone to look at my naked body.”

“At any rate, as long as we can take down these bastards... ”

“Yeah, after that, our normal everyday life can... ”

After the two shared a look, they turned to face the swarm of monsters, and shouted,

““So, you bastards, please die””

First, the Lolicon man, with swords in each hand, began mincing monsters one after the other with movements so elegant that even the untrained eye could appreciate them.

“What if because of you, the little girls get so scared that they can't sleeeeeeeep!”

Truly, a dance of swords.

Even the high ranking monsters were unable to keep up with his movements, and were gradually decreasing in number.

“Well then, me too... TOU-!”

Then, the Exhibitionist man, threw off all his clothes and equipment for some reason, and dived straight into the mass of monsters.

“Flame... Bodyyyyyyyyyyyyy!”

Then, the moment he collided with the monsters, his body began to burn intensely.

The monsters touched by the fire were being burnt to ashes one after the other.

“Not yet! Look at my bodyyyyyyyyy!”

After that, he was coated in lightning, then ice, then light, and so on, and while various things coated his naked body, he exterminated the monsters.

“ [The Protector of Lolis] Walter Velatt, [The Revealed] Slan Algard. They each have their own party, and where Walter has his elegant swordsmanship, Slan has his own unique magic, and both are ability users who clear task after task. However, as adventurers go up in ranks, more qualities are required of them, that’s why these two cannot go past C rank.”

I’ve had enough already.

I couldn’t do much other than listen to Barna-san as my eyes went cold.

Moreover, as a result of hearing about the various adventurers in the Guild Headquarters, I realised that even though they were low ranked, they were all people who had abilities equal to S rank people.

After hearing about that, just let me say one thing

“What the heck are you guys?!”

The pervert guild, turned out to be the strongest guild.

Author’s note:

[Protector of Lolis] Walter Velatt... Lolicon Gentleman.

[The Revealed] Slan Algard... Exhibitionist.

CHAPTER 56

THE END OF THE WAR

After Gassur and the others continued to rampage, the remaining adventurers were also cleaning up the demons one after another.

But, it was not just the Guild's Adventurers who were off on a rampage.

"Don't get cocky, you lowly monster scuuuuuum!"

"We've had a lot of stress build up from dealing with those perverts everydaaaaay!"

"Just obediently let us destroy you!"

The hardworking soldiers of the country, who normally had to deal with the perverts of a certain Guild Headquarters, were also taking the opportunity to go wild.

Among them, there was the figure of Claude who was my acquaintance.

"OOOOOOOOOOOH!"

Claude keenly wielded his sword in his left hand, cutting down approaching monsters one after the other.

"Ha! Aren't these monsters way cuter, compared to those perverts!"

""Stop it... That's embarrassing, right?""

"I'm not complimenting you!?"

When all the other adventurers bashfully answered in unison, Claude immediately retorted... I'm super relieved at the fact that Claude is normal.

While staring at the scene, Barna-san, seemingly in admiration, said.

"Fumu... Claude-kun was it? It seems he is quite capable. The Winberg Kingdom does seem to have many excellent soldiers."

How?! How is that wholesome?!

That's not wholesome at all is it?! In fact, that's ruinous, isn't it?!

Huh? Strange. Even though he should be an ally, I can't help but see him as an enemy...
!

“ [One Dyed With Blood – Return Blood] Grandt Roosen. His power is indeed worthy of S-rank. That said, as you can see, he is not interested in anything but destruction, and with the high rate at which he destroys surrounding buildings, he often incurs large penalties, leaving him as a D-rank adventurer.”

He's completely worthless isn't heeee!

I was left speechless after Barna-san's explanation.

W-what a formidable enemy... The Guild Headquarters... !

“Fumu, Seiichi-kun. Now let us view the battle over there. There seems to be a party with a large number of people fighting the monsters.”

As suggested by Barna-san, when I turned my gaze in that direction-----.

There, I saw was the figures of the men who aimed at me... No, the men who aimed at my chastity!

“They are the C-rank party [Paradise of Roses BL] . The man in the front is the party leader, Homon • Gayzer.”

His name is screwed uuuuuuup!

What the heck is this?! From their party name all the way to even their real names... It's like everything about their names was just made for them!

“The frightening thing about them, is that every time they accomplish their requests, their number of comrades grow. Right now, there are many of their allies even among nobility, and the members of their kind are scattered all around the world, so it's truly astonishing.”

That's scaaaaaaaary!

This is even more horrifying than zombies!?

Actually, I just noticed this, but aren't the group of players who hit on Saria and the others together with them?!

Sc-scary... They've fallen prey to them, haven't they...

While I was trembling with fear with all my might, Homon, the party leader, declared,

"There are still plenty of boys in this town that we have yet to have the chance to be affectionate with. That's why, let us exterminate the monsters with all our strength!"

It's good that they're protecting the people but... their motive is immoral!

Homon and his crew confused the monsters with questionable hip-movements, as they took them down one after the other.

I don't want to see this anymore.

As I was trying to escape from reality, someone in the corner of my eye caught my attention, causing my eyes to open wide in shock.

"Eh?! N-Noado-san?!"

Surprisingly, the owner of the café Akkoriente who had listened to my complaints when I had trouble with my relationship with Al, Noado-san, was standing right in the middle of the battlefield, in a refined posture.

On top of that, his appearance was like that of when I met him the previous time, bartender style.

"W-why is he in such a place?!"

"Nn? Ah, Noado? There's no need to worry at all, when it comes to him."

I was panicking, but unlike me, Barna-san was completely calm as he answered.

As that happened, a huge lion-shaped monster was quickly approaching Noado-san.

"Oh, isn't that the S-rank monster [Beast King] "

Moreover, it seemed the beast rushing towards Noado-san was an S-rank monster.

Taking a close look, I saw that the monster called the Beast King was really much larger than any other monster physically, with a large mouth that looked like it could easily swallow a human in one shot, and it was baring its dazzlingly sharp fangs.

With a roar, the Beast King's jaw came down upon Noado-san with shocking speed.

"...Sorry, but I'll be taking that life of yours."

Muttering that, before I knew it, he was holding a pair of sickle-sized jet-black Kama in his hands.

Holding them in each hand, Noado-san dodged the Beast King's snapping jaw by just taking half a step with his left foot, and in that instant, he changed the Kama in his right hand to a backhand grip and while passing each other, cut up the location that on a human would have the carotid artery.

With its artery cut, an abnormally large amount of blood gushed out of the Beast King's neck, and it staggered a few steps, before collapsing silently.

"...May you have had a peaceful death"

Noado-san is stroooooooooong!

Or rather, that was cool as heck!? Who exactly is Noado-san!?

While my jaw was still slack with shock at his level, Barna-san continued on as if it was completely natural.

"Well, something of this degree is probably a piece of cake for him. After all, he was once feared as the legendary assassin called [Death]."

Someone please help me. I can no longer follow what's going on.

It's too early for me to understand. I'll rot before then.

While I looked at reality straight in the face, the form of Saria and the others fighting came into view.

Sarria returned only her arm to that of a gorilla's, and was beating down monsters one after the other.

Around her, the surrounding adventurers and soldiers were shocked by the spectacle.

...No, it's not unreasonable, huh. For the beautiful Saria to have only her arm morph into a that of a brawny beast's, while beating up monsters ———.

(Note : I assume Seiichi is thinking that the people will start to hate her)

“The little lady is capable ain't she! We can't afford to do any less than her!”

“Yeah! Let's do it!”

“Kuh-! What amazing muscles... ! Saria-kun, to think that you were at this level... ! However, I believe in my own muscles!”

Seems to be completely fine. As expected of them. Or rather, Gassur, don't compete with her.

Well, it's a little hard to explain it, but it seems Saria has trouble using her powers in human form, so she needs to change back, however, it looks like she's able to unleash her true strength even with a partial transformation.

While I was considering that, Saria noticed me, and started enthusiastically waving her hand at me... I feel like praising her.

The next place I turned my attention to, I found Al swinging about a massive axe, her specialised weapon.

“HAAAAAAAAA!”

Al was, while not to the extent Grandt-san was, launching powerful swing after swing, precisely defeating the monsters one after the other.

But because of the large number of monsters, Al ended up surrounded.

“I'm alright!”

I hurriedly tried to head towards where she was, but Al stopped me.

Using their tails and fangs, the monsters were pouring onto Al, using the most brutal methods to try and take her down, but she calmly saw through it all, using only the barest movements to dodge them.

And then, when a certain demon slammed its tail onto the ground, Al jumped high into the air, and with her left hand above her head, she used her most recently learnt magic skill, targeting the demons beneath her feet.

“ [Ice • Prison] !”

That magic skill, is the highest tier ice magic, and from her left hand came a wave of intense cold, instantly freezing the whole crowd of demons in a prison of ice.

And then, brandishing the massive axe above her head, Al activated another skill.

“ [Meteor Crash] !”

The powerful blow from above easily smashed the frozen demons into icicles, leaving a huge crater in the ground.



Watching her lean her axe onto her shoulder, I smiled.

Noticing the smile I had on my face unintentionally, Al became flustered as she went off to fight more demons... In the end, I might really be going crazy.

As I sighed, I happened to hear a rather familiar voice.

“In order for me and my Master to laugh and enjoy food, I will have you bastards disappear.”

The owner of that voice, was none other than Rurune.

Rurune, far from being daunted by the crowd of demons, stood tall, arms akimbo in wait of them.

And that Rurune, now just as the demons were about to reach her, slowly raised her leg, to a Karate-like stance for kicking.

Then, she launched a nimble kick at the front most demon.

ZUPAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAN!

The front most demon was completely smashed, and for some reason, Rurune’s kick created a sonic boom that ended up slicing through the surrounding demons as well.

Rurune, while maintaining her kicking stance, said one thing.

“If you want to defeat me, then bring as many gods as you can gather.”

Is she really a donkey?

No matter how much I dig, I can’t bring up a single memory of her being a donkey.

I wonder what it is. Maybe it’s the sonic boom the kick produced. Besides, that’s not something a donkey would say.

Mou, I’ve given up trying to think. It’s not escapism alright? Is it even necessary?

Shifting my eyes away, I saw Olga steadily taking down demons using a knife.

Olga-chan was, like was Noado-san just now, precisely and certainly striking the vital points of the demons to take them down.

It's regrettable, but it seems these skills have been completely drilled into Olga-chan.

Even with her main role being that of an assassin, her normal combat is still at a high level, and she was showing her overwhelming abilities. As I promised, I'll stroke her head after this is done.

And so, I who had seen the form of many adventurers, softly murmured to myself.

"This... I'm not needed at all am I?"

I thought that it was inevitable that I would think that way.

But, the nearby Barna-san, while squinting his eyes to gaze further into the distance, responded to what I said.

"No, I don't think I would say that's case..."

Intrigued, I turned my gaze in that direction, on to see the form of a crowd of demon surging in like wave.

"I heard from the report that there were 5000 demons, but no matter how I think about it, this is far above that... On top of that, so far the S-rank demons have only appeared sporadically, but I don't think that will be the case right now."

"Eh? In other words that means... There are only S-rank demons closing in right now!?"

"That would be the case"

Oh god.

Really, how did it come down to this situation?

I don't know what the cause is, but if so many of them simultaneous came to attack... and gathered together somewhere, then normally you'd notice it.

But, we didn't notice it at all.

By any chance, could this have been induced artificially?

There exists a convenient form of magic called teleportation magic after all.

Besides, it seems Ranze-san, wishes to coexist with the demons, so this place could have been attacked as it was seen as an annoying country...

Well, in the first place it's just the shallow thoughts of an amateur, so I don't think I would be able to get it right, but still, if there was a person who was the root cause of this situation, then he would be the most evil of them all.

While I was entertaining such meaningless thought, Barna-san stepped forward.

"Well, looks like this old one will be participating in the war as well..."

Saying that, Barna held a staff even larger than himself aloft.

Then, spheres of red, blue, green, orange, yellow, light blue, white, and black colours appeared in front of Barna-san, forming a circle.

And then, the globes gathered together, and from it rose a single sphere of an ominous colour.

When that sphere appeared, Barna-san's smile deepened, as he chanted the name of a spell

"Go forth, bring them ruin. [Chaos • Rain]"

The moment he chanted the spell's name, the ominous orb launched into the air as it split into countless branches, and before long, innumerable drops poured onto the Demons.

The power of that spell was amazing

Each and every one of the drops were small, but the moment they touched the Demons, the demons vanished.

"That will take too long because of their large numbers... Then how about this. [Chaos • Tornado]"

This time, without holding his staff, he had his left palm face upwards, as he moved as though he was throwing light ball.

Then, all the drops of magic pouring down changed directions midway, and before long return to form a circulating ring.

That scene, looked like someone took a photograph of a star with the shutter open.

As the spell continued, the drop began to circulate faster, the ring gradually shrunk, and in the end, the countless drops gave birth to something like a tornado.

When the spell fully formed the tornado, went off to exterminate the demons one after the other, with even greater power and range than before.

“Hohoho. I can’t be beaten by you youngster quite just yet”

This person is freaky.

Isn’t he even more monstrous than me? About the same level as a Transcendant.

Great, when you look at it this way, then I’m not anything particularly amazing!

I can’t just keep staring at them forever, it’s about time for me to participate too.

Yosh, with this many monstrous people gather around, it should be fine for me to let loose a little.

It’s just that, I have to keep in mind the large number of demons attacking this time.

Thinking about it that way, rather than heading out to the front line to take them out one by one, creating a new way to fight them all would be more efficient.

First is to picture it.

Something that is wide range, and does not attack indiscriminately, targeting only the demons

In that case, then attacking from above would be the safest. Rather than firing a giant laser from where I am right now.

A wide range attack from above... How should I say this, it gives off an image of a God delivering punishment.

Well, whatever. It might end up with a childish name, but compared to what I created previously, it's nothing much.

Thinking that, I strengthened the image in my mind, and lifting my left hand to the sky, I chanted the name of the spell I thought up.

“Judgement!”

A chilling gust started to blow in front of my eyes.

A-re? That's weird. The magic won't activate.

My face flushed red, as I squatted down to take cover.

AAAAAAAAAAHH! THAT WAS SO EMBARASSIIIIIIING!

Why won't the spell activate!? Even though last time it activate even with such a dumb name!

If that's the case, then wouldn't I be the pitiful one here !..... Not that I'm at any place to say that at this point

Fortunately, no one saw my eccentric behaviour there... A-re? For some reason I'm feeling even more depressed.

While I was still in my self-centered grievances, it suddenly occurred.

Out of nowhere, the previously blue sky, was filled up with black clouds.

Surprised that the surroundings suddenly became dark, I looked up to the sky to find——— huge flashes of light flying down one after the other.

On top of that, despite it's terrifying rate of striking, it didn't harm even a single hair on the country's soldiers, accurately hitting the demons only.

Furthermore, I had already forgotten about it, but my skill [Endless Hell] 's effect left the demons unable to even die. Well, it did just enough damage to leave them already

on the verge of death, so it would been fine to leave them alone...

Just when I remembered that, the sound of demons screaming entered my ears.

[GYAAA!!!!!!!!!!!!]

The sounds of their screams echoed around, shaking the earth.

Well, taking a good look, the magic seems to be accurately hitting the demons

Just that, many people had their eyes wide open in shock as they saw my magic.

And among them, Barna-san was staring at me with eyes opened impossibly wide.

W-well, I have a feeling that I overdid it, but that's the problem all sorted———.

~~~~~"GYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!!!!!!"~~~~~

A-re?

When I took one more look to where the magic was striking, for some reason, even Gassur and the others were getting struck,

I hastily put a stop to the spell.

Strange... Why would it target Gassur's bunch?

My head tilted in puzzlement, I used the magic again as a test.

~~~~~"GYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!!!!!!"~~~~~

After exterminating the demons, now it was targeting Gassur's bunch, striking them one after the other.

And then, an announcement was made in my mind.

[Skill [Magic Creation] has activated.Seiichi attribute Magic [Judgement] has been created.]

What is Seiichi Magic!?

It's already too late to stop the retort, but let's confirm its effect

[Seiichi Magic : Judgement]... Using what the user recognises as evil, it is a magic that call upon the light of punishment.

Seeing that, I put my hands together with a pon sound.

"I see! Because I think of Gassur's bunch to be evil, the effect of the spell is targeting them too!"

""""Stop agreeing and stop iiiiiiiiiiiit!""""

I had no other choice, so I stopped the spell.

When I did so, the perverts who were hit my magic ended up charred, with their hair fluffed up in an Afro.

"Iya,At the very last moment I ended up taking such and intense blow! Hahahahaha!"

Because of his charred black body, his white teeth shone even more brilliantly, as he had a refreshing smile and a thumbs up... What a tough guy.

"Aaan... That's good... It's been a while since I've been thrilled to my very bones!"

Eris-san had an expression as though she was melting away, and her body was twisting and turning about. She really can be either S or M huh...

「ああん……いいですわ
……久しぶりに、
骨の髄まで
しびれましたわっ！」

エリス・マクレーヌ
受付嬢

ガッスル・クルート
ギルドマスター



“Well this is good in it’s own way, as it allows me to show off my nude body in all its glory”

“Me too, because it seems like I would be more well received amongst the little girls like this”

Walter-san and Slan-san seemed to be rather cheerfully talking about it

...Really, these perverts are weird.

They were almost completely fine, after eating that spell.

I shuddered unconsciously at the view, as my magic continued to wipe out the demons in the background.

Well, I accidentally rushed thing to a close, but under normal situations, this would have a tough fight, where the people would have faced much despair.

But after all of that... from the very start to the very end, it was a battle practically filled with things to retort to.

Well, that’s fine with me, as long as everybody is alright...

———Number of casualties : 0 , Number of defeated Demons : A lot———

In a dark room, one man was happily laughing to himself.

“Nihihihihihhi! Right about now, Terveil is probably...”

Saying that, he once again let out a loud laugh.

And so, the man who had seemingly gone mad continued to ramble on.

“Nihihihihihhi! Suffer! Despair! All of that, is for the Demon God’s———”

But, the man didn’t finish his words.

The reason for that, was because of the suddenly flash of light that flew down from above his head.

“NNNGYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!”

When the blinding light finally wore off, only a fat man remained, sitting awkwardly where he was, looking as though he was cooked to perfection.

“W-What happened... Gaku”

In the end, the man fainted, without finding the reason why.

———The fact that a man had to go through such a miserable experience, was something that Seiichi didn't know.

[The One Dyed in Blood] Grand • Rozen... A Maniac about Destroying things..

[The Garden of Roses – B • L] Homon • Gayzer... Likes men.

CHAPTER 57

SUDDEN REQUEST

After the complete annihilation of the demons, it was a time where everyone was in a victory mood

———In my head, an ominous announcement was made.

[You have levelled up]

With only those words, my face went completely pale.

C-could you wait a sec. Let's not be hasty. Look, since I limited the magic I used, it's not like I dealt the final blow to them right? It would be strange to level up from only that. Besides, the drop items, and the balls of status ——.

“Oi, look at the demons! There's some kind of light starting over there!?”

One of the adventurers pointed at a demon corpse and cried out.

Drawn by what he said, I turned my gaze in that direction and saw demons emitting dazzlingly bright light.

Then, after the light dispersed, a large amount of drop items were scattered around

If it was just that then it would have been fine. No, it would still have been pretty bad... but still forgivable.

However, from within the drop items, countless numbers of balls of lights floated up, and flew at me at incredible speed, and that made me give up on everything. Ah, there's nothing I can do.

As the whites of my eyes began to show again, the balls of lights mercilessly crashed into me and were absorbed into my body

When all the balls of lights were absorbed into my body, a large amount of information from the demons flowed through my head... Even if that wasn't the case, this

information came from the ones that I wiped out right? Thanks to my unique skills Instant Learning and Perfect Memory, even though a large amount of information entered my brain, there was absolutely no burden to it at all.

Even then, it continued to chase me

[You have levelled up.You have levelled up.You have levelled up]

Stop already! Don't push me further away from being human!

While I was still screaming in my heart, the announcer in my head started to act strangely.

[Your Level...]

...Nn? Why isn't it continuing?

In my heart, I tilted my head in confusion...

[Your Level... Has increased]

Has increased!?

Why is this suddenly happening!? What happened!?

I was still confused, but apparently, the level ups ended there, and the announcer was going to do the skills next.

[Because of the large amount of skills obtained, all the skill systems were unified to create a new skill]

Even though I should be happy for this service, I'm not happy at all... !

[«Claw Skill» acquired.«Arm Skill» acquired.«Leg Skill» acquired.«Sword Skill» acquired.«Perfect Tolerance» acquired.«Movement Skill» acquired.Since there are multiple acquired skills, they will be further integrated.«Battle Skill» acquired]

Oi, hold on a second

What? These skills give off such a cheat-like atmosphere

While my heart was still beating quickly, I confirmed the <<Battle Skill>> I had received. [Battle Skill]... In a battle, this skill allows the user to turn every action they imagine into a skill. However, even though it can instantly kill and also negate all incoming damage, it doesn't just activate when I'm about to die. It's always active.

What an insane cheat..... !

In other words, from now on, whenever I'm in combat, I'll be able to make these kinds of movements, or if I used one attack, then imagine that attack splitting into 10 attacks, then it would happen as I imagined?

Instant Death? Doesn't let any damage through? My basic offensive power is already instant death level, and my defensive power is already like absolute defence already though?

Enough alreadyyyyyy... I don't need any more cheat skills than this...

Finally, thanks to my training with Louise, I am able to use the skills I have on hand to some extent. I wonder how much I have to train to be able to use this skill properly.. . I can't help but laugh at the thought...

Even though I was slightly desperate, I was more interested in how my statuses turned out, so I quickly confirmed the status.

<<Hiragi Seiichi>>

Race : Human (Human)

Sex : Male (Male)

Job : Mystery (Magic Swordsman)

Age : 17 (17)

Level : 20 (20)

Magic Power : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Attack : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Defense : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Agility : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Magic Attack : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Magic Defense : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Luck : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

Charm : So awesome it can't be displayed (2 0 0 [Cap])

<<Equipment>>

High Quality Shirt. High Quality Pants. High quality underwear. High quality trousers. Long Coat of the Black Emperor. Blade Monkey's Chain. Water Spirit's Dagger. Bracelet of the Night. Stone Choker of the Black King. Necklace of Endless Love. Sword of Revolting Hate. Sword of Overflowing Benevolence.

<<Unique Skills>>

Instant Learning. Perfect Memory. Instant Acquisition. Complete Recovery. Evolution. Perfect Dismantling. Art Steal. Arrange. World Eyes. Patience. Emotion.

<<Skills>>

[Attack System] Combat Skill.

[Resistance System] Complete Resistance.

[Special System] Superior Appraisal. Super Compounding. Tool smithing : Supreme. Ability Camouflage. Assimilation. Clairvoyance. Absorption. Compression. All Language Comprehension. Transmission. Coercion. Reflective Defense. Guidance. Endless Hell.

(Note : Alternatively "Omnilingualism" for 言語理解)

[Magic System] Chantless. Endless Evolution. Synthesis Magic.

<<Magic>>

[Attribute Magic] Life Magic. Water magic : Max. Dark Magic : Max. Earth Magic : Max. Space Magic : Max. Fire Magic : Max. Non-attributed Magic : Magic. Wind Magic : Max. Lightning Magic : Max. Ice Magic : Max. Light Magic : Max.

[Unique Magic] Purgatory. Inverse Magic. Release Magic. Seiichi Magic.

[Special Magic] Magic Creation. Carved Seal Magic : Max. Formation Magic : Max.

<<Arts>>

Gale. Flash. Kumokiri. Blossoming Flower of Swords. 剣身一体.

<<Martial Arts>>

Self-Defense Style of Zeford : Founder.

<<Titles>>

Stinky Person. Man who has a gorilla for a bride. At the Zenith of all. Lacks self-respect. Male King. Dragon Exterminator. He who cleaves Gods. Extremes of Magic. Exterminator. Nightmare of Demons. He who made the world submit.

<<Money Carried>>

58,336,147,560G

At least I was able to suppress my statusssssss!

What exactly is this!? What does this world want from me!? And also, why the value of charm so nonsensical... !

Actually, isn't it strange that my race is still [Human] with this kind of status!?

That's enough! I've alright resolved myself for it already alright!? Just change it into [Monster] and get it done and over with!

As I was thinking along those lines, as if it was previously hidden, it picked up on the part about my race being human and started to explain.

[Human]... This, is an incompleteness of perfect individual. Their actions can allow them to become Gods or even Demon Kings. Thus because they are incomplete, they are able to infinitely evolve.

It's even worse than being a [Monster] !

Isn't that too freaky!? What are humans!? It's too philosophical to understand!?

With a sinking feeling, I went on to check the unfamiliar skills. O-Okay... I'm still calm right... ?

...Heck, it turns out [World Eyes] is a unique skill huh.

Still, [Patience] and [Emotion]... these are very human-esque skills aren't they

Well, the names of these skills aren't really cheat-like, so they should be alright.

[Patience]... A skill released after reaching a certain level as a <<Human>>. Attack power is increased by the number of seconds that physical or mental damage is taken. Even if not activated instantly, the increased attack power can be used in the next battle. Always Active.

[Emotion]... A skill released after reaching a certain level as a <<Human>>.As long as the heart can be touched or moved by things, all statuses will rise.Always Active.

Aren't these the craziest skills of the bunch this time!

I can't say that I'm [Human-like] anymore can I!?

Eh, it's a lie right!? I mean, [Patience] increases my attack power every second you know!?

It says [Emotion]... but it literally means that all my stats will raise just through feelings right?!

Normally, if you were to obtain the cheat skills that I have now, you'd be really happy, but still? Isn't this messed up? No, I understand that you have to grow strong to protect those around you, but isn't this overkill? Isn't it exceeding that point? Isn't it weird!?

If an enemy were to try and defend against my attacks, not just the enemy, but even the whole world would be blown away! I know force is important, and I do like having it, but I think this is too over the top!

Besides,for some reason the skills [Reflective Defense] and [Endless Hell] were not classified as part of the attack type but of the unique type,but that's trivial compared to [Perfect Tolerance] which invalidates all abnormal statuses.Un... It really is trivial...

I managed to somehow stay standing up despite almost collapsing, and I turned my attention to the final column which had the Titles.

[Exterminator]... A Title given to one who annihilated a large number of Demons instantly.During combat,there will be a large correction of Agility and Attack power.

[Nightmare of Demons]... A Title given to the person who is a nightmare to all demons.There is a large correction of status when battling Demons.Status of Demons fighting you are reduced by 50%.

[He who made the world submit]... A Title given to the person that made the world fear him.

Finally,I fell onto my knee where I was.

“Seiichi!? Are you okay!?”

Seeing my in such a state, Saria rushed over to my side in worry

“Haha... Hahahahaha... I’m fine,I’m fine.I’m just doubtful that I’m actually still human, so I’m a little depressed...”

“? Seiichi is a human though?”

Unconsciously I had silently moved to hug Saria who had saved my heart and still had her head tilted in puzzlement

I’m glad... she sees me as a human...

Once my heart was unburdened because of Saria, retorts about the titles I had gradually begun to overflow

What? [Exterminator] ! Isn’t that too dangerous!? And [Nightmare of Demons] ,this is clearly not normal!

And [He who made the world submit] ! Even though it doesn’t provide any status corrections,why it is uselessly exaggerated ?

Well, in the end, I’m a human that has ceased being a human. This time’s level ups really let me understand that.

...Hold on a second? If, this time’s demon invasion was incited by someone... Then my level ups, were also his fault right? I mean, if I had never defeated those demons that my level would never have risen.

If the person who set up this situation truly exists... Alright, let’s beat the crap out of him at full power. I mean, it’s that guy’s fault that I took so much mental damage! Right now, the [Patience] and [Emotion] skills are truly active!

When a wicked smile appeared on my face as I thought about this opponent who might or might not exist, a soldier walked out in front of everyone and shouted.

“Everyone, listen up! Just now,His Majesty has announced that the threat of the demons is now gone! As such,everyone should head into the Imperial Castle,for the rewards to be handed out! Also, the person who wiped out the demons... Seiichi-kun!”

“Wha, Yes!?”

I let out a stupid cry, surprised that my name was suddenly called.

Actually, as expected the fact that I was the one to annihilate the demons had been revealed... No, they probably already knew because I used such flashy magic.

Well, after all the absurd things I did before, like when I defeated Louise, or when I was training with Florio-san, I've already made such a mess that I can't really complain.

“This is hard to say but... We would like to use the drop items from the demons you've defeated today as rewards for the adventurers and soldiers of the country. Of course, we will not just give you priority over the stronger items, but we will consider making any of your demands into a reality so... How about it?”

“Ah, I'm fine with it”

“Of course... There's no way that y—you'll hand it over!?”

“Yeah. Well, my stomach is full right now, so...”

If I were to get any more cheats, then even I would find it unmanageable!

“I, I don't really understand but... Thank you!”

That soldier laughed happily at my words and conveyed the message to the other soldiers and adventurers.

Nevertheless, I was truly grateful that it really ended without any casualties, and with everyone being fine. Although it was thanks to the perverts who were unexpectedly powerful.

“Seiichi!”

“Master!”

“...Found him”

While I was looking at the adventurers cheering due to the soldier's words from afar, Al and the others came back to where we were.

I too was going to greet Al and the others, but before I could, Al slung her hands around my neck and asked.

“Oi,What was that magic!? Actually, as expected aren’t you crazy strong! Your Status card is a lie isn’t it!?” (Altria)

“N,No— ... See, that’s ,a guy’s secret after all...” (Seiichi)

“Even if you make it sound like it’s some kind of Maiden’s Secret it’s not gonna fool me you hear!?” (Altria)

“Im,Impossible!?” (Seiichi)

“Actually, why did you even think it could fool me!?” (Altria)

No, I wouldn’t actually mind telling my secret to Al in particular. Saria too, even if the two of them saw my Status, I trusted that they would just carry on as usual without being afraid of me. So, in a sense, I didn’t feel any fear of that happening.

It’s just that because my explanation was rather long, so I thought I would wait for them to calm down before I started to explain, starting from when I was left behind during the Hero Summoning.

I was somehow managing to evade the storm of questions which were being thrown at me one after the other when Rurune called out to me with a pained expression.

“Master...”

“Oi,What happened? Did you get attacked by some Demon!?”

I did manage to get a glimpse of the battle from afar, but while it didn’t seem so to me, could it be that it was actually really intense?

Worried, I rushed over to Rurune’s side, to check if she was unhurt.

When I did so, Rurune’s cheeks blushed, as she replied, embarrassed.

“A,A-no... It’s not like i was injured or anything... So... it’s rather embarrassing if you come so close to me...”

“O-wa!? S,sorry!”

She had a pained expression on her face, completely unlike the usual Rurune, so I got anxious there for a moment.

After I calmed down, I asked Rurune once again.

“So? What’s the matter?”

Gwuuu~.

Suddenly, a sound resounded between us.

At the sound, Rurune turned to stare at the ground as though she was embarrassed, and the rest of us turned our stares towards her

After a short pause, Rurune glanced up at me, with her face completely red, and said.

“.....My stomach,is hungry..... ”

When we heard what Rurune said, all of us suddenly felt exhausted.Wh,What... She’s just hungry... Wait, isn’t that just the usual?

But still, being able to find happiness in these everyday moments, made me smile when I thought about it

“Ah,Master! Please don’t laugh at me like that! I am aware that I am always only thinking of food,but embarrassing things are still embarrassing!”

“You were aware of it!?”

On the contrary, I was more surprised by this though!? Even though I thought she would stubbornly continue on just being a glutton...

It seemed like Rurune received some shock when she thought I was laughing at her, so she was sulking a little.

Looking at her being like that, I unconsciously grinned wryly

“My bad.We don’t have time for today’s meal,but let’s go get some tasty food next time”

“...Really? Just the two of us?”

“? I’m not sure why it has to be with just the two of us, but if that’s what Rurune wants, then I’m fine with it”

“Wha!? T, Then me too! I want to go for a meal with just the two of us too!”

“Eeeh!?”

“Me too, Me too~!”

For some reason, not just Rurune, but even Saria and Al said they wanted that too.

But, even though I said it would be alright to go get a meal with just Rurune the two of us, somehow it ended up with Saria and Al having their own separate days to go have a meal with me.

...Even without asking, I know that this is basically a date, isn’t it?

For a novice at love, I feel that doing things like going on a date with super beautiful girls, is too high of a hurdle.

No, I mean up to now I have gone to have a meal with or go shopping with them before, but because I’ve never consciously gone on a date with anyone before, this suddenly being pushed onto me made me feel uncomfortable and embarrassed.

Whilst they hadn’t yet noticed the blush growing on my face, I quickly pulled my robe up to cover my face.

“...Seiichi Oniichan”

“Nn? What’s wrong? Olga-chan. Ah, do you want to go have a meal too? E-to... Do you want it to be just the two of us?”

“I, I see...”

W, Well, In Olga-chan’s case, It’s like having a meal with a younger sister, So I don’t feel nervous like with Al and the others. But, I still want her to fully enjoy it.

“...That, still, more things to say”

The me who had thought we were just talking about having a meal together, had my head tilted in puzzlement.

“...Promise. Head, Pat... Please?”

The look of Olga-chan’s eyes glancing up at me had outrageous destructive power.

If the Guild’s Lolicon... Walter happens to see what Olga-chan looked like right now... Very bad things might happen.

As I was thinking about that, in order to fulfil my promise, I went to pat Olga-chan’s head

“You did good. But, you shouldn’t force yourself, okay? If Olga-chan were to get hurt, I would feel miserable”

“...Nn. Thank you”

Olga-chan, who was having her head patted by me, blushed a little, feeling bashful.

And so, all the various adventurers started to move towards the Imperial Castle in order to claim their rewards

We were having a nice chat as we slowly headed towards the castle as well, when Barna-san suddenly came over to where we were.

But, his expression, was unlike his usual laid back look, but he instead looked very serious

While I was still overwhelmed by the way he looked, I barely managed to squeeze my voice out to ask.

“A, A-no... I, Is something the problem?”

Without answering me, Barna-san wordlessly edged closer to me. Eh, wait a second. This is really scary you know?

And, when he was right in front of my eyes———.

GASH!

Suddenly, I felt my shoulders being tightly gripped.

I stiffened up, caught in surprise by his abrupt behaviour, while he declared to me, with his eye practically shining.

“Seiichi! Won’t you come to my academy——— As a teacher!?”

At his request, I couldn’t help but let out another stupid cry.

CHAPTER 58

THE GEARS BEGIN TO TURN

I—Louise • Baruze, cut down the demon... [Don • Horn] , which looked like an elephant with a large horn, with a single strike.

The cut body splits and falls to the ground, making a loud thud sound.

“Fuu... That should be about it”



As I looked around, mountains of demon corpses filled my vision.

The demon I had just defeated seemed to be the last one, as I was unable to see the figure of any more live demons.

It seems, that we were able to safely stop the demon's invasion.

[It is valorous yond we we're able to finish this task off safely.]

(It is good that we were able to finish this task off safely.)

Suddenly, a black suit of armour emitting an intimidating aura appeared beside me. It was my colleague, the Black Paladin.

"Yes... And so, did any of the nearby villages suffer any damage?"

[W'rry not. not a single one has been harmed. It is the same f'r our soldi'rs. Th're is not a single casualty]

(Worry not. Not a single one has been harmed. It is the same for our soldiers. There is not a single casualty)

"I see. That's good"

[...But still, your combat ability is as stout as ev'r. During this invasion, i estimat'd the demons numb'r'd ov'r 5000 but, yee high-lone hadst defeat roughly a third of them]

(...But still, your combat ability is as strong as ever. During this Invasion, I estimated the demons numbered over 5000 but, you alone had defeat roughly a third of them)

"Is that really so?"

Even though the Black Paladin said that, it really did not feel as though I had did that much

But, what is certain, is that during my training with Shishou, I was able to acquire new power.

While I could not expect a sudden rise in my combat ability, the long time I spent training with Shishou has allowed me to ingrain fighting techniques into my body.

In order to endure the long training, I had to cut away all my useless movements. When avoiding attacks, I only moved the bare minimum distance. When attacking, I used my fastest and most powerful strikes, to pursue the enemy.

If the past me were to, like today, continually face off against this many demons in combat, then I would likely not have it as easy as it is right now.

Thinking about it that way, makes my lack of feeling just now seem more logical.

“Well,if everything is fine then it should be alright.I’ll lead the [Swords Saints of the Holy Maiden Valkyrie] ,and head back to the capital”

[Nu?Could thee waiteth f’r a dram while?Th’re art still some posteth combat things to beest ———]

(Nu?Could you wait for a little while?There are still some post combat things to be ———)

“Shishou is waiting on me, so... ”

[W’re thee at each moment this kind of p’rson!?No,see... us [black c’rp of the hell – abyss • schwarz] alone shall has’t a hard timeth gath’ring the loot from the demonic being, ‘r how shouldst I sayeth this...]

(Were you always this kind of person!?No,See... Us [Black Corp of the Hell – Abyss • Schwarz] alone will have a hard time gathering the loot from the Demonic Beings, or how should I say this...)

“Everyone,After a 30 minute break or so,we shall be heading back to the Imperial Capital”

[Listen to what I has’t to say!]

(Listen to what I have to say!)

Ignoring the Black Paladin who was making some kind of fuss behind me, I randomly picked a spot and settled down.

I heard from the reports that a wave of demons was heading towards the Imperial Capital, but since Shishou is there, it should be alright.

Immediately after I thought that, a voice that I had not heard in a long while ever since I hit level 500, echoed in my head.

[You have levelled up]

...Somehow,It seems I have become one of the [Ascendents] ,like Barnabas-sama.

If it were the me from before, then I would have certainly been puzzled by this, but right now, I am Shishou's disciple. Something of this extent will not surprise me.

Even though I finally being an [Ascendent] with much effort,being completely unsurprised,I decided not to tell anyone until I returned to the Imperial Capital,and rested up.

Ah... I should tell Shishou first thing when I return.

I—Kannadzuki Karen,was currently with the other the other students at Barbador Academy,having a lecture on Magic and Fighting against Demons.

It hasn't even been one week since we've come to the academy, and while we have experienced battling against demons, even though we were killing them, it had no effect on our mental state at all.

And it's not like all the students were mentally tough, in fact the number of cowardly students was not few, but yet no one was worried about the fact that we were killing demons.

In fact, there were many who were excited by the fact that their combat ability (stats) rose after levelling up from killing demons.

It is likely, that when we were summoned by the Kaizer Empire, our mental structure was changed, or at least that is what i've theorised after coming to this academy and learning magic.

And so, right now, my status is...

<<Kannadzuki Karen>>

Race : Human

Gender : Female

Job : Magic Knight

Age : 18
Level : 20
Magical Power : 1000
Attack : 500
Defense : 500
Agility : 500
Magic Attack : 500
Magic Defense : 500
Luck : 500
Charm : Immeasurable

<<Equipment>>

High-quality Shirt. High-quality Skirt. High-quality Blazer. High-quality Undergarments. High-quality Black Tights. High-quality Leather Shoes. Bracelet (Of Slavery). Iron Sword. Paladin Sword (On Stand-by)

<<Skill>>

Judgement. Double Jump.

<<Magic>>

Fire Attribute Magic : Middle Tier. Water Attribute Magic : Middle Tier. Wind Attribute Magic : Upper Tier. Light Attribute Magic : Upper Tier.
[Unique Magic] Paladin Attribute Magic : Max.

<<Arts>>

New Moon Strike

<<Martial Arts>>

Kannadzuki Single Sword Style : Initiate

<<Title>>

Hero. Conglomerate Boss's Daughter. Leader

<<Money Carried>>

Is this.

It seems that as we were Heroes, compared to this world's humans, the increase in

status we get during level ups is much higher, and on top of that, besides the unique Paladin Attribute Magic that all the Heroes possess, each of us have at least 3 attributes... We have power in our bodies that completely overturn this world's standard of magic.

...Because of that, there's no helping the fact that most of the students are growing arrogant, but even though there's no helping it...

"But still, I can't get used to these stares..."

"I agree..."

Shouta Takamiya, the junior from my club walking beside me, answered my mutterings.

Even though we were just walking through the hallways of Barbador Academy, gazes of fear, contempt, and everything that was the opposite of friendly, were being directed at us.

From where the stares were coming from, I noticed 3 people walking towards us.

Leading the group was a Blond European-looking male, who lightly bowed as he walked.

...Roberto • Iroas • Winberg.

Even though Shouta was quite handsome, the man walking besides Roberto had a face even beyond that, and his mannerisms and movements were so elegant to the extent that even I, who has met many of the leading figures on earth, admire.

"Why Hero-Dono. This mood... is not very elegant is it?"

Roberto said, when he got near us.

However, those words held no irony or anything like it, it was purely vocalising what he felt when he saw me and Shouta.

"Oi, Big Bro. If ya stand there talkin', then we'll be late for the next class ya know? The 'cher for the next class is Dorga-Sensei ya know?"

“...Jonas.Can you not do something about the way you speak?”

“Ah—No way No way.I ain’t as smart as Big Bro.As if I could use stiff words like ‘em”

“As Royalty,You have to properly... ”

“Daaaah!Once Big Bro is King,y’all gonna handle all the negotiation and stuff right!? I’mma more suited to swingin’ swords! Big Bro’ll be King,and I’m ya General!See, No probs at all!”

“Like I said,That’s not the problem... ”

Both Shouta and I are stunned by the argument that suddenly developed.

The person Roberto was quarreling with, was his younger brother, Jonas • Guardian • Winberg.

Robert had smooth blonde hair and an atmosphere about him that really showed that he was a child of noble blood. In contrast, Jonas had messed up his uniform, and had the same blonde hair as Robert only in a messier hair cut, which really gave off a rough impression.

The remaining person who had thus far remained silent finally spoke up to them.

“Roberto Nii-sama,Jonas Nii-sama... how about dropping the subject there?If not...”

He had waist long hair that was golden like Roberto,Strong-willed Blue eyes,and hidden in his Noble aura,I could feel a strength in him..

In spite of her face being doll-like, but she gave off a feeling like she was a human, rather than being artificial, and she was Roberto’s little sister Latis • Dia • Winberg

Latis showed off her left hand clench in a fist, and covered with purple lightning.

“Do you intend to force your little sister’s hand?”

“N,No... That is not the case at all.That... Jonas,just said a little too much.My apologies”

“Ah,No,It’s my fault... I’ll,mind my speech”

(Note : Instant switch to formal speech though. 0.0)

With Latis' words and fist, the two looked as though they were panicking, and obediently apologised.

To me, who was unable to follow the situation in front of my eyes anymore, Latis said apologetically.

"My deepest apologies,for these foolish older brothers of mine..."

"Latis.Is that not too exaggerated?"

"Yeah Yeah!Ain't ya da one with the foulest-mouth here!"

"And what part of that is the problem?"

Latis, with an attitude a dimension apart compared to before, replied to Robert and Jonas.

"Well, that is fine... Hero-sama.Because we have class right now,as impolite as it might be we'll have to excuse ourselves.Then..."

"O, oi! Mah bad, We're gonna go meet up with our little sister now. Later"

"Latis is just as always... Well then,Hero-dono.As for this, we'll be excusing ourselves now..."

Jonas and Roberto said to us, before leaving in pursuit of Latis

"...What a strange bunch"

"...I think so too.They were also of the few who were not hostile to us in this academy..."

That's right, in this academy, the people who could treat as like a normal person were precious and few.

Just that, Roberto's group must know what the other Heroes have been doing but, in spite of that being able to interact with us normally, they must be very good at reading people.

“Now that I think about it,they’re royalty after all.If I remember correctly,it should be a name from the Winberg Kingdom but...”

“Ah,now that you say it,I recall we learnt this in Geography.They’re a country who’s had a 100 years without wars, a peaceful country fairly far away from this Kaizer Empire we were summoned to... Is that right?”

“...Yes.It’s a Kingdom where people like them are the Kings.Compared to the Kaizer Empire we were summoned to, it must be a much better Kingdom”

It felt as though the atmosphere had become a little depressing, but Shouta suddenly cried out.

“Nn?... A-re,it’s Seto?”

When I turned to see where Shouta’s gaze was directed at, I saw one of the girls who were providing suggestions to the King, when we first had an audience with him.

If i’m not mistaken... It was Seto Airi right?

Seto was restlessly looking around the area, and just by looking I could figure out that she was looking for something.

I approached her, and asked her what she was doing.

“Is something the matter?”

“Ah,Student Council President-san!Nn?And Shou-Chi too?What’s up?”

“No,you just looked like you were looking for something so...”

“Seto,what happened to Nojima and the others?Recently, they’ve been so quiet that I haven’t seen them at all...”

Hearing my question, and what Shouta was wondering about, Seto laughed.

“Ah, Yuka’s group? Though ya might misunderstand from her atmosphere, Yuka isn’t really that obedient ya know? Even on earth, she got into lots’a fights ‘cause she stuck her head into trouble... Well,now she’s just taking classes normally with everyone else ya know?”

The person Seto was talking about, was a member of an infamous group, Nojima Yuka...
If I remember correctly, she was the leader of Ladies right?

Anyways, if it's like what Seto said, then if there wasn't any reason for them to go on a rampage, then they would have normally just be a group of harmless girls.

"I see.And so?I've already heard about what you know but... "

"Ah,that's right!Student Council President-san and Shou-chi,do ya happen to know of any [Sei-chan] ?"

""Sei-chan?""

Shouta and I both tilted our heads in puzzlement

"Yeah.I-yaa,ever since I came to this world,i've been looking for 'em... "

"...E-to,Is that a thing?Or ,a human?"

"Sei-chan is a human you know?Whatcha saying!"

Saying so, Seto laughed carefreely.No, if you were to suddenly say Sei-chan to me, I wouldn't even understand what that was but...

I pulled myself together, and cleared my throat once as I tried to ask for more details.

"Nn!And so?Was this Sei-chan person, also summoned to this world like the rest of us?"

"We're in the same school so,it's probs the case,or so I thought but... "

"Then, could you tell me his full name?That way, it'd be much easier to understand... "

"Full name?E-to... A-re?What's it again?Student Council President-san"

"No don't look at me,I have no clue either"

"Then,Shou-Chi?"

"What do you mean [Then] !?If Seto doesn't know it,then there's no way I could!"

“That’s strange... I thought Shou-Chi would know it though...”

“...I’d very much like to hear the basis from which you formed that idea...”

Shouta replied wearily.

“Fumu... You said that you’ve been looking for this Sei-chan for forever since we were summoned to this world right?”

“Yeap.Our school has a lot of people, so I thought I missed him somewhere or something like that...”

Certainly, as Seto said, the number of summoned being is high, so even if the whole school was to be gather up right now, it would be hard to find that specific person from the crowd.

In addition, because the students are almost never together, it just adds on to the difficulty of finding them.

But still, over half a year has passed, so I doubt that they wouldn’t have been found by now but...

“Why,are you looking for this Sei-chan?”

“Because Sei-chan doesn’t have many friends... So I thought that he might be troubled in this time.Besides,in the past,he saved me before... see,so... this is returning the favour!”

As Seto said that, for some reason she started to blush.

...I wonder why.Right now,Inside me, I felt as though a powerful enemy has just appeared...

“Well that’s fine.I’ll keeping on looking around.Student Council President too, if ya ever see Sei-chan,tell him [Airin] is looking for him kay~”

“Ai,Airin?”

“Then ,that’s it for me!”

Saying that, Seto once again resumed her search.

“...How should I say this, she’s energetic huh. That girl...”

“...Yeah... Right...”

Because Shouta had given such a strangely awkward answer, I approached him, only to hear him muttering something under his breath, with an expression like he was absorbed in thought.

“...It couldn’t possibly be about that guy could it... No, but...”

I couldn’t quite understand it, but it seemed that Shouta had an idea who this Sei-chan person was.

Along with Shouta who was still thinking about that, I went off to the next class.

———And so, I never even dreamed that I would be reunited with [Him] in the not-so far off future.

“How about it!?”

I... Seiichi Hiiragi, was troubled because I didn’t know what to do, when faced by Barna-san who was breathing heavily in front of my eyes.

The contents of Barna-san’s request was as follows : I was to be invited to Barbador Magic Academy, where I would act as a teacher.

“A-no... Why me?”

First of all, that was the matter of utmost concern to me.

In terms of magic, Barna-san was an amazing person to the point where, he was called the [Saint of Magic] after all...

However, Barna-san had a blank expression on his face, as though the question I just asked was absurd or something.

“What on earth might you be saying, Seiichi-kun. Just moments before, the magic used to annihilate the demons, was your own Original Magic was it not? With magic that

powerful and precise, and on top of that it's your own Original Magic, you are clearly an Ascendant far beyond me."

How do I answer.

Apparently I, was something that went beyond a [Ascendant] .At this point, what would that even be called? [Ascended-Ascendant] ?

"Well, I get what Barna-san is trying to say... "

"If so then, will you come over as a teacher!?"

"Ho-Hold on a moment! I still haven't made up my mind about that!"

"Why? If it's about the money, I'll pay well you know?"

No, to be honest I couldn't care less about the money but, right now there's a reason why I absolutely cannot leave this place.

"First of all, I already promised Louise that I wouldn't leave the Imperial Capital until she gets back. So, at the very least... you'll have to wait 1 week before I can leave the Imperial Capital"

"Muu... I see, so you made this promise with Louise... Because she believed in your strength, that Louise who would never leave His Majesty's side, decided to go to where the [Black Paladin] was... "

That's right, Louise left the protection of the capital to me.

...Well, the perverts of this capital were strong enough to make me think "The Capital doesn't really need my protection does it?", but that was one thing, and this is another. Louise left this capital to me because she trusted me, that's why, in order to answer the trust she placed in me, it's only right that I remain until she gets back.

"Also, I don't want to be separated from Saria and the others who are here"

Yes, the biggest reason that I didn't want to go to the academy as a teacher, was that I didn't want to separate from Saria and the others.

To be honest, I was interested about how Shouta and the others were doing, and I did

want to go to the academy, but I don't have the choice of leaving Saria and the others.

But, the only one who was invited was me, so there's no way I could bring Saria and the other...

"So that's how it is. Then, Saria-kun... can I call you that? Saria-kun can be a student. Those adventurer girls... From what I saw in the battle just now, they are perfectly capable of teaching combat in my academy, just like Seiichi-kun. For these ladies who can take down demons, they would be accepted as students, and even as teachers. My academy, is always looking for talented people. So at this point, adding a few more students or teachers would not matter much"

Saria and the others had their eyes wide open, shocked at what Barna-san had proposed.

Except...

"A-no... This child... How about Olga-chan?"

"Muu... that one is too young but... speaking of her, before we defeated the demons, I had asked Ranze but, didn't this girl try to assassinate Ranze earlier?"

"E-to... That's right"

"Fumu... The skills to slip past Louise's protection, and assassinate someone huh... Then, it'll be fine to have you as Seiichi's helper. How about that?"

"E-to... if you're willing to go that extent, that I don't really have any problems with it..."

Suddenly hearing talking behind me, I turned around to see Saria and the others.

"I'm completely OKAY! School seems to be interesting after all!"

"I'm also not particularly against it... Well, where Seiichi belongs, is also where I belong, or something like that..."

"I've been Master's Knight from the start. No matter where you go, I shall follow"

"...Nn. If Seiichi-oniichan is going, I'll go too"

“It’s decided then!As Seiichi said, I intend to depart when Louise gets back. Will that be alright?”

“Yes,that’s fine”

Somehow, it ended up with Saria and the others being able to go the academy too, and we were going to leave when Louise returned.

But, Barna-san is Barna-san after all, and Ranze-san seemed like he was busy, so I doubt we’ll be able to leave as soon as Louise returned like we said.

I’ll have to make various preparations before I can leave too.

Because, I have to at least say farewell to those who took care of us while we were here

“Alright,well then,I should go forth and collect my reward”

Barna-san, walked towards the Imperial Castle, with a gleeful smile on his face

...The opportunity to meet Shouta and the others came in an unexpected form.

The Kaizer empire, seems to be making some sort threatening move, so I wanted to make sure of Shouta and the other’s safety with my own eyes.

Besides that, even though it’s through being a teacher, I was also interested in what this school life has been for this past half a year.

Saria and the others were also the same, though I think that it’s probably a more fulfilling school life than the one I had on earth.

While I was thinking of those things, we headed towards the Imperial Castle, in order to collect our rewards.

CHAPTER 59

RURUNE'S STREET STALL DATE

~ EATING COMPETITION ~

It was the day after I got the drop items from the demons as a reward from the country.

As Louise had yet to return, I decided to promptly act on my promise with Rurune to take her out to eat delicious food.

...By the way, even though these were the drop items obtained from the demons I defeated, should I say it was as expected? It seems the drop items were valuable things that were normally unobtainable, so the soldiers who sorted out the rewards were very surprised.

However, I think that all the soldiers, including the King who seems to have vaguely noticed, know that this was because of me, but the King is just taking it to be a lucky situation, and not treating it as anything peculiar... Is that really alright to do as a King? Well, it would be great if it was just me worrying unnecessarily...

By the way, these were the drop items that I got.

[Thousand Fists Tekkou]... Mythology Grade accessory. When attacking, the number of attacks is doubled. Furthermore, it adds the light attribute to normal attacks.

[Sky King's Boots]... Mythology Grade accessory. By creating footholds in the air, the user is allowed to move freely in the sky. Furthermore, by manipulating the air around the user's feet, it can raise the speed of attacks.

[Water God's Flask]... Mythology Grade accessory. An unending source of water. One mouthful of water, when drunk, can cure abnormal statuses and recover the user's health.

It seems I have killed a God.

At this point, my power has been put on display for all to see.

The effect of the Thousand Fists Tekkou is, for example, if I were to strike a random monster 100 times, it would automatically turn that into 200 strikes. And on top of that, it would add on the light attribute to those attacks... The monster around here isn't me, right?

I wasn't really too interested in the rewards that I got, but out of the information I received from defeating the Demons, the knowledge I had regarding the items came from the memories of a creature called the [Thousand • Golem] , so these are probably its items.

The Sky King's Boots which I obtained, were like an upgrade from Saria's [Blue Shoes] . It had no restrictions regarding walking in the air, and on top of that it could even speed up faster.

I can't really tell which demon I got this item from. After all, there are too many monsters with names like [Sky King] , like [Sky Dragon] or [Air Lion] .

While different from the protective gear, the Water God's Flask also had a cheat-like function.

It might not matter to me, but it recovers all abnormal statuses you know? On top of that, it says it returns the body to a healthy state, so doesn't that mean it can cure illnesses too? That's beyond outrageous.

I don't know which Demon this item was from either. There are just too many names like [Sea Serpent] and [Aqua Lord]

I've also got plenty of other random bits and pieces from the various other Demons that were defeated, but it would take too much time to explain it all.

As I mentioned earlier, I had planned to go around the stalls with Rurune to eat some good food, rather than eating breakfast, I was thinking that we should go out early and have a look at the stalls first.

Saria and the others seem to have taken up a request from the guild, so they were relaxing at the Inn for the moment.

That aside, as Rurune's waiting for me, I quickly prepared myself and left the Inn.

I waited outside the Inn for a little while, before Rurune came out.

“Ah, Master, my apologies! A-no... Have I kept you waiting for long?”

“No? Not at all. More importantly, shall we go get ourselves some delicious food to eat? If you don't eat breakfast, then your stomach will grumble...”

“I, I see! Well then, let us go at once!”

With a smile on her face, Rurune started to go off ahead of me.

While it was true that we were hungry, I wanted to slowly savour all the food today, so I grabbed her hand, restraining Rurune.

“Rurune, even if you don't rush, it's not like the food will run away. Can we just take our time?”

“Ah... Th, That's right... If so then, Master...”

“Your hand...”

“Ah, sorry!”

When Rurune bashfully said that, I finally realised that I was holding on to her hand tightly.

When I quickly tried to let go of her hand, she instead started to tightly hold on to mine

“Rurune?”

Feeling suspicious, I peeked at Rurune's face, only to see her shamefully staring at the ground as she replied.

“...Today is a good day so... If you would allow it, could we keep holding hands like this...?”

Who is this child?

The food-loving, hard-to-understand dignified airhead Rurune was nowhere to be seen, and the embarrassed Rurune, blushing red up all the way to her ears in front of me was something I had never seen before.

I was bewildered by this change in atmosphere, unconsciously falling into a daze as Rurune called out to me.

“Master...?”

“Ah,I,I’m fine! Et-to,If you’re fine with me, then go ahead and hold my hand all you like!”

What kind of reply is that, me.

At my wit’s end, I couldn’t help but answer with a strange reply.

However, when Rurune heard it, though her cheeks were still red, she started to laugh lightly.

At her sudden laughter, this time I started to blush, and the moment I noticed that I turned my face away, and started to move.

“H,Hora! If we keep standing here, won’t we cause trouble for others? Let’s check out a random stall”

“Okay!”

Somehow it took some time before we left, but we finally started walking.

Even though wandering around aimlessly can be enjoyable too, this time around, I decided to head towards the plaza with a large number of stalls.

I was also thinking that after that, I and Rurune could go to Noado-san’s cafe. That place has delicious tea and cake after all.

“Ah,Master! Please take a look at that!”

In the midst of our way to the plaza, Rurune suddenly stopped and pointed to something.

When I turned my gaze that direction.

“...Eating Competition?”

There was a big sign out at the front, showing that an Eating Competition was going to

happen soon.

Surprisingly, it just so happens that the diner over there was holding an Eating competition

When I took a look, it turned out the name of the diner was, [Full Stomach Diner] ... Well, its name doesn't really seem like it would be weird for it to host eating competitions.

I intended to go to a normal stall to eat, but such irregularities are also interesting.

And so, reading further on, I found out that the winner, of the eating competition, would not need to pay for the cost of the food they ate.

"Rurune, want to try participating?"

"Eh? But... Would that really be alright?"

"Oh. I can wait till later to eat. If Rurune wants to eat, then I'll follow you wherever you go."

"I, see... Well then..."

Rurune hesitated for a moment, before finally deciding to participate.

And so, I conveyed to the shop assistant that Rurune would be participating.

"A-no... Will that really be alright? There are many famous gluttons gathered here for the competition. And as there is no female division, she would have to participate with those guys..."

What the heck is Famous Gluttons?

And on top of that, it seems like this world is much bigger than I had first thought.

The shop assistant did warn us already, but Rurune went on without a care...

"I don't care! I will eat!"

It seems her mind has gone back to focusing on food. Rurune's back to her normal self

Rurune's extraordinary enthusiasm distracted the Assistant for a moment, but being a professional, he quickly allowed her to participate.

In the middle of the diner, there was a so-called "cheap-diner" feeling, with big round tables scattered all around, but besides those, there were also counter seats facing where the Owner was, Terrace seats, and so on.

Rurune was, heading to where the other participants were, so I looked around for a seat where I could clearly see Rurune, before I sat down.

When I did that, a sudden stream of black smoke flowed out from beside me.

Unconsciously turning my eyes to that direction, I saw a man clad in a tattered black robe take a seat beside me.

"Whoops, my bad, for the smoke. I had to get here quickly by all means..."

The person beside me had his whole form hidden by the robe, but from the cigarette in his mouth, the unshaven beard, and the deep voice, I could tell it was a man... Actually, it looks like this world also has cigarettes...

"Ah, No, It's fine"

"That so? I'm Grateful for that... Old man! Grab me an Ale! And you there, whaddya want?"

"My apologies for the smoke. Which drink?"

"There's no need! I didn't do anything, particularly amazing!"

"It's fine, lemme treat you! So? Whaddya want?"

"Ah— ... Et-to, If so then, maybe some kind of juice..."

"Aye, Old-Man, Get me a cup of the best juice you have too!"

If I remember correctly, isn't Ale a type of beer?

I feel like I saw something about the difference between the alcohol brewed with and without hops on TV back on Earth...

While I was thinking about such trivial matters, the man beside me had already gotten his mug of Ale, and had placed a cup of what seemed like orange juice in front of me.

The man downed his Ale in one gulp.

“Aah! Delicious!”

“Yes, it does taste great”

Mine was Orange juice instead of alcohol, but it was 100% pure juice, and I could taste the condensed flavours of the original fruit.

The man who was pleasantly drinking away suddenly talked to me.

“Still... This is a good country... Don't 'cha think so too?”

“Eh? Ah, Yes. That's true. I wasn't born here, but I still do think this is a good country”

“That's right... because of my work, I have to travel often, but this country really has been managed well, even the small villages... Speaking of management, even though it sounds like I'm talking bad about 'em, don't get my meaning wrong a'ight? They're properly looking after the country, and the Knight's order is always looking after the security of the surroundings, so if there's ever a situation when a village is under attack, they're ready to deploy to help out... And because the public projects are well planned, there are very few poor, and even for the few poor ones, are properly supported, so is this not truly the ideal country?”

“Is that so...”

“This country's King is really great. If it was any other country, then there would naturally be discrimination, and there's no way people could get along with peace of mind... Oh yeah, are ya an adventurer?”

“Et-to, Yeah”

“In that case, eventually you will probably leave this country but when doing jobs in another country you'd best not use this country as the standard. While this is a peaceful, valuable country, precisely because of that peace we don't have any sense of danger here.”

That's right... It would definitely be better not to take the Guild Headquarters in this town to be the standard for the other guild outposts. Actually, if even the other guilds are perverts, that would be really troubling. The ones in this town are more than enough.

"That's so isn't it, Thanks for the advice"

"Don't sweat it. Oh yeah, mind telling me ya name?"

"Ah, It's Seiichi"

"Seiichi, ain't that a good name. Judging from the sound, you're from the eastern countries? I'm... Surou. Well, us meeting here must be some kind of fate. It'd be great if we could meet up again next time... Old Man! I'm leaving the money here!"

Saying that, the man... Surou-san, with the smoke clinging to his body, left the diner.

"He's kind of a mysterious person huh..."

Somehow or rather, during the course of my conversation with Surou-san, the preparations for the Eating Competition were completed, and I could now hear the host's voice.

[We're back again! The famous Eating Competition hosted by [Full Stomach Diner] ! Let's get down to introducing the Competitors! First up is this town's number 1 Glutton! <<Hara • Hetta>>!]

(Note : Hara Hetta is used to indicate a person is hungry)

"Uooooo! I'm the real Glutton Master!"

The first contestant to be introduced was, while not to Gassur's extent, A muscle-bound man in a tank top... Actually, the heck is a Glutton Master? And so, his name is...

[Following that, from the Kaizer Empire, Glutton King! <<So Shaku>>!]

"It is I, who is the real Glutton Master!"

The next one to be introduced was a slightly past middle aged man with a military-like uniform, and a well-groomed handlebar moustache.

...Does this contestant's name come from the word [Chew] ?

[Next up is also from another country! The number 1 Gourmet Glutton of the Varusha Empire! <<Yoku Taberu>>!]

“Fufufu... Can you beat my stomach?”

The middle-aged man had a fearless smile on his face, his white hair neatly set, and his belly, showing his ability to eat, was wrapped in luxurious clothes.

...I don't even want to retort to this anymore, but his name comes from the phrase [I Eat A Lot] doesn't it?

That aside, that's the first time I've heard of that country

The Kaizer Empire isn't a place that I have particularly deep ties to, but from my talk with Surou-san earlier, even though it should be obvious, it reminded me once again that there were many other countries out there.

[Finally! The only female contestant this time! <<Rurune>>!]

“Introduction complete. Let us quickly commence the eating”

Rurune is really blunt, isn't she?

While I was admiring Rurune's current lack of tension in this situation, The host started to explain the rules of the Competition.

[Well then, I'll simply explain the rules of the competition. The rule is that the contestants have to eat what is put in front of them in turn, and the last one remaining will win. Of course, the type and amount of ingredients given to all will be the same! The winner this time will not only have what they've eaten be free of charge but will also be present with our prided <<Great Parfait>> as a reward!]

Ooh, there's even an extra dessert that wasn't written on the signboard.

[Now, let's bring up the first dish! The dish is... [Deer-Horse Steak] !]

It can't be that Deer-Horse!? Actually, wouldn't Rurune eating her own kind!?

While I was looking shocked, an overflowing lineup of delicious looking steaks are placed in front of the contestants

[Now is everyone ready? Well then... Start!]

The contestants simultaneously begin to bite into their stake with the host's signal.

Rurune, just like the other contestants, was eating the steak. Aah... Cannibalism...

As the contestants continue to consume the steaks, Hara Hetta's speed gradually began slowing down

"I, I give up... ! U-pu!"

Contestant Hara Hetta, dropped out.

Oi! That was just the first piece!? It's true that just from looking, you can tell the volume of the steak is large, but at least finish that one piece!

Hara Hetta, had only eaten up to half a piece of steak, and it was to the point where it made me doubt why he had even bothered appearing in this competition.

[Ot-to, there's already an early dropout! Well then, contestant Hara • Hetta, will have to pay for all the food prepared for this time, including the leftovers!]

When the host said that, a shop employee approached Hara • Hetta, and passed him a sheet of paper. That was probably the receipt.

The face of Hara • Hetta who had just received it looked as though he was about to cry... This instead only made me more interested as to the price written on it.

[Well then, it seems the other contestants have finished this dish! Let's keep up the pace and get to the next one!]

And so, as the dishes are carried over, the contestants finish them one after the other... Hara • Hetta, really isn't living up to his name, is he?

The second dish, third dish... on and on the dishes came until the second contestant finally dropped out.

“I... I can't anymore... !”

[Okay! Contestant So Shaku has given up! Well then, please pay the price!]

While he was still clutching his stomach, looking as though he was in pain, the assistant once again appeared, and handed him the receipt.

And then, the second person also cried out. What kind of money do they actually have to pay?

[Finally it's down to a one on one! Unexpectedly, the contestant Rurune who I never thought would have remained is still here!]

Like what the host said, if you were to look at Rurune normally, you would doubt that such a beautiful girl was such a glutton.

As for me who was sitting so close to her, rather than doubting her, I couldn't help but instead wonder how she could take in that much food.



[Now, right now it's down to a one versus one, and we have also reach our last prepared dish. But, the dish we have prepared is unlike any before it. Well then... Here it is!]

The moment the host announced that the assistant brought out a huge, 5-meter-tall, barbecued bird.

[And the final dish is, [Barbecued Soft and Flabby Bird] ! A dish worthy of the final fight]

The reactions they had when they saw the dish, were complete opposites.

“Ku... ! To think that a super heavyweight dish would have been prepared... !”

“Oooh! Is that not an appetising bird!”

Rurune gleefully bit into it, while Yoku Taberu tried his best to finish it, albeit slowly

However———.

Contestant Yoku Taberu, while holding his hands over his mouth, fell on the floor along with his chair.

[Ot-to! Contestant Yoku Taberu is down! That means to say that... What a turn of events! The winner... is today's sole female contestant, Rurune!]

I was shocked by the sudden, loud applause, and when I finally looked around me, I noticed I was surrounded by spectators ... I was so focused that i didn't even notice...

As for the winner herself, Rurune...

“Mu? Victor? Rather than that, are there any more dishes?”

Still wanted to continue eating. What exactly happens in that stomach of hers?

While still shocked, contestant Yoku Taberu stood with a pained look on his face, approaching the winner to give his blessings and applause.

“Fu... Fufufu... To think that one such as I would lose... and, to a cute lady like yourself...”

“That is merely because I find satisfaction in eating. Besides, when faced with food, it

doesn't matter whether a person is male or female”

“...Gender equality you say... I'd like to know one thing.What exactly are Meals to you, as a lady?”

To that philosophical question, Rurune didn't even take a moment to think, and replied

“The link between life and death.And also, History”

“...What does that mean?”

“Eating, is the process where one consume the lives of others in order to survive.If either oneself or others is missing,then the concept of [Meals] cannot exist.‡ And the only reason we are able to satisfy ourselves with so much food is thanks to the research into ‘Meals’ that our predecessors left us. We don't distinguish between male nor female, race nor religion, not even between God and humans when it comes to these. I believe that ‘meals’ are one of the few sanctuaries that not even God can infringe upon.”“

Deep. Too deep.

I would never have once thought that Rurune would have thought this deeply into what [Meals] are

Hearing Rurune's answer, contestant Yoku Taberu looked as though he was touched by something, and he had an expression of clarity on his face.

“I see... It seems that,I still have ways to go.I am thankful that I took the opportunity to leave my country, attend this competition, and to have learned of this lady's truths... ”

It seemed that the spectators to their conversation were deeply moved, and gave a warm round of applause.

It was then, a shop assistant appeared out of nowhere next to contestant Yoku Taberu's side, and handed him what seemed like a receipt.

All three of them had eyes like they were about to cry in despair.

The heck is this.

All I could do was stand there, astonished.

CHAPTER 60

DATE WITH RURUNE

~PLAZA~

After the eating competition, we once again headed off to the Plaza where all the stalls were gathered.

“I-ya, nevertheless, that Parfait was truly delicious!” (Rurune)

“T, That’s right” (Seichii)

Rurune had given me a share of the «Great Parfait» that only the winners could taste... In other words, in the form of a [Hai, Ahhhn]

(Note: Refers to the cliché scenes where girls spoon-feed their love interests with food)

While I was still bewildered by it, Rurune had a mysterious expression on her face, probably because I didn’t really understand her.

On top of that, because after she thrust the spoon into my mouth, she went on to use it to eat the parfait as though nothing was wrong, I felt really troubled. Is it just me who is concerned about the indirect kiss...? Actually, am I just too innocent? Well, other than that...

“Rurune, even though you just ate at the Eating Competition, are you still going to eat some more?” (Seichii)

“Eh? Why would I not be able to eat more?” (Rurune)

“Because you just ate a ton of food!?” (Seichii)

What is this girl saying!

“I’m seriously wondering if Rurune’s stomach leads to another dimension...” (Seichii)

“It’s not like that, Master. My stomach isn’t connected anywhere. Except, it just doesn’t have a bottom” (Rurune)

“That’s even more dangerous...!” (Seichii)

At least the idea of a black hole has some sort of charm!... No wait, it’s the same. Once I calmly thought about it, either way, it didn’t change that they were both dangerous. While we were having this conversation as we were strolling along, we arrived at our

destination, the Plaza.

“Arrival!” (Seichii)

“Waa! Look Master! There’s a stall selling large chunks of grilled meat! Ah,they even have a juice stall over there!” (Rurune)

At once, Rurune began scouring through the surrounding stalls, with a bright gleam in her eyes. She really likes eating, doesn’t she?

“There’s no need to worry about the cost, so feel free to buy whatever you want.We can eat it together.” (Seichii)

“Really!? If so then let’s buy up all the stalls in this Plaza!” (Rurune)

“Know your limits!” (Seichii)

In Rurune’s case, I have a feeling that she wasn’t joking, and meant what she said seriously... The fact that I have enough money to realise that is another thing though! The power of money is truly scary!

“If you haven’t decided on anything particular, then let’s just start from the front till the back, and try everything” (Seichii)

“That sounds good! Let’s go with that!” (Rurune)

Following the High-spirited Rurune, I headed to the front-most stall.

“Welcome! Our Hamburgers are delicious!”

“Old man! Two of those burgers please!” (Rurune)

“They’re serving Horse-Deer meat here too!?” (Seichii)

What a ridiculously versatile horse! It would really be a good horse if it weren’t for their head! While I was thinking about such things, the two of us began to eat the hamburgers that we bought as we walked on.

“This is my first time eating Horse-Deer Meat but... Is it any good?” (Seichii)

“It’s delicious. The hamburger that is.” (Rurune)

“You already ate it !?” (Seichii)

Turns out Rurune couldn’t just eat a lot, but could also eat fast too... When I bit into the Horse-Deer burger that we bought, the meat-juices inside overflowed out and mixed with the crisp lettuce, making it delicious. Horse-Deer meat is great.

“Master! Let’s eat over there next!”

“Alright,that stall it is”

The next stall we headed to was one that sold Yakisoba.

“If ya wanna taste the Yakisoba brought over by the Heros from the other world, then this is the only place!”

Judging from what he said in order to draw customers in to eat, it seems that this world doesn’t really have people selling Yakisoba. We bought 2 again and carried on eating as we walked. As expected, it didn’t quite taste like the Japanese Yakisoba, but at least it’s at a level where I could say it was delicious. Rurune was... I guess there’s no need to say After that, we earnest continued to eat the various foods that the stalls had to offer. Takoyaki, Kebabs, Yakitori, Popcorn... All of them were at a level that that wasn’t inferior to that of Earth’s, and I took my time to savour them all... A-re? I can understand Rurune, but aren’t I eating a lot too?..... It’s almost as if I didn’t have a stomach. And so, we finally arrived at the last stall. I saw a sign saying it was a crepe-stall, so it’s likely we’ll be eating crepes. However, as there was already a queue, and we were the last in line, it looked like it would take quite a while. When it was finally our turn when we wanted to order our crepes, it turned out that there was only one left, so we had to make do with only one, as we went towards a bench somewhere nearby to rest.

“How disappointing that there was only one left” (Seichii)

“A-no... Master? Is this really alright?” (Rurune)

“Eh? What is?” (Seichii)

“That... I should have the crepe... ” (Rurune)

“Don’t worry about it.I’ve already eaten quite a lot, and above all it makes me happy to see Rurune’s happy face as you eat delicious food” (Seichii)

“...Alright” (Rurune)

When I said that, Rurune blushed red, and had a small bite of the crepe. Still, what exactly is going on with my stomach?

Even though I ate so much, I don’t feel full, nor do I feel hungry either. At last, the physical phenomena that show off how much of a monster I am have begun to manifest! In the meantime, my need to go to the toilet has also ceased! Once again reminded of how my body changed, I couldn’t stop the tears flowing from my eyes.

“Ah... Master!” (Rurune)

When I heard her urgent call, I turned my gaze to Rurune's direction, and saw her pointing the crepe at me, her face completely red.

"H,How... about one bite...?" (Rurune)

Who are you? I don't know this girl. When I grasped her hand unconsciously earlier she had the same reaction but, it seems that I really don't fully understand her feelings. Even though she was treating the indirect kiss earlier at the diner so normally, she's acting so embarrassed now. Well, there is the possibility that Rurune simply didn't notice it back the diner though.

"N-No! Don't mind me!" (Seichii)

"Is it... no good? I just wanted us to be able to share the taste..." (Rurune)

That may be so, but as it'll be another indirect kiss, as a gentleman here I should refuse!

"...Itadakimasu" (Seichii)

Impossible Do you think I can refuse a request from someone with such a sad face? Do I look like such a courageous guy to you!? Fearfully, I bit into the crepe that Rurune held out. While it was the classic flavour of banana and chocolate, the thin crepe together with the chocolate, and banana all together was exquisite, and very delicious. After I took a bite,when Rurune was going to have another bite of her own, as if realising something, her face blushed red, and she finished the rest of the crepe in a hurry... Seeing that made even me feel embarrassed! Blushing unconsciously, Rurune covered her face with both of her hands, as she unintentionally murmurs

"For me, to experience such happiness... Is something that I would never have thought" (Rurune)

Turning my eyes to Rurune's face, I saw the expression of distress on her face that I had yet to have seen till this day.

"It is only thanks to Master that I now have this Human form.But, in reality, I should never have had the chance to experience the splendour that is human food, and spent my lifetime as a mere donkey." (Rurune)

"My mother once told me that I would never have the chance to form bonds with any of the mares that I might love, and I was told that I would spend my life being forced into toiling away for the Humans .However, from the knight she once served, the one who came to be known as the Hero of the donkeys [Rurunerion] , my mother decided

to give me the name [Rurune] based off that. In hopes that I would lead a similar fate in my lifetime” (Rurune)

“And then, I met Master, and since then every day has been fresh and fun... I had many of my [First Times] because of you.” (Rurune)

Saying that Rurune turned to face me, her smile filled with kindness – No, something more precious than that.

“My fate... Is with you, Master. The fact that I was able to meet you... gave me great joy. So thank you. For meeting me” (Rurune)

[For meeting me] is probably a strange reason to give thanks for, but it must have been very important to Rurune. However-----.

“Rurune. Would you say you’re happy right now?” (Seiichi)

“Y, Yes” (Rurune)

“That’s a mistake” (Seiichi)

Rurune’s eye shot wide open in shock at my words. Even though it was slightly embarrassing, I clearly told Rurune.

“Because, from now on, I’ll make you even happier” (Seichii)

“Not just me, but Saria and Al too. All the kind people around you will have you so happy that you’ll never say that you’re already happy right now” (Seichii)

Rurune said it was her destiny for her to meet me, but that’s the same for me too. It was by chance, that because I learnt how to communicate with demons and animals, and again, that I had not yet bought another Horse, that I was able to meet with her. I don’t know whether it was because my luck stat is high, but even so for us to meet, is a miracle that only happens once even amongst the many people. The phrase “once-in-a-lifetime encounter”, is exactly what it is, and I think our meeting is something I should treasure greatly.

“That’s why, I’ll be in your care from now on!” (Seichii)

“Tsu! Hai!” (Rurune)

Rurune answered me energetically, her face full of smiles. At that moment, the [Necklace on Endless Love] on my neck began to glow.

“This is...!” (Seichii)

When the light faded, in my hand, was another of the same necklace that I had on me... Hold on a second The [Necklace Of Endless Love]’s effect was to divide into the number of people who love each other but... Why did the number increase? Of course, if you were to ask me if I liked Rurune, I would be able to confidently answer that I liked her. But, that like is a different kind of like. Yeah, [Like]! No, come on, even if one is told [Can’t “Liking” mean both “Like” or “Love”?!], it cannot be helped... In the first place, this isn’t just about me. Rurune’s feeling is also related. How do I put this? I’m not hated... I think. I hope. I want to hope! However, I know nothing about this at all. It’s because I have no experience with girls! A Girl’s Heart has always been a mystery since the very start! Well, it can’t be helped that the number of necklaces has increased. That being said, I decided to hand the necklace over to Rurune.

“A-no... Master, this is? Saria-sama and the others wear these necklaces but... ” (Rurune)

“A-to... What would be a good way to say this... ” (Seichii)

It’s really embarrassing to explain what the necklace is. If she doesn’t understand it properly, it may end up making me look like a bastard after all! Then just don’t explain it! Well, I can’t actually do that, so I decided to just obediently tell her... I was still embarrassed though. Rurune, upon hearing my explanation ———.

“F-F-For mew and Master to be... Mutually in Love!? T-that’s not possible! I’m not a good match with Master, and in the first place I’m a Donkey!” (Rurune)

Rejected it with all her being, while her face was flushed red. While I don’t think that we don’t match, the issue about her being a donkey is not even a problem for me. After all, Saria is a Gorilla! Like it’ll matter at this point! Just that, going by Rurune’s denial, it could mean that the [Necklace of Endless Love]’s effect was rather broad. It said mutual love, but it might be just to the extent of having goodwill towards the other person... Are? I have a feeling that two aren’t all that different... In any case, I didn’t have a choice not to hand the created Necklace over to Rurune, so I did just that

“Well, it might be impossible that Rurune loves me, but please take it. It has all sorts of handy functions, and it doesn’t cause you any harm either” (Seichii)

“T-That... I, about Master... ” (Rurune)

Just when Rurune was about to say something, it looked like she immediately realised

something and fell silent. I wonder what happened? Because there was no other way, I just went up to Rurune to place the necklace on her myself.

“It’s something that I got coincidentally, but here’s a present from me” (Rurune)

While she was still gazing at the necklace in shock, her hands grasped the necklace gently, like it was something very precious to her. In the meanwhile, with a strangely awkward atmosphere around us, I brought Rurune to Noado-san’s [Cafe Akkoriente] and treated her to some delicious cake and tea. Once we started eating, the awkward atmosphere faded away, and it returned to normal but, the cake was so delicious that Rurune repeatedly ordered for more, to the point where I got to see the normally calm Noado-san in a state of surprise.

CHAPTER 61

DATE WITH ALTORIA ~THEATRE~

The day after my date with Rurune.

I had plans to go on a date with Al, and we decided to meet in front of the Inn.

.....A-re? Don't those words make me seem like a bad person? No, that really is the case isn't it!

Why would Al and Saria both fall in love with someone like me? Even though Al would be much better off dating with a more handsome guy. Saria... Is a gorilla though.

As I racked my brains trying to solve this nagging question, Al's voice sounded out from behind me.

"T-Thanks for waiting..."

"No, I didn't wait-----"

Just as I started to speak, I suddenly found myself at a loss for words.

And the reason for that, was that Al, who normally wore short sleeved shirts and short pants, was now dressed in a long skirt and a white parka.

Al wearing a different attire from usual didn't seem like the usual cool beauty, but now was extremely cute, further adding to her charm.

When Al realised I was staring at her in fascination her cheeks turned red and she shouted flustered.

"W-What... Do I look weird dressed like this!?"

"No way! How could I ever think you were weird? It really suits you. Just now, Was just... A-no... Al was just too cute so..."

My words ended up causing her face to turn even redder, as she turned to stare at the

ground

What's this!? I'm embarrassed! That was totally embarrassing though!?

It was certainly true that Al was really cute, and it goes without mention that I wanted to accurately express that with words but...

But I didn't think it'd be this embarrassing to do so!? Youngsters nowadays, can do such highly embarrassing things!? I can't really think of them as humans like me! Though I've already quit being a human!

"A-Anyways! L-Let's go"

"Y-Yeah!"

The mood had become awkward, but we started the date immediately.

But, before we walked more than a few steps from the Inn, Al called out again.

"Se, Seiichi!"

"Would it... be alright to... hold hands?"

I turned around to face her, only to see her as red as an octopus, her trembling reaching out towards me.

What should I do?

The sight of Al acting so cute has completely fried my brain.

I grasped Al's hand, in my half-dazed state.

"Tsu! Ha, Haha tsu"

When I did so, Al's face lit up with excitement... If holding hands makes you this happy, then you can hold as much as you want. Actually, should I just tear my arm off for you? Right now I feel like I could even grow my arm back even if I tore it off!... It'll be censored by a mosaic so let's not.

With that exchange, we once again started walking.

This time's date because when Rurune asked to have just the two of us walk around and eat, Al also asked for just the two of us to walk around and eat too, and that's already decided, but we also thought that we'd ought to go to various places other than just to eat.

But, since up till now in the Capital, we've only gone about the place we're familiar with everyday, I wanted to take this chance to explore fully.

"That's right, this reminds me that I, was the one who acted as an examiner for when all of you took the test to become Adventurers, and guided you around you though not very thoroughly. It's an odd thing, but this really reminds me of the past"

"Definitely..."

When me and Saria had just gone to that town, during the time when Al was assigned to us as our examiner and moved together with us, she showed us the Bellfille Religion's Church, so even though it was only just one building, she did guide us around.

"Do you remember? When we visited Adriana-san's house, you said the words [Noble's District]"

"A— ... I have a feeling that you really did say those words..."

"I didn't really talk about it in detail that time, but that town is actually separated into Districts. [Commerce District], [Leisure District], [Noble's District], [Residential District], The [Commerce District] is made up the various shops, The [Leisure District] consist of many recreational facilities, The [Noble's District] is where many of the aristocrats dwell, and it's close to the [Commerce District] and [Leisure District]. The [Residential District] is, well, you can probably understand even without my explanation. In any case, this is the centre of the [Districts], where the Capital and Plaza are."

What should I do. I had no idea at all.

A-re!? Even though I haven't been here for long, why are there so many things I don't know about!? On top of that, isn't the separation of the districts is something that I could have learnt about early on!? I'm too outdated!

"By the way, both the Guild and the Inn we're staying at are in the [Commerce District] so, basically Seiichi's activities have been around the [Commerce District]'s Plaza, and

the Capital”

A country’s capital couldn’t possibly be so small. If I’d thought about it carefully I’d have realised

I had nothing to say in front of the truth that I had just realised.

“Well in any case, the place I’m bringing Seiichi to today , is the [Leisure District]“

“I see... ”

The Leisure District seems to be the spot to go to have fun, so it may be a good idea to go there.

I’m also interested in what kind of place the Leisure District is.

While I was alone in my sea of thoughts, Al led me by the hand.

“C’mon! Don’t just stand there in a daze, let’s get going!”

“O, Oi! I’ll move so stop pulling me!”

And so I left, like I was being dragged away by Al.

“This is the [Leisure District]!”

“Oooh!”

Lead by Al, I’ve come to the place called the Leisure District, and there I could see a scene different from the Capital, and I could feel it’s bright yet unique atmosphere.

“Seiichi might not know, but there’s a famous theatre in this Capital”

“Is that so?”

“Ou. It holds a show everyday, so I thought I would come and watch it with Seiichi today”

“But doesn’t that require you to buy a ticket the day before?”

When I said that, Al pulled out 2 straight pieces of paper

“The ticket for today’s performance, for two.”

It seems that for today’s date, Al likely went off to buy the tickets during the time I spent outside with Rurune yesterday.

...I’m really pathetic, aren’t I...

No matter how many amazing powers I obtain, I’m totally useless when it comes to these kinds of things... I feel even more miserable after saying that

“I-Is that so. Well then, could you guide me to the place?”

“Ou! Leave it to me!”

Al-san. Forget about me, you’re way more manly.

With the enthusiastic Al strolling on one side, and the gloomy me dragging my feet beside her, we were quite a strange combination as we headed to the theatre.

After a while, my emotions began to calm down, giving me the chance to look at my surroundings, where the lively atmosphere cheered my up again.

“Ah! What’s that!?”

On our way there, on the street side, there was a clown, with seven balls of fire floating in the air above him.

Furthermore, the balls of fire were gradually fusing together, and at the end when it turned into a large fireball, when the clown blew onto it, the beautiful multi-coloured spark fizzled into nothingness.

“Ah, it’s pretty common to see street performance in the Leisure District”

“It’s not at the level of a mere street performance though!?”

It’s only possible to perform such tricks because of magic but, it is really alright to just group this under street performances? Even though I even felt a moment of artistry from them...

Well, either ways, I can't possibly do-----.

[Skill [Street Performance] acquired]

"Nn? What happened? Seiichi. You have a really miserable look on your face you know?"

"...Un... No problems here..."

Pulling myself together, and advancing onwards, this time was the beautiful sound of a lady's singing voice ringing through the air, coming from the street side.

The song was really fun and catchy, matching the atmosphere of the Leisure District.

"Somehow this song makes me feel better!"

Said Al, her face all smiles.

Thanks to the song, I was able to enjoy, this side of Al-----.

[Skill [Singing] acquired]

My feelings were ruined instantly.

Behind the singing lady, there was a group of people cheerily playing their instruments

Ah... Their music really has the power to warm people's hearts, even my restless heart was quietened in a moment-----.

[Skill [Performance] acquired]

Or not. In fact, it just got worse.

Please, anyone is fine, please just do something about this body!?! The guilt I felt from snatching away the results of someone's hard work is nothing small.

In just a few metres, I've already acquired 3 skills! I'm so sorry!

Depressed over the things only I knew, I was trudging along, when suddenly a woman in a risqué dress called out to me.

“The Onii-san over there, why not come over to my store? I’ll give you lots of service alright?”

“Of course. Do you see anyone else around?”

What is this? An invitation to a store full of beautiful Onee-sans?

Due to my inexperience with these sorts of things, I couldn’t hide my embarrassment at all, and the girl took the opportunity to grab my arm.

“It’s fine isn’t it? So let’s go”

“Eh, Ah, No, That...”

I-It’s striking straight at my heart! Could this be what is called an Adult’s Charm!? It’s still too early for me! On top on that, I’m still a minor!

“T-That person is... M-My Boyfriend! Get your hands away from him!”

Al, as if to compete with the girl, grabbed my other hand and pulled it into her chest.

T-There’s a soft sensation there too... !

Because of what Al did, my face flushed red. Even more so than a boiled octopus.

My face turning red, I could only stay frozen in place. Seeing that, the woman whose eyes had opened in shock at Al’s actions left, giggling to herself.

“A-ra, I’m sorry~. If you have a girlfriend, then it can’t be helped~. Don’t worry, I won’t do anything anymore~”

Saying that, the girl left in front of us.

“The Leisure District, is really mature huh”

“What are you even saying...”

Replied Al wearily, after hearing what I said.

And then, she turned her eyes up to me in a glare.

“E-Even though you have me, for you to follow her is... something that I won’t allow got it!?”

Why is this person so cute?

Even though she doesn’t speak fondly of me, each and every one of Al’s action carry her care for me.

“It’s fine... well, even if I said that, you still probably won’t believe me, but as long as I have you all, that’s enough for me.”

Even though it can’t really be helped, that I couldn’t say that [Just] Al was enough, I can’t help but feel that my current situation was really pathetic.

In the end, even though my physical body has evolved, what’s on the inside hasn’t matured at all...

[Skill [Seduction] acquired]

Once again, my body has evolved in a strange way that only it does.

That aside, in the end Al lead me over to our destination not hand in hand, but arm in arm.

The theatre we arrived at was one that looked like a shrine from the outside, and I could feel the solemn and noble atmosphere from it.

As we went towards the entrance, there was an official there, so we had to hand over our tickets before we went in.

When I entered the theatre, I was struck speechless by its magnificence

A pale orange light shone from the unbelievably expensive-looking chandelier on the ceiling, and that very ceiling had the images of various people and plants painted onto it by famous artists.

A large flight of stairs was positioned in the centre, flanked by large support pillars adorned by gold and silver ornaments.

Looking around, I saw ladies and gentlemen in well-set clothes everywhere, with

dignified smiles and their faces as they chatted.

What should I do? I feel so out of place here.

“Et-to... Al-san? Aren’t we a little out of place here... After all, I even have my hood on...”

“A-nn? Don’t worry about it. You can only see nobles right now, but normal people also come to see the performances. Besides, this isn’t as strict of a theatre as it seems, so just the bare minimum amount of clothing is fine”

“I don’t see that “minimum amount” anywhere around though!?! And who would wear a hood and come!?! Only me!”

“Let’s say that it’s fine alright to take it off, but even if you don’t take it off, none of this country’s nobles will take offense to something so trivial... so if you feel so bothered that you must take off the hood, it’s fine to do that...”

Somehow, when Al said that, it sounded like she didn’t really want me to take off my hood

...Well, if you say it’s fine then alright, plus I’m also grateful not to have to take the trouble to take each piece off...

“Then let’s not bother about the clothes anymore... It’s troublesome to take it off anyways...”

“That so? Then, let’s quickly head towards our seats!”

Walking up the grand staircase in the hall, and down a lengthy aisle, we reached our seats on the second floor.

Looking at the seats that Al picked out, even a first-time viewer like me could tell that these were good seats to view the performance from.

The drink and snacks like popcorn which are normally sold in cinemas on Earth were not available here

“That reminds me, what play are we watching today?”

Suddenly realising that I didn't know what today's programme was, I asked Al.

"Nn? Today's play is called... [Little Mermaid], and is supposed to be a play brought by Heros from the other world."

Show a little restraint, Heroes. I'm not really one to talk though.

Still, I never thought that one of the familiar stories from Earth would be brought over to this world. Well, I haven't exactly seen Little Mermaid as a play though. But, I do know the story very so...

But the most important thing is that the fact that Earth's plays are being performed here, just goes to show how well written Earth's famous stories are.

I spent the few moments lefts having a nice chat with Al, before finally the show began.

All the lights in the hall went out, leaving only the stage full lit.

From then on, I honestly just kept being impressed.

Unlike on Earth, the actors playing the roles in the Little Mermaid were genuine water-users, and even real mermaids.

Besides, all the males and females acting were all good looking, and they used their amazing acting abilities to draw the audience into the story.

It seemed like they were really going all out using their water magic, but at the scene where the Ship the prince was riding on met with the storm, they had a real ship floating in the air get tossed about, and the sight left me wide-eyed in shock.

All of this, were things that could not happen on Earth, creating a play that could only happen because it was in another world.

Of course, in term of the stage equipment, and detailed things, Earth might have an advantage in term of its technological advancement, but such things did not matter at all as they were solved using Magic. Science is no longer alive here.

Ever since the start of the movie, I was continually moved by the play, but even more so when the [Little Mermaid] finished with a happy end.

Disney's [Little • Mermaid] also had a happy end, but unlike that, it didn't have an epic adventure, and yet it was still a nice story that where the two of them get married in the end.

By the end of the movie, the combination of its brilliant actors, well directed used of magic, and moving story had left me crying unknowingly.

"I-It was... a good story..."

"Haha. Was it so good that you cried?"

In spite of seeing me, a man, crying like a bumbling fool, Al's gaze at me was warm, and not at all condescending.

No, sometimes my body just gets rid of its waste like this!... That's a bad excuse isn't it.

But, rather than crying because of sad things, it's better to cry because of something that touched you. Lately, because of my body rapidly growing in weird ways, I've been unable to stop crying!

To finally put that aside, and actually talk about heart-warming makes me feel glad!

[Skill [Acting] acquired]

NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

Even though I felt so inspired a moment ago, it was changed to sorrow in a mere moment.

Is my body actually trying to bully my mind!? What if, my body is sick and tired of me? Even though I trusted you... My body!

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that I've stolen away all of my body's human rights.

"Hey, besides the [Little Mermaid] today, are there any other plays?"

"Of course. There's, [Cinderella] and [Snow White] for example..."

No, seriously, control yourselves Heroes. How far did you intend on spread Earth's

culture.

Since it's being spread by the hero from the country overflowing with subculture, Japan, it seems like eventually even manga and anime will be developed here. It's kind of scary to think about

“What I just named, just like the [Little Mermaid] that we watched today, are stories that have been brought over to this world by the Heroes, but this world also has its own self-produced works that are currently being performed, like [Wife and Lover~A Mad Love Story~] and [A Paramour's Activities] “

Couldn't you have made a better story!? Isn't the title horrible!?

On the other hand I'd like to find out what kind of contents they hold though!

I thought that this place was one that accurately turned Earth's stories into great plays. What is this [A Paramour's Activities]. What kind of play would that be to use magic in it.

This world was, more so than my body, going above and beyond my imagination.

“Well whatever. Let's come over some other day, and see a different show.”

Honestly telling Al that I thought today's play was good, for a moment her eyes were wide open, as she nodded happily.

And so, after that Al and I had lunch together, and our date ended as we returned to the Inn.

CHAPTER 62

DATE WITH SARIA AND OLGA ~ ORPHANAGE~

“Seiichi! Let’s go out together with Olga-chan today!”

The next morning, when Saria told me that, I couldn’t help but react like a dunce

“Why would you want that so suddenly?”

“Because, I feel sorry for Olga-chan, having to look after the house all the time! That’s why, rather than just the two of us, I want Olga-chan to come along too!”

When Saria said that, I finally realised that I hadn’t considered the feelings of Olga-chan, who was made to stay home all alone.

Even though I said we would be together, look what a pathetic statement it turned out to be...

Of course, we do have meals together, but even then, the time I spend with her is lacking.

At my irresponsible and fleeting words, I fell into self-loathing.

Unlike someone like me, Saria is properly paying attention to people around her.

However, if I just sit here forever wallowing in regret, then, in the end, nothing will change

I couldn’t get rid of my self-loathing, but even if I had to force myself, I had to think about the future, and so I told Saria.

“That’s right... Okay! Well then, let’s go with the three of us this time!”

I can regret that later. Right now, stopping Olga-chan from feeling lonely is the most important thing.

Like that, after we invited Olga-chan along, the three of us left the Inn.

Today, at Saria's suggestion, we've decided to go see everyone at the Orphanage.

As I had never visited the Orphanage's Children, I thought that this was just the right time, and above all, there were plenty of children that were Olga-chan's age.

"...Going out with Saria-Oneechan and the others. Fun"

"Really? I'm glad!"

Beside me, Olga-chan and Saria were getting along really well and holding hands as they walked.

Saria was in her usual dress, but Olga-chan was not in the Shinobi-like attire that she had the first time we met, but rather a cute one piece with floral patterns. Those were clothes that I had asked Al to purchase for her.

Saria was grinning from ear to ear, and Olga-chan was expressionless, but her eyes were sparkling.



When I was feeling happy staring at the two of them like that, Olga-chan turned her face up to look at me.

“...Seiichi-Oniichan”

“Nnn? What’s up?”

Only saying that Olga-chan held out her other hand to me.

As expected, even someone as dense as me can tell what Olga-chan’s intentions were, so I amenably grasped her hand.

“...Nn. Everyone together. Happy”

For the first time, though slight as it might be, a smile appeared on Olga-chan’s face.

As we walked on while the uplifting conversation continued, I suddenly noticed something.

.....Looking at it closely, isn’t this just like a family?

N-No, technically Saria and I are something that’s like being engaged? And Olga-chan is like a younger sister to me, so in a way, it is like family, but...

But, with Olga-chan in the middle, and all three of us happily chatting as we walked along, it can hardly be seen as anything but a family!

Except, only if I were to take off my hood as to not look like a pervert that is!

Realising that, I was feeling all embarrassed by myself when suddenly I realised.

...If, Saria and I were to be married, and gave birth to a child... what kind of child would they be?

As we walked, I began to imagine how the child would look like.

If it were a boy, then his arms and chest would be like Saria’s, and his face... yeah, he would probably resemble Saria’s too.

His mouth would have large tusks poking out and... he’d probably be born yelling

[Uho!]

I couldn't imagine anything other than a gorilla being born.

N-No, wait! If I unconsciously imagine the boy to be a bulky gorilla, then if a girl were to be born, then she should have Saria's beautiful human appearance!

Yeah, yeah, with muscles that look like they're about to burst, with biceps even more defined than mountains. And her face would be just like Saria's, obvious with two tusks jutting out from the sides of her mouth... she'd probably be born yelling [Uho!]

No matter how hard I try, I can't help but imagine that the child born would be a gorilla.

How!? Why!? My imagination is normally so lacking, so why is it so active this time!?

Is it even possible for a child to be born similar to Saria's human form!? No, I mean she's was originally a gorilla but... actually, she's a magical beast, isn't she!

On top of that, if you were to combined the genes of a Kaizer Kong, and I who had already stopped being human, what exactly would be born? An evil god? Oh... Cthulhu!

In the first place, is it even possible for a child to be born of a magical beast and a human? I haven't personally encountered it before, but it's often written in stories that goblins would have children with females of other races...

I've never taken biology before, so there's no way I could ever know no matter how hard I think about it though!

"...?... Seiichi Onii-chan, what's wrong?"

"...Somehow, you have a tired look"

"Is, Is that so? It's just your imagination, your imagination! Haha, Hahahaha"

I don't really want Olga-chan to be worried about me, and the main reason why I look so tired is that of my own nonsensical delusions, so it was fine not to have them worry about me.

Once again the mood calmed down, and we reached the Orphanage.

Immediately, we went in to seeing how the children were doing and———.

“Haaa, Haa... T-That unripe body... J-Just unbearable! No, but, the boy who has recently grown little looks delicious too... however, I will never touch them! I will only admire with my eyes! For that is what a gentleman———”

“Who’s that!”

“I’ve been expos-!?”

“Seiichi!?”

I sent the man conducting himself suspicious in front of me a dropkick with all my strength.

“What!? W, What have I... Ku! It seems I have finally killed someone... !”

“Hahahahaha! A gentleman would hardly die of something of this extent! Glaargh!”

What should I even say?

Taking the strike from me, who has an offensive power that even the world fears, the pervert in front of my eyes was in tatters but was still somehow alive... He’s vomiting blood though.

Well, my skill [Endless Hell] probably activated unconsciously. Even so, he still has abnormally durable...

I stared at the middle-aged man who, despite having wounds all over, still had his smile.

——— [Protector of Lolis] Walter • Berat

During the invasion of the demons, he had used his elegant sword techniques to cut down the demons one after the other, but not even a trace of that he was here. All that could be seen was just a pervert.

“Well then... you were... If I’m not wrong, you are Seiichi-kun and Saria-kun right?”

For some reason, the Walter who seemingly recovered in an instant introduced himself to us with a dandy/genuinely gentlemanly-like smile.

“This is the first time I have properly introduced myself. I am, Walter • Bratt. As you may know, I am currently in a party and performing tasks with Slan-shi, “

“Ha... a, sorry, I unconsciously just attacked you... ”

“Ot-to, your apology was unnecessary. You were in the right. Well, I was to the right as well though!”

“That’s wrong”

There’s no way it’s alright to start panting in excitement at the sight of small children.

In contrast to me who took up the chance to retort, Walter-san once again had a mature smile on his face, but before I knew it, he had noticed the figure of Olga-chan behind me, and his eyes turned bloodshot.

“T, This is... !?”

“A, A-no... Walter-san? Your eyes are scary... ”

“Whaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaat an Angeeeeeeeeeeeel! Please, stay by my side! No, Marry me! No No, even a manservant is fine so———Buhea!?”

I swung my fist down onto Walter-san’s head as hard as I could.

Then, Walter-san immediately sank down into the earth feet first, such that nothing below his waist could be seen, transforming him into a pitiful object

“Olga-chan, are you alright?”

“...T, That man... was scary... ”

Olga-chan looked as though she was completely spooked, clinging onto me with teary eyes.

I hugged Olga-chan, stroking her head as I told her that it was alright.

“Everything will be okay. Onii-chan will send him flying off no matter how many times —”

“No! No matter how many times I am defeat, I will not lose heart!”

“Soldier-san, please arrest this man”

“Nooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!?”

I reported the situation to a nearby soldier who just so happened to be on patrol, and with a silent nod, he tied up Walter-san.

“N-Not like this! I... I! Still want to admire little girls moooooooooooooooooooore!”

“Shut up, pervert!”

Bothered by the rope wound around him, Walter-san’s sorrow hung in the air around him as the soldier dragged him away. Actually, to think that Walter-san would be dragged away even without much of an explanation... just like that exhibitionist, they’re most likely repeat offenders.

I turned to face the Saria who was completely dumbfounded.

“Come on, since the perverted nuisance is gone, let’s hurry and go”

Finally entering the Orphanage safely, the sight of the Director, Claire-san, playing with the children, entered my view.

Though Clare-san had a shocked expression for a moment when she noticed us, it quickly turned into a smile.

“Ara! Isn’t it Saria-chan!, And it’s been a long time Seiichi-san!”

“Hello—!”

“It’s been a while. Glad to see that you’re fine”

“Why, thank you”

Truly, the first time I met Clare-san was when I first when to be an adventurer, so it has been a long time since we’ve last met.

“Ara? And who might be hiding behind Seiichi-san’s back?”

“Ah, this child is, for certain reasons she’s become my sibling of sorts? Well in any case, this is Olga-chan who’s become part of my family”

“...Hello”

From behind me, Olga-chan pokes her head just a bit out as she said that, making me really want to just shelter her.

When Olga-chan’s gaze returned from the ground, back to Claire-san, for some reason Claire turned to look at the ground.

“A-no... Claire-san?”

“—do it”

“An Angel equal to Saria-chan has cooooooome!”

Claire-san, loudly yelled.

“What is this!? Are you trying to kill me!? To think that there was such an adorable child in existence...!”

“Right—? Olga-chan, is really cute—”

“...Saria Onee-chan, embarrassing... ”

Saria, completely ignoring Claire-san’s eccentric behaviour, hugged Olga-chan.

“I can’t resist it... ! Where is the magic camera!? I can’t let the sight of these two angels go unrecorded can I !?”

“A-no... Claire-san?”

“Seiichi-san shut up!”

“So Cruel!?”

Haha... I’m any case, I’m just a nuisance aren’t I...

Even though I’ve gotten thinner after evolving, The fact that I’m plain and gross hasn’t

changed...

As Claire-san carried on taking pictures of Saria and Olga-chan with tears of joy, I simply silently sobbed in a corner.

Once Claire-san recovered from her fever like state, she apologised countless times, and we finally got to the main objective of playing with the kids... It's fine either way. After all, I'm just a...

But forget my inconsequential feelings, Olga-chan was quite bewildered meeting other children of her age for the first time, but because all the kids at the orphanage were good children, they immediately welcomed Olga-chan in as a friend.

Saria and I had joined in to play with the children earlier, but now the two of us were just watching Olga-chan and the others play.

“Olga-chan, looks like she has fun—”

While I'm not Claire-san, it really does feel like Saria, currently grinning ear to ear in a display of her enjoyment, is a real angel. Or so I delude myself. She isn't really an angel, she's a gorilla

And so, once again I have felt Saria's greatness.

She was the textbook copy of a mother or older sister, taking care of the children.

No matter which child it was, Saria treated them with a face full of affection, as though she was enjoying it as well. Claire-san who was looking at the scene, had her nose spluttering out blood, and was taking photographs though.

Even though I might beat Saria regarding status, I felt that as a whole person, I would never be able to beat her.

It's the same even with Olga-chan earlier.

Unlike me, who could only focus on one thing, Saria was able to carefully observe those around her, so she's really wasted on someone like me

And so, I told her what I genuinely thought.

“Saira”

“Thank you”

“Thank you, for liking someone like me”

“I, really love you too”

Hearing my words, Saria looked shocked for a moment, but after that, her expression softened to a smile, with tears in her eyes.

“You’re Welcome!”

To an outsider, it might look like a weird conversation, but to us, it was a very important one.

“A-no—! Seiichi Onii-chan made Saria Onee-chan cry—!”

“That’s bad—!”

“Wha っ! T, This is different!?”

Noticing Saria’s tears, the children decided to use that to tease me.

As I ran after them trying to explain the misunderstanding, the children laughed as they ran away, and when I finally realised why the reason for me chasing them changed.

“The atmosphere around them and the way they converse is completely like that of a couple that has been married for many years...”

The muttering of Claire-san who had coincidentally heard of conversation was something that I would never notice.

CHAPTER 63

DEVIL'S RELIGION

“Louise • Baruze, has now returned. Shishou”

“A-no--... Louise-san? Why did you come to the inn solely to report that?”

“That is because you are my Shishou, I should report to you before His Majesty... ”

“That sequence is totally wrong”

By the way, Saria and the others have already returned to their rooms.

“What? What is Louise’s Shishou?”

“The one absolute being”

“Scary!?”

What kind of existence is more important than the King!? A God!?

“It’s Shishou”

“Please don’t read my mind!?”

For some reason, there have been many cases of my mind being read.

“Well whatever. Above all, it’s great that you were able to return unharmed”

“My thanks. During this round campaign, keeping Shishou’s teachings in mind while I fought, has allowed me to become one of the <<Transcendents>> like Barna-san”

“How are you able to so calmly say something so outrageous!”

It seems that somehow or other, Louise has, much like Barna-san, broken through the highest possible level for humans... 500. It really makes me feel like everyone around me is monstrously powerful. Even though I’m probably the most monstrous.

“In any case, thanks to Shishou’s presence in Terveil, I was able to fully focus on suppressing the demons.”

“I see... Well, if someone like me was of help, then that’s great”

“That... Ah, that reminds me, the Capital was under the threat of a Demon invasion, but Shishou annihilated them right? Splendid work”

“A-re!? You weren’t asking me if I did that, instead concluding that it was me!?”

“Was I wrong?”

“...you’re correct”

Though I didn’t want to recognise the fact, I had no choice but to do so.

“Well, in that case I will be going to inform His Majesty of my return”

“The order of events is really messed up but... Got it. I have some business with Barna-san, so I’ll head to the castle after I call Saria and the others out.”

“I see. Well, I shall see you later then”

And like that, I bid farewell to Louise who had recently returned safely, and for the sake of meeting Barna-san later, I went off to call Saria and the others.

In a dark cave, a single man advanced further into its depths.

Even with the torches on the walls, it was hard to see one’s feet, yet despite that the man’s steps were not affected. It just went to show how familiar he was with the cave’s interior

Before long, he reached the inner part, where a space as large as a ballroom was.

At the centre of that space, was eerie altar made of stone.

Even though to normal people this would be considered and ominous place, to the man it was a place of comfort.

“Oi, Kuraisu~! What’s with that stinking smile on ya face?”

Suddenly, from above the man———Kuraisu's head, a voice called out.

"Nnfu-- ... It's Lester"

"Giyahahahaha! Long time no see!"

And then, the person who had called from above appeared in front of Kuraisu's eyes.

It had ruffled dark red hair, and its reptilian-like eyes were so large it felt like it should have been accompanied by *GYORORI* sounds

(Note : *GYORORI* is the japanese onomatopoeia for the sound of googly eyes)

It was dressed plainly in a short black jack, and light-brown pants. Its tendency to hunch its back, and lick its lips made it look quite eerie.

As there was no sign of it falling down to the ground from above, Kuraisu still could not figure out how it had appeared before his eyes.

...This weird guy...

Despite his thoughts, Kuraisu still felt that he was still a reliable ally to have around, and that the superficial man in front of his eyes... Lester was someone that he was quite pleased with.

"You pig who piles on failure after failure, what could you possibly want coming to me now?"

While I was talking with Lester, once again a new voice asserted itself into the conversation.

"Nnfu... Angelia..."

In the direction where Kuraisu turned his annoyed gaze to, stood a woman with a wide brimmed hat, clad in a gorgeous monochrome gothic dress, and a parasol in her hand that was a similar black to her dress.

On top of that, half of her face was covered with a white mask

"Unsightly, is it not? In spite of that confidence that your plan was so elaborate that it

would not fail... Well? How does the disappointment of failure feel?"

"Nnfu--Nnfu--!"

Kuraisu's face flashed red in anger, but as what she had said was fact, there was little he could retort to.

"Kuraisu. You're too half-hearted. Kill, Kill, Kill... and Kill. Rather than relying on something like demons, would you not find more pleasure in stealing away their lives with your hands?"

"Giyahahahaha! Angelia's line of thought is the same as ever! But I'm only here for the sake of reviving the Demon God!"

"A-re, have you done anything Lester?"

"Ou! I swapped the position of the male and female public toilets!"

"So insignificant!? Was there no way to create even more despair!?"

Kuraisu retorted reflexively to what Lester said.

But Angelia was different, instead shuddering where she stood.

"If a man were to think they were entering the male toilet, but instead enter the female toilet... then that man, would be treated as a pervert... Lester... What a terrifying child!"

"Nnfu--! Angelia too, get a hold of yourself!"

"Oi Oi, No need to be so angry right? Ain' it like that saying? [Even if it's garbage, when stacked together it can reach the Gods]!"

"Don't say that!? Your blasphemer!"

The mood in that space was more peaceful than it was eerie, when suddenly above the altar, a purple flame was lit.

When the three of them saw the flame, they hurriedly rushed under the altar, and bowed their heads.

When they did so, a mysterious voice that did not sound like any human was heard.

[Is my revival still yet to be? My dear [disciples]]

When he heard that voice, Kuraisu was both trembling and delight, and greatly irritated at his inability to revive his master.

“Nnfu! M-My apologies! Right now, us disciples are scattered about the world, in the process of gathering the despair that is needed for the Demon God’s revival... !”

Saying that, Kuraisu bowed down so low his head was touching the ground.

Then, the purple flame spoke again.

[Good. I, trust you disciples. Moreover, before I have yet to revive, I have the need to gain the power to slaughter the [Other Gods of This World]]

“That is...”

[Just how many years have I been sealed in this ground I wonder... Those Gods that exiled me, in fear of my revival, has long abandoned the management of this star. But, that allowed me to gather my power, in order for my revival! Those foolish Gods, far from just letting me revive, will have their very existence consigned into the depths of oblivion. That is why, I will once again remind them of my power, and let them learn that there only needs to be one [God] !]

As it’s words continued, the flame also burned more intensely

The three people could only stare at it’s form, entranced.

[Well now, my dear disciple. I am Despair. Death. Offer me chaos. All the [Darkness] , shall become my flesh, and lead to my revival———]

“““Yes! All is for the sake of the Demon God... !”““

The purple flame then vanished from that place.

But even so, the three of them were unable to move from their spot for a while after that.

And, when they could finally move again, the determination that could be seen in their eyes was even stronger than before.

“Nihi Nihi Nihi. In order for the Demon God’s revival, even more despair is needed...”

“Even if ya say that, it ain’t any different from what we’ve done til now right?”

“Nnfu... No, if it was just despair, then killing them would be fine. But, in order to create greater despair, there is no choice but to crush their very hopes in front of their eyes.”

“I see! Then, when people go to public toilets to poop, it’ll be fine if I just lock all of the doors as if there were already people inside!?”

“Like I said, why are all your plans so insignificant!”

“Is that bad? I think they’ll feel despair though... when their stomach hurts, and arrive in desperation only to find all the cubicles have people inside! Well? Hopeless ain’t it?”

“No, that’s right but...”

While Kuraisu and Lester were having their meaningless conversation, Angelia was thinking of all the disciples scattered about the world.

And then, among them, when she tried to remember a place where disciples were collecting especially large amounts of despair, she recalled one location.

“That is right...”

“Nnfu--? What’s wrong?”

“I , feel that gathering despair separately, is a mistake. Kuraisu was more or less prepared to cooperate with others, but that’s not enough. From the start to the end, if two people cooperate in their gathering, then they would likely be able to collect despair more reliably”

“Nnfu-- ... that’s fine and all, but so what?”

“Kuraisu. Do you, remember where Demiolos is situated?”

“Demiolos?... Don’t tell me it’s!?”

Remembering the person that Angelia mentioned, Kuraisu started to smile creepily.

Urged on by that smile, Angelia also had a bewitching smile on her face.

“That is correct———nearby the[Barbador Magic Academy]”

——— [Devil’s Religion] .

That was the organisation that those in at the top who called [Discples] were affiliated to, and it’s role was to gather Despair from around the world in order for the Demon God’s Revival



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