

The Author Reincarnated?!

~I'll Become an Amazing Villain!~

Arc 2

by Umeda Ryosuke

[Novel Updates](#)

Epub : [TrolloWN/LN EPUB](#)

Chapter 1 – Incident

On that day, I had a visitor since this morning.

“Well, I wanted to see Carlo-sama’s sword skills with my own eyes.”

“I should show you the arena sometime soon. Well, there’s no better place to go to see a match, right?”

“You’re right, hoho”

In front of my eyes was Viscount Gerg.

He’s a noble possessing a small territory which is adjacent to the Medici border territory.

Even if our social status is different he isn’t my vassal, but because there’s a huge difference in economic structure his territory is included in mine.

Viscount Gerg seemed to be in his early 60s and was a gentle person.

He grew a long white beard, the spitting image of Santa Claus.

When he was laughing his eyes would become thin lines this also made him seem rather kind.

Inwardly he also seems to have that kind of character, he gained the people’s respect by giving the poor. (TN: I don’t trust him =__=)

Though, because he’s a viscount he isn’t a high-ranking noble but despite being of an old aristocratic family he’s close to Carlo who’s an emerging aristocrat.

I'd like to take care of this relationship so that I can use him as a fighting force in the conflict with the major aristocratic families.

"Well then, I shall return soon. Please take care of your body in the future because it will grow cold soon."

"Right back at you, Gerg. Take care of your body."

"Thank you, Carlo. Then I shall take my leave."

After Gerg left I chose a suitable reason to leave the mansion and went to the hideout.

I put on my mask, just to be sure and entered the hideout where Pick was waiting.

"What's the matter, Pick? Did something happen?"

When I asked Pick with my mask covering my face to hide my identity, Pick answered with a difficult expression.

"It's from big bro Drum and Bass. Strange things seem to happen recently for some reason."

"What are those strange things?"

"I didn't really understand it that well, but there seems to be some guy putting the blame for crimes on the Rabbit Group."

“What the hell?”

I decided to go to the Rabbit group’s hiding place together with Pick first.

“So, what do you mean?”

“I don’t really get it either. Just that there’s some guy doing vicious things under our name.”

Bass answered my question but he didn’t seem to know what happened.

“Drum, what does that mean?”

“Yes, even though he assumed our name it’s not the Rabbit group name. These guys seemed to perform kidnappings repeatedly and call themselves “Highway thieves”.”

“Tha, that’s right. They only kidnap beautiful women and take ransom money but never return the hostages. However, if you don’t pay the ransom you’ll find the kidnapped woman murdered somewhere.”

“Highway thieves, you said? That was the name you used before, right?I just want to verify one thing, none of you did that, right?”

“O, of course, we didn’t! Ever since we follow head Akatsuki we stopped doing things like killing or kidnapping.”

I ask because my seniors have a criminal record.

Well, anyhow, it doesn't look like they were lying.

“So that culprit is calling himself “Highway Thief”?”

“That's right. So, what in the world shall we do?”

Well, you reap what you sow.

But I would be troubled if the Rabbit group had to be disposed of because of that.

Because they are like a backbone for my illegal actions.

“I understood the situation. Go search for the perpetrator of the kidnappings. However, don't do anything more than that.”

“”Understood!””

“Apart from that, how's the relay road?”

“Like this, we can earn a lot. As you told me I bought some horses and made several stations along the main road to the capital. When you use these you won't even take 2 days to the capital.”

Hoh, up until now a messenger would take at least 3 days so this is rather fast.

“Because it's like this we can use it as a business. Things like love letters or medicine, things people want to send quickly, we can charge them with a high

price.”

“Naturally. What about collecting information?”

“Other than the information about the wheat I told you before there isn’t anything else at the moment. It’s just that the atmosphere between the royal family and the influential nobles grew more dangerous.”

I see, then it might be good to come in contact with the royal family soon and press for the engagement with the princess.

“How’s the matter of attacking the caravans who don’t hold a bill going?” (TN: The caravans who have paid up to go into the city get a bill)

“About that, Head, look over there.”

When that guy Bass said so he joyfully brought out a black cloth.

“In reference to Head’s mask we all made this.”

As he said so he put on the black cloth.

It was a mask you could pull over your head with holes for the eyes and nose.

It resembles a wrestling mask.

“If we attack the caravans like this they’ll get so scared they’ll immediately hand over the money. Because those guys don’t have a bill they’ll try to avoid

the checking stations by using other roads other than the highway so they'll immediately know what awaits them."

.....That's fine and all but you completely look like a combatant of an evil organisation when you put that on, senior.

"How is it? Don't you think it looks pretty cool?"

"Ye, yeah, they look pretty good"

"Right? If we work under the Head we have to have masks after all!"

Oh well, as long as my seniors are happy with it then let's settle with this.
(TN: The evil Rabbit organisation's combatants are born~)

After I left the Rabbit Group's hiding place I looked around the adventurer's guild.

Then I saw Crescent Moon waiting for me in the Guildhall.

Unusually she didn't wear her Breastplate over her light clothing but you still could see her valley like always.

"Yo, Mister Akatsuki. I waited for you"

"What is it, Crescent Moon? Do you have any business with me?" (TN: Bye bye money again?)

"I got some rather interesting information. I think this might interest you."

“Hoh, what kind of information?”

“Slow down there, I won’t tell you for free. Give me five gold coins. If you don’t I won’t tell you” (TN: Yep, bye-bye, money again)

She wants five gold coins again.

Is the information this valuable? (TN: She’s overcharging you all the time. Come on, you should have noticed.)

I took out five gold coins and handed them to Crescent Moon.

“Thank you! The truth is.....” (TN: I just wanted your money and will now run away? I actually love you? I’m Felicia?)

Crescent Moon suddenly lowered her voice and brought her face closer to mine.

Shit, her face is too close to mine I could feel Crescent Moon’s breathe on my skin.

I suddenly became worried whether my breath smells bad.

“Recently a guy came over and asked me to do some absolutely confidential work. Looks like he heard that I’d do anything for money.”

I brushed my teeth this morning so it should be fine. (TN: You have toothbrushes?.... I mean, listen to her. I’ll hit you)

“So I can tell you what kind of job it is but I can’t tell you the details. The reward was at least 10 gold coins and he’d pay me more depending on the

results.”

Still, Crescent Moon’s breathe smells pretty good.

Aah, and her lips look really soft. (TN: You paid money for this so listen up!!!)

“So I thought a little and asked him if I could bring a friend who would do anything for money like me and can keep his mouth shut”

Besides, there are those wonderfully round lumps in front of my face.

Those two round lumps were also touching the top of the table.

They completely looked like tender rice cakes, no, like two mirror rice cakes. (TN: So it’s mochi and kagami mochi. I believe he meant one kagami mochi though and also, you’re an idiot)

“How is it? It’s interesting, right? So I thought about taking you with me. Want to do it?”

“That’s right, I want to eat rice cakes again after this long.” (TN: face palm)

“Hah? What the hell? Even though a person is talking seriously here you are thinking about food? Listen properly!”

“Aah, sorry. I listened properly. Of course, I’ll do it. This.....smells kind of fishy.” (TN: You actually listened?....)

“Hmpf, well, fine then. Okay then I will contact the other person today so come back here tomorrow.”

Mmm, when she got angry they bounced.

Like I thought those mountains weren't artificial but naturally formed.

What a splendid view.

Chapter 2 – Underground Work

The next day I went to the Guild while wearing my mask and met up with Crescent Moon.

I made sure to bring a normal sword with me because I was worried that my true identity might get found out if I take the Oricalcum Sword with me.

I should ask the legendary blacksmith Mohkan to make an “Akatsuki exclusive” the next time I see him.

A two-hander made out of steel and a big one.

Even the blade of a common two handed sword is 100-150 centimetres long but Carlo’s sword exceeds the length of 175 centimetres.

“Akatsuki, good timing. I’m supposed to meet him now.”

Aah, the mountains are pretty today.

Her Breastplate emphasises them even more.

“Are you okay? Let’s go.”

Oops, now’s not the time to admire the scenery.

Let’s get serious.

I’m sure this is related to “that incident”.

Crescent Moon together with me entered a house out of town.

It’s a pretty big house but it seemed to be an unoccupied house with no residents.

“Hey, I came. It’s me”

“Crescent Moon, huh? You came. Is that your friend? Well, sit down.”

When the door opened five men were waiting in the room.

They all looked pretty evil.

“This fellow here is Akatsuki. He’s a mercenary same as me. I can guarantee his ability.”

“I’m Akatsuki. I heard this job is quite profitable. What should I do?”

As I introduced myself the men seemed to look at me doubtfully.

“Akatsuki? I’ve never heard of that name. He’s also covering his face, can we really trust that guy?”

A bearded man brought his face closer to mine and jeered at me.

Uh, He smelled of liquor.

To be honest, I’m bad with those kinds of guys but I can’t turn my eyes away now.

I endured it and just stared back at him with a deadpan expression.

“What? Those eyes. Want to fight? HUUUH?”

“You, are you complaining about someone I brought?”

I held back Crescent Moon who got angry at the man who wanted to pick a fight with me and slowly opened my mouth.

“Haven’t you misunderstood something? I was just asked to come by Crescent Moon. If you have complaints I’ll go back. Tell me if you want to check my abilities. I’ll show my skills in getting rid of you”

As I said this in a deadpan, calm voice my opponent gave in to his anger.

“You getting rid of me?! Don’t be so conceited! Gyan, let me show him how to speak properly!”

Looks like the man called Gyan is the leader.

Judging from his calm attitude that’s likely the case.

“Domur, don’t lose your temper. This happened because you suddenly picked a fight. As for you, you said your name was Akatsuki? Your way of speaking is a little – -”

“I don’t really mind. It’s not a bad idea to let you see my strength. Don’t worry I’ll go easy on you.”

I interrupted Gyan’s words who tried to pacify and provoked them daringly.

“Thiiiiis! I won’t forgive you, you, I’ll kill you!”

As the man called Domur's eyes became bloodshot he pulled out his two-handed sword.

Looks like he forgot himself in anger.

"That guy, making Domur that angry. Is this fine, Crescent Moon? The man you brought will be done in."

"Hmpf, do you think I'd bring a guy who'd get done in by someone like that? They can do whatever they want."

Crescent Moon also noticed that I recklessly provoked my opponent.

She won't try to stop me at all.

"Can't be helped. Akatsuki, fight Domur. Just Domur should do. He has plenty of experience. Surrender before you get yourself killed."

"Shut up, Gyan. If I don't kill this guy I won't be satisfied"

We moved to a larger place which looked like the living room.

"You, I won't forgive you even if you beg for our life. Prepare yourself"

"Domur, don't kill him. We need his help. Akatsuki, don't you think it would be better if you apologised, too?"

Gyan seemed to want to detonate the situation but I ignored him and boldly pulled out my sword.

At that moment the men held their breath.

That's to be expected, after all, I pulled out a 1.5-meter long sword which was a two-handed sword just like Domur's.

It's obviously imbalanced with my physique.

"Whaat, you, is that a bluff? Can you even swing that sword?"

Domur was daunted for an instant but then figured that I'm bluffing.

"You're incredibly noisy. Do you want to fight with your mouth?"

After I said that, Domur finally snapped.

"You, I won't let you talk anymore! Dieee!"

Domur came cutting at me with full power from the front.

To be honest, this kind of sword is disadvantageous to fight indoors.

But the visual impact is perfect and I always wanted to use such a sword no matter what.

Though I actually wanted a ridiculously huge sword like GaO's Okiller but there's a difference in the strength of an author and him so I can't overdo it (sad)「1」.

Gaan!

I blocked Domur's sword which he swung down in a big arc.

“Shit!”

Domur wore a vexed expression, this time he’s attacking from there.

Gaan! Gakin!

Of course, I don’t intend to kill him so I’m suppressing my power and speed to the extent that I can still block Domur.

Still, I swing around this huge sword with ease and the men watching seem to not be able to conceal their surprise.

“Shi, shit, this!”

Domur desperately blocks my sword.

A considerable amount of pain should run through both his arms.

I wonder if his arms got tired, Domur’s sword kept falling lower and the gap grew.

I decided to finish this quickly because there’s no meaning in continuing this any further.

Gakiiiiin!!

Buuuun!

At the time I hit away Domur’s sword my sword roared and shook and then landed next to Domur’s neck.

Out of fear to be killed Domur wasn’t even able to flinch.

“He, hey.....You.....”

“What’s the matter? Just try to move. If you do I’ll make you head roll and send it flying with a kick.”

“I, I lost, please forgive meee”

Domur is sweating profusely out of fear.

“Akatsuki, I have a good understanding of your strength. Please, forgive him.”

Gyan tried to hastily mediate.

My demonstration was a success.

“How is it? Akatsuki’s skills. I told you the guy I brought wouldn’t be weak, right?”

“Hmpf, All bark and no bite.”

I said this calmly and sheathed my sword.

When the sword disappeared from Domur’s neck he exhaled and sat down.

“He’s not just swinging around that huge sword, that perfect block is nothing short of superhuman. I thought I was done for.”

He must have cooled down as he heartily said this while patting his own neck.

“So, what are you going to do? If you have any complaints I’ll go home.”

“There are none. Akatsuki, please help us together with Crescent Moon.”

“That depends on the request’s contents and the money.”

I won’t just recklessly accept.

It’s troublesome to be so cautious.「2」

“I can’t say it in a loud voice but the job is a kidnapping. We only target young rich women as requested by a certain someone. However, recently rumours started to spread and their vigilance became severe, so we were looking for helpers.” (TN: I bet that certain someone is Gerg)

“A kidnapping, huh? I refuse to become a wanted man just for a one-time job.”

“Regarding that, it’s alright. We use the name of a thief group living around this area called the Highway thieves as cover so they won’t even search for us.”

Bingo.

So it was them who assumed those fellow’s identity after all?

But I need a little more information.

“The highway thieves, is it? What’s with that stale name?”

“Ahaha, it’s a laughingstock. Well, I didn’t really hear their name around as often recently, maybe they went somewhere else. Well, we got the support of a big shot”

There it is.

As I thought there’s a guy pulling the strings from the shadows.

“A Supporter, is it? Who would that be?”

“Slow down there, I can’t tell you that. It’s top secret. But Akatsuki, if a man of your calibre works for a while with us you’ll get to see him maybe.”

Mmm, after working with them for a while, that’s troublesome.

But they’ll get suspicious if I keep asking about this.

This is something I have to think about a little.

“Well, I don’t really care about that, I ought to get a proper reward for this work, right? So, how much is it?”

“That’s right, formerly I thought about giving 10 gold coins per person but I changed my mind, we’ll give 15 gold coins. How’s that?”

Honestly, the amount of money doesn’t really matter.

As I thought that, hey, my partner’s eyes turned into yen signs.

Well, should I negotiate a little to not get suspected?

“15 coins? Then you can forget about it. Make it 20 coins. Then I’ll think about it”「3」

“Fufufu as I expected. With your skills I thought it would rather suspicious if everything will go that smoothly, I’m sorry for doubting you. Let’s make it 20 coins like you asked. So? Will you accept?”

As I thought, using Akatsuki’s original character was the correct answer here.

“Fine. When will the job start?”

“It’s sudden but tomorrow. We got information that tomorrow the daughter of a rich merchant will leave the town to go to the capital. There’ll also be bodyguards but can I ask you to do it?”

“Fine by me, then it’s decided. Tomorrow I’ll come here. Is it also fine with you, Crescent Moon?”

“I don’t have any complaints. Then, till tomorrow”

With this, the talk concluded and Crescent Moon and I left.

“Akatsuki, someone is following us”

Crescent Moon told me that in a low voice without changing her line of sight. This is also within expectations.

We confirmed that we had a follower and returned to the hideout after

shaking him off.

- .. It's Guts and his Dragonslayer from Berserk. Thanks, Trash (this feels like an insult)
- .. Being cautious is goood. Make this a habit~
- .. MC, stay like this

Chapter 3 – Raid

The next day I returned to the unoccupied house together with Crescent Moon.

The five men, Gyan and company, were getting ready and waited.

“Oh, Akatsuki, Crescent Moon, we waited for you. Are you ready?”

Gyan greeted us liked nothing happened.

As one would expect he doesn't even lose a word about the person he made us trail yesterday.

Though we pretended not to notice him and shook him off.

“Yeah, we are well prepared. Domur, I'm sorry about yesterday.”

“N, no, that was my fault, don't mind it.”

When I spoke to Domur he wore a fake smile on his face.

Looks like my medicine worked better than I thought.

We went to our destination on the horses they prepared.

We hid in a less popular place in Braham in a grove next to the road and waited.

Of course, everyone was wearing a mask to prevent their faces to get known.

Next to mine and Crescent Moon's mask they look kind of idiotic.

I hid together with Gyan and Crescent Moon.

“The carriages will pass here soon. Domur, you’ll block the front, we’ll attack from behind.”

“What about the bodyguards?”

“Kill them. Just let one person escape so that they can report it was a kidnapping of the Highway Thieves.”

Gyan gives us instruction like it’s nothing.

He’s a guy who can say gruesome things calmly.

Compared to him my seniors are completely amiable.

“It came, that’s it.”

After less than an hour a carriage passed the highway.

Three bodyguards were protecting the considerably luxurious carriage.

They seem rather cautious, constantly looking around like that.

“Stop! We are the Highway Thieves! We have some business with that carriage’s content. Come out quietly!”

At the moment Domur shouted this four people jumped in front of the carriage.

The three bodyguards hastily pulled out their swords.

“Akatsuki, we’ll also go out!”

According to Gyan’s words, we also jumped out.

The other four people are already battling the three bodyguards.

“Hehe, This is an easy victory – – What’s this?!”

After the smiling Gyan turned around, became stiff and his eyes were wide open.

When I also turned around I saw a cavalry group emerging from the dust behind us.

“You people over there, wait! We are the Imperial Guard Order’s first corps! Surrender quietly!”

“Shit, were we caught in the Order’s patrol? You guys, scatter!!”

Gyan hastily shouted and we got on our horses to run away but our opponents were knights who received training so they were faster.

They caught up to us in the blink of an eye and a battle broke out.

“Damn it, we don’t have any other choice but to do this. You guys, open up an escape route no matter what!”

“Yeah!”

The knights who chased us were five and in the front was Lunos.

Together with the bodyguards they even outnumbered us and the skills of an Imperial Guard Order's knight is on a completely different level.

Everyone got into battle.

“Hmpf, it's 10 years too early for you knights to be this awesome me's opponent!”

Even though Crescent Moon is fighting against a knight she is in no way inferior.

I don't have to worry about her.

“Shit, I won't be done in, in a place like thiiiiis!”

Domur was fighting the knight in front of him but he seems to get by.

The problem was lying with the remaining three people.

“Guhaa!”

First, one of the guys battling a knight was pushed off his horse and somersaulted on the floor after having his shoulder slashed.

“Waaaa!”

A different man who tried to run away in a panic was about to be cut down by two bodyguards.

Looks like his back got cut while he tried to run away.

He fell from his horse and didn't move an inch anymore.

“Shiit.....Gah!”

The knight who cut down the first man proceeded to cut down the next from the side who was fighting another bodyguard.

He was the one who pushed around his bodyguard opponent but was completely helpless against the knight’s surprise attack.

He got his neck cut, blood came spraying out like water and then he fell down.

Three people were cut down in no time and the men remaining were Gyan and Domur.

Looks like Gyan was fighting with Captain Lunos.

Lunos who was once called Braham’s strongest attacked him inexhaustibly.

Gyan desperately tried to block him but in this situation it’s only a matter of time for him to get killed.

Not to mention, while our numbers decrease their numbers increase.

If I don’t do something our annihilation is inevitable.

“Uoooo!”

I swung my great sword down on the knight in front of me.

The knight attempts to block it with his shield but got blown off of his horse from the shock.

“Gyan, are you okay?!”

I entered Gyan's and Lunos' fight.

It became a two on one but as one would expect Lunos wasn't daunted by this at all.

He skilfully blocked my great sword with his shield and attacked Gyan with his sword.

I blocked Lunos' sword with my great sword.

"Hoh, who's the one going against this Lunos?"

As one would expect, Lunos noticed my skill.

But I can't afford to have a fight with Lunos here.

"I'll do something about this fellow. Run away!"

"Sorry, you should also run away!"

Gyan found a gap and ran away.

Looks like Crescent Moon helped Domur and they also ran away together.

I waited while being surrounded by Lunos' knights until those three people had ran away far enough.

"Sorry, but I don't plan to be your opponent. I'll leave"

"I can't let you do that. Let's have you slowly tell me on whose order you're acting, shall we?"

As the knights gradually approached I took one hand off of my sword.

I call the salamander spirit, Reus in my mind.

“Do you want to surrender? What a good attitude.”

While Lunos approached me I formed a seal with my left hand without being careless.

“Firewall!”

A wall of flames instantly emerged from the ground and formed an obstacle between me and the Order.

I used that chance to ride my horse and somehow succeeded in escaping.

I just rode for a while and returned to the town through another gate after I checked for pursuers.

I went to the unoccupied house where just Gyan was waiting.

“Akatsuki! Are you fine?!”

Like I thought Gyan returned earlier.

“See, I told you he’d be alright. Akatsuki isn’t the type of guy to be caught at a place like that.”

Domur and Crescent Moon came together.

“You really saved me there a while ago. If you weren’t there we surely would have been annihilated.”

“You’re amazing. How did you get away from them?”

As Domur asked I chanted the aria for the light ball spell and let some fireballs float in the air.

“As you can see, I am able to use fire magic. I made a flame wall and blocked them. Well, it’s my trump card.”

“What a guy, can use magic and swing that great sword. Amazing, you’re too amazing.....”

As I laughed fearlessly Domur seemed surprised from the bottom of his heart.

Well, I guess the author correction had time to shine today.

I’m really sorry for cheating.

“But why were the Order Knights at a place like this?”

Gyan said this in vexation.

“It’s like you said yesterday, I guess, their vigilance became stricter. Isn’t it that?”

“I see, that’s why they were patrolling. Damn it.”

It seemed like they were convinced by Crescent Moon's words but both Gyan and Domur are frustrated because their comrades were killed.

"What are we going to do then? Is this the end of the job?"

As I asked Gyan looked troubled for a while and then opened his mouth.

"I can't decide. I can't tell you that either. I guess I have to talk to the boss but if I go alone I might be killed to take responsibility. Akatsuki, I'm sorry but could you go with me to explain what happened? I would feel safer."

Okay, there it is, there it is.

Looks like he completely believed I was a comrade.

But I can't get impatient, careful.

"To be honest, that's rather troublesome for me. Well, I wouldn't be able to sleep knowing you got killed, there's also something I want to say about the reward. So, can't be helped, let's go."

"Thank you, Akatsuki. I'm very grateful."

Now it's time for the wire puller to finally appear.

Chapter 4 – Mastermind

—The night before the carriage raid.

“I see, so when the gang is attacking the carriage Lunos will come from behind with his knights.”

“That’s right. The masked man with the great sword and the similarly masked woman are under my order. Let them escape together with the two core members.”

“This is necessary for the act, right? Well, this Lunos will perform as best as possible.”

“In the end the man with the great sword will create a firewall, when he does that please let him escape.”

I called Lunos and F to the mansion to make these arrangements.

I had to talk to F because I want to move the Imperial Guard Order.

The F asked curiously out of turn this time.

“Hoh, isn’t it strange to use a two-handed sword while using magic? What kind of man is he?”

“Well, isn’t it fine? You don’t have to worry, F. More importantly, Lunos, perform the best you can.”

“Please leave it to me. I always played the leading role in amateur theatre acts ever since I was a child.”

Is that equivalent to the culture festival in this world?

Well, if he was playing the leading role there must have been a lot of girls going kyaa kyaa.

I feel bad just from imagining it.

Thanks to this careful planning the raid went well.「1」

Of course, I told Crescent Moon about it beforehand.

“So when are we going to meet that “boss” to make our excuses?”

“I’m not making excuses. I’m just reporting the facts. Well, there’s nothing else we can do. I wanted to go as early as possible, are you fine with that?”

Gyan was pretty impatient, wasn’t he?

Not only did the raid obviously fail but the Guard Order’s vigilance also became more severe.

Further arrangements have to be made for the future, something like this.

“I don’t mind. Can I take Crescent Moon with me?”

“Well, that’s right. It’s necessary to report today’s events as detailed as possible.”

“Don’t worry, Gyan, I’ll intercede well.”

Crescent Moon will also go with us.

Strategy success.

And after beating the mastermind this incident will come to an end.

“Akatsuki, it’s that mansion. Don’t let there be any more blunders.”

Gyan led us to a single house built on a hill quite far away from Braham.

It’s considerably huge.

Its size isn’t much different from Carlo’s mansion either.

“It’s a rather big house. He seems to also have a lot of money.”

Crescent Moon’s eyes turn into yen marks again.

Hey hey, we didn’t come here to attack and steal his money.

Even though I’m a villain I somehow want to still live a good life.「2」

Gyan faced the back entrance and knocked the door several times in a regular pattern.

This seemed to be a code.

The door was immediately opened and we went inside.

The three of us were led through a hall.

Then after waiting for a while a man in a large armour appeared.

Wearing a suit of armour in the house should be tiring, isn’t that too difficult?

“Gyan, what happened? Why did you bring those guys along?”

The armoured man had a moustache and haughtily asked Gyan.

Is that guy the wire puller?

“I, it failed because we got attacked by the Imperial Guard Order. Nearly all of us got ki – -”

“Failure? The Guard Order, you said? And you dare to shamelessly return!?”

The armoured man momentarily flew into a rage.

They said you’d die young if you’re too irritable on TV.

Gyan was tense and tried to desperately make excuses.

“Because of our recent work they somehow got more cautious. Besides, It was the unit led by Lunos and my three comrades got instantly – -”

“Lunos? That Lunos? You said that pretty boy appeared there!?”

Oh? That guy is jealous of Lunos’ appearance, too?

Maybe we could become friends.

“Ye, yes. Then when I was about to be killed this person here called Akatsuki helped us and survived somehow.”

“Hoh, you got Lunos?”

The armoured man stared at my face, judging me.

“No, I didn’t defeat him. However, I shook him off and they withdrew.”

“Hoho, Let’s hear your story, shall we?”「3」

At the time I said that sentence another man entered through a door in the back.

I was very surprised to see that face growing a long white beard.

Isn’t that guy Viscount Gerg?!「4」

I just met him as Carlo a few days ago.

“This here is Viscount-sama. It seems it failed because Carlo’s Household troops interfered.”

The armoured man deeply lowered his head.

So that means, Gerg was the wire puller?

However, I didn’t expect this man who is known to be a truly virtuous person to be the wire puller 「5」.

If I didn’t wear this mask it might have shown on my face.

He naturally also knew my face so it was good I was wearing a mask.

“Heeh, I didn’t know you were our employer.”

Crescent Moon seemed to also know Gerg.

Looks like he’s a celebrity after all.

“You bastard, watch your tongue!”

“Hoho, it’s fine, it’s fine. It’s useless to keep it a secret. Zackary, what is this here? Let’s take a seat and slowly hear their story, shall we?”

With these instructions, the armoured man called Zackary led us to Gerg’s living room.

Of course, only Gerg sat down Zackary and we were standing.

“So, how about you tell us your story once again?”

Prompted by Gerg Gyan explained the situation from the beginning once again.

Gyan seemed to be quite afraid of Gerg as he was extremely tense and sweated profusely.

This old man, He looked like a gentle person from the outside but his insides seemed to be considerably bad.

“.....Therefore in order for us to survive this Akatsuki here led Lunos away.”

“Hohoo. Not only did he help everyone to escape from that Lunos but also escaped himself safely. Akatsuki, that person seems to possess considerable skill.”

Crescent Moon intervened from the side faster than I could answer.

“If it’s this Akatsuki he could even straightforwardly fight that Fitzgerald guy or me”

It would be the same result as the Sword Fighting Competition.

Crescent Moon don't say unnecessary things.

“Do you mean the man who defeated Lunos and became the champion of the Sword Fighting Competition, Fitzgerald? That's pretty good. Zackary, Akatsuki might even surpass you, too.”

After hearing Crescent Moon's words Gerg suddenly became cheerful.

On the contrary, Zackary stared at me with eyes filled with hostility.

Looks like I won't be able to befriend him anytime soon.

“However, this is troubling. It was a pretty good kind of work. It'll be rather difficult to continue if they keep being so cautious, wouldn't it?”

Like I thought they acted on this man's order.

Just when I thought about hammer him down——

“Excuse me”

A girl lowered her head and entered the room with a drink for Gerg.

She's a rather beautiful girl but there's nothing eye-catching about her.

An iron collar was around her neck.

“Fraudia, is it? Come here.”「6」

“Aah, Gerg-sama, please don’t.....!”

Gerg forcibly pulled the girl’s hand who put down the drink.

The girl resisted but got drawn closer nevertheless.

“This woman is.....?”

Gyan seemed to recognise this girl.

“That’s right, this is the woman you caught the other day. This woman is Fraudia and Princess Charlotte’s former maid.”

Zackary explained to Gyan.

“Hoho, you did a very good job. If it was just an ordinary woman I would have sold her after enjoying her and after receiving the ransom but it’s a different story with the princess’s favourite maid.”

Gerg said so while hugging the girl who is obviously uncomfortable.

“This Fraudia will be given to Rejum-sama. The prince will surely be delighted as well.”「7」

Hohohoh, Gerg laughed pleasantly.

The name of a big one came out again.

Prince Armandi Rejum.

He’s the leader of the conservative aristocrats who are against King Franz

Johann III plan to centralise the government and the big shot of all big shots having the right to succeed Franz Kingdom's and Italino Kingdom's throne.

I see, so Gerg had connections to Rejum.

“For that reason, I'm handing out this girl. It is said that the princess especially liked this maid. Rejum-sama will surely use her well.”

I see, so Gerg uses this child to get Rejum's favour and he will use her as a tool to oppose the King.

“Gerg-sama, I certainly thought you were close to Margrave Medici, though.”

As I asked that Gergs expression suddenly changed and his tone grew bitter.

“Who would willingly wave their tail to that blond boy? This also was something Prince Armandi instructed.”

I heard something good there.

I planned to kill this villain here today but the strategy changed.

- .. Last chapter's title had a double meaning then~ the knight's raid and the fake highway thieves' raid~
- .. Yeah that's kinda contradicting, you know
- .. That Hoho =__=
- .. Hah! Knew it~
- .. Hmpf, anyone who's said to be super friendly is actually fucked up you hear?
- .. Srsly? FRAUdia? Frau as in woman in German? Is that a name? Or is it Frau Dia? That would be Miss Dia or Miss Deer.

. His name looks like légume. Would have called him that if there wasn't the ju.
Vegetable-sama that would have been great

Chapter 5 – Rush

I thought I would end this case with finding the wire-puller and putting him away, but the plan changed.

I decided to just talk with Gerg.

It resulted in them stopping the kidnappings for a while and falling into a wait-and-see state.

Carlo, namely me will leak out that he will pack his mansion full with soldiers as a precaution.

Gyan and also Zackary were made to patrol, Crescent Moon and I were also asked to do it but we said we still had some business and would join them shortly, with that being said we forcibly left.

It seems like the Princess's maid, Fraudia, will soon be delivered to Prince Armandi Rejum.

At the same time, Rejum intends to use her as a means to ensure his personal security.

I parted with Crescent Moon at the hideout then I returned to the mansion and called for F and Lunos.

“Carlo-sama's plan worked really well.”

Lunos reported this but I obviously knew this already.

Well, I was there after all.

“Looks like it, I got a report from my subordinate a few minutes ago. I know who the mastermind is.”

“Who is it?”

As F asked Lunos who also was interested leant forward.

“Don’t be surprised when you hear this, it’s old man Gerg.”

“What? That Viscount Gerg is behind the kidnappings? I can’t believe that. Is the information reliable?”

“Yeah, he seemed to have directly met him in the mansion and talked to him. He told me there was a kidnapped girl there.”「1」

I was seriously surprised that Lunos knew of Gerg’s good reputation.

That’s to be expected, I wouldn’t believe it either if I didn’t see it with my own eyes.

“Viscount Gerg was close with Carlo-sama, right? How shall we do this?”

“Obviously attacking him isn’t possible. However, assuming that he was found out, that guy is gathering soldiers. He will soon make his move.”

“A raid?”

“I see, I will punish him with my own hands.”

“However, wouldn’t it be bad if we start a fight with Viscount Gerg who got his peerage from the king?”

F’s worry was also reasonable.

That’s why I wanted to cut him down as Akatsuki and not as Carlo at first.

But I have a plan this time.

“I thought about this point. Gather the Imperial Guard immediately. I don’t care who comes. We’ll depart as soon as you gathered enough.”

“”Yes!””

As one would expect, those two are excellent warriors, as soon as they understood my intentions they immediately left to gather soldiers.

Ting Ting——「2」

I rang the bell and called for Melissa.

“What are your orders, Carlo-sama?”

“I’ll shortly leave this place with some soldiers. I want to ask you to immediately prepare the equipment.”

“Well, this late at night? Understood, I shall immediately prepare it.”

“I’m sorry. Additionally, I may return with some women. They’ll probably be tired. Please make preparations to accommodate them.”

“- – Understood, I shall prepare everything for them.”

For an instant, Melissa looked like she wanted to know the whole story but lowered her head without saying anything.

Melissa is a good person after all.

“Are you ready? Our goal is the Viscount’s house. There’s no doubt that the enemy is also armed. Don’t be careless!”

After F’s commands, a momentary unrest runs through the gathered knights.

They were told to invade Viscount Gerg who enjoys such a good reputation.

However, as one would expect they were well trained and the unrest had immediately settled down.

“Mount your horses, advance!”

At F’s shout approximately 20 knights started to march.

As they are a cavalry corps only consisting out of mounted knights their marching speed was considerable.

Their mobility was their biggest weapon after all.

“The Imperial Guard Order is passing through! Make way!”

People wondered what was going on as a cavalry group was running through Braham at night.

Oops, “that” which I put near my chest nearly fell because of the vibrations caused by White King.

Dangerous, dangerous.

We left Braham and rode our horses for a while before the light of Gerg’s mansion was visible.

To not be exposed we halted at a slightly remote place and arrange our formation.

“Lunos, you’ll go with the knights to confront the opposing soldiers. F you’ll come with me, please take care of that guy’s guard. I’ll have a man-to-man talk with Gerg. Oh, and Lunos, protect all the women kept inside. Especially the woman with a collar around her neck. She’s the key figure. Don’t let her even get a single scratch.”

“”Certainly””

Everyone ties their horses together and sneaked towards the mansion on foot.

As expected, there were no guards out. They can’t even imagine someone attacking them now.

As we approached the mansion several knights went to the door with a wooden hammer in their hands.

Ah, isn’t that the guy with the good body who lost against me in the second round of the Sword Fighting Competition?

He’s certainly the third corps’ Captain, give it your all (laughs).

Baaaaaam!

“We’ll attack them, come on!”

At the same time, the door got wrecked Lunos’ unit pulled their swords and jumped inside.

I took my Oricalcum Sword in my hand and finally entered together with F.

When we entered battles started in various places.

When I looked to Lunos I saw Gyan was his opponent.

Even though you were able to escape with so much effort, I’m disappointed, Gyan.

There were a lot of people here, the knights who were free protected the women.

Yeah, if it’s like this Fraudia will surely be fine.

Of course, the door got guarded so that no one could escape.

Seeing that Zackary isn’t here he’s probably on the second floor together with Gerg.

I went up the grand staircase together with F.

Different than the noisy first floor the second floor was quiet.

While watching our surroundings we cautiously went through the corridor and then around the next corner there was a man.

Zackary was guarding an especially luxurious door.

Behind it was Gerg’s room.

“F, please distract that guy. Gerg should be on the other side of the door. I’ll try to get in.”

“Certainly”

Zackary shouted at me and F who lowered his head.

“I’m Greg-sama’s right-hand man, the knight, Zackary! No matter who you are I won’t let you through!”

“I’m Carlo-sama’s head of the Imperial Guard Order, Fitzgerald. He said he wishes to go through that door. Let us through.”「3」

Zackary reacted to F’s words calmly.

“Hoh, you’re the bastard who defeated that pretty boy, Lunos. Then you shouldn’t be lacking as an opponent!”

Ehm, he also defeated me.

It was in the finals, too.

Are you just going to ignore me, is that so?「4」

Oh well, that guy isn’t a match for F but I want to enter that room as soon as possible.

For that, I can’t just wait until F defeated him.

I can’t let Gerg escape no matter what.

“F, Lets both attack him to get through. Is that fine?”

“Certainly. Then let us go.”

After hearing our conversation Zackary flew into a rage.

“You guys are cowardly for attacking this Zackary with two people. Fight me one on one like a dignified knight!”

Even if you say that, you won't let us through so you're the bad one here. Besides, I'm a villain so there's no need for me to be “dignified”.

I completely ignored Zackary's words and was about to hit him together with F.

You can't do anything if the Sword Fighting Competition's champion and runner-up attack you together.

F and I inexhaustibly attacked Zackary with our swords.

Zackary tried to desperately block but honestly his short-comings can't be denied.

It's just that he doesn't receive any severe wound because he's wearing a heavy armour.

As one would expect of F, he's good.

Zackary gets gradually driven to the wall.

Thanks to that a gap was created through which I could pass.

“I’m sorry, F. Don’t let anyone enter until I say it’s good.”

“Understood.”

After I just exchanged a few words with him I placed my hand on the doorknob.

“W, wait!”

Zackary hastily shouted but that’s all he could do because he was busy blocking F’s sword so he couldn’t chase after me.

Click

As I turned the doorknob the door opened.

There was no need for a key.

- .. Talking about Akatsuki here if it’s not clear~
- .. Didn’t see this one in a long time
- .. And I’m KonnoAren, Translator. I want to see you fight so get to it~ lol
- .. Butthurt Carlo~

Chapter 6 – Judgment

Click— —

After turning the doorknob I entered while holding my sword in one hand, I saw old man Gerg standing beside his desk.

The office was an excellent room with a sword hanging on the wall as decorations.

“If it isn’t Carlo-sama, what brings you here on a night like this?”「1」

Regardless of his real intentions, he not only had the gall to ask me that in a friendly manner he also was shameless enough to sit down at a time like this.

Even though one could hear the sound of fighting beyond the door he had a smile on his face.

“I just happened to coincidentally pass by here and even though I thought I would be a nuisance I still had to stop by.”「2」

“No, no, you’d never be a nuisance. You’re welcome anytime —”

This guy being a noble is used to hiding his real intentions.

Is this also a kind of fight?

“Welcome, huh? A blond brat like me?..... Excuse me.”

Twitch.

His eyebrows slightly twitched when I said “blond brat”.

I wonder if he’s now trying to figure out who leaked this information.

“Hoho, I don’t know from whom you heard this but this person is surely planning to fracture our relationship. Pay it no heed.”

“Mine and Gerg’s relationship? When talking about close relationships wouldn’t it be between you and Prince Armandi?”

When I sarcastically uttered this sentence Gerg’s expression changed.

It seemed like he realised who leaked the info.

“I see now. It’s those masked people, right? I don’t know what you heard but you can’t believe in the words of such uncivilised people.”

“Masked people? What on earth are you saying? I have no idea what you mean.”

As I feigned ignorance Gerg spoke to me with a serious face.

“Carlo-sama should know about the frequent kidnappings happening recently, right?”

As the Imperial Guard Order had a battle with the kidnappers today Carlo should know about it.

“I have been chasing the criminals for a long time now.”

“Hoh, and?”

This is taking a somewhat interesting turn.

I’m kind of interested in what kind of excuse he’ll come up with.

“Recently I finally discovered the criminals. They are called Akatsuki and Crescent Moon, a male and female mercenary wearing suspicious masks. Today I nearly got them.”

“Akatsuki and Crescent Moon, a male and female mercenary wearing masks, interesting.”「3」

It’s a fact that the kidnappers were two people.

If I asked the Imperial Guard Order they would be able to confirm this.

You thought about this quite well, didn’t you, old man?

“If you consider this, those people, being cornered, in the end tried to accuse me of a crime in front of Carlo-sama, don’t you think?”

“I see, now that you say it I feel like the Imperial Guard told me about those people.”

When I said so, Gerg made exaggerated movements with his hands and nodded.

“I was right after all! Carlo-sama, please hand over those two people to me. I shall interrogate them closely and will make them confess all their sins.”

After those two people confessed you'll arrange for them to die in an unexpected accident during the interrogation.

At that moment I started to think carefully.

“Is that right, Gerg? They didn't seem to lie to me.”

“What did they say? You must not listen to their words! Or do they have any evidence that it was me? If they do have some let it be judged in front of His Majesty the King.”

“Evidence, huh? There's none.”

When I said so Gerg gained more and more momentum.

“I thought so! I'm not Carlo-sama's vassal in the first place even if our social positions are different. We are both nobles who equally got their peerage granted by His Majesty the King. You made a mistake in thinking it would be over with this riot!”

This old man finally assumed a defiant attitude.

Well then, shall we draw the curtain?

“A mistake? I don't make mistakes.”

“Then can you prove anything!?”

“I don’t need evidence. I certainly heard it with my own ears.”

I slowly took that out from my chest and put it in front of Gerg.

“Y, you are the mercenary, Akatsuki!”

“That’s right, you directly told me everything. Oh, Now that I think about it, there is evidence. It’s Fraudia. My men should be protecting her right about now. How is it? Do you still want to be judged in front of the King?”

As I put on my masked and started to laugh Gerg’s face was distorted by anger.

“You, you planned all this! However, whatever you Bastard may say Rejum-sama will protect me!”「4」

Like I thought that old man is completely connected with Rejum.

“Unfortunately, that’s impossible. You’ll die now in this place.”「5」

“Wha, what did – -”

After having understood my real intentions Gerg leapt to the sword hanging on the wall.

I waited until Gerg pulled out the sword.「6」

“If you lay your hands on a noble you bastard won’t get away with it. Even if the King might forgive you Rejum-sama won’t, you Bastard!”

“What if I tell you that this is what I wanted?”

“You Bastard, are you targeting Rejum-sama? Unforgivable! Die, you blond brat!”

Gerg lost himself in anger and was about to attack me.

But his attack was slow and weak probably because of his age.

I thrust my Oricalcum sword into his heart as he tried to swing his sword.

“Y, you, I will curse you from the afterlife.....”

As Gerg vomited blood from his mouth I pulled out my sword and let him collapse on the floor before he ceased to breathe.

So this is what it’s like to kill a person.

It doesn’t feel comfortable even if I know that my opponent was an evil person.

But there will surely be many people I have to take care of in the future.

Because I’m the villain, Margrave Carlo de Medici.

Old man, wait for me in hell.「7」

“I kept you waiting”

When I opened the door after putting away my mask I saw F and Lunos waiting in front of it.

Zackary got killed a while ago and his corpse was leaning against the wall.

“What happened to Viscount Gerg?”

“After he confessed his crimes I killed him. How’s the situation downstairs?”

“It’s over. All men died and all women we considered to be hostages are safe.”

“The casualties are?”

“None. About two were wounded but it’s nothing more than a scratch.”

As I received the report and went downstairs the members of the Imperial Guard Order were standing in a row.

The women were huddled together as a group near a wall, frightened.

I heard that there was a room underground somewhere, where they were locked up in.

Alright, Fraudia is also there.

“You worked hard. We’re going to return now. Lunos, go back to the mansion together with these women. Fitzgerald, choose five people and stay here with me.”

“Yes!”

After I made sure Lunos took the women with him I let F give the order to set the mansion on fire.

The fire instantly engulfed everything and the mansion turned pitch black while shrouded in burning red flames.

I left Gerg’s corpse inside.

“This will cause an uproar tomorrow. Everybody in town saw Carlo-sama leave with soldiers. Regardless of his true nature he seemed to be loved by the people.”

F who minded my reputation started to talk to me but I didn’t care about it.

“I don’t care. More importantly, I have to quickly go to the capital. I have to start working before Rejum hears about this.”

“Prince Armandi? Were Viscount Gerg and he connected?”

“That’s right. That’s why I couldn’t put him on trial. He would have gotten in the way.”

“He’s a very difficult opponent”

“Hmpf, I won’t lose.”

“Please tell me in which way I can be of help.”

After having made sure that the mansion completely burned down I returned to my mansion together with F.

- . No cat on the lap?
- . Ya knooow, just casually killing your men
- . Best part in exposing someone~ “Oh really? Is that so? Interesting. You don’t say?”
- . *himself. He’ll protect himself and will kill you
- . Eh? Are you going to do it? Really? Without mercy? Good boy~
- . =__= Come on
- . Hurray he did it \o/ party

Chapter 7 – Trump Card

Pikaru and Marcus were waiting for me when I returned to the mansion.

The head maid Melissa and the newly appointed tactician Nals were the same.

“Melissa, how’s the women’s state?”

“Everybody was very frightened and weakened but they seemed to have calmed down to some extent”

“Is it so? There should be a girl called Fraudia inside. Could you send her to me later?”

“Certainly, Carlo-sama”

As Melissa lowered her head and left Marcus started to speak.

“Carlo-sama, could you explain to me what happened today?”

“Yeah. Do you know about the frequent kidnappings aimed at only women happening recently around this town?”

Everyone nodded when I looked at them.

“When I was searching for the culprit it turned out that Gerg was the one behind this.”

“That Viscount with such a good reputation did such things?”

Pikaru shook his glittering head in disbelief.「1」

“Then Carlo-sama took the Imperial Guard’s knights with him to confront him and after having confessed his crimes he killed himself, huh?”

“That’s right. He set his own mansion on fire.”

Marcus was thinking while touching his white moustache.

He resembles a captain after all.

“Well then, what’s done is done. But won’t this cause problems as you attacked a noble whose peerage got granted by the king, though, of a lower rank? Besides it seemed like the deceased viscount had connections to Prince Armandi.”

“I’m prepared for that. Rather I want to use this incident to show that I’m clearly part of the royalists.”

When I answered this to the worrying Marcus, both Marcus and Pikaru had slightly surprised faces.

It’s surprising for Carlo, a nobleman, to cooperate with the king who wants to destroy the aristocratic power.

The tactician Nals was listening calmly and expectant.

“The royalists, aren’t they the reformists promoting the centralization?”「2」

“That’s right. The King is now confronted with the conservative aristocrats led by Prince Armandi because he is trying to push for the centralisation. He’s completely inferior in military power so he should be dying to get you on his side.”

“I see, it’s a normal practice in politics to force someone to buy oneself for a higher price.”

At Nals’ words old man Marcus grinned.

This old man has indeed a good comprehension ability.

“That’s it. Even if the king succeeds in promoting centralization and weakens the aristocratic power as long as my own power isn’t taken the others don’t matter. If the King doesn’t have any allies he won’t be able to pull off a reform.”

“However, even if you are in conflict with Prince Armandi, His Majesty the King doesn’t necessarily have to trust you, right?”

Pikaru who had a pessimistic nature listened with unease.

If one worries too much one will get bald.....Is it fine because it’s already shining?

“Everything’s alright on that point. In fact, today I went to get my trump card.”

As I said so I rang the bell on my desk.

Ting Ting——

Immediately the door was knocked and Melissa entered the room with a single girl.

It was Fraudia.

She looked pitiful with that iron collar still around her neck.

“Couldn’t the collar be removed yet?”

“It has been firmly welded. I will go take her to a blacksmith tomorrow.”

“There’s a blacksmith called Mohkan in the town. His skills are of the super class so ask him.”

“Certainly”

Melissa left and I introduced Fraudia to all the people present.

“This girl is called Fraudia. She was caught by Gerg and we helped her. This girl is my trump card.”

“Hoh, this girl’s appearance is quite good but how is she a trump card?”

Marcus opened his narrow eyes and looked at Fraudia.

“Fraudia, please explain your situation to those people.”

“Certainly. I’m Fraudia the maid serving Her Imperial Highness Princess Charlotte of the Franz royal family.”

“Hohoh, Her Imperial Highness the Princess’ personal maid, is it?”

Marcus asked for confirmation with an interested expression.

Nals’ facial expression looked like he already guessed it, as expected.

“Yes. My parents’ house is located here I have been kidnapped on my way home. At first, I was to be sold after the ransom money was given but after they found out I’m the Princess’ favourite maid they decided to deliver me to Prince Armandi Rejum and I was made to work at the Viscount’s mansion till then.”

“I see, this is quite good. She can testify not only that the Viscount was the wire puller but also that he had connections with Prince Armandi. If she was well liked by the Princess this is a good opportunity to form connections with the Royal Family.”

Looks like a concrete plan has already been completed in Nals’ head.

“That’s right. Therefore I believe I am able to clearly show that I’m standing on the side of the Royal family and I’m able to form a solid connection with them.”

As I said so I looked into everyone’s faces.

“I want to go to the capital to make those connections with the Royal family

before Rejum gets wind of this. We'll leave as soon as Fraudia's collar is removed. Nals, you'll come with me. There will be various occasions where one has to negotiate. Marcus, Pikaru, please take care of everything in my absence. As I shall take Lunos as a bodyguard and Doji as my attendant with me please do the preparations."

""Yes!""

"Fraudia, I'm sorry but could you accompany us to the capital to give your testimony? As you heard, I want to be His Majesty the King's and Her Imperial Highness the Princess' strength."

"Understood. I shall do my best as this body was saved by Margrave-sama."

Fraudia isn't just pretty but also a straight-forward girl.

If I can win her over to my side she will give her testimony as expected.

The next day Melissa seemed to have gone to the blacksmith Mohkan with Fraudia in the morning.

When she was brought before me she wasn't wearing a collar anymore.

Seeing the red marks left behind by the collar made one pity her but they don't seem to hurt.

"Ooh, looks like the collar got removed. Are you alright?"

"Thanks to you it was taken off without a problem. After a long time, I finally feel free again."

“That’s good. I’m sorry that I can’t give you time to relax but we have to leave immediately. Are you ready?”

“I’m fine. I want to see Princess Charlotte as soon as possible as well.”

Fraudia’s eyes who looked straight at me were beautiful.

I don’t dislike straight-forward girls like this.「3」

“Call Lunos and Doji.”

After I asked Melissa to do as such, two people immediately entered the room.

“Good morning, Is it fine to just take five knights including me as bodyguards with you?”

“That’s fine. I don’t want to attract attention and I also want to focus on speed. What about the arrangements for a carriage for Fraudia?”

“Yes. We prepared a horse-drawn carriage which can attain up to four times the speed. Though it isn’t comfortable to ride in it.”

As Lunos said that I looked at Fraudia.

“I’m fine. I’ll just close my mouth to not bite my tongue even if it shakes and bounces.”

As Fraudia said this jokingly she winked.

Shit, so cute.....「4」

“Ah, ehem, then, Doji, is everything ready?”

“Yes, but is it alright to take me with you? Am I fit to be Carlo-sama’s attendant?”

“I don’t mind. Doji, you can ride a horse, right?”

“Ah, yes. As I handled horses ever since I was small I’m able to ride a horse.”

“Then that’s fine. For weapons, that’s right, take a slightly bigger axe with you, though it’s rather conspicuous.”

“Understood, then I shall pick the biggest and bring it with me.”

“Yeah, that’s fine. Your job will be to act as an escort. You should always be behind me. Well then, let’s go.”

“Understood. I will do my best.”

The people I asked to take care of things around here in my absence, Marcus, Pikaru, F, Melissa and the other maids were waiting outside.

Lunos and the other knights were already close to the carriage with their horses and waited.

“Carlo-sama, please take this.”

Pikaru handed me a small bag.

Even without looking inside I knew what it is.

It's gold and white gold coins.

Something like a present for the Royal family that's why I let him prepare this.「5」

“Yeah, please take care while I'm absent.”

“Please leave everything to me.”

Pikaru will take care of domestic affairs and Marcus and F will take care of military affairs and security.

“Carlo-sama, please be careful.”

The three maids Melissa, Reina and Mirea saw me off.

Though I was a little worried about the way Reina looked at me and Lunos, oh well, it should be fine.「6」

“Well then, let's go. Depart!”

- .. Ya had to mention his head, huh?
- .. [Centralization](#) for the one's wondering what that is
- .. Oh? Is that so?

- 1. I like her more than Felicia so you got my blessing u__u or give her to me
- 2. Sure. I already see it disappearing in one day again....Bye-bye money part 5
- 3. The start of a new BL fanfiction, huh?

Chapter 8 – The Capital

Nothing happened on our journey and we safely reached the Capital Ruan.

The fact that there weren't any disturbances shows that Duke Armandi didn't hear about this yet, I guess.

I saw the Rabbit groups relay station and noticed some of them but they were working hard.

I didn't wear my mask so I didn't call out to them.

The Capital Ruan is a fort town surrounded by a stunning wall.

Its height is completely different from the one at our Braham.

To get examined many people entered the side gate next to the entrance gate to enter Ruan.

I was led through the front gate as soon as I said that my name is Carlo.

As expected of a noble.

“Well then, we arrived safely”

Lunos said those things but Nals seemed to feel dizzy.

He was able to ride a horse but because he said he wasn't that proficient I made him ride the carriage but it seemed to have shook considerably.「1」

“We were going pretty fast, is Fraudia alright?”

“Yes, just this much is fine.”

Even though Fraudia who rode the same carriage was in high spirits Nals looked pretty bad.

Well, there's no helping that as he's the type who battles with his head, right?

He looked quite feeble, too.

But because he's thin and beautiful he should be popular within a certain group of girls.

I bet he will become the next victim of Reina and her friends sometime soon.「2」

Please don't make me his partner if you do.「3」

“Then shall we go to the royal palace? Fraudia, can I ask you to guide us?”

“Certainly”

Though Carlo has been to the royal palace many times it would be the first for me.

Because I didn't write about the Capital in detail I don't really know the way despite this being the world I created.「4」

It seemed like this was Doji's first time here as well, as he looked around in wonder.

The Town's people also looked at Doji who was carrying a huge axe on his back in wonder.

However, as expected, the Capital is a big town.

All the buildings were made out of stone and looked excellent, even the roads were also paved with stone.

There are a lot of people, the businesses seemed to prosper as well.

Compared to Ruan Braham felt like a local town.

Though because it's mostly made of stone the town looked grey.

I like Braham's wooden buildings better.

Though, this would be better in case of a big fire.

As one would think the people of the Capital walking on the streets were dressed fashionably.

Though it might be my imagination but the people's eyes seemed cold when they looked towards us.

Is this what they would call discrimination of people from rural areas?

After we advanced for a while we saw some big gates.

This seemed to be the entrance to the royal palace.

Franz Kingdom is the country with the greatest power and longest history among the Yuroa countries.

According to that, the royal palace turned out to be a considerably excellent castle.

The big mansions in the vicinity of the moat are residences of nobles.

I wonder which of them belongs to Carlo.

Though I was a little interested I quickly went to the royal palace because time is of the essence.

I crossed the wooden drawbridge leading over the moat to enter the royal palace.

Before I entered I left White King at the entrance.

The entrance turned into a solemn hall with a high arch ceiling and the sun shone through the coloured glass.

I suddenly felt overwhelmed.「5」

Nals looked around with great interest as well.

Should I ask him to use this as reference for Balhart castle's design?

I don't need something as luxurious as this though.「6」

“Margrave Carlo de Medici, you were able to safely arrive this place.”

At the time when we passed through the entrance hall, an elderly man with white hair greeted us.

This seemed to be the State Minister of Franz Kingdom called Walles.

He seemed like the type of man who could do anything in a calm manner.

“His Highness Minister Walles, thank you for greeting us. I hastily came over to report something to His Majesty the King.”

I tried to speak as carefully as possible.

If I want to show my intentions to act as part of the royalists I can't provoke the King's close aide.

“I heard about that. His Majesty waited for your arrival, Margrave Medici.”

I parted with Lunos, Nals and Doji and followed Walles together with Fraudia.

We climbed the grand staircase and after walking along the corridor of the second floor for a while we reached a luxurious door guarded by two sentries.

“His Majesty the King is awaiting you inside.”

When I passed through the door the sentry opened I saw a grand hall.

The one sitting on the chair on a higher ground at the back of the hall was probably King Franz Johann III.

There was a man with an excellent build dressed in a military uniform standing next to the chair.

His black moustache was eye-catching and his sharp eyes seemed to be able to look into one’s heart.

This is the famous General Dolus called “The Kingdom’s Guardian” and additionally holds the position of Military affairs, Minister.

He holds great bravery, excels in leadership and is absolutely loyal to the king, he is supposed to be the greatest obstacle for Carlo who’ll oppose the King and aims for the throne.

“Margrave Carlo de Medici, please step forward and report to his Majesty the King.”

I went through the vassals who stood in tow lines, kneeled before the King and greeted him.

I should have done it perfectly as I studied the etiquette when I left Braham.
「7」

Fraudia kneeled behind me.

“Carlo, huh? Long time no see. What do you have to report?”

After some time a voice was raised.

That seemed to be the King's, Johann III, voice.

I was a little surprised. I had an image of him being a normal, not to say mediocre monarch but his voice was hoarse and heavy.

In terms of age, he's supposed to not yet have reached the age of 50 but he gave off a much older feeling.

"Around Braham, which I rule, frequent kidnappings aimed only at women started to happen recently."

I raised my face and reported to the King.

The State Minister Walles whom I've met before stood next to the King.

Like I thought he enjoys the King's trust.

"If the required ransom money isn't paid they would murder the hostage but even if the money is paid the woman will be sold off never to be seen again. When I was investigating I found an unexpected person."

"Hoh, who might that person be?"

It seemed like I got the King's attention.

OK, now comes the important part.

"Yes. That person was Viscount Gerg."

"That Viscount would never do such things! That viscount cannot do something like that! Margrave Medici, do you intend to put the blame on Viscount Gerg?!"

As soon as I said that a sharp voice flew over from behind.

That guy's surely a follower of Duke Armandi Rejum.

"It's a fact that Viscount Gerg ordered the kidnappings, no doubt about that. I heard it from the person himself."

"That Gerg? That's hard to believe so suddenly, but where is the person in question Gerg?"

"After I interrogated him and he confessed his own crimes he set fire to his mansion and killed himself."

The vassals in the vicinity were upset and begun to murmur as soon as these words left my mouth.

After committing a crime a noble killed himself even if the Viscount wasn't of a higher rank.

It's only natural they would be upset.

"Lies, Margrave Medici, you're trying to put the blame for these crimes on Viscount Gerg after you killed him!"

Then I heard that guy's voice from a little while ago.

I turned back to confirm his face this time.

He was a nervous-looking, thin noble in his late 30s giving off the same feeling as a mantis.

That's the guy, check, when I thought that a low voice sounded from the plateau.

“Don’t say such careless things, Earl McBell. Doubt will only cause unnecessary conflict.”

“Kuu.....”

General Dolus was the one who spoke.

That man called McBell fell silent at ones while looking vexed.

After that, General Dolus turned towards me.

“Margrave Medici, do you have clear evidence that Viscount Gerg committed these crimes?”

“Yes. This girl is called Fraudia. She was kept hostage by Viscount Gerg and is also Her Imperial Highness Princess Charlotte’s personal maid.”

After I said that Fraudia raised her head and spoke to General Dolus, Minister Walles and the King

“I’m called Fraudia serving Her Imperial Highness the Princess. It’ true that Margrave Medici helped me when I was held hostage by Viscount Gerg.”

After hearing Fraudia’s words State Minister Walles spoke in a clear voice.

“I indeed heard about one of Her Imperial Highness the Princess’ maids gone missing after having returned home. I met this girl called Fraudia several times in this royal palace.”

“It seems like the information is reliable. Let’s hear about the details in my private rooms, shall we? Carlo, go to my private rooms together with this girl. Walles, please call Charlotte.”

“””Understood”””

At the King’s words the vassals lowered their heads all at once.

That guy called Earl McBell was only able to look at this scene with vexation.

- . I don’t like carriages...
- . Aaaand another future victim huh? Poor guys
- . Heh, you’ll probably be through
- . Do your job goddamnit! No one was complaining about the lack of detail there?
- . kinda like a gothic church
- . And you probably don’t have the money to build that or if you do you wouldn’t be able to maintain that....
- . One needs practice for kneeling down?

Chapter 9 – Secret Agreement

I was invited into the King's living room together with Fraudia.

The King, General Dolus and Minister Walles were walking before us.

So that's the King's living room.

As I expected it's luxurious and solemn.

I can't really relax with such an atmosphere.

The first to open their mouth was General Dolus.

"About Gerg, are you sure?"

"Yes, I am sure. And there's something else I want to tell His Majesty."

There's something I wasn't able to say back then.

"Viscount Gerg had connections to Duke Armandi."

"Is that true?"

Minister Walles asked for confirmation.

As Duke Armandi is the present King's greatest enemy they should be bothered by this.

"This is also something I heard from the person himself. Fraudia was to be sent to Duke Armandi soon. She herself should know best about this."

“Is that so, Fraudia?”

Fraudia answered Minister Walles question in a clear voice.

“That’s what the Viscount told me. I should be prepared because I’ll soon be sent to Rejum-sama”

“Fufu, Rejum, he must have planned to use this girl as bait.”

The King who heard this laughed in a gloomy, low voice.

I’m not good at dealing with people with such dark personalities.「1」

I feel depressed just talking to them.「2」

We were talking like this when suddenly the door was opened and a person jumped in.

“Father, is it true that Frau, that Fraudia returned?!”

“Princess.....”

“Aah, Frau, Frau, you’re safe! This is.....”「3」

The beautiful, blond girl had her eyes filled with tears as soon as she jumped into the room and embraced Fraudia.

“That” must be Princess Charlotte.「4」

“Where on earth were you, Frau? Do you know how worried I was? Are you alright?”

“I’m sorry, Princess. I was caught by some bad people while I was on my way home. But I was thankfully able to come back safely.”

“Well, like I thought! I knew that something bad must have happened for you to suddenly disappear in front of me. That’s why I asked the Minister and General to send out some soldiers countless times!”

As the Princess said so she glared at Minister Walles and General Dolus.

Though she is a stunningly beautiful girl she seemed strong-willed.「5」

The way she changed from a happy expression to glaring that quickly was scary.

“Well, if we don’t have any evidence we aren’t able to do anything.....”

The Minister tried to hastily explain himself but the Princess seemed to ignore him.「6」

“It must have been hard on you, right, Frau? But you did well to survive. How did you manage to escape?”

“Margrave Medici who also came here helped me.”

After hearing Fraudia’s words the Princess seemed to finally notice me.

Do I really have that thin of a presence?

“This should be our first meeting, Margrave-sama. I’m Princess Charlotte.”

“My name is Carlo de Medici. His Majesty the King generously gave me the position of Margrave. Please forgive my rudeness as I come from a rural area.”

I greeted her with a cool expression.

Though it’s a little rough I used Lunos as my reference.

That guy’s popular after all.

Anyway, being disliked by the princess would be bad.

“I heard you helped Fraudia. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

The princess thanked me elegantly and smiled.

Shit, that smile is exactly like that of an angel.「7」

I can’t fall in love with her, I can’t fall in love with her, I can’t fall in love with her.

Because this girl will marry the Hero in the future.

“No, it’s only natural as one of His Majesty’s faithful subjects to also serve Her Imperial Highness the Princess.”

As I answered to her politely a gloomy voice drifted over from the side.

“Hmpf, a faithful subject you say, but inwardly you think differently, right? You’re not thinking anything good about me either, do you?”

Uwah, this King is seriously warped.

How did he become like this?「8」

.....

.....Mmm, Even though it's troublesome, let's use a frontal attack!

“Even if it's like this, Your Majesty”

“What? Speak”

“I know that His Majesty is aiming for a centralization reform right now.”

“Fufu, nobody wants to hear the rest of those words.”

“I heard that there are many feudal lords who don't agree with His Majesty's intentions. About that I, Carlo de Medici, want to tell His Majesty something.”

“Then just say it already.”

The King was clearly irritated by this exchange.

It also seemed like a noble was going to oppose his reform once again.

I spoke in such a roundabout way intentionally to irritate the king.

I took a deep breath and continued to speak.

“If His Majesty promises to let me keep my current position and power even after the reform, this Carlo wants to act as a shield for His Majesty and approves of the realisation of this reform from the bottom of my heart.”

When I kneeled and lowered my head while saying this the King remained silent for a while.

“.....Are you trying to tell me you want to support me?”

“Yes, of course, though just if you guarantee my social position and territory.”

“Are you saying the other nobles don't concern you?”

“I'm not interested in anything else as long as the results are favourable for Franz Kingdom and myself.”

“Hoh, You don't care what happens to the other nobles?”

The King asked again with a surprised face.

This is a matter of course for Carlo, meaning me who'll be aiming for the throne in the future.

It would be more than convenient for the number of nobles who could become my rivals to decrease.

Using the King's authority I'll disperse the nobles who look like they'd become rivals and after the number of competitors has considerably decreased I'll arrest the King and aim for the throne, but it'll fail in the end because the Hero will stop me, that's the scenario I wrote for Carlo.

“I don't care what happens to them. Even if I'm a noble as I'm just an emerging noble I am not particularly close with the other nobles. Rather it should have been obvious with this case that I'm on rather bad terms with Duke Rejum. My true intention is it to borrow his Majesty's power to oppose those

nobles including Duke Rejum.”

I intentionally grinned as I said this.

I think it’s better to just show one’s ulterior motives rather than use useless deceptive tactics.

It seemed like it went as well as I expected.

“Interesting, if it’s like this I wouldn’t mind joining hands. Superficial flattery and pretty words do not deserve to be believed. Carlo, do you have any conditions for lending me a hand?”「9」

“Yes, of course, I will send soldiers in case of an emergency. Please grant me permission to organise a new army to enrichen our military strength and please let us pave the road between the Capital and Braham to promptly be able to move the military.”

I heard that it was basically forbidden for nobles to organise an army without permission as they could pose a threat to the King.

The pavement of the highway wasn’t permitted either for similar reasons.

Even if a noble were to send out soldiers it would take a long time to reach the Capital on an unpaved road.

I want to clear these two conditions by all means for Carlo to win the war against the barbarians, the fight against the nobles and also for Carlo’s coup d’état on the King in the future.

The King believed that Carlo’s soldiers were weak so it wouldn’t matter and he would also be troubled if they would take too much time to get to the Capital so that was OK as well.

“Fumu, that’s fine. Discuss the details with Walles. That’s fine, right, Walles?”

“Certainly”

With that said, I’ll leave the detailed negotiations with Minister Walles to the tactician Nals.

Well then, there is another condition I haven’t said yet.

“I fear I have another request, your Majesty.”

“Let’s hear it.”

I took a deep breath.

Aah, I’m nervous.「10」

“I would like to clarify my position and would need a title to be able to stand on His Majesty’s side and to oppose Duke Armandi.”

“I see, a title, huh? What do you want?”

“I’m single. If possible I’d like to ask for Her Imperial Highness Princess Charlotte’s hand.”

“Are you telling me to give you Charlotte as your wife?”

The King’s tone of voice became lower.

Princess Charlotte was so surprised by this matter that her eyes became perfectly round and Minister Walles and General Dolus were also obviously astonished by this unexpected situation.

OK, this is the crucial moment, Carlo.

- . Eh? But he said the truth? That's what would have probably happened. Even you thought that ... He's more of a realist, I think.
- . Welp the reality can be depressing.
- . Aaah stop with that name XD couldn't the author have chosen a different name like Claudia?
- . Here comes Hime-sama
- . Will she turn out to be a Tsundere? Most likely
- . *patpat* Poor Minister
- . Ever seen one?
- . Ya know, with nearly every noble opposing him, trying to kill him *etc.* let's see how you'd turn out~
- . That was rather easy wasn't it? Maa, whatever
- . It's that isn't it?

Chapter 10 – Ball

“Ma, Margrave Medici, this joke is going too far!”

Minister Walles panicked.

No wonder, I suddenly proposed to the princess after all.

My original self would never have done this in such a forceful way.

But the story’s setting of “Yuusha Tensei” would collapse if I didn’t do something here.

“No, this isn’t a joke. If Her Imperial Highness Princess Charlotte and I get engaged it would strengthen my position and direct all the feudal lord’s opposition towards me at the same time. If it turns out like this the criticism which was supposed to be directed towards His Majesty will decrease and it would become easier to start the reform, don’t you think?”

“.....A vassal asking for Her Imperial Highness’ hand, even if you said you want be His Majesty’s strength this is disrespectful. What on earth are you plotting?”

General Dolus interrogated me with a rugged face.

This person is really serious when it comes to the King.

When he glared at me with that stern face my original character resurfaced again and I nearly became fainthearted.

That’s no good, I have to hold out.

“Please forgive my repeated disrespectful behaviour. However, the conservative feudal lords including Duke Armandi are powerful. To oppose them considerable preparation and suitable power are necessary. If I would get

engaged to Her Imperial Highness then my position would become clearer and I would become the representative for the powers sympathising with the Royal Family. Please, allow it.”

“However, I must ask about Her Imperial Highness’ intentions first.....”

At Walles’ words everybody turned towards Charlotte all at once.

The Princess didn’t seem like she had recovered from her surprise but as she noticed the eyes focused on her she slowly started to speak, choosing her words carefully.

“If it’s necessary, I shall obey If His Majesty decides it is the best for this country.”

“However, Princess.....”

“Walles, it’s fine. I’ve been brought up as this country’s princess. I’m prepared to give my all for this country.”

Mmm, the princess said it.

Though I feel sorry to get us engaged so forcefully but you’ll soon be able to meet your wonderful Hero-sama and can have lovey-dovey (peep) with him so be patient, Sharon.

Ah, Sharon is Princess Charlotte’s nickname.

But Sharon was a girl who would clearly show her will.

Though I thought her character was more tomboyish and selfish.

There really is a gap between reality and the author’s expectations.

“Fumu, I don’t really understand Carlo’s words. But if Charlotte says so I shall think about it.”

The King uttered that in a hoarse voice.

Alright, I somehow did it!

Just when I thought that he continued.

“But I’m not giving away my beloved daughter so easily. Carlo, this will depend on your future achievements. Charlotte is a very important tool for negotiations for this country, she’ll only marry the most beneficial partner. Fufufu.....”

Is it normal to call one’s own daughter “Tool for negotiations” right in front of her?

See, this whole situation turned awkward.「1」

“Certainly. Then let’s decide it based on my future achievements.”

I didn’t yield to that atmosphere and carefully consented.

Well, as long as I haven’t been declined it’s progress.

I left the King’s living room and reunited with Nals, Lunos and Doji.

“That’s the reason, Nals. I leave those detailed negotiations to you.”

“Understood, it’s a matter of acknowledging this as an economic stimulus instead of a burden on the governmental funds to realise the pavement of the

highway and the military expansion.”

“Please tell me if you need anything. Don’t let your guard down, the other party is Minister Walles after all.”

“I’ll be fine. I’ll do my best as this is also a measurement necessary to oppose the barbarians.”

“And Lunos, this is a list of nobles who are likely to resist Duke Armandi. Investigate them in secret.”

“Certainly. Then I shall look for a talkative lady and have her tell me some things.”

I’ll let the Rabbit group investigate the information on the list as well.

Lunos is able to easily gain the favour of women so he’ll be able to investigate through that way.

He’s a good-looking, popular man after all.

Bringing Lunos instead of F with me was the right decision after all.

Even though F is also good-looking, work like this is impossible for him.

When night fell I was invited to a ball hosted by the King.

I’ve never danced on a ball before.....!

I’m generally bad with those luxurious kind of things.

Shit, I’m nervous.

Ah, that woman who’s obviously walking towards me.

Though she’s a beautiful woman wearing a fancy dress and having her hair

put up in a bun she looked kind of old (rude).「2」

Did she look on to me.....? !

“Margrave Carlo de Medici, you were able to come. Would you like to dance with me?”

Uuh, it’s absolutely impossible for me to dance after all!

In the worst case scenario, I might sprain my foot in the middle of it, you know?!

.....Though I thought like that I was able to dance without a problem thanks to the author’s correction.「3」

One-two-three, one-two-three.

Before I knew what happened my body was dancing on its own.

The author’s correction is amazing.

It seems like the name Carlo was well known so I received many dance invitations from various ladies.

Though I took all the invitations, hmm, I had yet to find someone who fits my taste.

Everyone was kind of, a little, slightly, considerably flashy.

There’s a large gap in preferences there.

Rozea of the Moulin Rouge is many times sexier and more beautiful.

And before Crescent Moon’s large mountains everyone else pales in comparison.「4」

When I think about it, it could be said that I got used to women.「5」

The former me would have been flying out of bliss.

Even if I say that I'm still a virgin.

.....Well, for now at least.

I also had "another purpose" for coming to the Capital Ruan this time around.「6」

I thought about such things while I was dancing and after being exhausted I began to drink some liquor close to a wall.

Lunos was dancing elegantly on the dancefloor.

The eyes of the women in the vicinity were pinned on him.

Yeah yeah, Lunos sure is a handsome and elegant man.

Bringing that guy was really the right choice.

He'll surely be able to bring me some useful information.

Then suddenly everyone stopped chattering and turned towards the grand staircase.

A loud voice echoed through the Ball hall.

"Her Imperial Highness Princess Charlotte has arrived!"

Charlotte, wearing a tiara and a dress, elegantly went down the grand staircase.

The whole Ball hall was filled with applause.

But if one listened carefully one could hear some women whisper things like "How haughty" and "Not a big deal".

A woman's jealousy sure is scary.

Charlotte received greetings from a large group of attendants.

Then our eyes incidentally met.

Uuh, she's coming over here.

“Carlo-sama, would you like to dance?”

Charlotte invited me.

Uuh, those stares are painful.

“With pleasure”

I put on a cool expression, bowed then took Sharon's hand and began to dance with her.

The Music had a slow, sweet melody.

I put one hand on Sharon's waist and slowly danced to the music.

Sharon put her mouth close to my ear and whispered into it without the people around us noticing.

“You surprised me there a little while ago. Why did you say such a thing so suddenly?”

“On one hand, because I wanted to show my loyalty towards His Majesty and on the other because my heart was taken by Her Imperial Highness' stunning beauty.”

“It's useless, even if you tell lies like that. We just met for the first time.”

“Time doesn't matter when it comes to falling in love with someone. Besides

with the Princess' beauty and straight-forwardness, my heart was easily capture."

"Let's take this as a compliment for now then. But do you really intend to support His Majesty the King?"

"Indeed. I plan to serve the King from the bottom of my heart."

"Those words are enough. I pray for your success."

As Sharon said this, we parted and she went somewhere.

Aah, what a nice smell.

Though my mouth sprouted those lines as if it had a life of its own, I did well for a virgin.

"Carlo-sama, Duke Armandi has been glaring at you since a little while ago."

Lunos casually came over and whispered into my ear.

When I looked into the direction Lunos pointed in I saw a man wearing a black moustache with an excellent build.「7」

That's Duke Armandi Rejum.

Is that the point where I declare war?

- .. It's not like you proposed to her all of a sudden which led to that or something
- .. Not my comment o/ but true
- .. Heh, and it took me half a year of social dance classes to at least get the basic stuff down

- 4. Hurray no Felicia to be seen~
- 4. Heh, ya think?
- 4. Which would be? Getting rid of your V-card?
- 4. Isn't that like General Dolus without the military uniform?

Chapter 11 – Secret Meeting

↓

“Then shall we greet him?”

“Is that alright? The other party is a big shot.”

“We’re going to fight anyway so there’s no need to be reserved.”

I grinned at Lunos and went towards Rejum.

Normally I wouldn’t act that boldly, seems like I got a little influenced by Carlo this time.

Rejum’s followers seemed surprised as they saw me come over.

But as one would expect of Rejum, his expression didn’t change.

“If it isn’t Carlo-dono, it has been a long time, hasn’t it?”

“Duke Armandi, you haven’t changed at all.”

“I heard about the thing with Viscount Gerg. Carlo-dono seemed to have wonderfully uncovered this crime.”

To talk about this matter right away on his own accord, what an impudent guy.

He plans to put all the blame on Gerg and make himself appear completely unconcerned.

“Thanks to that the ringleader committed suicide. From this point on I intend to search for the person who controlled them from the shadows.”

Did I sound like Pick just now?

“The person who controlled them from the shadows, is it? You have to track that person down by all means.”

“For the Duke to say this, it boosts my motivation. His Majesty also told me that.”

Rejum should have heard about my report to the King from Earl McBell from a little while ago.

But he shouldn't know about the exchange in the King's living room.

“Hoh, his Majesty, is it?”

“Yeah. He told me something like I should find that person no matter what to ensure Franz Kingdom's stability and order.”

“Carlo-dono, you were that close to His Majesty?”

“That's strange. Isn't it natural to devote all your loyalty to His Majesty the King as we received our peerage in this Franz Kingdom?”

On the surface, this sounded rather innocent but if I had to summarise its

meaning it would be “Could it be you aren’t on the king’s side?” and “Shut up, I don’t feel like becoming your follower, Idiot”.「1」

Seeing the bitter faces of his followers in the vicinity made me smile.

“I see. I shall keep that in mind.”

“Is that so? I shall take my leave now.”

After I said just that I lowered my head and left.

This much should be enough to provoke them.

I was just going to leave the Ball hall when I passed Fraudia.

She passed me a small, folded piece of paper while we were walking past each other.

“Tonight, 11:00”

Fraudia left after she whispered only that.

What is this? An invitation to a date?!「2」

As I left the Ball hall I opened the small piece of paper Fraudia gave me and read the following: “At the bridge leading into the royal palace.”

It’s that drawbridge I crossed to enter the palace.

What on earth does she want from me?

I’m really excited!

“Carlo-sama, did something happen?”

“N, no, nothing at all.”

I hastily hid the paper as I heard Lunos who followed me.

Only that guy can't find out about this.

I see that good-looking guy as my rival after all for now.

“Is that so? I shall take Carlo-sama to the residence now.”

“Please do”

I left the castle, crossed the drawbridge and went to my residence.

Later at that bridge.....I'm nervous!

The bells indicating it's half past 9 just sounded which means it's another one and a half hour until that time.

“Welcome back, Carlo-sama. I waited for you.”

Even if you call it a residence it wasn't really big.

Well, about as big as my mansion in Braham.

It's no surprise that it is like that, I'm an emerging, inexperienced noble after all.

But it was warm thanks to Doji who lit a fire earlier.

Nals was also waiting there.

“Lunos, how did the intelligence gathering at the ball go?”

“Everything went smoothly as I found a woman with a loose mouth. I shall make her talk tonight as well ... slowly.”

As I expected, Lunos’ lady-killer skills could be useful as well.

In that point, I’m no match for that fellow.「3」

But even I have a date today!「4」

“I see, then please do that. Nals, how was the meeting with the Minister?”

“As I expected, Minister Walles is a capable person. He’s a formidable opponent but I’ll be able to do something.”

“If this negotiation goes well we will gain more flexibility in our military reform and economic policies.”

“Understood. It should be fine as increasing our power to benefit the other side isn’t a bad excuse.”

As I was talking with Nals like that Lunos left.

He put on a stylish scarf and wore his military uniform.

I’ll also use that as reference.

Meanwhile, I heard the bell indicating it is half past 10.

Shit, only 30 minutes left.

“Let’s leave it at that for today. Please give it your all tomorrow as well.”

“Certainly, good night”

After I confirmed that Nals left and entered his room I hastily got ready to go out once again.

I did my hair and brushed my teeth.

Of course, I changed my underwear as well. 「5」

I don't know how the situation might develop after all.

Should I take my Oricalcum sword with me, just in case?

I quietly left my room and sneaked down the stairs.

This reminded me of my student days when I tried to sneak out of the house without my mother noticing.

In those days I still had friends.....「6」

I tried to open the entrance door with the key as quietly as possible.

Squeeeek

“Carlo-sama, are you going out this late at night?”

Uwaaaa!!

I nearly got a heart attack.

Please stop that~ I'm weak to those kinds of things.

It was Doji who called out to me from the darkness.

When I looked closer he had his huge axe in his hand.

“Do, Doji, huh? What are you doing here?”

“Lunos-sama told me to stand guard because we don’t know if a noble might decide to attack us.”

I see, the possibility for that to happen surely exists as I declared war just a while ago.

Though I’m grateful that you are concerned about me but I’m running out of time here.

“Where’s Carlo-sama going?”

“No, it’s just some boorish business I have to take care of.”

“Hehe, it’s that kind of thing, huh? As I thought. Then let me accompany you.”

“Eh? N, no, but, that’s.....”

“Isn’t it fine? I won’t tell anyone what I heard or saw, not even Lunos-sama or Pikaru-sama.”

.....Well, is it alright because Doji is a character who admires Carlo a whole lot?

It can’t be helped, I don’t have time to persuade him so let’s take him with me.

“I got it, then come. Please keep this a secret.”

“I shall keep it a secret.”

I hurried to the bridge as promised together with Doji.

Just when I arrived the bell sounded indicating it is 11:00.

Uwa, I'm late.

Coming too late to one's first date is the worst in my opinion (cries).

“I'm sorry, I kept you waiting.”

When I reached the promised place I saw a woman standing in the dark.

I couldn't see her face as she covered it with a shawl.

I let Doji stand close to me and called out to the woman.

“No, I'm sorry for calling you out at such an hour.”

“What business would you have with me this late at night?”

“Yes, there's something I want to ask Carlo-sama by all means.”「7」

I noticed that Fraudia was tense from the sound of her voice.

Shit, what does she want to ask me?

Something like: “do you have a girlfriend at the moment?” or “What do you think of me?”

If she asks me that what should I answer? How did I answer in those games.....?

“Why did you propose to Princess Charlotte?”「8」

Ah, it's about that, huh?

That's bad, that's bad.

Well, of course, she'd be bothered about it as that happened right in front of her.

I'm too careless to forget about that.

I want to get engaged to Sharon because it's necessary for the story.

But it's not like I can tell Fraudia that. What should I do?

"I didn't propose to her I asked His Majesty to get engaged to her, you should have heard that as well, Fraudia."

"But isn't that the same as proposing? Why? This should have been the first time you met the Princess."

I can't make a wrong choice here.

This might end in the engagement with Sharon getting cancelled not to mention my relationship with Fraudia will suffer if I fail here.「9」

Think carefully, don't make any mistakes, me.

"Fraudia, can you promise me that you are absolutely loyal to Her Imperial Highness the Princess?"

"Of course. I value the Princess more than anything else."

"Can you also promise me that you'll never leak a secret if it's asked of you?"

“If it’s for the princess’ good.”

This girl is a smart child.

Rather than deceiving her, I should..... tell her the truth to some extent.

Of course, I can’t tell her about the final part.

“Got it. Then listen well to what I have to say now.”

- . Baaaka~
- . Siiigh, No... No it probably isn’t and you know it
- . Not even remotely.
- . Well... Not in that sense
- . Buddy, I didn’t have to know that. What do you think will happen, eh?
- . *pat* sad life...
- . Are you Uke or Seme? Can I write a fanfic about you? Can I kill you? Could you back off from my hime-sama?
- . Told ya
- . You’re not even engaged to her yet...

Chapter 12 – Shinobi

“Got it. Then listen well to what I have to say now.”

I took a deep breath and started to talk to Fraudia.

“First of all, I want to say again that I swore my loyalty to His Majesty and Her Imperial Highness from the bottom of my heart.”

“I also know that.”

“Yeah. Then, Fraudia should also have heard this, Her Imperial Highness is an important tool for negotiations for His Majesty and Franz Kingdom. In such a situation the Princess will be married off to another country’s royal family or a local noble sooner or later. In the end, it’s for political reasons, right?”

“That’s what the Princess always says as well. She said she’s ready for it.”

“That’s right, isn’t it? But I feel sorry for Her Imperial Highness to end up like this. One has to sacrifice themselves not to defeat an enemy but for political reasons. Besides His Majesty the King is in conflict with the nobles at the moment. Under these circumstances, if Her Imperial Highness is married off to a noble to reconcile with them what will happen to her?”

“That’s.....”

“It’s inevitable that His Majesty and the nobles will clash sometime soon. I want to avoid that Her Imperial Highness is used for the things I mentioned

earlier. If possible, I want her Imperial Highness to have a happy marriage with a partner she chose.”

“But even if she gets married to Carlo-sama you aren’t a partner she chose herself, right? Ah, please forgive my rudeness.”

“No, you’re right. Getting married off to me would be the same thing. Fraudia, make sure to keep what I’m going to tell you now a secret from His Imperial Highness.”

“Yes, I kind of feel scared asking you now.”

“I asked His Majesty for an engagement with Her Imperial Highness for the reasons I told His Majesty additionally to the reasons I just told you. However, I don’t intend to marry her Imperial Highness. I just want to get engaged to her.”

“Just get engaged.....?”

“That’s right. As I said before, I want Her Imperial Highness to find her own happiness with a partner she chose herself and I myself haven’t fallen in love with her at first sight.「1」

Everything is for her to be exempted from those political matters. Therefore, I will ask for my engagement with the Imperial Highness to get cancelled after the conflict with the nobles is over with the help of His Majesty.”

I can’t really tell her that this partner is supposed to be the Hero and that I’m actually the author who created this world and decided on that but what I said wasn’t a lie.

Though Fraudia will bear a grudge when the time comes for Carlo to betray

the Princess and the King in his coup d'état but please forgive me because there's a happy ending waiting for her (planned).

“Is what you said the truth?”「2」

“Yeah, it's the truth. That's why I, of course, don't plan to do anything with the Princess even if we get engaged. You'll understand if you watch closely, Fraudia, right?”

“Carlo-sama, I didn't think you would consider the Princess that much.....”

I could see, even though she wore a shawl, that Fraudia was touched and moved to tears.

You did it, Carlo, Point Uuuuup!!「3」

Is now the time to attack?

When should I attack? Now, right?! (Stale)「4」

“In the first place, I thought that Fraudia was much prettier than Her Imperial Highness when I met her.”

I gave a smile mimicking Lunos.

How's that? Did it work?

“That's, Carlo-sama.....”

Oooh, it worked, it worked!

That attack just now was a direct hit!

While I was at a loss if I should hug her a voice sounded.

“Carlo-sama, there’s a strange presence.”

Doji who was standing guard close by came over and whispered in a low voice.

He already held his axe in his hand.

That’s right, there was a setting that Doji had a superior wild intuition.

“Fraudia, there’s something strange. Don’t leave my side.”

“Ye, yes.....?”

I also pulled out my Oricalcum Sword and investigated the area for that presence.

I certainly feel a disturbance in the dark.

Who is it that dared to disturb this good moment?!

Reus.....!

I call for the lizard (Salamander) Reus the fire spirit in my mind.

Then I formed seals with my left hand and chanted the aria for a light spell in a low voice.

Paaa

Fireballs started to float in the air and at the same time illuminated this area.

There were five men dressed in black.

Each one of them held Swords resembling Japanese Swords in their hands and covered their faces with a mask.

Aren't they the same as ninjas?

“You guys, quit acting cool. What are you doing?”

Doji asked but no one answered.

Those five people made a semicircle and gradually shuffled around the three of us.

“Hmpf, I bet our friend, Rejum sent them over. Are you aiming for me or Fraudia?”

The man standing in the middle was going to answer my question.

“Margrave Medici, we will take your life. Of course, we won't let the other two live either.”

Mmm, it's like a historical drama.

But I can't forgive them.

If it went well I might have gotten my first kiss or we might have gone a little further.「5」

When I thought about that I got really angry.

“I feel sorry for you guys. To especially come here on a day like this. I'm in a pretty bad mood.”

I held my Oricalcum sword in front of me as I said that.

Fraudia was properly following behind me.

Hyun!

Kakiin!

“How.....?! To dodge that”

I knocked down the thing which suddenly flew towards me with my sword.

As I thought what you threw was a shuriken, wasn't it?

I was able to deal with it and I think I looked pretty cool.

Thanks to the fireballs it was bright and the author's correction was applied.

They seemed surprised that I was able to deal with that.

“Those tricks don't work on me. If you don't believe me want to try it again?”

Hyun, Hyun, Hyun!

On my provocation, several shuriken flew towards me.

Kakin, Kakin, Kakin!

I repelled them left and right.

Looking to my side, I saw Doji using his axe as a substitute for a shield and he was able to block them properly.

The intuition of a wild nature child is truly splendid.

“Shit! They are able to do it”

“I told you, didn't I? It won't work on me. So, what are you going to do next? Ninjutsu?”

As soon as I said that several shurikens came flying from the left again.

Then I turned my head towards the Ninja who appeared at the place where I tried to repel those flying things.

He ran close to the ground and tried to stab me with his sword from a low posture.

I didn't think about combined attacks from above and below.

But my speed doesn't allow it to work.

I just swung down my sword after I repelled the shurikens in the upper corner.

My sword reaches my opponent faster than the tip of his sword could reach me.

Zen!

Just when I cut one another guy came flying from the sky about to cut me.

I stepped into the opposite direction and blocked my opponent's sword which swung down on me from the front.

Giin

Followed by the impact my opponent's sword broke from the root.

That guy lost his balance from the shock and flipped over, at that time I stabbed him with my sword.

Guse

The Oricalcum Sword penetrated through my opponent's chest along with an indescribable response.

At the moment I pulled out the sword I felt a burning sensation running up my spine.

Buun!

As I turned around when I felt that sensation I saw a sword nearly cutting me from behind.

While I twisted my body and dodged it I swung my sword to the left.

Zuba!!

The one I slashed at was the leader-like man who answered my question a while ago.

My sword dug deep into the man's body.

Guhaa

After the man coughed up some blood he slowly fell down.

Far from the blade even being scratched there wasn't even any blood

sticking to the Oricalcum sword even after I pulled it out of that man.

Even after cutting down three people its sharpness didn't decrease.

As I expected this is a good sword, it's worth its price.

When I looked to the side I saw Doji cut down one guy and faced the last one.「6」

Let's capture that one and interrogate him, shall we?

“Doji, let this one live and capture him.”

“Understood”

Seeing that all his companions were done in he turned his back to us and tried to flee.

I struck his back with the back of the sword.

The man fell from the impact and let go of his sword.

This caused me to grab that man's head.

“I'll have you tell me who your employer is.”

“Gu, gufuu.....”

Blood ran down the man's mouth.

In that moment the life left his eyes.

Shit, did he bite off his tongue?

What a guy, going this far to keep that secret.

For my opponent to use these guys, I can't be careless, huh?

"Are you alright, Fraudia? You must've been scared."

"I'm alright. Because I know about Carlo-sama's strength."

I approached Fraudia and took her hand.

While trembling a little, Fraudia looked at me firmly.

Her brown eyes were looking through the veil at me for a while.

Shit, like I thought that girl's my type.「7」

"People will come soon. If it comes out that we met here it would become troublesome in various ways. Leave quickly."

"Understood. Then I shall take my leave. Carlo-sama....."

"What?"

"Please call me Frau. Well then"

When I put out the fireballs Fraudia disappeared in the darkness.

Ah, I mean Frau.

Frau, I wonder when we'll be able to meet again.

Meanwhile, three knights rushed here.

It seems like they were the knights in charge of guarding the royal palace.

You're slow, good grief.

"What on earth happened here? Please state your name."

"I'm Margrave Carlo de Medici. And that over there is my attendant, Doji."

"Forgive me for my rudeness, Margrave-sama. What happened here? Who are these dead people?"

"That's what I want to know. When I was taking a walk I was suddenly attacked by those guys. Who are they?"

"You don't have any idea who they are?"

"No idea at all. Investigate those guy's identities with your people"

Well, they won't be able to find any evidence, though.

Those guys are obviously professional shinobi.

"By the way, what was Margrave-sama doing here?"

"Do I have to explain myself in front of you?"

When I glared at them the knights suddenly became flustered.

"No, there won't be a problem even if we don't question you. Be careful"

“I’m sorry but could you please investigate this. Tell me about your progress.”

“Certainly”

I returned to the mansion together with Doji.

Oh man, I was almost able to kiss her.

- . Or that’s what you tell yourself
- . e__e No, I actually lied. Ya think he would say that if you just ask nicely? I wouldn’t
- . Like in a dating sim and so on. Affection points~
- . It’s this kanji 古 furu which means old as in old things. I don’t really know how that and this sentence are connected.
- . Sigh, good that you can think about that ...
- . That’s one awesome farmer boy you got there
- . Yeah, take her, not Felicia!

Chapter 13 – Operation DDT ①

The morning of the next day after I met with Frau I talked about the attack with Lunos and Nals.

I wonder why they didn't ask me about why I went out.

“Masked men wearing black?”

“Yeah, and they were obviously part of a professional group. They executed cooperative movements and would take their own lives without a second thought to protect a secret.”

“This is either Duke Rejum's doing or someone close to him, no doubt.”

Lunos also nods at Nals words.

“That's right. They might attack Carlo-sama again. Please be careful.”

“Yeah, you should also be careful. How did it go on your side, Lunos?”

“From the list I received I contacted several noble families on bad terms with Duke Rejum and two of them wish to meet you. Do you want to meet them?”

“I want to see them as soon as possible. Make an appointment.”

“The other party seems to think the same way as well. I will try to arrange a meeting as soon as today.”

At noon I met the two nobles of the Anti-Rejum-group which Lunos told me about.

They are both weak and old nobles but they are both old men who experienced a lot.

“My~ Carlo-dono is so young and yet so very level-headed already.”

“That’s right, that’s right, it’s a wonderful desire wanting to serve His Majesty the King without fearing that Rejum.”

“Generally that Rejum is acting so bossy now but we know him since his snot was still dripping out of his nose.”

“That’s right, that’s right, back then in the old days he was still wetting his bed and now he’s looking down on these old eagles here.”

“Carlo-dono, let us join hands and give that impudent Rejum a good beating.”

“That’s right, that’s right, we have to work hard for His Majesty the King’s sake! We already served the preceding King so we shall pick up our swords again for His Majesty – -”

I listened to their endlessly long story but thanks to that I was able to gain their support somehow.

They seemed to agree to my engagement with Sharon.

It seems like those two know a sure fire joke they'd like to tell at the wedding party, well, there aren't any plans for us marry, though.

As the other party was already pretty old the same stories came up again and again.

But I also gained something thanks to those stories.

I heard about those black dressed shinobi which attacked me yesterday from those two people.

“Ooh, it must have been the dark corps”

“That's right, it's Kouga village's dark corps.”

“Kouga village? Where is it?”

These two answer my questions without having to even think about it.

Old people know a lot about old stories.

“There's a village of that name in the territory Earl McBell rules. It is said the hidden village Kouga is located there.”

“That's right, that's right, I heard that all people from Kouga got taught in the art of assassination from an early age.”

Earl McBell, is it—?

I'm sure I heard that name somewhere before.「1」

“That Mcbell guy, Rejum and some other guys employ the dark corps to do

some shady work for them”

“That’s right, that’s right, McBell also joined Rejum.”

Ah—, I remembered.

It’s that mantis-like guy who messily threw those accusations at me from behind when I had my audience with the King, right?

He seemed to have a lot of antipathy towards Carlo, no doubt.

Sooner or later this will be settled with money but for now, let’s just wait and see.

When the talks with the old nobles was over I returned to the mansion.

Today Nals will come back late due to the negotiations with the Minister and Lunos seemed to continue gathering information, too.

Alright, today’s my chance to make some progress with my plan.「2」

After dinner, I started to fix my appearance.

I took a bath, brushed my teeth, changed into new underwear, and tried to dress more fashionably like Lunos.

The fragrance is particularly important.

I secretly borrowed Lunos’ perfume.「3」

Sniff-sniff.

Let’s see if this fragrance is well liked by women and then buy it next time.
「4」

Alright, done.

Afterwards, I took my Oricalcum Sword and the small bag Pikaru gave me.

“Doji, I’m going out now. Follow me.”

I called out to Doji who stood guard at the door and left the mansion.

Though I was excited about meeting Frau yesterday today I’m so nervous.

Based on the information I purchased from the Rabbit group I walked through the back alleys of the Capital Ruan.

Night fell and the quiet city gradually started to become lively.

I heard the cackling of drunkards and the chuckling of women from several shops.

That’s right, this area represents Ruan’s face at night.

I went through a street with many gorgeous bars lined up and entered the street at the end.

According to the information, it should be around here.

It’s the plan I set up even before I left Braham, I called it “Operation DDT”

What does DDT stand for?

It fittingly means “Datsu douteri”「6」

In my novel “Yuusha Tensei” I wrote that Carlo is popular with women even though he’s a villain.

He’s a character who made many girls cry.

Such a Carlo, can he stay a virgin forever?「7」

No, he can’t.

This problem is so serious that I unintentionally started to use rhetorical questions.

For my mission as the author to lead this story to a beautiful ending, that is.

It's necessary to solve this problem as soon as possible.

For that purpose, I made the "Operation DDT/ Datsu Doutei".

The contents of Operation DDT are like this.

In my original world, I nearly have never associated with women other than my mother.

I've never gone on a date and obviously didn't do anything further than that either.

When I came to this world I got some experience with talking to them and Rozea often grabbed my hand.

If I think about the me from my original world that is great progress.

But doing anything further is absolutely impossible as I get too nervous after all.

Yesterday with Frau.....I thought, but it was all in vain after all.

What's necessary for this me?

Isn't it experience and the confidence coming with it?

Even compared to Lunos and F, Carlo should also be a considerably good-looking man.

If I increase my experience and confidence I shouldn't feel that scared anymore.

Then how does one obtain that?

When I was worrying about those things the Rabbit group brought in some good information.

It is said that “In the Capital, there are brothels with experienced women in them”.

Isn't that place just what I searched for?

There were various types of women there from the lovely girl to the older sister full of sex appeal.

Additionally, the quality and prices vary in each shop.

I succeeded in finding an excellent shop where the highest-grade Onee-san's were gathered.

In my original world, to be honest, I wasn't really interested in these kinds of shops.

But, as I thought, I was scared.

I don't know what kind of Onee-san will come out and what should I do if a scary Nii-san comes out and threatens me?

I don't even know what actions to take or what to talk about with a woman when it's just the two of us in the first place.

That's why it was absolutely impossible for me to visit such a shop.

However.

In this world, I am Carlo, besides there's the author's correction.

There's no need to be afraid of this areas hooligans coming out either.

I brought Doji with me as something like a bodyguard.

But the question remains, what will I do if I'm alone with a woman?

I'm completely nervous.

I have no idea what to do.

That's where "Operation DDT" comes in.

First, I'll go to "the best shop" with the information I got.

When I'm there I'll be able to employ a lot of experienced Onee-sans.

If I do that it won't be a one-on-one situation so I might be able to relax.

Besides, if there are so many Onee-sans even if I don't do anything they'd probably do everything.

Aah, this is complete debauchery.「8」

It could be said that this is a gorgeous battle appropriate for Villain Carlo's debut match.

Alright, that's it.

The problem, however, is that if I want to do something like that it will cost a tremendous amount of money.

Something like that can't be cheap and I want to do this in the best shop.

But otherwise my strategy is perfect there's not a single mistake in it.「9」

That's why I asked Pikaru to prepare the money beforehand.

Of course, I told Pikaru it's a present for the Royal Family.「10」

The budget is five white gold coins.

It's a large sum of money when converted to Japanese yen it would be 500 million yen.

With this amount of money, it'll be alright no matter what might happen.

Goodbye, my virginity.

Right now Operation DDT will be carried out, with my utmost effort, seyo.

- . Bad memory is bad... come on, it was literally yesterday for you...sigh... just to remind the reader, huh?
- . Is it the “other purpose” ya mentioned before?
- . Ya know that not every perfume is good for every person? It might mix badly with your body odour and doesn't fit the type of person you are. Source: my sister. Thank you for pounding that knowledge into me
- . No, please... not bye-bye money again T__T
- . Another torture? Are you going to torture my poor soul again?
- . De-virgin. Death/Virginity. Or something like this.
- . How do you know the body's still a virgin? It's not like he started existing when you turned into him..... right?
- . So you are going to spend a tonne of money to pay a group of high-quality prostitutes cause you're too scared to be alone with only one of em? Sigh....It hurts already
- . I'll kick your ass.... You're wasting beautiful money again! Aaah... bye-bye money again
- . Pikaru, find out about it and lecture him at least....

Chapter 14 – Operation DDT ②

Just entering the back alley of the main street changed the atmosphere drastically.

Curtains were hanging in the shop's windows on both sides.

As the entrance door opened pink light spills out onto the street.

Within that light a silhouette of a person standing at the shop's entrance arises.

It was a woman with the fullest degree of skin exposure.

“Hey that good-looking mister over there, won't you play with me?”

“I'm a lot better~. I'll take you to heaven.”

As we went along the street sexy Onee-san's were calling out to me.

Doji's eyes were spinning in bewilderment.

“Ca, Carlo-sama, why are these women acting so shameless? What in the heavens.....?”

Honestly, I'm nervous but I can't show that on my face.

I can't afford to stop now because I already decided on a shop.

“Doji, is it the first time you come to a place like this?”

“Ye, yes. As expected of Carlo-sama, to be familiar with this.”

Doji looked at me with admiration.

Fufun, Doji is definitely a virgin.

I’m also still one, though.

But soon DDT will be carried out.

My objective shop should be further back.

After we walked for a while we reached an especially luxurious building.

Unlike the other shops, its doors were closed and a shield with the name “The Goddess’s hall” was hanging in front of it.

It’s here, no doubt.

“Sorry, but could you wait here?”

I called out to Doji.

Doji looked up at the luxurious building and seemed dumbfounded.

“Ye, yes, I’ll wait for you here.”

Haa, Fuu

I took a deep breath without Doji noticing and opened the doors.

Unlike the shabby shops I saw in the street this shop is illuminated with bright light giving of a luxurious feelings.

A huge chandelier hung above the grand staircase covered in a bright red

soft and fluffy carpet in front of me.

“Welcome. Do have a reservation?”

I thought a sexy Onee-san would come to greet me but instead a tough-looking old man wearing a tie and black formal wear bowed deeply and greeted me.

“No, I don’t have a reservation.”

“Certainly. Did you visit our shop before already?”

“This would be my first time”

“Is that so? Thank you for visiting our shop. Our store has the best women in all of Ruan. Dear customer, which type of goddess would you like to request for today?”

OK, now comes the important part.

“Let’s see, I want you to choose about five of your best women”

“Ha? Five people is it?”「1」

“That’s right. Let’s have all five at the same time, shall we? Choose the best women without minding the money.”「2」

“Pl, please wait in this room for a bit. I shall call the person in charge.”

The black clothed Uncle suddenly led me to a small room opposite to the grand staircase.

It was a small and cozy room but the furniture was luxurious.

Is this the waiting room for special guest?

When I sat down on the sofa and waited for a while I heard knocking on the door and a person entered.

It was a large women wearing a purple dress followed by the black-clothed uncle from a little while ago who entered.

She should be in her late 30s or her early 40s in terms of age, an auntie, but she probably was a beautiful woman in her younger days, even now she’s a beautiful woman.

From the dresses neckline one could see a rich valley.

Though she certainly seemed to be experienced and capable to take the lead but I’d prefer someone a little younger.....

But I wonder if she would be better for a beginner, but still, you know?「3」

The moment those thoughts kept on spinning in my head the woman bowed and began to speak.

“Welcome. I’m the owner of this Goddess’s hall, Doloa.”

Ah, she was this place’s owner, huh?「4」

I thought she was the person who would keep me company and I certainly got impatient.

“I heard you want our five best women?”

“That’s right. I want five to keep me company.”

“Excuse me, but we are high-quality shops. If you want five women to keep you company at the same time it will become considerably expensive.”

“I don’t mind. I have money”

As I said so I took out the five white gold coins out of the small back and put them on the table.

I might get swindled but this is an once-in-a-lifetime chance.「5」

I didn’t plan to be stingy in the first place.「6」

“Wow, white gold coins. And five pieces of them.....”

That woman who called herself Doloa smiled at me bewitchingly.

“You’re used to playing around, aren’t you? So you can’t be satisfied by just one anymore?”

“Ah, yeah, something like that.”

.....I have to show off.

“I see, you’re truly Margrave Medici-sama.”

? !

“Why do you know my name?”

Could I perhaps have come here before I reincarnated?!「7」

That’s bad, if that girl is familiar with him.....

Carlo might have been to 100 battles already but for me, that would be my first campaign.

If the other party really is familiar with me I will certainly get found out.

What should I do, my heart is beating fast.....

“Though this Doloa didn’t live in this night world for a long time. There’s no one else with blond hair and a scar on their cheek to be willing to pay so much money for some night time fun. I recently got the information that Margrave Medici-sama came to Ruan so I was able to recognise you immediately.”

Doloa gave me a perfect smile.

What a relief, you weren’t familiar with Carlo, huh?

Still, it just has been a few days since I fell from my horse and got hurt.

That person has some great intelligence gathering ability and analytical skill.

“I was found out, and here I thought I could go play without others knowing about it.”

When I smiled wryly unintentionally, Doloa began to laugh.

“Margrave-sama, please be at ease, we will keep this a secret as it is part of our job.”

“Just Carlo is fine. You’d save me if you do.”

“Then Carlo-sama, I’m sorry but I cannot meet your demand.”

“Why, is the money, not enough?”

“As if that could be possible. It’s because tomorrow is a holiday.”

Tomorrow is a holiday, so what?

“In shops like this, the night before a holiday is the busiest. Besides, the girls working here just keep one customer company per night. This stems from the idea of instead having a high rate of customers we would let the customer play slowly to their heart’s content. Unfortunately, today every girl I could recommend Carlo-sama is already accompanying customers.”

Gooong.

Tha, that can’t be.「8」

I was able to gather all my courage with much effort just to carry out Operation DDT.

“Then, it’s fine if it’s not the best women. Three instead of five would be fine as well. Is it still not possible?”

“There isn’t any girl available with the confidence to serve a gentlemen like Carlo-sama. But the ones I would recommend with the confidence are all waiting on customers already.....”

“Ca, can’t you do anything about this?”

I am desperate.

If I miss my chance tonight I feel like there won’t come one again anytime soon.「9」

Doloa seemed to be lost in thoughts for a while but got to a conclusion somehow and then looked at me with mischievous eyes.

“Carlo-sama, how about you play in a different way though it’s different from what you hoped for?”

“If there’s a partner available then by all means, but what do you mean with “in a different way”?”

“I’m just asking because it’s someone like you, Carlo-sama. Though I think that people who are used to playing around wouldn’t be able to bear this.”

I’m not at all used to playing around.

Far from used to playing around, I’m completely inexperienced.

But I can’t say something like this right now, I have to let Operation DDT succeed.

“Hoh, sounds interesting. What is it?”

“Actually, there’s someone who just joined the shop recently and that girl has yet to have her first customer. Until today I taught her manners and courtesy, I was planning to present her in this shop tomorrow. How about you become this girl’s first customer?”

No, no, no, no.

That’s impossible!

Even though I don’t have any experience myself, I should be that girl’s first after entering the shop?

That’s absolutely impossible!!

But I can’t decline with an atmosphere like this, what will you do, Carlo?!

Chapter 15 – Operation DDT ③

Me, a virgin, playing around with an inexperienced girl?!

That's absolutely impossible!

"I'm sorry I can't meet your request. But I can assure you that this child will satisfy you."

Doloa smiled at me for some reason and called out to the black-dressed uncle standing next to her.

"You should first take a look. Please bring Elsa"「1」

The black clothed uncle bowed respectfully and left.

Eh, are you really bringing the girl here?「2」

"Doloa, isn't there a regular girl who's free for me now....."

"Carlo-sama, don't worry. You'll surely like her when you see her"

Ah, it's no use.

Negotiating with that Doloa is rather tough.

There's a huge gap in experience.

The door was immediately knocked.

“Enter”

Following Doloa’s voice the door opened and a girl timidly entered.

Though not as much as Doloa she was a pretty tall girl with defined facial features.

She’s around 18 years old and certainly quite pretty.

She seemed to be considerably tense.

“Doloa-san, you called for me?”

“Elsa, say hello to this person. He’ll be your customer.”

“Eh? Ehm, I’m Elsa. Please take care of me.”

Elsa looked into my eyes and told me her name then she briskly bowed.

“Ah, no, ehm, Doloa!”

“How is it? Isn’t she a refined, good girl? Her style is quite good as well.”

“That might be the case but I’d want a different girl after all.....”〔3〕

“Oh? Does she not suite Carlo-sama’s taste?”

The moment Doloa said this, tears ran down the girl called Elsa’s face.〔4〕

Uwawawaa, don’t cry.

“Ehm, sniff, am I no good after all? I’m not as beautiful as the other older sisters and my back is wide.”

“No, it’s not that, it’s not that, but”

“Right? If it’s this child you’ll surely like her. She’s a good child after all.”

Doloa said this.

.....It’s impossible.

I can’t tell them to send me another girl right in front of this girl.「5」

“Got it, that girl’s fine.”

“Thank you. Elsa, give him your thanks, he’s going to be your first customer.”

“Th, thank you very much! I’ll do my best, so please take care of me.”

Elsa was happy again and lowered her head.

My mind has already gone blank.

“Then Carlo-sama, would it be fine if you’d pay first?”「6」

“Yeah. How much is it?”「7」

“That would be three gold coins”

I handed her one white gold coin and put the remaining four white gold coins and my change of seven gold coins back into the small bag.

“As you can see, Elsa, he’s rich and has a high social position. Try your hardest to satisfy him.”

“Understood, I’ll do my best”

.....What are you going to do your best in?

Having a younger girl say that to me it isn’t strange for me to feel kind of guilty.

I left the small room together with Elsa, climbed up the grand staircase under the guidance of the black-clothed uncle and entered a room on the second floor.

The room is divided into a room with a sofa and a small table in it, a bathroom and a bedroom.

It was so wide and clean that one wouldn’t believe it was a room belonging to such a shop.

“You have time until tomorrow’s sunrise. Please enjoy your time and relax.”

The uncle carefully lowered his head and left the room, now it was just me and Elsa.

Uwaa~, the feeling of tension is strong.

I have no idea what to talk about.

“I’m Elsa. Thank you for choosing me today. I’m inexperienced in what to do at first but I will serve you with all my heart so please take care of me.”

Surprisingly Elsa suddenly sat down on the floor and lowered her head.

Dogeza exists in this world?「8」

I mean I’ll get even tenser if you do such a thing.

“I, it’s fine even if you’re not acting that formal. So, let’s sit here”

I took Elsa’s hand who was kneeling on the floor to help her stand up.

Uwa, I unintentionally touched her.

“Ah, then please excuse me.”

Elsa sat down beside me when I sat down on the sofa.

Uwa, she got super close.

Though Rozea from the Moulin Rough also sat close to me she didn’t stick to me like that.

Throb, throb, throb「9」

Though I unintentionally wanted to leave I did my best to stay.「10」

“Ehm, how should I call you?”

“Call me Carlo.”

As Elsa is taller than Carlo I had to look up to her from below.

Close, she's close!

"Carlo-sama, I'm in your care"

"Elsa, how old are you?"

"I turned 18 this year"

My estimate just got proven right.

Aah, Her wide open eyes and her nose ridge were just like those of a doll.

She seemed to be pretty nervous her expression became really cute.

I'm still quite nervous.

Mmm, what should we talk about?

"Elsa, why did you start doing this kind of work?"

As I casually asked her this Elsa suddenly looked down.「11」

She dropped her shoulders and started to speak with a small voice while looking down.

"Ehm, when I was small my parents died and I was brought up by my grandparents....."

Aaah, I messed up!

Let's listen for the time being, but this is something I shouldn't have touched, isn't it?

At times like this inexperience brings about bad results.

“My grandparents have a small shop but recently my grandpa fell ill. My grandma is still running the shop while also nursing my grandpa.....”

Ah, I can't listen anymore I'll get blue otherwise.

But I can't stop her because I asked her myself.

The only thing I can do is listen and nod.

“Though I helped out as much as possible the sales fell nevertheless and we were gradually becoming unable to buy new goods and pay the rent.”

Aah, it's sad.

For such a pretty girl to come to a store like this there had to be such a reason.

Why did I ask such a thing? I'm so stupid.「12」

“My grandpa's disease became worse and worse so I had a famous doctor examine him. Then he told me that he had to take some very expensive medicine for a while to be cured”

Please forgive me already.

I'm the bad one for asking.「13」

“My grandpa can't afford to borrow money and I don't have the money to pay for the medicine. He told me I shouldn't worry about him. However, I tried asking some people I know to borrow me some money but they all declined.”

At that point, Elsa raised her face and smiled when she looked into my eyes. Her eyes were filled with tears.

“At that time I was introduced to Doloa-san. Doloa-san told me I could earn money with this shop but because it’s really hard it’s fine to stop any time. She told me it would be much better if I’d become the mistress of a rich person. But I don’t know someone like that and if I don’t get the money soon my grandpa will die. That’s why I borrowed money from Doloa-san. I told her I would work hard and return it.”

She said so with a smile and wiped away her tears.

“I’m very grateful to Doloa-san. Thanks to her I was able to pay our shop’s rent, I could also buy the medicine for my grandpa, and I read in a letter from my grandma that he’s doing better after just taking it for a while. That’s why I want to work hard here to pay Doloa-san back and let my grandparents enjoy an easy life. That’s why I’ll give it my best”

.....I give up.

What did I want to do to such a good child?「14」

What Operation DDT, it’s the lowest.

Can’t make passes at such a child.

“Ehm, Carlo-sama, That Carlo, I think it’s really good that Carlo-sama is my first customer. You’re gentle for silently listening to my worthless life story. Thanks to you I feel better. I’ll do my best from now on so please always be this affectionate, okay?”

I seem gentle, though I’m supposed to be villain?

Besides I leave my money in a shop like this and was going to do that kind of thing.

Stop it, don't look at me with those sparkling eyes.

Chapter 16 – Operation DDT ④

“I’ll do my best!”

As Elsa said this she looked at me with sparkling eyes.

Elsa’s lips were only 10 centimetres away from mine.

Shit, I can’t move.

After hearing that story I can’t possibly stop her.

When I thought that Elsa suddenly closed her eyes.

She put her chin up a bit and lightly pursed her lips.

.....Thi, thi, this.

Does she perhaps want to kiss?

Impossible, impossible, impossible.

It’s not only because I’m inexperienced but after hearing that story it’s just impossible!

“Ehm, Carlo-sama?”

Elsa who was tired of waiting opened her eyes and looked at me who became stiff.

Ah, no, it’s nothing. I just admired the scenery a little.”

“Is that so? I’m relieved. I thought you don’t like me after all.”

“No, it’s alright. Rather I think that you are very pretty.”

“Ehe, thank you very much”

Elsa laughed a little timidly.

“Uhm, should we first take a bath? The other older sisters told me that procedure is good!”

Ba, ba, baaath!

Entering together, that?

WhaWhaWhaWhaWhaWhaWhaWhat should I do?

While I was suffering Elsa stood up and looked into the bathroom.

“It feels good. I’ll wash your back”

Then Elsa took my hand and made me stand up.

I was just standing there without moving an inch.

Like this Elsa started to undress me.

First, she took my jacket followed by my shirt, Elsa folded the clothes she successfully stripped from my body carefully one by one.

I was merely standing there.

Elsa kneeled down to strip me of my socks and pants.

Finally only my underwear was remaining.

Elsa just reached out to it.

Stoop!

Just this is no good.

I hastily turned around and went away from Elsa.

“Carlo-sama?”

“This much is fine. I’ll do this myself.”

When I said that I took off my underwear without Elsa seeing and went into the bathroom.

“I’ll enter first.”

I said that, entered the bathroom and quickly started to soak in the hot bathwater.

The water had a good temperature but that’s not important now.

Coming, she’ll definitely come.

She’ll come soon.

Just thinking about it made my heart beat awfully fast.

“Excuse me”

The moment I heard Elsa's voice I saw her silhouette beyond the steam.

I averted my eyes immediately but for a moment I saw Elsa's figure just warped in a towel.

Those long slender legs exposed until the thigh were immediately burned into my mind.

"Is it fine if you to come out so I can wash your back?"

As I heard Elsa's voice I left the bathtub without saying a word.

While being careful not to look and not to be seen.

I just turned my back towards Elsa and sat down on the small wooden chair.

My whole body hardens from the tension.

Elsa washed my back with a sponge covered in bubbles.

It feels comfortable since my mother washed me like this when I was small as well.

But it isn't mum who's washing my back right now.

"Then, could you please turn around so that I can wash your front as well?"

The front!?

I twisted my body and snatched the sponge from Elsa's hand.

The valley of her chest warped in a towel instantly jumped into my view.

It's not the same size as Crescent Moon's or Rozea's but it was still considerable.

"I'll wash it myself so it's fine"

“Eh, but.....”

I ignored Elsa’s dissatisfied voice, turned my back to her with emphasis and hastily washed myself.

Of course, carefully.

When I finished washing myself I drew some hot water and poured it over myself.

Then I just jumped into the bathtub.

“I’ll wash it”

“No, it’s fine”

I said so as I turned the other way in the bathtub as to not look towards Elsa.

I didn’t see it but I knew that Elsa was washing her body by the sound of it.

“Ehm, excuse me”

After a while, I heard the sound of a body entering, Elsa entered the bathtub.

Aaaaah, our bodies are touching.

My whole nerves were concentrated in my right shoulder were Elsa was coming into contact with me.

Shit, I can’t move.

“Carlo-sama.....”

Elsa gently put her head on my shoulder.

I, I'm..... At my limit!!

"I'm leaving first"

As I said this curtly I jumped out of the bathtub.

I hastily wiped my body with a towel.

What should I do from now on.....?

It feels weird to put on my clothes again.

In the end, I bound a towel around my waist and went to the bedroom.

Besides, I don't have the courage to welcome Elsa after coming out of the bathroom in this form.

I'll just crawl into the bed first.

Shit, shit, shit.

This is completely going in that direction.

Of course, I came to this shop with that intention.

But to think my partner would be so cute and nice, what's more, I'm her first customer.

What should I do?

But I came here to feel good but she's such a good child.

While I had this conflict in my heart someone left the bath.

I subtly heard the sound of someone wiping their body with a towel.

That means Elsa is naked right now.....?!

A sign that she will come over soon.

I unintentionally turned my face the other way as to not look at her.

Then the candle at the entrance of the room got put out, the light disappeared and the room became dusky.

“Sorry, I’ve kept you waiting”

I heard a person coming closer to the bed, then I felt the futon getting pushed back next Elsa entered the bed and lay next to me.

I couldn’t move with me faced to the other side.

Both of us just kept on laying in silence for a while before Elsa opened her mouth.

“Ehm, Carlo-sama?”

“Yes?”

Ah, I shouldn’t have answered.

I’m nearly suffocating with tension.

Though I didn’t brush my teeth, will I be alright?「1」

“If this is a misunderstanding, forgive me for my rudeness.”

“I don’t mind. Say it”

“Could it be that this is Carlo-sama’s first time coming to a shop like this?”

I, I, I got found out!

What should I do?

How should I answer her?

I’m the villain Carlo, I should play it cool at times like this.

But honestly, I don’t have such confidence.

What should I do?

I came to the conclusion, to be honest.

There’s no way I can hide behind some cool act.

Besides, I believe that this Elsa wouldn’t make fun of me for that.

“.....That’s true”

“So it was like this after all! I knew it because you were so tense.”

“Ahaha, I was found out after all, huh?”

After I talked honestly the power left my shoulders.

I turned around and faced Elsa.

Elsa’s faced bloomed 5 centimetres before me.

It at was such a distanced that our noses seemed to nearly touch.

“I actually don’t have any experience with shops like this. I’m really tense as I don’t know what I should do.”「2」

As I told her the truth Elsa laughed with a smile.....She lightly kissed me.

That’s a kiss?

Though I feel very excited and nervous it feels kind of warm.

“Leave it to me. I did hear some things from the other older sisters so I’ll lead you!”

As she said so Elsa tore off the futon and lay on me.

Elsa’s naked body was exposed.

Her chest was hitting mine.

I think I can feel her tips touching me somehow.

I unintentionally hugged Elsa’s body with both hands.

.....Hm?

Elsa’s body was shaking a little.

She’s trying really hard but she can’t hide this trembling.

For an instant, I thought she was cold but that didn’t seem to be the case.

“Relax and leave everything to me”

“Elsa, one moment, okay?”

“Yes, what is it?”

Elsa looked at my face with a tensed up face.

I smiled awkwardly

“Elsa, do you have experience with those kinds of things?”

“Like I said, this is my first job but I heard how to do it from the other older sisters- -”

“That’s not it, have you done something like this with a man before?”

Elsa tensed up for an instant and evaded her eyes, turning to the side.

“Ehm, it’s... my first time.....”

“The kiss?”

“Ehm, the one earlier... was my first as well.”

It’s like this after all, huh?

I thought as much.

“Let’s stop”

“Eh? But.....”「3」

“It’s fine already. Let’s stop here.”

“I’m sorry, do you hate inexperienced virgins? Ehm I’m really... sowwy”

Elsa’s eyes were filled with tears.「4」

“That’s not it. Everything is alright, you don’t have to cry, Elsa”

That being said I put Elsa next to me.

I covered her with a futon.

“Elsa, how much did you borrow from Doloa?”

Chapter 17 – Redeem [1]

」

「

“Elsa, how much did you borrow from Doloa?”

“Eh.....?”

Not understanding the meaning of my question Elsa looked at me puzzled.
She still had tears in her eyes.

“I’m asking what the amount of money you borrowed is.”

“Eehm, it’s 50 gold coins.....”「2」

Elsa replied unwillingly.

That’s 5 million Japanese Yen, isn’t it?

That’s a large amount of money for a girl her age.「3」

That’s a large sum of money for the me from my original world as well.

“When you returned it are you able to quit this job?”

“Eh, yes, but I have to try harder and earn money to – -”

“You want to let your grandparents have an easier life, right? But you don’t

have to do it through this job, right?”

“That’s right, but how else should I earn money?”

That’s right, for a girl her age it’s hard to earn as much as 5 million yen to return it and continue earning money.

Besides, there isn’t any gender equality in this world.

It’s different from my original world because I modelled this world after the medieval Europe.「4」

“Elsa, what do you think of m- – me?”「5」

“As I said a while ago, I think you are a gentle person.”

“Do you dislike me?”

“How could I dislike you? For Carlo-sama to be my first customer, I was really relieved – -”

I see, she doesn’t dislike me.

Then let’s do this ... after all.

“Elsa, you said something a while ago. There’s another method, becoming the mistress of a rich person.”

“Yeah, though Doloa-san told me this would be better”

“How about you become my mistress? Even though I say mistress I won’t do anything to you forcibly. If you don’t like it you can go whenever you want. Of course, I’ll pay you a monthly salary so you can properly support your grandparents.”「6」

“Eh?! But we didn’t do anything yet, right?”

“There’s no need to rush. It’s your first time, it’s better to know each other a little more before doing this stuff, then Elsa can decide if you really want to do it with me.”

And when I’m prepared, okay?

“But I can’t possibly accept this much from you”

“It’s fine, if Elsa’s fine with it I’m also fine with it. Are you against it?”

“It’s.....It’s not like I’m against it.....But I’m sorry I can’t after all.....”

“If Elsa isn’t against it then it’s settled. Let’s go talk to Doloa about it immediately.”

I quickly got up from the bed.

After I put on my clothes I left the room without looking at Elsa.

When I looked at the carefully folded clothes thoughts of the lovely Elsa rose up.「7」

This isn't love.「8」

Of course, it isn't affection「9」 either, it might just be out of pity.

In the end, it's only me helping her for my own self-satisfaction.

But isn't that fine?

I'm mostly the villain Carlo, keeping one mistress around is just fine!

.....Though I'm still a virgin.

I waited for Elsa to get dressed and left the room together.

A black dressed man, who was standing in the corridor and different from the one at the entrance, came over in a hurry.

“Are you returning already? Though I hadn't stood her for long but is there something you are dissatisfied with?”

“No, I want to talk to Doloa. I'm sorry but could you get her?”

We went down the stairs and were led into the room from a while ago.

Elsa stood completely tense next to me.

“Carlo-sama, is that really fine?”

“I said it's fine, didn't I? Or are you against it?”

Elsa lightly shook her head.

“Didn't I say I'm not against it? But I still can't believe it.”

“Then sit down. I’ll make you believe it soon”

When I was talking about such things I heard someone knocking on the door.

“Well, Carlo-sama, what can I do for you? Did this child do something wrong?”

Doloa entered with a smile on her lips.

She moved in a sexy yet elegant way, as one would expect.

This person surely fought 100 battles.「10」

“No, in fact, I want to take Elsa back home.”

“Well, did you like her that much? That’s fine. Our store can also send women to mansions, hotels and – -”

“That’s not it”

I interrupted Doloa in a serious tone.

“I want to have Elsa in my hand’s reach all the time. Of course, I’ll pay an appropriate amount of money.”

“Well, do you want to redeem her?”「11」

Redeem her, she said, huh?

I feel like I heard this in a historical drama or read it in a historical novel.

“Did you hear about that child’s circumstances?”

“Yeah. She said she borrowed money from you, Doloa.”

“You know about that as well, huh?”

Doloa looked towards Elsa with a straight face.

Until a while ago she used a professional type of voice but now she asked her in a little lower tone.

“Elsa, how about you? Do you want to go with this Carlo-sama?”

Elsa was puzzled for a bit and threw inquiring looks towards me.

When I nodded she turned towards Doloa again as she made up her mind.

“I want to go with Carlo-sama if you allow it Doloa-san”

“.....Is, is that so?”

As Doloa slightly sighed she started to speak to me.

“To tell the truth, I was against that child doing this kind of work. You can earn money but this job is many times harder.”

Then she continued with a slightly bitter smile.

“For this to happen after just the first customer. This is the first time I saw something like this even with my long experience.”

“Well, that’s to be expected”

“Carlo-sama, I won’t object to this child’s wishes. Could you please make this child happy?”

Carlo is a villain in this world and I myself have no experience in going out with a girl.

That’s why I honestly don’t know if I can make her happy.

But I could at least grant her freedom.

She will still be happier than in this present situation.

“Honestly, I don’t know. I wonder if I’m able to make someone happy. But I do want to make her happy.”

“Is it so? It’s good if you think this way. Can you pay the money?”

If the amount Elsa borrowed from Doloa is 50 gold coins that would be five white gold coins.〔12〕

There’s definitely interest on it so it’s probably higher than that.

“How much should I pay? If I don’t have enough at hand I will let the missing

amount be delivered to you.”

“Carlo-sama, your budget for today’s joyride was five white gold coins, right?”

“Yeah, I spend a bit of it just now though”

“Then the rest of it is fine. Please pay the four white gold coins and seven gold coins you have with you.”

“Hey, then- -”

I was trying to say that Doloa would make losses this way but she just shook her head and stopped me.

“Though I’m also running a business offering these types of things but before that I see myself as a mother to those children. Please take good care of this child. That enough for me”

“Doloa-san.....”

As Elsa heard Doloa’s words she couldn’t utter a single one.

She covered her mouth with both hands and merely shed tears.

I was also impressed by Doloa’s kind nature.

“Got it. I’ll cherish this promise.”

“Then that’s fine. Then would you kindly hand over the money?”

Doloa smiled happily and held out her right hand towards me.

I took out the four white gold coins and seven gold coins out of the small pouch and put them on her hand.

“Shouldn’t I pay at least another two gold coins?”「13」

“I’m not that much of a stingy person. This much is fine.”

After she said this she spoke to the black-clothed man who stood behind her.

“Please, go and get Elsa’s deed”

The uncle immediately returned with a piece of paper.

“Now, with this you are free”

As she said that Doloa tore the deed she received into four pieces and handed them to Elsa.

“Doloa-san.....”

“Now, what are you doing, get your bags right away. Get out of here together with Carlo-sama”

“Ah, ye, yes!”

Elsa left the room in a hurry.

“Carlo-sama, thank you. I didn’t want to let that child work here from the beginning. The world is still unknown to this child. Please, be gentle.”

“I understand. Apart from that, Doloa seems to have a lot of information.”

“If you work in this kind of field for so many years various rumours will come your way.”

That’s right, various people will come and go.

Besides this is a super high-quality shop.

People with high social positions will come here.

“Doloa, I have a request.”

“.....What is it?”

From this flow of our talk, Doloa seems to have gotten a little cautious.

“Actually, I was asked by His Majesty to move for the sake of Franz Kingdom’s and Ruan’s security. If it’s fine with you, could you cooperate with me?”

“I was born and raised in this town Ruan so I want to be of help to His Majesty. But isn’t it dangerous?”

“You don’t have to worry about that. I would never bother Doloa or the shop. Just tell me the noble’s state and rumours.”

“Certainly a lot of nobles come to this house. If I can be of help to His Majesty it’s not bothersome but can you pay me properly?”

As one would expect, she’s persistent.

But the information I could get here is pretty attractive.

I knew my reason for coming to this town Ruan as well as I know the scar on my face.

“Of course. I’ll pay you well. Since it’s like this I’ll tell an organisation called the “Rabbit group” to come over from time to time, please tell them the information.”

“My, what a cute name, “Rabbit group”.”

Doloa laughed in an interesting way.

“Yeah, I’d just like you to not tell them about me. Officially, I’m not supposed to be involved. Give the information to a man called “Akatsuki” instead”

“How very interesting. Akatsuki-san, right? Understood. But is that fine? I might tell someone this information, you know?”

“I believe that I can trust you Doloa. When such a thing happens then that means I was just wrong.”「14」

“Well, if you say things like that I can’t go around and talk, can I? Alright, I won’t tell this to anyone”

“Also don’t let the Rabbit group’s men play around here. If those guys fall into bankruptcy I would have to settle it.”

“What a pity. You seemed like you’d make a good customer.”

Doloa laughed in a loud voice.

That’s not a joke, I’d have to take over every debt those guys made even if it was made while playing around!

“Sorry, I’ve have kept you waiting”

The door was knocked and Elsa entered.

She changed from her sexy dress from a while into some simple clothes which probably belonged to her.

Yes, this appearance fits my preference.

It goes well with Elsa’s natural cuteness.

“You came. Elsa, serve Carlo-sama well. But if he’s doing terrible things to you just run away and hide here.”

“Hey, hey, that won’t happen.”

As I protested Doloa laughed interestingly and said.

“That’s a joke. This child is now in your care.”

While being seen off by the uncles and Doloa Elsa and I left the “Goddess’s Hall”.

“Thank you very much. I will serve you the best I can from now on.”

“Yeah, Elsa, please take care of from now on.”

Elsa embraced me and I hugged her shoulders.

Out of nowhere, we kissed a second time.「15」

Then someone suddenly called out to me from the darkness.

“Uhm, ehem, would you mind introducing her?”

- .. The title actually means to buy someone out of bondage (esp. prostitutes) So every time you see redeem in this chapter it actually means this
- .. Heh, bye-bye rest of the money...
- .. That’s a lot of money for any normal person....
- .. So it’s different from the modern world is was he means
- .. He wanted to use boku and switched to ore
- .. What a fine villain e__e
- .. He used itoshi = beloved/dear/lovely etc
- .. Here it’s koi= love/tender passion
- .. Here it’s ai = Love/ Affection
- .. As in night time battles
- .. It’s the same as the title, muike
- .. What a coincidence
- .. Be happy she doesn’t want more, goddamnit!

- . And that might cause a looot of trouble, meaning she won't have much of a disadvantage but you'll get into trouble if she tells someone with more money if she's that kind of character
- i. Well, at least he's no kissing virgin anymore

Chapter 18 – Secret

」

“Uhm, ehem, would you mind introducing her?”

“Eek!”

At the moment we kissed a voice called out to me then Elsa screamed and clung to me.

I was also surprised that I got to kiss the second time in my life.

“Hey, I kept you waiting, Doji”「1」

“Carlo-sama, you completely forgot about me and enjoyed yourself, didn't you?”「2」

“Tha, that can't be, I would never do that”

.....Shit, I completely forgot about him.

Doji looked at me with doubtful eyes.

Don't look at me like that.

“Elsa, this is Doji. He's serving me. He's a strong, brave and really reliable man.”

Though I tried to praise him to gloss over the fact that I forgot about him but

it didn't seem to be very effective. 「3」

That good-natured, loyal Doji was looking at me doubtfully from the side.

“Doji, this girl's named Elsa. She'll come back with us to Braham.”

“Nice to meet you, Doji-sama, I'm Elsa. As I became Carlo-sama's mistress please take care of me.”

Yeah yeah, she became my mistress today.....I mean, hey!

Elsa, what are you declaring so proudly?!

“Mi, mi, mistress.....What do you mean?”

At that moment Doji was so surprised his eyes started spinning.

No, even if you ask what it means, it means exactly what she said.

But that's when I noticed.

What do I say to Pikaru and Melissa when I take Elsa back with me to the mansion?

Even just imagining it is horrible.

Though I made her my mistress in the spur of the moment I didn't think about this back then.

Even though I'm still a virgin.

Mmm, no matter how I think about it, it's bad to return together with Elsa.

I mean it would be the same with Lunos and Nals if I take her to the mansion in Ruan.

If I do that they would definitely rat me out to Pikaru.

While I was thinking about such things Elsa, not knowing what to do, started fidgeting and Doji who heard about her being my mistress looked at us confused.

As I thought I have no choice but to take her to the hideout.

But to do that I would have to talk with Elsa about Akatsuki and how to take her to the hideout is a problem as well.

Aah, what should I do?!

Just a moment ago the inside of my head was filled with happiness and pink but as soon as I returned to reality a lot of problems appear.

It gradually becomes troublesome.

Aaah, I'll just improvise

"Elsa, Doji, listen"

"Yes, Carlo-sama"

"What is it?"

I decided to explain it to those two immediately.

"I want to take Elsa back with me to Braham but I won't take her to my mansion."

"That's right, if Melissa-sama finds out about this she'll get angry."

For that villain Carlo to get yelled at by maid.「4」

But looks like Doji thought the same as my.

“Ehm, then where are you going to take me.....?”

Looks like Elsa was already uneasy.

“I actually have a hideout in Braham.”

“Eh, a hideout! That’s kind of cool”

“I intended to let you go there Elsa.”

“I’m okay with anywhere you put me”「5」

“That’s my base for doing undercover work. This is a secret not even Melissa or Pikaru know about. Doji, can you keep that secret?”

“O, of course. I’ll keep that secret even if it costs my life.”

Doji had an earnest face after he heard about this secret no one else knows about.

Though Crescent Moon knows about the hideout but she isn’t acquainted with Doji.

While looking at this I held back the urge to laugh and continued to talk with a straight face.

“I’ll tell you this because I trust you, Doji. When I’m there I’ll be wearing a mask and go with the name “Akatsuki”.”

“A mask.....! This is getting even cooler”

“Anyway, it’s undercover work. So, I have a request for you Doji.”

“What is it?”

“I want you to secretly take Elsa to this hideout”

“Yeah, understood. I’ll definitely take her there.”

“Yeah, if it’s you I know you can do it, Doji. Take care of you on the way”

“Please leave it to me!”

Doji was enthusiastic because I gave him a special mission.

He was completely dauntless.

“Elsa, tonight it’s already too late. Stay overnight somewhere and then tomorrow you should leave. Is there an Inn somewhere around here?”

“Yes, there’s a small inn located a bit away from here”

Doji brought Elsa to the in together with me.

On the way, I told Elsa to call me “Akatsuki”.

As there was luckily still one room in a good condition still vacant I paid the money, made Elsa stay there and left.

“Doji, sneak out of the mansion early in the morning tomorrow and go pick up Elsa.”

“.....Understood. I’ll be careful not to be found out by Lunos or Nals or the other knights.”

Doji was talking in a low voice even though we had yet to reach the residence.

Well, it’s good to be fired up, right?

Neither Lunos nor Nals have returned yet when we arrived at the mansion.

I took Doji into my room handed him a map to the hideout and the key to it and also some money.

“Then I’m counting on you, Doji”

“.....Please leave it to me”

For some reason, Doji left my room while tip-toeing.

You’re too suspicious.

The following day when I got up in the morning Doji wasn’t there anymore.

“Carlo-sama, I told Doji to stand guard but I don’t see him anywhere, do you know where he is?”

“Yeah, he remembered that he had to do something and returned to Braham earlier.”

Lunos asked me curiously and I answered appropriately.

“Nals, how did the negotiations with State Minister Walles turn out?”

“Everything got settled safely. First, to the matter of the military expansion without the royal family’s permission. He gave his tacit consent. I confirmed that it isn’t a problem to remove the original tariff. Furthermore, the pavement between Braham and the Capital was particularly permitted as well.

Alright, it’s great that the permission to pave the road between the Capital and Braham was given.

I assumed that fearing another country might invade or the nobles would start a revolt they wouldn’t grant the permission to pave the road.

That was a major hindrance to logistics and it would cause a delay in sending troops in the case of something happening.

If I pave it I can immediately react if the conservative nobles show some threatening movements and I wanted to do it because it’s convenient for me when I’ll do the coup d’état in the future.

“How’s the matter with Princess Charlotte going?”

“Yes, although the engagement itself depends on Carlo-sama’s achievements, but all talks of Her Imperial Highness the Princess’s engagements got suspended or cancelled.”

With this Sharon won’t get engaged to someone she doesn’t know.

Next, I should earn some credits by fighting the conservative nobles.

“You did well. It seems like we can move considerably freely with this.”

“That’s right, after that we have to quickly arrange the military so that we are able to move at any time.”

I build connections to the Royal Family, I made progress in the matter of getting engaged to Sharon and I met some nobles (Though they are old men) who hold antipathy towards Duke Armandi Rejum.

Operation DDT which was my biggest purpose for coming here「6」 failed though I somehow gained a mistress through that, but all in all I was able to accomplish everything I came here for so shall I return to Braham soon?

“Then shall we return to Braham tomorrow morning?”

“That’s right, the ladies here might hold a grudge against me if I stay here for too long.”

Lunos approached some women to get some information but it might get hard for him if it grows too deep.

“Then I shall pass the official documents with Minister Walles today”

“Please do. I’ll go to the Royal Palace for the time being as well”

I went to the castle together with Nals.

That’s because I wanted to see Fraudia one last time if possible.

I’m quite the bad man for being concerned about Frau when I’m like this with Elsa.

Well, I’m still a virgin.

I entered the Royal Palace and greeted Minister Walles and General Dolus first.

I tried looking for Earl Mcbell, also known as mantis, but I couldn’t find him.

That guy, he must have gone into hiding after that failed assassination attempt on me.

Though I walked around for a long time I couldn’t find Frau, but just when I thought about giving up I found her while walking up the Royal Palace’s corridor.

“Carlo-sama!”

“Frau, were you able to safely return after that matter?”

“Yes, more importantly, Carlo-sama is also safe.”

“Yeah, I decided to depart from Ruan tomorrow morning.”

“Did you come to the castle because of that?”

“Yeah, I thought I might be able to meet Frau.”

“.....Well”

Frau looked down bashfully.

Her cheeks turning red is just too cute.

“I won’t be able to meet you for a while but I’ll come again as soon as possible so stay healthy.”

“Carlo-sama, please take care of your body as well. I pray for your success.”

This child mostly knows about those circumstances.

“Yeah, I’ll try my best.”

If I get engaged to Sharon the chances to meet Frau might increase.

I actually wanted to hug her but as it was hard to do I just gently touched her cheek and parted from her.

I could watch that back who was seeing me off forever.

OK, let’s get back to Braham and do our best.

Chapter 19 – Military Reform

“Welcome home”

When I arrived at the mansion in Braham Pikaru and the head maid Melissa greeted me.

Since I'm not that tired I decided to immediately do the arrangements.

“Pikaru, call F and Marcus.”

As I entered my office together with Lunos and Nals, Pikaru came over together with Mirea-san and Reina who brought tea.

I wonder why Reina is looking so frequently at Lunos and I.「1」

“The General and the Imperial Guard Order's Head came”

“Let them through”

Marcus and F stepped into the room.

As usual, General Marcus, without saying anything, sat down on the sofa without waiting for my permission.

I told F to also sit down and began the meeting together with Pikaru.

“So, how was it?”

“It can be said that our objectives got achieved for the greatest part.”

Except for Operation DDT.

I told Nals to explain the finer details.

“- – In that way, we gained the cooperation of the Royal Family and accepted the task of going against the conservative nobles. Therefore, it’s important to carry this out as soon as possible.”

How’s the progress of the colonial soldier settlements and the irrigation construction?”「2」

“Both are progressing favourably. Thanks to the drastic improvement in efficiency through the implementation of earth magic all constructions are expected to be done within this year.”

Pikaru answered Marcus’ question.

“With that said, is it possible to finish the construction work on the highway by the beginning of the next year as well?”

“Well, I’d like to advance the training of the farmer-soldiers who are now constructing the colonial soldier-settlement later on.”

In response to Marcus’ and Nals’ words, I decided to voice out the idea I kept to myself for a while.

“Therefore I have a suggestion but it requires to fundamentally change the

present military.”

“What do you mean by fundamentally changing the military?”

Everyone including Marcus looked at me.

In the novel “Yuusha Tensei” which I wrote, the troops of the countries called the “Yuroa countries”, Franz Kingdom included, are basically all made up of infantry, cavalry and archer units.

Carlo’s military can be taken as an example as the knights of the Imperial Guard order Lunos and F are part of only consists out of cavalry in times of war.

It’s basic style to recruit farmers or citizens as archers or foot soldiers.

Of course, I used the military of the European Middle Ages as a model.

However, as a result of this, as I reincarnated as the feudal lord who is in a leading position for the army, Carlo, many problems would arise if we would fight the Barbarians who are a horse-riding tribe modelled after the Mongolian soldiers like this.

If one takes a look at the history books one would see that Europe was shaken by the Mongolian invasion, there’s no doubt it will be fairly difficult to fight the Barbarians with the present military.「3」

If you just write a sentence as an author it’s all good even if there’s such a problem but if you really have to lead an army like this that’s a completely different matter.「4」

As a fight with Duke Armandi and the other conservative nobles is inevitable now I want to manage to efficiently win in the shortest amount of time.

If it isn’t a story I simply wrote but a real battle there should be as little sacrifices as possible and more than anything else I don’t want to die either.

That's why I thought about this military reform.

"If we let the cavalry officers lead the archers and infantry as before we can't make use of the speed which is the cavalry's greatest weapon. Therefore we make the Imperial Guard Order the Cavalry unit and let another officer lead the archer and infantry unit."

Nals explains my concept.

It's a result of having talked with Nals about this reform all the time.

"We'll let the infantry and archers choose an officer among the farmer-soldiers we established this time. Even the archers and infantry were mixed together in one unit so far even though they have independent formations."

"Fumu, though I think it's an interesting plan but it's to be expected that the Imperial Guard Order's Knights will oppose to this. As they have pride in leading the army."

Marcus interrupts Nals' explanation.

Because Marcus who led the Imperial Guard Order for many years said this it can't be wrong.

But I considered that as well.

"It's necessary to inform the Knights how powerful the cavalry unit is and how it can be decisive to a battle's outcome. That's it. Nals, explain it please."

"Yes. We are planning to execute an exercise with the original formation and the reformed formation this time. We divide the Imperial Guard's knights and the farmer-soldiers into two groups and let them compete while being led by F and Lunos."「5」

“I see, so the knights can’t help but be convinced if the difference is overwhelming.”

F also nodded to Lunos’ words.

“It’s like that. So, who leads which side?”

This became interesting.

I grinned as F gave me an earnest answer.

“I’m fine with either side. I’ll do my best all the same if you order me.”

Lunos answered interestingly.

“As I’ve been here longer I’m more acquainted with everyone than the head so I know the obstinate people who would seem like they would object to the reform. I shall take charge of the original formation with these people. Just for confirmation’s sake, we may get serious as well, right?”

“Naturally. They won’t be persuaded if they won while you were going easy on them. If you defeat them even though they were attacking seriously then everyone will get persuaded that the reform has a meaning.”

Old man Marcus looked at me with an interested face as he listened to my explanation.

“That means that Carlo-sama will go with the new unit led by F. Then shall I join the original unit led by Lunos?”

This old man, he completely entered play mode again.

Do you know that it'll be bad if you let this reform fail?

He's absolutely, earnestly motivated, that captain imitation!

Well, I won't lose.「6」

“So, when will we execute the exercise?”

“Let's see, how about making it the main event of the end-of-year festivities?”

As F suggested we decided to hold the exercise at the end of the year.「7」

“Now that that's decided, let's start the strategy meeting. Please tell me if you decided on a place to hold it later. Lunos, let's go”

“Wait a minute, there are still some details of the reform plan that—”

“We'll see it later. It's like I'm being shown your cards, so it's no fun at all.”

As I thought, that old man is completely enjoying this.

Well, fine, I cannot lose.

Marcus took Lunos and left.

“Goodness gracious, that old man is hopeless.”

As I was astonished F looked back at me with a straight face.

“However, no matter how much he said he’s going to lead the original unit the general cannot be underestimated. Sir Lunos is also excellent.”

“About that, I already have two suggestions.”

Nals grinned as I began to talk.

“The first being we use a part of the Order’s knights as a high-speed search and reconnaissance unit. For that purpose I want F to choose the knights who can move the fastest.”

“If it has to be someone fast it would be good if the horse is quick and the rider is small and skilful. How many people are necessary?”

“Let’s see, I’d like to assign 20% of the whole unit.”

“Though I think 20% is quite a lot.”

It’s natural for F to think that way.

That’s because it will only decrease the operational unit’s number.

However, the saying goes “Know thy enemy and know thyself and you will win a hundred battles”「8」 so information is extremely important.

“I don’t care. F, can I leave this to you?”

“Certainly”

F obediently nodded to my words.

“And the other one concerns the infantry. Give all the foot soldiers a 5 meter-long spear.”

“5 meters?! I think that they can’t fight freely if they have a spear of such length, though.”

F was astonished as he heard about the length but the tactic to use long spear infantry was actually used in Europe.

I know it was a tactic particularly effective against cavalry and was used until the bayonet appeared.

I took Lunos into consideration while making the foundation.

Its main purpose was to oppose the Barbarian’s cavalry by crowding them, but they are, of course, effective against infantry as well

“Well, just leave that to me and Nals. F, as soon as Lunos decided on how to divide the order you’ll start the election for the reconnaissance unit.”

“Understood”

“Pikaru, after the irrigation construction is over arrange for the pavement of the highway.”

“Certainly”

Aah, today as well Pikaru’s brightness is at its highest.

Like this, the military reform meeting ended.

8.A quote by [Sun Tzu](#)