

異世界  
迷宮で

8

レベル  
を



異世界  
迷宮で

8

ゲームを

Isekai meikyuu de dorei harem wo

(異世界迷宮で奴隷ハーレムを)

Slave harem in the labyrinth of the other world

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Story Description:

A man was about to commit suicide and decides to search for a way to die in the internet, but then he found an odd site that asked a lot of questions and had a point based system that allows you to create skills and abilities for a character. He took interest in it and when he finished setting his character he was asked "You will now be transported to a world with the settings you choose, coming back is not possible, do you still accept", Then without thinking much of it he pressed YES and he find himself in another world with the skills and abilities he choose to have.

Original Story can be found here: [Link](#)

Transation source can be found here: [Link](#)

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## Chapter 197 : Deceptive Methods

\*

“You received an area attack magic, do you believe that you can handle one on a higher floor?”

“Y-yes. I will be fine. I need to work hard in order to reach the point where I can be even slightly helpful.”

Rutina got back on her feet and acknowledged moving to a higher floor. That's some recovery power she had. Quite strong.

“Seems like we still have some time too.”

“Yes. We still have a little time till noon.”

After confirming it with Roxanne, we don't have a problem with time. It is necessary to buy essential items for Rutina today, but it's hot during the day.

It would be nice in the evening where it's slightly cooler

Perhaps, the shop would be crowded if everyone is thinking the same? Should I do it during the day under the hot weather when there is less people?

“Is it fine shopping in the evening? Or, Should we finish it early?”

“Let me see. It's better to change our clothes early and fight diligently in the labyrinth.”

I received a Spartan answer when I consulted Roxanne. Defeating a demon bare-handed has already been done by Roxanne and the others.

Roxanne understands it very well that I plan to let Rutina do it as well. Is this what they call striking while the iron is hot?

The problem is, will we be able to finish shopping on time!? Rather, isn't it better to go when it's sunset? Specially for my waiting time.

Oh well, I may let them do shopping occasionally with all their hearts. When the time is up, it is up.

“How about observing the 26th floor for a little, then head to shopping?”

“Understood.”

“Once we go to the 26th floor, a place with a lot of monsters is good.”

“Yes.”

We move to the 26th floor.

Sherry explains the Cape Carp to Rutina.

I am glad that it was Cape Carp after all.

It wasn't necessary to explain it to Sherry.

We fight against the Cape Carp as the main monster several times. My thunder magic played a large role in the fights.

There is no need to receive Area attack magic again, since we already received it.

It is better if the monsters stop moving by using Thunder magic.

One after the other the monsters became paralyzed.

I defeated the monsters with Thunder Magic.

Oh~ Shit.

Rutina didn't use magic, but the number of Thunder Magic needed to defeat monsters did not change.

It's still the same?

With this the number didn't change for the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th floors.

Indeed, that's unexpected.

It was thanks to the effect of Great Intelligence Increase from Jobless for the 24th and 25th floors.

For it to not increase on the 26th floor, is it thanks to Rutina's Wizard Lv11 and my Great Hero becoming LV11?

At level 11 a little effect will appear.

It's worth mentioning that my Great Hero and Rutina's Wizard level is the same.

Since I spent some bonus points to decrease the necessary experience, it is fine to think that the Great Hero is harder to level than the Wizard.

I even think that Great Hero is tougher to level compared to Hero. But there is no denying that it's an excellent job in many ways. Either way, it will raise smoothly til Lv30.

“How about we end it at this point?”

Luckily for me, Sherry didn't say anything even though the number didn't change.

Taking advantage of this, I decided to retreat.

Rutina had observed the Cape Carp enough as well.

I cast [Warp], and went home.

As I came out in the living room, I release all the tension by taking a deep breath.

“Was I able to help to some extent?”

Rutina, asked while being nervous.

Not me, but Roxanne.

“It was alright. You did plenty enough.”

“Okay. Thank you very much.”

“Let's do our best together.”

Roxanne lead Rutina skillfully.

Rather than leading, I guess it can be called copying.

Roxanne is expecting everyone to fight.

“This party has a lot of secrets. I agree with Roxanne-ane-sama and Sherry-ane-sama, we cannot say careless things. I will be cautious as well.”

Rutina braced herself.

What did Roxanne and Sherry say to her?

Being careful is important.

After taking a little break, we go shopping.

Because walking under the sunlight is too hot.

How should I do it?

I can [Warp] to the dungeon and exit using the entrance, but I don't really want to do that, since I'm not paying any entrance fees.

“Should we proceed to the adventurers guild and go around to the grocery store? Or do we start at the Merchant Guild and then to the clothes shop?”

“Let's see. We better go to the clothes shop.”

Listening to Roxanne, it was unusual to go from the Merchant guild then to the clothes shop immediately.

Or rather, am I going to shop for clothes until evening when the sunlight lessens?

But Roxanne was the one who suggested that Rutina should fight.

I [Warp] to the Merchant guild, and proceed to the clothes shop. There is no air-conditioning inside the shops in this world. Nevertheless, it is better that there is shade. I feel pretty cool.

“For clothes, it is important to have 3 tops and bottoms first. After that, I'll buy one top and bottom for everybody except for Rutina.”

“Thank you very much.”

All the girls bow their heads.

Shopping just for Rutina could cause complaints.

Believing that they understood, we came to get the required items.

A problem won't occur easily if everyone bought one piece.

Rutina bowed her head, but Quratar's western style clothing may be a downgrade for a former Earl's daughter.

Unless, it is tailored in the clothes shop in the Imperial Capital.

I will go to the clothes shop in the Imperial Capital later, but I need to finish this and that.

And unlike Roxanne and the other girls, Rutina may possess hostility.

“Choose whatever you like.”

At least in the clothes shop I let them choose freely.

Everyone is picking and Roxanne is in the middle.

“It is ready-made, but it is new. everyone wears nice clothes. However I assumed that I won’t be able to wear decent clothes because I turned into a slave. I will be made fun of if I wear unacceptable clothes to the Lord’s meeting. It may be fine with this.”

Seems like Rutina is quite satisfied.  
She seems fine with the clothes shops in Quratar.  
It appears that she’s still thinking about the Lords’ Assembly.

“Master, how about this?”

Roxanne brought clothes to me.  
Because I said everyone, it seems I’m the first one to choose.

“It’s not bad. I don’t have any problems in what Roxanne has selected. I am fine with this.”

“Thank you very much. We will be choosing immediately.”

I think that it took time, but it seems that Roxanne only selected clothes for me and the other girls.

“Don’t worry about time, select carefully.”

It is not like we extremely need to go to the labyrinth by all means.  
I would like to let Roxanne do the shopping carefully and take her time.  
Basically, I was questioning myself whether I should go or not.

“I think this matches the color of Roxanne-ane-sama’s bottom.”

“You also think so?”

“This color is effective in standing out.”

Rutina is giving a lot of advice.  
I wonder if it’s a duty she had as an Earl’s daughter?  
For me, I don’t really have any idea.

“Isn’t this a little childish?”

“Nope. I think it is lovely.”

“Really?”

Sherry asked for advice, I guess she’s reliable.

“Miria-ane-sama will look good with this color.”

“Onee-chan, desu.”

“I think this will be alright.”

Vesta also asked Rutina for advice.

“Possibly it’s better with this one?”

“Thank you very much.”

In the end, the sun had already begun to set by the time they finished choosing.

It’s a delicate time.

It is not as late as I thought.

There’s still time to enter the labyrinth for a moment.

Or Did Roxanne cut it closely on purpose?

The battle can wait.

After that, we return home after going to the general store.

“You can change into the clothes we bought in the room over there. I will have you fight a little in the labyrinth instead of observing. I don’t think you will face any problems since you seem able to cope properly.”

“Understood.”

“Please finish quickly.”

As we came back home, I sent Rutina to the next room.

Although I said today is observation day, but it should be fine.

Particularly, she’s not scared to fight.

“Thank you very much.”

“Onee-chan, desu.”

Rutina received the clothes from Miria, and went to the next room. Because I didn’t go to the general store first, Rutina didn’t have a backpack.

Sherry, Miria and Vesta split Rutina’s clothes and brought them back. Roxanne carried my clothes.

“Because we don’t have much time, she should change her clothes here.”

Roxanne said a terrible thing.

I see.

I could have used that method?

“You are right. Well that is fine for now.”

I didn't think of that.

Because we are living under the same roof, doing that much may be fine.

Apparently, Roxanne doesn't mind.

Is there any resistance?

Or possibly, does she think that it is natural to put my hands on Rutina since she's a slave?

In the first place, who's fault was it that there is no time!?

I wonder if we spent all that time for this purpose?

There is no chance.

“Thank you for waiting.”

“Oh. It suits you well.”

“Thank you very much.”

Rutina came back.

Rutina wearing pants looks beautiful.

A Beautiful girl is pretty no matter what she wears.

Her body line is neat and attractive.

From her butt to the calf, a slender leg draws a nice curve line.

Not too thin, not too fat, legs that are shaped beautifully.

She looks like a model.

At Quratar's labyrinth, we first fight in the 7th floor.

I killed the Slow Rabbit Roxanne found with 1 [Fire Ball].

A single blow?

After that I tried it out on the 8th, 9th, and 10th floor but only the monster on the 10th stayed alive after I shoot one.

Looks like we can beat them up till Level 9.

The power dramatically increased by having Great Hero, Jobless and Rutina joining.

Of course I killed the LV10 Escape Goat that tried to run away.

“I plan on letting Rutina fight, is the 10th floor alright?”

“As if the 10th floors monsters will be a problem.”

I asked Roxanne, and her answer gave me a peace of mind.

No need to waver.

It is possible to let her fight one or two floors lower if I removed Hero, Great Hero, and Jobless though.

And I can even go further down if used Wizard magic instead of Great Wizard magic.

I can add bonus points to increase the intellect power, but I can't adjust it to negative to reduce the power.

There is also the problem of overcrowding if we go down in Quratar's labyrinth.

Since we have Rutina as a Wizard, there is no problem if it is known that our party fights using magic.

If someone passed by and observed us from behind, even if they see the afterglow of fire magic, they will probably judge that Rutina cast it.

Rutina joining us is a splendid advantage.

Perhaps Rutina didn't notice that.

“I feel relieved because even if someone saw us by chance using magic we have Rutina, but it doesn't particularly need to be on a lower floor?”

“You are right.”

“It is thanks to Rutina.”

I praised Rutina who showed slight self-doubt sometimes.

Rutina shows a slight wondering face.

Is it because she wasn't recognized as a fighting force?

But she only needs to be here.

“I didn't join the magic guild either, and I think it is better that man doesn't know that I was able to use magic after only half a day.”

Rutina asked Sherry after pondering.

Is Sherry in charge of that part?

“You are right, regarding the guild. As for being able to use it in half a day, it is possible to interpret that it happened by chance.”

“As far as I know, he’s never come across us in the labyrinth.”

“Wouldn’t that be bad.”

I see.

Is there any suspicion from such a place?

But it will be alright if any subordinate of the Dukes doesn’t see us.

Sherry and Rutina appear to be worried about information leaking. Sherry said something that sounded more like threatening Rutina. Also Rutina, even though she hardly knows anything about a Labyrinth, she’s sharp in unusual matters.

“I will be careful. You did well in recognizing it.”

“Politics is entirely strategy. Strategy means information. If I can’t get hold of any information, I won’t be able to enter the Lord’s meeting.”

“R-really?”

“Scheming is the way of life for Aristocrats.”

It’s like the Art of War.

Is this what’s called Dishonest means of troops?

Is the lord’s meeting about cheating each other?

Rutina seems to be unexpectedly terrifying.

## Chapter 198 : Teamwork

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I pull myself together and adjust my magic power to beat the monsters half-dead on the 10th floor.

It's generally better and not difficult.

The preparations get done quickly.

"Then, I intend to have Rutina experience light combat on the 10th floor, too."

"Okay. If it's me, it'll be alright."

"First, try fighting with Sherry's spear. If the Needle Wood doesn't collapse after I cast a spell, try to kill the monster with the spear."

"I understand."

I give Rutina instructions.

A spear, which can be used from a distance, will be better at the start.

The spear is the one Sherry uses.

It'd be troublesome to exchange with me after I cast a spell.

"Roxanne, can you search for a place with a Needle Wood?"

"Okay, that's a good idea."

The monster that appears the most on Quratar's 10th floor is the Escape Goat; however, that one would be troublesome since it tends to run away.

And, it would be better to avoid the poisonous 9th floor monster, Nt Ant.

That leaves us with the 8th floor monster, Needle Wood.

A Needle Wood, however, is able to use magic.

By the way, I cannot have her fight the 11th floor monster, Green Caterpillar, since it spits thread.

If the 11th floor monsters could be one-shot, it would be a great place.

If that's the case, should I have moved to a lower floor and use Wizard spells?

The 2nd floor would be relatively more crowded.

Considering Rutina, that might actually have been better.

Rutina attacks the Needle Wood, which Roxanne found, after it endures a spell of mine.

She doesn't seem to have any problem even on the 10th floor.

Because we have a full party, and there are the effects of my Great Hero, too.

Thereafter, I have her try a sword and a club.

“Well done. Lastly, although it'll be a little difficult, I want you to fight bare-handed.”

“Bare-handed?”

“It'll be a good experience.”

Fighting bare-handed is a requirement to acquire Monk; however, I said it'll be a good experience.

Rutina receives a few attacks but manages to kill the Needle Wood safely. Since I cast Heal and apply Plating on her every time, there's no problem. Because I knew Roxanne would shoot it down, I had changed my job to Monk beforehand.

While casting Heal after the battle ends, I check her status.

Since she isn't showing a painful expression, she should be fine, no?

Because I'm having her carry a rucksack in the labyrinth, it may be difficult for Rutina to fight as it's essentially her first time inside the labyrinth.

Since I have put a black magic crystal inside her rucksack, I feel relieved when she defeats a monster.

“Thank you very much.”

“Next will be a special way of killing a monster. Roxanne will take on the monster from the front while you throw the poison stingers, which have been collected from the Nt Ants, and kill the monster with via abnormal status of poison.”

“I understand.”

I have her try the poison stingers.

“Roxanne, please.”

“Yes. It’ll be fine, though, even if it’s not particularly a Needle Wood. However, an Escape Goat won’t work since it’ll run away.”

Recommends Roxanne.

It won’t be a problem for she’ll be able to avoid the attacks from an Nt Ant.

Quite a confidence she has.

Rather, isn’t it a fact?

“That’s a great idea.”

“An Nt Ant isn’t far from here.”

Well, it should be fine since she herself wants to do it.

Roxanne takes on the Nt Ant that shows up.

Roxanne easily dodges the continuous attacks from the Nt Ant.

Rutina throws a poison stinger from the side.

“Did it, desu.”

She continues to throw until Miria calls out.

Has the poison been inflicted?

As always, I’m unable to get it.

For Rutina was about to continue throwing, she didn’t seem to notice either.

So, it cannot be that only my eyes are bad.

Roxanne doesn’t let the poisoned Nt Ant graze her until it collapses.

The only test left after this is throwing a liver and transform a monster into a Drive Dragon; however, there’s no need to do that. It doesn’t seem to grant any job, after all.

Besides, it’d be scary to create a Drive Dragon on the 10th floor.

And, it’d be troublesome on the 1st floor since it tended to be crowded.

“Let’s leave it at this?”

“I’m not going to kill them using only magic?”

Enquires Rutina.

Because she has killed them with a spear and a sword, should magic be next?

It's surely an option available to Rutina since she's a Wizard.

It's not necessary, though.

There's no job acquired by killing an enemy using magic.

Or, is killing a monster with magic perhaps a requirement for acquiring Grand Wizard?

Well, she'll soon be able to kill them anyway.

"There's no particular need."

"Since it's your first day, and since you're only experiencing the battles today, this much would do."

Roxanne approves, too.

Is it important to let her experience it since it's her first day?

I don't really get it.

Oh well. She seems to be able to fight properly. It'll help Rutina build her confidence.

It'd better than spending the night depressed.

"Then, let's call it a day. We will have the dinner later. Miria, since you're going to cook a whole fish, make a nitsuke." (TN: Fish or vegetables simmered in soy sauce)

"Ooh! Yes, desu."

To celebrate Rutina becoming a party member, let's have a whole fish for dinner.

However, it may also be taken as a celebration for Rutina falling into slavery.

In this world, a whole fish doesn't seem to be a food that implies an auspicious occasion.

Auspicious occasion sounds like a pun here. (TN: メデタイ – Medetai – means an auspicious event. タイ – Tai – means a sea bream)

It gives the impression of a festive occasion since it's a rare ingredient.

I believe it's good to celebrate not just the festivals.

I invoke [Warp] and leave the labyrinth behind.

We move to the Adventurer's Guild.

"Oh, it has been a while."

When I leave the guild, I come across the hardware store aunty. She was the intermediary when I rented the house.

“Good day.”

“Hee, you seem to be faring well. It was worth leaving the house in your care.”

It feels like greeting a neighbor aunty on the way back from shopping. Like a neighbor aunty, huh? Actually, she IS a neighbor aunty.

By ‘doing good’, was she referring to my becoming an Adventurer since I came out of the Adventurer’s Guild?

Or, was she referring to my owning more slaves?

Back then, I had only Roxanne.

“That time...”

“Because I haven’t seen your members decreasing, you don’t seem to be using them in a despicable way. Some people use them as a meat shield in order to advance to unreasonably high floors.”

It seems to be the latter.

I have heard about using the slaves as a meat shield from Sherry.

“There’s no way I’ll do something like that.”

“Of course. You have beauties that make even a woman like me envious. Are you going to go shopping?”

“Yes.”

When I affirm that I’m going to go shopping, the aunty bows her head and withdraws easily.

I wonder if she understands that not much time is left until evening.

“I’ve heard people earn varied income upon becoming an Adventurer. Is that really true?”

I hear her mutter as she leaves.

So, it seemed to be the former, too.

Although I’m an Adventurer now, she must’ve thought I was close to becoming an Adventurer when I rented the house. However, isn’t it strange for her to not have talked about it when I rented the house?

It could be figured out if I were an Explorer Lv49 from the size of my Item Box.

I wonder if such a talk isn't allowed when renting a house.

Or, she perhaps thought I hadn't decided to become an Adventurer when I rented the house.

Not everyone becomes an Adventurer upon reaching Explorer Lv50. You will have to start over from Lv1 if you choose to become an Adventurer. Besides, An Explorer's Item Box can expand more than an Adventurer's.

There seem to be many people who opt to remain an Explorer.

Since I have now acquired Adventurer job, there'd be no problem even if they thought I were an Adventurer.

Finished with the shopping, we return home.

After returning home, I must first prepare the bath.

I wonder if Rutina will somehow join in with us.

I wonder.

Isn't there any trick I can use?

It may be a good idea to prepare the bath together with her before taking a bath with her.

It'll be my first collaboration.

If Rutina helped first, she would feel more comfortable taking a bath.

How about slipping accidentally into the bathtub while preparing it?

Or, jumping into the bathtub immediately after preparing it?

That will probably not work, I guess.

“Master, there's a message from Mr. Luke. He seems to have bid successfully on a Caterpillar Monster Card.”

When we return home, waiting for us was Luke's message, not the bath.

Caterpillar Monster Card, huh?

Because Rutina had joined as a member, I actually wanted a Goat Monster Card.

“Got it. Tomorrow would do.”

“Okay.”

“It’s regarding an order for a monster card I placed with an auction broker.”

I explain to Rutina who didn’t seem to understand.

“So, it was about that? Caterpillar Monster Card.....”

“It grants Sacrifice skill.”

“Umm, by any chance, is that because I’m wearing it?”

She anxiously asks.

Rutina seems to think I have ordered another because she’s using one.

“Ah, not at all. Don’t worry about it.”

It’s better to vaguely deny it.

She’ll figure it out anyway.

Until then, I can demand gratitude.

It’d be a different matter if I denied clearly.

“I understand.”

“Sherry will definitely succeed.”

“Eh?”

Rutina seems to be aware of the possibility of Monster Card Fusion failing.

For she seemed surprised when I said Sherry would definitely succeed.

“Then, I’ll go prepare the bath. Since Rutina can use magic, would you like to help me?”

She’ll get it right away if I have her do it.

Let’s move to the next task without pulling her too much.

“Ah, yes. What am I supposed to do?”

“Come with me.”

“Okay.”

“Have a good time.”

Roxanne and the girls see us off as I head to the bathroom with Rutina.

“Rutina, have you taken a bath before?”

“Yes, about once every four or five to ten days. It’s an etiquette being the

daughter of a noble.”

She knows what a bath is, after all, since she was an earl’s daughter. I have heard from Roxanne that a bath is a luxury meant for nobles. By ‘etiquette’, does she mean she has to keep herself clean being an earl’s daughter?

“In our house, we do it more frequently.”

“There seemed to be many who liked to take a bath. As for me, I had no particular interest.”

I try to brag about how frequently we take a bath, but she dodges it. I thought she would be happy.

However, it doesn’t seem to have gone the way I thought it would.

If I handled it untactfully, I would be treated like a freak.

We enter the bathroom.

Being alone in a small bathroom with a beautiful girl makes me kinda nervous.

I was a little familiar with Roxanne and other members; however, it’s a little different in Rutina’s case since she’s not a sex slave.

Should I push her down here? Nope, I can’t, really.

“This is the bathtub we use.”

“So huge.”

Rutina mutters in amazement once we enter the bathroom.

Nah, I know.

I know it’s the bathroom which she meant was huge.

I haven’t even undressed yet.

I know.

I know, really.

I was just a little lost in thought being alone with a beautiful girl in the bathroom, and then she said ‘so huge’.

I’ve committed it to the memory.

“We fill the hot water here. Rutina can start off with producing water using [Water Wall].”

“Moreover, it’s magical hot water.”

I set Intermediate Water Magic as Jobless skill and select Wizard job.

“It feels so.”

I first cast [Water Wall] only.

I’m required to use more Water magic than Fire magic while preparing the bath.

It’ll be better to use Water magic of Jobless skill and Rutina.

“I understand.”

“Was the bath, which Rutina used to enter, small?”

I ask a question to keep the conversation rolling.

However, Rutina starts chanting the incantation.

So, is it impossible to have a conversation while preparing the bath?

Since it cannot be helped, I overlap a [Burn Wall] and an [Aqua Wall], and line a [Water Wall] up on the opposite side.

This is the best way to maximize the heat produced by Fire magic.

It would be more effective if Rutina’s Water magic merged with mine; nevertheless, so far so good.

Rutina completely chants the incantation and manifests a [Water Wall], too.

“With this, I can clearly see the difference.”

And then, she mutters something.

I manifested the [Water Wall] on the opposite side so Rutina wouldn’t be able to notice; however, was it not enough?

Since I used both Fire and Water magic, it was clearly discernible, so there’s no helping it.

The type of magic we are using differs.

I fill the hot water in the bathtub silently.

“You don’t need to overdo it.”

I thought she would stop after two or three attempts; however, Rutina continues to cast, so I warn her.

Since she is safe here at home, should I let her test the limit of her MP?

Nah. Since her Wizard was leveling up quickly, I’d better stop her.

“No, even I-”

“My bad.”

She persevered plenty, though.  
Isn't she about to hit two digits?

“I'm sorry. I cannot go on any more than this.”

“Thank you.”

“Not at all. I wasn't of much help to you.”

“You have only just become a Wizard, so it was amazing of you to do this much. Besides, you worked really hard.”

We have already filled about half of the hot water.  
Because I don't need to chant incantation, I cast almost twice as many spells as Rutina did.  
Since I could cast three spells at once, it was actually six times.

“Is Michio-sama still able to cast more spells? I wonder if I have any talent.”

She seems to have persevered until her MP reached critical level.

“I'm able to do this much after training. Since I'll do the rest, you can go help Roxanne and the girls.”

“Okay.”

I send Rutina back.  
Because she needed to chant incantation, we couldn't deepen our relationship through teamwork.  
Will she be joining in with us?

## Chapter 199 : A Useless Human Being

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Having prepared the bath, I head to the kitchen, too.  
What helped me prepare the bath without needing to restore MP halfway through was the effect of having a Wizard, Rutina, in the party; also, the effects of Jobless and the leveled up Great Hero.  
It turned out quite well.

“It was easier preparing the bath thanks to Rutina. I’ll count on you from now on.”

“Yes, thank you very much.”

I speak to Rutina in the kitchen.  
With five girls inside the kitchen, even a flower may blossom.  
It may get a little cramped, though.  
Nope, it’s no good, is it?

“I hope I won’t have to trouble Roxanne from now on.”

“It was never a nuisance.”

“I understand. Thank you.”

“Yes.”

I thank Roxanne for everything she has done thus far.  
In the kitchen, the course I’ll be making is the dessert.  
Because it’s hot, it’ll be good to make a jelly to cool down.

“Vesta, can I ask for your help?”

“Okay.”

“Squeeze this for me.”

I pass the fruit that I bought.  
Vesta squeezes it. After dissolving the gelatin with fruit juice and sugar, I’ll chill it.  
Squeezing it is easy thanks to Vesta’s great strength.  
It’s better to leave such tasks to her.

“By the way, what’s with such a huge bathtub?”

Rutina, who was helping someone out by chopping the vegetables, speaks.

It's a continuation of the conversation left off in the bath.

"The bathtub we had in our home was like a barrel; it was long and narrow. It was difficult to boil the water in it. We had to bathe one at a time."

"Huh, is that so?"

I wonder if it was a drum can bath.  
Would it require less quantity of hot water?  
But the capacity wouldn't change even if it were laid down.  
Nope, it would be difficult sleeping inside it.

"E-Excuse me."

"What?"

"Since it's so big, does everyone really enter together?"

Rutina asks quietly.  
I wonder if she'll join in together with us.  
What should my answer be? I have to give it some thought.

If possible, it would be nice if I answered like it's a matter of fact.  
It's natural for us to enter together, is there something wrong with it?  
Something along the lines.

"Of course we do. Is there something wrong with it?"

Shit!  
I answer her just that.

"R-Really?"  
"Master washes our hair."

Roxanne, nice follow-up.  
No, is it really a nice follow-up?  
Well, even if she were reluctant about my wiping her body, washing her hair would be fine.  
Because she didn't say I wash their bodies, it's a nice follow-up.

"It's also a waste of time to separately take a bath."

Sherry's follow-up is great, too.  
It'd take time if we entered individually.  
Truly rational.

"You can understand the feelings of a fish if you enter the bath, desu."

That's not a follow-up.  
Only you, Miria, would be interested in understanding the feelings of a fish.

Wait, can you really understand the feelings of a fish?

"Lying down in the bathtub with everyone feels comfortable. I think it's alright."

It really is comfortable.  
For me, especially.

"Is that the way it is?"

Being tricked! She's being tricked!

"That's right."

"However, I feel like the information is biased."

She has noticed.  
She is being careful not to be deceived at not just the Lords' Assembly.  
The situation requires me to change the topic.

"Vesta, I'll make ice. Crush it, please."

"Okay, understood."

I manifest an [Ice Wall] and have Vesta shave it.

"Rutina, when you're done with cutting, can you help me out?"

"Ah, yes."

"Please."

As for the bath, it'll be better if everyone enters normally.  
I could enter by myself, too; however, there's no need to go to that extent.  
I will enter together with everyone as usual.  
It's normal.

"Is this a kind of [Aspic](#)?"

Rutina asks as I submerge a cup of jelly in ice.  
Does it look like Aspic?  
It's a gelatin based French cuisine.  
I've heard the name of the cuisine, but I have never eaten it before.

What's the side dish then? [Tom Yam Kung](#)?  
Or [Chaliapin Steak](#)?  
I have only eaten [Pirozhki Curry Buns](#).

Even though it wasn't an authentic one, I have eaten [Mapo Tofu](#), too.  
I have also eaten conveyor belt sushi.....nope, nothing.  
My eating habits were poorer than I thought.

"It surely has similar feeling to it."

Sherry answers in my, who doesn't know what Aspic tastes like, stead.  
Have you eaten it before, Sherry?

"Is this the way it's made?"

I don't know as to how Aspic is made. Rutina seems to be interested in it.

I bury the jelly I made in ice.  
By the time the dinner is over, it'll be chilled and ready to eat.

"I wonder what kind of dish is Aspic."

Asks Vesta.

"I haven't eaten it either."

"I have eaten it before. It's delicious; it leaves a deep flavor in your mouth."

Rutina sticks her chest out.  
I wonder if it's tastier than a normal broth because it's a jellied broth.  
I think I know the reason for its deep flavor.

"Hee, is that so?"

"Then, does Rutina know how to make it?"

"N-No, I don't know how to make it."

Rutina panics.

You fool.

See where boasting got you to.

“I don’t think it’s something impossible to wish for Vesta who has gotten used to eating the dishes here.”

Sherry, who seems to have eaten it before, replies.

“Really?”

Vesta seems to be convinced, too.

Well, just don’t make unreasonable requests.

After waiting till Sherry’s soup was ready, we start the dinner. The side dish is the stir-fried meat and vegetables, which Roxanne made, while the main course is the whole fish nitsuke made by Miria. (TN: Nitsuke – vegetables or fish simmered in soy sauce) Everyone surrounds the dining table quietly.

“I am grateful for the toil and tribute of everyone. I receive this with love.”

I cannot get used to Rutina’s prayer before a meal. However, Rutina’s eating figure looks beautiful. Especially the whole fish nitsuke. The way she lifts it on the back of the knife and carries it to her mouth is just so beautiful.

She opens her cherry lips slightly, puts the fish in quickly. The piece on the knife, without making any sound, disappears inside her mouth.

The beautiful girl’s small jaws move up and down, masticating the food.

What a refined movement.  
I want to be eaten, too.  
I want to go inside that mouth of yours.  
I want you to chew me.

“Is something wrong?”

Damn!  
I’ve been staring too much, it seems.

“What do you think about the whole fish nitsuke?”

“Yes, I got to eat something delicious. It’s in no way inferior to the whole fish served by our cook in the past when we invited a special guest.”

“We eat it quite frequently in this house. It’s Miria’s favorite; it’s her specialty.”

“Specialty, desu.”

Was I somehow able to deceive her?

“Frequently.....”

“Although I said that, it’s obviously not everyday.”

“Sadly, desu.”

I regret.

If it were everyday, I’d get fed up.

“But I heard it’s a rare ingredient.”

“We enter the labyrinth, after all. We catch it directly from time to time.”

“I see. It must take quite some time then. So, you’re a gourmand, huh? I really have gotten myself under the care of an outstanding person.”

It doesn’t take that much time, really.

It’s all thanks to Cook’s skill and Roxanne’s ability to locate Ma Breams. If it were only that, I wouldn’t mind the misunderstanding; however, what does she mean by gourmand?

Apparently, Rutina sees me as a person with a strange hobby.

A gourmand on top of a bath enthusiast.

I’m an extremely useless human being.

Who loves to wake up late in the morning to a drink followed by a bath.

Who cannot help but have a beautiful slave girl serving him.

It’s reasonable.

Having had the main course, we partake of the dessert.

I distribute the cups of jelly.

The Jelly hasn’t gotten very cold, but it has solidified properly.

“Then, will everyone be entering the bath after eating?”

There’s no reaction from Rutina.

“That’s right. Everyone will be entering.”

“Y-Yes, I understand.”

Ooh

When Roxanne says ‘everyone’, Rutina agrees to it.

As expected of Roxanne.

She seems to possess an impressive persuasive power.

“Well then.”

We’re finished eating the puropuro jiggly dessert.

Would I get to have a puropuro jiggly dessert in the bathroom, too?

Will it be puropuro jiggly?

“This... can definitely be called a dessert.”

Yes, Mademoiselle.

It’s jiggly.

I’m pretty sure it’s jiggly.

“Yes, we get to eat it every now and then after the dinner.”

Vesta explains to Rutina.

“So, he’s a gourmand, after all.....”

That’s some image of me.

After I was finished eating, I head to the bathroom alone.

I so want to see Rutina stripping, but it’d be better if I weren’t present.

I believe in Roxanne and the rest; hence, I leave it to them.

They will surely bring her to the bathroom.

In the bathroom, I take my clothes off ahead of everyone.

While Roxanne and the girls were doing the dishes, I adjust the bath temperature.

Because the temperature of the hot water was about right, the adjustment gets done immediately.

Un

I’m bored.

Should I lather the soap while I wait?

Lathering the soap while I waited, I hear the footsteps outside.  
Come!  
Come!  
They've come!

"Excuse us."

The door opens, and Roxanne enters.  
Popping up in front of my eyes are two enormous fruits.  
Although it's different from what I was waiting for, it's wonderful.

Following behind her are Sherry, Miria and Vesta.  
Fruits bigger than even Roxanne's.  
Following behind Vesta comes in Rutina who's shyly covering her body.

A glossy, white, smooth skin like a white porcelain.  
This is Rutina.  
This is an elf.

"Y-You said everyone enters together, so I came, too."

Sadly, Rutina doesn't mutter 'so huge' when she enters the bathroom.  
Because she has already seen the bathtub once.  
I've made a mistake.  
It would perhaps have been better had I not let her help me out, had she not seen it before.

"Rutina's skin is very smooth."  
"Silky, desu."  
"I think it's smooth."  
"Thank you very much."

Rutina does seem to have a beautiful skin.

"Is your skin smooth perhaps because you are an elf? Are all the elves the same? Also, your chest seems to be big. We, dwarves, are taught to be wary of elves. It doesn't seem to be wrong, after all. I hope you perish."

A certain someone is spitting venom.  
So, Rutina does have a big-in-its-own-right chest, after all, huh?

“Umm, that’s because I polish it. I don’t think it’s the same for all the elves. Besides, everyone’s skin is beautiful. Also, Vesta-ane-sama’s chest seems to be much bigger.”

“I heard from Master that the bigger the chest of a Dragon Knight, the more athletic they are.”

“Is that so?”

“It seems to be so. However, aside from Vesta, who has air sacs, mumumu”

What’s with the ‘mumumu’.

I give up.

Disregarding the girl’s talk transpiring between the four behind me, I wash Roxanne’s body.

I have to do it in order.

It’s all thanks to Roxanne that Rutina entered the bath. I cannot neglect this fact.

Rather, I love what’s in front of my eyes.

Outrageous.

I’ll wash it.

I’ll wash it until it perishes.

It must perish.

“Looks good. This much is fine.”

I must polish this divine body every day.

“Thank you very much.”

“Next is Sherry’s turn.”

Holding Sherry’s lovely petite body and washing it feels great, too.

“By any chance, do you happen to wash everyone like this?”

“That’s right. Because he’s a kind master.”

Roxanne, who’s still smeared in soap, talks to Rutina.

“But that would be a waste of time.”

“You’re going to receive a body wash from Master. You must accept it with gratitude.”

“Hii, y-yes.”

As expected of Roxanne-sama.

Thereafter, I wash all the nooks and crannies of every member’s body. I thoroughly enjoy Rutina’s skin, too, especially the places which I skillfully left uncovered while applying the soap.

White skin.

White breasts.

I fully enjoy her.

I enter the bathtub after everyone washes my body.

Cannot help it being cramped with everyone inside.

Actually, no. Being cramped feels rather great.

The contrast between Vesta’s healthy, light brown skin and Rutina’s enchanting, white skin looks beautiful.

“I think it’ll be fine for Rutina to sleep in the bed today.”

Roxanne, whose silky tail I was stroking, says from beside me.

“Bed?”

Rutina seems to have heard her.

“You should gratefully sleep in the bed. You must sit up straight and accept it.”

“Y-Yes.”

Roxanne cuts off any possible objection from Rutina.

“Right before sleeping and immediately after waking up, you must greet Master. Missing it isn’t acceptable.”

By ‘greet’, she probably means ‘that’.

Everything will be fine if I leave it to Roxanne.

I won’t end it at just the greeting, of course.

It’ll be Sex Maniac’s turn.

## Chapter 200 : GRB

\*

Amidst the dizziness resulting from Sex Maniac, I greet the morning listlessly.

Pleasant.

I'm in a good mood.

Everything feels great at the moment.

The softness of the bed.

An icy cold air circulating overhead.

Roxanne's supple breasts. Vesta's refreshingly cool body.

Seeing Rutina's fabulous body last night felt great, too.

As if a white body emerging in the night ocean.

Her enchanting body bewitchingly moving to match my movement.

Writhing to melt in the night.

She was quite happy even though it was her first time.

There was, of course, no way it would end with just one round.

As you would expect from a Sex Maniac.

It'd be fine even if I did them a hundred times.

Don't worry, I didn't do her 20 times.

I'd better keep it as little as possible since it was her first time.

The point is, if I have Sex Maniac I can go on forever.

It's such a relief.

Roxanne pays me the morning greeting when I wake up.

As if to dampen the lingering taste from last night, it's a gentle – not hot – and devoted kiss.

I surrender myself to her and gladly accept it.

“Good morning, Master.”

“Morning, Roxanne.”

I separate my lips from hers after enjoying it fully.

“Good morning.”

Next is Sherry.

I accept the big devotion of her small tongue.

Thereafter, Miria and Vesta greet me in order.

“The last one is Rutina.”

“Yes, Roxanne-ane-sama.”

Told by Roxanne, Rutina comes over.

The bed was big enough even for six people.

Rutina was sleeping next to Vesta who was next to Sherry.

Her soft lips touch mine gently.

Rutina’s mouth moves stiffly.

Her attitude doesn’t suggest denial, though. It’s just that she’s still not used to it.

She seems to earnestly be trying to accept my tongue.

This time, I exploit it.

Rutina’s tongue not moving was really a good thing. I shove my tongue into and violate her mouth until I was fully satisfied.

“Good morning, Rutina.”

“Good morning, Michio-sama”

“Then, should we change and go to the labyrinth?”

After enjoying plenty, I part my mouth from hers and announce.

It’s the same heading to the labyrinth after morning greeting as usual.

Nothing out of ordinary.

It’s our normal routine.

I get down from the bed, grope for and put on the equipment.

We’ve been doing it every day without turning the lights on.

It’s something which we’ve gotten used to.

“Thank you very much.”

“Onee-chan, desu.”

As I was thinking as to whether Rutina, who wasn’t used to it, would be doing fine or not, I find Miria helping her out.

If there's anyone who can move freely in the dark, it's Miria.

"I'm sorry for being slow since I haven't done it much."

Rutina seems to, as expected, be the last one to get ready.

By 'haven't done it much', does she mean she had a lady attendant changing her clothes?

If so, I would love to be the one helping her change.

However, she may also mean she has never put the equipment on since she has never entered the labyrinth before.

"Then, let's move to the labyrinth. Miria, great job."

I praise Miria for she assisted her in changing clothes this time.

I'll add a fried fish dish to tomorrow's dinner.

I invoke [Warp] and jump to Quratar's 26th floor.

Today, we'll be kicking it off from here.

Because she had already observed the 26th floor yesterday, we proceed immediately after a brief observation to the 27th and 28th floor.

"If it's me, I'll be alright. Let's go ahead."

Because the 28th floor appeared okay, we quickly arrive at the 29th floor.

It's the floor where we were originally fighting at.

However, it's time for the boss battle.

"The 29th floor is where we were originally fighting at. We'll be fighting for real from now on. We have never moved up the floors as fast as this before."

"Okay, I understand."

"Because Rutina has only just joined, I would like to observe for today and tomorrow. What do you think?"

I consult with Roxanne.

Rather than consulting, isn't it more like making a call?

It has thus far been a rule to observe for two days to ensure there's no problem in advancing.

Actually, one day would do since we have already repeated the 29th

floor boss battle for one day.

Roxanne would definitely suggest moving up right away.

But that would be tough, surely.

“You’re right. That’ll probably be better.”

I have received Roxanne’s consent.

“Then, let’s do that. Also, Rutina, if you sense even a slight danger, please let us know. From here on, we’ll be moving up a floor every two days.”

Rutina is surprised.

“Is something wrong?”

“Every two... days?”

“If no problem comes up today and tomorrow, we’ll move on to the 30th floor. And then we will move to 31st two days after tomorrow if we don’t encounter any problem for the said two days.”

Because she didn’t seem to get it, I explain it in details.

“Do you move up every two days?”

“We do if there’s no problem on current floor in our present condition, and we stop before it gets dangerous. Therefore, if you feel danger, by all means, say so.”

“U-Understood.”

“I’ll be counting on you.”

Also, it’ll be easier for Rutina, who has only just joined, to speak up. I expect her to be a Stopper.

“Anyways, are you really advancing a floor every two days? I thought you had an incomplete party, though.”

“We can still afford it, but we have to eventually stop somewhere.”

“Yes. No, Even I-”

Since she’s starting to show signs of motivation herself, Rutina should be alright.

For now, let’s try to fight.

The 29th floor wasn’t that hard. Rutina doesn’t seem to have encountered

any problem either.

We have only been moving up one floor, after all.

However, we haven't received any area of effect magic attack on the 26th, 27th or 28th floor.

Isn't it better to receive an attack here?

Since the objective of repeating a boss battle is to completely shut out the boss battle, we may probably not move to the next floor until we have received the attack.

"In case of normal 29th floor monsters, cast two [Water Storm]s. If I don't use magic, you'll cast zero spell; if I use magic, you'll cast two, please."

"I understand."

I brief Rutina on casting spells.

Usually, against Moloch Tauruses, I reduce the number of my Thunder spells by 1 while Rutina seems to cast 2 Water spells.

Since the combination of monsters appearing on the 29th floor isn't complicated, it'll be fine to give her the instructions beforehand.

Fire is the only attribute which Moloch Tauruses, Cyclopes and Scissor Lizards are resistant to.

We manage the battles on the 29th floor smoothly.

Although I have removed Wizard, nothing has changed in comparison to before. Actually, the pace of the battles seem to be even better.

It's all thanks to Rutina joining; also, the job effects of Great Hero and Jobless.

"Here it comes."

It takes us quite some time to receive an area of effect magic attack. It's a trap not to advance even though we've been able to fight smoothly.

"There's no problem with the 29th floor area of effect magic attack, is there?"

After tidying up all the monsters, I confirm with Rutina.

Although we received an area of effect magic attack, there was no problem in killing them.

“Yes. If it’s me, I can go on.”

“Although it’s the boss battle, since it’s the 29th floor, there’s no problem, right?”

Because Rutina seems to be fine, I consult with Roxanne. Rutina has yet to experience a boss battle. Having her receive the boss attack intentionally would be harsh. Besides, there’s no particular meaning in doing it. We are basically here to fight the boss, not to receive its magic.

Hmm?

Shouldn’t I try to receive a magic attack from the boss every now and then?

Advancing to higher floors without receiving one and then suddenly finding the magic attack of a boss extremely strong.

Such a thing won’t happen, right?

I haven’t heard such a thing from Sherry, though; also, the bosses will become common after the 33rd floor.

As for the area of effect magic attack of a normal monster, I can receive it while walking from the small room, where I move to via [Dungeon Walk], to the boss room.

Wouldn’t it be enough to judge it based on that.

“It should be enough hereon.”

I’m only receiving positive comments from Roxanne regarding the battles.

“Shouldn’t we stay here for two days?”

As I was about to face Rutina and ask her, she turns to me and asks first.

Although it’s abrupt, I’m saved.

She seems to have heard the conversation between Roxanne and me.

“For the time being, let’s repeat the boss battle for two days.”

“Although we can afford to advance in our current state, we’ll repeat the boss battle for two days and see, nonetheless. At any rate, we won’t be

able to advance unless we try the boss battle.”

Rutina seems a little surprised upon repeating the boss battles. So, there’s no such precedent, after all, huh?

Most likely not.

If there were anyone who could do that, it would be Roxanne. In the first place, it was Roxanne who brought up the idea of repeating the boss battles.

“The boss room is on the other side. There’s not much distance.”

We are yet to be there, though.

Or rather, considering the fact that we’re heading to the boss room and the number of battles, it should be close by.

“Are we really going to repeat the boss battle? If I’m not mistaken, the difficulty of the boss battle increases when you repeat it.”

“You’re not mistaken.”

Rutina and Sherry converse.

“Not only have I never heard of anyone repeating the boss battle, I have heard about parties that never partake in the boss battles.”

“Such a thing doesn’t happen at our house. Also, unlike an order of knights, we don’t follow anyone.”

I was wondering as to how they move up if they don’t partake in the boss battles; however, I just recalled that you can pay the Explorer at the labyrinth.

As for the order of knights, seniors and superior officers assess your ability and direct you where to fight.

I don’t feel there’s a difference, though, between repeating the mob battles on higher floors and the boss battles on lower floors.

Considering such situations as stepping into a monster filled room or getting surrounded by the monsters, repeating the boss battles on lower floors sounds better.

Also, the number of monsters in the boss battle is fixed.

“I’ve heard you need to brace yourself for the boss battle since it’s too

hard.”

Is it a matter of psychology?

“It’s not that difficult in case of our party.”

After all, we have someone who can dodge all of the normal attacks from the boss.

Reliable, safe and secure.

What Sherry said is unmistakably correct.

“There’s no need to brace ourselves when it’s merely a 29th floor boss.”

Roxanne bluntly says to Rutina.

How can she say such an absurd thing?

Maybe she herself meant it as an advice?

“Ooh, no. Wait.”

I have Roxanne, who was leading us to the boss room, stop.  
I have an idea.

“Is something the matter?”

“There’s something I want to try. Let’s go to the 23rd floor boss room.”

“Experiment?”

Experiment is important, you know?

Well, Roxanne has never said she has gotten fed up with it.

It’s just to confirm.

To be certain.

Or, maybe she has already given up on me?

No, it can’t be.

I’m being paranoid.

There’s no way this cute Roxanne would hate her master.

“For just a bit. If you heard it, you would be surprised; if you saw it, you would be dumbfounded. Also, it won’t be bad for Rutina to experience a boss battle on the 23rd floor.”

“Very well.”

I manage to convince her and move to the 23rd floor.

We sweep the small fries and enter the waiting room.

“It’s your first time, so it’ll be fine for you to freely observe. However, the experiment may fail, so be prepared to fight.”

I psyche Rutina up for the boss battle.

“Okay.”

“Just in case, I’ll have Vesta keep the sword. It’ll be better this way for a while. Especially, I may need to use it this time. If I asked for the sword, you would have to hand it over to me immediately.”

“Understood.”

I bring Durandal out and hand it to Vesta.

Ever since we started repeating the boss battles, I stopped preparing Durandal beforehand.

It’s a waste of bonus points.

Most of the bosses end up petrified by Miria. I eventually bring Durandal out, though, when it does happen.

Either way, it’ll be better to have Durandal until Rutina gets accustomed.

Especially this time. If the experiment doesn’t go per expectation, I may need Durandal.

I complete the preparations in the waiting room.

Earlier, when we were hit by an area of effect magic attack, Rutina didn’t have [Plating] applied on her.

I cannot afford to select Alchemist during the boss battle.

Rutina will soon be able to cope without [Plating], too.

Our objective is to shut out the boss battle.

I decide against selecting Gambler for this experiment.

It’ll make things difficult for Miria, but I cannot help it.

I want her to do her best.

I open the door once the preparations were done and enter the boss room.

“Rutina, standby close to Sherry. I won’t mind even if you hit it with the stick if you can.”

“I understand.”

I give instructions to Rutina and brace myself.  
The smoke gathers, and the monsters emerge.  
Well, let's get it started then?

“Breath of the star, burn to nothingness, accelerate to the limit of light,  
burst motion – Gamma Ray Burst!”

I chant the incantation of the bonus spell I had selected.  
It's Gamma Ray Burst.  
I should be able to cast it as I am now.

## Chapter 201 : Gamma Ray Burst

\*

I chant the incantation of [Gamma Ray Burst].  
I should be able to use it.

I'll do it.  
I should be able to do it.  
No, I shall make it work.

As an expression of my resolve, I chant the incantation of the spell this time.

At any rate, I did say to Roxanne and the girls that I would be conducting an experiment.

One point game of confidence. (TN: 自信の一点勝負 No idea if it's a reference or a proverb. Any help would be welcome)

I'll definitely succeed.

I'll never let my resolve go down.

What would happen if it failed?

After all, the chuunibyou me cried such a painful 'serif' (lines) out in the middle of the boss room.

The damage received would be incomparable to the Meteor Crash failure back then.

This time, everyone is here.

I'm in public.

Roxanne would look at me as if she has had enough. Sherry would glare at me with cold eyes.

Miria might demand a fish at breakfast in exchange for overlooking my failure.

Vesta would casually console me a bit, surely.

It would shatter the trust I've built with Rutina thus far.

The loss would be immense.  
Too immense to recover from.

What an idiotic thing have I done?

If I kept my mouth shut, I would never have been exposed.  
As ever, I don't have a figment of talent.  
Neither my character nor my ability can be trusted.

Actually, to begin with, Rutina doesn't trust me in the least.  
She was first forced into slavery and then forced by Roxanne to accompany us.

Which part of me can she trust?  
What a useless human being I am.

Aah, no. That's wrong.  
It's the MP.  
My MP is low.  
The reason as to why I'm having negative thoughts is because low MP.

In other words, [Gamma Ray burst] was cast successfully.  
It's a success.  
However, there's nothing particularly strange or anything.

Speaking of strange, the room has gotten slightly brighter. It really has gotten brighter, hasn't it?  
There doesn't seem to be any change other than that.  
Does [Gamma Ray Burst] have no other effect?

Or, because I don't have the ability to use it, did it yield no effect?  
It's different.  
That's not it.

“Amazing, desu.”

The monsters have collapsed.  
The two monsters, that appeared beside the boss, turn into smoke immediately after they emerged.  
That's [Gamma Ray Burst]'s power.

The two dead monsters look similar to Gummi Slimes.  
Can it one-shot the 23rd floor monsters?  
The boss still remains, though.

Because it was a dull human who used it? It doesn't seem I can kill the boss in one hit.

“Vesta, the sword.”

“Yes.”

I had done the preparations to open the Item Box immediately and take the MP recovery medicine out in a contingency; however, if it's just the boss, there's no need.

The uncool plan of the petty me has shattered.

I close in on the boss from the side after receiving Durandal from Vesta. And use it to slash the boss from the side.

I seem to be absorbing MP. With every hit, my mind seems to be calming down.

I'm fine.

I can fight.

Miria and a-little-late Vesta join in on besiegement of the boss. Roxanne is standing the front of the boss.

Sherry thrusts her spear from behind. Rutina seems to be participating in the siege, too.

The boss collapses after only a few hits from Durandal.

[Gamma Ray Burst] seemed to inflict massive damage.

It wasn't able to kill the boss, but it wiped the small fries. It's considerably powerful.

I wasn't able to use it before, but it's quite useful.

“How was the experimental magic?”

“For an instant, it flashed dazzlingly. The rear turned bright.”

“It flashed?”

Based on what Roxanne said, [Gamma Ray Burst] seems to emit light. I wasn't able to see it, though.

Because it's called 'gamma ray', I thought it would be invisible to the eye; however, is that not the case?

“I saw it clearly because I was on the side. It was shining.”

“I saw, too. Michio-sama was shining.”

Because they were in the back row, both Sherry and Rutina seem to have seen it clearly.

Shining, huh?

The light emitted by [Gamma Ray Burst] isn't actually a gamma ray but a low frequency light. Because the light emitted accelerates to nearly the speed of light, it turns into a high frequency light due to the Doppler Effect.

On the contrary, from my – positioned at the centre – view, the frequency lowers due to the Doppler Effect, disconnecting me from the range of visibility.

It's a terrible red shift.

Because Roxanne and the girls wouldn't be able to live if they were exposed to a large quantity of gamma rays, it may likely be not the case. They are safe because the allies don't get hit by an area of effect spell.

“To be able to cast such a spell, as expected of Master.”

“I don't think such a spell has much use. It's quite troublesome to use. It's out of question if I cannot use it in case of an emergency.”

Although the damage [Gamma Ray Burst] inflicts is amazing, the consumption of MP is equally amazing.

What's more, my MP didn't restore fully even after killing the boss.

In terms of MP efficiency, the winner would definitely be Wizard's or Great Wizard's magic.

Although it can one shot small fries, there's no helping it.

Like [Meteor Crash], it's not an everyday use spell.

It's a trump card for contingencies.

I can fight using Durandal, too, in order to recover MP. There shouldn't be any problem in fighting at the front using Durandal. That said, there shouldn't be any problem in using normal magic either while Miria and Vesta take on the enemies.

Roxanne needn't even be mentioned.

“You should definitely experiment if you're able to use such a terrific magic.”

“It's troublesome, though, to the point I cannot cast it twice.”

Sherry approves of the importance of experiments.

“Relief, desu.”

“Indeed. I think I feel relieved thinking such a great magic can be used at the crucial moment.”

“You really are as terrific a gentleman as I expected.”

The experiment seems to have impressed Miria, Vesta and Rutina. It can safely be concluded as a great success.

“Then, before heading back to the 29th floor, search for monsters on the 24th floor, Roxanne.”

“Understood.”

Without moving to the 29th floor, I continue on the 24th floor without any change.

After recovering MP, I jump to the 29th floor boss room.

“Rutina, try hitting the boss once in order to get a feel. Even if it’s the boss, it’s not that scary if you hit it from the side.”

“Very well.”

“We have already fought the 29th floor boss with 5 people without any problem, so don’t worry.”

We enter the 29th floor boss room and fight the Boss Taurus. The battle progresses smoothly.

Because I don’t have Gambler selected, the boss doesn’t get petrified till the end; however, we kill it without any problem.

“I felt somewhat nervous, but I can handle it, too.”

“I look forward to it.”

“Anyways, are you going to repeat this? Ah, no. I should be able to do it, too.”

She won’t need to psyche herself up once she gets used to it. Besides, Rutina doesn’t stand in front of the boss.

Actually, the one who stands in front of the boss is the one who suggested repeating the boss battles.

Huh?.

By any chance, is it difficult for Roxanne, too?

What's the possibility of her saying it out of obstinacy?

The boss battles are supposed to be difficult.

I would probably have a hole in my stomach from the pressure if it were me.

Is it painful for Roxanne, too?

Did she propose it because she wasn't able to look up anymore?

Because she's obstinate, does she want to look cool by doing something which no one but she can do?

That's good enough. Take rest already. However, should I really say that to her?

"Roxanne, too, sorry for always troubling you. The boss battles must be difficult."

"They are? But-thank you very much."

"If you feel even a little uneasy, please tell me right away."

"Yes, I'll do that, of course."

Although I'm being considerate, there doesn't seem to be any need for the time being.

She doesn't even have a clue that I'm being considerate.

If you're fine with it, I'm fine with it, too.

"How about we fight on the 30th floor once? Rutina has yet to see a Half Herb."

"You're right."

I consult with Roxanne. We'll try to fight a Half Herb on the 30th floor once.

"You make it sound like it's easy."

Rutina braces herself. Well, if you can handle the 29th floor boss battle, the 30th floor shouldn't be a problem either.

In the end, there was no problem, so we return and repeat the 29th floor boss battle.

Smooth.

There are problems, though.

Firstly, it's more difficult to petrify the boss without Abnormal Status Resistance Down.

It's not like we cannot kill it if it doesn't get petrified; however, the duration of battles increases by 30% to 40%.

The faster we kill it, the more we can repeat the battle.

So, not selecting Gambler is no good?

“Again, desu.”

After going 2-3 rounds without the boss getting petrified, Miria shoulders can be seen drooped.

There's another problem.

It's Cook.

The Boss Taurus seems to drop a rare ingredient, chuck flap.

I haven't seen one thus far.

Today, the Moloch Tauruses haven't dropped any chuck rib either, so I can assume it's a pretty rare ingredient like chuck rib.

Therefore, I want to obtain one during the repeated boss battles today.

We will repeat the boss battles until it drops. It's a way to reach the target; however, what should I tell Roxanne?

Rutina sees me as a gourmand already.

Miria would insist on repeating it, if it were a fish.

As it turns out, I have no choice but to select Cook secretly.

I'd end up with 8 jobs if I attached Hero, Adventurer, Jobless, Grand Wizard, Priest, Great Hero, Gambler, and Cook.

It's over the limit.

Besides, I'll have bonus points to spend on an experience points category skill if I select Seventh Job.

With Cook, I won't have bonus points to spend elsewhere.

The purpose of repeating the boss battles is to gain more experience points. If I selected more jobs, gaining less experience points resultantly, I would be mistaking the means for the end.

I must not lose sight of the goal.

I must not mistake it with the target.

Well, I'll make the best possible compromise. The Cook will be better for the 29th floor.

The reason being, I cannot get a rare ingredient from a boss if I don't fight the boss.

The higher the risk the greater the reward.

Or is it different?

Rather than gaining the experience points, I'll enter the boss room to get the rare ingredients.

The reverse approach.

In the process, I can gain the experience points.

My target is chuck flap.

I wouldn't deny it if they called me a gourmand.

Then, which one should I remove?

I should be removing Priest first.

I'm fighting the boss battles with the objective of shut-out. (TN: It has been used on many occasions, so it needs to be defined. Shut-out: a competition or game in which the losing side fails to score)

There's no need to consider recovery.

I select it due to safety-first, of course.

However, if I think about it, I wouldn't be doing the boss battles if I were particular about danger. Besides, it's safer to just not enter the labyrinth. Because I'm beginning to think of the boss battles as daily routine, it'll be better to consider these preparations as routine, too.

Also, I can remove either Hero or Great Hero for their roles overlap. I cannot expect Great Hero to level up if I remove it. Because I'm not using Hero much, I can remove it.

I can also use Item Box with Great Hero.

The bonus points would decrease if I removed Hero from First Job; however, it's within the scope I can manage.

It feels somewhat unpleasant that the next highest job, to be used as First Job, is Jobless.

Well, it cannot be helped.

Because Jobless is a job that isn't widely known, there may be some benefit of doubt.

If it comes to light, I'll turn into a gourmand+carouser in Rutina's eyes. (TN: 遊び人 – Asobinin – We have been translating it as Jobless, but it may also mean Carouser which means someone who drinks excessively. It may also mean Playboy. By the way, gourmand means a food connoisseur)

First, I remove Hero and select Gambler.

It'd be scary to suddenly change everything.

After taking off Hero, I'll fight once or twice before exchanging Priest for Cook.

And if there's no problem with that either, I'll finally remove Durandal, too.

“Have you gotten a little familiar with it, Rutina?”

“I don't have any problem.”

“Well, don't relax your guard even if you've gotten used to it.”

“Okay.”

I use the causal warning to Rutina as an excuse to make the changes then head to the boss room.

Because I have removed Hero, our attack force should drop to some extent.

It'd be so troublesome to explain all the whys one by one, so I decide not to.

“Did it, desu.”

However, before we had the opportunity to notice the attack force having gone down, Miria petrifies the boss.

I can hear Miria's cheerful voice.

The remaining Moloch Tauruses get petrified as well. Miria has completely suppressed this boss battle.

This follows the moment I select Gambler, huh?

“As expected of Miria. Thank you.”

“Yes, desu.”

Her voice has regained the liveliness.  
She was accumulating anger up when she wasn't able to petrify the bosses without Gambler.  
It's like she's venting out the pent-up anger after a great success.  
I didn't cast Abnormal Status Resistance Down on the Moloch Tauruses, though. She petrified them on her own.

I take Durandal from Vesta and dispose the petrified monsters off.  
If I select Gambler and Miria petrifies the boss, I can select Cook and be done with it; however, I decide not to do that.  
I'm not sure about the experience points setting if I switched the jobs in the middle of the battle.  
There may be disadvantages, so I shouldn't tinker with it needlessly.

Thereafter, having confirmed the situation, I decide to remove Priest and Durandal.  
Rutina has gotten used to it, too, somewhat. So, from now on, it'll be a full-scale start.

## Chapter 202 : Gourmand

\*

I repeat the 29th floor boss battle.

We could fight here originally. Now that our fighting strength has increased due to Rutina having joined, there's no anxiety in regards to the battle.

We're able to hunt safely.

At this rate, we can afford to go to higher floors.

As for the boss battle, Miria has petrified the boss and one of the accompanying monsters. As for the third one, it's a contest of whether I kill it first or Miria petrifies it first. Doesn't that indicate our progress? I decide not to cast Abnormal Status Resistance Down on the last one. I'm certain Miria would end up hogging all three of them if I did cast.

The first monster, that I cast Abnormal Status Resistance Down on, gets petrified unusually quick.

Does the first petrification tend to be smooth?

They often get paralyzed even if they don't get petrified. Because we could swing the swords around without minding the attacks from the monsters if they were paralyzed, the petrification would only be a matter of time. I, too, can paralyze them with my Thunder magic.

"The battles become easy thanks to Miria. I wonder if you can move a little earlier."

Sherry is the one that receives the most benefit out of petrification. Since I remove Durandal in favor of Gained Experience, only Sherry's spear remains with Incantation Interruption skill.

In case a monster attempts to use the magic skill, Sherry must stop it. She'd welcome if the monsters decreased from three to two right off the bat.

"Then, let's go with that."

We agree upon Sherry's proposal and adjust our battle tactics a little.

In any case, it has no effect on the competition between me and Miria in respect of the last one.

This time, I kill it with my spell.

Because I had Rutina's support as she cast two spells.

"Did it, desu."

In the next battle, Miria gets all three.

So, that would happen if I didn't receive Rutina's support, huh?

Alright.

Fine. You're on.

Or I so thought, but Miria gets further ahead from then on.

I end up losing three times.

"The sun will be up soon."

When I set up a game on my own, the time reaches the limit quickly.

Roxanne announces 'time over'.

It's my bad luck that it's over.

I have no choice but to hand you the win for the morning.

After leaving the labyrinth and having the breakfast, I head to the Merchant's Guild.

At the guild, I just buy the Caterpillar Monster Card and return home immediately after.

Financially speaking, it'd be fine even if I placed order for one more.

Because the income from the labyrinth has increased, there won't be any problem even if I buy equipment or monster cards straight away.

What worries me is the marked price collapse.

If I bid on every monster card being exhibited, it might happen at some point.

I'd incur the wrath as the source of chaos.

Although I employ the services a broker, I want to avoid potentially unwanted friction.

The speed we're boosting our equipment at doesn't match with the speed we're growing at, but it cannot be helped.

This is a problem which cannot be solved in short term.

A normal party takes a long term view and gets stronger slowly.

Upon returning, I pass the Caterpillar Monster Card for Sherry to fuse. Sherry casually creates a Sacrificial Misanga.

“Done.”

“Nice. It’s a success. Thank you.”

“So, the ‘will definitely succeed’ claim was actually true, huh.....”

Rutina feels deeply impressed.

It’ll add to Sherry’s appeal.

Rutina would probably not look down on Sherry, though, even if I didn’t do anything in particular.

Putting the precious Sacrificial Misanga in my Item Box carefully, I head back to the labyrinth.

And resume my competition with Miria.

I’ll get a little serious now.

When we enter the boss room, the smoke starts gathering at three spots.

At that instant, I call for [OverDrive].

When the smoke gathers and takes form, the figures of the monsters could be seen.

The Boss Taurus and two Moloch Tauruses.

I cast [Aqua Storm] and [Thunder Storm].

After a few moments, the magic invokes.

There was a fair interval between casting and invocation.

Although it’s called [OverDrive], it doesn’t seem to make the magic invoke faster.

Even though my movement gets faster, it seems to be different in case of invocation.

Since it allows to call for quickly, it’s somehow cast early.

For the movement gets quicker, it makes invocation seem rather dull.

Meanwhile, I cast Abnormal Status Resistance Down on the Moloch Taurus which Miria was slowly closing in on.

I try to cast another spell as a test, but I don’t seem to be able to invoke it.

While the effect of the spells I cast first was somewhat still there, the effect of [OverDrive] starts to wear off.

The movement of both the monsters and party members gets faster.

Is it impossible to invoke two spells with one [OverDrive]? (TN: He cast two spells earlier after activating OverDrive, so this line may seem confusing. However, those were simultaneous spells. In respect of time/duration/delay/cooldown, they are essentially counted as one) The effect of [OverDrive] wears off; the lightning settles quickly; the mist clears up.

The moment it wears off, I call for [OverDrive] again.

And cast the next spells.

I cannot help it if I'm the only one who can push out and move in the middle of the battle. I wait motionlessly till the spells invoke.

I wait till [OverDrive] wears off again, till I can cast spells again, till I call for [OverDrive] again, till I cast spells again.

“Did it, desu.”

The boss easily gets petrified before I could call for [OverDrive] again.

The petrified Moloch Taurus turns into smoke.

Concurrently, the not-petrified monster collapses.

My first win.

[OverDrive] is as useful as I expected.

I had felt the attack power increasing under [OverDrive]. However, It seems to apply to the magic, too.

It increases the magic power just as well.

Consequently, the duration of battles has shortened.

It's half compared to before.

In other words, the power doubles under [OverDrive].

“.....The duration of battles seems to be considerably shorter all of a sudden.”

“Because Rutina has gotten more accustomed. Let's carry on in the same manner.”

While firing an [Aqua Ball] on the boss, I reply to Sherry's interjection.

If I can afford to continuously cast spells, I can afford to maintain the state of [OverDrive], too.

Since I can cast two spells in the duration of one [OverDrive]; also, since the power doubles, I can save MP equivalent to two spells with one [OverDrive].

The MP consumption of one [OverDrive] has to be less than the MP consumption of two spells, no? For argument's sake, even if it's more, the sensation doesn't differ much.

At the very least, it's not as much as in case of [Gamma Ray Burst] or [Meteor Crash].

The MP consumption of [OverDrive] will most likely not become an issue.

As for the problem... lifespan?

Does [OverDrive] reduce lifespan? Why do I feel there's such a side effect?

Even if we assumed there's no such side effect, since my body would live longer, my objective life would be shorter.

My cells would age; also, it is said that there's a limit on the number of times a heart can pulse during the lifetime.

I don't think my heartbeat slows down under [OverDrive].

Resultantly, wouldn't my lifespan shorten?

Assuming [OverDrive] is used for half of the duration of a battle, the ratio of the time spent on battles to the time spent in the labyrinth is 25%, the time spent in the labyrinth a day is 8 hours, which is  $\frac{1}{3}$ , the total percentage of time spent under [OverDrive] is no more than 5%. (TN: To be exact, 4.167%)

Let's say, if I continued to enter the labyrinth for 60 years from now, I would be under [OverDrive] for 3 years.

Assuming it decreased my lifespan by the same number, wouldn't it be 3 years shorter?

Oh well. If it's only this much, there's no reason not to use it, is there? Besides, it's not confirmed that [OverDrive] shortens the lifespan. Maybe it doesn't shorten?

If I could live up to 77, I don't think it would be much different from living up to 74 instead of 77.

I hope I wouldn't regret it when I reached 73.

I'll think about it when that time comes.

"How much stronger can you get? You seem to still be hiding something."

"For now, not much."

I answer Sherry's question.

If I attached Hero and Wizard jobs, I could probably shorten the duration of battles even more.

Because [OverDrive] would double the magic power of Wizard, It might make quite a difference.

"As expected of Master. At this rate, we are likely to move higher soon."

"Higher floor? No, I should be able to keep up. More than that, you seem to be taking it easy because of me. I'm really sorry."

Rutina apologizes.

"Ah, no. We're not doing anything of the sort. Don't worry about it."

I've been using this method ever since Rutina got accustomed. Until she did, I didn't try this method.

She may have misunderstood it.

We leave the boss room and repeat the battle.

Since I have now concluded that [OverDrive] is usable, I use it likewise against the monsters encountered en route to the boss room.

The duration of battles has shortened. It feels quite good.

Let alone exposing my life to danger, it has reduced the chance of receiving attacks. I can now walk in the labyrinth as if on a picnic.

The vanguards, who confront the monsters directly, aren't as carefree, though.

Even though the battles have shortened, it doesn't mean we don't have any contact with the monsters. Still, it tends to get over without having to rush to the monsters.

It's just the stress that's piling up slowly.

Still, it's better than plight.

There's a problem, though. Hasn't it become more difficult to petrify? However, since the duration of battles has shortened, it cannot be helped. With more than three monsters, there's no chance for Miria to petrify all.

Earlier, I could bring Durandal out to recover my MP if all the monsters were petrified, but I can't now.

It's not like the MP consumption of [OverDrive] is high; however, it has become more difficult to recover MP.

Currently, I leave the petrified boss as is and finish it off using with Durandal, replenishing MP for more rounds.

Because the boss most likely offers considerable experience points, it's wasteful to draw Durandal every time. However, I'm more worried about the time when we won't be able to partake in the boss battles as main like we're presently doing.

Oh well. I'll worry about it when that time comes.

If the boss battles wouldn't be main, it meant the battles would be intense and the duration of battles would be long.

The longer the duration of battles, the more the chance of petrification. I could even use Abnormal Status Resistance Down in the normal battles. We could sometimes even petrify all of the monsters.

As for whether the competition between Miria and I during the boss battles, that is whether I kill the third monster first or Miria petrifies it first, is over due to short duration of battles? Nope, it's not.

Finally. It can finally be called a competition.

Speaking of which, I wonder if [OverDrive] really has any effect on Abnormal Status Resistance Down.

As for Resistance Down, if it (OverDrive) doesn't increase the strength of effect, it must increase the duration of effect.

Miria literally petrifies the monster, which Abnormal Status Resistance Down is first put on, in one or two swings.

The boss gets petrified quickly, too.

It's impossible for the effect of Abnormal Status Resistance Down to not have increased.

The rate of paralysis from my Thunder magic has increased, too. There should be no doubt.

Actually, I don't think it's [OverDrive] that has increased the rate of paralysis from my Thunder magic.

Wouldn't it be a luxury in addition to the increase in power?

Because I didn't cast Abnormal Status Resistance Down on the third one, my competition with Miria has tilted in favor of me.

This time, following the petrified Cyclops, the not-petrified Moloch Taurus falls to my Water magic.

It's my win.

The Moloch Taurus turns into smoke and leave an item behind.

Ah

It's chuck rib.

Although the Boss Taurus has yet to drop a chuck flap, I can already see the effect of selecting Cook.

It has been decided. Tonight's dinner won't be fish but [yakiniku](#).

"If fighting here is this easy, then is it really necessary for us to observe the situation for today and tomorrow; two days, that is? I think it's okay for us to move to a higher floor immediately. If you're worried about me, there's no need. I'll show you I can fight."

Rutina proposes.

Considering the situation, I certainly agree.

However, it'd be terrible to get carried away and advance recklessly.

If I consulted Roxanne, she would insist on moving up, too.

"Uun, what should we do?"

Putting the answer on hold, I finish the boss off with Durandal.

The boss collapses and turns into smoke.

The smoke dissipates, leaving meat behind.

Oh

It's chuck flap.

First chuck rip followed by chuck flap.

I've been lucky in this boss battle.

“Master and us don’t have any problem in advancing to a higher floor.”

Before saying such things, Roxanne, would you please listen to me for a bit?

Oh well. More importantly, even such an amateur as me can eat such an exquisite thing as chuck flap.

“Ah, this one dropped a chuck flap.”

“Oh, amazing.”

I change the subject.

I could tell it was a chuck flap even without Appraisal since it didn’t stack with roast when I tried to put it inside my Item Box.

“Higher floor? In our current condition, we can afford to advance, indeed. Let’s fight on this floor for today and advance tomorrow.”

“Okay. That’s a good idea, too, I think. As expected of Master.”

“.....He really is a gourmand.”

Mutters Rutina.

Shit. Well, that’s quite so.

Just now, if I had agreed to advancing, would I have persevered till the chuck flap dropped? Nope.

## Chapter 203 : Etiquette.

\*

I finished the fighting in the labyrinth.

Today we made it this far.

After this we will shop, and then return to the house, then we'll have dinner, and then... well, you know what will happen.

Hahahahaaaa.

Also, we haven't been to the clothes shop in the Imperial Capital yet. Roxanne would never leave there empty handed, even if we went there every day.

It's good to go there to buy the camisole negligee though.

The clothes that Rutina was wearing at the Earl's castle are currently being made useful as pajamas.

It will do for a while.

I've begun to enjoy the taste of Rutina more.

It's good to have some change so I don't get bored.

Rutina can't run away from me.

Chasing her might be fun though.

I should take my time enjoying the taste of her.

I have plenty of time.

"Chuck flap dropped today, so tonights dinner is simple roast meat."

I let the five of them know.

Chuck flap, Roast and Chuck rib will be roasted.

Rutina already seems to be ensnared by my cooking.

I don't think she can run away anymore.

She's been caught by my tentacles.

This is the skill I worked on for ten years in the Hida mountains.

The more you struggle, the more my hold on you tightens.

There is no soy sauce or worcestershire sauce in this world so complex sauces can't be made, but the demons drop salt and pepper so those can

be used freely.

It will be better to be simple with steak.

“Yes, it will be great.”

“Please make a vegetable soup as well, and that should be plenty.”

“I understand.”

I asked for soup, and went shopping.

I bought vegetables, eggs, and bread, and then returned to the house.

It seems like the summer heat is past it's peak.

The hottest times might be over.

“With the meat today, lets fry up some white meat for tomorrows dinner as well.”

It's not because it's started to cool off, but it's the right time to start deep frying some dishes again.

“Oh. Yes, desu.”

“Miria and Vesta make mayonnaise with these eggs.”

“Ma yonn ai se, desu.”

“Okay, I think we can do it.”

I passed the eggs and olive oil to Miria and Vesta.

It's hard to make the mayonnaise alone, but it should be fine with two of them.

“Mayo, mayone, what is that?”

“Mayonnaise is for seasoning. It's a delicious sauce.”

“I've never heard of it, is there such a thing?”

“It's quite thick, and enhances the flavour of fish and vegetables.”

Sherry informs Rutina.

Mayonnaise doesn't convert to Brahim it seems.

There doesn't seem to be a similar seasoning.

“I'll look forward to it. I can't get enough of your cooking.”

She's noticed.

That's right, Rutina.

“We’ll grill some meat as well.”

“Okay.”

I pass the Chuck flap, Roast and Chuck ribs to Roxanne and Sherry.

“I’m going to prepare the bath. Do you want to help Rutina?”

“Yes, I’ll help.”

“Okay.”

Rutina and I went to the bathroom.

“You really prepare it every day.”

“Everyone gets quite sweaty in the summer.”

With Rutina helping it’s become quite easy. We might have a bath every day even when summer ends.

Though, I’ll wash all five of their bodies every day even if we don’t prepare the bath.

“Getting into a large bath is extremely comfortable, it’s the height of prosperity. After coming here I’ve come to love bathing as well, so thank you.”

Rutina seems to have come to like the baths.

It’s a good habit.

It’s not the same reason that I like it though.

“I’m glad that you like it.”

“It’s a little embarrassing to get in with Michio-sama, but it feels like getting in with a maid servant.”

Am I considered a maid servant?

That’s very straight forward.

I am pleased that she’s relaxed enough to say such a thing.

I prepared the bath together with Rutina.

I don’t use [Overdrive].

Time isn’t a problem here, unlike when we are in battle.

The amount of water won’t necessarily double, even if power doubles. The heat power of [Burn wall] will go up.

I also have Rutina to help today.  
My MP might have increased too.

“It’s good that you’re helping.”  
“Yes, I’m glad I could help today.”  
“You’re doing well.”

“That’s good. Is the bath getting prepared faster? Michio-sama shortened the battle time today.”

Rutina is a little mysterious.  
Her Wizard has improved a bit, and she’s managed to help out right to the end.  
The increase in my Great Hero has probably helped out too.

“You’re probably getting used to using magic.”  
“Maybe that’s it. As expected of me. But...”

You can be pleased.  
After that we went to the kitchen.

“Ma yonn ai se, desu.”  
“Good. Lets put it away for tomorrow.”

Miria passed me the mayonnaise when we returned to the kitchen.  
She seems to have made it correctly with Vesta.

“This is going well too.”  
Roxanne is cooking the meat.  
An appetizing smell is drifting in the air.

“Oh, this is Chuck flap?”  
When you see the meat cooking, the colour is different depending on the kind.  
So you can tell the difference by colour once it’s cooked?  
The items appearance for Roast and Chuck flap is nearly the same, but you can also tell the difference as soon as you cut it.  
The Chuck flap has a white marbled colour to it.

“How can you tell the difference with the Chuck flap?”

“This part is different.”

“It’s white, and not very good.”

“Right, well this is the part that is tasty.”

Roxanne doesn’t know about marbling?  
If you don’t know, will you think it’s bad?  
I think it’s beautiful marbled fat.

“Really?”

“Is that how it is?”

It seems that even Sherry doesn’t know.  
Is it alright?  
Don’t they know that marbling tastes good in this world?  
Is it because it’s a rare drop?

“We have gotten Chuck flap as a gift from people in our territory several times. It is certainly a delicious ingredient.”

Rutina says it’s good, so it should be fine.  
Can it be a gift even if you can’t see the difference?  
There might be some mistakes.

“Roxanne, can you prepare the meat juices?”

“Yes.”

“Vesta, chop these vegetables finely. Rutina, break that ice.”

I made the sauce in the kitchen.  
Beef is fine with seasoning of just salt and pepper, but this time we have a large amount of chuck flap, roast and chuck ribs.  
Any waste will come out simply by cooking it.

I stewed the chopped vegetables in the meat juices and made a simple sauce.

I don’t know how to make a demiglace sauce, but this should be enough to enhance the taste.

I prepared it in a small dish so it can be used if we like.

We weren’t able to make dessert, so we used the ice to cool some drinks.  
As soon as the meat finished cooking, the dinner was ready.

The things cooked earlier have had some time to cool down.

In reality we should all be cooking our meat on an iron plate.

It's feels strange that I made Roxanne cook for me.

It's sad to have one person cook it for everyone to eat.

Well, I fried the tempura so there wasn't much else we could do.

All the meat is carried to the table.

It's all delicious.

"The roast is delicious."

How should I compare them?

As Roxanne says, the roast is very good.

I feel like I've only eaten a lot of meat.

Compared to the roast, the chuck flap is soft, and it's taste is a level higher.

The chuck rib isn't soft, and has a thick taste.

The roast isn't bad.

The roast is a nice roast.

"I can notice all the different tastes, but they are all delicious."

Sherry seems to have the same opinion.

"Delicious, desu."

"It's great to eat so many different things."

"The texture changes when you put the sauce on it. The crunchy texture of the vegetables is splendid and makes the sauce wonderful. I've never eaten something like this before."

Rutina seems to have liked the sauce.

I should give them my thanks if they liked it.

Of course I'll be giving them my thanks in the bath.

"Good, we'll clean up and then take a bath."

In the bathroom I massage everyone in order.

I give my thanks to Rutina to my hearts content.

It's the second time so I do it without the hesitation I had yesterday.

Rutina's chest is white, and has an unbelievably good feeling.

For size, of course Vesta's is the best, and rubbing hers is also wonderful.

No. Comparing sizes is a taboo.

Somebodies eyes would glare at me.

"Next we will wash Master's body."

I depend on Roxanne's suggestion for this.

Five people wash my body.

Miria and Roxanne rub my chest with soap.

My back is massaged by Vesta's big mounds of flesh.

This is the best.

Since I don't compare them, Sherry helps as well.

Rutina also washed me a little more enthusiastically than yesterday.

It's a good trend.

She washes me with her smooth skin.

My mind and body are washed.

After that, some time of bliss is spent in the bathtub.

Thankfully the bathtub is small.

It's a time of pure bliss for me.

Rutina may be holding back, but I settle in without problem.

"After getting out of the bath, we'll all go to the kitchen before we change cloths today."

"I understand."

I declared that we'll go to the kitchen after the bath.

My naked body is wiped.

Roxanne wraps my body with the cloth as a substitute for a towel.

It's not perfect, but it will suffice.

"This is the traditional ettiquete taught in my clan."

"A clan tradition? Thank you."

I thank Roxanne.

“First we stand side by side, next cup your empty hand and put it at your waist. Extend your elbow sideways, and raise the cup to your mouth. Then tilt your head and drink it in one go. This is the proper etiquette when drinking this drink after taking a bath.”

After explaining it, we drink the icy drink.  
It's the drop from the Boss Taurus that we got today.  
We didn't drink much, but it was good.  
It's a delicacy.

A thick slightly bitter milk flows down my throat.  
It's a drink somewhere between yogurt and buttermilk.  
It is not sticky even though it's thicker than milk, and has a good flavour.

A cold drink after the bath is special.  
Whey.  
The cold soaks into my warm freshly bathed body.

“So this is the proper way?”  
“Of course.”

Whey is a dropped item wrapped in a transparent film like Olive Oil.  
The film tears easily and can be poured into a cup.  
Roxanne prepared the cups, and we drank the Whey.

The appearance of her standing firm with her feet parted and her hand on her waist is wonderful.  
Her chest is proudly thrust out.  
It's regrettable that she's wrapped in a cloth.  
I want to massage her from the front.

“Thank you. It's cool and delicious.”  
I'd give you 100 points Roxanne.  
I want to drink this more often.

“It's nice and cool in my throat, it's the best, drinking it all at once.”  
Sherry sticks out her chest too.

“Cool, desu.”

“I think it’s wonderful.”

Vesta is large, so I was hoping for a nice reaction.  
Maybe that’s just my selfish expectations?  
She doesn’t take large gulps, but just drinks it in smaller swallows.

“A cool body will help us sleep well.”

Well that’s true, but I won’t let you sleep, Rutina.  
There is some light exercise waiting for you after this.  
I say it’s light, but you might have to do the exercise five times.

## Chapter 204 : R.E.M

\*

“First thing today we’ll break through the 30th floor. Do you have the map?”

“Yes.”

I entered the labyrinth today early in the morning.  
I should get the prize for perfect labyrinth attendance.  
Well I am also afraid to skip a day.

I heard that even the best pianist’s skill will decrease if he doesn’t play every day.

Will my skill decrease if I skip a day?

What will happen if my skill decreases?

In the Labyrinth, you will endanger your life if your skill decreases.

It isn’t like I will suddenly become weak if I skip a day, since I fight every day we have a lot of leeway in our present condition, so we won’t get into a pinch straight away.

I’m trying to think about it objectively.

It isn’t something I need to worry over, but I am afraid to skip a day after all.

Because I value my life which is at risk.

The risk is huge.

Even if it is fine to drop back to lower floors, my judgment may become dull, and I may get an not notice after skipping some time.

If I spend a long time to recover, my loss will be huge.

It is not like there is any great entertainment in this world that I can skip for.

I have sex maniac so I do have something else to do, but I would be in serious trouble to keep Roxanne and the girls going all day long.

When I am speaking about entertainment, it is about that much.

In that case, it will be good to keep going in the labyrinth everyday

without skipping it.

I think I am nervous to some extent, but it is not like I am mentally tired. And I will perfectly enjoy the labyrinth while entering it everyday. If I vent my anxiety everyday, no anxiety will be left for the next day.

That should be fine.

We advance in the labyrinth with Roxanne's guidance. I feel quite good.

The boss for the 30th floor is Heart Herb.

It is a grass monster with its stem shaped like a heart. The stem makes me think it's a heart. Whether the heart is a vital part or not I am not sure. Miria ended up petrifying it immediately.

Miria successfully petrified the three of them. It seems like the competition will continue today. The battle time will become longer as we go up. Miria will get more of an advantage.

Although, we may encounter some monsters in higher floors that won't be affected by petrification. Should I arrange for one of us to fight the monster Miria can't petrify if it happens? I would like for Miria to have a successful path.

"Did it, desu."

While I was cleaning up the petrified monsters slowly, Miria shouted. But all the monsters should be petrified with none left.

"What?"

"Seems to be a Magic crystal."

Roxanne informed me instead of Miria who ran to the corner of the boss room.

Is it the magic crystal also known as fish savings?

As the amount of fights against bosses increased, picking up magic crystals increased.

Boss rooms often have them, and other parties rarely get a chance to take them if we do continuous boss battles.

And Miria can find them for sure.

Though, picking up a black crystal is not a great treasure.

Because there is not enough bonus points in crystal acceleration, the magic crystal will not grow fast.

But it is not like I am troubled with money so I don't have any problem with that.

I still have one white gold coin.

Currently I also have a yellow magic crystal, soon it will turn to a white magic crystal and should become another white gold coin.

Lastly, I finished the boss with my magic, and receive the black magic crystal from Miria.

Heart Herb became smoke and left Mung Bean behind.

Is this Heart Herb's drop item?

What an ordinary green bean.

It is not strange for a grass monster to leave a seed behind.

It's not in a pod, it's just a bean.

I don't think Mung Beans would grow anything since it's an item.

I remove gambler, and attach Herbalist.

I raised herbalist up to Lv15 yesterday.

I've raised Herbalist to Lv15 during my spare time, was it enough?

It only took a little time.

Lv20 shouldn't take much time either.

If I want to level it further then I'll have to put in some proper effort..

I can already use Herbalist on the drop from Half Herb, but if I think about it then shouldn't the drop from the boss require a higher level?

It's possible Half Herb only needs Herbalist Lv5.

It's common to think that a bosses item would require a higher level.

At least Lv10? Maybe Lv15?

Maybe Lv15 isn't enough?

There is a chance I may fail.

When I fail I will try not to disgrace myself, I will have to use [Crude medicine generation] with an innocent look.

Roxanne picked up the Mung Bean.

I hide the concern on my face and take it with my palm.

I immediately use [Crude medicine generation].

The Mung Bean rolled down on my hand.

If this was the raw material for medicine, it would change to medicine right now.

I feel the Mung bean in the center of my palm.

And as for the pill, none.....appeared.....

“I am glad. You still aren’t able to create the 10 thousand pill.”

“10 thousand pill?”

“Yes. That is something that you can’t make without training for 5 or 10 years. A friend of mine who become an herbalist was happy after being able to make the medicine after 20 years of training.”

“What do you mean. Is a herbalist coming?”

Rutina tilts her head to the side in puzzlement as I was talking with sherry.

It seems Rutina doesn’t understand it.

Or rather, Sherry really noticed it.

But you were not supposed to notice it.

Strange.

How did she discover it?

Was it reflected on my face?

Nope. Maybe it’s simply what I did?

She saw through it.

I have no choice but try to decide it now.

The reason why Rutina doesn’t know is because she hasn’t seen me make any medicine yet.

Excluding my failure just now.

Because I put all the medicine I got from Epicus in my items box, Rutina doesn’t know I can use the Herbalist skill to create it.

“Ah~. I didn’t use it just now. Maybe later.”

I face Sherry and tell her.

And made sure Rutina next to her is listening perfectly.

I didn’t use [Crude medicine generation].

I didn’t do it, you know.

“Is that how it is?”

Sherry nodded her head.

Frightfully obedient.

Out of respect to her obedience, I will overlook her remark that doubted my skill just now as her master.

She didn’t doubt it although she saw through it.

“Yes.”

“Are you doing any important experiments?”

Ah.

It is going in the wrong direction.

Far from important, there is no experiment.

“Ah~. No. Ah well it is not that important.”

“Really?”

“Can Michio-sama make ten thousand pill medicine?”

“Ah~ no. Ah~ I wonder about that?”

“What do you mean?”

I wanted to take advantage of Rutina’s question to deceive her, but this question is dangerous too.

The 10 thousand pill seems to be the medicine made with [Crude medicine generation] from the Mung Bean.

It looks like I’ll need a higher level to make it.

I can’t make it with Herbalist Lv15.

In another word, the current me can’t make it.

I can’t afford to answer Rutina’s question with certainty.

If I can’t make it later, I will be exposed.

I need to avoid the question, and find out if [Crude medicine

generation] can make it.

I am planning to keep Herbalist attached today to increase its level. Because today is different than yesterday and I don't need cook, this much is fine.

If it goes well, I may be able to make the 10 thousand pill.

Or, I can also play that hand where I set the [Crude medicine generation] skill as Jobless's skill.

When I set item box from Explorer as Jobless's skill, item box's capacity was the same level as Jobless's.

If [Crude medicine generation] is level dependent, then it will be good to use the skill of Jobless which has a higher level than Herbalist.

I can make the medicine from Ephedra even if I don't do such a troublesome thing.

Even though it's troublesome, I should have done it in front of Rutina.

Although it's too late now.

I should go to the next floor quickly now.

"Rather than that, should we go up to the 31st floor?"

"Let me see. The monster on Quarter's 31st floor, is the Non-R.E.M golem. It doesn't have any attribute weakness. It is regarded as a troublesome enemy for Wizards. Because it is a monster made of rock, it is resistant to earth, and sometimes uses earth magic. However as it's main attack it will attack simply using its arm. It seems quite powerful so it is necessary to be careful."

Sherry gives explanation.

As expected, if we move to the next floor any further discussion will be postponed.

"Non-R.E.M golem? Roxanne, you've fought it before right?"

"Yes. It's attack seems to be strong but the attack motion is big, if I don't look away then it shouldn't be able to land a hit."

I listened to the story about when Roxanne hunted the Non-R.E.M golem before.

Nevertheless, I don't know if this means the monster is easy to deal with

or not.

It is Roxanne after all.

Let's hope its movement is easier to understand than that monster.

"It is regrettable that it doesn't have attribute weakness, but I have thunder magic, it should be fine if you adjust depending on the monsters that come with it."

"I agree."

I confirm with Rutina what magic she should use.

Will it be good to keep thunder magic as Jobless's skill?

By the way, Half Herb from the 30th floor's weakness is fire magic, though if it appears with Moloch Taurus, Cyclops and Scissor Lizard who have fire resistance then fire magic plays a less active role.

I set Thunder magic as Jobless's skill.

"The number seems a little large, we will immediately find them going this way."

"I want to try it. Let's try fighting it anyway."

"Okay."

We go up to the 31st floor, and Roxanne locates the monsters immediately.

We move with Roxanne's guidance.

When the monsters appear, I cast [OverDrive] immediately.

As time flows slowly inside [OverDrive], I observe the monsters.

It's 5 monsters.

Though she said a little large, it is the maximum number for this floor, but it's alright.

4 Non-R.E.M golems and 1 Moloch Taurus.

I cast two [Thunder Storms] and observed the Non-R.E.M golems.

Non-R.E.M golem is a yellowish brown square built monster.

It has both legs and arms attached and walk on both legs.

It's body is probably made of rock.

They notice us, and start approaching slowly.

Nope. The slowness is due to [OverDrive]?

When I stopped [OverDrive], only Moloch Taurus's is moving like normal.

When I look at its movement, they don't particularly seem to be sleeping.

They have something like a face, there is eyes, nose and a mouth.

They are in a line.

Have they fallen asleep in a line?

They didn't move after thunder hit them when I invoked [Thunder storm], they are not asleep after all.

The movement of the three of them has stopped.

It is paralysis.

The remaining Non-R.E.M golem and Moloch Taurus approach the vanguard.

Non R.E.M golem pulled it's arm slowly behind it back.

After pulling it to the very limit, it pushes out a punch to the front.

The motion seems to be really large like Roxanne said.

Perhaps this will not be able to hit us very often.

You might not be able to keep track if you are fighting two of them, but it should be fine if you focus.

The punch itself is a fast, quick attack.

Roxanne twists her body lightly and easily evades it.

And instead hits it with her Rapier of Hypnosis.

The Non-R.E.M golems head drops down with "gakuri" noise.

It is asleep.

The Non-R.E.M golem doesn't lie down, but this seems to be it's sleep state.

I don't know how something Non-R.E.M would sleep.

It may be R.E.M sleep.

First of all, is there such thing as a doll made of rock?

Seems like it is possible for the eyeball to move even when the eye is closed.

R.E.M sleep has a moving eyeball, but non-R.E.M sleep has no moving eyeball.

R.E.M sleep and non-R.E.M sleep can be told apart by rapid eye movement or not.

The eye had an eyeball when the stripe was opened. 睡眠状態のときにはうつむいているので目は確認できなかった。

Because it was looking down when it was under sleep status, I couldn't check the eye.

It wakes up with thunder magic, and the eye appears.

Whether it is still sleeping or not, the Non-R.E.M golem is handled soon..

As for the strength, it is not something worth mentioning specially. Is the 31st floor monster really known for it's strength?

Although it is troublesome there isn't a weak point, and since thunder magic is used petrification will happen easier.

MP recovery will become easier.

Not this time though.

The Non-R.E.M golems become smoke and leave behind rocks. This seems to be the dropped item.

It is not that big, it is around the size of a volleyball and probably an ordinary rock.

There shouldn't be any problem fitting it in the item box since armour can fit in.

“A rock?”

“It can be crushed relatively easily, and when it is crushed and used with cement or shielding cement it seems to become a first class building material.”

I look in Sherry's direction, and she immediately tells us. Adding crushed rock to cement to make building materials. Wouldn't that just be concrete?

Is it really necessary to use the item rock? It must be rather expensive.

Maybe cement is an item that only works with the rock via a skill.

“Sherry-ane-sama, I don't think Michio-sama doesn't know about

something like that.”

Rutina called out to Sherry.

It seems it is something everyone on this world knows about.  
Of course I didn't know, is there a problem?

This is bad.

I can't make Sherry the bad person here.

Still I would be looked at like a fool by Rutina if I confess I honestly didn't know.

“Nope. This is something I asked her to do. Because there is many things I don't know about, I asked her to teach me everything.”

“Really?”

“That's right.”

I interrupt her somehow.

Sherry has an expression that she understands completely, and withdraws in silence.

## Chapter 205 : Decoy

\*

“Michio-sama, is it really fine for me to only cast two magic spells?”

After being able to handle the 30th floor boss battle a few times, Rutina came to inquire.

It's a difficult question to answer.

Right now, Rutina is not useful in battle.

The number of spells I used never decreased no matter how many times Rutina casts magic.

To be blunt, Rutina is not necessary in the battles.

It will be good to increase the number of spells Rutina is using, but the battle time is too short for her since she needs to chant to be able to cast, and when the time in boss battles increases Miria will petrify the boss so there is no big merit for Rutina to cast magic.

Additionally, even if my magic is reduced by one when Rutina casts 4 or 5 magic spells, that is because Rutina's magic power is  $\frac{1}{4}$  or less of my magic power, so there might be no reason for her to cast more.

Even so, since I am more hesitant to tell Rutina she is not necessary, I left this matter unsettled.

Would she like to hear that?

Well, it could be so.

Because we moved from the 29th floor boss battles to the 30th floor boss battles, confirmation is needed.

When I was on the 29th floor before using [OverDrive], I was able to reduce my spell cast by one when Rutina casted two magic spells.

That's why I asked Rutina to cast two magic spells.

Occasionally using it twice? O if there is no MP.

After that, I became able to use [OverDrive] and my magic power increased by two fold.

There's no doubt that the magic power of Rutina at present is less than  $\frac{1}{4}$

of mine.

Wizard and Great Wizard are different, there are is a difference in levels and equipments, also there's the effect of the earrings of sacrifice, so there will be that much difference.

However, having [OverDrive] is good.

When I started using [OverDrive] the time between the first and second spell is shortened.

When I use two [Thunder Storm], what they'll see is that I cast just one thunder magic.

Using it once? Twice? Sherry shouldn't be able to notice it either. Only by my voluntary report whether the number of magic used decreased or not.

"I see. Then I will ask you for two."

There is no helping for it.

I will deceive her indefinitely.

I also have the choice to tell her the truth and ask her to cast more during a boss battle, but she will find out that she's a child who can't help with other fights though.

A lot of changes will appear once we ascend to higher floors.

Strictly speaking, will the number of my spells decrease when Rutina uses magic? It is not directly unrelated to magic power.

If I assume that I will need 8.1 spells to defeat monsters on the 32nd floor, and if Rutina's magic can do 0.1, I will be able to defeat the monster with eight spells instead of nine.

Let's hope that happens.

It will be fine to adjust the number of spells that Rutina casts at that time.

It will be alright to postpone it till then.

Putting off the problem is unexpectedly the right solution.

I will repeat the boss battle today without thinking about it.

"It's about time for the sun to rise."

When I was about to continue the early morning hunting, Roxanne informs me.

What happened to Herbalist?

It has risen up to Lv20 when I looked at it.

Oh!

Excellent!!

Although Herbalist was Lv19 until just now, it seems that it leveled up in the last minute.

“Then, should we stop here?”

We finish the last boss battle and end our fighting.

Perhaps, it is necessary to be Lv5 to create medicine from the drop item of Half Herb.

But I wasn't able to make medicine from the boss drop even with Lv15 Herbalist.

It may be possible with Lv20.

I receive the item left by the recently defeated boss.

It should be alright to try it.

I cast [Crude medicine generation].

The Mung bean rolls into the center of my palm as I close my hand on it.

The Mung bean..... didn't have any changes at all.

It doesn't show any sign that anything might happen either.

It seems that Herbalist Lv20 is not enough yet.

Fine.

It is alright.

It isn't yet the time to get upset.

I have Jobless.

I toss the Mung bean in my item box with a nothing happened face.

Nothing happened.

I didn't do anything.

“Ummm. After breakfast will it be the 31st floor boss battle?”

While I was having a poker face, Roxanne asked.

I probably should be thinking what to do next.

Is that so?

Is it wrong not to think about that?

“Hmm. No point thinking about it here. We will talk about it during the meal. So How about shopping first?”

I deceive her by saying we should go shopping.

I [Warp] to the Adventurers guild.

The first thing I'll do after moving is changing the Jobless skill.

I set Herbalist [Crude medicine generation] skill as Jobless's skill

I can't set the Jobless skill often.

In the meantime, after this we are going to shop, make breakfast, eat it and clean it up. I think I should barely be able to return the job at the last minute after all that?

It would even be good to go to the Merchant guild if I had an errand.

There is nothing like that when you need it.

On the other hand, even after leaving the labyrinth in the evening, because I'll be setting the intermediate Water magic as Jobless skill for the bath, I still can't set [Crude medicine generation] as the skill.

The Jobless skill is pretty hard to use.

Well, it is Jobless after all.

It is a job that will not work diligently.

Then, I will miss the chance to set [Crude medicine generation] before going to sleep.

Truthfully, I should have set it up last night before sleeping if I knew that this would happen.

I didn't notice it even though I knew that I will fight the Half Herb boss today.

It is different, right?

I have to beat the boss first to get the Mung bean.

I should have thunder magic as Jobless's skill during the boss battle.

It is no use after all.

“There is no resistance at all from something like Heart Herb, I think we

should move immediately to the 31st floor boss battle.”

Roxanne proposed immediately during breakfast.

Is that a problem as well?

I didn't even particularly think about whether I should advance to the upper floor or not, although I intend to repeat the 30th floor boss battle as usual.

I can't tell her that I didn't think about that right now, it's already too late.

“Ummm. What should we do?”

“I also think it will be better to move to the 31st floor.”

Oh wow.

Aside from Roxanne, even Sherry chimes in.

Should I really be thinking about it if Sherry says so?

“You think so as well, Sherry?”

“Currently, the 30th floor is too lenient to waste time in. It will be better to move to a higher floor. We will be troubled if we got accustomed to weak battles. And Rutina just joined too.”

I see.

I only considered that it's dangerous to go up floors, but was it the opposite? Is it more dangerous to get used to halfhearted battles?

As expected from Sherry, she knows what to say.

She has persuasive power.

“Petrification, desu.”

“I think it will be alright to go to a higher floor.”

“I also think it will be better to advance higher.”

Apparently all members agree on going up.

Because I used [OverDrive], It seems that the battle time is entirely shortened, I also understood the idea that there is no helping it even if I stay too long.

Should I go higher now?

“Should we try to advance as far as the 31st floor boss then?”

“Yes. I guess that would be alright. As expected of Master.”

However if I followed Roxanne's suggestion without thinking, I will be in trouble.

I guess I can hear what the other girls will say again at that time.

I guess it will be good if there is no difference.

Rather, the four girls will be influenced by Roxanne?

Aside from Sherry, Miria and Vesta don't think about anything.

"Because Heart Herb doesn't leave any ingredients, there is no reason for Michio-sama to keep fighting."

And Rutina is Rutina, saying such a thing.

I want to interrogate her about what she thinks about me.

Though if I question her, she'll clearly say Gourmand, so I'll be troubled.

"Let's finish the meal."

"Yes."

Roxanne seems happy.

Since it's dangerous, it will be good to prevent her from giving strange influence to those around her.

"We're not going to the slave trader?"

Rutina asked.

Ah. You mean that?

I was told to take you to a slave trader by the Duke.

If I go to the labyrinth after breakfast, when will I be able to go to the slave trader?

"Ah~. That reminds me there was such a thing."

"Yes. If we can go early it will save us some trouble."

"Really?"

Is it better to get there early?

Usually you want to postpone such a thing.

Although it is different, since I had forgotten about it.

"Just in case something happens."

It is a good thing, if there is a chance to be free from slavery.

Nope. There is a chance the slave will follow after the master when he dies depending on the will.

I guess it is about that.

Because she is a slave without an owner, they may decide to kill her so she follow's the Earl.

What's with that.

It's too scary.

“Ah! I understand.”

“Eh. Well. If you can understand it.”

I should apologize here.

I should also tell everypne what the Duke said.

“I was not yet set as the owner of Rutina.”

I explain to Roxanne and the girls.

They'll find it out soon anyway.

I should gracefully confess.

“There is a chance that someone may rewrite it if the owner is not set.”

Sherry explains to me.

Ah.

It isn't about following the master after death?

“That's right.”

“Yes. Although the consent of the person is necessary when becoming a slave, after becoming a slave, they can't choose who becomes the master. The owner is set first, and the approval of the former master is needed to change the master. You should set the first owner as early as possible.”

If I don't set who the first owner IS, anyone can set himself as master without permission?

Is that what she means by any chance?

“I-it is just in case of any chance it may happen.”

Rutina wants to become my slave as a precaution in case of an emergency.

It is a good inclination.

Well, I already slept with her.

“I understand. Take out your left arm.”

I would have done that if you said it before.

When I told Rutina to show her left hand, she stretched it out with doubting eyes.

I set Slave Trader as my job, and open the Intelligence Card.

When her Intelligence card came out, Rutina was further surprised. Using Slave Trader's [Intelligence card operation], I can change the Owner's setting.

Although, it doesn't look like anyone can be set, it appears that I can only set the owner if his intelligence card is open in the vicinity.

I take out my intelligence card too and set it as Rutina's owner.

“Ho~. I can do it.”

It seems fine if the person set himself as the owner while operating it. Guess that's true?

When a slave trader purchases a slave, he must be able to set himself as the first owner.

Otherwise, the slave could be taken by another person after going through a lot of troubles.

“Eh.....Is it possible to do it?”

“You can see your Intelligence Card. Why don't you check if it works properly?”

I let Rutina check her intelligence card. It should be done.

“Y-yes. It is done.”

“Then it was a success. I am glad.”

“Ah.... Is it alright if I can look at Michio-sama's Intelligence Card?”

Rutina is asking if she can read my intelligence card. She doesn't trust me yet?

“Here”

I regret stretching out my left arm in front of Rutina.  
I made Jobless my first job.  
Because I removed Hero, Wizard, and Explorer, Jobless is the highest level right now.

Since the first job is directly connected to the bonus points.  
It is the first job, but it is displayed on the Intelligence Card as my job.  
Rutina will know that my job is Jobless.

I guess I will try to deceive her somehow.  
I should be able to do that.  
It's still not the time to panic.  
What should I do?

"Y-you are young."

That's what surprised you?  
Humans can't properly tell the age of an elf.  
On the contrary, I wonder if Rutina as an elf can't tell the age of humans.

"Really?"  
"You are able to break through the 30th floor boss easily? I can't even consider that."  
"Because it's my master."

I wonder if it is something for Roxanne to puff her chest proudly about?  
"Eh also... however is that Michio-sama's job?"  
She noticed it after all?  
It's happened.

"Because of this opportunity, I will tell you all a portion of my secret."  
"Your secret?"

Sherry's clinging to it.

"As of now, my job currently became Jobless. Actually, I can set any other job skill as a skill of Jobless."

"Other jobs?"

"I can set the owner in intelligence cards if I set the skill from Slave

Merchant, I can also use [Field Walk] from Adventurer, and I can do [Dungeon Walk] if I use the Explorer Job, and I can use magic if I use Wizard's magic skill. Something like that.”

I explained Jobless for Sherry and everyone.  
As for the explanation, there is no mistake.  
If by any chance this is leaked, the chat about Jobless is true.  
It will make anything concerning the truth about me difficult to approach.

A weapon to deceive the eyes of my enemies is called a decoy.  
Like a paper airplane exhibited at an Airport? A scattering of puppets falling together with parachutes? Or using chaff to deceive the Radar?  
Regarding Jobless, it is not a problem whether it leaks or not, and in the case of it leaking it will function as a decoy«Decoy».

## Chapter 206 : Congestion

\*

“Was it like that? As expected of my master.”

When Jobless has been revealed, Roxanne puffed her chest with pride.

“A Jobless? No wonder. Is that a portion of your ability?”

Sherry accurately understood that Jobless is only a portion of my ability. Casting two magic spells, is not part of Jobless’s ability after all.

“Amazing, desu.”

“I think it is what we had expected.”

“Jobless Gourmand?”

It didn’t get through to them.

I want retort at Rutina, but I ignored her.

“If I set the Herbalist skill I can make medicine. Like this.”

I remove ephedrine from my item box, and create an all-purpose pill. In order to show it to Rutina.

“It was true.”

I got carried away and took out Mung Bean.

I cast create medicine, And the Mung Bean.....didn’t even move. I-it failed.

“It looks like I can’t make medicine using Mung Bean. It is really hard like Sherry said.”

I couldn’t make medicine from Mung Bean even with Jobless.

Is my level still insufficient?

Maybe Lv50 is necessary?

Or maybe being Jobless was useless, will it work if i remove Herbalist?

Because I set both Jobless and Herbalist, I don’t think that’s it.

Jobless is supposed to take priority over Herbalist since it’s the first job.

Will I be able to make it if I use [OverDrive]?

To test it, I remove Herbalist.

I invoked [OverDrive] and then proceeded with medicine creation.  
It was useless.

I couldn't make the medicine.

Mung Bean stayed as Mung Bean.

“It appears to be quite difficult, there is no helping it.”

Sherry's words sound awfully glad.

Damn it.

Even though I tried it in different ways.

And I have been behaving myself not to make medicine until now, but it was all in vain.

I pull myself together, and enter Quratar's 31st floor after breakfast.  
As for Jobless's skill, I somehow made it in time.

I put the Thunder magic back .

I ate slowly just for that, though they may think that I was feeling depressed.

“What is the boss for Non-R.E.M golem?”

“The boss for Quratar's 31st floor happens to be R.E.M Golem. There is no magic attribute weakness. It is the same as Non-R.E.M golem, a rock puppet with earth attribute resistance, but a portion of it's body is made of metal, increasing its attack power and endurance more than the Non-R.E.M golem.”

Sherry informs us in the waiting room.

The boss R.E.M golem is probably a reinforced version of Non-R.E.M golem.

Rather, does R.E.M even have a meaning?

“R.E.M golem?”

“When it appears in the boss room, there are times when R.E.M Golem appears to be sleeping unlike the Non-R.E.M golem. There is a valid strategy to postpone fighting R.E.M golem if it is sleeping.”

It had a meaning.

It occasionally appears asleep?

As expected of the R.E.M golem.

Although I don't know whether it is R.E.M sleep or not.

“Because I will be using area attack magic postponing it will just become troublesome. Probably it will not be much of a threat, I will attack them in one go even if it is sleeping. So Roxanne, I will entrust it to you.”

“Please leave it to me.”

A reliable reply came from Roxanne.

Roxanne takes charge in front of the boss.

It will not make much difference whether it's sleeping or up in front of Roxanne.

That's wrong?

Eventually the boss will wake up when I attack to defeat it, therefore Roxanne's burden will be the same as usual.

Roxanne will fight the other monsters first assuming we left the boss sleeping, so she can fight the boss on it's own, so her burden will decrease?

Because Miria will start from a standby state, she may be able to petrify it a little faster. Is it much easier if the boss is sleeping?

I think that I shouldn't be worrying about it.

I brace myself towards our first R.E.M boss battle.

However, the door to the boss room didn't open.

“It seems that the party before us is taking their time. Probably, the party doesn't have a wizard. R.E.M Golem is considered the last boss you can easily defeat even without a wizard in the party.”

Sherry explains.

“Because it's sleeping?”

“Yes. You can concentrate on defeating the monsters that are not sleeping. Of course, in case none of the monsters are sleeping, you will need the ability to designate people to deal with the three of them. However, since no matter how much time you spend in the boss room no other monster will intrude, you can fight safely.”

They probably can move to the next floor if they have the ability to defeat the boss, but for a party without a wizard they have to fight in a small scale, but the situation is reversed if a large group of monsters appeared.

Instead of taking a risk, is it better to fight against the R.E.M golem?

“I see.”

Also our timing was bad.

Most of the people are active since the Sun is up.

Eating the breakfast slowly backfired.

We waited for a while.

the next party arrived when the door opened.

They didn't have a Wizard when I appraised them, I guess these guys will take some time too.

Because the door opened, I jumped in.

I was wondering if the party before us was wiped out or not, but no equipment was left behind.

It seems that they had the ability to take it down even if it took time.

The smoke gathers, and monsters appear.

Without confirming if it was asleep or not, I throw in Thunder magic.

I am fighting using Thunder magic and Miria's Petrification, so no need to take care of them one at a time.

I'll handle all of them using area attack magic.

As for what appeared, it was two Non-R.E.M Golems and a R.E.M Golem.

But since I attacked immediately with thunder magic, I don't know whether it was sleeping or not.

R.E.M Golem, is one size bigger than Non-R.E.M golem, but it's appearance is not that different.

It is on the degree where you say, it's slightly bigger.

How can you distinguish between them without using Appraisal?

Maybe R.E.M golems eyelids move and twitch when it's asleep?

“Did it, desu.”

I guess even the eyeball will stop moving when it's petrified.  
The fight in the boss room came to an end with Miria petrifying the three of them.

It is now my job to beat them up using Durandal and magic.

I restore my MP since this is the first time I will be entering the 32nd floor.

I get rid of the Non-R.E.M golems with magic, and then finish the boss using Durandal.

R.E.M golem turns into smoke.

“Oh. A rock?”

R.E.M golems drop item was a rock.

Same as Non-R.E.M Golem?

I can't use it.

“R.E.M golems drops are Rock and Damascus steel. It was unfortunate this time.”

Sherry tells me while picking it up.

It leaves behind Damascus steel?

Well, the boss shouldn't just have the same drops as the regular ones.

“Damascus steel? Can Sherry handle that drop item with blacksmith?”

“Before processing Damascus steel, experience on processing Hard Leather, Iron, Steel and Dragon leather is required.”

“It is quite far ahead.”

“I guess. I still have long way to go.”

So Damascus steel is not necessary right now?

“By any chance, is Damascus steel the reason why a lot of people fight the R.E.M golem, maybe?”

“Because the drop chance is not good, I don't think it is possible to make money. If there is a blacksmith that can process the Damascus Steel, I think they can fight at the upper floors.”

That's also not good?

People are gathering for the R.E.M golem boss battle because it is easy to

fight even without Wizard.

Furthermore, because they don't have a Wizard the battle prolongs, so it gets more congested.

There was no Wizard in the party that arrived at the waiting room either.

Also there is the party that fought before us, they probably returned here to repeat the boss battle.

Should I only come here in the future at times when the boss room is not crowded?

When Damascus steel becomes necessary, I can only come at dawn.

“What is the 32nd floor monster?”

“Quratar's labyrinths 32nd floor monster is Rock Bird. It is a bird with a body made of rock, there is also a chance that it may scatter rocks in our way. It doesn't have any weakness attribute. It can use Earth magic, and it is also resistant to it.”

No attribute weakness?

It seems I will be relying on thunder magic again.

I guess not having to think about the attribute every time is a plus.

“It seems to be strong.”

“It is not as strong as Drive Dragon, but because it doesn't have any attribute weakness it's considered as a powerful enemy among the monsters that appear up to the 33rd floor.”

That reminds me that Drive Dragon on the 33rd floor also doesn't have an attribute weakness, so Jobless's skill will still be Thunder magic.

“In that case, how about we spend the day handling Rock Birds? Since this boss room will be crowded.”

I look for agreement from Sherry.

Though I am talking to Sherry, Sherry without saying anything looks at Roxanne.

She still needs the approval of Roxanne?

I also look at Roxanne.

“If we defeat Rock Bird, then we can go straight to the 32nd floor boss

battle.”

Roxanne nodded when I looked at her.  
But what did you just say.

“Nope, we will go to the boss room tomorrow. It is not good to advance suddenly. We’ll need to get used to Rock Bird. I don’t want to lose any of you.”

I interrupt her with a cowardly answer.  
If someone is going to be killed at the start, it will be someone like me.

“Is that how much you care about us?”

Roxanne surrenders.

“In that case I think the 32nd floor is alright.”  
“32nd, desu.”

“I think that we’ll be fine.”

“I am alright, nevertheless it might be good”

I got the approval of all the members.  
If someone’s going to die among those members, it’s probably Rutina.  
I can’t imagine the scene where Roxanne and Vesta are killed.

For Miria, I think that it is possible, but she should be able to dodge well even using the shadow of petrified monsters since she’s using Estoc of Petrification.

In that case, the first people to be killed are the three rear guards.  
And Sherry has a higher level than Rutina, so it’s either me or Rutina.

Even though I think about the situation where I get casualties among my party members, my recovery magic is enough so we shouldn’t be defeated.

As long as it’s not a one hit kill.

The only reason that I can think of why my recovery magic will not be sufficient is when I’m out of MP, at that moment I’ll bring out Durandal and stand in the front.

I who will be at the front is in a more dangerous position than Rutina who’s at the back.

Is it me who will be the first to die among the members after all?  
I braced myself again and head to the 32nd floor.

“Then, Roxanne, a place with small numbers at first.”  
“Okay. This way.”

We advance with Roxanne’s guidance.  
What appeared was two Rock Birds.  
Rock Bird, is quite a large bird.

Does it resemble a swan?  
Even if I said that, since I never saw one in person I’m not that confident.  
It is bigger than a pigeon and a crow which I’m familiar with.

Because it has a dark brown color, like the name suggested it’s made of rock.

Sherry’s information is accurate.

It doesn’t flap its wings frequently, but it spreads its wings in the air.  
It feels like it’s gliding?

After taking two barrages of [Thunder Storm], both of them crashed down.

It can’t fly when it’s paralyzed, is it also the same with other bird monsters?

I guess that’s expected?

Or perhaps isn’t it natural?

I don’t know, what is common sense here.

At least when I looked at where it crashed, it doesn’t look like it was gliding.

In any case I want to defeat it while it’s paralyzed.

The vanguards rushed to attack it.

Including Sherry and Rutina as well.

Rutina is attacking with the cane, because the number of monsters is not large.

In the end, we finished both the Rock Birds before they started moving again.

Miria managed to petrify one of them.

We were lucky this time, but the enemy doesn't seem to be that hard. The Rock Birds became smoke and disappeared.

What's left behind was a feather. It appeared as feather when I appraised it. This seem to be the Rock Bird's drop item.

"Here, desu."

"A feather? I wonder what it can be used for."

"If used with ink, you can write a letter on papyrus."

Vesta asked as I received the feather from Miria, and Sherry informed us.

It seems it is used as a pen.

"Feather pen?"

"After removing the shaft, stuff it inside cloth, and you can use it as a comforter."

"A feather comforter?"

"It is considered an expensive item because it takes time and labor to remove the shaft, the comforter made of feathers is considered a high class item. The removed shaft will be crushed, I heard that it is mixed with other inferior products."

"It's a deceitful sales methods?"

There seems to be a unscrupulous merchants in any world. I'll have to maintain my vigilance.

## Chapter 207 : Making a Futon

\*

Last chapter summary: Obtained a feather after killing a Rockbird.

I put the feather, which the Rockbird dropped, in my Item Box.

Feather futon, eh?

Let's see if I can make it.

How soft would it be.

To sleep in a \*fukafuka\* fluffy, sawasawa rustly and pafupafu puffy futon.

With Roxanne and Vesta on either sides.

The softness of the futon, the smoothness of Roxanne's body, the sensation of her tail and the coolness of Vesta's body.

Best.

The best.

So much so that I wouldn't be able to sleep.

However, the number of feathers is a little too small.

100-200 won't be sufficient to make a futon.

How many were needed back on Earth?

If we work hard for an hour, we can collect 50. Hunting ten hours a day, we can collect 500.

Assuming 5,000 feathers are needed to make a feather futon, we will have to stay on the 32nd floor for 10 days.

Umu, won't it be good, too?

As of late, we have been clearing a floor a day as part of our repetitionary training.

We should be hitting the wall anytime soon.

When we reached the limit, we might even die if we were unlucky.

I wonder if it would be a good idea to relax here for 10 days.

Or, should I rather make a pillow than a futon?

However, it's a dilemma as to whether the pillow would do or not.

If I used it myself, Roxanne and the girls would deserve one, too.  
If the pillow were slender, though, all six of us would be able to use one.

If it can be made into something, it'll be absurd to sell a hard-earned item.

I have to make a prompt decision.

Because it'll be illogical to buy it at the guild, I have to hunt it myself.  
Alright, I've decided.

I'll hunt and make a futon.  
We'll have a 10-day break.  
That's an estimate, though, not an absolute.

"The next one is on the other side."  
"Roxanne, can you please guide us to a place with a lot of Rockbirds?"

I instruct Roxanne who was about to lock onto the next target.

"Rockbirds?"  
"I intend to make a precious futon."  
"Futon? Very well."

I have received Roxanne's approval.  
I'm relieved now.

"If we purchase fabric, we can make one for everyone. Although quilt manufacturing is an extremely difficult process, we can do it."

It seems to be agreeable to Sherry, too.  
Although it's somewhat difficult, it's something that can be done.  
With this, we'll be able to spend 10 days leisurely.

"That's good then."  
"Yes."  
"Well then, we'll proceed to the next floor later."  
"There's no need. If we fight for a while on the 32nd floor everyday, there won't be any problem."

Gaahn  
My spontaneous idea has immediately been shot down by Sherry.  
I see.

That's it.

There's no need for us to confine ourselves to the 32nd floor.  
If we need an item, we can simply revisit.  
It can be saved up little by little.  
As expected of the rational Sherry.

If we continued our regimen of moving up a floor a day, wouldn't the observation period get shortened?

I've failed.

I shouldn't have suggested making a feather futon.

Oh well. Since I wanted the futon for myself, it would be fine.

Disheartened, I start hunting the Rockbirds.  
While killing the monsters, Rutina has been casting no more than 1 spell; hence, the number of spells I cast has decreased by 1.  
Before I could cast the next barrage of 2 spells, the Rockbird collapses.

"It has become quicker than a while ago."

Sherry hits the bull's eye.

"Then, on the 32nd floor, 1 spell seems to be enough, doesn't it?"

Rutina appears delighted.

If I send myself into Overdrive and use 10 Thunder spells, the remaining HP of a Lv32 Rockbird seems to most likely be just as much.

Normally, it requires 11 spells of mine; however, with Rutina's 1 spell, mine has fallen down to 10.  
Because I used a barrage of 2 spells, it'd decrease in even number; hence, it'd be visibly noticeable.

From a third person's perspective, 6 spells would reduce to 5.  
Rutina would be satisfied, too, upon witnessing the clear difference the power of her spell made.  
Without the duration of battles having shortened, if I told her that she's helpful, she would take it as a lie.  
Well, I mean, it really is a lie.

"I guess. From here on, I'll be relying on you."

On the 32nd floor, thanks to Rutina's 1 spell and my Thunder spells, we amass the feathers.

Correction: we kill the monsters.

Oh well. It's not like there's any difference.

As for Rutina, she has been using 1-2 spells on almost all of the groups of monsters.

When one perceives the clear difference they make, they get driven by motivation.

We have been taking a rest only against the groups of two monsters.

However, since Roxanne has been leading us to locations with a lot of monsters, we have rarely been able to meet a group of two monsters.

In other words, I have continuously been using magic.

Is my MP enough?

Because if it abandoned me, I would be in my grave.

"In case of 1 spell per a group of monsters, it can be used for fairly long. However, I have heard that Wizards fight taking breaks in between. Especially, in cases such as these."

She seems to have noticed.

I have no other choice but to follow up.

"Ru-Rutina may probably be superior."

"Do you think so, too? Then, I really am."

That was easy.

Roxanne and Sherry were trying to say something but I hush them with my eyes.

That's the spirit.

My glance seems to have stopped the two in their tracks.

It's out of character even for me.

It must be a master's dignity.

If I clapped my hands together, it might look like a request.

As for the other two, they don't seem to have noticed in the least.

Oh well. Besides, Rutina's Wizard has reached Lv29.

She shouldn't face any MP issue.

Thereafter, Rutina continues to use magic until the lunch break. She has leveled up, too. Her Wizard is now Lv31. She can no longer be classified as a beginner anymore. Gradually, it's becoming difficult for her to level up.

Taking Roxanne and the girls as an example, it gets increasingly difficult to level up after Lv30.

I cannot expect rapid improvement henceforth.

The higher we move up the floors, the more the experience points we get; however, the more the party members, the more it spreads.

“Will we be going to the 32nd floor boss today or not?”

Just past noon, once we return home to take rest, I hear the sound of Roxanne fluttering a paper.

It's the map of Quratar's 31st floor.

While putting it back, she means to confirm whether she should bring the 32nd floor map or not.

“Let's keep collecting the feathers for today.”

“Understood.”

Ooh

I get it.

It's alright now. However, if I chose the boss battle, Roxanne would be concerned.

It's nothing to be glad about.

“We have originally been doing the boss battles. Thanks to Rutina, the duration of battles on the 32nd floor doesn't differ much from the 31st floor; therefore, there shouldn't be any problem even if we try the boss battle.”

And yet, why don't you understand, Sherry?

This is troublesome.

Mysteriously, it feels like we have to try the boss battles now that Sherry has suggested so.

“If I'm helpful, it'll be better to try the boss battle.”

“Rutina is helpful but in collecting the feathers. During the boss battles,

it's Miria."

"Do it, desu."

"I think there'll be no problem."

Having said something inconvenient, even Miria and Vesta seem to be on the opposite side.

Roxanne is my only ally.

If we moved up a floor, petrification might become more difficult to proc.

Or, there might be a monster which is immune to petrification.

I'd better move up cautiously.

"The 32nd floor boss battle shall be tomorrow."

In the first place, we fought on the 32nd floor as an alternative to the 31st floor boss battle since the boss room was crowded, so we cannot try the 32nd floor boss battle just yet.

In the afternoon, we continue to collect the feathers.

"It's about to be evening."

"Is that so?"

Upon Roxanne's advice, we close the business for the day.

"It's still a bit early, so can you please take me to the Imperial Capital? We can buy the fabric for futon."

"So, it's the Imperial Capital like I thought, huh?"

"Because it's for Master's use, the fabric will have to be excellent."

So, it's that, huh?

It doesn't matter to me, though.

"Oh well. As long as it's durable, please."

"I think a beautifully dyed silk fabric will be better."

"I know, right? It'll be excellent."

"Silk, desu."

Sherry and Miria seem to be on the same page when it comes to the fabric being excellent.

“I think a fabric with a beautiful design will be better as a futon cover.”  
“Futon cover?”

Asks Sherry.

Is a futon cover not used here?

By the way, in our house, kind of a [towelket](#) is used as a blanket.

“It’s kind of a cloth bag and serves as a top layer which covers the futon.”

“I see. If that’s the case, then it should be selected based on the favorite color.”

“Will it be fine to wash only the cover if it gets stained? If it’s only the cover, I’ll be able to wash it every day.”

Although Roxanne is in charge of laundry, everyday will be a little too much.

“It’d be very difficult, surely, if it were everyday.”

“Is that so? I don’t think, though, that it’ll be anything big.”

“I think its size will be fairly large.”

There seems to be a discrepancy in Roxanne’s idea.

“If it’s for Master’s use, it’ll have to be adjusted to Master’s size.”

“No, no, the futon’s size will be enough to accommodate all of us.”

Did you think it would be small because it were for my use?

“Umm, would it be fine for all of us?”

“Well, I do sleep with everyone, after all.”

“Thank you very much.”

I’ll be able to sleep properly with everyone.

“I’ve only heard of it being a high-class soft item, so it’ll be a pleasure.”

Looking at Sherry, I nod.

“Oh, futon, desu.”

“I think it’ll be warm in the winter.”

“There’s no way to sleep in one futon.”

Everyone seems to be okay with it.

Because Vesta is a [poikilothermic](#) dragonkin, winters are harsh on her. If she had a warm futon, she would be relieved.

“Won’t it be difficult to collect the feathers if it’s supposed to be this large?”

Broods Sherry.

Because you thought it’d be small in size, is that why you suggested to collect a little every day?

If it’s going to be a large futon, it’ll take time.

We have to stay here leisurely for 10 days, after all.

“There still are days before it turns cold, so I think it’s alright.”

Vesta’s opinion this time is decent.

Since a feather futon tends to be warm, it’s not our immediate objective.

“If it’s not for Master’s exclusive use, we don’t have to especially go to the Imperial Capital, do we? It shouldn’t have to be anything excellent.”

Roxanne considers a change in plan; however, there’s no need for her to. Now that such a thing has been said, I’ll buy it from the Imperial Capital no matter what.

Wouldn’t it simply be contrary to my character?

It would be bad.

“There’s no need to say that. We’ll go to the Imperial Capital.”

I Warp us to the Imperial Capital Adventurer’s Guild.

The fabric needed for the futon cover can be bought all at once.

Even if it’d take time before we collected the feathers completely.

Also, if we buy in bulk, we’ll get a 30% discount.

“If I remember correctly, isn’t the shop there?”

“I think it’s alright there.”

Roxanne and Vesta confirm outside the Adventurer’s Guild.

Do you two know of a shop?

Because the two of them explored the Imperial Capital on their day off, they probably found it then.

The place where the two lead us to has a large quantity of fabric put on display.

It's not a clothing shop. There's only fabric here.

Or, is it perhaps an order made specialty shop?

“Antoner Company?”

Mutters Rutina upon entering the shop.

It seems to be a shop Rutina is familiar with.

“Do you know about this shop, Rutina?”

“I didn't know it was here in the Imperial Capital; however, it's popular for its fabric.”

“So, you knew about it but didn't know the location?”

Is it a famous brand?

“We acquired their services on an occasion.”

So, it was that, huh?

Is it a specialty foreign company for nobles?

Because I've no idea about fabric and such, I leave selection to Roxanne and the rest.

They take their time, of course.

It seems to be for both the futon and futon cover.

Since the quantity is large, I'll think about the size.

When we return home, Roxanne and Vesta start making the futon.

Although I said that, they're just stitching it to make a bag.

In the meantime, I set the bath.

When I was done setting the bath, I take all the feathers, which I hadn't sold, out.

“Alright guys, take the axis apart and put the feathers into the futon, please.”

Since Sherry and Miria are in charge of preparing the dinner, I leave making the futon to the other three: (Roxanne), Vesta and Rutina.

Done with stitching, Roxanne goes to the kitchen.

If the feathers were threshed hard with hands, they might easily come off

the axis.

The feathers that come off the axis become fuwafuwa lightly sawasawa rustly.

It's not that difficult.

However, they're large in number.

We have to do it every day.

It'll be bothersome for a while.

## Chapter 208 : Phoenix

\*

Last chapter summary: Started making a futon.

The next day. We challenge the 32nd floor boss early morning.  
Roxanne leads in light strides.

“Uun, there are monsters close by, but they’re merely Non-rem Golems. Also, there aren’t many. It’ll be better for us to proceed to the boss battle straight away.”

We advance without paying any attention to a small group of monsters en route.

Roxanne quickly guides the party to the boss room.

After having waited a day, we’re brimming with motivation.

“The Rockbird boss is called Firebird. Although its weakness is the same as a Rockbird’s, the attribute it uses isn’t. It’s proficient in Fire magic and resistant to Fire attribute. Since its resistance differs, we need to be careful.”

Having received the briefing from Sherry in the waiting room, we proceed to the boss room.

The resistance of the Rockbird boss seems to be different from a Rockbird’s.

It’s a rare pattern.

They tend to mostly be identical.

We enter the boss room.

Smoke gathers in the centre of the room as the monsters take form.

The Firebird is a bird covered in red flame.

Ooh

It’s a bird on fire.

It’s a Phoenix.

It’s undoubtedly a fire bird. (TN: The kanji for Phoenix literally means fire bird)

It's burning.  
It's flaring.  
Its red hot flame is burning everything up.  
An infringing hellfire which the escape is impossible from.

It'll completely bake the boss room.  
And then, there'll be another Gomorrah. (TN: City destroyed by fire & brimstone. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sodom\\_and\\_Gomorrah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sodom_and_Gomorrah))  
The Firebird buries its frighteningly flaming head.

An overwhelming blow that could turn anything into what would appear to be a pillar of salt. (TN: Another reference to Gomorrah)  
Roxanne lightly sways and dodges it.  
She has dodged it.

So, even the 32nd floor boss is unable to land an attack on Roxanne, eh?  
She swings her neck in order to avoid the next thrust.  
This time, the margin of evasion was slightly larger than usual.  
She must've taken the flickering flame into consideration.

She's dodging much more than usual.  
Roxanne is in charge of the labor work.  
Her fee is the same, though.

Such words are flashing through my mind.  
Oh well. It'll all go into one wallet anyway.  
I, who's in charge of desk work, cast spells.

After petrifying a Rockbird, Miria joins in on the attack.  
Having fulfilled her quota of one spell, Rutina participates in the physical attacks using her stick.  
It doesn't seem to be that hot.  
Oh well. Since it's weak against Water and Ice magic, there's no reason for it to be.

Oh, paralysis.  
As the Firebird's movement ceases, it drops down.  
Since Miria keeps attacking, it seems to be paralysis, not sleep nor petrification.

It's difficult to distinguish between paralysis, petrification and sleep merely from appearance.

Moreover, its flame seems to be flickering normally even though it has been paralyzed.

“Did it, desu.”

This time, it's the signal of petrification.

It's incomprehensible from the appearance, after all.

The flame seems to still be flickering.

I have no particular interest in touching it, so I finish it off with magic. The Rockbird, which Vesta was keeping company, dies before Miria could petrify it.

In the boss battles, Miria's performance is outstanding.

Speaking conversely, because Miria is able to perform outstandingly, the 32nd floor boss battle is safe.

The monsters vanish, leaving items behind.

The Rockbirds dropped feathers while the Firebird left behind... something.

Something like leather.

When I use Appraisal, it displays 'ostrich'.

Ostrich.....

Was that an ostrich?

When I heard it was a fire bird, I thought it would be a dignified creature; however, no sooner I found it was an ostrich behind the guise, I felt betrayed.

Oh well. Considering it was able to fly, it's commendable.

After all, it wasn't a bird inside.

“Can it be made into an armor?”

“It's ostrich. Because it's too soft, it can't be made into an armor. It's used in making a sturdy bag.”

I ask Sherry, but it doesn't seem to be able to be made into an armor.

I have never seen an ostrich armor; so, yeah.

“Because it’s light and can be made into a beautiful design, it’s popular amongst the noble ladies. When attending the Lords’ Assembly, it’d be wonderful to have an ostrich briefcase.”

Rutina shares some unnecessary information. She doesn’t seem to have any intention of forgoing the Lords’ Assembly. Being a noble is as troublesome as I expected. Would I be disrespected if I went there with an Adventurer-use rucksack?

‘Look at that! He’s carrying a rucksack in the Lords’ Assembly! Which rural area is that noble from?’

‘Why is he carrying a sword more splendid than himself? He’s not gonna use it, is he?’

‘Oh, is he drawing the sword? Is he going to draw the sword? If he did, he would lose his territory and peerage. He might even receive capital punishment.’

‘He hasn’t drawn? What a coward!’

‘Mannerless bastard! Countryside nobles should keep themselves locked up inside the labyrinth. Like a carp in a well.’

‘Carp, a carp, a noble carp!’

These are mere thoughts; don’t get angry, me.

Don’t. Calm down.

According to the Emperor and the Duke of Harz, defeating the labyrinths is the purpose of a noble’s existence.

An attire appropriate for a labyrinth cannot be ridiculed.

Rather, if it were a branded bag, I would be considered a snob.

How many nobles enter the labyrinths?

Those who shirk their responsibilities, ramble gaudily and turn corrupt will end up as the Earl of Selmar.

“Or better yet, an Orichalcum attache case. If needs be, it can be used as a shield, too.”

“Orichalcum cannot be processed unless a Master Smith uses their skill. It can neither be melted nor treated. As for Orichalcum attache case, it’s not recognized either as an armor or as a weapon.”

When I try to retort, I get refuted by Sherry.

There has to be such a thing as Orichalcum attache case.

“On the 33rd floor, if I remember correctly, are the Drive Dragons?”

Let’s change the topic.

“Correct.”

Since the bosses will appear as normal monsters on the 34th floor onward in the same order, Sherry’s domain will get restricted.

The opportunities for her to refute will get lessened, too.

We surge to the 33rd floor.

Since we have already fought the Drive Dragons before; also, since we twisted and turned the 32nd floor monsters and reached the 33rd floor by ourselves, I’m not afraid.

A mere dragon isn’t worthy of frightening me.

On a second thought, the duration of battles has considerably lengthened.

It has doubled.

Won’t they be stronger here?

I have fought the Drive Dragons before, yeah, but it was on the 1st floor.

Speaking of a Drive Dragon, I have heard that it’s the strongest monster within the 23rd-33rd floor range.

A Drive Dragon is resistant to all attributes; however, it doesn’t matter to me as I can use Thunder magic.

It’s strong. Strong, indeed.

A dragon must be feared.

Because the monsters don’t become incredibly stronger immediately upon reaching the 34th floor, it can be deemed acceptable.

“With our opponents being the Drive Dragons, the battles will be prolonged. Will you be alright?”

“Both Miria and Vesta are doing well, so there won’t be any problem.”

When I try to confirm, comes a reply from Roxanne.

Do you mean there won’t be any problem for the vanguards?

Or, do you mean there won’t be any problem for you, Roxanne?

“Alright, desu.”

“I think there won’t be any problem.”

So, it’s alright, huh?

“Originally, the battles take even longer, so there shouldn’t be any problem.”

As Sherry said, even the longest of our battles is actually short by the standards.

I have Grand Wizard; I can cast dual spells thanks to Grand Wizard and Jobless; I can augment it via Overdrive; We’re strong due to top equipment and level ups; et cetera.

We’ve become quite strong.

“If I were to give up at merely this, I wouldn’t be worthy of being Master’s party member-no, I wouldn’t be worthy of stepping foot in a labyrinth.”

Roxanne, I want you to not raise the hurdle (bar) excessively high.

“I have heard that the battles in the labyrinths are incredibly difficult. The extent as of now can surely not be it, right?”

“It’s all thanks to Master that the duration of battles is short. Before evasion or anything, the battle comes to an end.”

“Err, well. As you have heard, the battles are generally more difficult.”

Sherry answers Rutina’s doubts.

Make sure you don’t get misled by Roxanne’s remarks.

We return to the 32nd floor and retry the boss battle.

The Firebird doesn’t seem to be problematic either.

In any case, we have Miria’s petrification.

Miria-sama-sama. (TN: Yes, twice the honorific)

I have an impression that a Firebird may be easier than a Drive Dragon. Even though it’s a boss.

Actually, if we looked only at the duration of battle, it would be long in case of a Firebird.

If we compared individually, a Firebird would be superior to a Drive

Dragon.

However, because the Firebird is a boss, it shows up by itself. Well, two monsters accompany it, too, but they're not worth mentioning. The boss can be left in Roxanne's care. Close to the boss is positioned Sherry, the job of whom is to keep the boss from using area of effect magic attack, ready to strike Incantation Interruption any time.

Moreover, if it's just one monster, it can be petrified immediately by Miria.

In contrast, there's a possibility of the maximum number of Drive Dragons – six – appearing.

Between one Firebird and six Drive Dragons, Drive Dragons should be tougher, no?

In case of six opponents, I cannot leave all of them to just Miria.

Assuming the vanguards can pin three of them down, if the Drive Dragons were four or more, they would finish on top.

Abandoning the boss battle and fighting on the 33rd floor is, of course, not an option.

I'm also afraid of the Drive Dragons shooting area of effect magic attacks.

Although I wouldn't die unless they fired in rapid succession, it hurts nonetheless.

The pain is beyond control.

“Against a Drive Dragon, Rutina will have to cast four spells in order for the number of my spells to decrease by one. On the 33rd floor, I will have to ask of you to cast four spells.”

“Understood.”

In order to fight and see a little, I give instructions to Rutina.

Since the duration of the battles against the Drive Dragons will be long, Rutina will have to cast more spells than she does now.

4-5 shots are reasonable.

If Rutina cast four spells against a Drive Dragon, the number of spells I would have to cast would reduce.

My one spell is equivalent to Rutina's four spells. The difference is considerable, but it cannot be helped.

A Drive Dragon is resistant to four attributes.

It would be difficult for the Wizard Rutina, who could only use four attributes, to inflict much damage.

On the contrary, the damage from Thunder magic would pass on normally.

Unless you're a Grand Wizard, you cannot use Thunder magic.

So, there shouldn't be any problem with casting four spells on the 33rd floor.

However, in case of a Firebird Lv33, decreasing the number of spells by casting a mere four spells, which would \*girigiri\* hardly have any impact, will indeed be problematic.

This time, I haven't particularly lied. It'll decrease from an even number to an odd number; therefore, it's all good.

When you keep doing it overly right; soon, at some point, it loses consistency, making it noticeable.

This time, I'll have her use four spells; availing this opportunity, I'll have her continue to use four spells until we reach a higher floor.

Thereafter, we continue to hunt, moving back and forth between the 32nd and 33rd floors.

Burdened with the responsibility of four spells, Rutina, as expected, seldom proves to be a support.

It cannot be helped.

If needed, I'll have her consume MP recovery medicine; however, the battles aren't as difficult for there to be any need.

On the 33rd floor, we battle a group of 2 Drive Dragons, 3 Rockbirds and a Non-rem Golem.

It's the first group consisting of 6 monsters.

Although the maximum number of monsters in a group onward from 32nd floor is 6, since we hadn't come across such a large group until now, the ratio seems to still be low.

There weren't many Drive Dragons; hence, we kill them without any

trouble.

I ask of Roxanne to locate a place with a lot of Rockbirds.

This time, it works.

The utility of this location seems to be unexpectedly great for futon.

“Uun, it may be better for us to explore the 33rd floor than repeat the 32nd floor boss battle.”

Suggests Sherry after I finish the group of 6 off.

Has she noticed?

However, I try my best to remain silent.

She has noticed, after all, huh?

She's well aware.

As expected of Sherry.

“Even though the Drive Dragons are the main constituent, I would like the Rockbirds to be the main target.”

No sooner, I state the reason as to why this strategy hasn't been adopted.

Concurrently implying that it had been considered already.

I can think that much, too.

In other words, excuses can be prepared, too.

“Is that even so?”

“I see. Will that give me more experience than having a Drive Dragon as an opponent?”

Sherry responds strangely while Roxanne shows motivation.

“I'd like to have the Rockbirds as the main constituent on this floor. When we move to a higher floor, we can earn as much experience as we like.”

“Oh, is that so?”

“To not have any trouble in moving to a higher floor, we have to persevere here. That's the plan, I think.”

This time, to persuade Roxanne, Sherry puts forth a fair reasoning. It's difficult to convince both of them at the same time.

“Is Rockbird the reason for killing whichever monster comes out, be it a Drive Dragon, a Rockbird or whatnot?”

Please don't sound like a mother reproving her child's unbalanced diet.

“If that's how it's gonna be, then let's fight on the 33rd floor.”

That's Sherry for you. The calm thinker Sherry.

“As for the spells, Rutina, when there are four Drive Dragons or more, can you please let me know if you can cast?”

“Yes, Roxanne-ane-sama.”

“I think if the Rockbirds are the main constituent, Rutina will be able to fight using spells; if the Drive Dragons are the main constituent, then I can fight.”

Roxanne concludes the talks on her own and lets me know.

Albeit for short, it was nice knowing the 32nd floor boss.

## Chapter 209 : Benefits

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Previous Synopsis: We decided on repeating the Drive Dragon battle.

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I repeated fighting the 33rd floor Drive Dragon until the evening at the end.

It was quite difficult.

When there is a lot of Drive Dragons, battle time will increase no matter what.

Though Miria will immediately petrify them if there is one, or two enemies.

I'm getting my old sensation back.

Though I am saying old sensation, it's from a while ago and not recently. It is from when I came to this world.

Before getting Great Wizard, Jobless, and Great hero, the battle time was long.

It may have been even longer than now.

I did well.

Comparing to those days, it is fine to say that the current fights are comfortable.

The monsters are often paralyzed right now because I have Thunder Magic.

Nope. The number of monster was fewer in the past?

I guess although the number of monsters increased, the number of monsters getting paralyzed by Thunder magic also increased, so it isn't very serious.

Also, back then the monsters hardly used area attack magic.

Because Drive Dragon Lv33 charges in to make a serious attack, it became quite difficult.

It's like that.

Pretty hard.

If I think I'm being pampered now, then that would be a mistake.

The circumstances are different from those of the past.

Since Roxanne is here to perfectly heal me up when we get hit by Area attack magic, the problem is no longer there.

And we also aren't receiving attacks that recovery can't catch up with or MP is not enough.

It's just a little painful.

It's just unpleasant.

That much is unavoidable.

After advancing to the 33rd floor in the labyrinth, it is no longer possible to get an easy victory.

I can feel that we are risking our lives.

When we finish fighting, we return to the outside world.

Now it's the time to get benefits.

But before that I must go to the clothes shop in the Imperial capital first.

I have to do it to get the benefits.

"Does Rutina know about the clothes shop in the Imperial Capital? It is very close to the adventurers guild."

"No. I have never used that clothes shop."

"That's alright. We are going to the Imperial clothes shop now."

"You are making clothes for Rutina."

I mention it before leaving the labyrinth, and the goal is easily exposed by Roxanne.

How does she know?

No. She understands it?

I haven't prepared maid clothes and an apron for Rutina yet, because I was anxious about if she will wear them or not.

However, because she will be with Roxanne when wearing it, Rutina should not be able to go against her commands.

Still, how about forcing her to wear something she finds unpleasant?

In regard to the maid clothes, it seems it originally imitated the female

attendant clothes from the imperial palace, since only a reliable person of birth and parentage can become female attendant, I don't have to worry too much about maid clothes.

I don't think even that Emperor will put strange people in the Imperial court.

It is not strange for nobles second and third daughters to enter the Imperial Palace as female attendants.

I wonder if Rutina as a former noble wouldn't agree on wearing maid clothes?

The problem is the apron.

Rutina also saw Roxanne and the girls apron look during meal preparation, and Rutina didn't particularly show any dislike to it. I think the apron should be okay.

Aside from the naked apron.

That is the problem.

However, that's what I want her to wear.

I want to see her wearing it.

That is my benefit.

That's by itself is my benefit.

It is made for my benefit.

As we fight in the labyrinth every day, we get sick of it.

I want to endure it by eating delicious things on the bed.

"Well, we are getting closer to capturing a labyrinth thanks to everybody. As a reward for this, I'll make clothes for everyone else as well."

Since we are there, I will make clothes for everyone.

This is not a deception in order to make the Apron.

I think.

"Are you going to make something else again?"

Despite that, Sherry is showing some doubts.

How am I viewed by Sherry's eyes?

If I could make them, I would make a Sailor Suit or a Nurse uniform.

However, it will be difficult to do that here.  
I can't make paper pattern, in the first place I don't know how to make them.

That's why I gave up on the Sailor Suit and Nurse uniform.

Well, that's wrong.  
I didn't have such desire in the first place.  
I just want some benefits.  
I'm just a guy with a hobby.

"Ah~. I don't have anything in particular in mind this time. Do you hate the clothes that I made?"

"N-nope."

"Of Course we don't dislike it. Ummm..... We surely love it."

Roxanne followed up.  
Sailor Suit is Ok, if it is Roxanne.

"This isn't for clothes to wear in the labyrinth, I am planning on making every day casual clothes. Because it's a prize in the end, I would like each of you to give your preference to the shop to make it."

"Is that alright?"

"I don't mind."

Well, you don't need to make anything strange.  
Although if they make a dress there will be nowhere to wear it.  
The clothes shop in the Imperial Capital is a shop that deals with high-quality clothes, but I think something casual will be fine.  
It made imitation shrine maiden clothes.

You don't go to clothes shop when you become a top ranked noble, but instead you summon a fabric shop attendant and tailor the clothes yourself, or that's what I heard yesterday.

As expected of nobles.

As for people going in and out of shops directly, I guess no matter how much of a dignified air they have they are not top ranked nobles.  
In that case, common people like myself can go to the shop without hesitation as well.

“Thank you very much. But what kind should I make that would be good?”

“If you ask the shop worker, definitely they will make some suggestions.”

Sherry tells Roxanne who got lost in thoughts.

I see, I guess there is that as well.

We should manage some way or the other if we go to the shop.

“Clothes, desu. Make, desu.”

“I think that it is an amazing thing making clothes at the shop.”

“It is natural to fix my appearance for the feudal lords meeting.”

The feudal lords meeting doesn't matter, but it seems Rutina is looking forward making clothes.

If she is making clothes, then there is the measuring.

Reusing that personal data a little would be allowed since there is no personal information protection law.

Just a little.

It's just a little bit.

Because it's only just the tip.

Afterward, she will understand.

With a great mood we fly to the Imperial Capital.

The usual clothes shop facing the main street in front of the adventurers guild.

I will feel relieved if I entrust the work to them.

“Welcome.”

“Today I would like to prepare casual-wear, a bottom and a top for each of them. Is it possible?”

“Of course it is, sir. Please let me gratefully accept it.”

When I enter the shop and speak to the male shop assistant, he accepts with a smile on his face.

“There will be a preference for each one of them, will you please give them advice?”

“I certainly will.”

“Ok, then I'll leave this up to everyone.”

When the salesman turns his face, the saleswoman comes over and takes Roxanne and the girls inside.

“For the casual wear we make in our store, the least expensive top and bottom set we have starts from 4,000 nars. The rest, 7,000 nars, 10,000 nars, and then 13,000 nars.”

“Oh.”

It's such a system?

Quite sketchy.

We choose the cloth, and they'll make something.

I wonder how much it'll cost exactly to look good and not be called stingy?

“They are all high quality casual wear using silk. The clothes which exceed 10,000 nars are the ones nobles and equal ranking wealthy merchants order. Our store also takes pride in the quality of the 6,000 nar clothing, and you should order multiple sets if it's for everyday wear.”

Hoo. He's relatively honest.

Although I think you're leading us to expensive items instead of bottom, middle, and top options.

The sales techniques have only advanced to this extent?

Or, is it the idea of not selling a cheap item that will lower the shops brand value?

In the first since the rich will not pay attention to them, there is no need to prepare cheap items.

4,000 nars is sufficiently expensive enough.

That's right.

It is expensive.

Even if 4,000 nars is bad quality, it is still 10 times higher than Quarter's western style shop.

I was nearly about to get deceived.

“The 4,000 nar option will be fine.”

“Sure. I think you will be satisfied with that.”

I am really satisfied with the 4,000 nars option.

When the price is decided, Roxanne and the girls start noisily deciding on clothes.

It looks like it will take time.

But it is within my assumption.

“Master, I am sorry we are taking so long.”

“Nope, it’s alright. Do it slowly.”

Roxanne apologizes but I should be the one to do that.

“Then, can you come here so we can take your measurements?”

“Yes.”

“About the girl who just went for measurements, as she is new joiner she doesn’t have the clothes we prepared for everyone else. Like the imitation of Imperial castle female attendant clothes.”

I ordered maid clothes when Rutina went away.

Although I don’t think there will be any problems if I order it in front of her.

I-it’s a s-surprise present.

The man who understands a woman’s feelings does it this way.

Though, Roxanne exposed that I am going to make clothes for Rutina. They are questionable clothes however, so I’m not sure if she’ll be happy to receive them or not.

There is also the silk apron as a nude apron among them.

“Understood, sir.”

The salesman accepts the order before Rutina comes back.

It is a good store that understand my real intentions very well.

I decided to receive all the goods at same time.

I will only get the apron early.

However, I don’t think I will be able to visit the stocking shop today since I am out of time.

I guess it will be fine going to that place later.

For now, I buy a camisole dress as negligee for Rutina and go back.

Rutina chose a yellow color.

That's also a benefit.  
I will prepare the bath quickly when I return.  
To the bath. And then to the bed.  
I can't get enough of this trivial life for trivial benefits.

"Fish, desu."

And, dinner is before that?  
That is also a benefit.  
Today is a fish dish to answer Miria's request.  
Food is also one of the trivial gambles in life.

"Master, there is a message from Luke. He managed to win a bid on a bee monster card. It seems it went for 5,300 nars."

A monster card?  
As expected that one can't become a benefit.  
I guess I will pick it up tomorrow.  
I only want to spend today getting benefits.

Dinner benefits, bath benefits, and afterwards more benefits.  
I don't have to worry about my overflowing power running out.  
On top of it is sex maniac.  
It won't run out.

I am satisfied with my benefits, if I do it all night and then fight in the morning.  
Still continuing with the unproductive battles.  
However, it is not bad.  
It will become a fuel for tonight's benefit battle.

Today I will finally set foot on the 34th floor.  
It will be a floor where every step will be a tough fight.  
As for last night's benefits, all of that has prepared me for this.

"Then, let's go?"

We prepare our equipment, and move to Quratar's 33rd floor.  
We advance to the boss room with Roxanne's guidance.  
I must break through the boss room to go to the 34th floor.

“Drive Dragon’s boss is Land Dragon. It doesn’t fly, but be careful because it’s movement is quicker than Drive Dragons. When it attacks with Earth Magic the power seems big. Like Drive Dragon, it has tolerance for all attributes, so there is no attribute weakness.”

After receiving Sherry’s briefing, we enter the boss room.  
The Land Dragon has a strong earth attack?  
Although, Sherry is prepared with her spear with the incantation interruption skill when we fight in the boss room, so there is no need to worry about magic.

As for it’s quick movement, Roxanne will be the one to handle it.  
Because there is only the boss, Miria’s petrification is effective.  
I don’t need to be afraid any more than necessary about this boss fight.

The smoke gathers in the middle of the boss room, and a monster appear.

As she said, because it can’t fly it appeared in low position.  
It is the Land Dragon.

A monster that is heavy and standing on four legs.  
A body which touches the floor with its stomach.  
Four feet spread apart.

“Isn’t that just a Tokage?”

Rather than a Dragon, it is just a Tokage.  
Not a Land Dragon, it is Tokage.  
Rather than calling it a Land Dragon, it is a Komodo Dragon.

Certainly it is huge.  
This looks more dragonish than Drive Dragon and seems scarier.  
I would surely feel terribly frightened if I had seen Komodo Dragons on earth.  
Have I become accustomed to this sort of thing?

## Chapter 210 : 34th Floor

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Last chapter summary: the Land Dragon is in actuality a lizard.

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When the huge lizard emerges, Roxanne stands in front of it. And then, she swings the Rapier of Hypnosis in front of the lizard's eyes as if fanning.

You might think I merely said fanning, but she really was fanning. It's Roxanne's duty to attract the boss.

She's not scared even in front of the [monitor lizard](#). Rather, she excitedly rotates the Rapier's pointed tip. Her carefreeness suggests that it isn't a dragon but a dragonfly she's catching.

As expected of Roxanne. Oh well. Even I'm not afraid or anything. For Roxanne, who was born and brought up in this world, it cannot be more natural. Miria and Vesta, too, confront the respective Drive Dragons without a shred of fear.

I welcome the monsters calmly with Thunder magic. Activating Overdrive, I cast a barrage of two spells. Next, I cast Abnormal Status Resistance Down on the Drive Dragon which Miria was keeping company.

The Land Dragon closes in on Roxanne who was confronting it. It considerably speeds up and instantly advances. It opens its jaws wide, shows its dreadful fangs and closes them back as if taking a bite.

While maneuvering the upper half of her body, lightly dodging it, Roxanne sticks the Rapier into the monster's eye. Owing to composure, her counterattack was terrific.

It went into its eye, huh?

However, it doesn't feel as if much damage has been inflicted to the dragon.

Did it shut its eyelids in order to defend? Has the monster only been reinforcing? Or, are its eyes merely for show?

At the very least, it doesn't seem to be its weak point.

After all, it's not certain whether a monster receives visual information through its eyes.

If that's the case, is it the ears? Or does the dragon have a pit organ in addition to its eyes? Or is it like an Nt Ant's compound eyes? Or is it like the sight of a Non-R.E.M Golem's eyes?

Then come the Needle Wood and the Half Herb that belong to the plant system.

“Indeed, it's movement seems to be slightly quick.”

Roxanne gives a terrifying evaluation with a calm face.

Slightly?

It seemed to close in quite suddenly.

I turn my attention to the Land Dragon so as not to miss any of its moves. Immediately after, it gets paralyzed by Thunder magic.

Along with the Drive Dragon in front of Vesta.

Only the Drive Dragon in front of Miria is still moving.

It raises questions on the effectiveness of Abnormal Status Resistance Down.

Well, since it's a stochastic event, such a thing may happen.

It tends to first get paralyzed, or so has it been thus far.

I cannot say that Abnormal Status Resistance Down doesn't work on the Drive Dragons.

“Did it, desu.”

Right after, petrification proc's.

Thereafter, Miria petrifies the boss and one more monster in succession.

Miria is as compatible with the boss battles as ever.

So much so as to silence the doubters.

If that's how it's gonna be, the Land Dragon battle will be safe. We could observe the 34th floor, too; however, I'd better repeat the 33rd floor boss battle. Also, the strength of a Kobold Kämpfer doesn't differ much from a Drive Dragon's.

I finish the petrified monsters, that had lost their ability to move, off safely with magic.

Sherry, Miria and Rutina take a rest.

Roxanne and Vesta match each other in swinging swords as if trying out a new sword.

"It's not that threatening an opponent."

"I think it's alright."

"I enjoy when it moves faster, though."

Nope, I didn't hear anything.

So, there's nothing here at all. Fine then?

When the Land Dragon turns into smoke and dissipates, a reddish drop item was left behind.

Meat?

When I use Appraisal, it displays 'dragon meat'.

Does the Land Dragon drop a cooking ingredient?

"Dragon meat, huh?"

"That's right, dragon meat. It can be eaten as is. It's said to be filled with the power of the dragon; hence, it doesn't rot. For this reason, it's preferred by long distance travelers who're neither Adventurer nor Explorer. Also, just like dragon skin, it enhances the taste if added to the soup."

Sherry's explanation gives the impression of a beef jerky.

Actually, it's not beef, is it?

It's dragon jerky.

"It's good to eat as is? Then, let's give it try?"

I subconsciously look at Roxanne.

Even though they're wolfkin, it doesn't mean they particularly like beef

jerky.

Do they? Or do they not?

Even though the catkin Miria likes to eat fish very much.

Roxanne cannot be seen jumping at it or anything of the sort.

They really don't, after all, huh?

I cut a piece and offer it to Roxanne.

The dragon meat did get sliced with ease just like a jerky.

It really is a dragon jerky.

When I put it in my mouth, it does taste like a jerky.

It has the rich flavor of meat. It's tasty.

Initially, it was firm; however, when I chew it 1-2 times, it crumbles and melts.

"This way of killing a monster and eating right after is good, too."

Roxanne seems to like it as well.

After everyone's turn, Rutina receives her share in the last. I cut another bite-size and offer it to Roxanne for a second time.

It's good to have a knack for taste.

Neither does she stop nor do I tell her to.

Speaking of which, it's good to have a snack every now and then.

I'm feeling homesick.

How about having potato chips or prawn crackers like at work or during study? Nah, there's no need to take the trouble of making it.

If it doesn't exist, there's no need to make it.

Basically, I don't think there's any Japanese food I'd want to eat much.

Let alone wanting to eat, I don't even remember eating any expensive delicacy. As for cheap food, I've already eaten it plenty.

To say nothing of [Caviar](#) or [Foie Gras](#), I haven't ever eaten sushi or eel. I don't know where to start from as I don't even know how these things taste.

I once wanted to eat [Matsutake](#) and [Mentaiko](#).

How do those things taste? Are they delicious?

I ate peach a few times. I liked it so much that I wanted to try it more.

However, since I didn't get to eat it that much, you cannot take my word for it.

To me, melon was an ultra luxury food item.

Once every day, at dinner, I used to have cup-men. I got tired of eating it. (TN: Cup ramen a.k.a. Instant noodles)

I don't want to eat it ever again in my life.

I sometimes want to eat rice; however, it doesn't tend to have an excessively rich flavor.

By 'I sometimes want to eat rice', I didn't mean I want to eat plain rice. They say that you long for rice and [Miso](#) when you're abroad. I don't believe them.

Generally, the Japanese of today don't like to eat Miso much.

Then comes curry.

Curry, huh?

The day, when I eat something I want to, may really come.

If it's to that extent.

If I think about it, I'm more suited to living in this world.

"Since I cannot keep such a small quantity in the Item Box, can you please carry it, Roxanne? Aah, nevermind....."

"There's hardly any."

Since I was munching on the dragon meat while I was lost in thought, it had already vanished.

So, it wouldn't last if six people were to eat it.

It wasn't that big, so.

"Oh well. We seem to have eaten it all."

"Yes, desu."

"I think it disappeared immediately because it was small."

"It may be a good idea to have it during the Lords' Assembly."

In the end, Miria halves her piece and passes it to Vesta which she further halves and passes to Rutina.

"Even if it has been used up, how about hunting the Drive Dragons? We

can have as much dragon meat as we like. It has been decided; let's repeat the Drive Dragon battle today."

"I guess. Very well."

Albeit confused, Roxanne consents.

For today, the 33rd floor boss battle should be repeated.

That one doesn't deal much damage.

However, if we failed to cancel the magic or dodge the attack, the damage dealt by the boss would be great.

"If we hunt a lot of Drive Dragons, it may drop leather. However, the current me cannot make any equipment out of it."

According to Sherry, a Drive Dragon drops leather.

Is leather a rare drop?

As yet, only a part of my armor is made of dragon leather, not the whole equipment.

If we have our own supply of raw materials, we can complete the equipment, too.

If a Drive Dragon drops dragon leather, even 'collecting the raw materials' excuse cannot help me in not repeating the boss battle.

I wanted to say, 'tell me before,' but Sherry would be too ashamed to say, 'I cannot process it,' herself.

Since a Drive Dragon is the 33rd floor boss, after the 33rd floor, it can be found in abundance on the 66th floor as a small fry. (TN: Drive Dragon in raw. Should be Land Dragon)

Therefore, someone who collects dragon leather and makes equipment out of it is supposed to be strong enough to fight on the 66th floor.

"The material can be saved. You'll be able to use it soon."

"Okay."

"For now, let's have a look at the 34th floor. Speaking of which, Sherry, what's a Kobold Kämpfer weak against?"

When I fought the Kobold Kämpfer last time, Sherry wasn't there. Also, since I basically took it out with Durandal, I don't know as to which attributes it's weak against and resistant to.

Earlier, I thought I would depend less on Sherry from the 34th floor onward; however, it doesn't seem to be happening for now.

“A Kobold Kämpfer is weak against all four attributes.”

In simple words, it's weak against magic.

With that thought, I move on to the 34th floor without any retort.

“Well then, Roxanne, please.”

“Yes, this way.”

When we advance through the 34th floor, we find it.

A Kobold Kämpfer.

It does show up.

There's no reason not to believe it.

Post 33rd floor, the 1st floor boss does become a 34th floor monster, huh?

Since it's a monster I have fought before, it'll be easy to fight.

Moreover, it'll continue to be so in the future.

However, it's a Lv34.

But it's natural for it's the 34th floor.

I fire a barrage of two spells: Burnstorm and Thunderstorm.

Because the Drive Dragons appear here, too, I haven't changed the Jobless skill.

In this group as well, there are two each of Drive Dragons and Kobold Kämpfers.

Ah, I see.

Although a Kobold Kämpfer is weak against all four attributes, it's not weak against Thunder magic, right?

Just because it's weak against all four attributes doesn't mean it's weak against magic.

There are attribute sword skills, too. When used, the weak attributes can be worked out.

A Kobold Kämpfer doesn't seem to especially be weak against magic.

With all that said, both the 1st-floor-boss-turned-monsters get

paralyzed to the very first Thunder shot.

Huh?

Next, I launch a barrage of Thunderstorms on the remaining Drive Dragons. Now, only one of the monsters remains unparalyzed.

As for the Kobold Kämpfers, both of them collapse before the effect of paralysis could wear off.

They turn into smoke before even the petrified Drive Dragon.

Well, they may really be weak against magic.

“We seem to be able to fight even on the 34th floor.”

“That’s right. With Master, we can move to an even higher floor.”

Why is Roxanne’s head filled with the thought of moving even higher? At any rate, I don’t think I’m fit for it.

Because the monster groups on the 34th floor differ from those on the 33rd floor, I only planned on fighting once on the 34th floor as a trial. The Kobold Kämpfer doesn’t seem to be a formidable opponent.

“So, that’s why people say that the Drive Dragons are more difficult.”

I see. So, is that what Sherry meant?

The Kobold is the weakest monster that appears from the 1st to the 11th floor.

The boss, Kobold Kämpfer, would naturally be weak, too.

This guy is the weakest amongst the bosses.

So, the monster group of the strongest monster from 23rd to 33rd floor – Drive Dragon – trumps the monster group of the weakest monster from 34th floor to 44th.

How disgraceful is it for a boss to lose to a lower floor monster.

“Do it, desu.”

“I think it’s alright.”

“I don’t want to be associated to such a place when I attend the Lords’ Assembly.”

There doesn’t seem to be any difference between Quratar’s 33rd and 34th floors.

Is the wall even further up?

I know it's wrong to expect it so much.

However, if it came unexpectedly, I wouldn't be able to deal with it.

“Let's return to the 33rd floor.”

Anyways, there's no problem up to this point.

We'd fight on the 33rd floor.

I'm more worried as to what clothes I'd wear tomorrow.

Tomorrow will take care of itself.

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'Harem in the Labyrinth of the Other World Vol. 5' is now on sale. (TN: Yes, the author didn't use the word 'Slave')

Sorry to keep you waiting.

Thank you in anticipation.

## Chapter 211 : Counting on Her

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Last chapter summary: the Kobold Kampfer turned out to be weak.

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After repeating the boss battle until it was time for breakfast, we leave Quratar's labyrinth.

Dragon leather dropped a few times on the 33rd floor.

Because dragon meat dropped more, Dragon leather must surely be a rare drop.

Although it feels bad that its drop rate cannot be increased for it's not an ingredient, it isn't like it's particularly necessary right now.

It'll be fine to just throw it into my Item Box.

Because Great Hero can use Item Box, my Item Box has more room.

Right, room.

Room is crucial.

I'll have to procure various training materials from the guild for Sherry to forge. Although I can have her make dragon leather armor right away, I don't think I have to go that far.

There's no need as the monster attacks don't hurt in our present state.

Keeping our current pace of moving up the floors, we'll hit the wall sooner or later.

When that time comes, the points that can be strengthened will be plenty.

Considering the fact that there still are many possible reinforcements, that there is still room, puts me at ease.

When the battles become difficult, I can make calm decisions if I can strengthen immediately rather than if there is no room for strengthening. In the labyrinth, if I failed to notice it becoming difficult and overdid it, I would be exposing my life to danger.

In order for that not to happen, having more room is important.

With a heart having more room, I buy bread and other ingredients, and head back home. For breakfast, Sherry is preparing the dragon meat soup. Even though I said 'soup', she's merely boiling it. Because she hasn't added that root-ish thing, I think it's not needed when boiling it.

"Since you only need to boil it, it's a really easy-to-cook dish."

Is what Sherry says; however, seasoning it like this will be unexpectedly difficult.

You will suffer if you think it is easy.

Without a doubt.

"It does seem to be simple up to this point."

"Because dragon meat has rich flavor, it will not fail even if I don't pay attention to seasoning. Dragon meat is a very appreciated ingredient."

Damn!

Being careless with seasoning is fine, too?

Very appreciated, indeed.

"Really? In that case, it will be good to have on the busy mornings."

"I guess. There is dragon skin, too. As for Master's concern, it doesn't seem to be necessary to boil it for long in order to make soup."

Roxanne clarifies.

Normally, boiling meat or vegetables for long is necessary to make soup. If I intended to eat delicious food in this world, I would need a personal cook who could spend a long time.

Party member spots have already been filled. Next time, if I wanted to increase the number of slaves, I would need someone suitable for cooking or housekeeping.

Earlier, I vaguely hinted it.

However, it was perfectly guarded.

Since the cause to add party members is now gone, will it be difficult to expand my harem?

Actually, I'm all set even if I only have Roxanne.

Roxanne is beautiful, obedient and gentle.

Furthermore, she has dog ears.

What is there to be dissatisfied with?

There's of course Sherry. Small and cute.

Also, it's difficult to get away from Miria's cat ears.

Vesta has great presence, too. Especially about her chest.

And I don't intend to part with the elven beauty, Rutina.

That's it, I guess.

If there ever appeared a woman that I wanted at any cost, it would be fine to think about it at that time.

If she were an immensely beautiful woman, I would think about it when she appeared.

I will wind the rope after the thief has been caught.

However, there is no such person yet, so there is no sense in contemplating expansion.

Hmm, what to do about the Tanuki that I haven't gotten yet? (TN: Pretty sure everyone got the reference)

When she appears, I will manage it somehow.

When that time comes, I will use every wile to make Roxanne and the girls change their mind.

"Well, did you find it delicious?"

The dragon meat soup is actually delicious.

I am certain I will manage it somehow.

"Yes, it is very delicious. This much is enough."

I can articulate long-winded praises, but I opt not to.

After breakfast, I go to the Merchant's Guild and buy a Bee Monster Card from Luke.

The Bee Monster Card, albeit not required at the moment, will help with strengthening when needed.

Aside from the weapon, when put on an armor, it can progressively decrease the damage dealt by the monsters.

The convenience of its use may leave something to be desired, but it will be a reinforcement nonetheless.

“There’s a message from the Duke of Harz. The Duke requires you to turn up once more.”

Gee

Although the Bee Monster Card was authentic, I ended up receiving an unpleasant news from Luke.

All in all, it wasn’t a good business this time.

I leave the Merchant’s Guild without delay.

I could go to Bode right now, but I pass on that.

Tomorrow would do.

Since there is no phone here to immediately inform him that I have received the message, there will be no problem in ignoring a ‘read message’.

Room is crucial.

Room, not delay.

A.k.a. tease play.

Isn’t it sweet and pleasurable?

The Duke may suddenly die today.

It is always a possibility as the Duke enters the labyrinth.

‘Don’t do today what can be done tomorrow.’

Such an insightful proverb even if I say so myself.

“I’ve obtained a Bee Monster Card. Would it be fine to attach it later to an armor?”

“I guess so.”

After returning home and consulting with Sherry, I put it off.

Sherry has approved of it, too.

I may be able to get a better armor if I put it on hold.

If I don’t show urgency and set it aside, I may have more options in the future.

The more the choices, the better.

Delaying is the right choice.

I realize now as to why a Bee Monster Card is not popular after contemplating over what to do with the Bee Monster Card.

It is indeed difficult to validate its effectiveness for it works only against the same enemy.

Even so, it is better to use it if you can.

Or, it may only be me who thinks so.

In this world, it is difficult to add multiple skills to an equipment. You can add one skill to an equipment, but the skills to choose from are many.

Bee Monster Card is as tricky as I thought.

I see. So, it was such a thing, huh?

I will go to the Duke tomorrow when I'm feeling better. Fighting the 34th floor boss comes first.

I still feel that advancing a floor a day is a mistake, but there's no helping it now since I have already done it.

It is necessary to make an excuse for Roxanne if I am to stop.

Other people probably face more hardships in the labyrinth. Moving up, we have thus far been fighting comfortably. That's probably why we are careless.

"We will take left at the next fork. Although there seem to be monsters nearby at right, it should be fine for now."

Roxanne leads us through the 34th floor joyfully.

"You are right."

"We will go straight from the next corner. Ah, there is a Rockbird, though, if we go left. The smell is strong, so they probably are large in number. Shall we make it a parting gift?"

"Let's do that."

"However, because the 34th floor boss is fun, I want to hurry there."

"I-I see."

I collect the feathers from the monsters, that were supposed to be a parting gift, and proceed to have a fun time with the boss.

I don't know as to what kind of face I should make at this time.

I have no choice but to laugh.

"It is not so in Quratar's labyrinth, but I've heard about fighting the

boss before moving on to the boss room onward from the 34th floor.”

Informs the not-so-laughing Sherry.

“Really?”

“In a small room, there is a treasure chest mimicking the boss.”

“There is?”

Which reminds me, I’ve heard such a story.

A treasure chest imitating the boss.

If you think about it, it is strange to fight the boss before first going to the boss room.

If it’s a treasure chest, it can certainly be fought.

“It appears on lower floors, too, but it seems to be found more frequently onward from the 34th floor.”

“I see. You encounter them when you explore without knowing the location of the boss room.”

“Because there is a lot of parties aiming for the treasure chest, it is not certain.”

A treasure chest mimicking the boss should be easy to fight for there appears only one monster unlike in the boss room.

And that’s why there are many parties aiming for it.

Although entering a labyrinth is earning money, in the end, you have to kill the monsters to earn money.

As for the treasure chest, even if it mimics a monster, in the end, it is a treasure chest.

“Before going to the boss room, should we fight the boss once?”

I consult with everyone.

A good idea has struck me.

We can wander around before going to the boss room.

If we take one day to encounter the treasure chest mimicking the boss, we will take one more day before encountering the boss. Considering the boss battle takes one day, our speed of moving up the floors will drop down to half.

I’d like to adopt this (plan) by all means.

Rather than confronting a boss for the first time in the boss room, I would feel relieved if I saw it before at least once.

There is a chance of encountering the treasure chest without spending an entire day, too, but I will think about it when that time comes.

“There is no problem. As for this floor’s boss, no matter how many came out, they would not be Master’s opponent.”

Even though it was a great idea, it gets shot down by Roxanne. Or rather, it wouldn’t be Roxanne’s opponent. I’m inferior in every way.

“There is no need to go to that extent in our present condition. Nevertheless, if we feel uneasy going to the boss room on a floor, it may be a good idea. Since we will fight for a while on that floor, it means we will fight the mimic boss as well. Besides, the 34th floor boss is Kobold Jaeger.”

Following after Roxanne, Sherry rejects it, too. Certainly, what Sherry said has more persuasive power behind it. So, if we feel uneasy about fighting a boss, we will eventually fight the mimic boss on that floor? She has come up with a good cover up.

Besides, Kobold Jaeger, that is the boss of Kobold Kampf, that is the boss of weak weak Kobold, deserves to be ignored. Whether a hunter «Jaeger» is superior to a warrior «Kampf», I have no idea.

Since there’s an example of [Jagdpanzer](#), there must also be an existence that hunts soldiers.

Let’s leave it at that.

“No problem, desu.”

“I think it will be alright.”

“I will not be able to show my face at the Lords’ Assembly if I am afraid of the likes of Kobold Jaeger.”

These three will always be so, I guess. I wasn’t counting on them in the first place.

“Vesta has also gotten brilliant. It is the result of Master’s training.”  
“R-Really?”

Roxanne, for some reason, seems to be deeply impressed; however, Vesta has always been like this.  
You may call it training, But I’m certain it’s the bad influence of a certain someone.

Someone who \*hyoihyoi\* casually dodges any and every monster attack.

“Yes, isn’t it my and Vesta’s job to hold the boss down?”

Since it is the 34th floor, will two of them take care of it as a precaution?

Roxanne seems to have grown up a little.

“Umm, in the 34th floor boss room, two boss monsters will appear.”

As soon as I thought that, comes Sherry’s explanation.  
Two bosses will appear?  
So, Roxanne and Vesta will hold down one each.

“Any other monster beside the bosses?”

“If I am not mistaken, only the two bosses.”

So, the two small fries stop appearing and the bosses increase by one.  
It’d reinforce the battle strength for the time being.  
As I thought, after the 34th floor, the usual methods will not work.  
Although I believe that Roxanne would not have a problem with any enemy even if she met it for the first time, will Vesta be fine?

“Even though Miria acts as a mobile unit in case of two monsters, she’ll give priority to the one in front of you, Vesta. Still, will you be alright even if you haven’t faced it before?”

“Yes, I think I will be alright.”

“If you look carefully at your enemy’s movement, it will not matter even if it is your first time seeing the monster. When the enemy moves fuu, you should avoid it suu.”

Nope, she hasn’t grown up at all.  
In the end, whether the boss fight will become a problem or not depends

on Miria's petrification.

Although its usability is unrelated to facing for the first time, I have no countermeasures in case it doesn't work on the boss.

Moreover, let's say I fight a boss and it doesn't get petrified. It will be impossible to judge whether it didn't get petrified by chance or petrification doesn't work on the boss from just one battle.

Even if Miria's petrification will stop working eventually, it will rather become difficult to use gradually, than stop working suddenly. It will be impossible to judge after fighting only once.

Even if I went so far as to abandon the boss attack pattern, it would be meaningful only if there were no more than one boss.

It will be difficult to go that far.

Then, it may be better for us to go to the boss room as is.

We head to the boss room under Roxanne's guidance.

"As for the bosses, Roxanne will take care of one of them while Vesta and Miria will surround the other one. Vesta will be at the front."

"I don't know the position where the bosses will appear; therefore, please attract them to a place where I can reach both of them."

After confirming the formation with Sherry and the rest, we enter the boss room.

However, there was hardly any meaning to all that.

Because Miria petrifies both of them right away.

Miria's petrification seems to be effective against Kobold Jaeger Lv34 all the same.

If Miria is going to end it with petrification, it will become easier; for even though the number of bosses has increased, the total number has dropped from 3 to 2.

We seem to still have room for flexibility.

## Chapter 212 : Use

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Last chapter summary: the 34th floor boss proved to be easy thanks to petrification by Miria.

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When the Kobold Jaeger dies and the smoke dissipates, a white fang was left behind.

It is the same white fang as the one Kobold and Kobold Kampfer leave behind.

Leaving a fang behind seems to be a Kobold family thing.

A tiger leaves skin behind when it dies, and a Kobold drops fang. It is an ironclad rule of the Kobold family.

Oh, but a Kobold drops a knife, too.

When I try to use Appraisal on the dropped fang, it displays 'Kobold flower'.

Flower. It's a flower.  
Why is that?

"Flower....."  
"It is Kobold flour. Usually, a little of it is mixed with wheat flour."

Explains Sherry when I was considering asking.  
Oh, I see. It's flour.  
It's not a flower.

"Wheat flour?"  
It is white, certainly.  
It'll have to be \*gorigori\* ground like Kobold salt or Kobold sucrose.  
It is bothersome.

"Apparently, it will not be delicious if you mix a large quantity. The limit seems to be 9 parts of wheat flour to 1 part of Kobold flour? Generally, the percentage of Kobold flour is lowered even further. 15 to 1 seems to be the ratio often used. The high-quality bread at Quratar

bakery must be made this way, too.”

“Really?”

That bakery has a normal bread and a high-quality bread. Indeed, the high-quality was more delicious every time I bought it. So, was there such a difference?

Also, one more thing.

If the bakery uses Kobold flour, then they must buy Kobold flour in bulk.

I’ve found a customer.

30% Up will be effective there, too, since the person working in the bakery is a Merchant.

Even though I am not that troubled with money to rely on 30% Up.

Although they may figure out where we are fighting if sell Kobold flour, I don’t see any problem in particular.

The Kobold Jaeger drop is unexpectedly great.

My bad for thinking, ‘it is a Kobold, after all.’

It may be a good idea to repeat the Kobold Jaeger battle for two days.

Onward from 35th floor, the enemies will be genuine.

“Quratar’s 35th Floor monster is Palm Baum. There’s no attribute it’s resistant to or weak against. When it appeared as a lower floor boss, it was weak and lone; however, from 33rd floor onward, not having a weakness against any attribute will be troublesome.”

I listen to Sherry briefing as usual.

It will be troublesome after the 35th floor?

In any case, since the Drive Dragons are resistant to all attributes, too, I will have to depend a lot on Thunder magic.

Let’s go to the 35th floor and try an actual battle out.

At first, we come across a lenient group of two Palm Baums.

Palm Baum seems stronger than Kobold Kampfer. Probably.

Compared to the 34th floor, the duration of battle has lengthened in one go.

However, what would happen when the duration of battle lengthened?

“Did it, desu.”

That would happen.

Miria would end the battle by petrifying them all.

“Uun, will it not be better to fight once more and see?”

“I guess. This was then; there are monsters relatively close by. They seem to be few in number; just about right.”

“I see.”

We advance under Roxanne’s lead.

Seemingly, we will be fine fighting on the 35th floor and would not have any problem even if the number (of monsters) increased.

Appearing next is a group of three Palm Baums, one Kobold Kampfer, and two Drive Dragons.

In short, isn’t it a full spec (group)? No way!

Will we be facing the maximum number of enemies – 6 – on this floor? Oh, 4 of them, including three Palm Baums, fall first to Thunder magic. You could say I am thankful for the fact that the more the number of enemies, the more that get paralyzed by Thunder magic.

“Miria, stick to the Palm Baum. Rest of you hold this one down.”

“Yes.”

“Please.”

When the Kobold Kampfer and the Drive Dragon come to the front, Roxanne issues instructions to Miria.

Because paralysis could wear off, relying on it would be too risky.

I’d better leave it for Roxanne to decide.

Actually, when one Palm Baum recovers from paralysis, Miria falls back a little.

She seems to have noticed it perfectly.

The reason as to why she fell back quickly is because she only had one monster to keep company.

Or so I thought, but Miria advances again.

“Did it, desu.”

Was it because of Petrification?

The Palm Baum's movement seems to have stopped.

Not advancing after reporting it yet reporting it after advancing is bad for my heart.

However, it might not particularly be good since Miria was alone deep inside the enemy territory.

Meanwhile here, we are keeping the other monsters busy.

Firing Thunder magic continuously, I somehow defeat them before Miria could petrify them all.

As you would expect, it is impossible to petrify all 6 of them.

And yet, three Palm Baums and one Drive Dragon got petrified. It finished while she was on her way back here.

"In my opinion, on this floor, letting Miria fight the Palm Baums by herself seems to be better."

"Wouldn't it be a bit dangerous?"

"Only if all the paralyzed monsters began moving at the same time. In any case, there would not be much risk if she paid attention."

I try to give Roxanne an advice, but she doesn't take it.

"Umm. Will you be alright, Miria? You have to be really careful."

"Yes, desu. Do it, desu."

I urge Miria to be cautious just in case; however, it should be fine since she herself wants to do it.

"I am still anxious, though. So then, should we repeat the 34th floor boss battle today? Or should we continue with fighting on this floor?"

Miria will finish the battle with petrification whether it is the 34th floor boss battle or the 35th floor battle, so the difficulty doesn't differ much for me.

I'm fine with either; therefore, I leave the decision to the rest.

With a number of monsters appearing on the 35th floor, there is high possibility for some of the monsters not getting petrified; but then, the boss may be difficult to be petrified, too.

A leftover monster on the 35th floor or a boss; which one is better?

Shouldn't it not concern me, though, since Roxanne will be the one holding the remaining monster down?

It would apparently be dangerous in the labyrinth if we were late at exterminating the monsters as we could get surrounded by other groups; therefore, the boss battle, wherein there's no chance for the monsters to increase, is safer in this respect.

Even though the difference may not be as pronounced.

“Isn't it better to fight Kobold Jaeger? In the boss battle, since we clash against each other immediately after it appears, we get to fight longer.”  
“If the two battles don't differ much, it will be more rational to repeat the boss battle.”

“Which one do you prefer Miria?”

Miria's opinion should be honored since she will be the one to end the battle anyway.

Especially, the opinion of a fully motivated person shouldn't be heeded. How is it good to hear the opinion of someone who prefers protracted battles?

“Boss, desu.”

I didn't think Miria's opinion would tilt that way, too, but it's fine, I guess.

“Which one of the two does Vesta think is fine? Isn't the 35th floor better?”

“Yes, I think the boss battle is better.”

Vesta will be the one burdened during the boss battle since two bosses show up on the 34th floor.

I try to spark disfavor amongst those on the other side, but the boss battle seems to be favored.

Because only two monsters appear during the boss battle and Miria will immediately attack to petrify Vesta's target, is that why?

Fighting the small fries on the 35th floor is perhaps more troublesome for Vesta.

Incidentally, the feeling that the duration of boss battle is longer may also

be wrong.

“Is Rutina, too, fine with the boss battle?”

“Of course.”

Repeating the boss battle has received unanimous vote. For Rutina, however, the boss battle may not be as appreciated. Miria ending the battle with petrification means Rutina is not being useful. Especially, in a straightforward 34th floor boss battle.

If I killed the monsters with my magic, Rutina could stick her chest out with pride for helping decrease the number of my spells with hers. Even if Miria finished the battle with petrification, I could say Rutina’s magic was useful if a few monsters died and the number decreased during the battle.

However, if Miria ends the 34th floor boss battle by petrifying the two bosses appearing together, I can’t say that. Rutina doesn’t participate in Miria’s petrification.

If we fight on the 35th floor, there is an option of Rutina joining the vanguards while Miria advances deep like in the previous battle. Previously, since the Kobold Kampfer and the Drive Dragons collapsed, and the point was to reduce the number of enemies, she was of course useful. Especially the Kobold Kampfer, that is weak against all four attributes of magic, has high affinity with the Wizard Rutina.

However, because there appear two bosses from 34th floor onward, I can’t make such an excuse. To be frank, though, nothing would change even if Rutina weren’t here. I would strictly tidy them up with magic or Durandal after they got petrified; however, after finishing them off when they stopped moving, would I still be able to say Rutina was useful? I can have her use magic after Kobold Jaeger gets petrified and defeat the boss slightly earlier. There is that option, too; however, the efficiency will not be markedly better.

I will never demand from Rutina, who is only a Wizard, to be more useful.

The problem, however, is how she herself feels.

Being the only one amongst the party members who is not useful.

If it were me, I would hate such an impression.

I try to observe Rutina's expression, but it doesn't seem to be grim. Perhaps she herself hasn't noticed yet?

But she may notice if we repeat the boss battle.

In any case, I will have to eventually instruct her as to how many spells should be cast on the 35th floor.

How many times should I have her cast spells on the 35th floor? I will do that after I check Kobold Kampfer Lv35.

To have her use magic as a counter for Kobold Kampfer in a 35th floor battle where Miria will end the Palm Baums with petrification; if you call that a problem, this is equally a problem.

"It is fine for Rutina not to use magic in the boss battle. Try other things out. Calculate the number of spells needed to reduce the number of spells I need to cast to kill Kobold Kampfer. I will have you cast that number of spells."

"U-Understood."

That much can't be avoided.  
I will have you put up with it.

Thereafter, we go to the 35th floor after defeating the boss, then return to the 34th floor and repeat the boss battle.

Miria has been performing stably, consistently petrifying the two bosses. It may be thanks to putting the boss under Abnormal Status Resistance Down.

Incidentally, she fails to petrify a group of Palm Baums close by the entrance of the 35th floor before I kill them.

Considering all this and that, isn't the boss battle easier?  
It will be alright in the end.

Rutina seems to be the only one who's anxious, but she isn't showing

discontent on the outside.

Without moving from her spot during the boss battle, she seems to be observing the battle properly and trying to comprehend it earnestly.

To begin with, Rutina is essentially a novice Wizard; therefore, she doesn't know which spell to cast.

Although she doesn't cast spells during the boss battles, she does during the small fry battles; thus, she can see her use.

My worries were unnecessary.

If Miria were to end the battle with petrification, there would be a chance to finish the petrified monsters off with Durandal. I could lend Durandal to Rutina and have her continue to cast spells against small fries, but there's no need to go to that extent.

We keep repeating the boss battle until it was time for breakfast. This much experience is enough for today.

After the breakfast, I ask of Roxanne and the girls to clean up, and jump to the Duke of Harz's place.

Not going is not an option since I have been summoned.

It will be something worthless anyway.

I hope it won't be much of a business.

In the Bode castle, they let me in without authorization.

"Oh, Michio-dono. I am glad you came."

"Then, I'll excuse myself."

When I enter the office, Gozer, who was inside, hastily leaves.

The Duke also rises from his seat and comes all the way to the entrance.

And then, he extends his arms without a word and grabs my shoulders all of a sudden.

Although it might not seem like it, he caught me pretty tightly.

"Caught you."

"Eh?"

"Something bad happened. Something not so great. It's not like I'm playing with you or anything."

The Duke's eyes are dead.

“W-What happened?”

“An elder of Cassia’s matrilineal family happened. She told me to bring you along.”

“Elder?”

“She has been informed that Michio-dono is Rutina’s owner. She is naturally concerned. It is alright, though. You don’t need to worry. At any rate, you will not receive as harsh a treatment as we do.”

The Duke’s eyes really are dead.

## Chapter 213 : Grandmother-sama

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Last Chapter: I was caught when I went to see the Duke.

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“Ummm. What is this about?”

The Duke holds my shoulders and is not letting go of me.  
Well it doesn't hurt but do I need to be rescued?

“What, it's just a greeting. A greeting. You can't say you want to go home now. Be relieved. You won't be judged the way I was after we dethroned Selmar's Earl.”

The Duke sticks out his chest with pride.  
Is he trying to pull a bluff as hard as possible? Could it be he is trying to convince himself?

“There's no need to run away if it's just a greeting.”  
“I-it's not my intention to run away.”

But he did catch me to prevent my escape.

“Is there any need to be frightened if it's just a greeting?”  
“N-nobody is frightened here.”

He seems really frightened after all.  
Dropping the Earl's daughter Rutina into slavery, was really bad after all, right?

The Earl of Selmar may have fallen, but the relatives will complain about it.

“Hey Michio-sama, thank you for coming.”

When I was troubled, Cassia came over.  
Gozer is behind her.  
I guess Gozer went and called her.

“Then, with this excuse me.”

“.....”

“Um. This time the situation is concerning family ties to Michio.”

I looked at Gozer with eyes that want to run away, but he left without explaining.

Gozer’s eyes.

They signify the troubles of being a Wiseman existence.

By the way, the Duke is following Gozer’s back with scornful eyes. Duke, nicely done.

Let’s make it our privilege to trouble Gozer as a reward.

“Michio-sama, the head of all females on our whole family want’s to meet Michio-sama who is taking care of Rutina. Can we go together now?”

“Meet?”

I cannot decline since Cassia is the one asking.

“You don’t have to worry about anything specific. She’s a very nice grandmother.”

I see the Duke shaking his head on Cassia’s hidden side though. Is she the type that is kind to a relative?

Because I don’t know how much and how far the whole family covers, I don’t know whether the Duke is part of the family or not.

Is she the type that is gentle only with females?

“It will be better to bring Rutina along if we are meeting the Elder then.”

“No, it is alright. It is only Michio-sama the the head wants to meet. Letting Rutina meet her is not good as she may get strangely attached and homesick.”

“Indeed.”

“It is alright. We will go for a short time and just do a little greeting. Do your best.”

The Duke claps on my shoulders. Somehow it looks like the sacrifice is only me.

Even though just a while ago he said he doesn't intend on escaping. Nope. It is merely a greeting. Greetings.

"Right now?"

"It will not take long since it is just a light greeting. If it was an unrushed greeting that would require time then she would have invited you to dinner."

"Let's go right now."

"Right."

The Duke with a broad grin start praying.  
It is kind of irritating.

"The Duke is not coming?"

"No, I am bu-"

"That's unfortunate. I'll let her know that you're busy with stuff in the castle...."

"Of course I am coming together with you as well."

Before he finish muttering, he thinks about it and changes his words in hurry.

I found the Duke's weak point.

Although, this could turn out to be a weak point for me as well.

"Didn't you say you can't go?"

"Because it is important to Michio-dono and Cassia. It is more important than my work."

"Since we are simply introducing ourselves, there is no need to ask you to go that far."

"I-it's all right."

The Duke retorts to Cassia.  
She is the head of the whole family, including the beautiful wife, there's no need to be harsh.

"The adventurer went ahead to the lobby, therefore I would like to ask Michio-sama to join the party, I'll be your guide. So let's go?"

"Okay."

I followed Cassia toward the lobby.

I have a feeling that the Duke is glaring with resentment in his eyes at my back, but I don't mind him.

Better you resented Gozer as he ran away.

Although I have said nothing to Roxanne and the girls, they will know that I dissolved the party, and determine I certainly need some time to come back.

If it ends really as a light greeting, then there is no problem.

It is whether we get off with a light greeting or not?

Since she called me, in another word, she wants to see what type of character the man who received Rutina has, right? Isn't this probably about that?

If it is a guy with a useless character, then maybe there will be more to it. But since Cassia and the Duke are with me, I don't think she will suddenly do anything strange.

It was correct to force the Duke to come as insurance.

Being led by the adventurer who was in the lobby, we moved to some place away from bode's castle.

We arrived as expected at a castle somewhere else? Or maybe it's a mansion? It's wonderful building.

Since she is the family elder, then the other party must be a noble as well.

"I wish to meet with Cassandra-sama."

"I understand, sir. Then, please come this way."

When the adventurer announces our business, the other sides knight order responds.

One runs ahead to announce us, the other person seems to guide us to a waiting room or somewhere else.

This seems normal.

When I arrived, since it was the Duke's place I went inside without permission as usual, but I wonder about the etiquette when the Duke goes somewhere.

Well, this time the Duke and Duchess are together.

They shouldn't show any rudeness to the Duke.

From the other side's point of view, they will think of me as merely the Duke's bodyguard.

In reality, we came with a party of six, so the remaining two are probably the guards for the Duke and Duchess.

Following the Duke and Cassia, we went through the corridor.

"She will meet with you immediately. But not in the waiting room, this way please."

On the way, the person who probably went ahead to announce us, came back, and changed our destination.

Is this also a benefit of bringing the Duke along?

As one would expect, they will not keep the Duke waiting.

I was never kept waiting when I went to meet the Duke, but that's probably because the Duke is strange after all.

However, that was too fast.

Usually, when a commoner wants to meet a noble he must be kept waiting in the waiting room.

And perhaps have to wait for hours.

When venturing into life with job searching interviews, sometimes they would leave the person being interviewed waiting for long time, is what my high school teacher said.

I shouldn't get panicked at such a time.

If he is kept waiting for hours in a meeting room, then he will realize he is lower than them in rank.

I wonder if that is not good behavior for the nobles to do to commoners?

The nobles have ranks as well.

After all, this Duke easily went and severed Earl of Selmar head.

I don't know exactly the rank inside the Empire, but wouldn't only the Emperor be able to keep the Duke waiting for a long time?

But since we are together with the Duke, it is not good to keep us waiting as well.

"This way, please."

When we arrived to a room somewhere, the door opens from the inside

out and a person welcomes us.

Maybe it is not us? I guess probably only the Duke and Cassia.

The guards go in first.

The Duke goes second.

How should I put it, isn't this rare for the hasty Duke? Or as expected he is dependable around here?

Or perhaps he doesn't want to go inside the room where the head of Cassia's family is.

"Oh my!?! If it isn't the snot-nosed kid, the Brocken boya?"  
"I've been negligent."

When I enter the room after Cassia, the Duke prepares his sheath immediately.

His opponent is an old lady.

Is she strong? Or maybe tottering?

It seems contradictory, but she surely gives such a feeling.

Oops. she is ..... 107 years old.

My impression wasn't wrong.

According to judgement, Cassandra seems to be 107 years old.

That's amazingly old.

She probably can be considered energetic for 107 years old.

She is still lively.

On the other hand, being 107 years old, no matter how lively she is, her body will show her age.

She became quite small, she would be similar to a borrowed cat if she remained silent.

That's the reason why she vigorous and yet tottering.

It is inevitable if she is 107 years old.

It is an age where being able to breath is already a mystery.

It is fine to consider it a legend staying alive.

When you live to be that old, you can become the elder of the whole family.

"Glad you are in good health too, Cassia"

“I’m glad to see Cassandra Grandmother-sama is in good health as well.”

Grandmother-sama?

Certainly she feels like a grandmother-sama.

“You can tell me anytime when you want to separate as well, Cassia.”

“What a thing to say.”

“There is always a way to separate from the erotic kid who was peeping on the family young girls bathing and pretending it’s a prank.”

“H-how old is this story from. Aren’t you still discriminating against me from when I was a kid?”

The Duke is overwhelmed.

Or rather he did something like that?

I also want to peep.

“Oh right, at that time you still weren’t cured from wetting your bed, are you cured now?”

“As I said, how long ago is this story from!?”

“When you were caught awkwardly peeping, isn’t it my kindness that let you off with just a spanking, what’s this attitude you are showing to me now.”

The Duke got his ass spanked.

Since it is the impatient Duke, I am sure he hardly made any plan.

I now get why the Duke didn’t want to come.

It is said, a Hero won’t become a hero in his hometown.

No matter how admirable he grows as an adult, in the viewpoint of the person who changed his diaper or saw him playing as a kid, he will not look great.

Tokugawa Hikari the shougun upon birth, probably wasn’t able to raise his head in front of his wet nurse Shunjitsu Kyoku.

That’s how the Duke and grandmother-sama’s relations feel like.

It’s the trap you want to avoid.

And it isn’t like she is his grandmother-sama.

With the wisdom of being 107 years old, how different is that to Gozer?

“Michio-sama, this is Cassandra. She is the youngest child of my great

great great grandmother's little sister. She is considered a mother for every woman in my clan."

Ignoring the thing with the Duke, Cassia intrudes to introduce me. The youngest child of my great great great grandmother's little sister, that's amazing.

She is totally a stranger.

If it was me, I may have a distant relative of my great great great grandmother, but I don't even mind not meeting them.

Hmmm, is it different?

Because she's the youngest child of her great great great grandmother's little sister, it is a branch of her great great great great grandmother's family.

I start going great great just thinking about it.

"From my side, that makes her the grandchild of my great great great great great grandmother."

"My grandmother grieves over her foolish offspring."

There was still something more amazing.

That's exactly, what will be great.

Now, how many times did great appear so far?

In any case it is amazing to have that many.

Is it something that comes with being 107 years old?

As expected of a living legend.

"I am Michio."

I guess there are still many large families on this world, especially for the nobles that emphasize the connection through blood.

A family tree seems to remain.

"Grandmother Cassandra, this person here is Michio-sama. When we dethroned Selmar's Earl the other day, he is the one that became responsible for Rutina when she dropped to slavery to remove the family succession name."

"Oh! That case? The dethrone of Selmar's Earl that brought unhappiness for all the family females, it was a wise decision."

“It is the decision we gave.”

“You should have given it earlier; the misfortune would not have spread as much.”

“Guh!”

I think it is useless no matter what the Duke says from now on. However, it doesn't look like she is angry about dethroning Selmar's Earl or dropping Rutina to slavery.

“Hmm I see. That was you?”

Casting a sidelong glance at the beaten Duke, the grandmother-sama looks at me.

With a face covered in wrinkles and penetrating eyes, she glares at me. Although I didn't know whether it was a wrinkle or an eye until a little while ago.

Don't tell me she has [Appraisal], because it feels like she can see through everything.

“.....”

A tense instant.

Nope, not an instant but a long time?

A long time.

A very long time.

“Hmm. You seem kinda capable?”

Opps.

Seems I have passed safely.

I passed.

Probably passed.

“Yes, ma'am.”

“Are you an adventurer?”

“Yes, ma'am.”

“Although you still seem young, you've done well.”

I can say that I'm an adventurer now without hesitation. If you want, I can show you my intelligence card.

Rather, I'm someone who has the daughter of your family as a slave, is that fine?

"I am not an elf though."

"Hmmm. My husband was a human being as well. Because I was the youngest child. Everything good was taken by my older sisters, and there was nothing good left when it was my turn. The third daughter got married to a noble. The fourth one, got married to a promising person from the knight order, however he turned out to be useless in the end. The fifth girl married the heir of wealthy merchant. It was once called the largest store but they freefell like a diving bird. My older sister consumed everything, and the store is now out of business. There are those who don't understand how society works."

Let me say it anyway.

The old people's talks are long.

Too long.

## Chapter 214 : Escape

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Last chapter summary: obtained passing marks from the head of Rutina's and Cassia's family.

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“Grandmother Cassandra's late husband, too, had a decorated life.”

Because Grandmother's story was dragging on and on, Cassia joins in and follows up.

Belonging to human tribe, Grandmother's husband has already passed away.

Well, she's 107 years old, you know.

“Quite right. Despite being a human, my husband was a fine man. He originally belonged to a certain noble family. However, after being done in by a labyrinth, they lost their peerage. A common story of a downfall. Having a sense of foreboding, my husband remonstrated in every possible way. Consequently, he was cut off from the family. Chased out, he arrived in the territory of our house. Later, when he earned the peerage back, his relatives said whatnot to have him come back, of course; however, being an earnest man, he refused every approach. He was the only person who adopted such an upright stance even though he had the mark to succeed. ‘Such a fine man cannot be missed. He has to be caught,’ was this lady's thought. He had courage to enter the labyrinth; he was competent in terms of abilities; and he was endowed with excellent manners due to formerly belonging to a noble family. Cassia, you too better wash your hands of your man without a moment's delay if he's a good-for-nothing.”

It seems to be common for a noble to lose peerage if they fail to subjugate a labyrinth.

Still, her story hasn't served any purpose.

It has merely been long.

“Do you mean I'm not a fine article?”

“I didn't mean that. If mine were a worthless man, I would abandon him.”

A fine man must not be abandoned. You're a better judge of yourself, no?"

"Guu"

The Duke amusingly tips over.

You'd best give up.

Or, is it a duke's obstinacy?

"Shitty brat, although you have the potential of earning peerage soon, it's not that simple. In case you fail and turn out to be a good-for-nothing, you'll be abandoned, too."

"Haa"

It'll be better for me to just nod.

So as not to end up like the Duke.

"Choosing a human isn't all that bad. This way, I can manage the women of this family well. In the absence of descendants, one can judge fairly. There's that reason, too."

Belonging to different tribes, a human and an elf cannot bear a child. Because Grandmother doesn't have children of her own, she oversees the family fairly.

"I see."

"The head before me gave preferential treatment to their daughter and grandchild, garnering notoriety. It would very likely have been their daughter's turn for the head of family's position. However, in order to discipline me, they entrusted the custody of the place to me saying, 'if you're suited, so be it.'"

"No, it's necessary to battle in the labyrinth."

One can simply not be too careful.

I wonder if there really was no intention of taking it up.

"Oh well. Regardless of the way, if you live earnestly, I will not complain. However, if you act excessively cruel and make her cry, I have a plan of my own."

Why do her eyes feel like they are glaring at me?

What's the plan that you spoke of?

It must be something scary, so I'll pass.

It must be something scary.

I repeated it twice to emphasize the significance.

"I cannot even think of making her cry."

"Tomboying, disappearance, eloping, downfall, slavery; these cases aren't rare. The head of a family cannot afford to panic over each and every single one of them."

"Such a thing?"

It must upset you a little, I think.

Eloping, especially.

Other than that, I somewhat agree.

They may go missing in the labyrinth, too.

"Currently, what worries me the most is a girl the father of whom is unknown. Even though she's the daughter of a noble, what will her mother be thought of as? With her father unknown, she won't be received at an acceptable place while she cannot be left to grow somewhere unacceptable. She's the daughter of the family, nonetheless; therefore, ensuring her happiness is the responsibility of the family's head. Whenever I think she'll soon be of age, it gives me a headache. Shitty brat, don't you want to take her?"

There's a country in contemporary Europe where illegitimate children are numerous. This world doesn't seem to have developed to that point yet.

It's probably difficult to be a noble's wife.

"Nope."

"I don't have any particular issue with you being a human, as long as you're capable of keeping her happy, even if you have god knows how many mistresses."

Is this Grandmother trying to push me?

If that's the case, then I'd like to.

As you could guess, I cannot say that out loud.

But she would surely be a beauty for she's an elf.

Well, if it's about an elf, I have Rutina.  
Roxanne and the girls are there, too.  
Or it may likely be a bait in order to observe my reaction.  
Badger game, huh?

"No, really."  
"Oh well. Since it's as such, I cannot make a \*gatagata\* ruckus about that girl's matter. The more the family members knew, the more the gossip would there be."  
"I see."

It doesn't seem to be a story that can originally be impeached.  
Was it merely a character introduction?

"Did that kid dream of participating in the Lords' Assembly?"  
"Yes, Grandmother Cassandra."  
"Such a thing. If her man is adequately decorated, I have no objection."

Grandmother tells Cassia after confirming with her.  
A hurdle has unexpectedly been raised for me.  
Will it be alright?

"Haa"  
"Do your best. If you're troubled with anything, I'll be here to advise you. It's for the sake of the family's cute daughter, after all. You can seek me if you need consultation."  
"Well, till then."

As for the consultation, I think I'll pass.  
As far as Grandmother is concerned, since Rutina is adorable and I'm not, I would be played with like the Duke if I approached tactlessly.  
A wise man does not court danger.  
Respecting and keeping a distance seems to be the right attitude toward this Grandmother.

"Umu, I'm relieved that the interview is over without any hitch. Shall we return then?"

Is the conversation over?  
The Duke seems to want to escape, too.

“Aah, that’s about it. Brocken boy, I have a few things to discuss with you.”

However, he has been sneaked around.

“Well then, I-”

“Michio-dono?”

The Duke looks at me with reproaching eyes, but it cannot be helped. Begazu kyantobi chuzazu. (Beggars can’t be choosers) It’s an English proverb which means beggars have no right to choose. To begin with, I have no relation to the Duke’s and Grandmother’s conversation whatsoever.

“I’ll be waiting outside. Speaking of outside, Gozer seems to want to discuss something with Michio-dono.”

Cassia lends me a helping hand.

Nice, Gozer.

As expected of the model man of the world.

I was wondering as to why he didn’t join us inside. Now I get why.

“Well then.”

Using the business with Gozer as an excuse, I escape.

The Duke’s eyes are pitiful.

I would like to tell the Duke the importance of resignation.

You cannot escape from the great demon lord.

However, I don’t go to Gozer right away.

Because I had disbanded the party, I have lost all contact with Roxanne and the girls, so I’d better return first.

Besides, the discussion with Gozer won’t be troublesome nor will it be restricted.

If it were a discussion with the Duke, it would be troublesome.

“Since it’s getting late, you should return for today. You can go and talk to Gozer another day.”

“I understand. Thank you very much for today.”

Leaving Grandmother’s room, parting with the awaiting Cassia, having

been escorted to the lobby, I return via Warp.

It was great to be escorted to the lobby at Grandmother's place.

Is such a reception commonplace?

It's vastly different from getting thrown out of the office and returning home from the Duke's place.

The Duke wouldn't know even if I took an excursion before returning.

"Welcome back."

"I'm home. Sorry, did I take too long?"

"Not at all, it's not a problem."

When I return, Roxanne and the girls receive me.

That I met Grandmother, I cannot tell Rutina, can I?

If she felt homesick, I wouldn't be able to take her there.

There's a possibility of Rutina still clinging onto the only hope of rescue from Grandmother.

In that case, if she came to that Grandmother has permitted me, what awaited her would only be despair.

In such a state, if she took a desperate action, it would be problematic.

I know that the damage afterward would be great.

'Here I was counting on the rescue from Grandmother while that man was laughing in the back, knowing it wouldn't come.'

Such a man.

Regrettable.....even I feel so.

\*Shudders trembles\*

I'm brutal.

It's all good, though.

Because I'll remain silent.

"Then, let's go to the labyrinth?"

In order for there not be any suspicion about disbanding the party, I move to the labyrinth right away.

If we went to the labyrinth, the battle would be more important than such a trifling matter.

When life is on the line.  
Mind keeps from drifting off.

It's not like I'm guilty or anything.  
Although I met a woman, she was a granny.  
And I'd best not meet her again if possible.  
The Duke would agree with me, too.

We pass the day hunting the 34th floor boss.  
With Miria, the boss battles tend to be stable.  
Partly because only two monsters show up onward from the 34th floor,  
they bishibishi relentlessly end up petrified before getting killed by my  
magic.

However, the 34th floor boss is Kobold Jaeger.  
It being from Kobold lineage, I can't help but discount it.  
From 35th floor onward, the battles will be full blown.  
I'll challenge the 35th floor boss tomorrow morning.

Oh well. It's not like I dislike it.  
But that doesn't mean I look forward to it.  
Neither disliking it nor expecting it is kind of an indescribable feeling.

It feels somewhat similar to what I felt in junior high school about field  
trips.

Solitude.  
Because it was merely a tour, it was all good.  
I neither disliked it nor expected it.  
The 35th floor boss feels kind of same, too.

Because I'm not expecting it, I activate Sex Maniac and unload.  
I probably do dislike it. Even if I didn't dislike it, I would activate Sex  
Maniac and unload.

However, if I were expecting it, I would activate Sex Maniac and abstain.  
Sex Maniac is almighty, after all.

"The 35th floor boss is called Canaria Camellia. Like Naive Olive and  
Palm Baum, there's no attribute it's resistant to or weak against. You can  
think of it as one step stronger than the 35th floor monster, Palm Baum."

The next morning. I challenge the 35th floor boss.  
After Sherry briefs, we break into the room.  
As for magic, Thunder would do.

Smoke gathers; two monsters emerge.  
Just like Naive Olive and Palm Baum, it's a tree monster.  
Unlike Needle Wood and Rub Shrub, there are lush green leaves growing thickly.  
Are these leaves the reason as to why it isn't weak against Fire magic even though it's a tree?

After casting 2 Thunderstorms, I put Abnormal Status Resistance Down on the left Canaria Camellia which Miria and Vesta were taking on.  
The usual pattern.  
However, I'm not sure if it's right.  
Not just Thunderstorm, no matter which spell I cast, there's a small time lag before it invokes.

If Abnormal Status Resistance Down takes immediate effect, I can cast a spell and subsequently utilize the time lag before it invokes.  
However, if there's a time lag, just like a spell, before it takes effect, then it won't be effective unless I cast it before the spell.  
Because I have no idea about the timing of the effect of Abnormal Status Resistance Down, I can't decide on either of the two.

In the first place, there's no knowing whether Abnormal Status Resistance Down takes effect or not.  
Actually, no. Up to the 33rd floor, the monsters appearing in the boss room were more easily paralyzed by Thunder magic and petrified by Miria than even normal monsters.  
It's apparent that Abnormal Status Resistance Down takes effect properly.

Just that, it isn't clear whether it takes effect for the very first shot or not.  
If I prioritize paralysis over damage by Thunder magic, there's an option of casting Abnormal Status Resistance Down first.  
That said, there's no particular need to change as I'm faring well in

current state.

The two monsters get paralyzed by the very first combo of two Thunder spells.

However, because one of them wasn't under the effect of Abnormal Status Resistance Down, I can't conclude that it took effect.

Subsequently, Miria deals with the paralyzed monsters.

Before the two could regain movement, they get petrified.

An easy victory.

In this world, it's called a piece of cake.

There was almost no need for Roxanne, Sherry and Vesta to make any move.

Cleaning up is left for my magic.

Canaria Camellia is a tree monster with a large flower attached.

For a moment, I thought there was a canary perched on the branch. Nah, there isn't.

Instead, there's a yellow flower blooming at the top as if a face.

It can be called a yellow canary.

Upon the last spell hitting the petrified Canaria Camellia, the monster turns into smoke.

At the same time, the yellow flower drops.

It doesn't scatter upon falling. It falls whole.

"Owaa, what the-"

Because it fell suddenly, I let out a strange sound.

"I see. People call it an ominous monster because the flower would drop whole as if a human were beheaded."

Tells Sherry.

Even if a monster were a good omen, it would be troubling.

Or rather, how could you compare it to a human head?

Well, it was positioned where a face would be.

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Author's note: 'Harem in the Labyrinth of the Other World Vol. 6' will be out on December 28th.

Thank you in anticipation.

For those who buy it, there will be a destructive spell on the back cover.

## Chapter 215 : Man of the world.

\*

Previous chapter synopsis: I escaped from the old lady.

As the petals of the Canaria Camellia turned to smoke, the center was left behind.

This seems to be the dropped item.

“A flower? This is the item?”

“It’s Camellia oil.”

“Oh.”

As Sherry says, [Analyze] confirms that it’s Camellia oil. It should be full of oil.

It probably won’t be easy to squeeze it.

“Umm. It’s high quality cooking oil. It’s quite delicious.”

“Really?”

Sherry’s tone is strange, so I asked again. Wouldn’t you normally say it has a bad texture? Intuition.

“...umm.”

“You can use it to maintain furniture. It increases the gloss and depth of the colour.”

Rutina lets me know in Sherry’s place. You can use it like that too?

“Well.”

“It’s fine Sherry, I’m not worried about it.”

“Oh. Umm...”

Sherry and Rutina have a disagreement.

“Camellia oil is a necessity for nobles. It is sometimes called 『Maid’s taste』. It was a maid who taught me about it. The maids serving the Earl

of Selmar said it was proper to use it.”

Rutina explained the reason.

Sherry, were you conflicted on the subject after considering the former noble Rutina?

I fall silent and consider the difference.

Maybe there’s something else for her to have some anxiety about.

That’s right.

That must be right.

I give Sherry a nod.

“Unn.”

“Is there something else?”

“Un?”

“Fine, I’ll say it, but I don’t think it’s a good idea. Camellia oil is good on the body. It can be rubbed into the skin and hair to give it more shine and tension.”

There’s a usage like that too.

Skin care and hair care.

I’m not really worried about caring for my skin.

“We’ll probably be beautiful, we should all use it.”

It’s already been proposed?

“When you use it for a massage, it has the effect of improving blood circulation and relieving fatigue. It’s called 『Maid’s taste』 because the maid will use it on her own body, and use it to massage the master of the house.”

I watch Sherry’s expression as she informs us, and everything becomes understood.

For the massage, you would have to rub, and rub, and rub, and touch skin directly.

The maid.

With her whole body.

With her body slimey with oil.

“So, that’s how it was.”

It seems Rutina didn’t know that much.  
The playing around of Selmar’s Earl.  
He was doing it with the maids.  
Of course he’d have maids using 『Maid’s taste』 to give him some personal grooming.

What was the maid thinking that taught it to Rutina?  
No, don’t think about it.  
It’s outrageous.  
It’s really outrageous.

He’d be laying there all stretched out...  
Well, that’s part of why the Earl of Selmar’s house went to ruins.  
Knowing this, I won’t make the same mistake.  
I understand why Sherry was hesitating as well.

I’ll do it.  
I want to do it.  
I really want to do it.

“Shall we collect Camellia oil for today?”

I confirm it with everyone.  
Of course, there is no objection.

Any rebels would be punished.  
Any heretics would be punished.  
I need to pick the bud of rebellion ahead of time.

“Yes. We’ll hunt the boss.”  
“...yes.”

Roxanne’s face said that it was natural, Sherry gave a nod as well.  
I have a feeling that Roxanne misunderstood something, but that doesn’t matter.

“Yes, desu.”  
“Well, I think it should be fine.”  
“I’m already accustomed to it.”

Miria, Vesta and Rutina all nod.  
There doesn't seem to be any worry of an uprising.  
I'm relieved.  
Everything is fine.

I'm not sure if Miria and Vesta followed the conversation.  
Rutina understands because her father's hidden activities just came to light, but she doesn't seem to be worried about it.

"High level cooking oil. I think frying fish with Camellia oil will be very delicious Miria."

"Collect quickly, desu."

Miria started heading towards the exit.  
It's quite a brisk pace.  
When she arrives at the exit, she stands with her feet apart and turns to us.  
She's quite impatient.

Her eyes are angry.  
She wants to tell us off for being slow.  
I've betrayed the will of my father, and murdered Yoshitsune, then gotten angry at Yasushi Fujiwara who was going to lose Yoritomo.  
Including me, everyone rushed over in a hurry.

I don't think I'm the only one getting blamed.  
Roxanne rushed over as well.  
It should be fine.

We left the boss room.  
Miria loses points as she leaves the boss room for not doing the six directional jump like a kabuki actor would do as they leave the stage.  
I'll have to tell her off.

"We can't do the deep-fried food today because it's still too hot."

In kabuki, when a strong character leaves through the passage between the stage and the audience, they perform a six directional jump.  
If you think about a strong character's stance, you'd have to think about a six directional jump.

If you think of John Kay, you'd think of the 'flying shuttle'. If you think of Ben Kei, you'd think of the six directional jump. It's common history knowledge.

However, Miria can't be expected to know all this.

"...I'll do it, desu."

"We don't have any tartar sauce ready either."

"I'll use... lemon, desu."

Well.

Even if a war happens, you still want to deep-fry and have lemon.

Your favorite is obvious.

Lemon isn't allowed to be added to the deep-fried food that a slave eats without permission from her master.

If that happened, a revolt would break out.

A rebellion.

The enemy is in Honnoji Temple.

"That's alright then."

It might be good if Miria makes it.

Even if the temperature in the kitchen goes up a bit, it should be fine.

Unless you're right near the pot.

Well, that might be wishful thinking.

"The demon on the 35th floor is the Spice Spider."

"That's good. We can use pepper for seasoning even without any other seasonings."

"I'll defeat it, desu."

Sherry tells us which demon it is, and Miria gets even more motivated.

"This way then."

Roxanne leads the way as we enter the 35th floor.

Miria follows right behind her.

You should always show this motivation.

It's like having two Roxannes.

We keep pressing forward, and Roxanne and Miria find a single Spice

Spider to compete against.

Is it fine if they aren't calm?

There's only one spider, so I don't use area attack magic.

I don't even need to use magic, Miria petrifies the spider straight away.

Does the chance to petrify something change with motivation?

Does it?

The probability wouldn't change, but the frequency of her attacks might, so motivation may have contributed a bit.

“As expected of Miria.”

“Yes, desu.”

I'll give praise for now.

I get to pat her cat ears, so I am satisfied with it.

It's not enough to see the strength of a Lv35 Spice Spider though.

I always ask Roxanne to find a place with a low number of demons, maybe that's useless?

No. Miria doesn't usually defeat them in a single blow.

My idea isn't originally wrong.

As the floors go up it becomes unusual to find a single monster first.

It's just one by chance, the next one probably won't be like that.

Finding small groups to start off has been good so far.

Even though we didn't get a grasp of the strength of the demons, we return to the 34th floor.

We'll go back again after finishing with the boss.

After repeating the 34th floor boss, we checked the 35th floor.

Miria gets a big haul of Camellia oil and Pepper.

Miria's face has a very pleased expression when we leave to do shopping.

She's walking cheerfully at the front.

“We'll leave breakfast to Miria.”

“I agree.”

Roxanne gives her vote.

It's not especially strange in this world to have the same food for breakfast and dinner.

Also, there would be a revolt if I said we couldn't have it.

“Loave it to me, desu.”

“Leave it.”

“Leave it, desu.”

I finish the shopping while teaching Miria some Brahim, and return to the house.

I took out the White fish and Camellia oil, and passed them to Miria in the kitchen.

I always have a stock of White fish in my item box.

Because of someone.

“What do we do with the old oil?”

I asked Sherry.

It's necessary to dispose of the old oil and replace it with new oil.

So far I've just been taking oil out of the pan for stir-frying, and adding oil to the pan for deep-frying.

All the current remaining oil will be thrown away because we are switching the oil to Camellia oil this time.

It's the first time we've wasted oil.

Even if there isn't any thought of environmental damage in this world, it still would be bad to carry waste oil to the river.

“It would be a waste. If we can get beeswax, we can make candles I think.”

“Oh, we can do that?”

Even though I thought it was waste, it can be used.

We can make candles?

“I'm not certain, I've never tried.”

“We can try, and if it doesn't go well we can ask around about it.”

We don't have any Beeswax in stock.

Beeswax is the item Grass Bee drops.

We'll get some later.

“Ok, we'll put the oil into a jar.”

“I’m going to go out for a little while, I’ll be back soon so please prepare the breakfast.”

Since the kitchen is going to get hot, I decide to run away.  
I have to go to Gozer.  
Now is a good time.

It’s a good strategy.  
If the business there is troublesome, I can use the fact that breakfast is still being prepared to escape again..  
Escaping the heat, and Gozer, is really useful.  
It’s the plan of a man of the world.

It’s possible Gozer is still having breakfast since it’s earlier than normal.  
I think it might be impolite to intrude, as I head to Bode’s castle.  
I appear in the lobby with a slightly apologetic face.

“I think he might be in the office.”

The person from the Knight’s Order easily lets me through.  
It seems he isn’t eating.  
As expected, I am a man of the world.  
It’s too early to eat.

Eating early lets you start your day early, and gives you a head start.  
From the perspective of a man getting overworked by the Duke, that is surely a requirement.  
Do the maids working for the Duke prepare his food as well?  
It wouldn’t surprise me.

“Enter.”

“Excuse me.”

“Oh, it’s Michio? You’ve come again.”

After knocking on the office door, the Duke invites me in.  
This kind of response is strange.  
It’s common to knock, but wouldn’t you ask who it is before inviting them in?  
There’s the possibility of uninvited guests.

We skip that process, and it's just "Enter."

Well, this sort of thing just seems to be in the Duke's nature.

"Yes. Gozer wanted to see me about something?"

I lightly greet the Duke, and then turn to face Gozer.

If the Duke calls for help, then someone will probably appear immediately. They might even be watching from the ceiling.

A suspicious person wouldn't knock on the office door.

It's safe to invite someone in, even if you don't know who it is.

I shouldn't doubt it.

That's right.

I don't need to doubt.

The SP of the Duke are quite excellent. (TN: Probably Special Police.)  
Because Gozer commands the SP.

He is a man of the world.

"Oh, sorry. It wasn't anything you really needed to hurry for."

"No, it's fine."

"It's about the business in Palmasque. When we've found some Adventurers for it, could you possibly take them to Palmasque?"

I didn't need to rush?

He said "When we've found", so they haven't prepared anyone yet?

Why did you need to speak to me about it already?

Because the Duke envied me after I escaped the granny, he needed to be appeased.

Did Cassia plan this tactic with Gozer beforehand?

I guess it doesn't matter either way.

Should I say that I understand the Duke's hardships well?

As expected, I am a man of the world.

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