

# The Author Reincarnated?!

~I'll Become an Amazing Villain!~

Arc 4

by Umeda Ryosuke

[Novel Updates](#)

Translation Group: [Re:Library](#)

Epub: [TrolloWN/LN EPUB](#)

# Chapter 1 – Military Exercise I

“The end of the year is finally approaching”

Even though I didn't call him that old man, General Marcus, came over to Carlo's, my room.

He sat down without waiting for my permission as always and suddenly said something like that.

“You're right, is there anything else?”

“No, well, it's about the thing we talked about. I thought it's time soon”

The thing we talked about?

What does he mean by “the thing we talked about” .....Ah!?

“The exercise, is it?”

“Right, right, that”

Marcus said joyfully.

After that whole matter with the labyrinth, I completely forgot about that (sweats).

But that being said, this old man who bent forward seemed to absolutely look forward to that.

“A, about that matter, let's leave it to Nals. Pikaru, please call Nals!”

The bald Pikaru immediately went and got Nals.

“What can I do for you?”

“Nals, how's the matter with the exercise going?”

“Yeah, everything is in place. We can execute it anytime.”

What a relief, I'm saved!

If Nals also forgot about that this would have been a serious problem.

“So, how do we do this?”

“There’s the Alamos hill north of Braham. We’ll use the fort on the hilltop.”

“Ho hoh, and then?”

“The General and Sir Lunos as well as Carlo-sama and Sir Fitzgerald respectively lead their army and set up their camp on the east and west side of the hill. The team which is able to conquer the fort wins.”

The Alamos hill is a big hill in the vicinity of Braham’s northern part and the fort (even though it’s called that it seems to be rather small) will be the key element in a battle against the northern Barbarian riders in a defensive battle. The army led by General Marcus and Lunos starts in the hill’s west and the new regiment led by me (Carlo) and F starts in the hill’s east.

As for the numbers, the cavalry consists out of 50 Imperial Guard Order’s knights, the infantry was made out of 150 farmer-soldiers and the archer unit had 100 members in them totalling in 300 soldiers.

We would let our armies clash and whoever dominated the fort within 4 hours, the duration of the exercise, wins.

However, if one’s camp got taken by the other team one loses.

By the way, as this is an exercise all the weapons are made of wood, there was paint smeared on swords as well as on spears and arrows and when either the torso’s armour or helmet got colour on them one has to withdraw.

This totally feels like a survival game.「<sup>1</sup>」

“In other words there are three important things one has to consider. Protecting the base, attacking the opponent and conquering the fort.”

“How very interesting. So, Nals, will you be on Carlo-sama’s side?”

“Yes, as this is my chance to show my skills as a tactician.”

“Fine, let’s have a good look at your skills. Then, when shall we start?”

That old man is really motivated.

But this side won’t lose either, I’m depending on you, Nals.

“There are still preparations to be done so how about in a week?”

“I have no objections. Is that fine, Carlo-sama?”

“Yeah, that’s fine. Then it’s decided, until next week.”

Like this, we decided on a date for the military exercise.

“Well, then, I’ll excuse myself and discuss some things with Lunos. I’m looking forward to the day”

“Yeah, we won’t lose.”

“Please don’t hold a grudge in case Carlo-sama does lose, hohoho. Well then, I’ll take my leave.”

“Nals, do you have a plan?”

“Let’s see, well, please look forward to it”

Nals grinned and winked.

—The day of the exercise.

F and I were in full armour and reached our camp together with Nals.

In front of us were 50 people mounting horses and 250 foot soldiers and archers, in total 300 soldiers.

The red war flags towering over the 50 mounted soldiers carrying spears and bows was a magnificent view.

Though for an army this isn’t a big amount of soldiers but when one thinks that one has to lead them it’s a different matter.

If this were an actual war the number would be greater.

“It’s quite the sight looking at it like this, isn’t it? Is everything ready?”

“Yes, according to prior instructions I selected 20% of the cavalry, 10 soldiers to form the reconnaissance corps.”

F answered calmly.

I see, Looks like the high-speed reconnaissance corps was lined up in the back.

They were all rather small but fearless and seemed to be agile.

The Alamos hill in front of us was bigger than I thought.

The Fort in question could subtly be seen on the top.

It’s quite the long distance and the inclination is unexpectedly steep.

“So this is a long spear, huh? It’s certainly long.”

“It is five meters long after all, but in training it was really effective.”

The length of the spears the foot soldiers carried were five meters, which is

very long.

F seemed to be surprised when he was told this but it seems its effects were visible in actual training.

“Is it strong?”

“Yeah, this will be our key to achieve victory. This infantry unit will be led by Carlo-sama.”

Nals said proudly.

“That’s all good but how do we win?”

“How to win, huh...?”

After having thought a little, Nals started to grin and answered my question.

“Completely, let’s overwhelmingly win”

## Chapter 2 – Military Exercise II

Meanwhile, General Marcus and the Imperial Guard's first corps' captain, Lunos, were on the east side of the hill.

They were talking over a desk behind which soldiers holding blue war flags were lined up.

“General, what's the strategy?”

“Umu, right. First about Carlo-sama's move. Since splitting up the cavalry is a centrepiece of this time's military reform they'll probably use tactics making use of the cavalry's high mobility, no doubt”

“Right”

“Letting the cavalry act independently is surely effective in terms of speed. But on the other hand, their numbers won't be high, no matter how much of an elite group the Imperial Guard Order is they won't be able to do a frontal attack.”

As Marcus said this he pointed at the centre of the map which was lying on the desk.

“They'll most certainly try to take the fort right from the beginning.”

“There's no doubt that they would be able to conquer the fort with their speed. How troubling.”

“Right. Although they are no more than 50 it'll be time consuming to remove the Imperial Guard Order's knights once they confined themselves in the fort.”

“Soon after reinforcement would arrive. In that case it would be even harder to remove them.”

“That's right, look here”

Marcus drew a big arc going around the hill's south.

“We will go south around the hill without aiming for the fort but directly

aiming for their camp”

“I see, attacking their back, is it?”

By the way, one has won if one succeeds in conquering the opposing team’s camp and fired up a beacon.

“However, what if the opposing team has the same idea?”

“No matter how fast they are they just have 50 horseman. We’ll leave one third of our soldiers in the camp to prepare for that case.”

“So we protect our camp with 100 soldiers while attacking the opposing camp with 200.”

“That’s right, I leave those soldiers to you, Lunos. Even if Carlo-sama puts the other 250 soldiers other than the cavalry corps inside the camp they are just the mish-mash of people called farmer soldiers and the commander also hasn’t experienced real warfare yet so it’s just a disorderly mass not worthy to be afraid of.”

“Even if we encounter the cavalry party we’re definitely able to break through with this difference in military power.”

“If the cavalry acts independently from the infantry the difference in speed increases as well as the risk of their individual defeat. Let’s make use of that, shall we?”

The strategic plan was completed and Marcus stood in front of the soldiers together with Lunos and started to talk.

“Everyone should have heard about Carlo-sama’s live-changing military reform by now. I think there are some among the Imperial Guard Order who aren’t satisfied with this. The purpose of this exercise is to show those people the effectiveness of this new formation. In other words – -”

General Marcus paused for a bit and then raised his voice.

“This time our role is to be defeated. They expect us to overwhelmingly lose for us to understand that “This military reform was right after all” in the end!”

Hearing Marcus’ words the soldiers start to murmur. That’s natural as they were told that one’s role was to lose.

Lunos unintentionally asked Marcus in a low voice.

(Is it fine for you to talk that frankly? Does the General intend to win?)

(Well, watch)

Marcus raised his voice once more.

“However. This one doesn’t intend to take defeat so easily! I got permission from Carlo-sama to fight with all we got. How is it, gentlemen? Don’t you want to win and get Carlo-sama down from his high horse?!”

The soldiers murmuring became louder.

“Let’s show them how a magnificent victory looks like right at this place, gentlemen! That’s right, let’s give everyone a reward if we win! Gentlemen, do you feel like winning now?!”

『Ooooh— -!』

As they answered to Marcus’ question the soldiers pushed up their fists. Then, following this, Lunos also shouted.

“You guys, if we win this today we’ll get to drink some delicious liquor tonight!”

『Ooooooh— -!』

“You can see off the past year with a good feeling with this money!”

『Ooooooh—!』

“That’s good, this isn’t just some exercise! We’ll certainly win while treating this like an actual battle!”

『Ooooooooooooooh!!』

“Umu, everyone seems to be in high spirits.”

As he saw the surge of the soldiers’ morale, General Marcus contentedly stroked his beard.

“That’s right, this much should be enough”

“Well then, it should be time soon. Please prepare the raiding party.”

“Certainly. I’ll entrust the camp’s defence to you.”

Like this, they got ready.

They only waited for the beacon signalling the exercise's start to be shot from the fort.

# Chapter 3 – Military Exercise III

“It’s almost time”

General Marcus stood in front of his army which raised the blue war flags while looking towards the fort on the hill and murmured.

The Imperial Guard’s captain, Lunos, waited beside him.

A few minutes later black smoke was visible in the blue sky above the fort.

Lunos who saw that directed a few words towards Marcus.

“It went up, didn’t it?”

“Umu. I’m counting on you.”

“Yes, I’ll be off then”

After having bowed to Marcus lightly Lunos turned to the soldiers and raised his voice.

“Let’s go! Raid unit, follow me! We might encounter the enemy on the way so, Captains of all departments, you can’t let your guard down!”

『Yes!』

“Then, let’s go!”

Thus Lunos led the soldiers out of the camp.

They took the route going around the south side of the hill.

By the way, the distance between the red and blue camp to the fort would be about 1,5 kilometres in a straight line.

Although it’s not that far one has to climb up that steep slope.

Taking the route around the south side of the hill the distance to the opposing camp is approximately 5 kilometres.

As their army is a mix of archers, cavalry and infantry the blue army led by Marcus and Lunos will take around one hour.

“What fine weather, the sunlight is warm.”

While on his horse Lunos unintentionally muttered.

One could see the blue winter sky shining through the trees if one looked up. The wind wasn't as cold as the sun was shining from the south unceasingly, fortunately.

In summer the sunlight is interrupted by the tree's leaves but now in winter all of them fell and the sunlight is able to shine through.

The Alamos hill in itself was grassland on which only a few trees were able to grow but at its foot a forest spread out.

Right now Lunos was leading the soldiers on the boundary between the grassland and the forest area.

He was riding along the forest so that the archers and infantry can advance easily.

“However, the others did nothing but some strange training. Did Sir Lunos see that?”

An adjutant who was riding next to him started to talk. The man in his late 30s seemed serious and grew a beard. He was also an Imperial Guard Order's captain.

“Yeah, I saw it. He lined his infantry up and just let them walk.”

“Yeah, they were going in circles again and again while executing these movements and strides. How on earth are they going to fight with that? What a laughingstock.”

Lunos fell silent without answering the adjutant who seemed amused. He didn't think that their master Carlo would do something without any reason behind it.

When he witnessed Carlo's skill as he uncovered Viscount Gerg's crimes Lunos came to the conclusion that Carlo has the mysterious talent to think deeply.

(What is the meaning behind that training, what measures did Carlo-sama take?)

This marching training was based on the knowledge Carlo (=Ryosukes) obtained from a book of his original world “The infantry's leadership decides over a battle's victory or defeat”.

The infantry in this world were basically commoners half-forcibly drafted so their moral is pretty low.

It was a normal occurrence for them to flee in all directions as soon as the situation seemed to be a little disadvantageous making it impossible to maintain a front.

If we were to fight a battle with the Barbarians who mostly consist out of cavalry it's obvious that the infantry won't be able to keep up with their horses' movements which makes it impossible for them to hold formation ending with the infantry eventually fleeing.

What Marcus was concerned about the matter of separating the cavalry from the infantry was that he believed the foot soldiers would be impossible to control if the commanders, the knights, were gone.

Ryosuke's answer to that was the marching training of the infantry but Lunos didn't know about that at this time.

"Well, the infantry and archers are just a disorderly gathering of some people with their commanders, the knights, gone, we can't lose"

At the moment Lunos answered the adjutant he noticed some kind of ruckus at the front of them.

"What happened? Report to me what happened here."

Having been told that a knight came galloping over from the front. He stopped his horse next to Lunos and started to report.

"There are some foot soldiers making a fuss saying they saw enemy riders"

"What? Their numbers?"

"It's just one horseman."

"Just one horseman, you say? Could it be that they were mistaken? It can't be that there's just one horseman acting alone."

While the adjutant was amazed by this ridiculous story Lunos wore a difficult expression and started thinking.

(Are you telling me they just moved one horseman of the cavalry? It's hard to believe that they would divide the cavalry for some reconnaissance soldiers..... Did the cavalry unit come here as well without aiming for the top? If so, then it's just like we expected.)

As he thought so the adjutant raised his voice.

“A red beacon got shot up from the fort. Seems like they were aiming for the fort with the horsemen after all.”

“I see, If it’s like this everything is going as planned. Later the infantry and archers will follow them as reinforcement. Their camp should be insufficiently guarded by then. Let’s hurry and head there!”

Lunos commanded the party to raise their marching speed.

# Chapter 4 – Military Exercise IV

Fitz-Morris Fitzgerald, a knight also known as “F” rode up the hill on his horse. 40 other Imperial Guard knights rode after the Imperial Guard Order’s leader.

“Don’t loosen the reins! We have to take the fort before our opponent no matter what!”

They intended to occupy the fort on top of the Alamos hill. Nals, the tactician, told them in a sharp voice that it’s absolutely necessary for the strategy to occupy the fort. As the biggest advantage of letting the cavalry act independently was their higher mobility F could understand that fact.

“Leader, we’re close to the fort!”

A knight riding diagonally behind F raised a loud voice. It was the gigantic knight in his late 20s wielding a long Halberd who got defeated by Carlo in the Sword Fighting Competition’s semi-finals. He was the only Imperial Guard Captain appointed to the red army, which was led by Carlo, becoming F’s adjutant.

“Alright, occupy the fort. Shoot up the signal as soon as you’re done!”

The horsemen surged inside and confirmed that the other party had yet to come occupy the fort. As per the rules as soon as one team was able to occupy the fort they had to immediately shoot up a signal in one’s team’s colour. On F’s order one of the knights shot up a red signal.

“Phew, looks like the first mission was successful.”

“Honestly, I’m tired. However, thank goodness that the other team hasn’t come yet. Well, it’s natural as we spurted here on horses.”

Together with his adjutant F looked down from the fort but couldn’t see the other team.

Even though they should be slower because there were foot soldiers and archers mixed in their unit but it was rather weird that one couldn't see them at all from this hill.

"Still, for the tactician's words to turn out to be true. Even the fact that we won't be able to see the other army"

In the case of such a development F received rather strange instructions from Nals.

"Isn't it fine? If you can't see the other army around after you occupied the fort and shot up the signal then there's no need to protect it afterwards."

"Why? We'll lose if the fort gets taken."

"It's fine. The knight leader should always be ready to let the cavalry charge as soon as you receive a signal."

While recalling this exchange with Nals before their departure F ordered his adjutant.

"Tell everyone to take a short break and to prepare to be able to leave here and charge at any time when ordered."

"Is that really fine? No one will be here then."

"Well, it's fine, probably"

"I'll obey the leader's orders, though I don't quite understand it."

(Honestly, I also want to know whether this will be fine) That is what F unintentionally whispered in his heart.

(PoV – Carlo)

"A red signal went up. It seems like we succeeded."

Nals answered my, Carlo's words.

"It's natural for us to be successful till here. The problems start from this point on"

"Does Marcus really not aim for the fort?"

"I'm not 100% sure but I'm probably not mistaken."

“The reason?”

“The General knows that we’ll use the cavalry independently. Given that, it’s only natural for us to arrive at the fort first. I think it’s rather hard to conquer a fort with 50 knights occupying it.”

“Well, that’s right”

“What can we do to break this deadlock? That’s that General’s character. The possibility of him simply using force is rather low. I’m pretty sure he’ll want to attack us from behind.”

“Why would he attack our back?”

“The General and Sir Lunos have great confidence in the Knights’ might making them greatly underestimate the infantry’s and archers’ power. Well, I’ll explain the rest later. Let’s patiently wait for the reports to arrive here.”

After a few minutes, one horseman of the reconnaissance unit returned.

“Reporting! I discovered an enemy military unit in the forest on the south side, their numbers are approximately 200!”

“Is that so, can you tell us their exact location?”

Nals listened to the knight as he showed the enemy’s location on a map lying on the desk.

As I watched from the side I could tell that their position was rather far from here.”

“As expected”

“Well then, shall I take the soldiers and meet them?”

Nals shook his head left and right as he heard my words.

“The report from the north side has yet to arrive. Before we have that report we can’t make a move.”

Nals answered leisurely.

“The ones scouting the north should return soon. Shall we get ready?”

Hearing Nals’ words I also stood up.

“Is it really fine to take everyone with us? If we leave this place unguarded and fall it’s our immediate defeat, isn’t it?”

“It’s alright. If enemies are approaching from the north side the reconnaissance unit would have return sooner. The fact they haven’t returned after this long means that the rest stayed back in the camp to protect it.”

Just as we had this exchange the two knights scouting the north side returned.

“Reporting, No enemy soldiers were sighted on the north side till the enemy’s camp!”

“I see, as I thought. Did you see the enemy’s camp?”

“Though it looks like some soldiers were protecting the enemy’s camp their numbers are unknown as we couldn’t get closer. My apologies.”

“Thank you. I know you’re tired but could you deliver this letter to the knight leader inside the fort next?”

“Yes!”

The knight took off with the letter Nals prepared.

“So, shall we begin?”

# Chapter 5 – Military Exercise V

“So, shall we begin?”

At the tactician Nals’ words, I also started to move.

“Nals won’t go?”

“I’m not good with horses. I’ll just wait here for the results.”

“Then, let’s depart. Don’t let them destroy our rows. Show them your training’s results.”

『Ooh!』

“As soon as we encounter the enemy party on our way we’ll immediately engage in battle. Show them your might!”

『Ooooh— -!』

The farmer-soldiers’ morale was high.

They worked diligently while doing such a hard and monotonous training. I fully understand how boring marching practice is as I had to do it in school. However, after I told them this is training for the sake of protect their own land they started to work hard without complaining for unknown reasons. Thanks to that their movements seemed to have significantly improved during these few months.

Even though I say that I only heard about it as I left the training mostly to F.

—Considering the soldier’s speed we’ll encounter the opposing party soon, I guess.

While recalling the location Nals showed me on the map we advanced. It seems like the other party was going through the forest in order to hide, otherwise they would be seen from the fort so we advanced on the border connecting the grassland and forest.

As they were trained and the road was easy to walk on they appeared to move faster.

Since all the foot soldiers held five metre long spears it would be rather difficult to advance through the forest.

After a while, I saw a horseman coming over.

“Reporting, the enemy is still advancing through the forest. Their numbers are approximately 200, 1.5 kilometres ahead.”

“Did they notice our movement?”

“That does not seem to be the case.”

“Is that so? Good work. Please continue searching for enemies.”

“Yes!”

Before long the knight took off again.

Good, good, the highly mobile reconnaissance unit is functioning well.

It's advantageous to know the movement of one's opponent.

“We should be able to encounter the opponent moving through the forest in a while. Get ready to fight as soon as I give the signal.”

As I didn't raise my voice while giving these orders to not get noticed I didn't receive an answer either.

However, looking at them nodding I knew they understood me.

They were all well trained.

They want to win, huh. We came this far after all.

While I was thinking about such things and having moved forward for some time a different horseman came out of the forest.

I raised my right hand signalling everyone to stop.

“Reporting! The enemy is very close! You will soon be able to see them.”

“Got it, then, please go and deliver this report to the fort.”

“Understood!”

The knight rode up the hill.

“Everyone, our opponent will soon arrive. Give it your all. Get ready to fight!”

At my command they got ready for the battle.

The 150 foot soldiers got divided into troops of 30 standing in 3 rows with one

row consisting out of 10 soldiers.

There were five infantry troops wielding 5 metre long spears lined up next to each other and 100 archers positioned in the back.

Like this, we waited for our opponent to arrive.

I also held a wooden sword and shield in my hand.

(PoV – Lunos)

“Sir Lunos, I see the red army approaching from the front! It’s the enemy!”

A knight reported to Lunos who was advancing through the forest.

“What? Let’s go immediately”

Lunos also hurried his horse and went to look at the situation.

He saw Carlo himself leading the soldiers at that place.

“Looks like he mostly took foot soldiers and archers with him. To appear at this place, have our movements been read?”

Lunos didn’t expect his opponent Carlo would leave his camp unguarded.

“But what’s with those spears’ length? They won’t be able to move properly with these.”

The adjutant who also came to look at the situation was similarly surprised. The spears of the foot soldiers who came together with Carlo were surely awfully long.

Lunos who felt it would be troublesome to launch a frontal attack made a part of his soldiers circumvent the other party and attack their flank.

He gave his adjutant 50 soldiers and ordered him to go and attack their side from the forest.

“Well, even if the other party has a strong front they still would be weak against a side attack. At the time we started to engage in battle you attack them from the side.”

“Certainly, Sir Lunos”

“Until then we’ll earn sometime somehow”

Lunos exited the forest with the remaining soldiers.

Carlo took his position at the front and waited.

“Carlo-sama, so it was true that you read our movements!”

“We were just following Nals’ readings, I didn’t do anything.”

“Again with the modesty. Besides, what’s with these? Those enormously long spears”

“Those are, well, you’ll understand when you fight them”

“Is that so? Please let us pass through”

“I can’t do that either. If I let you pass through here there aren’t any soldiers back there, you see”

Carlo’s words weren’t lies.

There was only Nals back there.

“I’ll show you what foot soldiers and archers can do even without knights”

“Fine, then shall we start soon?”

At Carlo’s words, Lunos judged that it would be time soon for the detached unit to attack.

“Then, shall we go? All units, charge!”

『Oooooh!』

The blue army led by the knights raised a courageous shout and started their charge.

# Chapter 6 – Military Exercise VI

“Then, shall we start? All units, charge!”

As Lunos uttered these words the blue army started its charge.

**Each unit was led by a knight, the foot soldiers charged and the archers advanced while shooting arrows.**

(PoV – Carlo)

“Here they come, use the Echelon formation!”<sup>1</sup>

As Nals told me I ordered them to take a diagonal formation with the hill on the right-hand side in front and the forest on the left-hand side behind them. The well-trained foot soldiers were immediately able to form a diagonal line while the ones at the front raised their shields to protect the spear wielders behind them.

“Archers, nock your arrows! After having attracted enough of them shoot!”

The archers nocked their arrows at once and waited for instructions in a posture ready to shoot at any time.

“Alright, shoot!”

At my command, 100 archers poured their arrows down on the closest enemies.

It seems like they were able to splash paint on some soldiers with that single volley.

I hear the frustrated voices of the other party.

On the other hand, thanks to patiently waiting most of the arrows could be blocked and the damage to our infantry was just minor.

(PoV – Lunos)

“Don’t be daunted, attacking their front won’t work, attack their flanks!”

At Lunos’ words the soldiers of the blue army turned around to attack the red

army's flank, but then they used the Echelon formation with the soldiers holding long spears in the back stabbing them instead.

The 5 meter long spear's effect was tremendous, not only did they splash red paint on foot soldiers one after another but also on horsemen.

“Ku, if it's like this then.....!”

Lunos showed a sour expression as he saw his allies engaging in this hard fight, at that moment the unit which took a detour through the forest charged at them.

『Uooooo!』

『There they are, turn around and defeend!』

The blue army's surprise attack corps vigorously aimed their charge at the last troop of the Echelon formation but the red army's pike men who had not yet engaged in battle changed direction in a splendid movement as if they were awaiting them and were able to deal with them.

Furthermore, the archers who were standing behind them were able to reduce the blue army's assault group's numbers.

“The surprise attack also failed, huh? Then, above all”

Lunos shouted to his allied units.

“Whole army, retreat to the camp! Ask for further instructions from General Marcus in the camp! Retreat!”

After he shouted this he looked towards Carlo who was giving out orders and then muttered.

“Well then, this is a precious opportunity. Please keep me company a little longer.”

(PoV – Carlo)

Yeah, it went well.

It was Nals who prepared for this, so of course.

Though I was a little surprised by their surprise attack operation but the soldiers acted calmly and were able to deal with them thanks to this formation.

If it's continuing like this we'll be able to win without a problem.....I also had

some time to think freely.

“Whole army, retreat to the camp! Ask for further instructions from General Marcus in the camp! Retreat!”

As I heard Lunos shouted this I thought “We won this” but why is the person himself coming over here?!

Eh? Eh?

Why won't you retreat?

While I was still puzzled Lunos came over and stopped in front of me.

“Carlo-sama, I want to have a fight!”

What is he saying?

“Wai, wait a minute, this isn't the right place to do this”

“I don't think it's particularly strange for enemy commanders to engage in combat”

As he said that he attacked with a wooden sword and shield in his hands. Is there no room for discussion?

As I saw his match with F in the Sword Fighting Competition I understand Lunos' strength all too well.

When I had a fight with Lunos as the masked mercenary Akatsuki because of that incident with the kidnappers we only exchanged 2 to 3 blows.

Originally it was just a farce and I immediately escaped using magic but I was able to experience his strength on my own body.

As one would expect from the “Ex” strongest knight of Braham, he's a powerful enemy.

Besides, he's a handsome guy popular with the girls so I don't want to fight him!

Even if I win I can't be happy about it as his female fans will hold a grudge against me and if I lose I'll get frustrated.

That's why I feel like I won't be forgiven even if I say I didn't want to.

Why does this guy want to fight me that much?!

“What's wrong? Wouldn't it be bad if the commander gets defeated?”

Oops, while I was thinking about such things I was nearly killed (Though it's

just paint).

As I heard Lunos' words I pulled myself together.

“Why are you trying so hard? This is just an exercise, right?”

“Because it is an exercise. Wouldn't it be a shame to let this golden opportunity slide? Ever since I saw the Sword Fighting Competition's finals I thought about wanting to fight you once!”

I tried to persuade him while parrying the wooden sword which was about to cut me as he said that.

“Well then how about doing that on another day? Would you obediently withdraw from this place then?”

Lunos' fast sword swings became faster and faster but thanks to it being a wooden sword I was barely able to block.

I can't use my Oricalcum sword and if I use magic the thing with Akatsuki will come out, so forgive me.

“To talk while still being able to deal with this speed, as I thought Carlo-sama isn't an ordinary person.”

As he said that Lunos started to attack more and more with a grin on his face. Even if I wanted someone to help there were just foot soldiers and archers around.

As that was everyone's first time seeing someone fight toe-on-toe with a knight in a one-on-one they completely forgot to chase the enemy army and just watched.

How disappointing.

Even if we win overall if the commander gets defeated it doesn't feel like a complete victory, I mean, it's not cool at all.

Or rather doesn't that practically mean our defeat?

Mmm, I unexpectedly got myself in to a desperate situation——

# Chapter 7 – Military Exercise VII

Lunos, while raising a battle cry, started to swing his wooden sword at me from left and right.

I desperately try to block them.

Mmm, this turned into a desperate situation.

“How is it? If you don’t get serious you’ll get defeated, you know?”

Just seeing a good-looking man such as Lunos smirking like that made me even angrier.

That guy, he completely forgot that I’m his employer!

Is it even possible for such an unreasonable thing to occur in a world using the feudal system?

It’s generally strange for the villain Carlo to receive such a treatment.

.....That’s what I thought despite fighting desperately, then at that time.

『Uwaa, it’s a surprise attaaack』

I heard the blue army’s soldiers’ cries drifting over behind Lunos.

(PoV – F)

“- – Honourable Leader, we received a message from Carlo-sama. Their unit will soon engage in battle with the blue army.”

“Understood. Alright, from this point on we’ll leave this place and start our charge. For the opposing team not to see us we are going to sneak around the blue army’s forces and attack their flanks.”

“Finally, huh, Leader? A call to arms.”

“Umu. Don’t let anyone escape as best as you can. Charge!”

A while later it was the cavalry unit led by F who abandoned the fort and assaulted the retreating blue army’s soldiers who tried to reach their camp.

(PoV – Carlo)

“What’s with this uproar?”

Lunos who got distracted by the noise coming from the back took some distance from me and stopped his attack.

Phew, I was able to take a break as well.

“Looks like they weren’t allowed to simply retreat.”

“Right, do you feel like quietly admitting defeat now?”

“No way. Rather, their sacrifice would be in vain if I don’t defeat the enemy commander”

Lunos, why can’t you just give up?

What should I do.....?

That’s it, though I never tried that before but let’s try it, shall we?

The method of increasing one’s speed and power by pouring magical power into weapons such as the Oricalcum Sword is a skill originally used by the Hero and now by me.

However, its power varies depending on how well the weapon’s material can absorb magical power.

In that respect Oricalcum is superior but it’s quite inefficient with common iron *etc.* Furthermore, one can hardly expect anything happening with a wooden sword like the one I’m using right now.

In the novel I wrote, I created a finisher I thought about letting the villain Carlo use as a trump card when he’s fighting the Protagonist, the Hero.

It’s to pour magic power into “one’s own body” not a weapon, thus strengthening it.

In other words, it’s magical body remodelling (Though one’s appearance doesn’t change).

It’s exactly what a villain, or rather a monster man would use.「<sup>1</sup>」

If it’s that it’ll be fine, right?

As I didn’t practice it up until now I don’t really have any control over it but I feel like I can at least land one blow.

Let’s go for something like “Thunder” with which F defeated me in the Sword Fighting Competition’s finals.

Alright, first let's charge the magical power.

“- – Fine. Lunos, I'll go at you seriously now.”

“Finally feeling determined? I'm glad, because, although I got defeated by the leader, I wanted to make sure whether I'm the third or second.”<sup>2</sup>」

“Take care, even though it's just a wooden sword you'll get hurt if you get hit”

“For Carlo-sama to look that serious, I'm looking forward to it. Please don't hold back”

.....Phew, I was somehow able to gain some time with that exchange. I can't afford to charge my magical power while he attacks me with the same vigour as some time ago after all.

But causing such a delay isn't much of a problem as I'm a villain.

I threw away my wooden shield which I held in one hand and raised the wooden sword I held in the other.

I had Satsuma's Jigen-ryu's saying “There is no need for a second blow” in mind.  
<sup>3</sup>」

Swinging one's sword without considering the opponent's counter attack, bringing certain death, it's a “One-hit-kill” technique.

When I read it in a book I thought about wanting to use it someday because it is cool.

“.....Lunos, here I go”

“Did you throw away your shield because you think you don't have to defend? Fine, I'll keep you company.”

Lunos and I faced each other on top of our horses. We looked at each other and judged each other's breathing.

——Now.

As White King started to run I released all the magic power I loaded in my body at once and swung my sword as we pass each other.

“Kieeeeei!”

As I raised a shout filled with my fighting spirit I swung my sword down on Lunos.

Lunos wasn't able to wield his sword as it was too fast and powerful but he was somehow able to block it with his shield.

This result.

My sword which should bring certain death and was blocked by Lunos' shield –  
– splendidly broke.

What's more, it got smashed into smithereens.

Well, that's obvious, it's only a wooden sword so it's natural for it to break.  
Though I broke Lunos' wooden shield at the same time but I'm the one with just  
the wooden sword's handle left in my hand.

“My, that was an amazing strike. This Lunos admired it. So, what do you plan  
to do now?”

At first, he was dumbfounded by this excessive force but after Lunos turned  
his horse and saw my situation he smirked again.

Well, it turned out like this.

As I threw away my shield I'm now empty-handed, Lunos, on the other hand,  
still had his wooden sword in his right.

This isn't even a match anymore!

“That's.....Escape”

I gave White King the signal to run and like this, I started to run away.

I'm worried that I'm just villain-like in that aspect.

Though it would be a problem to just leave the soldiers and escape but it's  
better than a general getting killed.

“To run away at the last moment. Please wait!”

Though Lunos followed me if it's White King I'll somehow be able to escape.  
As I thought this a familiar figure appeared in front of me.

“Carlo-sama!”

Ooh, isn't that F?

A present sent from heaven.

F who assaulted the opponents back as per Nals' strategy seems to have come  
over while worrying about me.

Honestly, I'm saved.

"F, Lunos' opponent!"

"My pleasure"

Then.

"For the leader to come from the rear, you sure are careful. I give up, I don't have the confidence in winning against the leader without a shield."

Lunos plainly surrendered to F which ended the fight and secured a big victory for our red army.

Many of the blue army's soldiers who wanted to retreat were killed by the action of F's cavalry unit and old man Marcus recognised his defeat obediently as we surrounded their camp.

"We won—!"

『Ooooh!』

With the red army's shouts of victory the military exercise safely came to an end.

Good grief, like this the military reform should advance more smoothly as well.

"Marcus, F, Lunos, shall we return?"

""""Yes""""

Like this, we returned to Braham.

—Hm?

I feel like we forgot something.....Oh well, whatever!

# Chapter 8 – Lost Item

The military exercise ended and we returned to my mansion in Braham.

“I got really disappointed this time around. Isn’t that right, Lunos?”

General Marcus who dropped down on the sofa without prior permission like always commented as such.

“True. I thought I could at least take Carlo-sama’s head but I got surprised because he ran away.”

That guy Lunos looked at me again while smiling.  
Of course I would run away!  
I was unarmed after all.

“A General leading an army has to calmly without losing one’s head has to view the whole picture and plan ahead.”

Those lines I uttered kind of felt like excuses.  
But as one would expect from the loyal F, he strongly nodded.

“Having understood that I launched an attack there you lured Sir Lunos towards me, as one would expect of Carlo-sama”

That’s right, that’s right, F understood me after all.  
I’ll raise your salary next time.

“Is that so? Though it looked like it was by chance that he was able to meet the leader while running away. Well, fine.”

Lunos had a doubtful look in his eyes.  
What’s with those eyes?  
Do you think its okay for you who has the same status as a servant to act like this towards your employer?  
You, acting all self-important when you actually lost!  
I’ll definitely lower your salary.  
I’ll make you realise what will happen if you make light of the villain and feudal

lord Carlo.

“Well, it’s all good, isn’t it? It’s been a long time since these old bones last moved around in an exercise like this”

Old man Marcus who watched me and Lunos bicker turned his neck while seeming tired.

At such an age a military exercise like this should have been hard on him, huh?

“Right, how about going home and resting for a— -”

As I began to talk Marcus interrupted me.

“You might want to rest at home but I want to take my time talking and drinking liquor after such a long time”

He grinned as he said so.

Ah, that old man’s expression.

“Moulin Rouge, huh?”

“I see, it’s not a bad idea to have a cup after a long time”

Hearing my words Lunos immediately agreed.

In that aspect, we get along well.

Well, maybe I should reconsider the thing about lowering his salary, huh?

“Well then, let’s go.”

F who noticed what was about to happen tried to quickly retreat but he won’t get away so easily.

“F, you’ll come with us, of course. This outing will also serve as today’s reflection meeting.”

“That’s right, leader, we have to properly reflect on today’s military exercise. I want to hear more about that especially splendid strategy.”

As Marcus said that the entrance door was vigorously opened and a loud voice was raised.

“Did you completely forget about the one who made that strategy?!”

—Ah, I did have the feeling that we forgot something.....

Looking towards the opened door there was – – the tactician, Nals.  
Oh crap, he's extremely angry.

"Y, yo, Nals, aren't you late? We were waiting."

"That's right, I looked forward to hearing your side of the story"

As one would expect of this old man who went through many battles, he followed up on my words without hesitation.

"Ahaha, what's that about waiting for me?! You completely forgot about me and returned!"

It's useless, Nals found us out.

"Wha, what are you saying. We couldn't have forgotten you like that"

"Carlo-sama, I told you, right? I would wait in the camp for further reports"

"Oh? So it was like this? I completely misunderstood you and thought you were waiting here, I'm sorry, I'm sorry"

Hearing my excuse Nals send me cold looks.

"Hohoh, a misunderstanding, huh? Thanks to you I was met with serious hardships. I who hates horses had to be brought back by a knight while sitting behind him."

"Is that so? That must have been hard. But wasn't that a good thing? That he let you ride together with him"

Null scowled at Lunos.

"Yeah, totally. One of the knights was patrolling the north side while I was there, otherwise, I would have had to walk the whole way back alone."

Oops, Nals is seriously sulking.

If I can't improve his mood there'll be a long way until Balhart castle can be built.

Mmm, something good.....

"Oh right, we were planning to go out. How about you, master tactician?"

"That's right, it's really good. It's my recommended shop were beautiful girls gather. How is it, master tactician?"

“I won’t go. I’m not interested in such shops”

Marcus’ and Lunos’ invitation got bluntly rejected as well.

That’s only natural, Nals is, similar to the me of my original world, an otaku with shut-in tendencies.

So to say I kind of understand his feelings.

Ah.....Right!

“Wait, Nals. Come over here for a moment.”

As I said that I pulled Nals closer to me.

Then I secretly whispered into his ear.

“Actually, there’s a girl called Lily in that shop. I think she might be the perfect model for your next figurine.”

“Eh, really?”

He took the bait.

“Yeah, she’s a straightforward and bright girl rarely seen in such shops, when I went there before I immediately thought she would make a great figurine model.”

“Heeh, there’s a girl like that?”

“Don’t you want to take a look even once?”

“Well, if it’s about that... .. I can trust Carlo-sama. Understood, I’ll go”

I’m relieved, he added “about that” but I was somehow able to succeed to get him to come with us.

Let’s pray that Lily will perform well.

## Chapter 9 – Moths

I was somehow able to coax the sulking Nals and we were now sitting inside the Moulin Rouge.

After seeing Lily whom I introduced to him his mood immediately got better.

“My, for such a beautiful person to exist in real life!”

“Oh my, Nals-sama, you’re smooth”

“No, those are my real thoughts. I mean Fawn Pavilion’s Felicia certainly is splendid as well but..... I’d like to use you as a model for a doll by all means. May I?”

“A, a doll.....? But am I really good enough? The other Onee-san’s are much prettier.”

“No, you are fantastic, it absolutely has to be you! I want to immortalise your beauty!”

“Ah, ye, yes. Then later. But first, we have to get to know each other better, okay?”

“Understood! I’ll come here as much as possible from now on”

“I look forward to it”

“.....Rozea, was Lily that type of girl?”

“What do you mean?”

“That, she perfectly led Nals by the nose.”

“Oh my, is that so?”

“I thought Lily would be a simpler girl.”

“That girl’s still a resident of the night world after all.”

For her to lead an intellectual like Nals by the nose, Lily is incredible.

“.....Hey, Rozea, you’re not like that, are you?”

“Well, does Carlo-sama think I only utter manipulative words?”

“No, I don’t think so, but seeing Lily like that, it’s too shocking”

“If you doubt my heart, please don’t come to this shop anymore”

“He?”

“I’ll be sad that I won’t be able to meet you anymore but it’s a lot better than you doubting my heart”

“Ah, that’s not what I meant”

“I honestly wanted to meet you, that’s the truth. But it’s just too painful to be doubted by Carlo-sama”

“No, no, I’m not doubting you”

“But didn’t you say that just now?”

“Because Lily was playing Nals so skilfully, I just carelessly asked”

“Then do you trust me?”

“Naturally! I, I mean, I trust Rozea. I do!”<sup>1</sup>

“I’m relieved.....Now I can feel at ease”

“I’m sorry for troubling you, Rozea”

“Carlo-sama.....”

Aah, Rozea’s teary eyes are so beautiful.

I’m a sinful man for making such a beautiful woman cry, seriously.

Next time I come here, I should give her a present as an apology.

“- – General, what do you think?”

“What do you mean with “What do you think”?”

“.....right”

“Lunos, you guys should be more careful as well, don’t you think? You recommended this shop.”

“To be told “You got led by the nose” by Margrave-sama?! I don’t want that, speaking off, is the General alright?”

“I, I’m already, see, that. Aged. Right, Fitz, what do think?”

“Right, let’s hear the leader’s opinion!”

“I’m not really good with such things, so I don’t really know”

“Well, it’s like that, huh? However, it might be good for Carlo-sama to learn a thing or two”

“That’s right, well, if it’s with Rozea it shouldn’t turn out terribly. She’s a good woman”

“Carlo-sama seems to have fun, so isn’t it fine?”

It soon turned into an enjoyable night, time to return, huh?

Rozea held my hand today as well.

Those three old birds were just giving me luke-warm looks, but I bet they were just jealous.