



異世界に
移住する
3

宝くじで
40億
当たった
んだけど

すずの木くろ
Suzunoki Kuro
III 黒獅子
Kurojishi

I Won 4 Billion in a Lottery But I Went to Another World

– Takarakuji de 40-oku Atattandakedo Isekai ni Ijuu Suru –

- Volume 3 -

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40億当たった
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すずの木くろ

Suzunoki Kuro

黒獅子

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モンスター文庫

志野一良

宝くじで億万長者となった青年、
イステール領の改革に挑む

「いざ往かんグリセア村！
あと何往復するかなんて
考えちゃダメだ！」





「この前みたいに、
ぎゅってして欲しいです」



「カズラさん……お願いがあります」

バレッタ
グリセア村 村長の娘

「ん、どうかしましたか?」

「ふふ、お口の端に
お弁当がついてます」

「え、あ、ありがとうございます」

リーゼ・イステール

イステール領を治める領主の娘



CHAPTER 52

THE MYSTERY OF THE MANSION AND THE STACK OF COMPOST

“.....What?” (Kazura)

When he was lifting the tatami with one of his hand, Kazura let out a surprised tone as he was staring dumbfounded by the unexpected sight of an iron plate.

Why is there something like this under the tatami?

This mansion supposed to be an antique building that had been handed down from generation to generation in Shino Family.

So there shouldn't be anything like iron plates on the floor of an antique building.

After staring at the iron plate for few second, Kazura put the tatami in his hand at the corner of the room and began peeling the rest of the tatami.

“Wha-.....” (Kazura)

After he had lifted all the tatami, Kazura could only groan at the sight in front of him.

The floor of the room was completely covered by iron plates. Every 50 cm at a point that can be considered as the plates' side there were traces of arc welding.

Furthermore, if he watched it closely, the iron plates surface had an anti-skid striped pattern.

It was obvious that these iron plates were installed by someone long after this house first constructed.

Kazura silently took out his cellphone from his trouser pocket and made a call for someone he thought as the most suspicious.

“Mutsumi, I had brought a watermelon from the field, so come and cut it.” (Shinji)

With a headband in head, a towel in his neck and a watermelon as big as football in his hand, Shinji opened the door of his house and called out to his wife.

Then, immediately his wife Mutsumi came in half running and smiled delightedly when she saw the watermelon that Shinji carried.

“Whoa, this year it really bears fruit properly.” (Mutsumi)

“That’s right. Furthermore, this is seedless watermelon. Last year we don’t know that it need to be planted next to the normal seed watermelon or it would fail to bear fruit, so we failed to harvest even a single fruit. But this year we finally nailed it.” (Shinji)

Shinji vexingly remembered how last year, he planned to cultivate a large amount of seedless watermelon and so he planted dozens of seedless watermelon in the field, but it didn’t produce a single fruit.

He completely didn’t understand why there were no fruit, so he tried to ask his work friend who had a farm of their own and they informed him of a shocking fact that the pollen from the flowers of seedless watermelon was infertile.

So based on that information, this year he also planted normal seed watermelon for the pollination and as the result, unlike last year, this time, it splendidly bore fruit.

“But, that watermelon hasn’t been chilled, right? Won’t it taste better if it’s stored in the refrigerator for awhile?” (Mutsumi)

“No need for that. Back in the field, I had already put it inside a bucket with well water to chill it and after close to 1 hour, it had become quite chilled.” (Shinji)

When Shinji spoke these words while handing the watermelon to Mutsumi, there was a ringtone from the cellphone inside his breast pocket.

“Oh, this is from Kazura.” (Shinji)

When Shinji took out his cellphone, he read the name of the caller ID, then he pushed the answer button and put the phone near his ear.

Mutsumi observed Shinji and made a smile before she went to the kitchen to cut the watermelon.

“Ah, Dad? It’s been awhile, how have you been?” (Kazura)

“Oh, the field and I are in perfect form. How about you? Is it lively on your side?” (Shinji)

“Yeah, well, more or less. But Dad, there is something I wanted to ask you. Is this the right time?” (Kazura)

“Hm, what is it. Just say it.” (Shinji)

“About this carry case that you made me to bring, somehow there is something like a western style sword inside of it...” (Kazura)

“Ah, that is something that I made myself. A pretty good thing, right?” (Shinji)

“Eh? Dad made it yourself?” (Kazura)

“Yeah, I accidentally get a scrapped truck spring. Then I ask my acquaintance metalsmith to anneal it and then I tempered it myself.” (Shinji)

“Are you serious? But you know, why do you deliberately made something dangerous like that?” (Kazura)

“Since there is a metalcraft gift similar to that thing, I tried to properly make one for myself. It ended up quite interesting.” (Shinji)

“Liar. Besides that sword had traces of being used to slash at something. Furthermore it looks like it had been used for quite a long time.” (Kazura)

“Well, since I had tried to test it to cut things. Besides, after all the trouble to make it, it would be boring if it was just for decoration.” (Shinji)

“.....Well, that’s enough. Then, I lifted the tatami in the mansion for some reason, but.....” (Kazura)

“.....Oh.” (Shinji)

“Somehow, the floor under the tatami is covered by iron plates.” (Kazura)

“So there is something strange like that happened...” (Shinji)

“.....So, I will ask this straight to the point. The one who installed these iron plates was Dad, right? Why do you install something like these?” (Kazura)

“I don’t know about that. Then back at you, why do you lift the tatami? Is the tatami damaged?” (Shinji)

“Not like that. I’m thinking about bringing something heavy to the mansion. Since the mansion itself is of ancient construction, I am worried if the floor would be damaged.” (Kazura)

“.....” (Shinji)

“Because of that, I lifted up the tatami and then found iron plate covering the floor, so I am curious about the purpose of it. There are welding marks at the gaps between the plates, so someone must have done this. When I think like that the one who come to my mind is Dad.” (Kazura)

“.....You said you want to bring something heavy, but what are you trying to bring into the mansion?” (Shinji)

“Hm? Well..... Things like a refrigerator, washing machine, and the likes. Since they are quite big, so surely they are heavy.” (Kazura)

“.....I see.” (Shinji)

“Well, if you don’t know then it doesn’t really matter. Also, there is another thing that I want to ask you.” (Kazura)

“What is it?” (Shinji)

“Dad, do you ever enter the mansion inner room that had been locked with padlock?” (Kazura)

“I have told you before, but when I went to the mansion, there was no room with a padlock. Which room are you talking about?” (Shinji)

“The room at the innermost of the mansion. The room which had padlock on its handle.” (Kazura)

“I had entered the innermost room before, but there is no padlock there. Of course, I also don’t have any memory of putting any padlock there. Even when I went to the mansion several years ago, there was no such thing as padlock.” (Shinji)

“..... Hm, is that so? Then it’s alright. Thank you, Dad. I will give a call if there are still things I want to ask you about.” (Kazura)

“Ok.” (Shinji)

After the call had been ended, Shinji removed the cellphone from his ear, at that time Mutsumi returned to the entrance from the kitchen.

Mutsumi saw that the call had ended and then made a bit disappointed expression.

“The call already ended. What did Kazura say?” (Mutsumi)

“Ah, he said that he is alright so no need to worry about him. Just his report of his recent situation.” (Shinji)

“Is that so? He didn’t say anything about visiting?” (Mutsumi)

“He didn’t say anything.” (Shinji)

“Is that so. It’s a shame.” (Mutsumi)

After Mutsumi asked this, she returned once more to the kitchen.

Shinji saw Mutsumi entered and then shifted his sight at the cellphone with suspicious expression and muttered.

“.....This boy, what does he intend to bring to the other side?” (Shinji)



Meanwhile, Kazura was being Kazura, after placing the phone back to his pocket, he sighs while looking at the iron plates under his foot.

The reason for his sigh was the conversation he had with Shinji just now had confirmed his conviction.

Shinji knew that there is a room in this mansion that is connected to another world.

During the call he was strangely answering in a roundabout way and the content of the carry case that Shinji ask him to take was also strange.

Normally, no matter how much a parent worried about their son's safety, they wouldn't give 60cm long sword that is definitely breaking the Swords and Firearms Control Law, and stab-proof vest and gasmask that didn't have any clear use in Japan.

Furthermore, Shinji had made a slip of the tongue in the conversation.

Previously, before Kazura came to this mansion for the first time, Shinji said, [When I visited 30 years ago it wasn't in ruined condition, so the pillars and the roof are still sturdy.] Nevertheless, in the conversation just now, Shinji said, [When I visited several years ago.]

Kazura didn't know for what reason Shinji did this, but he concealed the fact that he had come to this mansion several years ago and also why he need to say to Kazura that he hasn't visited the mansion for a long period of time?

However, be that as it may, Kazura tilted his head while looking at the 6-jou room that is connected to another world.

If Shinji knew that a room in the mansion connected to another world, then why he didn't inform any information about this when he made Kazura go to the mansion?

He fully comprehended from the conversation just now, that Shinji didn't have any intend to discuss the room that is connected to another world.

However, he completely didn't know the reason for this.

If he desired Kazura to find the room that is connected to another world, then what was he wanted if he won't give any answer when asked?

".....At least inform me that the food at the other side didn't give any nutrition. Even though, if something goes wrong, I would get malnourished without noticing and could starve to death....." (Kazura)

Although he didn't particularly mind about the information about the culture or technological level in another world, he wished he had been informed that the food or fertilizer that he brought from this side would have exhibit tremendous effect or that for the people of this world, the food of another world won't give any nutrition.

Though there might be a great reason behind this, but if circumstances permit, he could lose his life. He couldn't imagine what kind of reason that was greater than this danger.

Perhaps, Shinji knew about the room that is connected to another world, but he never actually went to another world.

In that case, it would be a possible scenario that since Shinji didn't know anything about the other world, he couldn't inform anything to Kazura.

However, the reason of why he made Kazura find the room that is connected to another world was still unknown and Kazura also didn't know the reason of why he didn't answer any of Kazura's question.

"Ah, geez, I completely don't know what is going on. What is dad want from me anyway." (Kazura)

As his reasoning already had fallen into a *cul-de-sac*, Kazura scratched his head.

However, he couldn't do anything that he didn't know.

Furthermore, there must be a sound reason of why Shinji didn't tell him everything, so he shouldn't push the question more than this.

In the first place, from Kazura's point of view, Shinji may have a bit blunt way of talking but he was a quite spoiling father.

So he was surely not telling anything to Kazura not due to a malicious reason.

Even more so, the thing that Kazura needed to do right now was plentiful.

Once again he set aside the mystery of the mansion's iron plates and the room with passage to another world, as he needed to quickly finish what he had planned to do today and couldn't spare any more time with an additional task.

Kazura sent a glance at the iron plates that was spread out under his feet before walked towards his car in the yard.



Several ten minutes later.

Kazura drove his car through the mountains and arrived at the entrance of [Gunmaa Ranch Ltd.] that he had searched before on the internet.

It was a vast ranch with pasture spread out over all direction, even though it was in the hottest season in the middle of August, there was no scorching heat or clammy humidity. Actually, it was rather cool.

Since the location of the ranch has relatively high elevation and had less temperature and humidity even more than the mountains he passed until now.

There was a big billboard erected at the entrance to the ranch, it was written with [New Experience! Ranch's multi-storied tree house under construction!! Scheduled to be completed in May next year. Book a place ahead of time] in red letters, with a picture that depicted a tree house in a still pristine undeveloped land.

What did this ranch intend to go for its future anyway?

Kazura entered the ranch and continue walking while looking at the cows eating the grass before he noticed something like a stand for tourist.

When he asked where he could buy compost at the employee at the stand, the employee contacted the ranch owner through the phone.

Before long, a young man came to the stand.

His age was not that different from Kazura, but it seems that he was the owner of this ranch.

“Good morning. I see on the internet that you directly sell compost, so I come to ask how much of it that you are selling.” (Kazura)

“Compost, right? One ton is 3000 yen without shipping cost, so may I ask how much do you need?” (Manager)

“For the moment about 50 ton. It will be really helpful if you can deliver it by tomorrow, but can you do it? It was just several ten minutes by car from this place.”
(Kazura)

Kazura was planning to move the compost he procured from this farm using the 3000 bags that he asked Isaac to prepare before.

He calculated that one bag would be able to carry 15 kg of compost, so if he bought 50 ton then it will be more than enough.

If there is any compost remaining then it can be used for the fields in Grisea Village.

Although he could transport the compost to Isteria without the bags, if some of the compost are spilled to the ground during the travel, then there is a possibility of the highway to Isteria would be abnormally overgrown by grasses.

Because he was also using the bags produced in Isteria, then by a slight glance it would only look like they are transporting normal soil inside bags.

By doing this, there will be no party who will steal the bags out of curiosity.

Since the amount to be transported is a lot, he needs to take the best precautions.

“Fif-fifty ton. That is quite an amount, but I will make preparations to transport it as early as possible tomorrow.” (Manager)

“Thank you very much. I will be waiting for the composts.” (Kazura)

Maybe because the ranch owner came from a farmer family who was familiar in dealing with transaction deals, the actual negotiation was settled quickly.

Kazura wrote the mansion’s address in a memo and transferred the money for the compost and the shipping cost to the ranch owner.

Then when he looked at the poster that was posted in the stand. The poster had the same printing like the billboard in the ranch’s entrance.

“A tree house, what an unusual thing to be constructed.” (Kazura)

“Ah, this? This is something that recently begin to popular on the internet. Since I have a ranch in Gunma then I thought why don’t we hop into the hype. It will be good if it enters the news.” (Manager)

“I see..... You might as well collaborating with ranches in another prefecture, it might be interesting. If there are many events then the visiting people will increase.” (Kazura)

“Ah, you’re right.” (Manager)

Just like this, Kazura had a chat with the ranch owner about things he didn’t really understand for a bit. Afterward, he left the shop towards his next objectives.

“Maybe it will be interesting to hold a siege event from the ranch of another prefecture.” (Manager)

When he left the shop, the ranch owner began to mutter something unsettling and this words strangely remained in Kazura’s ears.

CHAPTER 53

GET A MOCHI FROM A MOCHI SHOP

It had been 3 hours since Kazura left the ranch.

Kazura was in the conference corner of a certain construction company within the prefecture.

The one who meet with Kazura was a middle-aged man who wore this company's uniform who had a grim expression when he looked at the massive amount of documents spread around at the table.

At Kazura's side of the table was the man's business card, beside the man's name, the card also described his job title, [Chief Clerk].

The documents at the table were the copy of flood-control construction documents that Kazura brought from Isteria.

While en route to this construction company, he visited a convenience store and made copies of the whole documents in his hand.

"Um you know, if you bring so many documents and ask us to make flood-control construction plan, even we will be troubled by it." (Chief Clerk)

The Chief Clerk raised his head from the documents and began to speak with a really unpleased expression.

"Also, what do you mean by "make the construction plan without doing the construction itself"? Furthermore, you also say there is a restriction to use only the designated technology, but just by looking at what is written here, you mean for us to make a plan for the construction, using only ancient technology, right?" (Chief Clerk)

"Well, I deeply apologized for the sudden weird request. However, I really need a flood-control construction plan with this geographic feature at any cost. Can't you somehow accept this request?" (Kazura)

Kazura requested while bowing his head. The Chief Clerk let out a sigh and threw his back at the chair.

From his attitude, it was clear that he thought that Kazura as a [troublesome fellow].

“Shino-san, you should have asked a college professor who studies ancient technology for this. To request this from a company that does public works, isn't it a bit strange if you think about it?” (Chief Clerk)

“That might be true, however when it is about the details of the plan that need to be performed, then it will be better to request this to your company who always engaged in actual construction works since I think it will be more accurate this way..... Furthermore, there is somewhat a reason behind this, but there is no much time. Although it will depend on when the construction will begin, but I need the plan as soon as possible.....” (Kazura)

When Kazura spoke this, the Chief Clerk showed a doubting expression on his face.

“As soon as possible..... Even though we didn't do the actual construction. For what reason you need that plan badly? Do you want to use the plan for writing a thesis?” (Chief Clerk)

“Ah, umm, that is.....” (Kazura)

“Hey, you guys have a somewhat interesting discussion.” (Old Guy)

When Kazura was at a loss for an answer, an elderly white-haired man who had come approaching since some time ago, addressed them from behind Kazura.

“O, this is a blueprint for ancient construction, tight? Although it is written in some letters I can't recognize, but this is quite a proper blueprint.” (Old Guy)

The elderly man said, “Excuse me for a bit” and took a seat beside Kazura as he began to look with a great interest in the documents that Kazura brought.

“Let's see, the used technology and tools can't exceed the limitation..... I see, so this detail means a technology level similar to the Middle East or Europe at 2000 BCE? The scope is quite huge. Which country is this?” (Old Guy)

“U-um, Director, since I am the one dealing with this matter, then.....” (Chief Clerk)

While showing a troubled expression, the Chief Clerk, who was discussing with Kazura earlier, addressed the elderly man, who read the documents at the table one after another while nodding and humming.

It looks like, this elderly man was this company's director. A relatively high position.

"Although you saying you dealing with this, from the conversation I heard until now you didn't show any interest to accept this job. Even the client who brought the job bowed his head down, so what's with that attitude?" (Director)

"But-but this, whatever the circumstances may be, but the content..... Brought documents of blueprint from unknown age and requesting to make a construction plan without doing the actual construction and only using ancient methods is too....." (Chief Clerk)

"Y'er idiot!!" (Director)

When the Chief Clerk gave such an answer, the Director had veins appeared on his forehead as he shouted in a dreadful angry look.

To say nothing about the Chief Clerk who was the target of that shout, Kazura who sat beside the Director instinctively duck his body.

"Whether or not you do or not do the construction itself, this client's request content is in our field of expertise! Don't make a stingy reason to choose your work!! I will take over from here on, so you just return to your own job!!" (Director)

The Director rattle on without stop and drove out the Chief Clerk from the conference corner with a strong kick.

The company employees, who was passing by in the corridor and heard the Director's enormous angry shouts, peeked at the conference corner and looked at each other as if asking what had happened.

"U-umm, then do you mean this company accepts this request.....?" (Kazura)

Although Kazura was taken aback at how the events progressed that passed away like a storm, he addressed the Director who was muttering in indignation "Really, young 'un these days..." .

After hearing Kazura's question, The Director immediately softened his expression and made a smile.

"Certainly, although I don't really understand without hearing the whole details, but it isn't something impossible to do." (Director)

"Oh, I'm glad to hear that! Then, the content of the construction plan that I want you to draw up is....." (Kazura)

"Before that please tell me. These blueprints, what country did they come from? It scope didn't like something from Ancient Greece and it is quite unlike the Carthaginian or Assyrian one..... This is embarrassing, but I couldn't guess where the country this from." (Director)

Although the Director furrowed his brow, he asked Kazura while his eyes darted around the blueprints with a really interested expression.

His eyes were filled with curiosity just like a child had been given a gift of toy that he like.

"Ah, that is, all the blueprint is from a fictional ancient age." (Kazura)

The Director showed a bit surprised expression at Kazura's answer.

"Oh, this is all fictional?" (Director)

"Yes, I want to perform a flood-control construction project for the river that passed in the city based on this fictional ancient age blueprint. As for the content of that blueprint, parts of the levee construction ended up burst when the amount of rainfall increased, that's why I want to ask your company to draw a plan to improve these constructions." (Kazura)

".....Hmhm? This is quite unusual..... Ah! So that's the reason! I see I see." (Director)

After hearing Kazura's explanation, the Director made an odd expression before clapping his hand and nodded as if he understood something.

"However, why this work request isn't using any national research institution's name? If you bring this request using a personal work, it will normally be not accepted." (Director)

“Eh? Umm, national research institution? What do you means?” (Kazura)

Since Kazura didn't know what the Director was talking about, he returned the question back at the director.

“Hm, no, that's why, it's that, right? This is originally brought for me, right?” (Director)

“Eh?” (Kazura)

“Why? Because I am the former River Bureau of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism's.....” (Director)

“.....Ah! It isn't of that sort of thing, this is just my personal request..... So to speak, something like a hobby.” (Kazura)

Kazura could guess, that the Director seemed misunderstood something and was talking about something else. The Director's face then showed a rather flustered expression.

“.....I-I see. Well, I am sorry for speaking something strange. Please forgot what I had just say now.” (Director)

“Me too, I am sorry for the strange request. By all means, I am thankful for your cooperation.” (Kazura)

Kazura said this while bowing his head that made the Director also following suit.

Although they had a somewhat strange discussion, they omitted to ask the details.

In the world of adults, there were many things happened.



It was 3 hours after Kazura meeting with the Director about the construction plan began.

The necessary explanation had mostly finished, so Kazura finally could catch his breath.

In front of Kazura, the Director sipped his tea while looking at the photographs that Kazura handed over to him.

The whole photographs were what had been taken by Kazura in Isteria, what depicted in them were mostly a river and its bank.

The locations that collapsed when the water previously swell in the past or the pictures of the river taken from high altitude.

“Recently, CG technology is really just like the real thing. It is hard to distinguish this from real photographs.” (Director)

“That’s right. The technology advancement is really amazing.” (Kazura)

While taking a sip of his tea, Kazura gave a proper response when The Director showed his admiration at the photographs.

He explained to the Director that the entire photographs that he gave to the Director were made by CG synthesis.

Even though the Director were surprised by the content of the photographs, he completely didn’t doubt that this was made with CG. Since the Director seems to be of quite old age, he might be really unfamiliar with this matter.

“However, the armored soldiers, the stone buildings and other details that are depicted at several places in these photographs are really a splendid job. Is this really completely a CG?” (Director)

“Ah, that is a composite using parts of real buildings and people, so something like a hybrid of real thing and CG.” (Kazura)

The Director nodded “I see, I see” at Kazura’s explanation that seems authentic.

While looking at the photographs for awhile, the Director put them back at the table and looked towards Kazura.

“Then, let’s talk about the money and the time limit. With such amount, it will take quite a time to draw the plans as it is, but how many man-hours that you able to give?” (Director)

“You’re right..... Since I want the plan to be actually be performed inside the story setting, then I want the plan to be something that is able to be performed before the start of rainy season in May next year. The man-hour will be.....” (Kazura)

“Hey-hey, no matter what, by May next year will be unrealistic. With this scope, then a year of time will be needed.” (Director)

The Director made a sour expression and pointed this out after hearing Kazura’s answer.

Today was in the middle of August, so for the construction work to be able finished before May next year, the construction plan would only have 8 months working period.

By the way, the word [Man-Hour] that Kazura used just now is a term to refer to a workload that can be spent to draw the plan.

For the negotiation this time, the Director was asking how much time that he can spend for working the plan from Kazura.

“Ah, no, I only mean for the repair work for the parts where flood occurs. The rest of construction would be performed after the rainy seasons finished, so I only requested for the parts that could potentially flood at the rainy seasons next year.” (Kazura)

“Hm, is that so. Then, giving the weak sections a preferential complete repair, while the remainder sections a temporary reinforcement, I see. Then what about the man-hour?” (Director)

“Let see, since I am just a layman in civil engineering, I don’t know how much man-hour is needed..... But if the amount of payment for 1 hour is this much, then how many the man-hour will it be?” (Kazura)

Based on his experience from requesting a plan from an outsourcing company at the company he worked before, Kazura proposed the amount of the money he offered, which he wrote in the memo book at his hand.

The hour is really a unit of time, if it was XX hour, then the Director would have XX hours that he could use to draw out the plan.

“Hey, hey, no matter how you see it, this is too much. Even a 70% from this will be alright. Since this matter comes suddenly, it is already a bit expensive, though. So, the time limit, it will be alright if it finished so the plan could be put into practice before rainy seasons right? Because the content of the plan would put a preferential treatment at specific location, it might be delivered in several parts.” (Director)

“Yes, I will leave it at your indiscretion. Also, I hope the plan would be something that can be understood just by looking so that the ancient people could do the construction according to it. I would be grateful if it has many illustration or figure explanation.....” (Kazura)

“Somehow this is quite an elaborate story..... Well, I will try my hand on it. After all, I am was quite free with my position and I really like this ancient-looking talks. Also, this is the temporary man-hour. Since this is also the first time I receive a job as special as this, it might pass the number. I think it might not exceed twice of this number, though.” (Director)

“I understand. Then, I won’t mind if the man-hour is twice the amount of this number.” (Kazura)

After Kazura’s said this, the Director showed a surprised expression.

“Will it be alright for you to be this lavish? This would cost quite a lot of money, can you really be able to pay it?” (Director)

“Of course. After all, it won’t be a problem if I pay half of the cost as advance payment.” (Kazura)

Kazura answered this with a calm expression, so the Director made a wry smile while shook his head.

“No need, I’m sorry for doubting you. However, I can’t accept half of the payment before working. After all, this is the first time I took a job from an otaku, so how could I accept the advance payment?” (Director)

“Then, for now, should I make a deposit for the 10% of the whole man-hour?” (Kazura)

“That’s seems right. Then please do so.” (Director)

The Director nodded and he took out a paper with [Request Order] printed on it from the shelf at the conference corner.

The Director scribbled a record of the work content that was contracted by Kazura and put Kazura's name at the Requesting Party entry.

"Since I need to settle it with the Production Management Section, please wait a moment. I will return as fast as possible." (Director)

After the Director said this, he took the Request Order and left the conference corner.



It has been 2 hours since then.

It took quite a time to formalize the payment and delivery so when Kazura exited the company, it was already dark.

"So tired..... But, I am really fortunate to be helped by that man....." (Kazura)

Kazura originally intended to go around randomly to construction companies until he finds a company that will accept his request of drawing up a flood-control construction work plan.

Although he was half giving up to make a request to this company when he was almost rejected by the Chief Clerk at the beginning, but he was saved when the Director, who formerly worked in River Bureau of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, appeared.

Perhaps, that Director position was just a formality seat in the company, so he might have lots of free time every day.

Nonetheless, there is no doubt that he was an elite prodigy since he formerly worked for Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

Since he also had an interest in the ancient construction technology, surely he would draw up a nice plan without a problem.

"Now then, maybe I need to sleep in a hotel today and do the purchases tomorrow." (Kazura)

Since he was so tired, Kazura decided to postpone the remainder of today's plan to tomorrow and took a rest for now. He then searched for the nearest business hotel at his navigator.

Then when he drove according to the navi's guide, he noticed a certain large electronic appliance store.

".....An electronic store, huh." (Kazura)

Kazura slowed down his car while thinking for a moment and murmured then he turned the steering wheel towards the electrical appliance store's parking lot.

CHAPTER 54

THE QUESTION OF ELECTRICAL POWER

Inside the electronic store that crammed full with all kinds of electrical appliances lined up, Kazura was looking at the refrigerators that were lined up in front of him.

The home-use refrigerators placed in front of him were of various models from small sizes for personal use to large sizes for a large family.

“If I have this thing, then..... Ah, but I need an electric generator if want to use this.....”
(Kazura)

While reading the specification list that was attached to the refrigerator, Kazura thought back about his diet in Isteria.

During his trip in Isteria, Kazura almost obtained his entire nutrition from canned food and so his diet was nutritionally unbalanced and was calorie heavy.

Although the taste of the luxurious feast that Nelson had provided was excellent, but he didn't feel any sense of satisfaction even when the taste was good, since it couldn't abate his hunger. So he it felt was somewhat strange when eating it.

But since Lieze proactively held conversations with Kazura when they were eating, it was quite enjoyable. However, Kazura wasn't sure why she did that.

Even during his stay in Grisea Village, his entire true nutrition mostly came from the no-wash rice and the canned food that he ate, so it could be said that this diet is unhealthy.

Even so, there weren't any particularly unusual changes in his body. It might be because he sometimes ate a lot at a Family Restaurant when he returned to Japan and he only stayed several days at most in the other world.

However, if this unhealthy diet continued into the future, then this unbalanced diet might damage his body.

“I wonder, if by some chance when I was eating the food from that world, I ended up using more calorie to digest the food than the calorie that I absorbed.....” (Kazura)

When he first experienced hypoglycemia at Leveson’s mansion a few days ago, he had just eaten a large amount of food provided by Havel.

If this theory true, then when Kazura ate the another world’s food, he would just be wasting calories no matter how much food he ate, so it might be better for his body to not eat anything from the other world in the first place.

On the other hand, for people who want to lose weight, to be able to lose weight while eating deliciously, this will be was a dream come true situation.

If he made use of the crops from that world and made a zero calorie food, such as a diet potato chip, then it could revolutionize the snack industry.

At any rate, he needs to be considerably careful regarding the food. It was fortunate that up until now, a trip to Japan from Grisea Village was just 15 minutes away by foot. However, he predicted that he would soon stay for a quite a while in Isteria and it would be a 10-hours journey to Japan even if he rode a carriage.

Just in case where he couldn’t leave Isteria for whatever reason, he wanted to bring food as much as possible.

If he could, he also didn’t want to eat only canned food or retort pouch food. If only he could store the food that he brought in a refrigerator or freezer, then it might be achievable.....

“Are you looking for a refrigerator, Sir?” (Store Clerk)

While Kazura was mulling over this, he was seen by a store employee who then approached him.

“Ah no, I am just looking for now.....” (Kazura)

“Is that so? Then, this refrigerator is the newest model that has just been released, not only does it boast high storage capacity, but it also has a low yearly electrical consumption rate. Furthermore, its cooling power is also amazing.” (Store Clerk)

It was unknown whether the store employee had heard Kazura's reply, but he began explaining the products of his own accord.

"I greatly recommend this product! Even if you pack a large quantity of food, they will be cooled evenly and yet it has low electrical consumption. Currently, this refrigerator is the highly recommended products of this store." (Store Clerk)

"Umm, if I use an electric generator to power my electronic appliance, then how long the refrigerator need to be powered for its use? I also intend to choose an electric generator." (Kazura)

The store employee began to blabber of his own, so Kazura decided he might as well asked about an electric generator.

Since if the store employee was talking, then at least he could talk about information that Kazura wanted.

"Let see..... Certainly, there is a model that only needs to be continuously powered for 18 hours. I think we also see this model." (Store Clerk)

"18 hours? How much fuel will I need for that?" (Kazura)

"Umm, since the fuel is gasoline, then it will about 20 liters..... Umm, do you also searching for an electric generator?" (Store Clerk)

If it only needs to be continuously powered for 18 hours, then there would be no problem if he wanted to use other electrical appliance.

However, it would require 20 liters of gasoline for the fuel. Even if obtain sufficient gasoline enough for several months power, it would be a significant amount.

Although the amount wasn't something that was impossible for him to do, as he could purchase from various gas stations in small amount, store it in a drum can and brought over the drum to another world.

By the way, in Japan, there is a law that requires someone who stores gasoline above a certain amount to report it to the municipality government.

Of course, there is no such law that exists in Isteria.

“(It will be a hard work to stock up such a large amount of gasoline. Then, is it possible to isolate a room in Nelson-san’s mansion to place the refrigerator? Maybe I need to make a small hut for the gasoline outside the mansion..... If the gasoline inside the drum somehow caught fire, then Nelson-san’s mansion would end up in blaze.)”
(Kazura)

“Sir?” (Store Clerk)

“Ah, I’m sorry. This refrigerator, please.” (Kazura)

“Thank you very much! What about the electric generator?” (Store Clerk)

“Please get me a generator with the biggest power output and the longest continuous operation time.” (Kazura)

“Certainly! Are you also interested in computers, televisions, or washers!?” (Store Clerk)

“No need.” (Kazura)

“I am sorry!” (Store Clerk)

“Ah, perhaps a notebook. One with a spreadsheet program.” (Kazura)

“With pleasure!” (Store Clerk)

This and that happened and Kazura ended up purchasing several things which he hadn’t planned on beforehand. After he asked the store to deliver the items by tomorrow, he left the store behind.



The next morning.

Kazura, who had filled his stomach with a tremendous amount of food at a breakfast buffet in a business hotel, headed towards the HomeCenter that he always visited to finish the rest of his plan.

When he was looking over the outdoor section which sells lime, Kazura was approached by an employee who recognized him.

He was the Store Manager who had dealt with Kazura for several times before.

“This is unexpected to see Shino-sama. Are you in search for anything today?”
(Manager)

“It has been a while. I want to make mortar myself, so I am searching for lime. Which one should I use?” (Kazura)

“In that case, it will be better to use this slaked lime. How much do you need?”
(Manager)

“Hmm..... How much do you have in stock?” (Kazura)

When Kazura asked that, the Manager had a hint of apprehension ran over his expression.

Perhaps he was thinking that Kazura would perform a large amount of purchase again.

“We have 2 ton!” (Manager)

“Then everything, please.” (Kazura)

“Certainly!” (Manager)

While his listened to the same energetic response just like the one he had last night, Kazura wrote down the delivery address on the documents that the Manager had taken out of his pocket.

Just like the last time, he rented the HomeCenter’s truck to deliver it. Although he could load and transported it by himself, as expected he didn’t have the willpower to transport the 2 tons of lime by himself.

Although he must transport the good by himself when it had been delivered to the mansion, it couldn’t be helped.

“Also, do you sell gasoline jerrycans?” (Kazura)

“We have them inside the store. Do you need me to guide you there?” (Manager)

“Ah, no need since I can go myself.” (Kazura)

After being pointed out about the location by the Manager, Kazura entered the HomeCenter.

Inside the store there were a large number of goods being displayed, from daily necessities to tools. Every single type of tools and utensils were cramped side-by-side.

After he walked for a while, he quickly found the gasoline jerrycans.

“Hm, perhaps two 20 liter jerrycans are enough. Also, I must buy a drum.” (Kazura)

Where is the place that sells drums? Kazura was looking around.

Then he found a place where the same electric generator model that he had purchased yesterday was being sold.

“Ah it’s the same model as the one from yesterday.” (Kazura)

He casually approached the electric generator and saw the specification list that was attached to it.

Then, next to that specification list was a label that said [Low Noise Specification ~ Long Period Power Generation].

“.....Ah, I’ll be had. I completely forget about the noise from the generator.” (Kazura)

Since the generator uses an internal combustion engine to generate electricity, the sound it makes is quite loud.

When he bought the generator at the electronic store last night he was only thinking about the refrigerator and didn’t think about the noise at all.

Different from when using it in Japan, if he uses the generator who will give out a loud noise in a quiet place such as Nelson’s mansion, then perhaps there would be people gathering questioning the source of the noise.

Though the generator that he had purchased was a low noise specification, he was wondering how loud the noise it made will be when it is activated.

When he looked at the specification list, there was a description that mention, [Noise Level 55~85 dBA].

“Are you looking for an electric generator?” (Store Clerk)

When Kazura was looking at the specification of the electric generator, an employee addressed him.

It was the same pattern with the last night pattern in the electronic store.

“No, but I want to know how loud the sound from this generator is. Can this be run as a test?” (Kazura)

“Of course. Please wait a moment.” (Store Clerk)

When Kazura asked, the employee leaned over in front of the generator and switch it on.

Immediately there were intermittent noises from the generator.

It was relatively noisy.

“This is when it is running on full power and this is when it is used at ¼ load.” (Store Clerk)

When the employee pressed the switch to cut the generator load, it became a lot quieter.

In this case, if the generator was put in a place surrounded by walls or inside a relatively deep hole, the sound might not be that loud.

It’s just that he had a hunch that using an enclosed generator was a bit dangerous.

“I see..... I understand. Thank you very much.” (Kazura)

“Yes, please tell me if you require anything.” (Store Clerk)

Kazura saw the employee leave and stood thinking at that place for a while.

Although the portable generator that could be brought to everywhere is a convenient tool, if he want to use it in Isteria then there will be a problem of fuel and noise.

While it might be a good idea to bring one to Isteria just in case it will be necessary, Kazura was thinking about other ways so he can use the refrigerator and other electronic appliances.

“Another way of power generation is.....” (Kazura)

After he thought for a moment, he took his cellphone out of his pocket and made a call to the engineering firm where he had bought the waterwheel from before.

After several rings, the amiable voice of the engineering firm’s directors could be heard from the phone.

“Hello, this is Shino who had purchased a waterwheel one month ago.....” (Kazura)

“Oh, so this is Shino-san! It’s been a while, is the waterwheel still working fine?” (Director)

“It is running splendidly. The pumped water amount is great, so it is really helpful.” (Kazura)

“That is good to hear!. That waterwheel is an excellent masterpiece. Then what is the reason for your call?” (Director)

“I want to buy another waterwheel, but it is a slightly different waterwheel this time..... I am searching for a waterwheel to be used for electricity generation, do you have something for this?” (Kazura)

“Ah a waterwheel generator. There is a waterwheel generator that is almost similar with the waterwheel model you have bought before, though it didn’t generate that much amount of electricity..... If you don’t mind about the model, then there is a hydro generator that generates electricity from turbine rotation using the inclinations and water current” (Director)

“Oh, there is something like that?” (Kazura)

“Yes, there is. However, our company only makes undershot waterwheel generator similar to the one you had bought before. If you want to buy that hydro generator,

then our company can serve as a proxy agent to stock it from the manufacturer. Will this be alright to you?" (Director)

"Then, I will leave this to you. Do you have catalog for those? If there is, I will go there and check it now." (Kazura)

"Yes we do. Then we will be preparing the catalog while waiting for your arrival." (Director)

"Thank you very much. I will look forward to it." (Kazura)

Ending the call, Kazura made a small jump inside his heart for the information he got from the engineering firm.

Although he didn't know when the hydro generator that the engineering firm's Director mentioned will be stocked, but if he had it then he could have a pleasant life in Isteria.

Since the generator and the electronics were made by a technology on a different level from the other world's technology knowledge, even if they try to mimic and build it, it will impossible to recreate a functioning product.

These were on a completely on a different level from the waterwheel and the water-powered sawmill, which can be reproduced from trial and error as long as someone knows about its structure.

Different than bringing a low technology equipment, bringing them would have limited effect on the other world, perhaps the effect could even be lower than he expected.

However, as this is certainly something that can be considered as over-technology, it is best to not let it be seen too much by the public.

Although for the people who recognized him as Greysior, they would less likely make a useless ruckus.

"Then perhaps I should prepare one drum can. It might be useful for many things if I can use the generator." (Kazura)

While he was muttering this, Kazura moved his feet towards the section that he considered would be selling the drum. At that time, a ringtone came from his cellphone.

“Hm? Who is it..... not good, it’s the Gunmaa Ranch delivery. Perhaps the compost already arrived.” (Kazura)

When Kazura saw the caller ID, he quickly answered the phone, and just like what he thought, it was from the Gunmaa Ranch asking where to put the compost that they had brought.

For now, Kazura asked them to pile them up in the garden via the phone, after he ended the call, another call arrived.

“Ugh, now it is the Electricity Store. I never told them to deliver in the morning..... Oh well, it is important for them to deliver before the day is over.” (Kazura)

While dealing with the call, Kazura called out to a nearby employee and conveyed that he wanted to purchase the drum can. Then, while holding the gasoline jerrycans in both of his hand and sandwiching his cellphone between his cheek and shoulder, Kazura walked briskly towards the cash register.

CHAPTER 55

THE MADAM IS A GRAVE DIGGER

Six hours had passed since Kazura's shopping.

In the middle of the sun rays which poured down from the slanting sun, Kazura struck a daunting pose in front of the huge mountain of compost.

At the side of the compost were the bags of lime, while a refrigerator and a portable electric generator stood near the mansion's entrance door, together with a laptop and massive quantity of groceries.

Even inside the car was packed with various items ranging from yet another food groceries, drugs, gems and accessories to be converted into money in Isteria, to daily necessities such as alarm clocks and soaps.

Of course, he had bought frozen foods and vegetables which was placed in a large cool box packed with dry ice.

After this, he would transport each and everything of this large quantity of items to the other world.

To be honest, even now Kazura felt quite a bit of apprehension about this situation.

However, different from the last time, there was a strong partner beside him.

"Let's go, Mini Exca. If you are with me, I can still keep fighting!" (Kazura)

In front of the mountain of compost was a parked mini excavator. He had purchased it in cash from a shop that used construction machinery which he found on his way back from the engineering firm.

In addition, behind it was a parked agricultural transport tractor that was furnished with a dump box hydraulic lift function in the back with a maximum capacity of 500 kg.

It was the ultimate combination.

In the corner of the yard, the cart who had been working incessantly until now were watching over Kazura's group.

Kazura felt that he won't lose to anyone right now.

He had been so busy that it was hard for him to think so he didn't care about his quite excited condition.

He didn't understand the reason for it, but his trembling didn't cease.

Kazura board the mini excavator and turned on the engine and manipulating the levers according to the user manual he received from the shop.

Matching Kazura's movement, the mini excavator's arm section made a moan as it elevated.

Carefully controlling the arm, it scooped out a compost from the mountain.

Then keeping the arm level, its body turned and dropped the compost on the dump box section of the transport tractor.

It was perfect.

There were times when some compost fell from the bucket, there were times when he scooped to little compost, but even when this happened he was glad.

He could transport an amount that will be bone breaking to his body.

Seeing the reality in front of his eyes, Kazura were deeply trembled in emotion.

Perhaps until today, Kazura hasn't felt gratitude to the power of science like this.

His eyes glittering with this respect sentiment.

In such way, Kazura was working hard to manipulate the mini excavator that he used for the first time, in order to transport the entire 50 ton of compost to Grisea Village.

It was already past 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Although it was an emergency situation where he needed to transport entire goods by today, even if he sighed, there were no one but Kazura who can help him in this.

He had no choice but to keep working with vacant eyes and half-opened mouth while grumbling out his resentment and curse words after his bravado was exhausted.

Since the transport tractor didn't have a weight measurement function, he just loaded the compost by estimating with his eyes.

He felt wasteful if there was fertilizer spilled out from the vibration if he loaded too much compost on it.

After Kazura judged that the amount is just right, he exited the mini excavator and board the transport tractor.

志野一良

宝くじで億万長者となった青年、
イステール領の改革に挑む

「いざ往かんグリセア村！
あと何往復するかなんて
考えちゃダメだ！」



“Alright! Onward to Grisea Village! Must not think about how many trips I need to make!” (Kazura)

Kazura started the transport tractor engine and drove it towards the residence.

While the transport tractor made a loud noise, it smoothly ascended the iron plate slope placed on the mansion’s entrance door.

Because the transport tractor was a caterpillar model, the tractor steadily moved atop the iron plates spread around the floor.

Kazura didn’t know whom and for what reason the floor was covered by iron plates, but it was very useful for his current situation.

Kazura drove the tractor and successfully crossed over from the other world border and appeared at the stone passage.

Before long, he passed the grave that he had built before and headed towards the tree grove.

After driving the loud tractor inside the tree grove for a while, the familiar scenery of Grisea Village came to his sight

Perhaps because the villagers had heard the tractor’s loud engine, they began to gather in the tree grove entrance.

“Hello everyone, I see that today’s weather is hot as always.” (Kazura)

“Ka-Kazura-sama! What is that vehicle!?” (Villagers)

The villagers were looking in amazement at Kazura who raised one of his hand and made an excited greeting while operating the tractor with the other hand.

Well, of course, this was a natural reaction.

Until now, Kazura had transported the goods while assiduously pulling the cart, but today he appeared riding a strange big vehicle that produced loud noise.

It wasn’t an overstatement to say that the villagers were surprised.

“Ah, this vehicle? This is a vehicle that was made and used in the God’s Realm to transport massive amount of goods. It’s really useful since it can transport a lot of goods at the same time. Since I will unload the cargo right now, can everyone stand a bit away from this vehicle?” (Kazura)

After Kazura made the villagers kept a distance from the tractor, its dump box parts tilted to the back and dumped the compost it transported to the ground.

“Well, with this amount of fertilizer, I need to do this for 100 times more. Since I will leave it in this place, can I ask for your help to leave some people to watch this place?” (Kazura)

“W-we understand!” (Villagers)

“Kazura-san!” (Valetta)

Just when Kazura put his hand on the handle to return to the mansion in Japan after hearing the Villagers’ reply, Valetta came running from the direction of the village.

Just like the other villagers, Valetta also showed a surprised expression when she saw the tractor that Kazura drove.

Although surely she had already known about the existence of automobile from the book that Kazura brought from Japan, as expected the impact from seeing the picture and the real thing was different.

“Valetta-san.....” (Kazura)

Seeing Valetta came running, Kazura’s excitement that he showed just now suddenly became toned down.

It was unknown whether this related to the event with Valetta two days ago.

However, the gloomy expression that Valetta had in her face from yesterday morning had disappeared and returned to her usual expression.

The village girl who Kazura asked for help yesterday were following Valetta from behind. When their eyes met, the girl made a wry smile while nodding.

He didn’t know how the talks went, but it seemed to be effective.

“Kazura-san, is that..... fertilizer?” (Valetta)

“Yes, I planned to bring them all to Isteria. I believe we then can restore the devastated grain-producing region in Isteria. For now, I will prepare 50 ton, so perhaps it will progress smoothly.” (Kazura)

“Fif-fifty ton? So, you will bring that many, I see..... But, I think that water is also important, so do you also will bring a lot of waterwheel?” (Valetta)

“No, the waterwheel is being mass produced in Isteria right now. After dividing the parts into several different groups, I had ordered the craftsman in the city to produce them.” (Kazura)

Several days ago, when Kazura was issuing large amount of instructions to Nelson’s group, so that it was possible for the waterwheel to be mass-produced, Kazura ordered Zirconia to make preparations for manufacturing the needed parts.

If Zirconia moved according to Kazura’s instruction then right now they might already begin mass production of the necessary waterwheel parts.

“Mass production?..... That’s right, if you mobilized the entire craftsmen in the city, then it is possible to produced large amount of waterwheel in short time span.” (Valetta)

“Yes, since I reused the blueprint that was used to make this village’s waterwheel, it saved me from a lot of trouble.” (Kazura)

The blueprint that he handed over to Zirconia, was the blueprint of Waterwheel No.2 that had been previously built at Grisea Village, so the entire needed materials were something that can be found or built in this world.

Although he never planned for it to be used like this, but he was really glad that he had made a new waterwheel for the village.

“What about Valetta-san’s side? It seems that you already began the construction work.” (Kazura)

As Kazura said this, he turned his sight towards the village.

He couldn't see it well since it's still far away, but there were timbers lined up at several places in the village and the construction of the palisade and the watchtowers had begun.

“Yes, with the cooperation of everyone in the village, we had begun the construction of what I had discussed with Kazura-san two days ago. First, we plan to construct palisade that will surround the whole village, afterward we will construct the watch tower.” (Valetta)

“I see, hmm..... Ah, I also had prepared some lime. I will bring it after this. Since I prepared about two tons of it, I think it will be more or less enough.....” (Kazura)

“Th-thank you very much! If we have them, then I think it will surely be alright!” (Valetta)

Kazura felt relieved inside his heart as Valetta already returned to her usual lively attitudes.

Perhaps he was quite worried about what to do for Valetta, who was depressed all the time.

Furthermore, he was thinking that perhaps he had done something that hurt Valetta's feeling.

As a matter of fact, on the night two days ago, Kazura had done nothing that hurts Valetta's feeling, though.

“Please, inform me if you need anything..... Then, I will return to transport the rest of the goods.” (Kazura)

Kazura spoke this with a smile to Valetta and while being sent off by everyone, Kazura returned once more towards the mansion in Japan.



While Kazura was transporting fertilizer from Japan, a large convoy of carriages and wagons arrived at Grisea's village entrance.

The one who leads the convoy was Zirconia, while their bodyguard were 200 Nobles Guards who reinforced the convoy's surrounding.

These soldiers were mostly heavy infantry, the few cavalymen only served as the convoy's scout.

This is the popular army's formation in this world.

A force composed entirely of cavalry like the one who accompanied Kazura the other day before was an unusual sight.

Zirconia didn't wear the loose clothing she wore when in the Nelson's mansion, instead she was clad in the bronze armor, carried a round shield on her back, and armed with shortsword and longsword in her waist just like the other soldiers.

She was dressed up gallantly, far in contrast to her usual gentle impression.

"Welcome, Zirconia-sama. You must be tired from the march. I will now return the right to command back to you." (Isaac)

"Thank you for your hard work..... Umm, what is this sound?" (Zirconia)

While receiving the right to command that was relinquished by Isaac, Zirconia shifted her sight towards Grisea Village.

There was some kinds of strange sound coming from Grisea village's direction.

It was the engine sound of the tractor that Kazura drove.

"This sound is something that suddenly audible some time ago..... Since I hesitate to enter the village without Kazura-sama's permission, for now, I only observe the general situation." (Isaac)

"Ah, I see. But, isn't entering the village wouldn't be a problem? After all, he had said that we can continue our rule over the village. Nevertheless, I believe it's better for anyone who didn't know about 'that matter' should be prohibited from entering the village." (Zirconia)

"I.....I see. I understand, I will go to the village and come back after asking about this matter." (Isaac)

After thinking for a few moments, Isaac nodded in understanding.

It seems that Isaac was similar to Kazura in his tendency to paying attention to things.

By the way, ‘that matter’ that Zirconia mentioned was [The fact that Kazura is Greysior].

“I will leave this to you. Also, I have brought the bags that Kazura-san had ordered to prepare. Since it was packed in that carriage, can you take it together with you?”
(Zirconia)

“Yes, Ma’am.” (Isaac)

Isaac made a small bow to Zirconia and then ran towards the carriage with the bags that Zirconia had pointed out before.

After Zirconia had confirmed, that Isaac had led the carriage to enter the village, she ordered the group behind her to prepare the camp.

Receiving the order, the soldiers and their accompanying servants began to prepare the camp in a hurry.

The soldiers who had camped out in the Grisea Village entrance also rushed over to the newly arrived group and began helping with the preparation.

“Otis” (Zirconia)

“Yes, Ma’am!” (Otis)

Otis the escort soldier who was on standby with the Noble Guards, rushed over to Zirconia when his name was called.

“Can you lead me to the place where the corpses of the bandits were buried?”
(Zirconia)

“The place where the corpses were buried..... Ma’am?” (Otis)

Otis, who had been ordered to accompany Zirconia’s group without any explanation, unconsciously questioned Zirconia’s order.

Otis was with the villagers when burying the bandits’ corpses after he heard Valin’s report, so he knew about the location.

However, he was questioning what Zirconia want to do in such place.

“That’s right. Do you know where it’s located?” (Zirconia)

“Yes I know, Ma’am. But to go to that place, what is..... It can’t be.” (Otis)

A terribly unpleasant sight came into his mind, so Otis spontaneously gulped.

Zirconia made a glance towards Otis and began to recite out Otis’ worst expectation.

“Isn’t that clear? We will dig out the corpse.” (Zirconia)

CHAPTER 56

HUNGRY RECOMMENDATION

Under the sinking sun that dyed the earth with a sunset color, Zirconia and Otis arrived at a place where several fist-sized stones were piled up on the ground.

Underneath these stones was the place where the bandits were buried.

“Is this the place?” (Zirconia)

“.....Yes, Ma’am.” (Otis)

Ignoring Otis who showed a reluctant expression, Zirconia put the spade he brought from the carriage on the ground and began to clear the stones from the ground.

Then, when she picked up the spade again, she began to dig the ground unconcernedly.

Since he couldn't just do nothing while Zirconia herself was digging, Otis also reluctantly dug the ground with the spade.

They continued digging for awhile when the tip of Otis's spade hit something.

“..... I hit the corpse.” (Otis)

“Is that so? Then let's take them out.” (Zirconia)

Zirconia placed the spade, wore the gloves carried in her waist, kneeled to the ground and cleared the dirt.

After removing the soils covering the corpse for a moment, a pair of human feet appeared.

Zirconia grasped the corpse's feet with both of her hand, pulled it out with all of her strength from the tomb and drag it outside.

The surrounding immediately filled with a tremendous putrid smell.

“.....The head is gone. How many corpses are under this grave?” (Zirconia)

“Th-there are ten.” (Otis)

Otis, who unconsciously covered his nose and mouth from the putrid smell, moaned out a reply.

He was doing his best restraining his nausea.

Compared to him, Zirconia didn't have any apparent change in her expression and began to clear the dirt that was clinging on the neck stump.

“.....” (Zirconia)

Although Zirconia stopped moving for several second to confirm the neck, she immediately stood up and once more entered the grave hole.

Then, just like before, she cleared up the dirt and quickly pulled out the corpse from the grave hole.

After repeating this with Otis for several times, there were 10 corpses lined up in front of the hole.

“..... If you can't stand it, you may leave first, you know. I will do the rest afterward.” (Zirconia)

“No..... I'm alright. Is Zirconia-sama alright yourself?” (Otis)

When asked by Otis, Zirconia made a blank expression and then made a wry smile.

“I am not that alright. Even now, I want to throw up. But, since I don't eat anything this morning, perhaps it's better than you.” (Zirconia)

“I-is that so?” (Otis)

'In that case, please inform me to not eating the breakfast', criticized Otis inside his mind.

However, even if he didn't eat the breakfast, he didn't have any confidence that he could do the autopsy in an indifferent manner just like Zirconia.

Even afterward, Zirconia continued her examination of the wound in the lined up corpses. There was one corpse that attracted her attention.

“This is.....” (Zirconia)

Zirconia muttered while touching the corpse hand.

The corpse’s right arm had its wrist strangely deformed.

It was as if it had been crushed by a tremendous force and bent into unnatural direction.

It was the corpse of the bandits that had his wrist crushed by Valetta.

Zirconia gazed at the crushed wrist for a few moment, then after letting out a sigh, she stood up.

“It’s enough. Let’s reburied the corpses.” (Zirconia)

Zirconia instructed Otis, who was enduring nausea beside her, and they began returning the corpses back to the grave hole.



After Zirconia reburied the corpses, inside a large tent exclusive for her use, she took off the clothes that had been stained by the corpses’ scent and changed into new clean clothes.

Then, without taking a break, she went into Grisea Village, but there was an abnormal sight appeared before her eyes in the village.

“What is..... this.....” (Zirconia)



In Grisea Village's fields, the potato plants growing there had huge leaves and vines, the kind she never saw before. The leafy vegetables raised there also was several times larger than usual.

It was as if they had been transformed into gigantic by some kind of magic spell. The fields were cramped by huge vegetables that she doubted that what she saw was real.

Even though, in the content of Isaac's report of Grisea Village several days ago, he already mentioned how the vegetables growing in the village fields in front of him was really large.

Zirconia unconsciously kneeled down before the potato and try to touch a leaf.

The leaf is huge and thick, completely different from potato leaves that Zirconia knew.

The vine where the leaf sprout out was as big as an adult thumb, its length also was unusual. The plant was earth-shattering vigorous.

Zirconia stared dumbfounded on the crops growing in the fields, but she suddenly noticed the strange noise that's coming from inside the village and immediately turned her sight towards it.

She might forget it due to seeing the vegetables' gigantic transformation, but the strange noise that she heard when she arrived in the village until now had stopped.

Zirconia let go of the leaf, stood up and walked towards the direction of the strange noise.



Zirconia arrived at the entrance of the tree grove where a large number of villagers already gathered.

The villagers divided themselves into teams of two, a person who opened the bag's mouth and a person who put the shoveled compost into the bag.

In the middle of that, the agricultural transport tractor that Kazura drove appeared from inside the tree grove while making a loud noise.

“Oh, Zirconia-san also has arrived.” (Kazura)

While saying so, Kazura activated the dumping function and poured down the compost to the ground.

Seeing such astounding sight, Zirconia couldn't make any response to Kazura's greeting, she was just staring blankly at the transport tractor that intermittently produced noise from its engine.

"Zirconia-sama, this is something called agricultural transport tractor, a tool from God's Realm that can transport a lot of heavy things at the same time. Surprisingly, even without being pulled by Rata, it can be freely moved just like the coachman's intention." (Isaac)

"Is, is that so..... That's amazing....." (Zirconia)

Isaac, who was mixed with the villagers who were putting fertilizer into the bag, noticed Zirconia and then approached her to explain about the tools.

Even when Zirconia made some reply to Isaac, she couldn't take off her eyes from the transport tractor.

"Kazura-san, this, agricultural..... Ummm." (Zirconia)

"Agricultural transport tractor." (Kazura)

"So, agricultural transport tractor. How fast can it move?" (Zirconia)

"How fast?..... Umm, I'm sure the maximum speed is 10 kilo, so..... as fast as the speed of a human's light running. it doesn't have that much speed." (Kazura)

"Similar to a light running.....is it?" (Zirconia)

"Yes. however, it doesn't really suited to be of use in the battlefield." (Kazura)

After hearing Kazura's reply, Zirconia unconsciously made a surprised expression and shifted her sight from the transport tractor towards Kazura.

Then when her eyes met Kazura's, she waved her hand in front of her chest with a flustered expression.

"N-no, I don't mean it in that way....." (Zirconia)

“Oh, really? Is that so... Then I am sorry for being impolite.” (Kazura)

Seeing Zirconia’s behavior, Kazura thought that it was “Bull’s eye” , even so, he made a token apology.

Just like when Kazura first met with Zirconia in Nelson’s Mansion, from the beginning, she desired for military advice.

Even if he changed the topic, Kazura could still guess that Zirconia’s interest was still on the integration for military purpose.

So it was easy to guess that Zirconia also arrived at such thoughts when she saw the transport tractor.

“Kazura-sama, how much compost you plan to bring?” (Isaac)

Throwing a lifeboat for the flustered Zirconia, Isaac inquired Kazura from the side.

“Umm..... Perhaps there is still eight-tenth (80%) of it to be brought.....” (Kazura)

Kazura, who was soaked with a cheery mood, returned to the reality when he heard Isaac’s question and his eyes become just like a dead fish’ eyes.

The bravado he showed at first, seems to be already used up.

The beginning of the penance.

“Ei-eight tenth? It wouldn’t be finished before the day is over.....” (Isaac)

“You’re right.....Let’s take a break when it becomes dark.....” (Kazura)

There are still other goods other than the compost, Kazura murmured in silent, before once more disappeared into the tree grove while producing loud noises.



Several hours had passed.

The work had been interrupted by the sinking sun and come to an end, everyone returned to their camp or abode in the village.

Kazura and Valetta returned together to Valin's residence and like always, the three of them sat surrounding the hearth.

Valin already prepared the dinner.

"Kazura-san. You must be tired from the work, please eat a lot." (Valetta)

"Thank you very much..... Oh, fish flakes in cooked rice? This seems delicious."
(Kazura)

Receiving the rice on the bowl from Valetta, Kazura cheek loosened delightfully.

Facing Kazura, Valin showed a relieved expression, perhaps because he was glad that Valetta's condition had returned.

The dinner menu was, fish flakes in cooked rice, vegetable soup, boiled potato, boiled egg, and the desert were canned pineapple.

Half of the vegetables used in the soup was from the ones harvested in the village, while the other half came from the frozen vegetables that Kazura brought from Japan.

The only food in the menu that exclusively used ingredients from the village was the boiled root-cut bird's egg and the boiled potato.

The fish in the cooked rice was something that Valin caught from the river at the noon.

"By the way, during the time I'm not in the village, the vegetables had become quite big. It had grown at a rather frightening rate." (Kazura)

Since it was on his mind since he returned to the village two days ago, Kazura begun to speak about the huge crops growing on the fields. Valin and Valetta nodded at the same time.

"Although it seems that the growth rate had already slowing down, but even now, it still continue to grow." (Valetta)

"Eh, it will become even bigger?" (Kazura)

“Perhaps. Also, it’s not only the size that becomes bigger..... Each of the potatoes perhaps had reached the size of an infant’s head. If this potato is boiled, even half of it is more than enough for 3 people.” (Valetta)

“Whoa, it had become so big that it’s scary..... Or rather, for it to become this big in short time span is.....” (Kazura)

When they dug out the potato 20 days ago, the potato was only as big as an M sized egg on the supermarket.

Even so, currently it had grown into as big as infant’s size.

If he visually examined the potato in front of him, he would only thought that the potato was something that become bigger with a slower growth rate, not under 20 days.

The potato skin seems to grow together with the potato tuber itself, so it was curiously lacked any crack or fissure.

From the story he had heard from Valetta, one seedling of this type of potato could bear 5 tubers.

Even if the number of the tuber didn’t increase, he had no doubt that currently the soil under this village’s field were packed full by giant potatoes.

Kazura scoop out the boiled potato with his spoon, moved it towards his mouth, and then stopped.

He placed down his spoon and stared at the potato.

“Is something wrong?” (Valetta)

“No, I am just a bit bothered.....” (Kazura)

Valetta tilted her head as Kazura begun to speak seriously.

“..... If I feel full after eating this, then doesn’t mean that this food will have the same effect as the food I had brought? I am bothered by this.” (Kazura)

“Same effect.....” (Valetta)

Hearing Kazura's explanation, Valetta immediately made a surprised expression after guessing the meaning of those words.

Perhaps he was thinking about what will happen if the vegetables grown using the fertilizer that Kazura had brought and it have the same effect as the food that Kazura brought from Japan.

"By eating it, you become less likely to be fatigued and have increased strength, this effect, right?" (Valetta)

"Yes. If it really have this effect then we need to be careful in how we use the crops from this village..... Oh no, what to do with the agriculture revival that I had promised. It will become impossible to distribute the compost....." (Kazura)

If the village crops also exhibited the same effect with Japan's food, then it will be bad if the crops were collected as the village's tax to Isteria.

The people who ended up eating it would acquire an extreme physical recovery effect and ended up with a physical enhancement.

However, from the experience of the villagers who had eaten the Japan's food, he understood that the physical enhancement didn't happened immediately after consuming the food.

When the villagers first mentioned, "We hardly feel tired" and "We can transport heavier things than before" , it was when they had consumed the food for more than 2 weeks.

Furthermore, when he travelled to Isteria together with Valetta, Lodurr and the others, Lodurr's daughter Myra who accompanied the group also showed some degree of fatigue when walking.

Taking these events into the conclusion, it can be surmised that the physical enhancement need at least several days of continuous consumption of Japan's food.

There might be individual variation, but it was clear that the immediate physical enhancement didn't occur immediately after eating it.

".....Kazura-san, are your stomach is hungry right now?" (Valetta)

“Yes, I’m hungry.” (Kazura)

“Then, can you try to eat several potatoes and boiled egg and then observe if there are any change? If you feel full after eating them, then it can means that the food’s nature has changed.” (Valetta)

Kazura nodded at Valetta’s suggestion and brought the spoon with the potato to his mouth.

CHAPTER 57

THE CROPS EFFECT

Kazura slowly chewing the boiled potato inside his mouth and gulped it down.

This boiled potato didn't have any special seasoning for the flavor, but the boiling had drawn out the unique sweetness of the potato.

The taste is thin, but the faint unique sweetness was really delicious.

If he needs to compare it to the crops in Japan, then it was similar to an unflavored boiled taro.

After Kazura successively stuffed his stomach with numerous potatoes, he took 2 boiled eggs and hit the shell on the floor to crack it.

Peeling the eggshell, he thought to eat it with a pinch of salt, but he stopped since salt is something that he had brought from Japan and just eat the eggs as it is.

The taste wasn't that different from the boiled egg from Japan, the texture was also completely identical.

"..... Fuh, maybe I will be alright to just eat this much. Ah, please eat too, both of you. No need to be concerned about me." (Kazura)

"Umm..... Then, let's eat." (Valin)

Kazura prompted Valetta and Valin, who were seeing Kazura eating the potatoes and eggs, to eat themselves.

Kazura took out his phone from his pocket, turned it on and set a timer.

The timer was set to ring after 30 minutes.

"By the way, what about the herbs that grow in the garden? During the time we are in Isteria, did it withered?" (Kazura)

Because Kazura didn't do anything and just watching Valetta and Valin eating, he began to ask Valetta about the herbs they grew in the garden.

It was already 20 day since they first planted the herb, so most of the seed should have already sprouted out.

"It seems everyone from the village is taking care of them, when we returned, they were growing nicely. It's just....." (Valetta)

"Just?" (Kazura)

While holding the bowl with the rice meal, Valetta made a hesitated expression that made Kazura asked her again.

"Compared to the content of the book that I read, their growth seems to be a bit late." (Valetta)

"Eh? Is that true?" (Kazura)

"Yes, it's something that I heard from the people who was taking care them. The germination period was just similar to the what the books said, but their growth afterward was a bit slow for some reason....." (Valetta)

"Then, you mean that the herbs that were planted in the pot with fertilizer, herbs that were planted in the pot without fertilizer, and herbs that were planted in the ground have the similar slow growth rate?" (Kazura)

"The herbs that received the fertilizer is a bit bigger than the herbs that didn't receive fertilizer, but its slow growth rate seems to be not that different." (Valetta)

After hearing Valetta's answer, Kazura folded his arm and ruminating over this facts.

When Kazura was taking care of the herbs in the residence, he didn't feel that the growth rate was particularly low.

It just, when some of the herbs began to germinate, most of the herbs still didn't germinate at all.

"Even though we had uprooted any grown weed that we noticed..... Perhaps we had made a mistake somewhere....." (Valetta)

“Hmm..... Then what about the herb seedlings?” (Kazura)

“The seedlings size didn’t change much. But, it’s still green and healthy.” (Valetta)

“.....That means, it wasn’t because of a disease.” (Kazura)

Although he thought that perhaps it was caused by some kind of disease from this world, but if it only have slow growth rate without withering, then the probability of it caused by a disease is slim.

Perhaps, when it crossed over to this world from the mansion on Japan, the herbs ended up have some kind of special effect bestowed upon it.

“I don’t know the reason for their slow growth rate even though they were healthy..... Even though they had been given the fertilizer, why they don’t grow well?” (Kazura)

“We still don’t know the reason for it, right? For now, let’s just observe their growth condition. It will be good if we know about the cause, though.....” (Valetta)

Kazura and Valetta then take turn in discussing the mysterious cause of the herbs slow growth rate for a while, but in the end they couldn’t found the exact cause at all.

In the meantime, Valin didn’t cut into their conversation and just continued chewing his meal in silent.

Then, after 30 minutes had passed, the cellphone alarm rang.

“Ah, it’s time. How are your stomach feels like?” (Valetta)

Asked by Valetta, Kazura rubbed his own stomach.

Then, he made a long sigh and smiled in relief.

“It doesn’t change, still feeling hungry. If like this, then it might be alright to use the fertilizer at Isteria.....” (Kazura)

Valin and Valetta made a relieved expression.

However, that relief was short-lived as Valetta remembered something which made her spoke out.

“Ah but, perhaps if other people than Kazura-san eat it, there might still be some effect..... I felt that we can't be hasty in drawing a conclusion.” (Valetta)

“Ugh, that's true..... But, to have a valid result we need to feed someone with the potatoes and eggs..... But, it will be of no use to feed them on the villagers, right?” (Kazura)

Kazura grumbled and then once again fell into a deep thought.

To make a quick judgment on the village crops special effect, he needs to make someone eat the potatoes and the eggs and made him do some kind of exercise to exhaust his stamina.

If afterward, his exhausted stamina had quick recovery then he could make a conclusion that the village crops have some unnatural special effect.

However, everyone in this village already underwent physical enhancement, so it would be hard to judge the effect if they ate the food.

They need someone, whose body still hasn't been enhanced, to eat the food, so that means someone outside the villagers.

If by some chance, that person manifested the fast stamina recovery effect, it would be troublesome to Kazura and others if that person spread this fact out.

As far as he concerned, the person close to him that he could ask for the cooperation for this was either Zirconia, Isaac or Havel.

When Kazura raised his face to look at Valin and Valetta, both of them seemed to have the same person in mind and spoke out at the same time when Kazura mentioned the name.

“How about Issac-san?” (Kazura)

“It's Issac-san, right?” (Valin)

“It should be Isaac-san.” (Valetta)

It was a unanimous decision.



Tens of minutes passed since then.

Kazura who had finished with his dinner visited the hurriedly constructed encampment at the village's entrance.

There were already many tents pitched up in the middle of the encampment and there was a delicious scent drifting among the tent.

It seems that it was the dinner time in the encampment.

Inside the cloth covered plastic container that Kazura carried was boiled potatoes and boiled eggs that he brought from the residence.

These were the food that will be eaten by Isaac.

Kazura asked the nearby Noble Guard who then went to call Isaac, immediately Isaac came running.

“Kazura-sama, I am terribly sorry to make you waiting.” (Isaac)

“No, I am the one who should say sorry for the sudden notice. There is something that I want you to cooperate with me..... Can we change the place to talk?” (Kazura)

“Then, let's do the talk inside my tent. Please follow me.” (Isaac)

Kazura followed Isaac walking for awhile inside the encampment and moved into the tent used by Isaac.

The tent was as wide as a Japanese 6-Jou room, there was a candle lantern hanging from the ceiling beam faintly illuminating the tent's interior.

There was a cot with animal fur lining at the tent corner, while there were a long table and chairs in the middle of the tent.

Atop the long table was feather pen and several parchment documents. It seems that Isaac was in the middle of his work just now.

Kazura placed the cloth wrapped plastic container atop the table without disturbing the documents. He unwrapped the cloth and opened the container lid.

“.....Potatoes and eggs?” (Isaac)

“Yes, please enjoy them.” (Kazura)

“I will, thank you very much.” (Isaac)

Isaac shifted his sight towards the potatoes and eggs in the container and expressed his thanks.

He didn't show any particular suspicion about this.

“Then, what is the matter that you need my help for?” (Isaac)

“Umm, for now, can you try to eat these? It is already enough.” (Kazura)

When Kazura said this, Isaac made a blank expression.

“Eh? Right now?” (Isaac)

“Yes, right now.” (Kazura)

It was obvious that he completely didn't understand what happened, even so he lightly wiped his hand on the hem of his clothes, took one of the potato between his finger and ate it.

Then he began to chew.

“..... Hm, this is delicious.” (Isaac)

“I'm glad hearing that. Then please eat everything just like now.” (Kazura)

“E-everything?” (Isaac)

“Yes, everything.” (Kazura)

Suddenly being asked to eat the whole food, Isaac made a dissatisfied face, but he eat the potatoes and the eggs just as he being told. In a few minutes they disappeared into his stomach.

After filling his stomach with a reasonable amount of potatoes and eggs, Isaac made a light sigh and look towards Kazura.

“Thank you for the food. It is really delicious.” (Isaac)

“That’s good. Then, about something that I want you to cooperate for.” (Kazura)

“Yes, please give me the order.” (Isaac)

Kazura began to talk and Isaac straightened his posture in front of him.

“Issac-san, do you feel confident about your physical strength?” (Kazura)

“Physical strength?” (Isaac)

“Yes. From what I see, you had tempered your body splendidly.” (Kazura)

“Since I have train every day, I have the confident that my physical strength is on par to that of ordinary soldier.....” (Isaac)

“Oh, just as expected. Then, can you perform heavy activity for a moment?” (Kazura)

“U-umm, what do you mean by this?” (Isaac)

Isaac made a puzzled expression, but Kazura continued his explanation without minding him.

“I want you to do muscle training right now in this place.” (Kazura)

“Eh? Muscle training.....?” (Isaac)

“Yes, muscle training..... Ah, do you know what muscle training means?” (Kazura)

“Yes, I know but..... Right here and right now, I can only perform push-up or sit-up. Will this be alright?” (Isaac)

Although he ended up using Japanese words for [muscle training], it seems that the meaning got translated through.

From his experience until now, he didn't really know what kind of difference between words that can be understood and that can't.

"That's fine. Then please choose the one with the heaviest burden and perform it until your limit. Do this for two hours..... I mean about one stound, continue to do so until you become completely exhausted." (Kazura)

Previously, when he gave the Lipo D to the dying Valin, the effect appeared after approximately 2 hours had passed.

Kazura didn't know whether eating the food would have the same timing for the effect to appear, but for now, he thought that 2 hours were enough.

Even if the effect didn't appear after that time, he could ask Isaac's condition at tomorrow morning and could judge whether the effect appeared.

"Eh? To that extent!?" (Isaac)

"Yes." (Kazura)

Receiving an ambiguous order to do a muscle training to the limit for 2 hours nonstop, once again Isaac made a puzzled expression and asked Kazura back.

However, seeing Kazura nodded in a serious expression, Isaac perceived that it was something that he must do and so he resolved himself for the worst.

Since inside Isaac's mind, Kazura clearly is Greysior, an absolute existence above him.

He wasn't someone that Isaac can just retort back.

"I-I understand. Then, I will begin....." (Isaac)

"Good luck. If the time arrived then there will be a sound ringing." (Kazura)

Isaac put both of his hand on the ground and began performing push up energetically.

Kazura sat on the chair that was placed beside the table and set the alarm in his cellphone to ring after 2 hour.



Two hours later,

Kazura who was sleeping on his folded arms was awakened by the alarm sound from his cellphone.

Perhaps because he was exhausted after working all day long, he fell asleep without noticing it.

“Huff, huff, i-is it, over?” (Isaac)

Kazura shifted his sleepy eyes towards the sound direction. It was from Isaac, who was half-naked and sweating and lying down with arms and leg stretched atop the cloth that had been spread out on the ground.

Isaac breaths were disordered. It seems that he continued to do the muscle training even when Kazura fell asleep.

As expected from Isaac.

“Ah, sorry, I fell asleep.....A-are you alright?” (Kazura)

“So-somehow.....” (Isaac)

Isaac tried to stand even when he was unsteady and sat on the bed at the corner.

His irregular breath still didn't stop, it seems he was really tired.

The air in the tent was reek with sweat odor and clammy from the heat emitted from Isaac's body.

“Umm, your physical condition is..... seems to be extremely tired.....” (Kazura)

Kazura was about to ask the degree of Isaac's fatigue, but he stopped.

No matter how he sees it, Isaac was panting and it was clear that he was dead tired.

For the next step, all he needs to do is to ask Isaac's condition on tomorrow morning and the experiment will be finished.

"I-I can't do this further..... I am deeply sorry....." (Isaac)

While collecting his breathing, Isaac apologized to Kazura.

It seems he still thinking to continue the training.

"No, that's is already enough. Thank you very much. Please have a good rest." (Kazura)

"Yes..... Umm, but what the meaning of this.....?" (Isaac)

"Ah..... That is....." (Kazura)

Kazura thought for a while on how to answer the question that Isaac suddenly threw.

However, he couldn't just explain to him the objective of the experiment.

On the other hand, to answer that he wanted to see Isaac's strength would be too weird.

In the first lace, Kazura fell asleep in the middle.

So he couldn't answer it like that.

"I have a bit reason for it, but I can't say it for now. Also, please keep it a secret about my current visit. You can't tell about this to Havel-san or Zirconia-san." (Kazura)

"..... I understand. I absolutely won't tell this to anyone." (Isaac)

His disordered breath had somewhat calmed, Isaac nodded with a serious expression.

Kazura was helped by his obedient nature.

"Then, please excuse me. Let's meet again in the morning." (Kazura)

"Yes. See you tomorrow." (Isaac)

Kazura left the tent while Isaac saw him off with a deep bow.

“Ara?” (Zirconia)

Zirconia, who was walking towards Isaac’s camp, had a glimpse of a person that left the tent.

“(That is..... Kazura-san? I wonder what is he doing at this late hour.)” (Zirconia)

Zirconia tilted her head while seeing Kazura’s back who was walking towards the village direction after exiting the tent.

What kind of business had he with Isaac at the dead of the night?

Zirconia was thinking deeply that perhaps there was some urgent task, as she walked towards Isaac’s tent and entered inside.

“Isaac, about the state of affair at the village in the..... noon.....” (Zirconia)

Zirconia just entered Isaac’s tent without calling out to him.

Then, she was frozen stiff by the sight that jumped to her eyes.

“Ah, Zirconia-sama..... Is there a problem?” (Isaac)

Isaac, who was still half-naked until now, was wiping the sweat on his body with a towel.

There was a cloth spread out on the ground in the middle of the camp that was wet from sweat.

Zirconia immediately looked outside from the tent and confirm the back of the person that she just saw a moment ago.

The silhouette who was walking towards the village was certainly Kazura’s.

“Zirconia-sama?” (Isaac)

Seeing her strange behavior, Isaac called out to her, so Zirconia slowly turned her face back into the tent.

Then after her sight returned to Isaac, she cast her eyes to the ground while being flushed red.

“.....I promise; I won't inform anyone.” (Zirconia)

She muttered a short sentence and quickly left the tent.

After Zirconia left, Isaac didn't understand what had happened and was just sitting dumbfounded in the bed for a few moment.

However, after ruminating what Zirconia had said and seen the condition inside the tent, he finally noticed what she means, and then he quickly rushed out the tent in a dash to pursue Zirconia.

CHAPTER 58

IS THE MISUNDERSTANDING GOOD OR BAD

When Isaac rushed out from the tent, he looked at the surrounding to find Zirconia who had exited the tent earlier.

However, since he was late to pursue her, her sight was nowhere to be seen.

“.....Isaac-sama?” (Havel)

Just when Isaac running towards Zirconia’s tent as it is, he was suddenly being called out from behind and so he turned towards the caller.

“What are you doing with such appearance?” (Havel)

The one who called him was Havel.

Havel held a copper pitcher filled with fruit wine and several documents in his hand, it seems that he was going to meet Isaac for some work.

The fruit wine in his hand was a refreshment for Isaac.

“Ah, no..... I have been doing muscle training, just now. Since it had become so hot, I went outside.” (Isaac)

Isaac immediately made an excuse explanation. Havel made a bit surprised expression.

“Even though you had been training that many in the day, you still have a high eagerness..... You have followed the villagers putting the soil into the cloth bag from the evening, if it’s me I wouldn’t be that vigorous.” (Havel)

When Kazura went to Japan, Isaac’s group couldn’t just idle without doing nothing, so they joined the Noble guards under Zirconia’s command to do practices.

The training content wasn’t as that severe as what Havel had taste under Zirconia, but it still was quite fatiguing.

Furthermore, after that training, he joined the villagers filling the bags with large amount fertilizer that Kazura brought.

Havel's body was so fatigued that the thought of doing muscle training until the night was something never crossed his mind.

Of course, Isaac was tired too. If Kazura never instructed it, he would never do a muscle training in the night.

"We-well, I happened to have time so I just went and did it." (Isaac)

"As expected, you are very diligent..... Umm, if that's alright with you, I have something to discuss with you right now." (Havel)

Isaac looked at the documents that jolted when Havel speaking. He scratched his head and made an apologetic expression.

"I am sorry. I have something that I have to report to Zirconia-sama right now..... Will it be alright to do this tomorrow?" (Isaac)

"Is that so? Then, I will visit you tomorrow's night. Also, this is a refreshment for you. Please have a drink before you sleep and have a nice rest." (Havel)

Havel handed over the fruit wine pitcher to Isaac and made a bow before he left.

While Isaac saw Havel off, he was really thankful towards Havel.

Perhaps, if he was not stopped by Havel and intruded Zirconia's tent while still half-naked then what would happen? Perhaps while his mind still in panic, to dispel Zirconia's misunderstanding, he would loudly shout,

"It's a misunderstanding! It's not what it looks like!"

He believed that he would be knocked if he entered Zirconia's tent while being half-naked, but he paled when he thought of what would happen if he was seen by the surrounding people entering Zirconia's tent while being half-naked.

If a strange rumor appeared, then he wouldn't be able to show his face in front of Nelson, to say nothing of being executed.

Perhaps without the person himself realize, inside Isaac's mind, Havel's stock had the reached maximum price increase limit.



Several minutes afterward.

Isaac was inside Zirconia's tent, frantically doing his best to resolve Zirconia's misunderstanding.

Isaac stood in front of Zirconia, who sat on a small stool, repeatedly stated that it was a misunderstanding as his forehead drenched in sweat.

While Zirconia was just made a Buddha-like expression and nodded to Isaac's word.

"It's fine. I understand that you have literally devoted all your body and soul for Isteria's sake, so I will not tell anything to Lieze about this, so please be at ease."
(Zirconia)

"No, there is nothing to be understood!? Me and Kazura-sama, didn't do anything like that!" (Isaac)

".....Then, why are you dripping with sweat while being naked?" (Zirconia)

Isaac assertively declared so then Zirconia tilted her head with a puzzled expression.

"That is, Kazura-sama was....." (Isaac)

When his mouth was about to speak that it was Kazura's order to do muscle training, Isaac cut his words short.

Kazura had ordered him to not speak to anyone about what happened in the tent.

On the other hand, he couldn't explain his situation without speaking the truth, he also couldn't make a good excuse for this.

".....Yes, Kazura-san was.....?" (Zirconia)

Seeing Isaac suddenly became quiet, Zirconia muttered while casting her gaze down and made a sad looking expression, before he once more looked at Isaac with Buddha-like expression.

“It’s alright, I won’t said it to anyone. But, if you couldn’t endure it any longer, you can consult with me. I will make a plea to Kazura-san.” (Zirconia)

“..... Eh!? No, it’s not that! That’s wrong!” (Isaac)

Afterward, whatever Isaac said to Zirconia, she was just gently smiling while only said, “It’s fine” .



The next morning.

Kazura, who had finished with his breakfast, arrived at the encampment in the village entrance to check Isaac’s condition.

Just like last night, he asked the nearby Noble Guards soldier to call for Isaac, and Isaac immediately running to approach Kazura.

“Good morning, Kazura-sama.....” (Isaac)

“Good morning..... Umm, what’s wrong? You are looking unwell. Are you still tired from yesterday?” (Kazura)

Isaac was different from last night, his expression lacked any vigor whatsoever.

His eyes were like someone who had given up on everything, to speak plainly, it was like the eyes of a corpse.

His expression was weird in any way.

“I still feel a bit tired, but..... rather than that, it was about the event last night. Zirconia-sama had misunderstood it.” (Isaac)

“Misunderstanding? What kind of misunderstanding?” (Kazura)

Kazura immediately made a puzzled expression so Isaac wearily began to answer.

“Last night, after Kazura-sama exited the tent, Zirconia-sama arrived at my tent.”
(Isaac)

“Oh, so it’s a near miss……” (Kazura)

Kazura made a cold sweat as he imagined that Zirconia almost arrived at the place where he was testing the food’s effect.

If Zirconia saw them, then it would be hard to make a good excuse.

She would surely become suspicious of what they are trying to do.

Seeing that Kazura was making a relieved sigh, Isaac continue his story while still showing an apologetic expression.

“However, at that time I was half-naked……. And Zirconia-sama saw Kazura-sama exited the tent, so……” (Isaac)

“……Hm? I don’t see where this conversation is going……. Then is something wrong with that?” (Kazura)

Isaac was talking as if it was a really serious matter, so Kazura asked him back with a serious expression.

“……Kazura-sama, with me, that is……. She misunderstood we were doing sexual intercourse.” (Isaac)

“Wha-!?” (Kazura)

Kazura was taken aback when he heard Isaac’s reply.

Even without herself knowing it, Zirconia had a grand misunderstanding.

“Wa-wait, Isaac-san has denied this, right!?” (Kazura)

“Of course. However, Kazura-sama had ordered to not say anything about what happened inside the tent……. With that kind of situation, I couldn’t make a proper excuse……. I am sorry.” (Isaac)

What a terrible development, Kazura was greatly perturbed.

If the situation was like this, he wanted to call Zirconia and correct the misunderstanding immediately, but he must give her an explanation that she could accept.

However, if he did that, Zirconia and Isaac might end up enquiring the food effect.

It would be nice if he could think a good excuse, but the scene that Zirconia saw was really too awful.

Perhaps, if Kazura was in her place, he had no doubt that he would also have the same homosexual misunderstanding.

There were two countermeasures that he could pick.

The first option was telling Zirconia the truth about the food effect experiment last night and resolve the misunderstanding.

In this case, he could correct Zirconia's misunderstanding, but then she would know about the special effect of the food that Kazura brought to this world.

It would be wonderful if he could fabricate some kind of proper explanation that she could accept. However, if he gave a poor explanation, it could cause a bad after effects.

Perhaps, even if he fabricate an explanation that Zirconia could accept, she would enquire Isaac for the full story for that time and there was a possibility that the question about the potato and egg might come out.

On the other hand, he had already ordered Isaac to not speak a word about the potato and egg, so it would be like disturbing a hornet nest.

Although he believed that Isaac is a person worthy of his trust, Kazura only had a shallow relationship with Isaac.

Kazura still had a suspicion that he might end up reporting this to Nelson or Zirconia.

Isaac was a military personnel, so if he knew that the food that Kazura brought had a special effect, then he would think about how to apply this effect for military purpose in one way or another.

The second option was to just doing nothing and leave the misunderstanding as it is.

Although this couldn't be thought as a countermeasure, but if he just left Zirconia's misunderstanding that Kazura had a homosexual preference and have a relationship with Isaac, then she wouldn't perform any inquiry towards the food effect.

To speak honestly, he wanted to resolve the misunderstanding that he was homosexual even if he must let the matter of the food ended up be known by Zirconia. However, considering what will happen in the future, it was something that he mustn't do.

He had no other choice but to swallow his tears and let the misunderstanding remained as it is.

Although for Isaac, it would be an unthinkable calamity.

"Kazura-sama, please do something about Zirconia-sama's misun....." (Isaac)

".....Isaac-san." (Kazura)

While still at his wits end, Kazura called Isaac's name so Isaac sent a sight full of hope towards Kazura.

"Yes." (Isaac)

"I am really sorry, but I don't have any method to correct Zirconia-san's misunderstanding. I will do something about this before long, so please endure it for now." (Kazura)

"No way....." (Isaac)

Kazura cruelly crushed Isaac's hope.



While Kazura was crushing Isaac in the village entrance, Zirconia was sitting on a chair next to the desk inside her personal tent. Her eyes were on the unfolded out document that she brought from Isteria.

That document contained the affidavit records from the bandits that Zirconia had interrogated in Isteria.

On the corner of that documents, Zirconia had written down the autopsy report of the bandits' corpses that she dug out yesterday.

"God's blessing, right?" (Zirconia)

Muttered Zirconia while she remembering the bandits' interrogation back in Isteria.

When Zirconia interrogating the bandits, at first, the bandits have a bit of upper hand and repeatedly made statements,

"I will tell you everything, in exchange please guarantee my safety."

However, when Zirconia used the torture device that she had prepared before cutting everyone finger for the needless answers, everyone become more obedient and began to fluently answer her questions.

Although they were interrogated in a separate room, the content of their story was consistent with each other. So just to make sure, for the next few interrogations, she lied,

"There is a question that didn't match with each other." (Zirconia)

And cut one finger from everyone again.

Afterward, the bandits became even more obedient and began to smoothly answer her questions while still moaning from the pain of their severed finger.

The content of those bandits stories and the bandit corpses autopsy that Zirconia conducted yesterday was consistent with each other.

According to the interrogated bandits, Grisea Village citizens were like a monster.

The villagers that were battling the bandits, could move at a speed unthinkable for a human and immediately annihilated the bandits in mere seconds.

Especially about the Village Chef and his daughter, two of the bandits were shuddered from fear.

From those bandits stories, when the bandits intruded into his house, he held off four people while being unarmed.

At that time, Valin evaded a slash from the bandit who attacked him with a ridiculous speed and grasped the arm of the bandit who was swinging down his sword.

Then, Valin immediately broke the bandit's arm and snatched the sword. He promptly slew the bandit with the crushed arm and the next moment he halfway severed another bandit's neck.

Furthermore, he threw the dead bandit corpse with a superhuman strength that it blown another bandit who then flew with the corpse from the living room towards the entrance before fainting.

He also killed the last bandit by halfway cutting his torso in a blink of an eye.

In addition, even Valin's daughter Valetta, even while being pinned by a bandit, she easily crushed the bandit's hand which grasped her neck and knock him down with one punch.

With such extremely unrealistic stories, Zirconia was doubting whether or not the bandits was just exaggerating their stories. However, she changed her mind when she examined the corpses yesterday.

The wounds on the bandits were completely identical with the content of the stories from the interrogated bandits.

It seems that the bandits didn't exaggerate their story at all.

".....If we have this power." (Zirconia)

As soon as the fact was confirmed, she completely welcomed it. Zirconia made a grin.

The tremendous growth of the vegetables in the village that Zirconia had seen yesterday and the superhuman combat ability of the villagers when repulsing the bandits. It was clear that the origin of these phenomena was Kazura.

Zirconia also had the same conjecture with Nelson that perhaps there was some special effect on the food that Kazura brought, but after seeing the change in the village's crops, she thought that it was more probable that Kazura had granted some kind of blessing to the whole village.

Although Kazura has the appearance and acted like a normal human, that made Zirconia sometimes doubted that Kazura is the God Greysior, but this thought had completely vanished.

Kazura was for sure a real God that hold a special power that was different from them.

Afterward, she should continue to make preparation so he would keep supporting them one way or another.

After Zirconia put all of her ideas in order, she stood up and walked towards Grisea Village.

CHAPTER 59

CLARY SAGE

The evening of that day.

As the sun was hiding halfway beyond the mountains, the vicinity started became darker.

Under such light, in the entrance of the tree grove of Grisea Village, Zirconia and Isaac could also be seen mixed with Valin, Valetta, and several other villagers.

In a team of two people, they were filling the cloth bag with the compost that had been piled into a hill on the ground.

Beside them was a large amount of bags with compost stacked up, perhaps they only need to fill several dozen bags and their work will be finished.

Beside the stacked up compost bags, there were drums, gasoline jerrycans, a pile of lime bags and a large amount of cardboard boxes in various sizes.

Currently, Kazura wasn't there, since he had returned to Japan to transport the last heavy item, the refrigerator.

Havel was in a location a bit far from that place. He was placing the compost bags that the villagers transported into the cargo carriage that had been brought to the village.

.

“Even so, what a huge amount..... I wonder what is inside those boxes.” (Zirconia)

Zirconia stabbed the shovel that she borrowed from the villagers on the ground and took a breather as she looked at the stacks of cardboard boxes that was placed next to the compost bag.

Isaac, who was opening the mouth of the bag, also lured by Zirconia and looked at the cardboard boxes.

“I had asked about it this morning to Kazura-sama, it seems that those boxes contain food that Kazura-sama usually ate in the God’s Realm and tools like the lantern that he had shown to us before. He had ordered to be careful when transporting it as much as possible.” (Isaac)

“Hmm..... I understand if it tools, but he brings this much food..... I wonder if our dishes doesn’t suit his taste.” (Zirconia)

“That’s true..... The canned food that Kazura-sama gave to us to eat the other day had a considerable rich taste. The dishes that we usually ate might taste bland for Kazura-sama.” (Isaac)

“Certainly, the taste was splendidly rich..... We need to consult Kazura-san about the dish’s taste later.” (Zirconia)

When Zirconia dines together with Kazura back in Isteria, Kazura didn’t make any particular unsatisfied expression on his face.

However, if he had brought such large amount of food, it made her thought that he was just behaving himself to not made Zirconia’s side worried.

“I heard from Havel that when Kazura-sama was staying at his mansion, Kazura-sama was extremely pleased with the dishes that Havel provided. About the dishes, I think it will be better for us to discuss this with him.” (Isaac)

“Ara? Is that so? Then, perhaps we really need to discuss it with Havel. Or rather, it would really help us if we could take the people who made those dishes.” (Zirconia)

“Then, we will need to do this as soon as possible, right?” (Isaac)

While Zirconia and Isaac were talking, there was a loud sound coming from inside the tree grove.

Then several minutes later, Kazura appeared from inside the forest, driving the agricultural transport tractor.

On the transport tray, there was a large cube box that was placed sideways.

Perhaps it was to absorb the vibration when the transport tractor was moving, but there were several layers of blankets placed under it.

When Kazura arrived at the tree grove entrance, he turned off the transport tractor engine and left the driver seat before stretching his back.

“Ah, finally it’s finished.” (Kazura)

“Good work, Kazura-san. Please have a water.” (Valetta)

As soon as Kazura arrived, Valetta ran approaching him with a leather water bag in her hand.

Kazura gave his thanks to her and received the bag with a smile. He then gulped the water and wet his parched throat.

Seeing this sight, Zirconia began whispering to Isaac.

“This something in my mind since long ago, but doesn’t it seems that Kazura-san is pleased with that girl?” (Zirconia)

“Seems to be that way. Even when he heard about the bandits’ attack back in Isteria, his first words was asking about Valetta-san’s safety.” (Isaac)

“.....Hmm.” (Zirconia)

Perhaps she was thinking about something, Zirconia saw Kazura and Valetta while tilting her head.

Perhaps because Isaac knew what Zirconia was thinking about, he just shook his head and let out a sigh as he tied the bag that had already been filled.

“Zirconia-sama, I will bring this bag to the carriage.” (Isaac)

“So that means he swings both ways..... Ah, yes, thank you. I will follow you later.” (Zirconia)

After giving a bow, Isaac transported the bag to the carriage where Havel waited. Zirconia then walked approaching Valetta and Kazura who were having a pleasant chat.

“Kazura-san, is this all of the baggage?” (Zirconia)

Zirconia asked Kazura and he nodded while smiling.

“Yes. I finally have transported everything. Afterward, we need to load these all to the carriage. However, it will soon get dark, so we should continue this tomorrow and take a rest for now.” (Kazura)

The weight of the humongous amount of goods that Kazura transported today, including the compost and the lime was close to 52 ton.

With the number of carriages that was brought to the village, if every villager were to load the cargo to the carriage, they could finish with loading the whole cargo that was scheduled to be transported to Isteria in just under 1 hours.

However, the sun had already begun to sink, so it will be alright even if they continue the work at tomorrow morning.

By the way, the entire weight of the compost that Kazura brought was 50 ton, but the amount of compost that was packed into the bags was only 45 ton.

The remaining compost was for Grisea Villages’ own use.

“I understand. I thought about bringing the carriages to this place tomorrow, but the coachmen couldn’t enter this village. Because of this, can I ask several villagers to help driving the carriages?” (Zirconia)

Originally, she intended to order the coachmen to drive the carriages into the village. However, the sight of the crops inside the village was too fantastic.

It was a sight that must not be seen by anyone other than the villagers, so she lacked sufficient manpower to drive the carriage.

“Then, I will inform this to everyone in the village. Tomorrow morning, we will head to your camp as you requested.” (Kazura)

“Thank you very much. Then we will return to our campsite.” (Zirconia)

Zirconia thanked Kazura and then walked towards the compost bag filled carriage where Isaac and Havel were waiting.

Several hours afterward.

At the living room in Valin's residence, Kazura and Valetta were sitting side by side in front of the sunken hearth and chatting while drinking herb tea.

In front of them, there were dozens small bottle with essential oil and an opened full colored reference book that described the essential oil's effects.

Currently, Valin wasn't in the residence, he had gone guarding the goods that were left behind in the tree grove.

Since he said he would return to the residence late at night, until then Kazura and Valetta were alone in the residence.

"Essential oil is amazing. They have so many effects like these....." (Valetta)

Valetta showed her admiration as she read about the oil's effect on the reference book.

The reference books describe the effects of dozens of essential oils and list the recipe guide for how to use the oils in a blend.

In addition, various ways of using the oils or how to distill the oils are mentioned inside the book.

"The essential oils have various types, so it's interesting to try them for many things. It's just, I still don't really know how strong the effect will be for the people of this world....." (Kazura)

Considering that the food and Lipo D that Kazura had brought had shown a tremendous effect until now, then it wouldn't be strange if the oils would also have an abnormal tremendous effect.

However, even though he had used the oils on Isaac and Marie, he still didn't really know how strong the effect was.

When he used lavender oil that have antidepressant and calming effect on Isaac who was really depressed, Isaac seems recovered in several minutes.

However, that time he also drank the herb tea that has an antidepressant effect, also Kazura speak with Isaac about many of Isaac's worries, so he didn't really know how much the oil had effects on Isaac's recovery.

When he used the oil for Marie who suffered from motion sickness, Marie immediately felt better. However, the time until that effect appeared was about the same when he used the oil in Japan.

Because it originally had an immediate effect, of course, it would be effective, but he didn't know the degree of the effectiveness.

"It seems that it need about 2 hours for the food and energy drink to demonstrate its effect, but what about the oils? Since it won't be absorbed like nutrient, so how the effect appeared might be different." (Valetta)

"I suppose so..... If every essential oil is proven to work immediately and have a great effect then it could be quite handy depending on how we use it. However, if we use it wrongly then it could cause a serious problem." (Kazura)

"Umm, would you like to test it to me for now? By doing this, I believe we can quickly judge the difference." (Valetta)

Valetta voluntarily offered herself as a test subject for the human trial. After thinking about this for a few seconds, Kazura nodded.

Since he didn't use poison, there won't be any especially bad effect that could happen.

Furthermore, he had already used the oils on Isaac and Marie, so this made him could do the experiment with ease.

It's just, Valetta had already had her physical ability enhanced by the food that Kazura brought.

Because of that, the result they would get from the current experiment could only be thought as the effect of the oils on the physically enhanced human.

Although if the oil demonstrated a tremendous effect on Valetta, then it could be expected that it will also have at least the same effect on the not physically enhanced human.

There was enough significance in performing the experiment.

“You’re right. Then, please choose something that you like from these oils. Since how to use their scent are mentioned in the book, we can use it as reference.” (Kazura)

“I understand. Which should I choose.....” (Valetta)

Valetta flipped through the pages while skimming it for the effect and the scent.

Then, perhaps because she had found an oil that she was interested in, she took one bottle from the lined up oil bottles,

“.....I want to try this one. It says just put one drop and it will be alright.” (Valetta)

“Ah, you can’t put the oil before putting a bit of water.” (Kazura)

Kazura stepped down to the pit and scooped out water with a ladle from a jar placed in the pit before he poured that water on the water receptacle of the candle type aroma pot.

After the water receptacle had been filled sufficiently, Valetta opened the oil bottle and put one drop on the receptacle.

Then, she lighted the candle at the base of the pot with a lighter.

After the fire burned for awhile, the water in the receptacle began to heat from the candle fire and vaporize. A sweet scent from the oil began to waft to the surroundings.

“This is alright..... Hm, this is..... What is this? I don’t recognize it.” (Kazura)

Kazura’s nose twitched from the faint sweet scent from the oil that began to waft in the air as he began to try guessing the type of oil.

However, it seems to be an oil that Kazura hardly ever uses, so he didn’t know what kind of oil is this.

“I use Clary Sage. If it indeed possesses a tremendous effect just like the food, then I believe I will feel an extremely relaxing feeling. Perhaps I will also become sleepy” (Valetta)

“Eh? It has such kind of effect?” (Kazura)

It seems that the effect didn't immediately appear after sniffing the scent as there was no change in Valetta's state until now.

Until the time the oil effect appeared, Valetta and Kazura passed the time by discussing the current construction work progress on the village or what happened when Kazura went shopping.

Then, 10 minutes after the candle was lightened, there was a change in Valetta.

“Hm..... I might become a bit sleepy.....” (Valetta)

When Valetta say this, she looked at Kazura with rather sleepy eyes.

Perhaps because her face was illuminated by the firewood burning in the hearth, it was faintly red and felt unusually erotic.

“So it has shown its effect. Do you feel a strong sleepiness?” (Kazura)

“It doesn't feel that strong, but how can I say this..... If I lied down right now, I believe I will quickly fall asleep. Something like, how should I put it, a warm and soft feeling.” (Valetta)

Kazura wrote down each of Valetta's body and mental condition changes that he heard from Valetta on the large notebook.

Then on each effect that Valetta felt, he smoothly wrote down the time that was needed until the effect appeared.

“I see, I see. So this means that when I used the oil for Isaac, it was effective, right?..... Perhaps there are individual differences.”

When he used the lavender oil for Isaac, he had a more drastic change.

However, if only this level of symptoms appeared on Valetta, then it would be hard to think that the change was only caused by the essential oils.

There might be a difference from being physically enhanced by the food, but he couldn't completely verify this right now in this place.

Either way, for the people in this world, the essential oils' effect wasn't as strong as the food, but they exhibited a bit strengthened effect.

Perhaps there will be a difference in result based on the concentration and frequency of use.

“Kazura-san, can I ask one thing from you?” (Valetta)

While Kazura was mumbling and nodding as he wrote in the notebook, he heard Valetta, who was watching him intently, called out to him.

“Yes, what is it?” (Kazura)

“..... Just like before, I want you to hug me.” (Valetta)



「この前みたいに、
ぎゅってして欲しいです」



「カズラさん……お願いがあります」

バレッタ
グリセア村 村長の娘

Valetta had made a sudden astonishing remark that made Kazura unconsciously dropped the ballpoint pen in his hand and stood still unmoving.

Then, while he was doubting if his ear had misheard things, as if making a creaking sound, Kazura turned his face towards Valetta.

“.....” (Kazura)

Valetta had a bit blushed expression and looked at Kazura.

The sound that reached Kazura’s ears was the sound of the firewood crackling while burning in the sunken hearth and the sounds of his heart that suddenly began to beat fast.

The distance between Kazura and Valetta was only several dozen centimeters.

It was a distance where if he reached out his hand he could immediately touch her.

A very nice atmosphere dominate the living room.

“(.....Eh, seriously? Is it really that thing!?But, the thing like before is a landmine right!? What is happening!?)” (Kazura)

Even though Kazura’s inner mind continued to be shaken greatly, he frantically maintained his composure and fixed his expression.

“.....You, can’t?” (Valetta)

Perhaps she felt something from Kazura’s expression, Valetta once again asked Kazura with an uneasy expression.

Her eyes was a bit wet.

“.....Come here.” (Kazura)

Kazura put his hand on Valetta’s shoulder and draw her closer and then embrace her small body gently.

Maybe because Valetta was nervous, when Kazura was embracing her, her shoulder was quivered and her body stiffened.

However, as the time passed she gradually loosened, and after a while passed, as if she had lost her entire strength, she leaned upon Kazura's chest.

Both of them didn't speak anything. Time passed for several minutes.

"Kazura-san....." (Valetta)

For Kazura, his posture had become somewhat painful, so he began agonizing whether to call out to Valetta, but suddenly Valetta muttered Kazura's name.

"Yes?" (Kazura)

"....." (Valetta)

Kazura made a reply, but there was no reply from Valetta.

After waiting for a while and still no reply, Kazura though, "perhaps", and then he pushed her a bit to look at her face.

".....Of course, right..." (Kazura)

Perhaps she had fallen asleep midway, Valetta was sleeping soundly.

Her expression was of someone who was extremely happy, seeing this Kazura's cheek also loosened and he was actually feeling happy as well.

Kazura scratched his head and made a wry smile on this clichéd manga-like development while thinking what he should do right now.

Then, he gently put Valetta down on the floor and headed towards her bedroom to prepare her bed.



CHAPTER 60

PURPOSE AND PLANS AND DELICIOUS FOOD

The noon of the next day.

Inside Kazura's Room at Valin's residence, Kazura was opening the dozens of cardboard boxes that he brought from Japan as he explained the boxes' contents to Valetta.

Inside the cardboard boxes were groceries such as canned foods and Lipo-Ds, medical supplies such as bandages and antiseptics. These goods were in such large amount that even if Kazura didn't return to Grisea Village for several months, it would be alright

Furthermore, besides the cardboard was a stack of bags that contains 500 kilograms of polished rice.

If he had this much rice then even if Kazura wouldn't be able to return for a long time to the village, he could maintain his stay for quite some period.

Recently, the village was able to harvest plentiful crops so the food shortage in the village had already been resolved.

However, if Kazura stopped his food aid to the village, he was worried that perhaps the villagers' enhanced physical ability would return to normal.

This was just his guessing, but considering the mechanism how the villagers acquired their enhanced physical ability, then if they stopped eating the food that Kazura brought, then their physical ability might gradually return to normal.

Because bandits attack that happened several days ago might occur again, it is preferable to maintain the villagers' current state.

Even if by any chance they exhausted the food that Kazura bought, the village's food self-sufficiency rate had well passed the 100% level, so there was no need to worry of famine.

Furthermore, if the people who had been physically enhanced continuously ate the normal food of this world, they are able to absorb the nutrient properly, so they wouldn't starve. This became clear from Valin and Valetta's situation when they were traveling with Isaac's men several days ago.

What he should only be paying attention to was the attack from the foreign enemy.

"What a large amount of goods..... Kazura-san, do you intend to stay here for awhile without returning?" (Valetta)

"Ah no, I planned to return 10 days from now. I have to receive the hydro generator I ordered from the engineering firm." (Kazura)

While looking wide-eyed at the large stacks of goods, Valetta asked Kazura with a bit uneasy expression. After Kazura replied, Valetta once again opened her eyes wide in surprise.

"Eh!? You want to bring an electricity generator to Isteria!?" (Valetta)

"Yup. I planned to use refrigerators and other electric appliances there. If I can use refrigerator then it will be convenient since I can bring fresh food from Japan and keep it to some extent. In addition, if I have a generator then I also can use electric tools or computers." (Kazura)

"I-Is that so? I think this is such a drastic action..... But, will it be alright.....?" (Valetta)

When she heard electric appliances, Valetta spoke out with a tint of uneasiness in her voice.

Perhaps she was worried that other people might see the over-technology item like electric appliances that he brought over.

"Well, I will ask Nelson's side cooperation and make sure that outsiders won't see it, so it will be alright. Since Nelson's side would also don't want other people to see the things that I brought, they sure would help willingly." (Kazura)

Even if the goods were seen by people outside Nelson's group, if they only see a glimpse of it, they surely won't understand what it is and how to use the goods.

It will be a different story if he did an extraordinary act like rushing through Isteria in a car, but if it was desktop, generator, or refrigerators, if someone is able to steal a glance at it, their impressions would be limited to “some kind of mysterious box.” .

However, if they opened the refrigerator and looked at its inside or if they saw the laptop or electric tools while being in use, then they might make an uproar, so it was necessary for him to sufficiently be careful of where to use it.

“I... see. If there is Nelson-sama’s cooperation, then.....*Ano*, the large box that Kazura-san brought at the final trip, perhaps it is.....” (Valetta)

“Yes, that is a refrigerator. I also brought large amount of frozen vegetables, so even if I go to Isteria, my diet would more or less be better.” (Kazura)

Kazura answered confidently about the meal he will have in the future, but Valetta made a dubious expression.

“Eh but, you will brought the generator from Japan 10 days from now right? Then since you can’t use the refrigerator until then, won’t the vegetables ended up to be thawed by then?” (Valetta)

“Ah, it will be alright, since I also brought gasoline-powered generator among the goods that I bring this time. I also brought 2 drums of gasoline, the food should last until then.” (Kazura)

“I-is that so...” (Valetta)

Valetta was a bit worried by such drastic action that was taken by Kazura.

However, since Isteria’s feudal lord Nelson is an ally, the current Kazura’s unreasonable action to some extent still under the acceptable limits.

Since Nelson surely wishes for Kazura’s support by all means then he surely wouldn’t dare to oppose anything that Kazura said.

Or rather, he would be concerned about his standing with Kazura, so he would surely offer his cooperation willingly.

Furthermore, if talking about Kazura's quite drastic methods causing a disturbance, then it was practically what he had done in the village until now.

Perhaps there is a way with a bit more prudence, but even if he want to do this now, it was already too late.

"Also, if you need something or there are troubles happening, please let me know at all times since I will immediately return." (Kazura)

"Yes, thank you very much." (Valetta)

Even though Valetta stated her thanks with a smile, her chest was constricted by the loneliness that she felt.

In just several ten or so minutes, Kazura would travel once more to Isteria.

The next time she will meet with Kazura was 10 days again, perhaps even afterward he would stay at Isteria for a long period of time.

If she relaxed her concentration even for a bit then tears might come out in her eyes, so she made a smile and tightly endured it so it wouldn't be found out.

It had happened several times before, but she didn't want to show such disgraceful state again in front of Kazura.

"Even so Kazura-san, since the village will be alright, please concentrate on the assistance to Isteria. In times where Kazura-san's power is needed, I will quickly contact you." (Valetta)

Valetta said so to Kazura, who made a bit surprised expression.

"Okay." (Kazura)

However, he quickly nodded and smiled.



Then, 30 minutes had passed.

With all of his luggage already been loaded into the carriage, Kazura, who had wore the clothes that had been prepared for him, said goodbyes to the villagers in the entrance.

Among the villagers, there were several people who made uneasy expression at Kazura's departure to Isteria, but most of them were smiling for him.

Perhaps everyone felt relieved to some extent, since although Kazura once again travels to Isteria, he would surely safely return.

In addition, Zirconia had made a speech in front of every villager.

The content of her speech was about the matter of Kazura's assistance to Isteria and the current situation of the famine that had broken out in Istelle territory, in addition, the main content of the explanation: that Istelle House guarantee Kazura's safety.

Normally, for a noble to gather dozens of commoners and personally made the explanation to villagers of a poor village, was an unheard before spectacle.

Although the villagers who heard her speech was nervous to some extent, they were more or less understood her explanation.

Furthermore, when she made a statement that Kazura would return in 10 days, it was clear that this was the main factor for the villagers' relief.

For the people of Grisea Village, Kazura already something that became their pillar of their heart as their savior god. An existence that couldn't be replaceable.

"Well then everyone, I will leave for now. I will return 10 days from now, but if something happens during then, please contact me quickly." (Kazura)

Kazura conveyed this to the gathered villagers before Isaac, who was stood in waiting beside him, ushered him towards his carriage.

At the side of the carriage, there was Marie stood in waiting. It seems that she would also board the carriage together with him on this travel.

"Kazura-san!" (Valetta)

However, when Kazura was about to board the carriage, Valetta ran towards Kazura's direction.

"Hm? Is something wrong?" (Kazura)

When Valetta arrived in front of Kazura, she looked up directly at Kazura's eyes.

"I will do my best. That's why....." (Valetta)

Valetta spoke up until that line, but when she was about to said something, she closed her mouth and temporarily shifted her sight towards Kazura's chest.

Then, she looked up at Kazura again.

"Hmm?" (Kazura)

Kazura smiled at her as if asking her to continue her words, so Valetta made a strained smile with a hint of loneliness.

".....No, it's nothing. Please be careful with your health, don't push yourself too much."
(Valetta)

"Yeah, Valetta-san too, please don't push yourself too much. Although studying is fun, you can't keep staying up late, you know?" (Kazura)

Kazura said this in a jest and Valetta unintentionally made a chuckle.

"I can't promise this." (Valetta)

"Now, now, it wouldn't be strange if you don't grow taller because of this, you know?"
(Kazura)

"It will be fine. I won't be particularly troubled even if I stay small like this." (Valetta)

"Why this stubborn girl." (Kazura)

Kazura rufflingly patted Valetta's head, so she closed her eyes as if being ticklish.

Then, after Kazura saw that the lonely shadow over Valetta's expression had gone, he let go his hand from her head.

“Then, see you again in 10 days. Until then, stay well.” (Kazura)

“Yes. Kazura-san too, safe travel.” (Valetta)

Kazura smiled to Valetta and then after the carriage door had been opened by Isaac, he boarded the carriage.

Following Kazura, Marie also boarded the carriage while being helped by Kazura.

After Kazura and Marie had boarded the carriage, under Zirconia’s command, the large host of 300 escorting Noble Guards and close to 1000 other soldiers, slowly began to depart towards Isteria.

Valetta saw that army leaving away and whispered in a low voice.

“That’s why..... Please don’t go anywhere.” (Valetta)



It has been ten or so minutes after the army began travelling towards Isteria.

Zirconia rode her rata in front of the column while conversed with Havel that had been called by her.

The topic of their conversation was about the dishes that was served to Kazura in his previous stay in Leveson’s residence.

“The dishes served to Kazura-sama?” (Havel)

“Yes. I want you to tell me what kind of dishes you served to Kazura-san during his stay at your residence before.” (Zirconia)

“At that time, I didn’t know Kazura-sama preference, so I ordered to make all kind of dishes with the ingredients that I could get hold of. The amount was quite much, but it seems that Kazura-sama is satisfied by the result.” (Havel)

“Making all kinds of dishes? For such a sudden order, the cook in your house is a capable one, I see. Do you always have that many ingredients in reserve?” (Zirconia)

When she heard Havel’s answer, Zirconia was a bit surprised so she asked him back.

Zirconia had heard before from Isaac about the suddenness circumstances of Kazura's stay at Leveson's Mansion, so he shouldn't have any preparation beforehand for the food.

During the time Kazura was staying at Leveson's Mansion, Nelson's side also was taking the dishes into their consideration and had planned to serve dishes that were different from what they usually eat for Kazura.

However, guessing from the large amount of food that Kazura had brought with him this time, it seems that the various dishes that Nelson's side had thought up might not satisfy his taste.

Nevertheless, just how much skilled the cook of the Leveson House that was able to conjure the dishes which could satisfy Kazura?

"It's not like we had stored that much quantity of food, but it's my Father's idea to always maintain a fixed amount of meat and vegetables. Also, at that time I sent out servants to nearby merchant to buy fresh meat and caterpillars." (Havel)

"I see....." (Zirconia)

Zirconia was thinking for a few moment, before opened her mouth and began to cut right into the main issue with Havel.

"Havel, can you lent me one of the cooks that had made the dishes for Kazura-san that time. Of course, you will be compensated with a proper amount of money." (Zirconia)

"You mean, a cook?" (Havel)

"Yes. In spite of our effort, the dishes that we prepared in our mansion seems to not suit Kazura-san. Even though we had tried various idea and change the dishes, it seems that it didn't succeed." (Zirconia)

As Havel asked back in puzzlement, Zirconia explained the reason behind her request.

With the way she explained it, it was as if she admitted that the cooks in Nelson's Mansion are inferior to the cooks in Leveson's Mansion, even so, Zirconia seems to not care much about this.

For a noble with a high pride, this would be something that they absolutely won't say, but unfortunately, Zirconia didn't have a pride like that.

If it was necessary right now, then it will be alright if she could achieve it in the best and shortest way possible.

After he heard Zirconia's explanation, Havel was thinking in silence for a few moment, before began to speak.

"In that case, there is someone suitable for it. Her age is still young, but her cooking ability is excellent and she is someone that Kazura-sama acquaintance with." (Havel)

"Well, then that is good. How old is that cook?" (Zirconia)

"She is 13 years old. Her name is Marie. Currently, she is boarding the same carriage with Kazura-sama. Her occupation is actually not a cook, but a maid in our mansion. I brought her in this expedition to serve as my servant." (Havel)

"Then she is really young..... But, for her to board the same carriage as Kazura-san, then did that girl interested him?" (Zirconia)

While Zirconia was muttered by herself, Havel didn't make any reaction and just stay in silence.

Perhaps because Zirconia interpreted Havel's silence as an affirmative, she then nodded.

"Then, perhaps can you hand her over to me? Just inform me how much money should I pay." (Zirconia)

"Yes. However, Marie is the slave under my Father, Nor, possession. Because of that, it will save you much trouble if you can consult my Father about the ownership rights." (Havel)

"Ara, is that so? Then, when we have returned to Isteria, I will immediately go to see and talk to him personally." (Zirconia)

Zirconia didn't make any reaction when she heard about "slave", she was rather feeling relieved as her worries about dishes for Kazura had been resolved.

Havel sent out a sidelong gaze at Zirconia's expression and then he made a small sigh of relief.

CHAPTER 61

FASCINATING PROPOSAL

It had been 6 hours since the convoy departed from Grisea Village and marched towards Isteria.

The convoy stopped their paces and began to make preparation to camp.

The sky already dyed by the sunset color and the darkness will soon descend upon them in about 2 hours later.

Marie, who boarded the same carriage as Kazura, excused herself as well and exited the carriage before she went somewhere to participate in the campground preparation herself.

“Kazura-sama, you must have been tired from the long journey.” (Havel)

Behind Kazura, who was stretching his back, Havel came to meet him after he tied his Rata at the temporary horse stop that had been established near the camp location.

Although Havel was always riding the Rata, excluding the several breaks interposed between the march, there was no sign of exhaustion on his face.

Or rather, his countenance was much better than yesterday, his face was more cheerful than the usual.

“Havel-san as well, you must be tired. I am boarding a comfortable carriage after all, but Havel-san kept riding on the Rata. So you will surely be tired, right?” (Kazura)

“Ah no, I am not tired at all. If it is only to this degree, then it is more lenient compared to the training that this unit had until now. Though my buttocks are a bit painful.” (Havel)

“Is that so? As expected, a professional soldier is really different..... Speaking about the army, I heard that Havel-san, together with Isaac-san, are commanding a unit composed only of nobles members. Is this true?” (Kazura)

Previously, when Havel and Isaac arrived in Grisea Village, they were commanding a 100-men unit that was composed only of nobles.

Since recently Havel has been attending on Kazura's side, Kazura was wondering would it be alright for Havel to leave his job in the unit that he had commanded until now.

"Yes, I am the Vice Captain of the First Cadet Training Corps." (Havel)

"Ah, as expected those people was officer cadets. Since recently Havel-san always helping me, will it be alright if you didn't make an appearance on that Corps?" (Kazura)

"It will be alright. Since it's nearly the time when the 1-year basic physical training is over, the training cadets had their schedule moved up a bit and now they are practicing with another corps. Perhaps, this is the time when they are seeing Hell." (Havel)

"Eh? Is the training is that intense?" (Kazura)

When Kazura asked this, Havel remembered the training that he personally had and his face grimaced a bit.

"It's not something that intense. Compared with the actual combat that I experienced for several months during the war 4 years ago, if you consider that the training didn't have any life or death situation, it was at least better. Since the cadets would get physical hit to make them obey the discipline to details disregarding their status as a noble and the green recruits would have to subsist on livestock feed-like food every day." (Havel)

"Whoa, that is quite a deal..... To be hit is already unpleasant but having livestock feed-like meal every day is also harsh....." (Kazura)

"Furthermore, the cadets attached to me and Isaac-sama's corps for this last one year, either went to their military duty from their own house or rented a room on an inn, but from the second year, they are compelled to live together on a communal army barrack. For the people who used to leave everything to the servants on their surroundings, this would be extremely unbearable." (Havel)

It seems that the training for the officer cadets of Isterian Army was conducted on several steps.

On the first year, they temper their physiques, but from the second year could be said as the real deal.

Although Kazura thought that Nobles are people who had a social position that make them could live more comfortable, it seems that in this world, at least in Istelle province, is not true.

However, come to think of it, even though Isaac and Havel deemed to be high ranked nobles, every day they worked at their military post from the early in the morning until late at night.

Based on this fact, their subordinates and the other nobles too would naturally undergo the similar hardship like them.

“When you said about living together under the same barrack, then they couldn’t bring any servants?” (Kazura)

“Basically there is a prohibition of taking servants with them. It just, depending on the corps commander’s discretion, when performing long distance marching training or when they take a leave for several days in the city, then they could be permitted to take servants with them. However, they need to pay the servants expense by their own pocket.” (Havel)

“Eh..... It would be hard for the nobles that been raised in luxury, right? Those who couldn’t endure it would surely end up quitting.” (Kazura)

“That’s true. Every year, there were several people who quitting. However, except being forced to retire due to injury, quitting halfway or being dishonorably discharged would damage their house’s honor. Because of this reason, if they didn’t have enough resolution for this, they wouldn’t quit. Since even if they return after quitting, they would be treated as an outcast.” (Havel)

“Woo, what a frightening outcome.....” (Kazura)

To be unable to quit even if they couldn’t endure the training and want to quit was quite a harsh situation that could even cause people to suicide.

On the other hand, the people who successfully pass through such environment would surely have a strong-willed character.

“Is there any compulsion to join the military?” (Kazura)

“No there isn’t, everyone entered the service voluntarily. Although even if it said so, in practice, except for the eldest son of a noble’s House, the other sons would usually enter the army, even if the person himself reluctant to do so, it’s often they are enlisted against their own will. Even though there are those who volunteer because they yearn to be in the military or attracted by the social position it conferred, the majority of these people regretted after knowing the actual harsh situation.” (Havel)

“So it’s like a semi-enforced situation. Do Havel-san also being forced to enlist by your parents?” (Kazura)

“No, it’s not. I voluntary applied and asked my Father to enlist me in the army. Isaac-sama also did the same.” (Havel)

“Oh, then that is praiseworthy. Why are you volunteering?” (Kazura)

When Kazura asked Havel this, Havel made a bit embarrassed smile.

“.....There is someone I want to protect.” (Havel)

“(Hm? So, Havel-san can also smile like this.)” (Kazura)

Until now, Havel had accompanied Kazura for several days, but he never saw Havel made an expression like this.

He always walks a step behind Kazura, showing great consideration on Kazura’s wellbeing, so Havel never let his emotion showed up in his expression.

While always showing this business-like smile on him, Havel always conversed with Kazura about many things, perhaps since he was being careful not to bore Kazura.

Kazura was curious about the meaning of Havel’s words, [Someone I want to protect], but it would be rude if he asked too much in this, so he just replied, “I see” and nodded.

“If Kazura-sama has any interest in the army’s training, then next time, shall I guide you to see the soldiers and the training ground? Though there aren’t anything worthy to note other than the Nobles Guard and the Cadets training.” (Havel)

“(Whoa, really!? I really want to go to see, but... what should I do...?)” (Kazura)

Kazura’s interest was greatly attracted by Isaac’s proposal.

However, if he shows any interest in the army of this place then perhaps Zirconia would delightfully come to consult Kazura about military matters.

For now, Kazura completely didn’t have any intention to give any support for Isteria’s military matters.

As for the reason why he didn’t have any intention to give his support was because he completely didn’t know about this country internal conditions and diplomatic situation, furthermore this country’s military scale and the country’s disposition.

If he gave military support without knowing anything about the country’s state of affairs and just swallows the story fed only from Nelson’s side, it would be dangerous so he ought not to do it.

Furthermore, his current foremost priority was the problem of food shortage and infrastructure maintenance, even now he didn’t have any leisure for a break in making preparations for his plan, even more so for military affairs.

If he did so many things at the same time, a careless judgment could result in an unrecoverable result.

No matter what he would do, it would be in turns, one by one.

To make a judgment whether or not he should perform a support, he needs to gather a proper information, so was what Kazura’s thought.

“Hmm..... Should I.....” (Kazura)

Be that as it may, he wants to see things that he wants to see.

What kind of soldiers exists in this world, what kind of life they normally had, if he thought this he wanted to see it even once, his curiosity couldn’t stay calm.

If he didn't consider anything and could just go around and inspect various things, then he wants to photograph all over the place with the digital camera and record not only the soldiers and ordinary citizen while interviewing them with his handycam.

What a commander tent's inside just like Zirconia's looks like? How they spend their daily life? His interest are inexhaustible.

If he could ask for it, then he wants to ask Zirconia and Isaac to put their armor and took a commemorative photograph with him.

The sight of Zirconia in her armor was really gallant, her figure was also excellent, if she even performs one pose for the photograph then the result would be surely picturesque.

Isaac stature was tall and handsome too, so he would surely look attractive on the photograph.

Perhaps it would be alright if it just looking around, Kazura's heart started to tilt to one side, but perhaps since Havel thought that it was not good, Havel quickly spoke out.

"If Kazura-sama have any interest to do the visit, then please inform me. I will gladly guide Kazura-sama to anywhere." (Havel)

"Thank you very much. If I have the time, sooner or later, I might come to ask you." (Kazura)

"Yes, please do so in that case." (Havel)

Although it would be a problem if he jumped at the issue with great curiosity, Kazura really grateful for this proposal.

As expected, Havel was really a man that pay attention to every detail, or perhaps his reading too much into many things was really helping Kazura.

"By the way, I have something to consult about Kazura-sama's meal." (Havel)

When Kazura's was once again applauded Havel's consideration, Havel changed the topic.

It seems that this was the main topic of this conversation.

“For the current short stay, I thought to delegate Marie to cook Kazura-sama’s meal. However, will this arrangement be alright to Kazura-sama?” (Havel)

“So it’s about the meal.....” (Kazura)

Hearing about the meal, Kazura remembered that he didn’t inform anything to Zirconia about his diet from hereafter.

Until now, Kazura took his meal together with the whole family in Nelson’s Mansion, but Kazura couldn’t gain any nutrition or satisfaction even after eating the meal that Nelson’s side had prepared.

For that reason, after eating the meal with Nelson and others, he ate canned food secretly without anyone seeing.

If he kept doing this 6 meals a day lifestyle after this, it would be an extremely troublesome, or rather, it was difficult to do so. To the extent where he thought to inform the others that there is no need to prepare food for his share.

In the end, he would need to eat the meal alone, but this is an inevitable consequence.

If he eats the dishes that Nelson’s side had served out to him, then it would just diminish his stomach capacity, accelerate his hunger and the food that he had brought from Japan wouldn’t be able to cram inside his stomach. This situation was just like a punishment game.

“Yes. However, when I thought the taste of the canned food that Kazura-sama had brought several days ago, the taste of the food that Kazura-sama usually eat in God’s Realm and our food is greatly different. We would like to think ways to reproduce the taste, but I believe it would be difficult for us.” (Havel)

When Kazura was about to open his mouth to bring forth his proposal of no need to serve any food for him, he was interrupted as Havel begun to speak.

The canned food that Havel referred was the canned minestrone that he brought to be sampled by Nelson’s side.

Minestrone is a dish that is made from boiling many vegetables with tomato sauce base, so perhaps this world didn't have any vegetable that is similar to tomatoes, so of course, reproducing the taste will be difficult.

"Hence for that reason, if we could be permitted to use the canned food and ingredients that Kazura-sama had brought together with the ingredients that we had prepared, then I believe we could make dishes that will suit your palate. It might not succeed at first try, but surely enough we would be able to serve dishes that Kazura-sama could enjoy." (Havel)

"Do you mean, you want to use the ingredients that I had brought as the base and by adding various others ingredients, trying to create dishes?" (Kazura)

"Yes, that's right. In addition, if Kazura-sama would be kind to give the opinion about the dishes, then we also could improve the dishes to suit the desired taste." (Havel)

Kazura once again felt gratitude to Havel after hearing his proposal.

Havel had been paying attention to the taste of the food that he had only eat once and until now must had been trying to reproduce the canned food's taste.

Although perhaps originally he would keep trying the trial and error for some more time, but after seeing that Kazura had brought a large amount of food ingredients, he might have thinking to himself that it would be no good and then decided to suggest a proposal to Kazura.

Inside Kazura's mind, Havel's stock price once again skyrocketed to the limit.

Although in reality, this evaluation was just Kazura's complete misunderstanding, but for Kazura, Havel already assumed a position as a man that is exceedingly tactful and reliable.

Disregarding what had happened so far, the misunderstanding had lead to entirely favorable direction.

"Hmm..... Then, I will entrust this to you. However, please promise me that no other person could eat the food that I had brought. Even though it could be said to have brought quite an amount, it is still limited in number." (Kazura)

“Certainly. There will be no other people that could eat the food, please have no worry.” (Havel)

“Then it is fine. You must make it sure, alright? Since, if you broke this promise then it would greatly troubling for me, do you understand?” (Kazura)

“W-! Y-yes, I understand!” (Havel)

If by any chance the food fell into the wrong hands then it would be a great problem, Kazura emphasized his concern, and furthermore, he put a serious expression on his face and made a threatening tone.

Without saying what would happen if the promise was broken, his threat effectiveness would increase.

Since Kazura was thought to be the God Greysior himself, for Havel this threat also carried additional weight.

Kazura saw for himself that Havel’s expression became stiffened before returning to his usual countenance and demeanor.

“Then, I will leave this matter in your hand.” (Kazura)

Since Kazura had agreed by adding his own terms into the proposal and his countenance and demeanor returned to his usual attitude, Havel was honestly feeling really relieved.

“T-then, I will quickly assign Marie to cook the food from today. Since we are still on the march, the ingredients we have are limited, but I will make sure to prepare something.” (Havel)

“No need to push yourself too much. It will be fine even if it just some chopped vegetables boiled or stir-fried together.” (Kazura)

“I understand. Then, could Kazura-sama please inform me which ingredients that we could use?” (Havel)

“Hmm, that’s right..... What will be good, I wonder.....” (Kazura)

While Kazura was thinking about what kind of ingredient to be used as the base for the dishes and how to cook it, he felt relieved that even in the future he would still be able to eat the meal together with Nelson and others.

As expected, rather than eating the food by himself, it would be more enjoyable to eat it together with other people.

Furthermore, since there aren't any people who will feel good if someone refused to eat the food they prepared, Kazura wouldn't hurt Nelson's family honor.

Furthermore, by preparing the food like what had Havel suggested then it would be able to serve this world dishes using the Japanese ingredients.

It would be the similar situation with the dishes he had in Grisea Village, there wouldn't be any problem with nutrition and the sense of being full if he ate the right amount.

Truthfully, such convenient situation fell to his lap, so Kazura's mood became a bit brighter.



Beside Kazura, Havel was feeling relieved because his proposal had succeeded without any problem.

To tell the truth, Havel didn't just simply swallow Zirconia's story.

In Zirconia's story, it seems that Kazura was satisfied with the dishes served at Havel's Mansion, but he didn't feel satisfied by the dishes served at Nelson's Mansion.

However, Havel had been questioning the veracity of this story from the beginning.

The cooks that worked at Nelson's Mansion surely were skilled elites that possessed top-notch aptitude.

Meanwhile, the cooks working at Leveson's Mansion were basically also working as maids. Of course, they were maids that had an exceptional cooking skill, even so, the cooks in Nelson's Mansion would surely have an especially higher skill than the maids.

If he thought about this, seeing Kazura's reaction to the dishes at Leveson's Mansion, he arrived at a conclusion that Kazura, Valetta, and Valin's reaction at that time was just exaggerated response out of consideration for Havel as the host.

That means, perhaps even if he handed over his Mansion's cook who made Kazura's dishes to Zirconia, just like she had asked, it wouldn't matter at all, or rather there were possibilities it might bring unnecessary disgrace to his House.

On the other hand, if he talked to Zirconia honestly about this, then he would miss the chance to put Marie under Nelson's or Kazura's patronage.

The result of thinking about what he should do and a way to absolutely not incurring Kazura's displeasure was the proposal that he had suggested just now.

Kazura wasn't someone who would reject a whole-hearted request, this was the impression that Havel got after several days accompanying Kazura to perform the riverside inspection.

Based on this, he made a sink or swim wager and made a proposal to Kazura. The result could be said as having the desirable result.

“(With this, Marie will be released from that life..... Even Father would have no choice but to obey if Zirconia-sama personally discusses this matter with him. The next thing is..... I will feel secure if I could make Kazura-sama interested in Marie.)” (Havel)

While Havel was feeling reassured that the actions that he had chosen proceeded smoothly, he searched for Marie's figure that was mingling among the other soldiers' servants to help the camping site preparation and made a really fond smile.

CHAPTER 62

FOOD ADVISORY

On the corner of the campsite that was dyed by the sunset color, Marie was peeling a potato with a nervous expression.

Marie's hand that was holding the knife was trembling due to the nervousness, so the peeling work was slow and didn't make any progress at all.

In front of Marie, there was a table where several vegetables were placed on top of it.

She would chop the vegetables into small pieces and then cooked them with the ingredients that Kazura had prepared.

Beside the table was the makeshift cook stove made from clay bricks that the army brought with them. A small bronze pot was placed atop of it.

Inside the pot was a stew made from the vegetables prepared by Kazura.

"You don't need to be that nervous. Since it isn't like you need to cook for a feast. It will be fine to just cut the vegetables a bit, put them together into the stew and boil it." (Kazura)

Kazura, who watching her nearby, was unable to just watch Marie's excessive nervousness and so he called out to her.

"Y-yes! A-ah!?" (Marie)

Being called out by Kazura, Marie became even more nervous so that she let the potato in her hand slipped and almost dropped it down.

Since she also holding the knife in her hand with so much strength, it wouldn't be strange if sooner or later she would injure herself.



“I-I am terribly sorry. Normally, she can finish it faster, but.....” (Havel)

Seeing that Marie was nervously worried stiff, Havel, who was closely observing the cooking while holding his breath in anxiety, was feeling uneasy with the situation and so he apologized to Kazura.

For Havel, since it had reached this point, it would be unbearable if his proposal before was annulled by Kazura.

For Marie, she must show a good performance somehow, as she wants to give a good impression to Kazura even for just a little bit.

“Hmm..... As expected, from what I’m seeing, are you feeling nervous?” (Kazura)

“N-n-n-not at all! B-b-by no means, this kind of things, never!” (Marie)

Although she was visibly nervous, Marie replied in such words that made Kazura smiled wryly and lightly put his hand on Havel’s shoulder, who was standing beside him.

“I will go and look around. Havel-san, I leave the rest to you.” (Kazura)

Kazura addressed Havel before starting to walk away.

While seeing Kazura’s back that gradually fading away, Havel made a large sigh.

“Listen Marie, I beg of you..... Since Kazura-sama has been especially granting this kind of opportunity.....” (Havel)

“I am terribly sorry..... However, being watched by a great noble like Kazura-sama is too much for me.....” (Marie)

Perhaps because she was released from nervousness because Kazura was being away, Marie, more or less, felt relieved and apologized to Havel.

Even though she had chatted with Kazura inside the carriage during the travel, for Marie, Kazura is a person with position far higher than hers.

In addition, even being permitted to board the carriage with Kazura is already a grand event, but this time she was being appointed as Kazura’s personal cook.

To be able to keep her composure together in this event was something beyond the ability of Marie's heart.

"Umm, Kazura-sama is a great noble that even outrank Nelson-sama, right? To become a personal cook for such great person, will someone like me will suit the position? Furthermore, my cooking skill compared to everyone else in the mansion is still not much....." (Marie)

"Marie." (Havel)

Perhaps because she was worried about her cooking ability, Marie complained in a soft voice, which make Havel sent a worried look to her.

Havel looked over the surroundings and confirming whether Kazura or Zirconia were nearby, then he spoke to Marie with a similarly hushed voice.

"I know that you are feeling uneasy, but this is the best chance for you to leave Leveson's House. Even you don't want to always remain in that place, right?"

"That is..... Yes. However, this is deceiving Kazura-sama and Zirconia-sama..... Furthermore, there is also the promise between Havel-sama and Nor-sama....."

"Don't say it like that. I am not particularly deceiving Kazura-sama or Zirconia-sama nor telling a lie. If this goes well then Father might have no choice but to surrender your ownership rights, then I can use this as an excuse and then renege that promise with Father. You don't need to think too much, just concentrate on the task before you. Even though this is the first time you did this, please quickly make a dish that pleased Kazura-sama." (Havel)

".....Yes." (Marie)

Although Marie nodded, it seems that there are still uneasiness lingering inside her heart, so she still had this clouded expression on her face.

Even if this was a good chance for her to leave the House of Leveson, she might be reluctant for that chance to be in this kind of way.

Some irritation appeared on Havel's mind when he saw Marie like this, but he couldn't let this out.

Havel made a sigh and then informed Marie about the promise that he previously exchanged with Kazura.

“By the way, the ingredients that Kazura-sama entrust to you must not be eaten by anyone else. This is Kazura-sama’s strict order.” (Havel)

“Yes, certainly..... But, will it is alright if it’s to test the taste?” (Marie)

“If it’s tasting then it should be alright. Or rather, I think it will be impossible to cook without performing a tasting.” (Havel)

“That’s true..... etto, let’s see the taste before putting the vegetable in.....” (Marie)

Marie put the potato and the knife, that she hold, on the table, before taking a small wooden bowl and moved to the pot.

Then he moved a small amount of the vegetable stew in the pot to the small bowl and then took a sip from it.

“.....Delicious.” (Marie)

When Marie begin tasting the vegetable stew, the taste, that she never had before until now, made her widely opened her eyes in surprise.

The flavor that spread out inside her mouth was mild but exquisite, the deliciousness made her forgotten her true aim of tasting it.

When her consciousness returns, she tried to think up ways to reproduce the taste. But she had no idea what ingredients she needs to use to reproduce the taste.

The vegetable stew that Marie was tasting right now was a canned stew Kazura purchased on an expensive gift corner in a department store.

It seems that it was produced under the supervision of a famous hotel, so it’s an expensive item that cost 8000 yen for a set of 5 cans.

As expected from something costing that high, its taste was also extremely superb.

“O-One more sip.....” (Marie)

“H-hey, Marie. You are only tasting, right? You can’t overeat it, you know.” (Havel)

Havel hurriedly warned Marie who was trying to scoop the stew from the pot to continue tasting it.



When Marie was attempting her second testing, Kazura was wandering around the campsite, while sightseeing the spectacles of the servants working at the dinner preparations.

Then, he saw the scene of a servant scooping a dish to taste its taste.

“Oh blimey, I completely forgot about tasting!” (Kazura)

He spontaneously stopped on the spot as his mind became greatly troubled.



On the night of the next day.

The convoy, that entered Isteria late at night to avoid public notice, silently and inconspicuously unloaded their cargo at the front plaza of Nelson’s Estate.

Because the sun had already sunk completely, the plaza was quite dark since it was only illuminated by the neighboring torches here and there.

Even the downtown that they passed through to reach the estate was no exception, the number of buildings that was illuminated with lights could hardly be counted.

Inside such situation the soldiers energetically moved around and together with the servants’ cooperation they unloaded the cargo which piled up at the plaza.

Isaac and Havel were with the carriage that carried Kazura’s personal items and kept a watchful eye that the items won’t be handled roughly.

Kazura was observing Zirconia and the scene of the work, when Nelson appeared from the Estate.

The clock that Kazura brought had already pointed at 2’oclock, but it seems that Nelson was still awake.

“Kazura-dono, you must be tired from the long journey. Did the transport progressed as planned?” (Nelson)

“Yes, I am able to prepare all the promised goods . But there are also several goods that are outside my promise.” (Kazura)

“Goods outside the promise?” (Nelson)

“Yes, since they are unusual goods, to be seen by many people is..... Also since it’s quite the amount, please prepare a rather vast room at the first floor. Please make it a room that faced the garden.”

The reason why Kazura asked for a room that faces the garden, was for the expected usage of gasoline generator and the hydro generator.

Since he planned to install the generator at the courtyard outside the room, if the room is on the second floor, then it might need a long wiring and this is inconvenient.

Furthermore, so that he could use the next planned hydro generator, it must be driven by customizing parts of water channels in the courtyard.

Since there were several irrigation and drainage water channels flowing in the courtyard, he could divert these channels to create a channel for the hydro generator.

“Also, although I had scheduled to start working from tomorrow, but tomorrow morning..... I will have a brief rest, at the afternoon we will start the restoration of the surrounding grain producing region. Have you prepared the needed manpower?” (Kazura)

Actually, he wanted to start working from the early morning tomorrow but currently Kazura was totally exhausted.

He had dozed off in the carriage, but it was hard to be sound asleep on a shaking carriage, as in when he repeatedly was awoken by the jolt just when he started to doze off.

Due to the carriage’s wheel being a wooden one, there was nothing like a shock absorber as a damping mechanism for the vibration, so even threading a bump or small stone in the road would cause the whole carriage to have a severe sway.

Marie, as always, was in motion sickness and never release the handkerchief with the essential oil. Kazura himself also felt a bit bad when he arrived at Isteria.

“I have made arrangements so that the people from the family that manage the grain producing region will send their personnel at a moment’s notice. However, I believe they will be mixed with slaves that the families own. Will this arrangement be alright for you?” (Nelson)

“.....Slaves, huh?” (Kazura)

Hearing the word slaves, Kazura made a small frown.

Previously he had heard from Valetta during their conversations that there was a slavery system in this country, so he already knew about its existence.

However, when he once again heard the word “slave”, he couldn’t feel comfortable by this.

“Then, what about instead of the slaves we will use our soldiers? If we exempting the reserve forces, we will mobilize the entire 600 members of the First and the Second Corps of Nobles Guard.” (Nelson)

Nelson grasped that Kazura’s unfavorable reaction and so he presented an alternative proposal.

For Nelson, slaves are everyday occurrence and existences that closely related and indispensable to their daily lives.

However, Nelson also had considerable awareness that he was treating a human being as a property.

In front of Greysior the God of Benevolence and Harvest, he was hesitated to speak about the slaves’ existences, but if he used them without saying anything, it would be worse or so he thought.

However, when he saw Kazura’s reaction to it, he regretted mentioning about the slaves.

If Kazura ordered to emancipate all the slaves right here right now, then even if this is Kazura’s order, Nelson couldn’t just immediately agree on the spot.

If he did this, not only the economy will collapse, but before the slaves' emancipation could be put in effect, the nobles and citizens on the province will be enraged and might cause a rebellion.

".....No need, there is no problem with the previous proposal. These soldiers should have other duties, right?" (Kazura)

"These soldiers are the garrison army that is being responsible for the region's defense and patrolling outside the cities, but....." (Nelson)

"Then, let's return these soldiers to their duties. The next duties will not be a task that can be finished in one or two days. We also couldn't always expect for these soldiers to give help every time, don't you agree?" (Kazura)

Kazura was unexpectedly made a pragmatic opinion, so Nelson was astonished and at the same time feeling relieved.

It was because he had been thinking about what is the best way to persuade Kazura if Kazura somehow ordered for slaves emancipation.

"I understand. In that case, tomorrow afternoon I will gather the manpower excluding the people who manned the city walls. Since I want them to help with the northern grain producing area that is in the worst situation first." (Nelson)

"I don't have any objection on this. Then, how about the parts production that I instructed before?" (Kazura)

"We already have 30 units at our disposal. If the craftsmen become more familiar with the production then their production efficiency might rise even more." (Nelson)

The parts that Kazura mentioned was the waterwheel parts that he instructed before to Zirconia.

Although he was worried about how many pieces they able to produce until he arrived at Isteria, it seems that they had produced them in a number he hadn't foreseen before.

"Oh, you had produced so many. With that high productivity, then I wouldn't need to worry about the future." (Kazura)

Zirconia, who was watching the conversation next to Kazura, was also felt relieved when she heard Kazura's reply.

Perhaps during the times in Grisea Village, she was also concerned whether or not the parts production was doing well.

"That's good to hear. Since I handed somewhat large monetary compensation to the craftsmen, of course, they would be working hard." (Nelson)

"Indeed, one couldn't help but to work hard if they obtain something..... Then, for now, I want to take a rest....." (Kazura)

"Oh, certainly it is. I will quickly prepare the room. Since I have prepared the bath, do you want to have one while waiting for your room preparation to be finished?" (Nelson)

"I will accept your offer." (Kazura)

The conversation ended at that moment, then led by Nelson, Kazura walked towards the mansion.

"(..... Hmm, it seems that I had forgotten something.)" (Kazura)

He suddenly felt that he had forgotten something, so Kazura was wracking his brain while walking towards the mansion.

However, even though he was trying to recall it, his head was tired from exhaustion, and in the end, he given up on thinking about this and headed to the bath.

Kazura walked away, leaving the pile of goods behind.

Inside that pile, there was a large cooler box, which contained a large amount of frozen vegetables together with packed dry ice. However, the dry ice was on their last breath and will finish their duties in just less than one or two hours.

CHAPTER 63

FUEL SUPPLY

Soaked inside the water warmed to a comfortable temperature, Kazura made an entranced expression while sighing.

The size of the bathroom in Nelson's Estate was as wide as a 6-jou room in Japan.

The square bathtub was 2-jou wide and made from marble.

It was also furnished with steps in the bathtub that made it possible for someone to sit and only soak up until their hip. If they choose to sit not on the steps then the water will soak them up till their belly.

In the bathroom walls that touched the bathtub were large 10 centimeters holes for pouring hot water.

If the water is too low or too high, then by yelling an order loudly into the holes, then the servants beyond the hole would answer the order and pour cold or hot water into the hole.

In the corner of the bathroom was where a furnace made of stone was installed.

This was the heater unit for the bathroom, in the winter they would heat the stone on the furnace then sprinkled water atop of it to generate steam and it will heat the entire bathroom.

In the wall adjoined to the furnace was a small window where firewood for the fuel could be taken.

The ceiling was also furnished with a chimney for smoke dispersal, so even in the winter, someone could enjoy a bath comfortably.

Although Kazura had imagined that a bath in a feudal lord's estate will be grand and luxurious, in reality, it was unexpectedly a rather practical one.

The bath at Leveson's mansion was also of similar type to this, so perhaps this kind of bath was the popular type used by Isteria's nobles.

However, since the size of the bath felt similar like soaking while lodging in a small hot spring inn, for Kazura this situation, on the contrary, was quite nice.

"Ah, I will be busy from tomorrow, but..... I wonder if the fertilizer amount is enough....."
(Kazura)

Kazura had brought 45 tons of fertilizer in total, but Isteria's grain producing region was staggeringly vast.

Even if he had brought a large amount of fertilizer, nevertheless, he was a bit anxious when thinking if it will suffice for reviving the grain fields.

Even so, the fertilizer that Kazura had brought possessed an outlandish effect, by adjusting the amount that will be spread, it would surely be able to cover the entire fields.

After this, he ought to hit the calculator and calculate the spread amount properly.

"The crops in the Grisea Village had become something creature-like. Perhaps it would be fine even if I dilute it until fifty to one ratio....." (Kazura)

By the way, the fertilizer that Kazura brought this time was cattle manure compost.

If this fertilizer were to be scattered over fields in Japan, then it would need 2 kilograms of manure to be properly scattered over 1 tsubo (3.3 square meters).

"After I get out from the bath, an Ice cream is..... Aaaaaaah!?" (Kazura)

Kazura, who was leisurely soaking in the bathtub, screamed when he nonchalantly mentioned the word "Ice cream". He realized that he had forgotten a very important thing.

He had completely forgotten about the presence of the frozen food that had been transported over a large distance.

"Is something wrong!?" (Maid)

"What happened!?" (Guard)

“M-My choco mint bar! The premium melon sherbet!!” (Kazura)

Disregarding through the young maid and the guard who came into the bathroom after hearing the scream, Kazura began to wipe his body dry with the towel in hurry.

“Kazura-sama! Is something wrong!?” (Maid)

“Cl-clothes! Bring the clothes!!” (Kazura)

While wiping his body using the towel, with a panicked expression he ordered the maid who was asking him to bring him the clothes.

The guard confirmed that there was nothing wrong inside the bathroom and now was looking at the conversation between Kazura and the maid in bewilderment.

“Ka-Kazura-sama! Please calm down!! What is happening!?” (Maid)

“If I calm down then the Ice could melt you know!?” (Kazura)

Although he noticed that he was showing various places, it was currently not Kazura’s highest concern.

Kazura quickly wore the clothes and then ran with an impressive speed from the dressing room.

The maid and guard who was left at that place, saw Kazura’s rushing out with a dumbfounded expression.

“..... Do you know what is a chock-o member?” (Maid)

“No..... I never heard it before.....” (Guard)

The guard replied to the maid, once again checked that there is nothing strange in the bathroom and dressing room, and exited outside.

The maid saw the soldier leaving and muttered.

“Chock-o member..... Hmmm, what is it?” (Maid)

While tilting her head, she then began to clean the dressing room and the bathroom.

Kazura ran with all of his might on the corridor and dashed towards the room that Nelson had prepared.

Then as if to jump, he rushed towards the heap of piled up cardboards at the corner of the room and took out the cooler box from that heap.

“Is the contents safe?” (Kazura)

Kazura was going to open the cover sealing when he suddenly stopped moving.

Then he immediately took out an analog alarm clock from the travel bag placed nearby.

The time was 2:45 A.M.

When he remembered the ice pack effective duration of the dry ice placed inside the cooler box, his body trembled.

It was already past 12:45 when the last dry ice ran out.

Perhaps the ice cream inside the cooled box had already been completely annihilated. He didn't know what happened to the frozen vegetables or the processed food, but if he didn't start the refrigerator soon, they would be spoiled.

When Kazura sank down to the floor in front of the cooler box, the door was knocked.

Kazura replied in a very small voice, “Come in” , so Isaac and Havel entered the room.

“Kazura-sama, we would soon return to our hou-..... Umm, is something wrong?”
(Issac)

Seeing that Kazura was sitting on the floor, Isaac and Havel made a surprised expression.

Kazura was looking at them with a lamenting like expression.

“.....Please help me.” (Kazura)

“Eh? About what?” (Issac)

“Help me set up the refrigerator.” (Kazura)

“Y-Yes?” (Issac)

It looks like it would take quite some time before Kazura and the others to obtain some sleep.



Then, 15 minutes later.

Kazura, accompanied by Isaac, transported the generator on the courtyard next to the room.

Inside the room, Havel was ferrying the gasoline jerry can through the window, which Isaac received.

While still being carried by Isaac, Kazura opened the jerry can’s lid and put a hose into it.

He opened the generator’s fuel tank lid and put the hose into it and siphoned the gasoline until it almost reached the hose’s nozzle.

While holding the hose’s nozzle with his finger, the gasoline moved into the fuel tank because of the height difference.

Havel was leaning over the window to take a look at what Kazura was doing.

“What a strong smelling water.....” (Havel)

Because of the peculiar smell of the gasoline, Isaac grimaced while still holding the jerry can in his hand.

“This is gasoline..... Umm, this is a special water that had been filled with Force Spirit’s power. It has an extreme bad affinity to fire, so you must not bring fire near it.” (Kazura)

“Eh, so even Force also have a Spirit?” (Issac)

Isaac made a surprised reply at Kazura's impromptu explanation.

It seems that the religion belief of this world didn't recognize any Force Spirit.

"Yes, they do. There are many others similar to it." (Kazura)

"S-similar?" (Issac)

".....Yes." (Kazura)

Kazura felt a terrible guilt for Isaac who believed at him, but he couldn't deny it at this point of time.

Furthermore, it wouldn't be good if he just explained about gasoline properties.

Perhaps if they know that gasoline is flammable and explosive, then anyone could think of ways to weaponize it.

So it might be better by saying that this is a special water that had been filled with Force Spirit's power, as it will keep the gasoline properties a secret.

"If a fire happens to near it, then what will happen?" (Issac)

"....." (Kazura)

".....Kazura-sama." (Issac)

".....People who did it intentionally will die by a mysterious power." (Kazura)

".....Eh?" (Issac)

"They will die by a mysterious power." (Kazura)

"I-is that so..... so Force Spirit is such a dreadful being....." (Issac)

After hearing Kazura's terrifying explanation, Isaac was trembling while holding the gasoline jerry can.

It wasn't unreasonable for him to feel fear when knowing that the content of what he holding was such a frightening thing.

While they were conversing like this, the generator's fuel tank had been fully filled with gasoline.

Kazura ordered Isaac to lower the gasoline can, detach the hose, and close the lid.

"Havel-san, can you give me the black cord that comes out from refrigerator's backside?" (Kazura)

"Cord..... Is this it?" (Havel)

"Yes... That one." (Kazura)

Kazura received the power cord from Havel over the window.

"Umm, perhaps should we extinguished even the candle fire inside the room?" (Havel)

At that time, Havel made an uneasy expression, while looking at the candle's light inside the room.

Since they had been told that they will die if they bring a fire close to the gasoline, he didn't know if the current distance will be safe.

"No need, if they are separated by this distance then it will be alright." (Kazura)

"I-I see..." (Havel)

Kazura inserted the power cord he received from Havel into the generator and after he confirmed that the usage load was $\frac{1}{4}$, he turned the generator on.

Immediately, the generator began to vibrate a little, before producing a low-frequency sound.

".....Ugh, as expected it is quite noisy." (Kazura)

Since it was late at night, the sound was quite loud for the silent Nelson's Estate.

If $\frac{1}{4}$ burden setting was already this loud, then when starting the generator on full power setting it would even produce an even greater sound.

“Somehow, there is a sound coming from inside of this. It is similar to the sound of the agricultural transport tractor in Grisea Village.” (Issac)

“You’re right..... Hmm, this is too conspicuous.” (Kazura)

With this kind of sound, then anyone would come to check the strange sound.

Since this was not something that will be good to be seen by others, there was a need to put a cover to conceal it or place a guard.

“Isaac-san, I need a guard to stand watch so this wouldn’t be seen by other people, could you arrange someone for this task?” (Kazura)

“Then let me to stand watch as a guard. I won’t let anyone approach, so please do not worry.” (Issac)

When Kazura mentioned about a guard, Isaac immediate proposed himself for the task.

Isaac thought that rather than someone else as a guard, if it was Isaac himself who do this task, then Kazura would feel more at ease.

“I have to refuse, your stamina will soon reach the limit, right? If you don’t rest then you will collapse.....” (Kazura)

Even though Kazura was deeply moved inside his heart at Isaac’s action, he softly refused Isaac’s proposal.

Not only he had done unreasonable muscle training back in Grisea Village, Isaac had been marching on horseback since yesterday.

Signs of fatigue were markedly shown on his face. If he still worked even more then he might collapse.

“No, I am still fine. Since I am used to guarding duties, please do not be worry, Kazura-sama should have a nice rest.” (Issac)

“Isaac-sama, then let me participate and stand guard in shifts. It will be too excessive for only one person.” (Havel)

Unable to just watching Isaac's obstinacy, Havel who was watching Kazura and Isaac conversation from the window, made a proposal to Isaac.

Havel also had signs of fatigue accumulated in his face, but he was in a better condition than Isaac.

"Hmm, you're right..... Yes, that sounds like a good plan." (Kazura)

Seeing that both of them had decided to stand guard in turns willingly, Kazura was happy with their idea, but he was also worried about them.

Since they were the few people who thought Kazura as Greysior, it greatly troubled him if both of them ruined their health right now.

It seems that there is a need to give them a one-time doping for both of them.

"I understand. Then I will entrust the guard to both of you." (Kazura)

"Certainly!" (Issac)

"Yes, leave this to us!" (Havel)

Kazura accepted them as guards, so Isaac straightened his posture and made a lively reply.

Havel also made a proper reply, but Isaac had more spirit in his words.

"Then, I will arrange for a room for us to rest." (Havel)

"Yes. I will stand watch in this place. After about 1 hour, please return for the shift change..... Ah, also, please bring wood boards to cover this." (Issac)

"I understand." (Havel)

"Ah, Havel-san, please wait a moment." (Kazura)

Kazura called out to Havel and then ran back into the room.

Then, he took out 2 bottles of Lipo-D from the travel bag.

“I will give these to both of you. Here, Isaac-san also please take it.” (Kazura)

Havel accepted the Lipo-D presented to him who then looked curiously at the dark bottle with a label paste into it.

Isaac also received the Lipo-D over the window, and just like Havel, he was staring at the Lipo-D in his hand.

“This is a secret medicine made in God’s Realm. If you drink this medicine, then your physical condition will be completely restored. Perhaps, it might even become much better than before.” (Kazura)

“Wh-!?” (Issac)

“Eh-!?” (Havel)

After they heard Kazura’s explanation, both of them looked at Kazura with a surprised expression.

The reason why Kazura called it “Secret medicine” , was a plot to differentiate the Lipo-D from the other food.

In this way, it was as if saying that only the Lipo-D that he gives to Isaac and Havel had a special effect.

It would also be the front to cover the fact that the other food that he brought from Japan possessed a special effect. Kazura thought that this way of words was not that shabby.

“F-for us to receive such kind of item, will it be alright!?” (Issac)

“Both of you has truly exhausted yourself out of devotion to me. This is merely my gratitude. If you twist the top part to the right, you can open the lid, and then drink it in one go.” (Kazura)

“Kazura-sama..... Thank you very much!” (Issac)

Perhaps because Isaac was greatly moved, he grasped the Lipo-D tightly while tears began to collect in his eyes.

Havel opened his eyes in surprise as he stared at the Lipo-D in his hand in a blank amazement.

“Also, this is a secret that stays only between us. You can’t mention this to others, alright?” (Kazura)

“Yes! Thank you very much for this drink!” (Issac)

Isaac gave his thanks to Kazura, opened the Lipo-D’s lid and brought it to his mouth.

Havel also emulated him and drank the opened Lipo-D.

“.....T-tasty.” (Havel)

“Right? This drink is quite a splendid one. Please keep drinking everything.” (Kazura)

When he only drank half of the content, Isaac mentioned his impression of the taste.

Havel also made a face as if he was surprised by the Lipo-D’s taste.

“Since I have been told that this is a secret medicine, I guessed that the taste will be bitter. However..... This is tasty.” (Havel)

Havel made such remark before he drank the rest of the content.

Then, he moved his hand and feet to check his physical condition.

“Ah, it wouldn’t show the effect this soon. The effect takes time until it appear.” (Kazura)

“Is that so.....” (Issac)

“Then, I will entrust the guarding duty to both of you. I will stay awake for awhile since there is something that I need to do, but after that is finished, I will go to sleep.” (Kazura)

“Please leave it to us!” (Issac)

“Yes, please have a good rest.” (Havel)

After he saw that Havel had left the room, Kazura closed the window.

“.....Now then.” (Kazura)

Kazura stiffened his expression and kneeled in front of the cooler box.

With an anxious expression, he put his hand on the cover and released the lock.

“Please, please.....” (Kazura)

Then, while he was muttering as if he was praying to God for the safety of the content, he raised the cooler box’s cover in one go.

CHAPTER 64

THE WORK'S ATMOSPHERE

It has been 4 hours since Kazura turned the refrigerator on.

In the middle of Nelson's courtyard, Lieze, who had finished with her daily morning practice, received the towel from Eira.

There was a thin one-handed sword worn at her waist and nearby there was a small round shield leaned against the tree.

It seems that today she didn't have a short spear training but a sword training.

"Good work, Lieze-sama. How is your condition today?" (Eira)

"Un, perfect. I am strong in the sword art, to begin with." (Lieze)

While wiping the sweat flowing on her nape with the towel, Lieze answered Eira's question.

For the people who were born in Nelson House, there was a tradition where regardless of gender, they must be well-versed in tactics and handling weapons.

Since her youth, Lieze had received battle or tactic lessons either from Nelson or his close guards. This training had become an intimate part of her daily lives.

After the war with Balveil entered ceasefire 4 years ago, Lieze mainly received her combat training under Zirconia's tutelage.

However, since Zirconia was very busy with her task recently, Lieze couldn't receive her guidance.

Since it was not possible to receive Zirconia's guidance, Lieze had requested from other people from the military, but after receiving Zirconia's harsh guidance, she felt that they were somewhat lacking.

Because of that, Lieze was practicing independently using her abundant practice time, thus in this way, she was practicing diligently every morning.

“Don’t Lieze-sama agree that soon you will be on par with Zirconia-sama or Isaac-sama in battle?” (Eira)

“Don’t make an absurd remark. Isaac perhaps, but for Mother, don’t you think it will be settled without I being able to do anything?” (Lieze)

As far as Lieze know, Zirconia’s expertise is in one on one combat, even amongst the senior military officials, she is a top class one.

It wasn’t that she was absurdly strong, but her skill in footwork, parrying, and reading opponent’s movement was beyond normal.

Especially when she equipped small round shield and one-handed sword, her fighting strength was tremendous. Her ability was even equal or above when compared to the Nobles Guard.

Since Isaac and Lieze also received Zirconia’s guidance at the same period of time, their relationship could be said as being fellow disciples.

Lieze had many bouts with Isaac in the past, but until now she never seized a single victory.

It was no wonder, even when his opponent was Lieze, Isaac, who was a person who never went easy on things especially on combat, absolutely didn’t let his guard down even when facing a girl six year younger than himself.

In the first place, in case he was going easy on the bout in front of Zirconia, then Isaac will see hell afterward, so it was a situation where he had no other choice.

Perhaps because Isaac also bothered by it, after the practice he would be careful in contacting Lieze one way or another, but since the impression of that time was so big for Lieze, she felt discontent at Isaac for some reason and another.

Of course, she never showed this in her face or manner even for once.

Isaac hailed from Slan House, which had begotten numerous excellent military officers. Isaac's father, siblings, and even cousins were mostly had taken up a position within the military.

Isaac was the eldest son of Slan House and perhaps because he felt the responsibility of his position, he was normally being completely devoted to improving himself more than others.

He never slacked in his physical training and battle training that he had grown into someone who was able to match Zirconia in battle.

Even having said so, it was just "able to match" .

"Give me a break already, Mother is in completely another level..... or rather it might, as expected, be impossible without any real combat experience..." (Lize)

"It might be so..... That reminds me, last night Zirconia-sama and Kazura-sama had returned back. It seems the large sized baggage had been carried away to somewhere else." (Eira)

Perhaps she just remembered since Lize brought Zirconia as the topic, Eira reported to Lize about the message that was transmitted in the morning report.

The maids working in Nelson's Estate, always perform a morning report or evening report between the day shift maids and the night shift maids to share information.

By the way, Eira's line of work was exclusively day shift, so she didn't do any night shift.

Since Eira is Lize's exclusive maid, her day to day schedule would be synchronized to Lize's.

"Large size baggage? It might be the thing that Kazura-sama had mentioned before." (Lize)

"Does Lize-sama has some knowledge about what kind of baggage it is?" (Eira)

Previously, during the dinner, Lize had heard from Kazura that he will leave Isteria for several days.

Therein, there was a bit of talk about transporting a large amount of materials to Isteria.

Furthermore, there was a mention that the materials will be used to restore the grain fields, but she didn't hear any more details like what kind of materials it will be.

"Hmm, Kazura-sama had said about this before. After this, he will do something to restore the fields to the north and west. Perhaps, that baggage is used in this." (Lienze)

When Lieze mentioned this, Eira was opening her eyes in surprise.

"Eh? There were talks about how the northern and the western fields were completely devastated by the drought, right? He want to restore these fields?" (Eira)

"It was a hardly believable story but certainly he did say so. He also said about drawing water from the river into the fields..... If I remembered correctly, by using a tool called waterwheel....." (Lienze)

"Waterwheel..... It is a tool that I never heard about it before. What kind of tool is it?" (Eira)

"This is just something that I heard, but it is a tool made from a round wooden wheel with numerous boards set into it that will turn around when it is installed on a river. Then by putting wooden box on it, it will scoop up the water." (Lienze)

"..... I don't completely understand." (Eira)

Eira tried to picture the waterwheel from Lieze's story, but she didn't understand completely what kind of shape it had.

Even if Lieze want to explain it more, she never personally saw a waterwheel before so she didn't know any more detail, so this was something that couldn't be helped.

"I also only ever heard about it, so I don't really know it in detail. They said that if it could be made in a large number then it could draw a large amount of water without any human's hand. If this is true then it is a really wonderful thing." (Lienze)

"That's true. By the way, perhaps the baggage that they brought over is that waterwheel tool..... Ah, I see. I just remembered a story about Kazura-sama. Since last night there was a strange sound coming from Kazura-sama's room." (Eira)

“Strange sound?” (Lienze)

“Yes. There were people who were bothered by it and tried to check it, but Isaac-sama was guarding over the place with the sound and prevented anyone from approaching..... Also, after some time passed since the sound first appeared, there was a great shriek coming from Kazura-sama’s room.” (Eira)

“Eh? Is he alright!? Don’t tell me it was a thief’s intrusion!?” (Lienze)

It was an unsettling story, that made Lienze asked Eira in astonishment.

“That is... After hearing that shriek, the guards and Isaac-sama immediately rushed into the room, but there wasn’t anything particularly happened. It was just, at that time Kazura-sama was muttering, everything has melted, in a dejected expression..... I don’t know the complete story, however.” (Eira)

“I-I see. But I am bit curious about it..... Soon it will be breakfast, perhaps I could try to ask Kazura-sama.” (Lienze)

“Ah, Kazura-sama won’t partake in the breakfast. He is quite tired and so he will take a rest until noon.” (Eira)

“Is that so? Then at the dinner..... But, won’t it be bad if I asked him too much?” (Lienze)

She had a great curiosity about what had happened, but it wasn’t polite to question too much.

She also wanted to try to go and see the source of the strange sound, but since it was Isaac who was guarding it, then it might be something that wasn’t supposed to be seen by unrelated people.

In this case, it might be prudent for her to try bringing this up indirectly on her next conversation with Kazura and then judge his reaction before asking it any further.

“Do I have any plan on today’s afternoon?” (Lienze)

“You have a schedule to meet with the wealthy merchant from our province, Wirvell Maybach-sama just past noon. Afterward, you have scheduled to meet in turns: a noble from Fraise Province, Ardelt Trager-sama, a noble from Gregorn Province,

Gunther Branden-sama, and a noble, also from Gregorn Province, Nibel Ferdinand-sama.” (Eira)

Eira enumerated the name of people who will meet with Lieze today as Lieze made a straightforward sickened expression.

“..... Isn’t that too much? Please, spare me.” (Lieze)

“Even if you say that to me..... Also, you have an appointment with McGregor-sama for the tactic lesson after today’s breakfast.” (Eira)

“Umm..... when is my free time?” (Lieze)

“.....After dinner.” (Eira)

“.....” (Lieze)



That day’s afternoon.

Under the midday sun that blazes the earth, Kazura, together with Zirconia, was heading towards the fields north of Isteria.

In front of Kazura’s group were several carriages and a large number of carts carrying the fertilizer bags and waterwheel parts. In addition, there was about 300 personnel had gathered.

“For now, the gathered people will be divided into groups of 5 men each”, was the directions given by Isaac and Havel to them.

Even though the gathered people were noisy about what will happen from now on, they obediently divided into groups as per instruction.

While Kazura’s group were away from Nelson’s estate, the one who will guard the generator left in the courtyard will be Isaac’s subordinate, Root.

Previously, when Isaac arrested Kazura in Grisea Village, Root was one of the soldiers who followed Isaac.

For Isaac, Root was his cousin, so he was a person that Isaac could really trust.

At Grisea Village, he and one other soldier had heard by chance that Kazura is Greysior. Afterward, Isaac had firmly forbidden them to mention this to others.

Seeing that there was no rumor until now, both of them might have properly guard the secret just like what Isaac had ordered.

“Now then, let’s start. Zirconia-san, please distribute one cart for each group.”
(Kazura)

“Yes.” (Zirconia)

After the groups had been divided out, Kazura gave an order to Zirconia.

Just like what Kazura had ordered, she divided the cart and the servant assigned to it to each group.

After a while, 60 carts had been assigned to the groups.

Inside of the carts were 5 bags of fertilizer.

“Next, please dig up a shallow hole atop the soil. After digging it, place a bit of the soil inside the bag into it and then mixed it properly.” (Kazura)

At the next order, each group simultaneously began to dig the soil using hoes.

It took a bit of time to dig up the parched dry soil, but everyone finished digging it one way or another.

Isaac and Havel went to a group that had finished in digging the holes, took out some fertilizer from its bag, and scatter it on the soil inside the hole.

Then after they received hoes from nearby people, Isaac and Havel showed how to properly mix the soil.

“Please mix it properly in this manner. Then one bag will be scattered into an area of.....” (Kazura)

Kazura was saying these words while walking and looking at his feet as he was counting the number of the steps he had taken.

After roughly 35 meters, he stopped for a moment and then walked another 35 meter perpendicularly before stopping.

“About this wide, as even as possible. Please scatter the soil in this manner. After you have finished with scattering one bag, move into another field that hasn’t been scattered yet, and repeat these steps from the beginning. Please do this for every field on the northern part.” (Kazura)

After Kazura explained in this way, the assembled people showed an astonished expression.

Although it was just limited to the northern fields, the fields were staggeringly vast.

If someone thinks about how long will it takes to finish this, they might faint.

However, even after seeing the faces that the people made, Kazura didn’t get perturbed at all.

Because last night Kazura had used a calculator and calculate the area scope for the fertilizer scattering and the rough time for the task to be finished.

According to Kazura’s calculation, if the 45 ton of compost that he brought was diluted into the usual 1:50 ratio, then the area that could be covered by it will be 3,712,500 meter square.

Although it was difficult to imagine just by the figure, but this area could be covered by 79 Tokyo Domes.

If it converted into Japanese Tatami unit then it will be about 2,250,000 tatamis wide.

(If it converted into Football (Soccer) Field unit then it will be about 520 soccer field wide.)

By dividing 300 people into 60 groups, then it means they could fertilize an area of 35 x 35 meters 60 times simultaneously.

The prepared compost bags was 3000 bags, so by assuming that one group would spend one bag for two hours works of spreading the fertilizer, then with 8 hours of work in 1 day they would consume 4 bags.

Since there were 60 groups, by simple calculation they would consume 240 bags.

As long as there wasn't any trouble like a disaster, then it would take 2 weeks to spend all the prepared compost, so was what Kazura had thought.

“Also, when scattering the fertilizer, each group need to do it side by side at the same. Even if you have finished earlier, you mustn't try to go ahead too fast. Since it might cause the scattering area to be overlapped.” (Kazura)

When Kazura warned them, he looked at the dumbfounded expression they send to him.

“I have something that I forget to say. When this work has been completed at the dusk, then you will receive a pay from Istelle House. Since we will also plan to add an extra for the work's precision and the state of progress, I hope everyone could work enthusiastically.” (Kazura)

When they heard about “pay”, the people who originally had a dead man like expression soon regained their vigor back.

They weren't expecting to receive any reward previously, so their eagerness was on a completely different level.

“Then, please start working. I wish everyone to work hard.” (Kazura)

With Kazura's signal, each group simultaneously commenced their work.

CHAPTER 65

THE PEOPLE WHO WORK EVEN MORE

“Then, the supervisor for the field’s fertilizer scattering will be entrusted to Isaac-san and Havel-san, as we will head towards the river. If I am not wrong, we will be going north, right?” (Kazura)

While observing the people who began their work, Kazura asked Zirconia, who stood beside him.

“That’s correct. There is a large river flowing from the northern mountains. It is about half of quarter stound walking away from this place.” (Zirconia)

On the map of the region surrounding Isteria that Kazura had borrowed from Nelson several days ago, aside from the location of the rivers or mountains, it also depicted the location of hills, springs, forests, and wetlands.

The river touched the surrounding edges of the northern and eastern fields as it branched into numerous tributaries that flows into the riverside fields and to Isteria city itself.

The locations where the crops suffered from the severe drought this time were mostly at the area directly affected by the decrease of the river’s flow volume due to the droughts.

Though the not so hilly fields were irrigated by waterways, when the river’s water had a sudden drop, its water couldn’t enter the waterway due to the height difference.

Although the water had been stored in a few reservoirs here and there, but even these had dried up completely.

Perhaps the other reason why the northern and the western field had such severe drought was because of the hot wind blew down from the northern mountains.

Since the southern and the eastern fields were located away from the mountains and Isteria City shielded them and dispersed the heat wind, the drought was a bit lighter.

“Let see, half of quarter stound should be about 15 minutes..... I understand. Let’s head there immediately. Since we will assemble the waterwheel on site, please bring all the servants.” (Kazura)

With the carriages with the waterwheel parts, the guards and the servants trailing behind him, Kazura began to walk towards the river.



“Havel, how’s your body feel today?” (Isaac)

While looking at the sight of Kazura departing towards the river, Isaac began to talk with Havel who was beside him.

“It’s incredibly well. It feels as if the inside of my body had been renewed completely. As if the tiredness I had until now was a lie.” (Havel)

While also looking at Kazura’s group, Havel answered Isaac.

Until both of them received Lipo-D from Kazura, they had been quite fatigued from riding a Rata for a long time.

However, after 2 hours passed since they drank the Lipo-D, their body suddenly felt light.

In spite of only have a 2 hours wink of sleep this morning, both of them were in a perfect physical condition.

This magic-like precipitous physical change was nothing but surprising to both of them.

“Kazura-sama had said that this is a secret medicine from the God’s Realm, but I never imagine that it will have this tremendous effect.....” (Isaac)

“That’s true. If this had much potency then no matter how sick someone will be, he will soon get better..... Huh?” (Havel)

Havel had his words stopped and then showed a confusion.

“Hmm, what’s wrong?” (Isaac)

“Nothing. It’s just that, I am wondering that even when he have a secret medicine this strong, why Kazura-sama always showed a tired expression that much.” (Havel)

Based on what Havel observed of Kazura, he was always had a bag under his eyes and dreadfully tired from working.

If he feels tired, he should drink the secret medicine and be restored, even so for some reason Kazura didn’t drink the secret medicine. This was the question that appeared on Havel’s mind.

“That’s true..... It can’t be that he didn’t take any of it because he might be keeping it aside for our sake, right.....?” (Isaac)

At Havel’s words, Isaac also pondering about it and couldn’t understand it.

Even if they were thinking that there is some special reason, but they wouldn’t be able to understand without directly asking it to Kazura.

“However, we couldn’t inquire this reason to Kazura-sama..... There might be some reason behind it, but it is not something that we should meddle with. We should just be obediently thankful for the medicine that we received.” (Isaac)

“Yes..... That’s is true.” (Havel)

Isaac remonstrated Havel who nodded as he saw the sight of Kazura’s back with a concerned look.

For Havel himself, it couldn’t be helped if he was concerned about the wellbeing of Kazura who recently showed a remarkably fatigued expression.

If something happened to Kazura right now, then it would be extremely troubling for Havel.

Since Kazura is not a human, as he should be the God Greysior, Havel believed that he wouldn’t die as a result of overworking. Even so, he was still worried.

Until Kazura appeared, Havel was no more than the Vice Captain of the First Cadet Training Unit, which didn’t hold that much of authority in the military.

During the war with Balveile 4 years ago, he somehow made a successful contact with Isaac who was participating in the same campaign. Afterward due to the meticulous interaction, he had the position of [Isaac's favourite], this could be said as Havel's only status.

Thanks to this, Havel was directly nominated by Isaac and successfully promoted as the Vice Captain of the First Cadet Training Unit one year ago. However, Havel couldn't climb any higher.

Since Havel was aiming to climb the ladder by sticking closely to Isaac, if Isaac wouldn't get a higher position then Havel also won't get any higher.

Because Nelson was extremely pleased with Isaac, Havel had expected that Isaac would also get Lieze's favor and become close to her. However, no matter how much time passed, the two of them didn't get along at all.

Although he had heard the rumor that Lieze showed an extraordinary favor for Isaac, there was total lack of any talks about the relationship progress between them.

If Isaac marries Lieze, then he would become the next master of Istelle House.

Of course, to maintain the mighty influence and authority, Isaac would surely appoint his close associate Havel to an important position in the military.

Even if he didn't become Isaac's personal army's vice commander, if fortune smile at him, he could still be appointed as the Captain or Vice Captain for the Heavy Infantry Company or the Cavalry.

Similarly, if he was established as a close associate of Isaac, he would also be assigned to other important position and so, naturally, his future was promising.

However, Isaac didn't get close to Lieze at all even after much time had passed.

For Havel, he wanted Isaac to quickly conquer Lieze and then be successful to get his promotions early.

Isaac had a stubborn serious personality that made Havel thinking that he wouldn't do any bold moves.

Havel also couldn't advise Isaac,

“When the mood is good, press through the chance and attack!”

So Havel passed the days while being constantly worried.

However, since Kazura appeared, this stalemate situation had a drastic change.

Because he was amongst the limited people who know Kazura’s true identity as Greysior, naturally any tasks related to Kazura would be assigned to Isaac and Havel.

By this process, Havel could make a contact with Nelson and Zirconia and had been appointed as the close aide for Kazura who held powerful influence on Nelson.

If he could hold this position from now on, then it was likely that he could ascend to a relatively high military position in the future.

However, at the present point, Havel’s successful future hadn’t been set in stone yet.

If, currently, Kazura collapsed or get sick from overworking, then Isaac and Havel as Kazura’s close aide would need to answer for the blame.

If this happened, not only he would be fired from his position as Kazura’s close aide, it wouldn’t be wrong to say that even though he finally had his highway to success, he would have missed his footing.

“However, recently Kazura-sama does look quite tired. Even if we couldn’t say anything about using the medicine, we must adjust the work schedule so it wouldn’t burden Kazura-sama as much as possible.....” (Havel)

“.....That’s true, I also have the same thoughts.” (Isaac)

When he heard Havel’s words, Isaac shed tears from the corner of his eyes.

It seems that he was happy that Havel was also being considerate to Kazura just like himself.

“Even if the grain fields restoration needs to happen sooner, it would be a great loss if something happened to Kazura-sama. Really, since Kazura-sama is a person who will keep working if we leave him alone, we need to firmly suggest him to have a rest.” (Isaac)

“Yes.” (Havel)

When Isaac said these words, Havel loosened his expression as if he was a bit relieved.

“In exchange, we will work even more than what we had done until now. I don’t know how much we could be helpful to Kazura-sama, but even if it just for a bit, we must relieve some burden from Kazura-sama.” (Isaac)

“Certainly. I am resolute to work myself to the bone.” (Havel)

“Yes, that’s the spirit. I will be relying on you.” (Isaac)

Isaac smiled at Havel and slap his back.



At the time when Isaac and Havel were having such kind of discussion, Kazura was walking towards the north side of the fields alongside Zirconia.

“Hmm, this is quite a severe situation..... Most of the crops had already been damaged.....” (Kazura)

While he walked, he observed the fields where the yellowed crops were limp and lied down.

He still caught the sight of the seldom crops with some green left in it, but about 99 percent of the crops were in a sad aforementioned state.

“The crops in this area are already lost. However, most of the crops near the river should be safe. Also, the water might have dried up by now, but the crops around the reservoirs should be a bit safe too.” (Zirconia)

“So that means, only a fraction of the crops that could be saved even if we irrigate them with water right now..... This is more serious than what I had thought before.....” (Kazura)

No matter how much they give fertilizer or water, if the crucial crops had already withered then it would be meaningless.

He could put a large amount of fertilizer from Japan to the local fields as a method to greatly accelerate the growth of the surviving crops. However, this will be only as a last measure in case there is no other way.

However, such abnormal growth rate would be too conspicuous, so he wanted to keep the growth rate at an inconspicuous level as much as possible.

If a rumor spread out unchecked, then Arcadia's capital or another province might intrude and the restoration wouldn't progress smoothly.

Making an advance technology tool like the waterwheel is conspicuous, but they could explain this as something that is invented by Isteria's engineers.

However, it is difficult to make a rational excuse for crops abnormal growth rate, so he didn't want many people to know about this.

Even if he did it, he might want to avoid the extreme growth rate like what happened at Grisea Village's crops.

"Although we couldn't expect much harvest from the current planted crops cycle, if we could irrigate them from now on, then we could prepare to plant for the next crops cycle. Right now, the soil is too dry that we couldn't do any seed sowing." (Zirconia)

"Certainly, if it is too dry then the sprouts won't bud..... But couldn't you grow the seed to sprout by using water drawn from the river?" (Kazura)

When Kazura asked Zirconia, she looked at him with a bit surprised expression.

"If we did it under this condition, then the planted seed will be cooked..... If it is the ordinary year then the temperature will decrease and we could do seed sowing soon, but this year's heat is out of the norm....." (Zirconia)

"Ah..... That's true." (Kazura)

After seeing Zirconia's reaction, Kazura's mind was a bit flustered, even so, he replied without letting this shown on his face.

"(Dang it, it was an un-Harvest-God-like question..... I need to learn basic farming knowledge properly.)" (Kazura)

Kazura sometimes helped his father, Shinji, in his hobby of tending kitchen garden, but Kazura didn't have any knowledge about farming.

He had learned to some degree while studying with Valetta before, but it was only what was written in the book and so was just a superficial knowledge.

In the first place, he didn't possess any knowledge gained from important experience, so even in the fundamental basic knowledge, he sometimes made an absurd statement just like what happened just now.

If he knew it would come into this situation, it would be better if he had helped Shinji's gardening more.

"Anyway, first we need to install a large amount of waterwheels in the river and fill the existing waterway with water. If we can install the waterwheels then we won't need to rely on the reservoirs from hereafter and..... Hm." (Kazura)

"Is there something wrong?" (Zirconia)

Kazura suddenly stopped his words and began pondering and this made Zirconia tilted her head in confusion.

"It's nothing..... I need you to tell me something. In this region, how cold will it be in the winter?" (Kazura)

"It get so cold that it will freeze the water in a pond. On a normal year, from the twelfth month until the end of the second month the snow will also fall in large amount." (Zirconia)

"I see..... Hmm, I might have a rather good idea." (Kazura)

"..... Good idea?" (Zirconia)

Kazura nodded by himself, so Zirconia looked at him with eyes full of expectation.

"Yes, this is still at the planning stage, but if this goes well then it might improve the citizen's diet and at the same time generate an income. I will try to come with a concrete plan, after that should I consult it to you?" (Kazura)

When Kazura mentioned this, Zirconia nodded with eyes shining with anticipation.

Though she didn't know what kind of plan Kazura had in mind, but since it was his idea then it wouldn't be something bad.

Furthermore, refusing an offer of help was never an option, to begin with.

"Of course. I will be expecting it." (Zirconia)

"Ah, no, isn't it still in the planning stage? It hasn't been decided yet....." (Kazura)

"Yes. Even so, I will be looking forward to what kind of plan it will be." (Zirconia)

Zirconia showed a confidence that the plan had been decided already, that made Kazura produced a wry smile.

CHAPTER 66

TOGETHER WITH ZILL-SAN

After they walked for several minutes more, Kazura's group arrived at the big river that flowed north from Isteria.

The river was about 20 meters wide, but due to the low water level, some parts of the riverbed were exposed to air.

"This is quite a big river..... The place where it is possible to install waterwheel in this place will be....." (Kazura)

Kazura climbed a nearby big rock, before surveying the riverside to find a suitable location to install the waterwheel.

The river mostly flowed in a straight line and far away he could see several branches that flowed to the fields and Isteria City.

If they want to install the waterwheel, then just like in Grisea Village they need to make waterwheel channel alongside the river.

"Perhaps we can try that place. Let's issue an instruction to dig the ground and make a waterwheel channel." (Kazura)

After he found a dried up hollowed water channel near the river, Kazura jumped down from the rock.

The water channel was connected to the river, but due to the low water level no water flowed in it.

If they dug this water channel more deeper, then it might be changed into a mill race.

"This water channel, please dig it until it reached the river water level. Dig it about..... this wide." (Kazura)

Kazura picked up a nearby lying stone and made a tracing mark on the ground.

The soon to be made channel's width was about the same with the mill race created at Grisea Village.

"Also, please dig a hole for the waterwheel's supports. Please tell the people with free hands to assemble the waterwheel and the wooden aqueduct that will receive the drawn water." (Kazura)

Kazura gave out his instruction and Zirconia immediately distribute the workload at the nearby servants.

The servants rushed toward the carriage and took out hoes with a bronze blade or flat shovel-like tools before start working simultaneously.

"Then let's begin assembling the waterwheel. I will instruct the procedure so please memorize it while working. After this one is finished we still need to assemble several more waterwheels." (Kazura)

"You people also need to help with assembling the waterwheel. The rest make the wooden aqueduct." (Zirconia)

Since most of the servants at the time were digging the mill race, the 10 or so guards were also assigned to work.

Though it was somewhat feel overstaffed, it might be better than having just a few.

"Kazura-san, will the assembled waterwheels going to be installed entirely in this fields?" (Zirconia)

"No, it's not like we need to install every waterwheel. If there are enough waterwheels to send water to the fields then we will install the remaining waterwheel at other places. At the same time, we could also do improvement with the waterwheel." (Kazura)

"Improvement..... with the waterwheel?" (Zirconia)

"Yes, improvement." (Kazura)

What did he mean by that, was the confused expression that Zirconia made as she looked at Kazura who made a rather confident face.

“Well, waterwheel isn’t only a tool to draw up water. If we do some modification on it, it could also provide moving power to various tools.” (Kazura)

“Umm..... What kind of tools that you mean?” (Zirconia)

“To give an example, the movement of the waterwheel movement could be coupled to create a self-moving milling machines. Without using any human power, I believe the work efficiency so far would be increased by many fold.” (Kazura)

“Many..... fold?” (Zirconia)

Kazura cite an example of mechanism using waterwheel power and Zirconia made an expression as if she was out of touch with the reality.

She had thought that the waterwheel was only a tool to draw water, so even when she was suddenly informed that there are other way to use waterwheel, she won’t get excited if she didn’t see the real thing.

“If we had succeeded in restoring the grain producing area according to the methods I had instructed, then the production output of the crops in the fields would have a sharp increase. However, it will also increase the time needed for the post-harvest processing.” (Kazura)

If it goes smoothly, after several month they would be able to harvest a large amount of crops as the effect of the fertilizer that they had scattered over the fields just now.

Most of the current planted crops had already withered, but the next planted crops was expected to have a substantial harvest.

So on the next crops harvesting..... it will certainly increase the workload like threshing and milling the grain so it can be used in the bread making.

If they somehow able to process this more efficiently, coupled with the increase in crops output, it might decrease the price of the food in the market.

Then, the citizen’s life would surely be quite easier.

“I still am not that acquainted with the farming practiced in this country, so I wish you to tell me about it. What kind of grain do you use for bread and how it is threshed and milled?” (Kazura)

“For bread we use bread wheat. To threshing it we put a bundle of wheat ears over several traversing poles, then we beat it with a rod. For porridge and Rata or other animal fodder we use Rata wheat, we threshed it by heating the bundle of ears over a fire. For milling we use quern stones for both of them.” (Zirconia)

It seems that the threshing methods in this world were still quite primitive.

Kazura could remember that he had heard about threshing grains by hitting it using rods in the history class when he was still a child in elementary and middle school, but it was the first time he had ever heard about threshing by heating it over a fire.

“Heating it over a fire? I never seen it so I don’t really understand, but won’t the Rata wheat will get burned?” (Kazura)

“After it is heated over a fire, it would immediately be dropped to the ground and the fire will be stamped out, so the seed wouldn’t get burned. Would you like to see it next time? It is quite interesting.” (Zirconia)

Perhaps she was remembering the farm work scene, Zirconia explained while smiling in nostalgia.

Kazura had seen Zirconia’s smile several times before, but this was the first time he saw Zirconia smiling honestly like this.

“I see, I would like to..... Um, do Zirconia-san familiar with the farm work?” (Kazura)

“Yes, since I was originally a peasant, I had helped in the fields and harvest every year. But since I married Nelson when I was 16, I didn’t do it anymore.” (Zirconia)

Zirconia had said an unexpected thing that made Kazura surprised inside.

He had thought that Zirconia has surely came from nobility, but the truth was different.

Even though her social position was a peasant, she married a Nelson who was a high ranked noble that governed a province. Just what kind of story underlined this situation.

“(S-so she is a peasant. I am quite curious about the details of her marriage.... Come to think of it, just how old is she?)” (Kazura)

Judging from her outer appearance, Zirconia looked quite young.

It was just his intuition, but Kazura thought that there were no large age gap between him and her.

“Then, Zirconia had helped in the farm work before..... But, when many years has passed you may become out of touch for it.” (Kazura)

“That’s true..... it has been 10 years since I haven’t perform any farm work. Right now, I might not do it well. Perhaps I should test it next time.....” (Zirconia)

“(So that means, she is 26? Don’t this mean that she is only 1 year older than me. This makes her my peer, right? Huh?)” (Kazura)

Using a splendid way of talking, he had succeeded in inferring Zirconia’s age.

However, after he heard this, there was one question popped out in Kazura’s mind.

The relationship between Lieze and Zirconia.

“(..... How old is Lieze-san then?)” (Kazura)

From her outer appearance, Lieze looked like a teen, but that means Zirconia would have to beget Lieze when she was just 11 years old.

Based on the age when she married Nelson, this would be impossible.

“(Perhaps Zirconia is Nelson’s second wife..... But, now might not be the time to be thinking about this.)” (Kazura)

Kazura realized how his thought had been greatly derailed from what he had talked about in the beginning and so he immediately correct his mind’s course.

“.....Then, let’s not only made milling machine but also threshing machine. At any rate, we need to decrease the food price, since the common people will end up suffering.” (Kazura)

“Yes. Though I don’t know what kind of thing it is or have the least imagination of it, I am grateful for your offer. Since I will prepare any needed materials or personnel, please don’t hesitate to inform me if you need to.” (Zirconia)

Perhaps since her feeling had been more loosened since the talk about the farm work, Zirconia's ambience felt somehow softer than the usual.

Until then, perhaps because Zirconia was steeling herself for the works of restoring the grain fields, her ambience felt a bit tense.

For Kazura, he wanted to be working in the situation just like the laid-back atmosphere in Grisea Village as much as possible, so he felt relieved when the usual atmosphere returned.

This was something that Kazura learned back in his working days, but no matter how busy a situation will be, as long as the atmosphere of the place is excellent, then one way or another, it will succeed.

Zirconia was also had a similar situation with Kazura. She was working nonstop until late at night every day, so she had been exhausted both physically and mentally, and her mind didn't get any rest.

Although just like Isaac and Havel, she would be invigorated if she received Lipo-D, but even if it against her will, she might need to have a proper rest.

"Umm..... Kazura-sama. Zirconia-sama. If you don't mind, would you please instruct the assembling procedure....." (Soldier)

Kazura remembered the matter of the water wheel when he heard the soldier's voice and then began to issue instruction towards the soldier in hurry.



Then about 2 hours had passed.

The servants somehow had finished in changing the existing water channel into a mill race and digging the hole for the waterwheel support.

In front of this channel were the completed the waterwheel and the aqueduct and right now everyone were trying to install the waterwheel into its place.

"Don't put it with too much power since it will damage the axle, place it gently..... Ah, that place has slipped out. Put it a bit this way please." (Kazura)

Kazura was prowling around and give instruction to the servants who were lifting the waterwheel up, and then they gently place the waterwheel on its support.

With the waterwheel in place, to check whether or not it had been placed properly on its support without slipping, the waterwheel was turned around by hand as a test.

“Alright. Then, next step is to place the aqueduct that will receive the water.” (Kazura)

Just like what Kazura had instructed, the servants installed the assembled wooden aqueduct beside the waterwheel.

After finished with placing the aqueduct, Kazura instructed the servants to move away from the waterwheel and with a hoe in his hand, he headed towards the head race where the mill race meet with the river.

“Let the water flow~” (Kazura)

With a loud voice, Kazura cleared the soil between the river and the mill race.

With the soil cleared away, the water vigorously flowed in the mill race.

The water flowing in the mill race strike the waterwheel’s blades and then the waterwheel slowly began to rotate little by little.

While the waterwheel rotates, the water drawing buckets began to take on water from the mill race and then moved it up before discharging it in the wooden aqueduct.

At the sight of the waterwheel vigorously drawing the water up, the servants and the guard soldiers raised their voice in wonder.

“..... I see, the water flowing in the Grisea Village’s aqueduct is drawn from the river in this manner.” (Zirconia)

Looking at the waterwheel that continuously scooping up the water, Zirconia muttered with awe in her eyes.

“Yes, Grisea Village’s waterwheel and this one are completely the same th..... Huh?” (Kazura)

Kazura, who had returned back to Zirconias side, was looking at the waterwheel while catching his breath, but he had found something and soon walked towards the waterwheel.

“Is something wrong?” (Zirconia)

“..... There is an irregularity in the rotational speed.” (Kazura)

Kazura spoke out while beckoning Zirconia to approach with his hand.

“Please look at the bucket parts. I think the timing in scooping up the water is not regular.....” (Kazura)

“.....Certainly, there is a delay. Is it originally should have been rotating with constant speed?” (Zirconia)

Zirconia looked for awhile at the timing of the waterwheel scooping the water that Kazura had pointed out. She then asked Kazura who was frowning while looking at the waterwheel.

Although just on the glance, the waterwheel was operating without any problem, but if someone looked at it closely then they could see that the waterwheel was obviously had an irregular rotation.

“Yes, that’s right. Because the same blueprint was used for Grisea Village’s and this one, it seems that there is an error in the parts production.” (Kazura)

“..... Please accept my deepest apologies. I will quickly investigate the cause and fix it.” (Zirconia)

“Please do so. Not only the irregular rotational speed would quickly damage the waterwheel, but it will decrease the work efficiency... Ah, but, let’s leave this waterwheel like this for now. Even if it had somewhat had an unsatisfactory efficiency, we must send some water to the fields.” (Kazura)

Kazura stopped talking and began to think about the possible cause.

The waterwheel constructed in Grisea Village was something that Kazura personally supervise and drawn up, so it was able to be finished in a perfect manner.

However, the blueprint handed over to Zirconia was the same blueprint used in Grisea Village.

It couldn't be the fault of the blueprint, so perhaps the fault lies in parts production.

There was a high possibility that the work manufacturing precision deteriorated so that they could be mass-produced the waterwheel parts in a rush, but he felt that this was not the case.

“(By the way, I haven't seen the hand tools this world..... If they don't have decent tools, this might be the cause of why the parts precision is lacking.)” (Kazura)

When they perform the parts production in Grisea Village, they didn't just use the bronze tools that had been used in the village from the start but also using a large amount of Japan-made tools that Kazura had brought with him.

However, the Isterian craftsmen, who manufacture the waterwheel parts this time, surely didn't possess such tools.

So asking them to produce a waterwheel that was identical with the one in Grisea Village might be something that was unreasonable.

However, in any case, confirming this will be for another day.

The parched up dry fields need to be irrigated immediately or the barely surviving plants would wither for good.

Even if the waterwheel soon collapsed due to subpar parts precision, since the existing parts were enough for about 30 waterwheel, if it was broken then they could just replace it with a new one.

It would be problematic for the waterwheel to be coupled with a machine like a mill, but if it only for drawing water, for now he could just need to turn a blind eye for some of the problems.

“For the time being, please postpone the waterwheel parts manufacturing tomorrow. We will resume when we have identified the cause and perform the countermeasure for it.” (Kazura)

“I understand. So we will perform countermeasure from the early stage..... Umm, I am terribly sorry. I will take responsibility for this.” (Zirconia)

Perhaps because she felt that this was her responsibility, Zirconia made an honest dispirited expression.

“Ah, no, please don’t be daunted by this. This is all because of my unreasonable request, so this is not Zirconia-san’s responsibility.” (Kazura)

While comforting Zirconia who had become completely dejected, Kazura looked at the vast grain fields.

For the time being, he had succeeded in installing one waterwheel, but surely he still needs to install it at other locations.

It seems the time for Kazura to take a breather will be a bit longer.

CHAPTER 67

REASON FOR FIXATION

Several hours passed.

Zirconia, who had finished with the work in the grain fields for today, was meeting with Nord, the Leveson House, in the guest room at Leveson Mansion.

There was no one inside the room other than Zirconia and Nord, the guards that she brought and the servants had been ordered to wait outside the room.

Alongside the walls of the guest room were adorned with expensive decorations and paintings with such an exquisite balance that it won't be too obtrusive for sight.

The floor was covered with marble tiles, that had been polished to such degree that it was glistening and no single hint of dirt could be seen.

Zirconia took a glance at the room interior and then smiled as she faced Nord who was sitting opposite of the table from her.

"I am terribly sorry for interposing your schedule against your will. There is something that I must ask you no matter what." (Zirconia)

"I am obliged that you deliberately made a visit to us. However, may I know what is that you request for?" (Nord)

Nord answered with a genial manner mingled with a smile, just like Zirconia.

He did not show any nervous appearance even if he was in front of Zirconia, it was indeed an impressive conduct.

"She is a slave working at your House, but I want you to sell that girl to me, a slave named Marie." (Zirconia)

When Zirconia mentioned Marie name, Nord's eyes narrowed.

".....Marie?" (Nord)

“Yes. Ten days ago, Nelson’s friend, Kazura-san, stayed at your mansion, isn’t it correct? It seems that Kazura-san is really pleased with the dinner that your mansion had served.” (Zirconia)

“.....If it was ten days ago, then a person that my son Havel accompanied with?” (Nord)

“Yes, that’s right. Kazura-san had been staying at our estate for a short while, but it seems that the dishes cooked by our chefs didn’t suit his palate. Thereupon, we plan to employ Marie, who was responsible for cooking the dinner for Kazura-san ten days ago, as a personal chef for Kazura-san. You may ask any price for her, but won’t you sell that girl to me.” (Zirconia)

After Zirconia finished speaking, Nord turned his sight from her and knitting his brow in silent.

“.....Is there a problem?” (Zirconia)

Seeing Nord was behaving like this, Zirconia tilted her head.

Being called out by Zirconia, Nord raised his head, made a bitter expression and began talking.

“..... Can it be anyone else? There are several other maids that are tasked with cooking duty in our Mansion.” (Nord)

“It will not do. It looks like Kazura-san doesn’t only interested in the cooking, but also in that girl herself. She wouldn’t be able to be substituted with another person.” (Zirconia)

“.....” (Nord)

“Is there any reason for your hesitation? If it does, can you inform me about it?” (Zirconia)

With a frowned face that erased her smile, Zirconia questioned Nord who was once again averted his eyes and became silent.

The other party, Nord raised his face in a hurry with a flustered expression.

“Marie is my illegitimate child, so I want her to be close to me as much as possible. If it only lending her for a limited period of time, then.....” (Nord)

“..... Do you care about Marie that much?” (Zirconia)

“Yes. Even if she was an illegitimate child, she is still more or less my child.” (Nord)

Zirconia asked back with a surprised expression and so Nord replied with a really earnest expression.

“..... There is something that I don’t understand from your words. Marie is a child born from your slave, right? If you really care about her that much, then why did you leave her status as a slave? If you applied for her in the Isteria yearly census survey, then she could be released from her slave status, right?” (Zirconia)

“If I did that then Marie would enter the Leveson’s House genealogy..... As one would expect, it will be hard to formally admit a slave’s child into the genealogy..... Furthermore, my wife and children wouldn’t accept this, so I can’t do anything but to leave her status as a slave while keeping her close at hand.” (Nord)

“Even so, if this true won’t Marie will feel that she is shaming this house? Other than you, the other member of the family hate Marie, right? Then won’t it will better to use this chance and sent her outside so that in the future her livelihood would be guaranteed and she would be happy, right?”

When Zirconia pointed this out, for a moment Nord showed an expression as if he was saying, “Damn” .

“Ah, no..... That’s is..... true, but.....” (Nord)

“(.....Ah, so it is like that...)” (Zirconia)

Nord had difficulty in enunciating his answer, that Zirconia vaguely understood why Marie was left in such situation.

This was just her guessing, but Marie is an existence that is similar to a collar to bind Havel within the Leveson House.

A few days ago, when Kazura headed towards Grisea Village with Havel and others, Zirconia had heard from Isaac that Kazura had instructed Marie to board the carriage with him.

Although Isaac said that Havel was taking Kazura's need into his consideration and thus bringing Marie along as someone that Kazura had acquainted before, but perhaps this might be for a different reason.

It was because, when Kazura was heading towards Grisea Village, the problem with Kazura's meal preference hadn't come out yet.

If the meal problem had already been known, then it could be reasoned that Havel had predicted this and so he took Marie along with him.

However, since at that point this meal problem hadn't be known yet, she couldn't find any reason for him to bring Marie along with him.

If Marie was brought along to be someone who will assist Kazura in his need or to be a someone to talk to, and indeed she had heard it so, if she properly thought about it, this was somewhat strange.

Among the servants taken along for that journey, Zirconia had also taken along people who had been in charge of waiting for Kazura's necessities during his stay in Istelle Estate.

Havel should have known about this and yet he deliberately brings a servant to serve him and chose that servant to be Marie, a very young girl with the only reason of being Kazura's acquaintance.

Furthermore, different from the servants that had served him for several days at Istelle Estate, Marie only served Kazura for only one night.

She didn't know how close was Marie to Kazura at that time, no matter how affable Kazura was with everybody, could he be close to a servant he just met for one night?

Furthermore, from what Nord had said, except for Nord, no one in the Leveson House would think Marie in a favorable light.

If this is true, then all the more, it would cause a contradiction with the reason why Havel choose Marie as the servant.

Also when she approached Havel for Kazura's meal situation, he immediately recommends Marie.

If Havel hates Marie then he wouldn't recommend Marie like this.

If Marie ended as Kazura's personal chef, then she would be under Kazura and Istelle House's patronage.

Zirconia ended up on a conclusion that perhaps this was what Havel aimed at.

".....Well, since you have said that far, then for now, even lending her is acceptable."
(Zirconia)

Nonetheless, there was no reason for Zirconia to purposely match Havel's intention.

Even if she persisted in buying Marie's ownership forcibly right now, Leveson House's impression on Istelle House might deteriorate more than necessary.

Although it had already progressed to some degree with Havel's intention, there was no change in her first aim of allocating Marie for Kazura.

For Zirconia, no matter how the method will be, as long as Marie could become a chef for Kazura, it will be fine.

If Kazura said that he wanted Marie herself, then without any answer Zirconia would buy Marie's ownership from Leveson House. But if it not so, then there wouldn't be any problem even if she was just loaned.

"I-is that so. Thank you very much." (Nord)

"However." (Zirconia)

Nord showed a relieved expression after he heard Zirconia's answer, but Zirconia continued her words.

"During Marie's loan period, she will live at our estate. Her ownership will still remain with Leveson House, but if Kazura-san say that he wished for Marie herself, then at that time please surrender her." (Zirconia)

"..... Understood." (Nord)

Zirconia confirmed that Nord nodded, albeit reluctantly, and so she loosened her expression and smiled.

“I am very sorry to ask something unreasonable from you. Well then, since I will retrieve Marie’s personal belongings, can I have you to arrange it?” (Zirconia)

“Yes certainly, please wait for a moment.” (Nord)

Nord bowed to Zirconia and then stood up before exiting the guest room.



At that time,

The courtyard in Nelson’s Estate was dark as the sun had sunk completely. At that place, Kazura and Isaac were in the middle of a serious discussion in front of the electric generator.

Havel who had returned together with them was responsible for tidying the carriages and carts, so he was currently not there.

Root, who had been guarding the generator until now, not too long ago had been ordered by Kazura to prepare a large amount of lumber and boards, and so had gone to the material storehouse inside the Estate.

“So, this place is to be enclosed and attached with a roof, so it will become something like a small shed.” (Isaac)

“I want to put a door on it so it is possible to take out or bring in the content since this couldn’t be completely enclosed like a wooden box..... Also, to bring out the drums that had been left inside the room to the courtyard, as I also want to make a small shed to store them.” (Kazura)

As Kazura explained, he turned his attention on the corner of the courtyard that faced the location of the generator.

The sun had already set, but both of them was preparing the construction of a storage shed to store the materials like the drums.

Of course, even if the construction began this evening, it won't be finished by tonight. Even if they want to gather the needed personnel, it had already in the middle of the night. So they plan to begin the construction in earnest from tomorrow morning for several days.

However, before this, they will need to construct a simple small shed to enclose the continuously operating generator by tonight.

Currently, there were several boards set against the generator to cover it from prying eyes, so there was a risk that unrelated people could easily peek through the gap.

However, if they made something like a shed, even a simple one, and locked it, then there would hardly be a person who will deliberately destroy the lock to peek at the content.

Of course, he could post guards around it, however, if the shed was completed, then it will decrease the personnel that he need to employ.

Nonetheless, it will be necessary to choose personnel who wouldn't lose to their own curiosity and try to peek the generator even if they hear the sounds which came intermittently from it.

After some time passed as both of them were conversing at that place, Root had returned pulling a cart that had been filled with materials like wooden boards and the likes.

“Kazura-sama, will this much be sufficed?” (Root)

“Yes, this much will be enough. Thank you very much.” (Kazura)

Kazura nodded in satisfaction at the cart with the materials.

“Then, let's quickly assembled it right now. Isaac-san please wait in this place for a while, I will bring the tools. It will be fine for Root-san to return today. I am sorry to make you guard for extended period.” (Kazura)

“No, please let me help too. I will do anything.” (Root)

Although Kazura had given his permission for Root to return home, Root straightened his posture and made a statement that he is willing to help Kazura.

Root had been standing watch over the generator since the morning, so he ought to be tired.

Nevertheless, Root's expression was still full with eagerness.

“Yes, but, Root-san hadn't eaten any dinner yet and must be tired, right? Since I also planning to ask for your help tomorrow morning, it will better for you to return home for today.....” (Kazura)

“I am thankful for the consideration. However, I am still in good condition, so please let me help.” (Root)

Root's eyes were slightly wet from being emotionally moved due to Kazura's consideration.

Beside him, Isaac looked a bit delighted at Root.

By the way, Kazura and Isaac already ate their dinner.

Since Nelson and Lieze couldn't participate at today's dinner, they ate the meal individually before meeting at this place.

“(Ah, this person is just like a small Isaac-san. Petite-Isaac-san.)” (Kazura)

This morning, when Kazura conversed a bit with Root, he had felt that Root's ambiance was similar to someone. This turned out to be Isaac.

Root was 160 cm tall so he was small compared to the 180 cm tall Isaac.

However, his body was buffed up from the daily training just like Isaac, without any excess fat on him.

His manner was a bit stiff, but he knows the proper etiquette, giving a strong impression of an honest young man.

Although, his age was still 17-year-old, give or take several years, he would surely grow into a splendid soldier just like Isaac.

“Kazura-sama, Root is a man who will not leak out the secret to other people. Since he has known that Kazura-sama is Greysior-sama since the beginning, there won't be any problem with him helping us.” (Isaac)

“.....Then, I will look forward to your help. With three men, let's finish this quickly.” (Kazura)

Since Isaac also recommended Root, Kazura consented with his help suggestion and this made Root's expression brightened.

“Thank you very much! I will strive to work with my whole power!” (Root)

Root answered energetically. Kazura made a wry smile and then headed back to the room to bring out the tools.

CHAPTER 68

THE TOOLS ARE NOT WEAPON

“Umm, hammer and nails and saw..... How bothersome, the nailgun and the electric saw will be better. It might be fine if it’s that two.” (Kazura)

Kazura, who had returned to the room, took out power tools from a toolbox packed inside a large cardboard box.

At first, he thought to use a hammer and a saw for the work, but right now it would take too much time using those tools.

Though the sounds were a bit conspicuous, but it was already dark, no other human presence nearby, and he also had an electric generator.

It will be convenient for him if the work finished faster by using power tools.

Kazura placed the power tools, lighting tools and other implements inside a nearby empty cardboard box, and then carried it towards the courtyard.



“Kazura-sama, is there anything I can do to help you?” (Maid)

“Thank you very much. I can handle this so it’s fine..... Hm?” (Kazura)

While he was walking in the corridor while carrying the box, he met a maid that happened to pass by, who then opened the door towards the courtyard for him.

Then while he said his thanks and pass through the door, he saw several objects flying in the night sky.

“What’s that? Birds?” (Kazura)

Kazura looked up at the night sky and muttered those words. Then, the maid who noticed this looked up at Kazura’s line of sight.

“Ah, those are bats. Since the light from the torches and candles in the Estate is brighter than the town, it came to eat the flying insects that were attracted by the light.” (Maid)

“Eeh? So it’s bats. What a number.” (Kazura)

When he looked closely at the sky, there was a considerable number of bats flying around.

If there was such large amount of bats then the flying insects that were gathered at the Estate might be more tremendous.

Together with the maid, Kazura stared at the night sky for a while. When he came to himself again, he fixed the cardboard box he carried in his arms and then walked towards the courtyard where Isaac and Root were waiting.



Kazura returned to where Isaac and Root were, put the cardboard box on the ground, and then took out the power tools and LED lantern.

Again, this might be just a mere consolation for his mind, but they put the wooden boards leaning the generator and the cart at his surroundings and made a simple covered space between it and the building.

“Well then, since I don’t want this to take much time, let’s finish this quickly.” (Kazura)

He put the switched on LED lantern nearby, and then manipulated the switch at the generator so that it gave out the maximum output.

At the moment he did this, the low sounds that the generator had produced until now, suddenly became louder, that the surroundings began to reverberate with the loud roaring sound.

Disregarding Root who opened his eyes in surprise from this noise and Isaac who was looking around restlessly, Kazura took out the power cord for the electric saw and then plugged it into the generator.

The electric saw that Kazura held was a circular saw type, it was a type where the circular blade will rotate at high speed to cut the material.

“Isaac-san, please take up 2 pieces of square lumbers there.” (Kazura)

“Y-yes.” (Isaac)

After he received the square lumbers from Isaac, he placed them on the ground with a space between them.

This served as a simple pedestal for cutting boards.

Next, the boards that he received from Isaac were placed perpendicularly at the square lumber pedestals.

The board thickness was about 2 centimeters, its width was about 30 centimeters and its length was more than 2 meters.

As it is, the board was too big, so it must be cut into suitable sizes.

With the measuring tape and permanent marker taken from the cardboard box, he measured precisely one meter and then put a marker to it.

Then pinning the board with his knee, and applied the blade of the electric saw he held with both of his hand at the edge of the board.

“Alright, let’s quickly cut this. I will cut the board continuously so please prepare the next board. Since I will cut about 20 boards.” (Kazura)



Kazura made his order and then began to activate the electric saw and cut the board.

The high-speed rotating blade let out its distinctive cutting sound, the wood chips scattered around as it began to cleave through the board.

Together with his father, Shinji, Kazura had used the power tools before to make wooden compost box for the field fertilizer back in his home, so he knew how to use an electric saw.

Since Shinji had repeated time and time again, that it could result in serious injury if one's not careful, Kazura knew this risk by heart.

“W-what is.....” (Isaac)

Isaac and Root were staring intensely at how the board was cut so easily with astonishment.

To cut this sort of timber in this world, generally one will use a bronze or copper pull saw.

Because it was a pull saw, it took a lot of time to cut the board, if someone does not use it right, it was normal that the blade would bend.

As if to perfectly negate that common sense, the bulky board in front them right now, was being cut with a ruthless power by that small mysterious tools.

Isaac had understood that the tools that Kazura owned have an out of common sense ability, but the event happening in front of his eyes had crossed his imagination by far distance.

“The next one please.” (Kazura)

“A, yes!” (Isaac)

Kazura, who had finished cutting the board in 10 seconds, requested the next board, so Isaac and Root presented the next board to Kazura in hurry.

Kazura received the board presented to him and then piles it on top of the board that he had just cut, then he put a mark next to the section that had been cut.

Then, once again the electric saw began to cut the board.

“Hmm, this will still waste too much time. Isaac-san, please bring those two square timbers and place it here.” (Kazura)

Kazura, who had cut the second board, stopped his work and called out to Isaac.

“Will this place suffice?” (Isaac)

“Yes, that’s will be fine. But it’s a bit too long. Let’s cut it.” (Kazura)

Receiving the square timber that Isaac brought, he measured the length with the tape and then cut it with the electric saw.

In the blink of an eye, two 1.5 meters long square timbers had been made.

“While I am cutting the board, I want Isaac-san to construct the shed’s wall using this tool. I will explain how to use it, so please look at this.” (Kazura)

Kazura placed the square timbers that had just been cut on the ground with a 1-meter space between them, then he placed the boards that he had cut before atop of it, and then he took out a nailgun from the cardboard box placed nearby.

This nailgun was a spring type, it was different from air pressure type that needs to be connected to a compressed air hose to be used.

Its source of power was a battery and its nail load was 100.

“This is what is called as *nailgun*, it’s a tool to drive a nail into a board without using a hammer. I can also be called as a nailer machine.” (Kazura)

While grasping that Isaac was listening to Kazura’s explanation with a serious expression, Kazura pushed the nailgun on the part of the board where it met with the square timber.

“Press this part and then the nail will be driven into the board. Please be careful so it won’t be driven slantwise.” (Kazura)

Kazura explained and pointed at the nailgun’s trigger, then Isaac kneeled down and brought his face close to nailgun to see it and then nodded.

“Since I will show how it’s work, please watch this.” (Kazura)

The nailgun was placed perpendicularly at the board and the trigger was pulled. *bash*. With a slight sound, the nail had been instantly driven into the board.

“Kinda like this. Place the board atop of the square timber to build the shed’s wall, while I’m cutting the board, Isaac-san please use that nailgun to construct the wall.” (Kazura)

“I understand..... What a wonderful tool this is.” (Isaac)

Isaac received the nailgun from Kazura, then looked at its shape with an admiring sight.

The figure of him placing his fingers on the trigger was strangely looked appropriate.

“Ah, more or less it has a mechanism where the nail won’t come out if it doesn’t being pressed against a board, but since it is dangerous, don’t point it at a person. Just in case something happens.” (Kazura)

“Yes. I will pay attention to it.” (Isaac)

Kazura warned him, so Isaac nodded and removed his finger from the nailgun’s trigger.

Power tools are convenient things, but there is a risk of the mistake in its use might cause serious injury.

So a thorough caution was necessary when handling it.

“Then, shall we start? By splitting the work, it will finish faster.” (Kazura)

And so, Kazura and Root was cutting the wood, while Isaac was building the wall. With this role division, the work continues.



One hour later.

Thanks to the power tools, the construction work progressed favorably, in front of the three people a 1-meter side square box, or rather, a small shed for the generator had been finished.

The small shed's opening had copper hinges attached to it, it was a single door type.

This hinge was something that had been requested to Root, who then searched throughout the Estate to obtain it.

The lock was also something procured from the Estate, a bronze padlock was fasten to it.

The small lock that the three had made, was placed on top of four pillars driven into the ground, there was a 10 centimeters gap between the wall and the ground surface.

A generator in operation will release carbon monoxide. So that it could be ventilated by the wind, they created a gap.

The pillars at the ground were buried about 40 centimeters deep, the base had been threaded down solidly, so it would be hard to dig it up.

The roof was also been covered with the board without any gaps, which then tightly fixed with nails.

“Ah, so tired. One thing or another, it had taken quite a time.....” (Kazura)

“That is true. But if not for these tools then it won't be finished by midnight. As expected, the tools from God's Realm is amazing.” (Isaac)

In contrast with Kazura who looked at the small shed with a tired expression, Isaac sounds energetic.

Root's face was also a bit tired, but compared to Kazura, he was still looked better.

“By the way, I thought that there would be someone who will come and see the situation when they heard the sound, but it looks like no one came. Even though the electric saw made such loud noise.” (Kazura)

“Come to think of it, this is true. The loud sound should be conspicuous..... Hm?” (Isaac)

When they were talking, they looked at the surrounding and noticed that someone was walking from the residence.

“Kazura-sama, has the work finished?” (Havel)

“Ah, Havel-san. It was finished just by now..... Eh, had I mentioned about the work in this place to you?” (Kazura)

After they returned to Nelson’s Estate from the fields, Havel was entrusted to tidying the carts and carriages, so he shouldn’t be informed about the work of constructing the small shed.

Perhaps he had seen Kazura’s group working at the small shed from somewhere?

“You hadn’t. I didn’t hear anything about the work, but there was a loud sound coming from the direction of Kazura-sama’s room..... So I have been detaining people who gathered to check the situation.” (Havel)

It seems that Havel had been clearing people out for all this hour so that Kazura’s group could work easier.

In spite of the sounds that they scattered during the work, there was no one visiting them, this was all thanks to Havel who had done many things at places unseen from them.

“Umm, I am really sorry, but when Kazura-sama does this kind of work in the future, please kindly inform us beforehand..... Since if we had been informed beforehand then Nelson-sama’s order can be transmitted to the whole Estate and then no one will dare to approach.” (Havel)

“..... Umm..... I see, I’m sorry.....” (Kazura)

“Ah, please, no! Please do not apologize! Since it’s already night, there were only a few maids and guards that came to check the situation!” (Havel)

Kazura made a dejected expression, so Havel quickly made a proper follow-up response.

Beside Kazura, Isaac and Root too, made a dejected expression like him.

At the same time.

Zirconia, who had returned to Nelson's Estate from Leveson's Mansion, was ordering the servants to convert a storage room inside the Estate into Marie's room.

In Japanese term, the room will be 8 tatamis wide, the interior was normally filled with several unused tables or shelves.

When Zirconia was looking at the servants carrying the furniture out one by one, Marie came running from the corridor in a hurry.

"Please forgive me for being late! Did Zirconia-sama called me?" (Marie)

Marie arranged her breath and nervously bowed her head down to Zirconia.

"There is no need to be that rushed, so it's alright. Please raise your head." (Zirconia)

Zirconia spoke out in a soft tone as if to calm Marie down. Marie raised her head although she was still a bit scared.

"Had I done something wrong?", she was extremely worried.

"From today, this will be your room. Then, you will be appointed to be Kazura-san's servant. From hereafter, please attend to Kazura-san's daily needs. Of course, you will also work as a personal cook." (Zirconia)

"W-!? U-understood!" (Marie)

Suddenly being allocated to a new room and appointed to new duties, Marie was bewildered, but she still replied vigorously while bowing her head down.

She completely didn't understand what is happening with the sudden events but he understood that something amazing had unexpectedly happened.

Of course, Marie didn't have a position that can reprove Zirconia, no matter what she said, Marie could only answer, "Yes."

“I don’t know how long this will be, but you have been loaned temporarily to Istelle House. Since this had been talked with Nord, please be at ease.” (Zirconia)

“Yes! Understood.” (Marie)

“Also, all of your personal articles had been retrieved, so there was no need for you to return to Leveson’s house. Clothes and furniture will also be provided, please use it from now on. Your monthly wage will be 1000 Ar.” (Zirconia)

“.....Eh!?” (Marie)

“Because any sundry expense will be deducted from that money, the money you receive will be less. Since you might not understand much of the environment, you and one more person will be assigned as Kazura-san’s official servants. Please ask all things that you don’t know to that girl. Since that girl has been working in the Estate for more than 10 years, she should have understood anything you asked.” (Zirconia)

“Wage” was an unexpected word, so Marie was surprised and hardly made a move.

Up until now, Marie was, more or less, received a wage from Leveson House, but that was just a meager salary in such amount that whether or not it exist wouldn’t matter at all.

And then, this place had a high salary of 1000 Ar per month.

Furthermore, she was allocated a personal room inside of the Estate, this was a generous arrangement.

Really, what just happened was incomprehensible.

By the way, the salary of 1000 Ar per month was the same amount given as the wages for Isteria guards or new recruit soldiers.

“If you save the money properly, then you might redeem yourself and released from slavery. Depending on your work, I plan to increase the salary too, so do your best.” (Zirconia)

“Y-yes.....” (Marie)

Perhaps because to be able to redeem herself didn't seem real for her, Marie was just nodding blankly.

“Ah, also.” (Zirconia)

Though she had completely forgotten this since they were talking about the terms and the salary, but Zirconia remembered something that she has to be said.

Just for caution's sake, as more or less, it might become a trouble if she didn't say it.

“Since you may be ordered by Kazura-san to attend him in the night, so always keep your body clean. If you need it, just give me a notice as I will give you special permission to use the bath.” (Zirconia)

Receiving yet another unexpected order, Marie had a cramp on her face.

CHAPTER 69

PRE-ESTABLISHED HARMONY

The next morning.

At the dining room in Nelson's estate, several maids were skillfully preparing the breakfast.

The 150 centimeters long table, that had been installed at the center of the room, was already finished arranged with silver plates, cups and other tableware.

Right now, the maids were serving the plates with soup or freshly baked bread and other foods at the tableware.

At the seats, sat the usual four people — the Istelle household and Kazura —, Nelson and Kazura quickly discussing the progress of yesterday work.

Amongst the maid who was preparing the breakfast, there was the figure of Marie who was just working as a live-in employee at Nelson's Estate yesterday.

Although Marie was somewhat bewildered with the new environment, but beginning with Eira who was preparing the table together with her, she received the instruction from other maids, while briskly serving up the meals.

Marie had been working as a maid in Leveson's mansion since childhood, so she had been familiar with the content of the work.

On the menu that was lined up on the table, there was an individual portion that had somewhat different content.

The dishes was the same with the others, but the ingredients used for it was completely different.

That individual portion was Kazura's, the dishes served on his plate were the retort pouch soup and canned bread that Kazura handed over to Marie this morning.

The soup was added with a small amount of minced vegetables in the kitchen, but the bread was just taken out from the can without change.

While the food was being lined one after another, Lieze took a peek at the other member who sat on the table.

“(..... These people, they are like going to collapse soon.)” (Lieze)

The other members who were waiting until the food was prepared, had a remarkable fatigue remained on their face, there were bags under their eyes.

Only Kazura who was still looked a bit better, even though he had a tired countenance with bag under his eyes, he had a cheerful tone while discussing yesterday’s works at the fields with Nelson.

Kazura had slept about 6 hours yesterday, so his physical condition was fairly well.

Furthermore, last night the ice-choco-mint-bar that melted several days ago had been chilled properly inside the refrigerator and turned into three extremely sweet choco-mint drinks, which he consumed.

Since the sugar content had fatigue recovery effect, even though the luxurious item had been turned into a deplorable state, since he still able to consume it, he was spirited over it nonetheless.

In contrast, as if her light consciousness had flown away, Zirconia was staring at the blue sky that could be seen outside the window with a blank expression.

From her appearance, it was apparent that she was terribly tired and had a lack of sleep so her countenance looked a bit pale.

“*Ano*, ^{Mother}Okaa-sama.....” (Lieze)

“.....” (Zirconia)

“*Okaa*-sama?” ^{Mother}(Lieze)

“(.....Sky, beautiful.)” (Zirconia)

Lieze was trying to start a conversation, but Zirconia kept looking at the sky without responding at all.

It was as if Lieze's words didn't enter her ears.

"Zill, Lieze is calling you." (Nelson)

"....." (Zirconia)

"Zill!" (Nelson)

"Eh!? Ah, sorry. What is it?" (Zirconia)

As her name was called by Nelson, Zirconia looked at him with a surprised expression.

"Are you alright? You look terribly tired....." (Nelson)

"I'm alright. No need to worry." (Zirconia)

Zirconia replied while fixing her countenance, but to all appearance, she didn't look fine.

"Zirconia-san, how about you rest for the whole day today? Since you seem to be unwell....." (Kazura)

"No need, I am really alright. Furthermore, even right now the works are piling up, so it's not the time for me to rest right now....." (Zirconia)

"..... How long do you sleep last night?" (Kazura)

"..... About half a stound." (Zirconia)

Zirconia embarrassedly muttered. Kazura and Nelson looked at each other face.

A half stound means approximately one hour, it isn't even enough to be called as a trifling sleep.

"Zill, rest for today. In this state, you will soon collapse." (Nelson)

"..... Then, I will rest throughout the morning." (Zirconia)

“No, it will be better for you to rest even to the afternoon. Please have a nice sleep.”
(Kazura)

“But.....” (Zirconia)

‘I cannot afford myself to sleep’, this kind of answer was the reply that was hard for her to say.

Truthfully, she wanted to slip into the bed and sleep at once, but the works had been piled up so much that there is no way she can sleep.

Because for the last few days, Zirconia followed Kazura in travelling to Grisea Village and went with him to supervise the work at the fields, she had totally postponed dealing with the territory clerical works, or reports from the military or civil officials that she somehow manage until now.

She had entrusted the works that can be entrusted to the other military or civil officials, even so the amount of works that could only be personally dealt by herself was considerably high.

If Zirconia continues to postpone the piled up works indefinitely, then just like a serial collision the next works waiting for her would get delayed, so Zirconia cannot afford herself to sleep.

In addition, inside Zirconia’s mind, the works related to the water mill parts manufacture that Kazura had personally ordered, was something that couldn’t be left to others.

As a result, she was short at hands by all means, so there was no other way to deal with other work but by reducing her sleep time.

^{Mother}
“Okaa-sama, please let me help with something too. Even if paperwork is impossible for me, I can help with the task of seeing the progress of the work on the site.” (Lieze)

Since Zirconia looks anguished, Lieze suddenly came forward with her proposal to assist.

At that unexpected remark, the other made an expression as if saying “Eh?” , and looked at Lieze.

“On the site?..... But shouldn't you have another schedule to do? What will you do about the meeting with visitors schedule?” (Zirconia)

“I will send out a messenger and convey that the meeting today will be suspended. Since the work in the territory is more important.” (Lieze)

“..... Who are the people scheduled to meet with you today?” (Zirconia)

“Umm.....” (Lieze)

Lieze sent a glance to Eira who stood at the wall.

“There are schedule to meet with Gregorn Province's noble, Gunther Brandt-sama, at the morning and the same Gregorn Province's noble, Nibel Ferdinand-sama at the afternoon. These are the second meeting with these two gentlemen.” (Eira)

“Nibel..... Ah.....” (Zirconia)

“.....So, it's that one.” (Nelson)

When Eira recited the name of the audience participant, Zirconia and Nelson made an expression as if they understand something.

“Yes..... Ah, it doesn't mean that I dislike that thing..... I mean, Nibel-sama.” (Lieze)

“(Ah, she called him that thing.....)” (Kazura)

Accidentally referring Nobel with 'that thing', Lieze looked at Kazura and was suddenly aware of what she had said, and then she quickly waved her hand in front of her chest and glossed her words in a hurry.

However, based on their reaction, the three people didn't have a good impression of this Nibel figure.

Kazura didn't know about this, but last night, Lieze couldn't participate in the dinner was because Nibel wouldn't return from Nelson Estate no matter how much time had passed.

Lieze had one way or another try to bring the conversation to an end and made a great effort to bring the audience to its conclusion, but Nibel's obliviousness was so overwhelming that he couldn't read the atmosphere at all.

As the result, Lieze got stuck with Nibel and have to unpleasantly take dinner with him, she was liberated at eight o'clock at night, which could be said as a wretchedly miserable day.

"..... Well, if you have met with him yesterday, then it will be fine if you decline him for today. Kazura-san, for today work at the fields, would you mind to take Lieze as my substitute?" (Zirconia)

"I don't mind. However, the works will be mostly the same with yesterday, so it wouldn't be a problem if I go alone." (Kazura)

"No, it will be improper for us..... In addition, I think that governmental affairs will soon be something that Lieze has to do. I wish that we can use this chance so that Kazura-san can teach her many things....." (Zirconia)

"Many things, correct.....?" (Kazura)

While thinking what's to be done with this situation, Kazura looked towards Lieze who face him back with an earnest expression.

"So that I can be useful to Kazura-sama, I will give the best of my ability. Please, take me together with you." (Lieze)

"Ah, no need to be that stiff. Since we wouldn't do any complicated matters, let's do it in an easygoing manner." (Kazura)

Kazura acknowledged, so Lieze made a relieved smile.

"Since we will walk around at the site until evening, please change to a casual attire. We also will take our lunch on the site, so please prepare some food for the lunchbox. Since my share will be prepared separately, it should be prepared individually." (Kazura)

"I understand. Eira, can I entrust the preparation to you?" (Lieze)

"Certainly." (Eira)

“Ah, Eira, wait a moment.” (Zirconia)

When Eira was about to exit the room after she received Lieze’s order, Zirconia called her to stop.

“Since it was already late at night, I ended up not informed you, but I will assign Marie and Eira as Kazura-san’s servants. Since both of them will live in inside the Estate, you can order them anything in the future.” (Zirconia)

““Eh!?” “ (Lieze)(Eira)

At Zirconia’s explanation, Lieze and Eira let out their surprise at the same time.

“I haven’t mentioned this to Lieze and Eira…… I’m sorry, I forgot.” (Zirconia)

“A-ano, Eira is my personal servant……” (Lieze)

Wondering whether or not Eira will be removed from her personal servant duty, Lieze showed an awfully dismayed expression.

Eira had been with Lieze since she was 3 years old, so it has been 11 years period since Lieze became her personal servant.

Since she was still small, Eira had been always at Lieze’s side, so for Lieze, there was no one else she could trust best than Eira.

It was natural that Lieze was dismayed if Eira was to be separated from her.

“Ah, it’s not like she will stop to be your servant. I want Eira to held two positions of Kazura and Lieze’s servant. Since Marie just arrived at the Estate and she hasn’t become familiar with it, I want Eira to guide her while still working as a servant.” (Zirconia)

“So it is…… guide……?” (Lieze)

When she heard that Eira will still be her servant, Lieze made a relieved expression even just for a bit, even so, she still looked uneasy.

Disregarding Lieze who made such expression, Zirconia turned her face to Eira.

“Eira, before the day is over I will prepare a room for you inside the Estate, so please move your belongings before long. I wouldn’t mind if you make use of the Estate’s servants in the moving.” (Zirconia)

“L-live-in.....” (Eira)

Receiving an order that leaves her no chance to further dialogue, Eira’s face stiffened.

Until now, every morning Eira left from her parents home at Isteria downtown, which was located 30 minutes walking distance away from the Estat.

Although the time to report for work changed slightly by the season, Eira basically arrived at Nelson’s Estate by 6.30 and then headed towards Lieze who was doing morning practices at the courtyard, which had become her daily routine.

This would be changed if she became a live-in employee, but if she’s not done so, then her work contents would be too excessive to be done.

When she thought so, Eira felt her mood was depressed.

However, as her master, Zirconia’s order is absolute and there weren’t any family circumstances that would make live-in arrangements to be impossible.

Her salary would surely increase, so she decide to just content with this situation and received the order.

If after her duty actually began, she concluded that her workload was too excessive, then at that time she could consult this with Zirconia.

By the way, a maid’s break day was 2 days every 10 days.

How the break could be obtained was various, such as deciding it with the master or exchanging workday with the other maids.

There also strong people who would relinquish their holiday and work for an increase in salary.

“Since the terms like the salary would change, I will pass the documents that will describe the term content later.” (Zirconia)

“I understood.....” (Eira)

Eira made a reply anyhow at Zirconia’s explanation, and then exited the room to prepare for Lieze’s trip after she made a bow.

With a bit uneasy expression on her face, Lieze looked at Eira’s back as she went out the room.

“Since Eira will still be your servant as before, there is no reason to worry. Whatever happens, if you and Kazura have a separate schedule, then Eira will be following you.”
(Zirconia)

“Yes.....” (Lieze)

“(.....Huh?)” (Kazura)

Because he suddenly felt something was amiss with the flow of the conversation, Kazura tilted his head in confusion.

Something, something seems impalpably strange, but the answer for this escaped his tongue for the moment.

In the meantime, the preparation for the breakfast had been put into order, and so the four people then began to set their hand on the prepared meal.



When the four people began to eat the breakfast, Eira was walking towards the kitchen inside the Estate, to procure the ingredients for the lunch.

“.....Huh?” (Eira)

Then, when she arrived in front of the kitchen, she suddenly stopped and tilted her head.

“(Just now, I felt that Zirconia-sama was saying that she will prepare a room for me inside the Estate, but might I just misheard things?)” (Eira)

Normally, the live-in employee would normally reside in a building especially made to be used by the servant.

Nelson's Estate too was not an exception, inside the Estate grounds there was a servant house.

Eira agreed that she was just misheard things and then entered the kitchen.

CHAPTER 70

BONDS OF OBLIGATIONS

After the breakfast, Lize was in front the bronze dresser in her room, as her hair was being arranged by Eira.

Currently, Lize's hairstyle was what is generally referred as the chignon.

In another name, the dumpling hairstyle.

It was what she had heard from Kazura during the breakfast just now, that today they would be installing the waterwheel in the fields until the evening.

Since they would be walking on foot without using Rata, a casual clothing that is easy to move is a must, and so was her hairstyle.



“Hey, Eira, what are your thoughts about the things back then?” (Lieze)

Lieze, whose hair was being tied up by Eira in silence, suddenly turned her sight from her own reflection in the mirror and looked at Eira’s reflection while asking her.

“Umm..... Is it about my concurrent post of being Kazura-sama’s servant?” (Eira)

“Un, that. Even though Kazura-sama has other maid assigned to him, what do Eira think about the reason to be nominated for that position?” (Lieze)

“The reason about that, is it?” (Eira)

Eira stopped her hand that was tying Lieze’s hair and began thinking while grunting.

“Hmmm. Perhaps since my experience as a Maid is considerably long and my age with Kazura-sama’s age are close? From his appearance, Kazura-sama looks like a person in the mid-twenties, so perhaps it’s because of this.” (Eira)

“..... Hmm.” (Lieze)

Lieze’s attempted to say, that seems not true, but Eira interrupted her words.

“Or perhaps, Zirconia-sama was trying to induce Lieze-sama to have an interest to Kazura-sama? I think that by assigning me as Kazura-sama’s servant, it will create a point of contact between you two. Considering that Kazura-sama was invited to the dining table when the participants were only the family members until recently, I think that there is no mistake in this.” (Eira)

“Un, I have the same thought.” (Lieze)

Since what she had thought was the same with Eira’s opinion, Lieze nodded in agreement.

“Several days ago, Okaa-sama^{Mother} expressly came to my room to discuss about Kazura-sama and I have no doubt it was to try to make me interested in Kazura-sama. However, there is one point that I couldn’t understand.” (Lieze)

“You couldn’t understand?” (Eira)

When Eira asked her back, Lieze tilted her head slightly while making a doubting expression.

^{Mother}
“Okaa-sama didn’t answer me when I ask which country’s noble Kazura-sama are. Don’t you think there is something being concealed?” (Lieze)

“.....Certainly.” (Eira)

When Lieze heard the story about Kazura from Zirconia, she said that Kazura is a great noble of a certain country.

However, even when Lieze asked which country it is, Zirconia didn’t answer.

Thinking it normally, there was no need to conceal such information with Lieze, so if the aim was to make Lieze became interested in him, it made Lieze couldn’t understand even more.

“Perhaps, he is a noble from Balveile.” (Eira)

“Eh, that’s not possible.....” (Lieze)

“But, if we consider that he is a great noble from a nearby country, then there is only Balveile in the North, doesn’t it? There should be no noble that stand out that far in Claylatz in the East, and Protia beyond Claylatz don’t have much intimate relationship with Arcadia.” (Eira)

The neighboring country in the east, Claylatz don’t have any great nobles who held much power.

The reason for this was because Claylatz has a form of direct democracy government since ancient times.

A direct democracy was a government form where each individual citizen could directly participate in the government.

In Claylatz, all citizen above 18 years are given suffrage and have voting right for the matters in the congress.

In peaceful time, the people who hold all important office, like the leader of the state or the diplomatic officer, were elected, furthermore, their term of office was limited to one year.

For this reason, concentrating interest by a specific person won't occur.

Although there were nobles remained from the past where the nobles were the heart of the government, the nobles in Claylatz did not differ greatly from the commoners.

In short, Claylatz was a country centered on common citizen.

Of course, disparity of wealth still exist, but the rich and the poor have the same right, they were common citizen.

In Claylatz, there were several cities other than the capital, which forms a close alliance of city-states.

Therefore, it named itself [Allied City-States of Claylatz.]

The country of Protia, located east from Claylatz, was a monarchy. There were nobles who held power, but until recent year there was no active cross-national interaction with Arcadia.

In the war 4 years ago, as a result of Claylatz intermediation to unite in an alliance to oppose Balveile, there was finally an active interaction between the nations.

Even before that, because of the trade that was actively performed through land or sea route, the relationship with each country was favorable.

By the way, Claylatz and Protia relationship were currently extremely well.

Until the war 4 years ago, this relationship was sometimes threatened by the issue of maritime rights or other concessions, but when the common enemy Balveile appeared, they mutually joined their hand.

But then, it was a temporary improvement in the relationship for cooperating interest of opposing a common enemy, so it wasn't clear what would happen when the war with Balveile was over.

Also, there was a country further east from Protia called Eltair Kingdom, this country too joined the same alliance as Arcadia at the previous war.

The size of the country was the same as Protia.

The relationship between Arcadia and Eltair Kingdom was even thinner than with Protia because of the distance issue.

Because the distance of the land route needs to pass through 3 national borders, the trades mainly came from the sea route.

“However, Zirconia-sama who greatly hate Balveile, not only won’t invite a Balveile’s noble to the resident, it will simply be unthinkable for her to invite that noble to join the dining table with the family.” (Eira)

“But, then that’s only leave Protia..... By the way, why Okaa-sama^{Mother} hate Balveile that much? Although I believe that it is reasonable if that hate was because of the sudden invasion, but if there is other reasons, perhaps something terrible.....” (Lieze)

The people who live or work in this Estate knew the well-known Zirconia’s antipathy towards Balveile.

When the ceasefire agreement decision was being discussed between the nations, there was a famous story of how Zirconia quarreled with Nelson with considerably furious tone.

There was a rumor that Zirconia strongly advocated to reject the ceasefire agreement and then while the northern barbarian was moving, they should cooperate in invading Balveile.

Even after explaining the current Arcadia and the other countries situation, Zirconia didn’t change her opinion, moreover it seems that she called Nelson as a coward.

At that time, it said that she verbally insult Balveile quite abusively and claimed that every Balveilean need to be massacred. Whether or not this was true is not certain.

Furthermore, it was true that several days after the ceasefire agreement had been finalized, Zirconia was in an extremely bad mood, that she even didn’t talk with Nelson and Lieze.

After several days had passed, it seems that her mind had calmed down, Zirconia apologized to Nelson, and afterward, she returned to her usual gentle woman attitude.

Or rather, it seems that her character had been mellowed than before, as she was dealing with the surroundings in a gentle manner.

But, it was different when it came to the military affair, her character of not compromising with anything in training or the likes, was still the same as before.

However, when the subject of the past war with Balveile came out in the conversation, Zirconia's expression suddenly became scary, hence Lieze would deliberately avoid bringing that subject up.

".....This is only a story I heard from the rumor." (Eira)

Eira began to talk while looking down at Lieze who was pondering.

"It was said that several months before the war with Balveile happened, several villages in the northern mountain region in Isteria Province was attacked by bandits. The inhabitants of the attacked village were all killed or kidnapped..... that....." (Eira)

Lieze stared motionlessly at Eira who stopped the words and looked hesitating.

"Zirconia-sama seems to be a survivor of those attacked villages. The details were not known, but afterward, she volunteered to Isterian Army as a soldier, and then Nelson-sama fallen in love with her, then just before the war, they married." (Eira)

"..... Where did you hear this from?" (Lieze)

"When Nelson-sama and Zirconia-sama intended to marry, I sometimes heard the senior maids gossiping..... However, it was purely a rumor, so I don't know how true it is." (Eira)

"....." (Lieze)

Hearing about Zirconia's past for the first time, Lieze sank into silence with a mixed feeling.

If these rumors were right then Balveile might have a hand at the bandit's attacks at the villages in the northern mountain district.

If that's the case that explains why Zirconia extreme hate towards Balveile and why she is sensitive when Balveile's subject is brought up.

Why she married Nelson was still something not really understood for now, but perhaps it could be conjectured to be related with Balveile.

"Why have you never informed me about this before?" (Lieze)

"This is not a subject that can be purposely talked about..... Furthermore, it must be remembered that this just purely rumors." (Eira)

"I..... I see. Eira, your hands stopped." (Lieze)

"Ah, my apologies." (Eira)

Lieze warned Eira who was unaware that her hands had stopped, and then she returned her sight to her own reflection again.



While Lieze was preparing herself in her room, in a certain room at Leveson's Mansion, Havel was facing his father Nord who was on the other side of the table.

In contrast with Nord's stern expression, Havel was relatively at ease.

"Father, this is just a misunderstanding. I had never done anything to promote Marie." (Havel)

"Then why it was Marie who was designated? It will be normal to think that you had made Marie to look after that noble named Kazura when he lodged at this house, having foreseen that it will come to this." (Nord)

Nord was enquiring Havel as if to interrogate him, but he didn't raise his tone of voice.

However, inside his eyes, anger appeared and disappeared.

"Since compared to other maids proficient in cooking, Marie's skill was somewhat inferior, I only ordered her to help the cooking preparation on top of aiding Kazura-sama's daily necessities. So Father's complaint sounds like a strained interpretation." (Havel)

“..... *Fumu*. Then, why at the other day trip you took Marie as a servant? Even though, another servant will be acceptable.” (Nord)

“That day was the day when Father and Brother had just returned from Gregorn Province, so I just choose a person who wouldn’t be a matter if they are missing from the servants which need to do the reception for that day. Furthermore, since Brother hate Marie, she is attached to me. If you consider these points, then wouldn’t it be natural for me to chose Marie.” (Havel)

“I see that you have become a fairly smooth-talker..... Well, I will consider this to be a good thing.” (Nord)

Nord relaxed his stern expression and lightly sighed.

Nord had mostly sure that Havel had promoted Marie away, but he admired how Havel stated his logical excuse.

“By my proposition, Marie was temporarily loaned to Istelle House. When that man is away from Isteria, then Marie will be expected to be returned to Leveson House.” (Nord)

“..... Loaning, is it?” (Havel)

“Yes.” (Nord)

When he heard about the loaning, Havel frowned only slightly.

When he heard from Nord not long ago that Zirconia had personally come to Leveson’s Mansion to request for Marie’s redemption, he had thought that surely the property rights will be transferred to Istelle House.

“Havel, do you remember the promise we exchanged before?” (Nord)

“Yes, of course.” (Havel)

“Then you should know, right? Without even any need to be in a haste, if you had advanced in the military and reached a suitable position that will bring the profit to Leveson’s House, then I will yield Marie to you. Since money is needed to release Marie from slavery, after all.”

“.....Yes.” (Havel)

“If you understand then stop with the poor tricks. Even if it’s you, if my image of you deteriorated then that promise will become a scrap paper, you will be troubled by it, understood?” (Nord)

When Nord said this, Havel’s glance at him, even if it was only slightly, sharpened.

He was worried whether he will be blamed by this matter.

On the other hand, Nord waved his hand and lightly laughed.

“No need for that glare. It’s not like I will annul that promise. Look now, it’s the time where you must report for your military duty, isn’t it?” (Nord)

“.....” (Havel)

Havel slightly bent his waist to bow at Nord and then head towards the room’s exit.

“Hey, Havel.” (Nord)

When Havel put his hand on the door’s knob, Nord called out to him.

“What is it?” (Havel)

“This time method is a bit too overbearing, but well, this is quite a good method. I amend my words, this is not a poor trick. Do an even better one next time.” (Nord)

“..... Excuse me.” (Havel)

This time Havel made a clear frown at Nord’s remarks, before calmly exiting the room.

CHAPTER 71

TOGETHER WITH LIEZE-SAN

Two hours after the breakfast finished.

Kazura was in the entrance of the fields to reaffirm the content of the work in front of 300 servants.

Lieze stood next to Kazura and while looking at the servants, she earnestly listened to Kazura's explanation.

Beside Lieze there was a servant holding a large cloth parasol to shield her from the relentless sunlight.

The parasol's umbrella parts was a flat square, its handle was fixated to a support located at the servant's waist.

Eira was not at that place since she needed to handle her moving into the Estate today, so the one standing beside Lieze was another maid.

Since Eira was suddenly being ordered by Zirconia to move in the Estate this morning, she should be busy with the moving works right now.

Marie was accompanying Kazura and stood to wait for orders at a nearby place with the other servants and guards.

Lieze didn't wear the dress like she usually does, but a long sleeved tunic under a bronze reinforced leather light armor and a longsword in her waist.

By equipping not a completely bronze metal armor like what Zirconia wore, but a comparatively lighter composite armor, there wouldn't be any problem for her physical strength.

Kazura was thinking why she was wearing armor when it wasn't a military exercise, but it was the norm for the women to wear armor when performing a duty outside the Estate.

Not only because the reason that it will be easier to move, but the sight of them carrying a weapon with armor will be more intimidating compared to plain clothing, they could convey more solemnity as a woman who was usually prone to not be taken highly by the other party.

In front of a nearby horse wagon, Isaac and Havel was there too.

While Kazura was explaining, both of them, together with the servants who followed them, keep working to unload the fertilizer bags from the wagon and load several bags to the 60 carts who were parked surrounding the wagon.

Perhaps since Lieze was there, Isaac seems to work more enthusiastically than the usual, as if to display this to her.

Kazura looked at Isaac who was behaving like this,

“(As expected when a cute girl is looking, one will be enthusiastic, right.)” (Kazura)

While having a somewhat incorrect impression, he felt a close affinity to Isaac.

Perhaps because Lieze’s herself was extraordinary to begin with, not only in her usual dress but also her rough appearance in the morning practice and even her current armored figure, no matter what she wore, it suits her.

Lieze, who tighten her expression and was wrapped inside the armor, gave a dignified atmosphere but this only made her cuteness even more prominent, which looks so beautiful that could instinctively charm someone.

If such beautiful girl was watching, most men will be enthusiastic to display their good point.

“From what I saw from the progress of yesterday’s work, I believe that we will finish scattering all the bags content on the fields in half a month. Is there any question?” (Kazura)

After he finished repeating the work procedure, Kazura asked this question and before long the gathered servants began to clamor for a bit.

There was nothing especially wrong with his words, but the servants’ ambiance was a bit uproarious.

While thinking why they are that clamoring, Lieze, Isaac, and Havel too, send a confused gaze at the servants.

After a brief interval, one young man raised his hand.

“When the time for lunch has come, may we return for a moment to our house?” (Mob)

“No need for that, since the meal will be prepared by us. Because I will give the order for it when the time has come, please gather for a meal break.” (Kazura)

“Will the meal cost be taken away from the wage?” (Mob)

“Isteria House will bear all the meal cost. Even if there are other costs related to the work, it will not be deducted from the wage, so please be at ease. Since we intend to prepare the meal in sufficient amount, if it isn’t enough then it can be increased too, just speak out at that time.” (Kazura)

Kazura answered the questions and “Ooh” , the servant lets out rejoiced voices.

The matter of preparing a meal for them had been discussed by Kazura with Zirconia yesterday.

Since if they didn’t eat properly while working under a long period of time under the blazing sun, then the work efficiency might decrease.

For this reason, they prepared a somewhat larger portion of the meal than the usual meal for one person.

Since they will sweat a lot, he had ordered that the salt content will be a bit higher too.

“Since it wouldn’t be possible for you work non-stop, please took a small break every half a stound. The break order will be sent out by the work supervisor Isaac-san. Since the group of servants with the bucket of water will go around the groups, when they came, please have a drink even if you are not thirsty. Is there any other question?” (Kazura)

After they heard Kazura’s explanation, the young man who asked the question and the other servants made an expression that they had understood.

Even after waiting for several seconds, there was no other question appeared, so Kazura nodded and then send out the order to begin the work.



“Umm, this place is where we installed the waterwheel yesterday, therefore should the next place will be that one? I wonder if we can set five or six pieces before today over.....” (Kazura)

Leaving the servant who started working to Isaac and Havel, Kazura was looking at the map that he carried while walking in the fields towards the river.

Perhaps so that Kazura would be covered by the parasol, Lieze was walking really close to him, while watching the servants scattering the fertilizer.

“We are performing such an awfully large-scale work. If we scatter the content of that bag at the fields, will the crops be restored?” (Lieze)

“I believe that it will be impossible for the crops that already withered, but the still surviving ones will be restored. The thing being scattered is called ‘fertilizer’, it’s something similar to a drug that can make the field’s soil healthy.” (Kazura)

“Soil healthy..... is it?” (Lieze)

Kazura explained to Lieze who looked at the work with great interest. She then looked back at Kazura and asked back with curiosity.

It was the same reaction like the time when he first explained about the fertilizer with Valetta and others at Grisea Village back then.

As expected, the concept of scattering fertilizer itself didn’t exist in this world agricultural practices.

The idea that the crops could grow is all thanks to the gods’ mercy or blessing, might be the common sense of this world.

“Yes, it is. For that reason, originally it should be the soil from the rotting leaves in the forest, which is called humus, that will be mixed with the fields’ soil. But at the present condition, it wouldn’t be able to overtake the problem with just that, hence why we

are scattering the fields with the special fertilizer that I had prepared. This stuff is really strong.” (Kazura)

“(Hmm, then, that mountain of bags with the fertilizer thing are something that Kazura-sama had prepared..... *Are?*)” (Lieze)

Although Lieze made a proper response to Kazura’s confident reply, she was puzzled inside her mind.

“(I am sure that Kazura-sama left Isteria 8 days ago, then he returned 2 days ago, so that means even at the shortest, one-way traveling will be 3 days..... It will be absolutely impossible to make a one-way travel to Claylatz’s city in 3 days..... Eh? Then where did he traveled to?)” (Lieze)

Yes, when Kazura was away from Isteria, where did he go was something that Lieze had no idea at all.

As for the fertilizer, that was scattered for this vast area, would surely something that was quite enormous in amount.

To prepare such amount of fertilizer would surely take a suitably long time, even if for example, he had planned this and prepared the goods in advance, then even a place to store them would be necessary.

There should be an arrangement which had delivered the fertilizer from someplace before, was something that Lieze keep pondering, but her interest was not on the fertilizer itself, but rather of where is the country that Kazura originated from.

“(The country with the shortest distance of 3 days in which the goods could be delivered and is the origin of a rich great noble. Since Okaa-sama is together with him when delivering the goods, then Balveile will out of the picture. The remaining one will be Claylatz..... But I heard that Claylatz don’t have any rich great nobles.....)” (Lieze)

“Ah, that’s right, during conversation with Zirconia-san yesterday, this topic came out for a moment.” (Kazura)

Lieze was thinking in circles while walking when Kazura raised his face from the map in his hand.

“I heard that last year around this time, it will soon be the time for seed planting, but I forget to ask what kind of crops that will be planted. Do Lieze-san know what kind of crops will be planted?” (Kazura)

“Eh, crops?” (Lieze)

“Yes, since I don’t really well-acquainted with the agricultural practice of this region, perhaps you can teach me if you know about it.” (Kazura)

When Kazura brings up that kind of subject all of a sudden, Lieze rethink about the content of the lecture she studied in from the civil official before.

Since she didn’t have much interest in agriculture, though she had listened to it seriously more or less, the content only vaguely remained in her mind.

Her memory was considerably uncertain about the types or method of the ritual for harvest prayers, but if it was the planting seed season or the type of the seeds then it somehow had remained in her memory.

“Uum..... If it was the usual year then the air temperature will soon decrease, then the winter potato and bean will be planted. The harvest will be just before the snowfall.” (Lieze)

“So it’s tuber and bean. Is there any other?” (Kazura)

“U-umm..... round onion and various types of leafy vegetables..... Also, the bread wheat and Rata wheat planting will begin in the early autumn.” (Lieze)

Lieze never thought, not even in her wildest dream, that she would be questioned in agriculture subjects, so she was digging up her memory in a hurry, while regretting, even though it was late, that she should have taken the lecture more seriously.

If she was to be asked any further, to be honest, she didn’t have any confidence that she could answer everything correctly.

“I see..... Um, that do you know how the bean will be used? Like how will it be processed and the likes.” (Kazura)

“There are various types of bean, but I’m sure that the winter bean will be dried and stored for preservation or for oil extraction.” (Lieze)

“I see, oil..... in what way they extract it?” (Kazura)

“C-certainly it’s by putting it inside the box and then it is pressed to squeeze the oil out..... *A-ano*, I’m sorry. I should have studied it in the lecture I had from the civil official before, but I had forgotten its content, so I don’t really know in detail.....” (Lieze)

“Ah, please no need to be that worried. Or rather, even to know that many things are already something amazing.” (Kazura)

Lieze replied apologetically, but Kazura said his thanks with a smile.

Since Kazura also never think that Lieze was dealing with government affair or agricultural work on regular basis, so in the first place he never thought that she could tell him in details.

Since Lieze also seems to be very busy with yesterday audience, there might be no much break time for her to study.

It seems that the social position of a nobleman’s daughter also had a lot of hardships.

“(Perhaps it was extracted similarly with the soybean oil in Japan. If I’m not mistaken, it is called a “presser”.)” (Kazura)

Kazura didn’t know the details, but he knew that oil can be extracted from soybean or rapeseed.

If he could examine the pressing method of this world, then he could improve the efficiency in the extraction amount and the working time.

“(However, if I’m not wrong, isn’t presser awfully taking too much time to work? If it’s to extract the oil then by using centrifuge, the efficiency could be considerably better.....)” (Kazura)

A centrifuge was a machine which squeezes a material using the centrifugal force obtained from a rapid rotation which is used to separate the components of a liquid.

Kazura had seen his father, Shinji, used the centrifuge to separate oil from the oil soaked metal material, so he thought that it could also be used to extract oil from the beans.

Actually, because centrifuge is also used in the oil extraction at the mills which produced soybean oil and olive oil, Kazura's idea was not wrong.

Kazura walked while thinking with a serious expression, then he suddenly noticed that Lieze, who was walking beside him, repeatedly took a glance at him with a worried expression.

She might be worried since she couldn't make a detailed answer about the oil extraction method.

Since Lieze looks like she wasn't very good at agriculture or food processing methods, it would be better to talk about something else.

"By the way, when we first met before, it was in the city. Does Lieze-san normally go out to the city?" (Kazura)

"Yes, I often stroll in the city for a change of pace." (Lieze)

Perhaps because she was relieved that the topic had changed, Lieze's expression slightly calmed.

"Since it's depressing to be always in the Estate..... Also, going out to the city and talking with various people are very fun. Since I also able to personally observe the city's condition, I can learn to know the lives of ordinary people too." (Lieze)

"Oh, Lieze-san is really a studious person. If you normally go to many places then are you also well-informed about the city shops or the citizen's food?" (Kazura)

"Since I often go out to the city's center, I have been a close friend with the people around the shops there. Since I also went eating out together with Eira, I also know very well about good places to eat. If you like, would you like to go for an outing together next time? I will guide you to various place." (Lieze)

"Oh, that sounds nice. If the circumstances permit, certainly." (Kazura)

Kazura reply which could be interpreted just as replying out of a courtesy made Lieze very delightful that her expression brightened.

"*Wa*, how glad! I will make a time open for the outing, so I will doing my best to help even more from now on." (Lieze)

“Eh? Ah, yes. I will be looking forward to it.” (Kazura)

Receiving such unexpectedly assertive proposal, Kazura agreed while somewhat taken aback.

Although he didn't know how far her seriousness in the plan is, but she really brimming with motivation to help with the work.

Nonetheless, the things that need to be done at the present was too numerous, so there wasn't any spare time for an outing.

Even if he could really go for an outing, it would be after he had finished the grain fields area's matter before he can have a pause.

“(What a really sociable person. I could understand how she is popular amongst the citizen.)” (Kazura)

Kazura looked at the delightful Lieze and felt that he had caught a glimpse of the secret of her popularity.

CHAPTER 72

THE GIRL WHO DOES HER BEST

Two hours later.

While viewing the appearance of the just recently completed waterwheel steadily scooping the water up, Kazura checked the waterwheel rotational speed.

Every guard and servant that followed Kazura once more experienced assembling the waterwheel and constructing aqueduct just like yesterday.

Because of this, the work was able to progress much smoothly than yesterday.

At this rate, they could install three or four more waterwheels by today.

“(Hmm, this one don’t have any problem. Perhaps the parts precision is considerably uneven?)” (Kazura)

Different from the waterwheel that he checked yesterday with Zirconia, the assembled waterwheel this time had almost regular rotational speed.

Zirconia had said that she commissioned the manufacturing of the parts to the craftsmen in the city, so perhaps there was a workshop amongst them that have a problem in the manufacturing precision.

Since there was no mark to indicate which workshop manufacture which parts, the entire waterwheel had become a jumbled mess of parts of different workshops.

In the future, there was a need to put some kind of the manufacturing workshop’s brand on every single part.

“Amazing..... To think that this kind of tool exist, this is the first time I’m aware of it.....” (Lieze)

With a dumbfounded expression, Lieze looked up at the waterwheel that was continuously ejecting mass of water into the aqueduct.

“As long as we have this waterwheel, the waterway in the grain fields will never be dried up again in the future. However, it seems that several defective parts had been mixed in used parts, so I need to go confirm the manufacturing process with the craftsmen later.” (Kazura)

“Eh? It looks like it’s moving properly, but even so, it’s a defective product?” (Lieze)

“No, this waterwheel is alright, but there are some problems with the waterwheel I installed yesterday with Zirconia. Since it’s not like it’s everything, but just a few defective parts mixed in.” (Kazura)

“I see.....” (Lieze)

While looking at the waterwheel that continued turning round and round, Lieze threw a suitable reply.

Even though Kazura had said a defect, she couldn’t imagine what kind of flaw which could happen, so she didn’t ask about this any further.

Since the waterwheel that relentlessly spraying mist while rotating had such impressiveness that overwhelmed her, she might be too preoccupied to even think about a question.

“Now then, it’s just the right place to stop, let’s have our lunch.” (Kazura)

When Kazura said so, he gave an order to the nearby servants who was resting while looking at the waterwheel to prepare the lunch.

The servants made a light reply and then ran towards the horse wagon, taking collapsible simple tables and chairs from inside it and began to skillfully assemble it.

In a matter of several minutes, they had finished a table with a parasol and seats, just like a terrace café in the Japan.

The simple table had a hole in the middle of it so that it could be inserted with a parasol. The parasol that was used for it was the parasol that had been used by the servants to shade Kazura and Lieze until now.

The finished table was covered with a tablecloth, where silver plates and cups were lined up.

On top of them was the cooked food that had been brought from the Estate, and so the lunch preparation was instantly completed.

The dishes served on Lieze's plates were a lightly baked pancake, pickled chicken with herbs, thin slices of plum-like fruit, and diluted fruit wine.

It was something that he had thought when he traveled together with Isaac's unit before, it seems that it's normal in this world to even drink alcohol for a daytime meal.

For a fruit wine to be served to a girl like Lieze, there might be no age limit in consuming alcohol.

As usual, Kazura's portion meal was canned food, this too had been loaded in the wagon.

When the tableware for Kazura had been finished lined up, Marie went to the wagon and picked up the canned food from its cloth package.

While still being concealed by the cloth, she pulled out the pull tab of the canned food and then left the opened lid at that place.

Then while covering the canned food exterior with a cloth she returned once more to the table, and after giving bow she carefully began to transfer its contents to the plate.

The canned food that Kazura brought this time was clam chowder and sweetened bun.

Actually, he wanted to bring a mixed rice meal canned food, but a rice meal canned food will need to be heated adequately with hot water, so he abandoned his intention.

The beverage that was poured into Kazura's cup is not a fruit wine but plain water.

By the way, Marie opened the canned food's lid without being seen by other people, was because previously Havel had instructed her to do so.

“(What is that, a stew? Won't it go bad from the heat?)” (Lieze)

Lieze made a glance at the clam chowder that was transferred from the can into the silver plate.

Because Lieze still didn't know about the existence of canned food, she thought that it was a previously made stew that was brought straight from the Estate.

Under the heat of the sun like this, if the stew was left inside the wagon for many hours, then although it won't rot, normally it would become somewhat stale.

"Then, shall we eat? Ah, it will be fine for Marie-san to have a lunch break. Since I don't need any further help, you are free to have a break." (Kazura)

When Kazura said so, Marie made a rather surprised expression.

"Understood." (Marie)

She made a bow and then walked towards the wagon to eat her lunch.

"All of you, have a lunch too. You are free to have a break for a while." (Lieze)

Perhaps she was following Kazura's example, Lieze also ordered the servants and guards that were waiting beside her to have a break.

The servants made a bit grateful reply, before greeting Marie who was fetching the meal from the wagon, then everyone sat down together at the riverbank and began to eat their meal.

The servants seem to be immensely curious about Marie, so they were talking one thing and another with her.

Although the content of the talks couldn't be heard from Kazura and Lieze's location, since it looks peaceful there shouldn't be any problem.

"Kazura-sama, if you don't mind, would you like to taste this meat?" (Lieze)

When Kazura put his spoon at the clam chowder and thought 'Let's eat', Lieze pushed her plate a bit forward and offered it to Kazura.

"This is Eira's handmade, its compatibility with bread is good and it is considerably delicious. Because we have prepared a large amount of it, if you like to, please have a bite." (Lieze)

"Hm, is that so? Then perhaps I will take a piece of it." (Kazura)

Because Lieze was offering it, Kazura stabbed a piece of meat with his fork and put it into his mouth.

The meat seems to be the thigh one, the salt had sufficiently tenderized it, the herb scent gave it a good accent, the seasonings brought out its taste and so it was extremely delicious.

“Oh, this is delicious. Perhaps I will ask Eira to teach me how to make this next time.”

Lieze sweetly smiled at Kazura who made a wide smile at the taste of the meat inside his mouth.

“I am glad that this pleased you. Since there should be some remained in the wagon, if this is not enough, then we can take more out.” (Lieze)

“Thank you very much. Do Lieze-san also want to try my clam chowder....., Ah, there’s no free plates. Perhaps there are some in the wagon.” (Kazura)

“Ah, it’s alright, please do not be bothered by this. I will surely try it on the next occasion.” (Lieze)

Lieze hurriedly stopped Kazura who stood up from his seat and going to retrieve a plate from the wagon as he wanted to offer his clam chowder in return.

But to tell the truth, Lieze was offering her own dishes to Kazura because she was worried that the clam chowder that Kazura wanted to eat had gone stale.

The reason why she said, “We have prepared a large amount of it”, when she was offering her dishes previously and said that it was delicious, was so that even if by any chance that the dish that Kazura brought had gone stale, it will be easier for Kazura to eat Lieze’s dishes.

Since Kazura will lose face if she said that the dish had gone stale, Lieze took this precaution so that wouldn’t happen.

Then if Kazura put his own dish into his mouth and noticed that it had gone stale, he would notice Lieze’s consideration.

If this happened, then his favorable impression to Lieze will surely go up, hence Lieze was hoping inside her heart that the dish was stale.

“Hm, is that so? Then I will share it with you next time.” (Kazura)

While completely oblivious about Lieze’s intention, Kazura began to eat the clam chowder.

Of course, the clam chowder that was just been opened from its can surely haven’t gone stale yet, and so without any particular change in his expression, Kazura tear the bread placed on the plate and ate it with the clam chowder.

“(Eh? The food’s fine? Too bad.)” (Lieze)

Seeing that Kazura was fine, Lieze was a bit dejected inside her heart, but without letting this shown up on her face, she nodded at Kazura’s proposal with a smile.

Since it was not particularly necessary that she had to increase his favorability to her immediately, Kazura had already looked considerably interested in her.

Seeing that Kazura will be still staying in the Estate for quite a time, it will be alright for her to attract his favor slowly next time.

“This is something that I had thought when we have dinner in the Estate, but it seems that Kazura-sama’s country dishes are a bit different from Arcadia’s. Do you normally eat something like this clam chowder?” (Lieze)

“Hmm? No, it’s nothing like that..... Rather than this food, we ate grains that had been cooked in water at every meal. This will be the staple food, the side dishes will be either grilled fish or boiled vegetables.” (Kazura)

“A grain? Is it something like cooking bread wheat or Rata wheat in water?” (Lieze)

“Yes, perhaps something like that. It’s not like a porridge, but cooking it while still leaving some of its actual hardness.” (Kazura)

While they were eating and taking turns chatting, Lieze was thinking about what to do with Kazura in the future.

If the content of the conjecture she had together with Eira this morning was correct, then Zirconia should have made various necessary arrangements so that she and Kazura will do things together in the future.

Her lack of information about Kazura's origin made her a bit curious, but even if the great noble identity was a lie to make Lieze interested and he was really only a common citizen of Claylatz, the fact that he should be a very rich person didn't change.

The problem wasn't whether or not he was a noble, as what Lieze highly concerned was the influence and assets that Kazura possessed, and then more than anything else, how generous he is with his money.

A person that Zirconia recommended shouldn't be someone with a weird background and if he someone who is that close to Nelson that even Nelson was relying on him, there should be no problem with his personality either.

Lieze's impression of Kazura she gained from her observation of him during these few days, was that Kazura was someone that was polite to everybody and had consideration for others, furthermore, he was quite a hardworking person.

And yet despite all that, he was really generous to give that expensive pendant as a present without any apprehension.

Although it might only be that he was not feeling any regret when he needs to spend money, but he didn't seem to have the same complete self-restraint awareness like Nelson or Isaac.

He was very close with Nelson and Zirconia, that he was even invited to the family dinner, someone that wouldn't be a problem to be a marriage partner.

“(Sometimes he stared at me, but there aren't any sticky eyes, unlike those guys who came for the audience, so it seems that he is relatively pure hearted. In this case, then should I be the one who pushes things?)” (Lieze)

Because of her appearance, Lieze was accustomed to the males eyeing on her since long time ago, so it's not to the extent that she was particularly disgusted by it.

She only rationalized that perhaps men are such a creature, but since she realized when she was being looked at if the stare was excessively sticky at her, it felt gross.

In that point, although Kazura also sometimes staring at her, when she noticed it, he would remove his sight away, and it felt that as if he was being careful not to deliberately staring at her.

Amongst the males who usually came in contact with Lieze, it was rather rare for a male to take such an attitude, thus Lieze had a good impression on him.

By the way, although Isaac had the same cautious sight just like Kazura, Lieze didn't pay him any mind.

“(I will try to investigate this a bit more. If there is no problem then.....)” (Lieze)

“Hm? Is something wrong?” (Kazura)

Suddenly Kazura noticed that Lieze was looking at him, and so he tilted his head.

“*Fufu*, there is a meal sticking beside your mouth.” (Lieze)

With these words, Lieze took up the napkin placed at the table and then while bending herself a bit, she gently wiped the corner of Kazura's mouth.

“Eh? Ah, thank you.” (Kazura)

While blushing, Kazura thanked her. Lieze smiled at him while inside her heart she muttered.

“(I will do my best.)” (Lieze)

「ん、どうかしましたか?」

「ふふ、お口の端に
お弁当がついてます」

「え、あ、ありがとうございます」

リーゼ・イステール

イステール領を治める領主の娘



CHAPTER 73

THE INEXTINGUISHABLE FLAME

When Kazura and Lieze started resuming the work in the afternoon.

At a certain room in Nelson's Estate, Eira was sitting face to face with Zirconia with table interposing between them and received the explanation of the change in the content of the employment contract.

In front of Eira was two pieces of parchment with [Employment Contract] written on it, which have the same contents recorded on it.

The contract described the monthly salary, working hours, rough work description and other notes.

One parchment would be in the employer safekeeping, while the other one would be kept by Eira as a copy.

"The basic working hour will be the same as before, it will be over when the dinner had been finished, but if Kazura-san request a help outside the working hour, then I ask you to help him. Since the written salary is just the assumed salary." (Zirconia)

"(T-the salary doubled.....)" (Eira)

Eira froze as she looked at the salary section in the contract with an astonished expression.

Eira's wage when she was still Lieze's personal servants was already a large sum of money, but the salary suggested this time was twice the amount.

The amount of money even surpassed the salary of the commanding officer of the Nobles Guard, which was the top class amongst the people working in the Estate if sorted by the salary.

Furthermore, there was an addition of a personal room at the Estate's main mansion first floor prepared for her with the furniture lent to her without any charge.

The arrangements were too good, that while Eira's mood was exalted, at the same time her body was a bit quivered.

With this amount of arrangements, accordingly, just how harsh the duty will be?

“The contents that are different with the previous contract are that you can't cancel the contract this time for 10 years, you will hold two positions of Kazura-san's servant in addition to Lieze's, and lastly you will guide Marie. Also, Kazura-san's request must be prioritized above anything else and performed perfectly. Is there anything you want to ask? If there isn't, then when you sign here, the contract renewal will be completed.” (Zirconia)

While pushing the ink ceramics and the quill towards Eira, Zirconia urged her to ask.

“Ah, umm.....” (Eira)

Even when she received the quill by reflex, Eira frantically scanned the contract's content.

Her mood was ecstatic the moment the contract suggests that her salary doubled, but when she heard that the contract couldn't be canceled for 10 years period, she became careful in confirming the contract's content.

“About the work description, about working as the servant of both Lieze-sama and Kazura-sama, even now I couldn't judge whether or not I could perform this amount of task. Because of this, if in case I feel that I already couldn't perform it, I want to be able to consult about this.” (Eira)

“Of course. Since the work amount can't be said as excessive, you don't need to worry about it. If it's necessary, then I also had thought to attach some personal servants to you. Furthermore, if Marie became used to her work, then your burden should be lighter, the difficulty will be only at the beginning, don't you agree?” (Zirconia)

Zirconia replied with a soft smile at Eira who nervously asked.

From what Eira heard, it seems that even Zirconia won't pushed a work that excessive to her.

Feeling relieved, Eira made a smile and thanked Zirconia and once again began to scan the contract.

“(If I will be given personal servants then the need to do shopping outside will disappear and if Marie-chan had gotten used to her work then even if I rarely assist Kazura-sama, it will be alright..... However, even though the work isn’t increasing that much, for the wage to be doubled.....)” (Eira)

Eira looked up from the contract, and then with a timid expression, she turned her face at Zirconia.

“.....Zirconia-sama, about Lieze-sama and Kazura-sama..... that, by any chance.....” (Eira)

“Yes, I want you to make them both stick together.” (Zirconia)

Zirconia replied bluntly while smiling when Eira was asked hesitatingly.

“There is a reason behind it, so I want you to somehow stir them so they both fall in love. However, a too much open manner of doing is not good. I want you to induce it so that it happened as natural as possible.” (Zirconia)

“M-me?” (Eira)

Because she never thought that she would be straightly ordered to do such unexpected task, Eira cast her eyes down with a panicked expression.

Even if she asked to make both of them fall in love, Eira practically didn’t know anything about Kazura.

Eira never talked with Kazura except when talking about the work subjects, so she didn’t have a good grasp of his personality.

To start with, it was necessary for her to become close to Kazura to do so, but Nelson and Zirconia seem to restrict information about Kazura, so she hadn’t heard anything about him.

Even if she had been strongly asked to do such task to an opponent who she didn’t know how much can she breakthrough, truthfully she would end up troubled.

“So? Perhaps you can’t do this request somehow?” (Zirconia)

“U-umm.....” (Eira)

“Hm? What is it?” (Zirconia)

Perhaps because she was thinking how to reply, Eira was hesitating to say with a perplexed expression. Zirconia made a gentle smile at her while continue to press her without giving any time to break.

It was as if Zirconia didn't give any time for her to think and she just need to nod yes.

“E-even if I don't do anything, Kazura-sama seems to take a fancy to Lieze-sama, Lieze-sama also seems to have an interest Kazura-sama, so if I do something this could become strained, on the contrary..... I think it will go smoothly if we just let the things flow on its own.....” (Eira)

“That's true. But, there is also a possibility that they don't end together, right? Then it will be a problem. We need to increase the possibility even by the slightest bit, you see. It's alright, you can do it.” (Zirconia)

With a gentle expression and tone, Zirconia keeps pushing the conversation incessantly.

If this keeps going then Eira would be pressured to comply while still didn't receive any important information, so Eira opened her mouth in hurry.

“B-but, will Isaac-sama agree with this? That..... previously Nelson-sama appears to considerably endorse Isaac-sama.” (Eira)

When Eira asked this, Zirconia made a rather surprised expression.

Because until now Eira had never acted against Zirconia's order, she never thought that Eira would reply back to her like this.

When Eira noticed Zirconia's expression and how her reply just now could be interpreted as harboring some criticism, her inner mind was too late assessing that “Ah, what I've had done.”

“Hm, that's true..... Isaac is really a good boy, and since there is no problem with his family background, I also believe he is someone who suits Lieze. However, Kazura-san is an ever greater person. How should I explain this, I wonder..... I am troubled you see.....” (Zirconia)

While putting her hand at the corner of her lips, Zirconia was thinking. Eira waited for the reply while being fearful.

Zirconia normally had a gentle ambiance and a soft tone of voice, but her dreadfulness when she was angry was beyond normal.

Eira personally saw the few times the appearances of Zirconia when she was angry, even so it was no more than from far away, additionally it was also an event that was happened 4 years ago.

Except when dealing with something with the military, Zirconia didn't roughen her voice, however, Eira had heard how frightening Zirconia when she was angry from her fellow maids and guards, so she was really worried to not displeased Zirconia.

If she did something that was too much, then she might found herself unemployed by the next day.

While Eira was worried about this, on the other hand, Zirconia's expression didn't show any sign that her mood was particularly hurt by Eira's words. After she was pondering after several moments, she returned her expression to Eira.

"That's right, if I asked you to do that task without informing you anything about Kazura-san, even you will be troubled. I am sorry to ask something unreasonable from you." (Zirconia)

"N-no....." (Eira)

"Then, since the information that I will tell you next is strictly confidential, I wish that you must not tell this to anyone else....." (Zirconia)

Eira was relieved for a moment when the order was withdrawn just now, but her face stiffened when Zirconia continued to speak.

Now, Zirconia said that this was a strictly confidential matter.

Eira didn't want to know about such things, as it would be easy to imagine that she would get dragged into a really troublesome situation if she ended knowing about it.

However, she also couldn't pick the option to refuse this talk.

As a result of cutting her way and have a good outcome, she ended up in bringing unnecessary trouble upon herself.

“Before you hear about this, can I have you sign? If perhaps you are not interested after hearing this story, then it will be alright for you to not get involved in the matter of Lieze and Kazura-san, so it’s fine for you to not think too deep about it.” (Zirconia)

When she said so, Zirconia presented the quill with a smile.

“(This will absolutely not going to be fine at all, you know)” (Eira)

While Eira continued to tsukkomi inside her mind, she nodded with teary eyes and took up the quill.

In any case, Eira didn’t have enough bravery in her to refuse an order from Zirconia.

The situation ended up growing worse because of her poor struggling, but it was already futile for her to do anything further.

This was better than being unemployed, so she can do nothing but to give up and resign her fate.

Eira finished signing the contract. Zirconia received it and confirmed the sign, then she placed it nearby.

“Thank you. Then let’s continue the previous talk. It’s about Kazura-san.” (Zirconia)

“Yes.....” (Eira)

Eira had resolved herself and made a serious expression. Zirconia also erased the smile from her face and put a serious look.

“Kazura-san... is not a human. He is Greysior-sama.” (Zirconia)

“.....Eh?” (Eira)

Zirconia’s statement was really something unexpected that Eira spontaneously replied back.

Eira looked at Zirconia's face thinking that she was just joking, but her expression was deadly serious.

"Does Eira know about the legend of Greysior-sama?" (Zirconia)

"M-more or less..... It's a fairy tale that I heard when I was small....." (Eira)

"Just like that fairy tale..... No, it was far more than that, this occurred about 2 months ago at Grisea Village. The village that was in famine has now become completely restored, the destroyed fields also has unbelievable amount of harvest." (Zirconia)

"Wh-wh....." (Eira)

Since it was a story that was too crazily outlandish, Eira ended up half-reluctant to reply.

Eira knew about the legend of Greysior that she heard numerous times in her childhood, but that was just a fairy tale, she didn't think that the story was true.

However, Zirconia had said that Greysior actually appeared and saved the village

"I will leave the detail of what had happened, but Greysior-sama had agreed to assist in revitalizing the territory. Currently, Greysior-sama is trying to restore the grain fields surrounding Isteria. In addition, he also said that he will assist in developing tools to make the work more efficient, controlling flood in the city, and improving the sanitation. However, how far he is willing to help is still not clear." (Zirconia)

Zirconia was explaining in one go that Eira listened carefully to the continuation of the story while holding her breath.

Zirconia's expression was deadly serious, that she couldn't pick the slightest sign of this being a joke.

As soon as the atmosphere in that place changed, Eira could felt that it was damp from the sweat.

"In a peaceful time, even this amount of assistance is already more than enough, but currently for us, this would be troubling. After all, seeing that currently, if we don't receive any prompt support, we would not make it in time for the war with Balveile." (Zirconia)

“.....Then, the war will begin again?” (Eira)

When she heard about the war, Eira anxiously asked Zirconia.

At the war 4 years ago, fortunately, no family members of her ended up as war casualties.

Her parents and siblings were safe and there was some relative ended up injured in the campaign, but everyone survived until the ceasefire.

However, in the case of the war resumed, then next time there might be someone that would be killed in action.

Since her siblings were now in the age that could serve in the military, they could be conscripted into soldiers.

To pass the days while succumbing to the anxiousness about the news of the people close to her died was something that she didn't want to have again.

“It will surely resume again. Even without we asking for it, Balveile will come invading. That country is such a country. A cold-blooded devil-like country.” (Zirconia)

Perhaps because she remembered about the war, there was intense hatred that could be seen inside Zirconia's eyes.

However, that was just for a moment, she then once again made a gentle smile and turned her eyes at Eira who made a worried expression while looking at her.

“But, if we could receive enough assistance from Kazura-san, then it will be surely safe. That person..... I don't know if it will be alright to call him as a person, but the knowledge and tools that he possesses are not something that this world's common sense could apply to. If we have his tools and knowledge and furthermore the blessings of strength that Kazura-san granted, then even if Balveile is our opponent, we will absolutely won't lose.” (Zirconia)

“Blessing?” (Eira)

When the word “blessing” suddenly came out in the conversation, Eira reflexively asked it back.

Although she thought that she don't want to get involved too deep when she first heard the story, but she couldn't help but ask since it already reached this point.

“Yes, a blessing. This is just a conjecture, but it seems that the people close to Kazura-san were granted a blessing of strength. The people who received that blessing of strength would acquire a monster-like strength. If we have that strength.....”
(Zirconia)

Even if Zirconia had mentioned monster-like strength, Eira couldn't easily imagine it, but if Zirconia said so, then it might be true.

Though it wasn't clear what form of blessing that can be obtained, but if they could acquire a tremendous strength to that extent, then she felt that she could understand the reason of why Zirconia particularly fixated on him.

If a perfect opportunity to obtain a power that can defeat the hateful Balveile came to her, then of course Zirconia would do any measure for it.

Even if she coerced her own daughter – albeit, it was just a step-daughter – Lieze to seduce Kazura, but this action could still be said as a rational move.

When Zirconia, who explaining with a slightly excited expression, noticed that Eira was looking at her, she returned to put her usual smile.

“That's right, our talks about bringing Lieze and Kazura-san to be together is a secret. You can't even say it to Nelson. Of course, please be silent to Lieze, too. If there is something that you want to consult about, said it to me. I'll help with anything.”
(Zirconia)

“I-I understood.” (Eira)

Before she knew, the flow of events had ended as if Eira had taken up the task, but there was no room for refusal since it has come to this point.

When Zirconia mentioned that Eira couldn't even speak about this with Nelson, means that this matter might be Zirconia's own arbitrary action.

Even the fact that Lieze wasn't coerced to seduce Kazura, it was clear that Nelson had become an obstacle.

With this Eira ended up not as Nelson's piece, but Zirconia's.

Truthfully, it was unbearably frightening, but it had become a situation which she can do nothing about.

"It will be alright, there is no need to be that nervous. If Lieze also thinks the same thing, then I think it wouldn't be a hard task. You only have to give them a little push. Since it would become unnatural if they noticed it too much, please be careful in this. With this, the talk will be finished. You may leave." (Zirconia)

"Yes, please excuse me." (Eira)

With an anxious reply, Eira stood out and made a bow before leaving the room. After seeing her off, Zirconia let out a relieved sigh and leaned her back on the chair.

Based on the situation in Grisea Village, it seems that the people whom Kazura fond of would be given quite tremendous assistance and blessing.

In the future, if things went well then Kazura will be in love with Lieze, and thus if they concomitantly succeed in making him has an attachment to Istelle House or Isteria, then surely he will grant assistance for military matters too.

Although in the beginning he ended up refusing when he was requested for military assistance, next time will surely turn out well.

"Surely, it will be fine. Next time, for sure." (Zirconia)

Zirconia muttered as if to speak to herself while closing her eyes quietly.

