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The Elf Is a Freeloader

Arc 1

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Prologue

Four moons and countless stars were shining in the night sky.

The only other lighting in the area was the red, flickering light of a bonfire at a spot with good visibility on the side of a highway running alongside a dense forest.

At the time, several young men and women were pleasantly conversing around the bonfire.

“This time’s labyrinth exploration sure was a success though.”

A young man clad in heavy metal armor said happily, while pouring liquor from in a water bag down his throat.

“That’s true. We managed to find a lot of jewels, ornaments, and even something that seems to have some kind of magic imbued into it. Can you figure out what kind of magic is in that dagger?”

A girl wearing a robe who had her staff leaning against a nearby tree asked the girl sitting next to her who was carefully looking at an old dagger as she held it up towards the light of the bonfire.

“Hmm.... I’m certain that there’s some kind of magic imbued in it but...as far as what kind it is, I’m a little.... We’ll probably have to get an appraisal somewhere when we return to town.”

When the girl said so apologetically, her long, pointed ears twitched as if moving along with her words.

“That so~. If an elf doesn’t know, it can’t be helped.”

“Hey now, rather than elves who are users of spirit magic, isn’t the appraisal of magic tools the field of magicians that use ancient magic like you?”

“Eeh? But I’m not well suited to that kind of delicate work.”

“That’s true. You’re specialized in firepower after all.”

At the words of the young man wearing leather armor, everyone present began laughing.

Adventurer.

There are people called thus.

They will do anything asked of them if they accept a request and at times they are excavators that enter places such as labyrinths where they defeat monsters and dig up the treasures hidden within.

The ones currently surrounding the bonfire alongside the highway were also adventurers. They had heard about a labyrinth being discovered two days on foot from the town that they were based in and were currently on their way back from challenging that labyrinth.

As expected, it was not possible to reach the depths of the dungeon in one trip, but even so, they were able to make quite the find within around half a day of searching. They were even able to find a dagger imbued with magic. This was considerable luck even for mid-ranked adventurers like them.

That's right. They were mid-ranked adventurers.

They met and formed a party two years ago. Since then, they steadily accumulated achievements and had recently gained a bit of fame in the town they were based in.

First, they began from simple, yet steady jobs such as gathering medicinal plants at the outskirts of town requested by the doctor and hunting wild animals for meat requested by the butcher. Then not too long ago, they began to undertake jobs that involve fighting such as escorting a peddler and the extermination of demonic beasts that were laying waste to the fields.

It was then that the news of a labyrinth being discovered arrived. Furthermore, it was not that far from the town.

Having heard that news, they promptly took on the labyrinth to try out their luck and skill, and were able to obtain some success.

It was their first time exploring a labyrinth and it was successful. As such, all the party members were in joy.

Because of that, their vigilance had faded. Even though they were outside of

town where it was definitely not safe, not to mention that it was nighttime.

The success of the adventure caused them to end up harboring self-conceit along with their elation.

And then, it came suddenly.

The first to notice was the elven girl. Her long ears caught wind of something zooming by.

Followed by the dull sound of something being pierced.

The elven girl turned around reflexively towards the sound, and swallowed her breath as she let out a soundless shriek.

Before her eyes was the young man wearing leather armor who had something sprouting from his brow which wasn't there before.

No, it wasn't sprouting from it. It was piercing through it.

Several moments passed before the girl's brain could register what had happened.

The body of the leather armored young man shook violently before falling over face up.

As if that sound was the signal, arrows rained down in the surroundings of the girl and her companions.

"Wh, what!? What's going on!?"

Tightly grasping her staff against her chest, the magician girl surveyed the surroundings.

"God dammit!! Is this an attack by bandits or something!? Ho, how dare you kill-!"

The metal armored young man stood up and braced his shield and sword. But the next moment, something heavier than the earlier arrows came flying and slammed into the young man's face.

It was a hatchet. Receiving the thrown hatchet to the face, the young man scattered blood, bones, and grey matter in his surroundings before falling.

“Hii!!”

The elven girl let out a second short shriek before the magician girl forcefully pulled her hand, forcing her on her feet.

“What are you doing!? We’re running!!”

“B, but-!”

“Those two can’t be saved anymore!! They are already dead!! If we stay here, we’ll also-!”

After saying so with a bitter expression, the magician girl began running while pulling the hand of the elven girl.

Into the forest ruled by the darkness of night.

—————

She suddenly realized that she was alone.

The magician girl was initially pulling her hand as they ran, but after escaping into the forest, she was the one that ran ahead of the other.

Inside the forest was a place familiar to the elves. Furthermore, elves had the ability to see in the dark, so the forest at night was barely any different from the forest during the daytime.

That’s why she ran inside the forest while guiding the magician girl.

But as she ran desperately in fear of pursuers from behind, when she suddenly turned around, the girl who should have been following her was nowhere in sight.

Did she get separated somewhere? Or was she running too fast for her? For humans unable to see well in the dark, it was impossible for them to keep up with the speed of an elf in the forest at night without even carrying a light.

Having two of her companions killed in the blink of an eye in a sudden attack and the fear of those evil hands reaching herself hadn’t left her any room to think about that.

“Wh... What to do...? If I don’t search her...”

Coming to a stop, she looked around her surroundings as she muttered.

Just as she was about to go back the way she came to look for the magician girl, a nearby bush began moving around rustling.

Following, the magician girl came out of that bush. The elven girl was overcome with relief upon confirming her appearance.

But that was immediately replaced with horror.

The magician girl stumbled out of the bushes. Then after walking a few steps, murmured something to the elven girl in a low voice.

“Run...away... E, even just...you... Ru...way...”

The magician girl then fell forward and collapsed.

The elven girl's eyes which could see well in the dark clearly caught sight of the dagger which was piercing the back of the collapsed magician girl.

“Eh? Wh, what...? H, hey...?”

The sudden situation caused her brain to stop registering what she saw.

As she was flustered unable to do anything, three men appeared from past the bushes the magician girl had appeared from with torches in hand.

“Oh! Here you are. We finally caught up with ya.”

“Oh? So the last one was an elf? This'll be great.”

“Yeah. We'll be able to get some good money selling her as a slave.”

The men sported a vulgar smile upon confirming the elven girl's appearance.

“Y... You all are...”

The elven girl recognized the men.

It was during the daytime today while they were in the labyrinth. Rumors of the labyrinth had already spread, so there were naturally adventurers challenging it other than her own party.

The men currently before the girl were among them. They had passed by each other inside the labyrinth, and although few, also exchanged some words.

Indeed. They were not bandits or thieves. They were adventures like the elven girl and her companions.

“Now then... The treasure you found in the labyrinth... Mind handing it over?”

One of the men presumptuously held out his hand towards the elf girl.

“Y, you all... Your goal was the treasure we found in the dungeon...”

“That’s the way it is. We weren’t able to find anything nice in the labyrinth ya see. We’re also running out of money. So we figured you guys who were lucky enough to find some treasure would share some with the pitiful us.”

The elven girl then recalled how when they passed by each other in the labyrinth, the metal armored young man had boasted about finding some treasure.

They probably secretly followed after them in order to steal the treasure she and her companions had obtained since they were unable to find anything decent in the labyrinth.

While the elf girl was thinking about them, one of the men began to search the body of the collapsed magician girl.

They tore off the robe she was wearing and also the clothes she was wearing under it. After taking away all of her belongings, the men even put their hands inside her underwear, to make sure there was nothing else.

“Well what do ya know. These gems and ornaments look like they’ll go for a nice price. A bit of a waste though. This girl’s got a nice body for a kid. I overdid it and ended up killing her, but it would’ve been nice to have some fun with her first.”

“We could’ve also sold her along with this elven girl.”

The laughter of the men resounded within the forest engulfed in darkness.

The elven girl tightly grasped the dagger in her hands while biting her lips.

It was then that she finally noticed. She had been tightly grasping the dagger that she was examining earlier this entire time.

As she looked at the dagger in her hand, one of the men noticed and called out to her.

“Hey! Little lady. That dagger, hand it over here.”

“You... You can't!! Th...This is...”

It was the dagger she and her companions had obtained in their first labyrinth exploration. Now that all of her companions had been killed, even if this was an ordinary dagger without any magic, it had become an important memento that connected her to her companions.

Not allowing that dagger to be handed over to the men, the elven girl hid it behind herself.

“Oh? If that's so important then it must be quite valuable. Hey.”

One of the men exchanged looks with one of his companions. That companion seemed to be a magician as he followed his instructions and began chanting a spell in a low voice.

“...That dagger is imbued with magic. There's also...those earrings that are attached to that elf's ears. I also sense magic from them.”

It seemed the magician had cast a spell to detect magic.

As the man said, the girl's earrings were a magic tool. Translation magic was imbued into them and she had received them from her parents as a farewell gift when she left the elven settlement to become an adventurer.

Since she didn't understand human language when she first went out into the world, those earrings were a great help to her.

“That's great. Hand over the dagger, earrings, and also all your money. We'll let ya live if you do so? Though you'll still be sold off as a slave ya know?”

Elves were sold for a higher price than human slaves because of their appearance.

Their thin, slender, tall statured physique, and shapely appearance. And most of all, their characteristic long, pointed ears. As pets, to look at and appreciate, or for sexual usage, both men and women were sold for a high price.

Having an elven slave was even a form of status among rich human nobility.

The elven girl had heard about such things through hearsay.

Being captured and sold as a slave. Having that future of hers which was practically already decided thrust before her, she began trembling before she even noticed it.

“C’mon now, what’s wrong? If you want, we could tear all your clothes off for ya?”

While grinning with an indecent smile, one of the men approached the girl.

“N, no! Don’t come closer!!”

The girl promptly used magic.

The water spirit contracted with the girl complied with her wish and leapt out from the water sack hanging from her waist. The water spirit turned the water inside the water sack into a bullet of water and struck the man that was approaching.

Suddenly receiving a water bullet to the stomach, the man spun in the air before falling. However, the girl’s magic didn’t have enough power to take down the man in one strike, and he stood back up with a hand on his stomach.

“You... Taking advantage of me coming close...”

The man’s whose face was flushed in anger fiercely attacked the girl.

The man grabbed the girl’s arm in an instant and reached his hand out steal the dagger she was holding.

“You... You can’t!!”

Although she tried to escape from the man’s hand, her wrist was being held tightly by the man, so she couldn’t escape.

She struggled to at least protect the dagger, but the man’s hand finally reached it.

“Dammit!! Hurry up and hand it over!!”

Becoming irritated at the girl who wouldn’t stop struggling, the man forcefully pulled the dagger toward himself.

Then it happened.

The force caused the dagger to slip out of the scabbard, and in that moment,

it ever so slightly cut the elven girl's fingertip.

"Ah... Uu-!!"

A small, sharp pain run through her fingertip. While bearing that pain, the girl who had the dagger snatched away from her reflexively bit the man's wrist.

"Aaargh!! The fuck you doing!?"

With his wrist bitten suddenly, the man unintentionally dropped the dagger.

Seeing the dropping dagger in the corner of her vision, the girl moved away from the man and reached her hand out to it. But before her hand could reach it, the dagger stabbed into the ground.

And then.

And then, it happened.

Centered around the dagger stabbed into the ground, a shining magic formation suddenly appeared.

The light emitted by the magic formation gradually grew stronger.

"Wh, What!?"

"The fuck is happening!?"

Being distracted by the dazzling light, the men were in a fluster as their vision was stolen.

The light originating from the magic formation grew even stronger, lighting up the forest as if it were daytime.

And then after shining especially brightly, the light suddenly vanished.

The influence of darkness returned to the forest. Only the light of the torches held by the men dyed the surroundings a faint red color.

"...Wh, what was that, just now...?"

The men who regained their vision, slowly looked around them.

And then they noticed.

The magic formation that appeared suddenly. The dagger stuck into the ground. And the elven girl.

All of that had suddenly vanished from the nighttime forest.

Chapter 1: Who is it?

"Thanks for your hard work."

"Right. Yasutaka-kun, thanks for your hard work."

While exchanging greetings with the plump yet amiable manager, the entry door was pushed open. With a pleasant ringing of a cowbell overhead, Yasutaka left his part-time job at the Cafe "Aloom".

Mid-May. After Golden Week, it's most comfortable season of the year.

Even if it was just a little after 7PM, the area was already dark. Going through a familiar road brightened by streetlights, Yasutaka leisurely walks home.

Dinner isn't needed because he ate at the coffee shop he works at. The only things to be done after returning home are homework and taking a bath.

Furthermore, with his parents have been away in a different prefecture due to their job , there's no need to hurry coming back because no one is around.

As the evening breeze blows, Yasutaka walks through the familiar scenery slowly.

This is Nisshin City, Aichi prefecture.

It's closer to the countryside rather than the city.

Not rural enough to be the countryside, but not urban enough to be a city.

It is about 30 minutes by train from Nagoya city, one of Japan's leading cities, and it has been flourishing to some extent in recent years.

Nevertheless, here and there, much of the flora and fauna that remain, as well as rice paddies and plantations could be seen.

From Nisshin station which is in the center of the town, walk for about 10 to 15 minutes. There lies the house where he lived in, till just recently, with his family.

It seemed that his grandfather had built this house. Although it's an old house, the interior has been sufficiently renovated, Yasutaka thought that it's comfortable enough.

"I'm home."

Although he knew there wouldn't be a reply, Yasutaka couldn't help but call out with it becoming a habit after many years.

The house is old but it's spacious enough. Until a little while back, the lights would be on and his mother would reply from somewhere inside the house.

However, now it is dark when he returns home. While feeling somewhat lonely about it, Yasutaka heads to the living room after locking the front door. Dark it may be, but he was familiar with it after having lived in it for many years. With no hesitation he entered the hallway, first turning on the lights. With the darkness dispelled in an instant, a slightly yellowish warm light illuminates the hallway.

Though his home is spacious, it's still in the scale of an ordinary house. Because it isn't a mansion, it's natural to say that it wouldn't take more than a minute to reach the living room. Before long, he arrives at the living room.

After opening the door to the living room, the light switch next to the door was pushed.

The darkness that enveloped the living room vanished instantly, white light sweeping over it.

"..... eh ? "

In the living room that was illuminated by white light, Yasutaka discovers something unfamiliar.

The living room itself was the same as usual. A sofa set in the middle. There is a large TV set by a window and on the opposite side, a larger window overlooks the garden. From here it was also possible to go to the garden, the place Mom used the drying stand to hang laundry in.

The back of the living room faces the kitchen. It has a table and four chairs to match it for meals. There are cabinets, cupboards and the like set up, nothing unusual in the living room.

Or so it should have been.

"..... eeh ? "

Yasutaka checks the inside of the living room again.

Un, no doubt. This is the living room of my house.

While muttering so in my mind, I stared at it one more time.

The inside of the living room is clearly different from when I left for work a few hours ago.

No, there was only one thing that differed.

"..... eeh ? "

Long pale golden hair shined brightly as it reflected the light the indoor lights. Clothes of an unfamiliar material and design. Somehow, it looked like clothes from a manga my childhood friend would read.

Looks to be around 15 years old? A high school student like me or maybe a bit younger.

Long, slender white limbs. If I had to say then it was on the thinner side. At least, basing it on my childhood friend's ranking in having good proportions at school, this one's body's ups and downs seem poor.

I don't know the color of her eyes because her eyes were closed but even so, she was at a level cute enough to be called a pretty girl.

And, more distinct than any of her other characteristics was her long pointed ears.

"EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEHHHHHHH!?"

I'm losing my mind in the middle of the living room — maybe I'm just dreaming-looking at the girl, Yasutaka unintentionally raised his voice.

What kind of situation is this?

Yasutaka is desperately thinking while staring at the girl passed out on the living room's wooden floor.

Looking back to the time I came home, the key definitely got caught on the door. Because I opened it, I'm sure of it.

Then, did this girl enter through the window?

I moved my gaze to the window that connects the living room to the garden.

It was still bright when I left for work so the curtains were left open. Therefore I

was able to confirm that the lock of windows were securely fastened. Naturally the glass surrounding the lock wasn't broken either. So, a different window? The back door? Or from the second floor?

Various possibilities run about in Yasutaka's mind. Should I check them or maybe keep my eye on this girl?

Standing at the entrance of the living room, for several minutes he worried over this or that.

At this time, Yasutaka finally realizes something important. And that is if the girl lying in front of him was even alive.

"Is, is it possible..... that this isn't a home invasion but a case of body dumping?"

In order to ascertain whether or not she is alive, I have to touch the girl. However, could one really touch the girl's body in this kind of situation?! For example, if in this situation that the girl is dead, wouldn't touching her leave fingerprints? From there, I would be doubted and become a suspect.

"Bu.....but I couldn't possibly leave like this either.....?"

Somehow, the option of calling the police did not occur to him at this point in time. If you think about it carefully, everything would work out if the police were called.

The reason is surely because of the cute girl that had collapsed. If this were a squalid old man, it would be reported in an instant he was discovered.

For some reason, Yasutaka gradually approached the fallen girl. On the way, he saw a floor wiper that was used for cleaning the living room, propped up on a nearby wall. Yasutaka reached for the floor wiper and picked it up. And using the handle end of the floor wiper, he poked the body of the fallen girl a little.

In that moment, the fallen girl moved slightly. The fallen girl that was on her side, faced up. Her long pointy ears twitched about.

It seems she's alive. Yasutaka was slightly relieved.

"But.....the ears is this.....?"

Yasutaka was staring fixedly on the girl's ears.
Humans — at least the humans on Earth, with ears like that do not exist.
Maybe if there is a tribe that has customs of stretching ears then it's possible,
but if that were the case, rather than upward, it would be easier to extend the
ears downward with gravity.

".....then maybe..... like an alien?"

That reminds me, I remember there was a long-eared alien in a Sci-Fi movie I
watched a while back.

Now that I think about it, looking closely, it would be hard to believe that the
girl's clothing is a spaceship crew's uniform though.

"A spaceship that got into an accident crash-landed around this area?"

it's a common pattern in Sci-Fi. And as a result of an emergency transfer from
the spaceship, it's understandable to find the girl collapsed in the middle of the
living room of a locked house.

"If that's what happened..... I guess you're not injured?"

Cautiously, Yasutaka extends his hand towards the fallen girl.

At that moment.

The girl facing up, turned towards Yasutaka.
Her eyes were wriggling and twitching behind her closed eyelids.
Slowly, her eyelids raise, revealing the blue eyes they concealed.

"a, ano ——— are you okay? Are you hurt?"

The girl's blue eyes gradually adjusted and focused on Yasutaka's face.
Her gaze then moved to Yasutaka's hand that was extended towards her
After that, the girl's gaze went back and forth Yasutaka's hand and face
repeatedly.

And then the girl's expression became tense, she sat up abruptly.

"YARAAAU!!!"

The girl screams with all her might.

From her seated state, the girl desperately uses her hands and feet to
distance herself from Yasutaka.

And then her back collided with the glass window that leads to the garden. Thinking her back was cut off, flustered, the girl checks behind her. Seeing that beyond the window was a dark and wide garden, she hurriedly stood up trying to get to the garden.

But.

Desperately pushing the glass window, it would seem the girl doesn't realize it was essentially a sliding door, much less know how to open it. Eventually noticing the existence of the lock on the window frame yet not knowing how to unlock it, she began to frantically tamper with it.

"Umm..... being rough like that won't open it, you know? That window is locked so to you have to unlock it....."

With his gentlest voice, Yasutaka talks to the girl who is desperately trying to open the window.

Surprised by the voice, the girl turned around. Fear was evident on her face.

"a, ano——"

"YARAU!! TEA KERU SE ITENGU SERAUNEEN!!"

The girl cowers as Yasutaka reached his hand out.

"A.....Are you hurt...? If you are injured, I can treat it even if just a bit....."

"Gaakii.....? Aa—ruten.....?"

It seems words aren't getting through. Concluding as such, Yasutaka worries about what to do.

"Injury. Treat. Don't you understand?"

"Gaakii..... Aa—ruten....."

Yasutaka looked at the girl in front of him again.

She's a bit shorter than me who is 169 cm. Probably around 160 cm. Her long straight golden hair reaches the middle of her back. But because she collapsed, her hair is disheveled here and there. The color of her large eyes were a beautiful blue. There is an unmistakable wariness reflected in those eyes that were staring at me.

As if it were the only safe place, the girl didn't separate from the window to the garden.

She was like a stray cat that suddenly wandered into the house.

Yasutaka somehow harbored such thoughts.

And there is a word associated with stray cat.

"Hey? Are you perhaps hungry? If it's something simple then i can make some.....? "

Yasutaka's parents were always working even back then, so before he knew it, he was became good with household chores. His proficiency having increased, it could be even called a special skill now.

Because Yasutaka is like that, with peace of mind, his parents were able leave him and relocate to a different prefecture for their job.

Smiling at the girl, Yasutaka entered the kitchen and opens the fridge. Confirming that he remembered correctly, cheese slices, bread, mayonnaise and lettuce were taken out.

"Wait for a bit. I'll make it right away."

Yasutaka divided the bread into six pieces with a knife and spreads mayonnaise on the slices.

He adds the cheese slices and lettuce in between two slices of bread, then cuts it lengthwise to make it easier to eat.

Making two more cheese lettuce sandwiches, cutting them the same way and put it on a plate, he then carries them to the dining table.

Yasutaka pulled a chair from the table and pointed at it.

"You can sit here and eat these."

He points at the chair and demonstrated himself sitting on it. And lastly, points at the girl.

Yasutaka intended to say "You sit down as well" through body language but if he wonders if he was able to do so.

As ever, the girl is stuck to the window, but her eyes are glued to the cheese lettuce sandwich on the table.

What's more, with one of her hands on her stomach, she seems to be hungry.

"Come on. There's no need to hold back."

Yasutaka says so gently then smiles while leaving the table.

When he distanced himself from the table, the girl nervously separates from the glass window.

And while remaining vigilant, she slowly approached the table. At this time, the girl's gaze repeatedly went back and forth from Yasutaka and to cheese lettuce sandwich. She would immediately run away if he moved suspiciously.

Watching her, Yasutaka thought she really was similar to a cat and smiles wryly in his heart.

Eventually arriving at the table, the girl reached for the cheese lettuce sandwich and, while remaining vigilant, started eating.

Chapter 2: Elf is an Extraterrestrial?

The girl is eating up Yasutaka's special cheese lettuce sandwich in no time at all.

Watching over the charming situation, Yasutaka waited for the girl to finish eating before calling out to her.

"You want something to drink? I can prepare some Japanese tea quickly but if instant is fine then there's also coffee and black tea?"

To that question, the girl gulped and tilts her head.

It seems that she's wasn't as wary anymore, her gaze no longer stings. As I thought, the power of food is great.

While thinking such, Yasutaka judged the girl's appearance and arbitrarily decides that black tea would suit the girl's taste more than Japanese tea. He boils hot water and prepares teabags of black tea.

"Sugar.....mixing it in, she can do that herself."

Again, by himself, he decides that doing this much should be fine. Pouring hot water into the teacup, the tea bag swirled around a few times. So together with the black tea, a glass pot with sugar was presented before the girl.

"Please warm up."

While talking, Yasutaka sits down on the chair facing the girl. The distance between them is much closer than before. Wary of it, the girl stares intently at Yasutaka.

"Adu rana?"

The girl tilts her head as she points to the cup of black tea and pot of sugar. It seems like she doesn't know both the black tea and sugar.

"You drink it like this."

Yasutaka mixed one teaspoon of sugar into his cup of tea and brought it up to his lips as a demonstration.

The girl observed and, with trembling hands, mimicked Yasutaka. She mixed in the same amount of sugar Yasutaka did. This was not her preference, it was simply because Yasutaka had done so. And then she gingerly sipped the tea. The moment she did, surprise rose from her face.

"..... Shiiaa....."

From the situation and girl's expression, it probably meant "Delicious". Yasutaka felt so.

•

Drinking black tea together.

Yasutaka, once again, thought about what's to be done after this.

"In any case, we're bottlenecked by not being able to communicate with words."

If only words could be conveyed, we could give explanations.

Really, what could be done? Yasutaka shifted his attention to the girl in front of him, who in turn, was looking at him intently with slightly upturned eyes.

"e.....to.....w, what?"

Even knowing he could not be understood, he opened his mouth anyway.

"Zakins.....Shia kerudokayaanen"

Which star is this language from? The girl's words were completely unfamiliar. But the last thing she said, "Yaanen", may or may not have been Kansai dialect.

"hahaha..... as if that would be it.....eh?"

While he was retorting at his silly inner thoughts, the girl took off the earring attached to her right ear, placed it on her palm and presented it to Yasutaka.

"Eh? Is this perhaps a reward or rather, is this supposed to be payment for the meal? No, I don't need it, you know? I don't particularly want it....."

Yasutaka shakes his hands to turn her down. Still, the girl kept holding out the earring.

Eventually, the girl points at her earring, then repeatedly touches her own ear,

and lastly points at Yasutaka.

"Eh? Perhaps, you're telling me to wear it?"

Yasutaka asked her, and the girl smiled and nodded.

Though he was fascinated by the smile that lasted for just a moment, Yasutaka attached the earring to his own ear, just like he was told.

At that moment.

"—My words, do you understand?"

"EH!?"

The girl began speaking in Nihongo, Yasutaka's eyes went wide-open in surprise.

"A, are? Did you just speak in Nihongo?"

"*Nihongo*[\[1\]](#).....? No, I am speaking with my tribe's words." (In Katakana) I will put asterisks on the words she speaks in Katakana, meaning that she doesn't say it correctly and / or doesn't know what they mean.

"Species' words[\[2\]](#).....?"

"Yes. You..... you helped me, didn't you? That is why, I will lend you that earring that has a translation effect. With this, we can talk."

"An earring with translation effect..... ah, I see. This earring is a translator. Really, as expected of alien technology. Having such a small translator like this is amazing."

Removing them from his ear for a bit, Yasutaka closely examined the translator earring.

He doesn't know what material is used but, it's a silver colored hoop earring that's around 2 centimeters wide. He assumes it doesn't have any decorations is because it's a practical item.

"Pa—nenseein?"

"Ah, sorry sorry."

By removing the earrings, he could no longer understand the words of the girl so Yasutaka re-wore the earring in a hurry.

"For saving me..... and for the meal too..... truly, thank you very much. And yet I only thought of you as one of their companions....."

"No, you don't have to worry about it. But, they.....eh?"

Yasutaka looks at her. Large drops emerge from the girl's blue eyes. The drops soon overflow, running down the girl's smooth cheeks.

"..... Coyle Maito Furi UaAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!"

The face of the girl crumpled as she cried in front of Yasutaka. Crying like a kid, not caring what others might think, conveyed to Yasutaka just how sorrowful the girl was about what had happened.

But, Yasutaka couldn't do anything. He could only wait for her to stop crying.

•

The girl who was crying frantically, eventually stopped. Yasutaka anticipated this and prepares another cup of tea for her.

"Ah, thank you very much this is really delicious."

The girl smiles weakly. That lightened Yasutaka's heart.

"Really? It's just instant black tea, isn't it?"

"Umm..... *Insutanto*.....? EEEEEEH!? This is tea!?"

The girl's already big eyes growing even wider showed her surprise.

"Co, come to think about it..... This room has so many things I've never seen before..... The door is fitted with a large crystal slab..... Could this perhaps be a noble's mansion somewhere?"

The girl's eyes darted all over the living room. And then, turning to Yasutaka, she realizes something.

"Oh, that reminds me, even though you saved me, I have not told you yet. I am called Erulala Zaphyra Fyrasilula."

"Eh? Ehh? Eruru..... what did you say?"

"Erulala Zaphyra Fyrasilula. An elf of the Zaphyra tribe[3]. Because it is a long name, please call me Eru."

"An elf that belongs[4] to Zaphyra?"

Perhaps Elf is the name of the star she comes from and it's star system is called Zaphyra. In other words, the girl is from the planet Elf.

Yasutaka has judged that the girl, Eru, is an alien.

Correct.

He does not know anything about elves.

•

".....I, I don't really follow but, I am Akatsuka Yasutaka. I'm a high school student at a nearby public school."

"*Highschool Student.....? Public School.....?* Umm..... I don't really understand..... *Akatsuika-san.....?*"

"Ah, Yasutaka is fine. Because that is my name."

"Then, *Yasutaka-san*. I have never seen clothes like what Yasutaka-san wears.....The tea from before was good too. As I thought, *Yasutaka-san* is a noble, yes?"

"N, noble.....? Ahaha, it's not like that. My house was just inherited from my commoner ancestors."

"It can't be like that too, you know? After all, commoners can't drink tea like that. Furthermore, it's completely transparent, has a wonderful fragrance, it was the most delicious tea..... that was my first time drinking it. Normally, commoners would drink a much more inferior black tea[5]. Perhaps, Yasutaka-san, do you grow tea at your house?"

There are still a lot of farmers who grow rice on paddy fields in Nisshin, the city Yasutaka lives in. There are also houses with plantations but, I've never heard of talks about cultivating tea. Naturally, there was no black tea being grown at this house either.

While Yasutaka was contemplating about that, Eru begins looking closely at the table's surface.

"The surface of this desk is very smooth and clean..... It is impossible for our Elven craftsmen, who are superior at making woodworks, to make a tree's

surface this sparkly smooth."

"Sparkly smooth..... This is merely a cheap table with varnish painted on the veneer board, you know?"

Surely, the set of dining table and chairs that I use were supposed to have been found by my parents at furniture dealer's closeout sale. I remember my parents being very pleased that they were able to buy it for a price that was 20,000 yen or less.

However, whether or not Yasutaka's words were heard, Eru was staring at the glass pot with sugar this time.

"This one is a crystal that has been processed, right? Just from the size, it must have been considerably large It isn't thin nor cloudy and the processed surface is smooth..... I can't believe it. And....."

Eru opened the lid of the glass pot, and ascertains the scent of the sugar.

"When I put this into the black tea, I thought, this smell is this by any chance, sugar?"

"U, un. It's just white sugar isn't it.....?"

"Whi, WHITE SUGAR!?"

Eru jumped in surprise.

"...speaking of white sugar, it's the finest quality among the high class sugar!! I heard that even with a gold coin, it would only get you a thumbnail's amount..... so much of that white sugar..... ju, just how much could that be.....?"

This white sugar, common enough that it's being sold for 98 yen in the special sale at the supermarket near here, is by no means a luxury item. It would seem that the girl from the stars regards sugar as a luxury item. Yasutaka concluded so.

".....Incidentally, it might sound weird hearing this now but..... um, where is this place? I am an elf from from the sea of large trees, Jimunishiera, inside Lexus Kingdom,, and I am an adventurer affiliated with Prius, an adventurer guild town but..... This isn't Lexus kingdom.....is it?"

She was forcefully transferred somewhere far away. Eru was somehow aware of it, too.

The girl woke up in a place she had never seen before. Looking through the large crystal pane fitted into the door, it appears to be night right now but, the room was bright as if it were daytime. It seems like powerful light magic is used to light it up.

And, as for the cause of my transfer. I have an idea.

That dagger. While exploring the labyrinth together with my companions, we found a dagger imbued with magic. The kind of magic imbued was unknown, but I think it might have been transference magic.

At that time, I was struggling with one of the adventurers who killed my companions, the momentum caused the dagger to slip out of its scabbard. It's likely that unsheathing it activated the imbued magic, transferring me to this place.

Eru, having thought so, believes that to be the case.

So then, where could this be?

I don't think this is in the Lexus Kingdom.

From the contents of the room to the clothes being worn by my saviour, Yasutaka, these are all things that I have never seen before.

With these reasons, Eru believes that this is not Lexus Kingdom.

If this isn't Lexus Kingdom, then in that case, a neighbouring country would still be fine. At the worst, there's a possibility I was transferred to a different continent.

While taking those into consideration, Eru asked Yasutaka, but his answer really was the name of a country she didn't know.

"Umm..... this is the country of Japan. Japan is divided into several prefectures, this one is in Aichi prefecture, and Nisshin city is a town within it."

"Niihon? Aichi prefecture? Nisshin City? I've never heard of it."

"Well, yeah. After all, this is Earth."

"Ear...th.....?"

"Un. So now, I have questions for Eru, is that okay?"

"Ah, y, yes, what is it?"

"Where is the Elf star that Eru lived in? The Milky Way? or maybe Andromeda? And did you hide the space ship in this neighbourhood? I'd like to see the see the inside of your spaceship, if that's okay?"

".....E, excuse me?"

Mutual understanding between the two is still far off.

Footnotes:

1. Nihongo – Japanese language. and just gonna write it here, she says this and a bunch of other words in katakana. Aside from the bad spelling, I will italicise them to easily show when she mispronounces it and / or doesn't know the meaning of it. ~~I'm too lazy~~. You guys probably don't want me to make a footnote every time. []
2. The kanji (種族) used for this and tribe (from the line above this) has multiple meanings. Just read on. []
3. The kanji (族) used here means tribe *clan* family; read as zoku. []
4. The kanji (属) used means to belong *be affiliated* genus etc; read as zoku. []
5. She uses (黒茶) kokucha (fermented tea) here, which also called black tea *dark tea but is different from the* (紅茶) *kōcha* black tea that was served to her by Yasutaka. Here's a [picture](#). []

Chapter 3: Is it a promise?

A sound echoed throughout the room all of a sudden, causing Eru to jump up in surprise.

"W-what is happening!? I-is that an alarm for a demonic beast attack or something.....!?"

"W-wha?..... It's just the chime of the clock though...?"

Yasutaka points at the radio controlled clock hanging on the wall.

It was around seven o'clock when he came back home, but before he realized, the clock was already pointing at eight o'clock.

"Oh man, it's already this late? I need to take a bath and do my homework soon.....ah, right. Eru will take a bath too, right? If you want, you can go first?"

"Eh? *Ba.....th.....* you say?"

With a blank look, Eru tilted her neck.

"Huh? By any chance, is Eru's planet like a primitive one that it doesn't have baths? Baths are for cleansing the body of dirt and fatigue that accumulated throughout the day."

"Cleansing the body....."

Muttering so, Eru remembers the events that transpired today.

Exploring the labyrinth early in the morning and only coming out just a bit before evening.

Perhaps because it was near a water vein, the labyrinth was unusually humid; With it being underground, naturally there was no wind blowing; The unknown environment inside raising the tension; All those causing her to become sweaty.

Although the monsters inhabiting the labyrinth were low class, she still had to fight them and then from the labyrinth, walk to the campsite as she was.

With no reasonable place to bathe on the way back, unfortunately, she was never given a chance to wash off her sweat.

And then the ambush happened. Running through the forest with all her might, she was reasonably sweaty. Though the sweat has dried off completely, her whole body feels sticky and a bit smelly.

"Yes! I'd be glad to have my body cleansed!"

To cleanse the body, one must bathe^[1]. Concluding so, Eru replied to Yasutaka while smiling.

"Then, I'll prepare it right away. Wait for a bit."

After saying so, Yasutaka left the living room and heads to the bathroom.

Because the water heater broke after this year's New Year, it was replaced with a new one which could fill up the bathtub with hot water in just 10 minutes.

Manipulating the controls in a skillful manner then pushing the switch of the exceptional water heater, it dispenses a fixed amount of hot water then automatically stops. The previous water heater was set to alarm when hot water reaches a certain point then you had to manually stop the flow of hot water, so the new water heater is extremely convenient.

Convinced that hot water had started to flow after he finished setting it up, Yasutaka saw the washing machine in the dressing room and remembered something.

"Oh right..... how about a change of clothes.....?"

For clothes, his jersey from middle school is still here, so that should be fine. The size might be a bit big but it's not like she can't wear it.

The problem is underwear.

"I wouldn't lend my mother's underwear maybe she brought a change of clothes...?"

When Yasutaka found Eru, she didn't seem to have any sort of luggage with her, but she's an alien from planet Elf. They might have technology that can make things smaller or can storing items in a different space.

"..... At the worst, she would have to endure a night without underwear then, it's not like I can buy new ones....."

There's no way a man can buy women's underwear by himself. Having said that, it would be too unreasonable for Eru, an alien, to go shopping by herself. In the first place, he doesn't think she knows where it's being sold.

".....I'll explain the situation and ask her to cooperate."

What came to Yasutaka's mind was his childhood friend. He thought "If I explain the situation regarding Eru properly, she would agree. And if it's her, she wouldn't pointlessly spread rumors about Eru being an alien."

Well then, I should explain Eru to her. While thinking about the girl, his childhood friend, Yasutaka left the dressing room.

Before returning to the living room, Yasutaka heads into his room on the second floor and takes the jersey, which will be Eru's change of clothes, from his cabinet, then heads back to the living room.

The anxious elf's face clearly showed relief upon his return to the living room. It would seem that being alone in an unfamiliar place made her feel forlorn.

"Sorry. It took me a while to find a change of clothes for Eru."

"A change of clothes? That would be a great help."

In preparation for the trip into the labyrinth, she had brought several change of clothes but had left everything at the camp when they were ambushed.

Speaking of her belongings, she is wearing soft leather armour dyed white on top of colourful dark green clothes. Aside from that, when she ran, hanging from her waist were 10-odd silver coins inside a pouch that acts as a wallet, water sack and, a small knife used for both self-defense and daily necessities.

Eru took the clothes Yasutaka had given. Touching the clothes for the first time, internally she was tilting her head when suddenly a rhythmical melody and a woman's voice resounded throughout the living room

〈The bath is hot. Please take a bath.〉

"Eh!? W, who are you!?"

Eru looks around hurriedly but, of course, there was no woman — no, there was no sign of anyone.

She thought that perhaps a maid who serves this house called out from the other side of a door.

However, the voice of the woman seemed like it came from this room, not the other side of the door.

As if it was nothing, Yasutaka calmly informs the bewildered Eru.

"Ah, this is the voice guide of the water heater. Seriously, water heaters these days are really convenient."

"V, *voisu gaido*.....?"

Yasutaka leads Eru, who was puzzled by the unknown words, to the bathroom.

From the living room to the hallway. Then to the bathroom at the end of the hallway. Yasutaka will take Eru there.

He may not look like it but Yasutaka is a methodical person[2]. Because his principle is not to turn on lights pointlessly, when they came to the hallway, it was pitch black.

Eru, having night vision ability, had no trouble in the dark but Yasutaka, not knowing this, pressed the switch as soon as he entered the hallway, lighting it up.

In an instant, light enveloped the hallway. Seeing this, Eru was once again surprised.

"Eh, Eeeeeeh!? I, in an instant the light.....!? *Yasutaka*-san is a magician a high-ranking magician at that!?"

Neither chanting a spell nor using some kind of magic item. In an instant, Yasutaka turned on the light. With Eru's common sense, this was an impossible feat except for high-ranking magicians.

But, from Yasutaka's point of view, it was nothing.

"I'm a magician? hahaha, I can't do magic[3], you know?"

'Magician[4]' does not equal to 'Person who can use magic'. 'Magician' equals to 'Illusionist[5]'. That is how Yasutaka perceives it.

He turns his back to Eru, who has a surprised look on her face, and leads her

to the bathroom.

"This is the dressing room and the bathroom. If you place the clothes you remove in the washing machine, I will wash them together with the rest tomorrow morning."

Yasutaka points at the washing machine while he explained, and then he opens the bathroom door to show it to Eru.

The moment the steam overflowed from the bathroom, Eru is once again surprised.

"H, hot water!? All of this is hot water!?"

From her knowledge, preparing such a large amount of hot water is by no means, easy.

Speaking of boiling water, the amount of hot water that can be boiled at a time is limited because, by her common sense, water can only be heated up in pots and kettles.

The large amount of hot water — a bathtub's worth — was prepared in a short amount of time. Looking at it from the girl's perspective, it is unbelievable. Also, Yasutaka is young but there is no doubt that he's an exceedingly high-ranking magician.

However, looking at it from Yasutaka's perspective, why Eru has been surprised so many times, he has no idea. While he was tilting his head internally, he explains the bath's facilities.

"If the hot water is too hot, twist the faucet to add water. Conversely, if it feels lukewarm, you can raise the temperature with this."

Yasutaka points at the control panel installed in the bathroom. He explains while showing the arrow that would raise the temperature of the lukewarm water.

"Then, go in slowly, okay?"

Having said so, Yasutaka leaves the dressing room. Having been left alone, Eru looks around while perplexed. And then she realised there was a large mirror at the back that she hadn't noticed a while ago.

"A, mirror.....? In addition to being big, it's such a pretty mirror that doesn't have a distorted reflection..... the cup of tea from a while ago was pleasant; The sugar was good; Now this mirror and a tub full of hot water..... As I thought, *Yasutaka*-san is a noble. That and since he's a high-ranking magician, he might even be a court magician of this country."

Eru believes that only nobles are able to bathe and soak in hot water.

As she had mentioned before, it takes too much time and effort to prepare a large amount of hot water so it was limited only to the aristocrats and some wealthy people among the commoners.

For her, it was common knowledge that a commoner would use a wet towel to wipe their body or to bathe with river water.

And and this large mirror with excellent reflection was something she was sure would never come across even if she tried.

Speaking of mirrors in Eru's sense, it is an iron plate or sheet copper that was polished till it reflected. That's why commoners would never obtain something like that large mirror. The larger the mirror, the harder it is to polish because it gets cloudy and distorted.

The mirrors that commoners are able to get are no bigger than a hand mirror and even those cost a considerable amount.

Obviously, glass mirrors didn't exist. Rather, glass itself didn't exist.

Well that was the reason why when the girl first encountered the glass-made tea pot and window, she thought they were crystals.

However, if *Yasutaka* is a high-ranked magician and nobleman, it's a bit concerning that there's no servants in his house, so it is likely this isn't his main residence, but rather a detached house in his estate which he would use for magical research?

A laboratory of a high-ranking magician would have valuable magic materials and dangerous catalysts, it would be dangerous if an unskillful amateur touches them. Hence, not having servants here.

"Ehehe. Such a rare chance to take a hot bath. Uwaa—, I'm taking a hot bath

for the first time since I was born."

She feels uneasy about various things. Hurling into a different country, can she return home? Tears would likely overflow just by remembering her companions who were killed all of a sudden.

But.

Now. Just for now.

This is an opportunity that commoners would never have in their lifetime. Forgetting her worries for just a moment, Eru slowly removed her clothes.

•

From his room, Yasutaka came down to the living room with his school bag.

I usually do my homework in my room. The reason I expressly brought it to the living room was because Eru would be anxious if I'm not here by the time she comes back from the bath.

Taking out my textbook and notebook, I spread them on the dining table.

And so, deciding to finish Math first, but when I grabbed my mechanical pencil it didn't move because my body froze.

".....R, right now..... e, Eru is taking a bath"

Although her ears are long and sharp, and her appearance is a bit unusual, without a doubt, she is still a very pretty girl.

We are probably be the same age too. I don't know how long an alien's lifespan is, but her appearance shouldn't differ to such an extent.

Such a girl is currently naked in the bathroom of my house.

That fact is very stimulating for a young man in his first year of high school.

Unintentionally imagining Eru's naked body, Yasutaka turned bright red and was shaking his head side to side.

"N, no good! That was no good!! I-I didn't help with that kind of intention....."

Yasutaka focused on the numerical formulas on his notebook to drive away his delusions. While he was working on his homework with more than

concentration than usual, suddenly the door of the living room was opened.

"Are? Done alrea.....wa, UGYaAAAAAAAAA!!!"

A flesh-coloured object leapt into the living room, aiming at Yasutaka who had turned it and fiercely thrusting into him.

"Ya, Ya ya ya ya *Yasutaka*-san!! There was no one around but a, again..... a w, w w w w woman's voice could suddenly be heard....."

The flesh-coloured object — Eru was holding the head of Yasutaka, who had turned to face her while sitting on a chair, tightly in her chest.

Right now, in front of Yasutaka's eyes — right in front of his eyes — were two unbelievably soft and pleasantly smelling things crammed into his face.

Certainly they were not that big. But even so, the small cherry-blossom coloured fruits that were shaking right in front of him were undeniably the real deal.

Yasutaka is a healthy young man. He's seen a woman's *this* in magazines, DVDs and on the internet before. However, this is the first time he's seen the real *this*.

Falling into complete panic, Eru did not release Yasutaka's head which she was holding.

Before long, Yasutaka's nose was overflowing with red liquid, dripping and staining the wooden flooring.

"Ya, *Yasutaka*-san!? Are you listening.....wait, huh.....?"

She was holding Yasutaka, who had lost his strength, in her arms. At this point, Eru finally realizes what state she's in while she hugged Yasutaka.

"Kya..... KYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!"

Yasutaka was finally released. Though he had blacked out completely at this time, his face was overflowing with bliss.

•

Incidentally, the "Voice of a woman that was heard when there was no one around" Eru mentioned was actually the voice guide that said <The set

temperature has been changed) when she accidentally touched the control panel when she stretched her body in the bath.

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Footnotes:

1. Kanji 水浴び means to bathe in cold water.[]
2. ~~I'm so confused and I couldn't think of the correct adjectives. If you happen to know, please correct me. こう見えて、康貴は几帳面でしっかり者である。~~ Thanks to rpgnoob for helping on this line.[]
3. Kanji 手品 means magic tricks *magic (illusion)* sleight of hand[]
4. Kanji 魔術師 can be read as Magician – the type that actually does real magic.[]
5. Kanji is 手品師 can be read as Magician *Illusionist* Conjuror -used Illusionist to make it easier to distinguish.[]

Chapter 4: Finally?

When Yasutaka opened his eyes, it was already bright outside.

Hurriedly, he checked the wall clock for the time. The current time is 07:48 AM. School starts at 8:30 AM. It's a 30 minute walk from Yasutaka's house to school, so he has approximately 10 minutes buffer time.

"Oh crap..... huh.....?"

Standing up, he feels a bit out of place because he's in the living room and not on his bed in his room.

But right now, he has to hurry and get ready for school.

Thinking so, he turns on the TV. After waking up, his morning routine is to check the time displayed on the screen as an information programme was airing while he prepares to go to school.

However.

"are..... ? Ah, I see. Today is Saturday....."

Because the morning information programme is different, he remembers which day of the week it is.

Relieved that there's no school today, Yasutaka sits down the sofa as he is. It seems he fell asleep on it last night.

"But still why did I sleep here? I'm still wearing the clothes from when I left for work too....."

After school, he went home to change into civilian clothes before heading to the cafe he works at.

"And then I came back from work Ah!!"

Yasutaka remembers. Last night's events.

When he returned home from work, for some reason there was an alien girl collapsed in the living room.

Then after Eru, the alien girl, woke up, this and that happened, and then

Though his memory is a hazy, he felt like he saw a glimpse of Eden at the end.

"O, oh yeah!! E, Eru!? Where are you!?"

He searched around for the figure of the alien girl in the living room.

But her figure could not be found.

"..... No way a dream..... ?"

With no one else in the living room but him, his voice resounded fruitlessly.

"That's right, isn't it..... An alien suddenly appearing at my house was just a dream. Ha, hahah. Surely, I was just tired from school and work and, I ended up falling asleep in the living room."

Not talking to anyone in particular — No, it's as if he's trying to convince himself he was alone.

To shake off the strange feeling as if there was a hole somewhere on his body, Yasutaka heads to the bath. His body feels unpleasant because it seems that he fell asleep without taking a bath last night.

Walking down the hallway while humming, he opens the bathroom door.

"Eh?"

"Huh?"

In the bathroom — Strictly speaking, this is the dressing room — there was a soft flesh-coloured object with long pointed ears.

•

A while after a high-pitched scream resounded in the bathroom, a jersey wearing Eru who turned bright red and a similarly coloured Yasutaka returned to the living room.

For some reason, Eru was making sure to hug her own body with both hands.

Yasutaka noticed that. Albeit unintentional, because he saw her naked, Yasutaka did not know what to talk about, so he thought it was a good topic to ask about what he noticed.

He would later regret stirring up the hornet's nest.

".....T, that, what are you doing?"

"U, um..... These are the clothes *Yasutaka*-san lent to me..... t, that..... the bottom is fine, but the top....."

With a red face, Eru averted her gaze from Yasutaka.

".....Because there's neither drawstring nor buttons, the front is left open..... And then I thought about what I should do..... L, last night, *Yasutaka*-san wouldn't wake up, so I had to keep it together with my hands..... Then morning eventually came..... While I was wondering if I should wear my own clothes, *Yasutaka*-san woke up....."

It seemed like Eru didn't know how to zip the jersey's zipper.

"..... So, you were changing clothes in the dressing room....."

".....yes....."

He who had seen her naked, and she who had been seen, their faces grew even redder as each recalled what had happened again.

"F, for now, I'll search for other clothes.....!!"

Flustered, Yasutaka left the living room.

Seeing off Yasutaka's back, the still red-faced Eru smiled a little bit.

•

While hanging the laundry on the drying rack in the garden, Yasutaka thought about Eru.

She came out to the garden together with Yasutaka, and is looking around curiously. Occasionally tiptoeing to peek over the wall, she would let out a "Hee" or a "Hoo" in a cute voice.

Right now, looking a bit unbalanced, that girl is wearing Yasutaka's sweatshirt and jersey pants from junior high.

"I'll have to do something about Eru's clothes....."

She can't continue to wear Yasutaka's clothes all the time. Well, the baggy

look Eru has while wearing slightly oversized men's wear is certainly cute in some ways.

However.

The problem is inside.

Yasutaka looks at the piece of laundry he was holding and trying to dry, his face turning red again.

The piece of laundry is small, white, and something he doesn't touch often.

"N, not good!! Pure thoughts, pure thoughts. This is not Eru's underwear. This is just laundry. Just a piece of laundry. Nothing more!"

The fact that the underwear Eru was wearing yesterday is here means that right now means Eru isn't wearing anything under her clothes right now.

Before he knew it, he was staring fixatedly at Eru, who was curiously poking the snail crawling on the wall, so he hurriedly averts his gaze.

Of course, his face grew even redder.

".....For the time being, I'll ask that person for help after hanging the laundry."

Confirming that his phone was in his pocket, Yasutaka hung the laundry while freeing his mind of obstructive thoughts.

•

As soon as the mail arrived, the person rushed into her room, quickly changed into an off-white dolman cardigan over a long sleeved t-shirt with a black logo that she had just bought a few days prior, damage denim shorts, black and white bordered thigh-high socks, then at the entryway, wore purple sneakers before rushing out of her house.

Her destination isn't that far. She rushes through a distance that takes 15-20 minutes to walk with her bicycle.

However, she suddenly stopped a little bit before her destination. Taking out a hand mirror from the small bag she carried, checking if her hair or whatnot was untidy.

Getting off the bike, she hurriedly fixed her clothes and combed her bangs

with her fingers as they had both become a bit dishevelled.

Adjusting her breathing and creating a calm atmosphere, she slowly walked the rest of the way while pushing her bicycle.

Reaching her destination, she sets her bicycle at the corner of the garage she'd become familiar with. Often coming here since she was little, this wasn't the first time she parked her bicycle here.

Without permission, she pushed the gate open and heads to the entryway while humming.

On her way.

She could hear people talking in the garden. There were two voices. She knew one of them well. It was her childhood friend who lives in this house.

But the problem was the other one. The voice she heard is clearly that of a young woman.

Moreover, it didn't seem to be Nihongo. And yet, the voices were clearly having a conversation.

She rushes into the garden. There, a person she knew well and a person she didn't know were present.

"Geraa diboruke tikku tea imuruuhabel geirarii diruraneen."

"Eh? As I've said yesterday, I'm not a nobleman. The house isn't big, besides, if I were a nobleman then I would have servants, right?"

"Giru kea ditira baaguran"

"Eh? This is a detached house? That's why there's no servants? No, that's wrong."

At the spot the sliding door[\[1\]](#) leading from the living room to the garden opens, the two sat next to each other and are chatting happily.

"Ya, Yasutaka!! W, who the heck is that girl!?"

The appearance of the two, who seemed like they were having fun, unintentionally made her raise her voice.

Suddenly called out, the two turn around with a surprised look.

"Yo, Aoi. That was fast."

"Bouruu shiiruu?"

Yasutaka raised his hand and greeted his close friend while the strange girl next to him curiously tilted her neck.

Possessing a visage that could adequately be called beauty, that person — Kimura Aoi's heart was in discord.

•

Yasutaka and the others move into the living room. With Yasutaka as the intermediary between Eru and Aoi, he will explain for the other party.

"Well then, let's start with introductions. This is Kimura Aoi, my childhood friend. Eru's name is quite hard to pronounce so I will have to consult with her about it."

The three people are sitting on the sofa in the living room.

Yasutaka is beside Aoi. And positioned opposite of the two is Eru. Yasutaka points to Aoi, who is beside him, while introducing her to Eru.

"So, Aoi. She is Eru..... the truth is, her name is really long but precisely because it's long, she's fine with Eru."

Yasutaka having introduced Eru to her, Aoi looks at her with an inquisitive gaze.

She has slender physique, skin so white unlikely of a Japanese and, off-gold hair with a natural shine different from bleached or dyed hair.

With a small head and long limbs, her proportions are fundamentally different from that of a Japanese.

Slightly shorter than Aoi who's 161 cm tall, her chest and waist were likely the same as her's.

And, above all, were her pointed ears which stretched upwards. It was just like the elf that appears in the fantasy genre mangas her older brother and another childhood friend love.

(Or rather, it looks like she IS an elf.)

While closely observing Eru, Aoi was unconsciously fiddling with her light brown hair that reaches up to her shoulders.

"So? Who the heck is she? Why is she in this house?"

Feeling the bite in her own words, Aoi asks Yasutaka what she to know most.

"About Eru..... Regarding that, I need Aoi to cooperate with me."

"W, wait, what do you mean?"

The reason Aoi came to Yasutaka's house was because of the mail that arrived.

〈There's something I want to talk about. I need you to come to my house. It's a pretty serious problem.〉

It was nothing more than a simple mail but the last sentence which included "Serious question[2]" unintentionally caused Aoi to be ecstatic. She inadvertently changed into new clothes and then rushed out on her bicycle within minutes. It would be a lie to say she had no expectations as she pedalled her bicycle.

However, it seems that Yasutaka's matter was not quite what Aoi had expected.

The discontent and her wariness towards the unfamiliar girl reflected in Aoi's speech.

"The truth is, Eru is..... an alien."

"Huh!?"

With an expression as if to say "Is your head okay?", Aoi turns to Yasutaka.

Finding it hard to look at Aoi's expression, Yasutaka talked about last night.

Because Aoi knows that Yasutaka is neither the type of person who has poor taste in jokes nor one who would lie, she listens to his story earnestly.

Yet as she listens, her facial expressions gradually turns dumbfounded.

"W. wait a minute!!!"

When Yasutaka's story nearly concludes that Eru is an inhabitant of the planet Elf in the Zaphyra star system, Aoi interrupted him.

"Let me get this straight, Yasutaka. This girl..... Eru-san is an elf from the the sea of large trees, Jimunishiera which is inside the country of Lexus Kingdom, an adventurer affiliated with the adventurer guild town, Prius..... That's what you said, right?"

"Ah, yeah. Un, that's definitely what I said. Let me just confirm with her for a bit."

Yasutaka then talked about something with Eru. Though Aoi can't understand the words Eru speaks, she could roughly guess what Yasutaka asked her.

"..... And so, there's no mistake."

"I see..... As expected. Hey, Yasutaka. When you heard her story, why did you think Eru is an alien?"

"Eh? Isn't that usually the case in mangas and movies? Aliens having to do an emergency landing on earth because of some sort of reason. Also, because Eru's ears are pointed, I thought she was definitely an alien?"

"You..... didn't you ever read my brother or Takashi's favorite mangas or novels?"

"You're talking about the fantasy that Takanori-san or Takashi likes, right? I can't stand fantasy. You know I only read Sci-Fi or sports, right?"

Aoi hit one of her hands on her forehead (facepalm) and sighed while he was talking.

Nevertheless, fixing her posture and raising her index finger, Aoi speaks her mind.

"This is just my guess, but..... I think you might be wrong. Eru-san isn't an alien that came from the planet Elf. She didn't come from space but rather a parallel world..... Elf is a race in that world."

"P, parallel world.....? Elf.....?"

And so.

With the entry of a third party, Aoi, the truth has finally become clear.

Footnotes:

1. Raw says window but it's actually a glass sliding door, just confusing so I'll use sliding door.[]
2. Kanji 問題 could mean problem or question.[]

Chapter 5: An otherworlder?

Yasutaka, having heard Aoi's theory, repeatedly compared Eru and Aoi with a blank expression.

Before long.

"Ha, hahahahaha. Th, that's ridiculous. Eru isn't an alien but an otherworlder? There's no way that would happen, right?"

"Why not? You believe in aliens but not otherworlders?"

"Of course? Aliens are more realistic than otherworlders."

With Earth that has given birth to intelligent life forms as an example, Yasutaka thinks that somewhere in the wide universe, aliens — intelligent life forms surely exist.

Although, Yasutaka doesn't believe that aliens riding in UFOs would come secretly and attack Earth in droves.

But accidentally landing on earth due to an emergency is a possibility. That was Yasutaka's view on it.

However, when it comes to people from a parallel world, the premise is that the other world must first exist. A universe that is confirmed to exist outside of Earth or a parallel world that one can't be sure exists. If you were asked which is more believable, you would probably answer the universe.

"Well, fine. I'll talk to Eru-san directly. Let me borrow the translations earring for a bit."

After informing Eru, Yasutaka hands over the translations earring to Aoi.

Attaching the earring onto her own ear, Aoi starts to talk with Eru.

Although Yasutaka could not understand the contents of the conversation between the two at all, it appears that they're speaking quite familiarly based on Aoi's words.

Fellow girls get along, after all?

While thinking that, Yasutaka once again observed at his childhood friend's facial profile.

Though Eru's appearance is worthy of being called a beauty, Yasutaka thinks that Aoi is in no way inferior to her.

She has wavy light brown hair that reaches up to her shoulders and slightly slanted black eyes^[1].

With a sharp face line and her other parts well proportioned, she gives off the impression of an active girl.

She has a cheerful disposition and is friendly when talking to anyone, moderately knowledgeable on otaku matters

because of her brother and another childhood friend's influence, a bit partial with her hobbies in school but has a lot of friends regardless of gender and, because her grades aren't bad, she's well received by teachers.

Rumor has it that the student council requested her to run for office next semester too.

Yasutaka, Aoi, and another childhood friend, Takashi, the three of them have always been together from elementary school to high school.

This is a rural area where the chances of ending up in the same class are high because the number of classes isn't that large, so the three were able to do everything together.

Aoi has always been spirited

, a leader-like existence for the three, she is truly reliable in times of trouble.

Right. Just like now.

Eru and Aoi have really opened up to each other and are now chatting happily.

She could get along with anyone in a blink of an eye, as expected.

While Yasutaka was thinking such, Aoi turned to him abruptly.

"As I thought, it seems Eru came from a parallel world."

"Fr, from a parallel world..... Is that really even possible? Wait, since when

have you been calling Eru, Eru?"

"Since just a while ago. Eru said it was fine to call her that. But she won't call me Aoi though."

There was a tinge of sadness in Aoi's words. Speaking of which, it reminded Yasutaka that Eru also calls him *Yasutaka*-san.

"But how on earth did she come here from another world?"

"It's definitely magic, isn't it? A world where there are elves. I'm sure it's a fantasy world with swords and magic."

With a strangely cheerful countenance, Aoi talked to Eru. But as Eru answers Aoi's question, Yasutaka notices that Eru's expression is gradually darkening as Aoi's eagerness became apparent.

"H, hey Aoi..... don't ask in such a straightforward way....."

"Yup, yeah, that's right... eh? You want both of us to hear this?"(Aoi to Eru)

Yasutaka and Aoi exchange glances. Then they faced Eru, her expression was dark but shows determination. Confirming that, Yasutaka faces Aoi again and they nod at each other.

Eru hands the translation earring she was wearing over to Yasutaka. Now, the two can understand what Eru says. On the contrary, Eru now can't understand what Yasutaka says but questions can be saved for later.

After Yasutaka wore the earring, Eru talked about what happened to her, slowly.



Yasutaka and Aoi were considerably shocked by the contents of what Eru spoke of.

The death of Eru's companions whom she travelled with for several years. No, what shocked Yasutaka more was how a human's life was taken so lightly.

"Su..... for such a reason..... for someone else's treasure, just because they couldn't get any themselves..... they killed others just to steal it....."

"Ara, there are similar places on Earth at present, aren't there? Even in

developed countries such as the USA, I've heard even now, if you go to a place with bad public order, there will

be people with the intent of stealing would kill. In countries with something like civil war, people dying is an everyday occurrence. Not to mention, Eru's world and this one are fundamentally different..... the slave trade seems to be done openly there."

"Hmm..... even if what you're saying is true..... It's still a big shock for me."

Yasutaka crosses his arms and looks at the ceiling of the living room as he grumbles.

"It's not like I wasn't shocked too, you know? To have the friends you've been with for years murdered, for me it'd be like Yasutaka and Takashi were suddenly killed. Just thinking about it terrifies me."

Aoi hugs her own body and shudders.

Although Yasutaka was happy that Aoi said he's important to her, when he imagined suddenly losing Takeshi and her, he felt just as terrified as Aoi.

Looking at Eru closely, tears were welling up in her eyes. Despite seeming like she would break down at any moment, Eru desperately endures and is smiling bravely.

".....Nevertheless, I was able to meet *Yasutaka-san* and *Aoi-san*..... Losing my companions is undeniably sad but we were adventurers, so I was somewhat prepared."

Although Eru said such, a drop fell along her cheek.

Before long, the large teardrops started to overflow, and Eru was frantically wiping it off with the back of her hands. For a while, Yasutaka and Aoi could only watch over her silently.



Eru eventually calmed down and, upon seeing this, Aoi opened her mouth once again.

"By the way, what are you gonna do about Eru from here on?"

"Yeah, about that. As I've said a while ago, I asked you to come here because I needed your advice concerning Eru."

".....What about her? I'm saying this now, I won't be of much help."

"That's not true. You are truly reliable when I'm in trouble."

"Mou..... Saying such (good) things....."

Looking peeved, Aoi turns her face away. And yet, she sounded somewhat happy when she spoke.

"Then, just to confirm, the dagger Eru mentioned in her story wasn't in this room, right?"

"Yeah. Eru was the only one in the living room. There was nothing like a dagger anywhere."

There's no doubt that Eru passed through the dimensional walls with the magic imbued in the dagger. That means that if they have the dagger, Eru could most likely return to her former world.

However, without the key dagger, the likelihood of her returning to her former world is extremely low.

"Was the dagger brought along with Eru into this world or was it left behind.....?"

Aoi muttered while she was deep in thought.

".....There's no point thinking about a dagger that isn't here. Setting aside the whereabouts of the dagger for now, let's settle the more pressing matters first."

As Yasutaka agrees with Aoi, from here on, Eru will join in the discussion while the earrings are aptly exchanged.

"To start with, I think we should buy clothes for Eru."

"Now that you mention it, Eru is currently wearing Yasutaka's clothes, right? What happened to Eru's clothes? It wasn't like a template where she showed up nude in this room, right? "

"Well, it's over there."

Yasutaka pointed at the laundry drying in the garden. There, Aoi could see fantasy designed clothes along with Yasutaka's clothes as they sway gently when the wind blows.

However, what caught Aoi's eyes was a small, white cloth.

"I, is that..... perhaps....."

"U, un....."

Yasutaka's cheeks were dyed red as he avoided meeting her eyes.

"So, so then..... Right now, Eru is....."

Aoi stared at Eru who is sitting in front of her.

The design and size of Yasutaka's clothes, which Eru is wearing, are loose and does not show her body's form.

But even so, it's still a fact that the elf girl in front of them is not wearing anything under those clothes.

"..... This is a big problem....."

Aoi grumbled as she looked back and forth between Yasutaka and Eru.

It was certainly a grave problem. In various ways, for Aoi.

"We're buying Eru's clothes right now."

With eyes filled with determination, Aoi looked at Yasutaka and Eru, then stood up quickly.



Yasutaka, Aoi and Eru walked out Yasutaka's house together.

While Eru was looking at the surroundings curiously, Yasutaka and Aoi were discussing where to go from here.

"To I-ON, after all?"

"That's right. The I-ON in Miyoshi will have everything."

The two were talking about I-ON, a large suburban supermarket. It's in Miyoshi City, a town next to Nisshin City where Yasutaka lives, and it's a large establishment with ten-odd specialty stores, all sorts of restaurants / food

stores and even has a movie theatre.

From daily necessities to women's clothing, shoes, socks, and of course, underwear.

Everything Eru needs is in I-ON.

Though Yasutaka's house in Nisshin City, it's not a problem of distance since it would only take 20 minutes to reach Miyoshi City if a bicycle is used.

Of course, it can't compare to supermarkets and department stores in the urban cities[2], but it's one of the places in the area Yasutaka lives in that has the largest selection of products.

Aoi, who came here on her bicycle, and Yasutaka took out their bicycles from the corner of the garage.

"U, umm, what are these?"

With great interest, Eru looked closely at the two's lined up bicycles.

Yasutaka's red bicycle and Aoi's white bicycle. They were not new but because they were regularly used as a "means of transport[3]", they are well maintained and have a peculiar metallic shine.

"They're pretty, but..... are these things a work of art in this world?"

"Oh, this is a vehicle called a bicycle. Because it doesn't require a license to be ridden, this is the only vehicle we students can freely use. "

"Th, this is a vehicle!?"

Eru's eyes widened in surprise. Looking even more interested, she poked the two bicycles alternately.

What Eru knows as vehicles are living things that could be ridden, such as horses and some trained magic beasts.

Be it a horse or a beast, any living thing used as a vehicle had a large body. And yet, in front of her is the small object, with nothing more than a frame, called a "*Bicycle*". Eru didn't think it was something that a person could ride.

"Well, seeing is believing. So, Eru will sit here."

Yasutaka pointed at his bicycle's rear luggage rack. But even though she was

told to ride, Eru didn't know how to.

"U, uhh....."

Baffled, Eru kept alternating looks between Yasutaka, the luggage rack, and Aoi.

Right now, Yasutaka is wearing the earring so Aoi can't understand Eru's words but even so, she was able to guess what was troubling Eru right now.

Aoi separated from her bicycle and showed Eru how to sit behind Yasutaka's.

"Like.....this. Step over and straddle it like this. When you get used to it, you can sit with both legs on just one side."

Imitating Aoi's demonstration, Eru sat on the luggage rack nervously.

"L, likethis?"

"Yeah. Make sure to hold on to me firmly so you don't fall later."

Yasutaka straddled the bicycle and after confirming that Eru was firmly holding on to the hem of his clothes, he started pedalling slowly.

Though it was unsteady at first, it became stable as they picked up speed, and the refreshing feel of the wind made Eru's eyes sparkle.

"This, this is amazing.....!! To think such a small vehicle with only a frame could move this fast.....!!"

Although it isn't as fast as a horse running at full speed, the bicycle is still faster than a person running.

In Eru's view of the scenery that flows by, appeared the figure of Aoi, who was riding a bicycle just like them.

Aoi turned to Eru, who had a smiley expression, and waved at her.

Nervously, Eru unclasped one of her hands from Yasutaka's clothes and waved back at Aoi.

As they exchanged gestures, the two bicycles left the narrow streets of the residential district and headed east on the National Highway Route 153.

Footnotes:

1. 釣り目 – Tsurime. Search for pictures? Easier to imagine that way. Also, thanks rpgnoob for the hair suggestion. []
2. Might be typo by the author. 都会の百貨店やデパート since デパート / Depāto and 百貨店 *Hyakkaten* both mean *department store* so i changed one to スーパー Sūpā. []
3. The kanji used here is 足 *Ashi*, meaning *foot legs means of transport*, rather than 乗り物 *Norimono* which means *vehicle*. []

Chapter 6: Shopping?

Yasutaka's group is heading east on the national highway route 153. The two bicycles are travelling on an undulating yet relatively level road.

On the way, Eru was excited because of the surroundings — or rather, she's still excited.

"A, amazing..... This is the first time I've seen such a long stretch of road..... Moreover, it's been paved neatly with tiny black stones..... Say, *Yasutaka-san*? There's a lot of short grass neatly lined up in shallow swamps but..... is there some meaning to it?"

"That's rice, a staple food crop of this country."

"*Rice*.....? This is the first time I've seen a crop grown in a shallow swa.....Ya, *Yasutaka-san*!! This is bad!! A lot of magic beasts I've never seen before are lined up and coming this way!! It's a terrifying number!!"

"Magic beasts, you say..... Those are cars. Just like this bike, it's a vehicle for people."

"Vehicle for people..... In other words, it's a trained mountable beast? Still, I can't find the rider that's supposed to be riding it though.....?"

"No, as I was——"

Cycling slightly behind the two is Aoi, though she couldn't understand what Eru says, but from how Eru was acting and Yasutaka responds, she could roughly guess the contents of their conversation.

"Yeah, that was predictable. It would be a lie if an inhabitant of a fantasy world doesn't show a reaction like this. Uh-huh."

And so, she looked strangely pleased with herself.



A large building came into view on the left side of the three people riding bicycles.

"S, such a large building.....Is this perhaps the Feudal Lord's estate or the area

around it?"

"No, you've got it wrong. That's our destination. Over there..... We plan on buying your clothes at I-ON."

"Th, that large building is a shop!?"

The shops Eru knows are mostly stalls. Of course, there are shops that merchants have set up as well but many of those kinds are purveyed by the rich aristocrats and not something that commoners could utilize.

Common folk like Eru would go to the marketplace where stalls are lined up.

Additionally, Eru has never seen anything like the houses she's observed since coming here.

There are several similar houses lined up and a large building comprised of a number of small houses.

Although the area itself isn't that large, there are still far more houses here than in Prius, the town Eru lived in.

Apart from houses, there are plenty of unfamiliar buildings which, according to what she heard from Yasutaka, seemed to be a variety of shops and restaurants.

The exterior of those stores and restaurants were all different, and with the abundant colours used, it could be said that there are no two stores were the identical. There were some stores that looked similar and, according to Yasutaka, they were called "Chain stores".

Needless to say, Eru did not understand what a "Chain store" was.

During such an exchange, the cyclists arrived at the large supermarket, I-ON.

Leaving their bicycles in the (bicycle) parking lot, the three walked to the store entrance.

However.

"..... Ya, *Yasutaka-san*..... D, don't the people around us seem to be looking at me.....?"

Today is Saturday so I-ON is bustling with people.

Families and students like Yasutaka. Men and women who look like couples. Because this is the only place with a movie theatre in this area, a lot of customers come here.

Many of those customers were glancing, — some, staring — at Eru. Well, they were looking at her long, pointed ears. There were some that were just genuinely charmed by her beauty.

".....For starters, I think it's best if we buy a hat and hide your ears."

"Agreed."

And so, the three rushed into I-ON to first search for a shop that sells hats.



Having succeeded at first buying an affordable hat and making Eru's ears less conspicuous, the party decided to tour inside I-ON leisurely.

"Wa, wawawa!! A, this is amazing!!"

Inside the building, there were numerous shops and a myriad of people coming and going. And colourful merchandise were lined up in the stores. Naturally, these were all things Eru had never seen before.

With large eyes growing even larger and cheeks flush, Eru was so excited she even forgot to close her agape mouth as she looked at her surroundings.

"A, are these all books.....? What's more, there are a lot of books with the same content..... U, unbelievable!! So many books with colour..... U, uwa, the sketches drawn on the books are so elaborate....."

Eru who was excited seeing books lined up in front of the bookstore in I-ON, got even more excited as she opened the book she picked up.

"Does Eru, perhaps, like books?"

"From the looks of it, she might."

At present, the one wearing the translations earring is Aoi. Since they'll be buying clothes for Eru, they concluded that Aoi, a girl, should wear it because it would be easier to give stylish advice when choosing clothes together.

Aoi interprets Eru's words for Yasutaka who doesn't have an earring.

Printing presses didn't exist in Eru's world so, naturally, all books were handwritten manuscripts. That meant that all books were expensive.

"Hey, Eru. Let's buy some clothes first. If you still want a book later, buying one copy of something..... Yasutaka can."

"I will!?"

"Ara? Yasutaka plans to pay for Eru's clothes, right?"

"Well, yeah..... Since it's come to this..... or rather, there's no other choice, right? Fortunately, I have a part-time job so I have some money....."

"Well, I plan on contributing a little too, you know? Though not as much as you, but I'm also connected[\[1\]](#)..... but still, so lucky. Receiving clothes that Yasutaka bought....."

"Eh? The last part, I wasn't able to catch that because your voice was too soft but, did you say something?"

Because Aoi stopped talking abruptly, Yasutaka reflexively asked again.

"Nothing, It was nothing. It's just that I'm jealous of Eru's new clothes."

"Is that how it is?"

"That's how it is. Girls."

When Aoi answered him with a straight face, Yasutaka unintentionally showed a wry smile.

"Then, as thanks for today, I'll buy something for you."

"Eh? Is, is that ok.....?"

When Aoi innocently asked with upturned eyes, Yasutaka nodded coolly.

"It's fine. But just one thing though? And nothing too expensive, alright?"

"U, un!! Yatta!!"

Clapping, a delighted Aoi twirled around. Showing Yasutaka a bright smile, she then approached Eru, who hasn't moved from the front of the bookstore, at a quick pace.

"Alright, Eru! Let's go shopping quickly. Starting with underwear!!"

"Why from there!?"(Yasutaka)

"Because, if we don't buy underwear first, we can't try on the clothes we want to buy, now can we?"

Now that he thought about it, it was just as Aoi said, and as one would expect, Yasutaka accompanying them to buy underwear was unthinkable.



Having separated from Yasutaka who went somewhere to kill some time, the two first got Eru's size measured by a salesperson — who looking puzzled at Eru who wasn't wearing any underwear — from an underwear specialty store, bought several pieces that suit Eru's body and took the opportunity to immediately wear a pair before heading to a shop that sells with women's clothes.

On the way.

"U, um, *Aoi-san*....."

While looking embarrassed, Eru pulled on the hem of Aoi's clothes

"What's wrong?"

In a low voice, Eru whispered something into Aoi's ear..

"A, ahh, the restroom. In that case, here——"

As she tried to lead Eru to the women's restroom, for some reason Aoi's feet suddenly stopped.

"H, hey, Eru? This might sound weird but..... when you came to this world, to relieve yourself..... what did you do? There's no way this is the first time, right?"

Stopping in a corner of a pathway in I-ON, two girls were whispering about something in low voices. If seen from afar, it was really strange. However, the two in question could not afford to care for such a thing.

"T, that is..... Early this morning, at the back of *Yasutaka-san's* garden..... I dug a hole....."

"I, in the garden——!?"

Almost shouting out, Aoi covered her mouth with her hand.

"B, but..... I didn't know where it was okay to go in the house..... And that's often how it is as an adventurer."

Most of an adventurer's job is outside — Aoi is aware of at least that — if so, then it was definitely something they frequently had to do. But in Japan, aside from people had to do that when camping, public restrooms and convenience stores are everywhere now.

That's why, a girl, such as Eru, shouldn't have to dig a hole in the garden and do it there.

"You should have asked Yasutaka....."

"A, about that..... *Yasutaka*-san didn't seem like he'd wake up last night....."

To be precise, a certain situation caused Yasutaka to faint but it was too shameful to tell Aoi.

"N, no one saw you right.....?"

"I believe it was alright. It was still dark at the time....."

To know that was no need to worry whether someone saw, Aoi was a bit relieved as she sighed.

"In any case, from now on, don't ever do it outside, okay?"

After confirming that Eru nodded, she once again led her to the women's restroom.

"When we reach the restroom, I'll explain how to use it."

"How to use.....it?"

"Yeah. I think you probably won't know how to use the restroom in this world. And I'm sure you'd be amazed. Such as a flush toilet, a toilet seat heater, or a washlet, with those kinds of things."

"Eh? Eh? S, surprised[2].....?"

After that.

In one of the women's toilet in I-ON, the surprised voice of a girl from a parallel world could be heard.



After separating from Aoi and Eru, Yasutaka browsed the bookstore and any other shop that interested him as he wandered around, and then went to the food corner on the second floor to take a break.

Incidentally, more than an hour has passed since Yasutaka separated from the two.

Although the food corner gets crowded just before noon, Yasutaka was still able to secure a table for four so he sent Aoi a mail with his location. While waiting for the girls to come back, to distract himself from boredom, he took out his smartphone to play. At that moment.

"Huh? Yasutaka? Isn't that Yasutaka?"

Yasutaka heard a familiar voice from far away.

Looking up from his smartphone, the person he expected was there.

A tall figure exceeding 180cm. Giving off a refreshing feeling, he has well-arranged appearance that could attract girls' eyes just by standing there. In fact, the gazes of junior high and high school students, some college students or working women, were pointed at him.

His name is Hagino Takashi. He is Yasutaka and Aoi's other childhood friend.

"Takashi? Why are you here?"

"Why, because I'm free? I'm guessing you..... haha, maybe you're with Aoi?"

Grinning, Takeshi arbitrarily sat down in front of Yasutaka.

"It's true I'm with Aoi too but....."

"Aoi 'too'?"

Takashi tilted his head curiously.

As far as he knew, Aoi is the only girl friend Yasutaka is close with in their age group.

Of course, he has other friends, but aside from Takashi, there's hardly any of Yasutaka's guy friends that would be with Aoi.

So then, is Aoi together with her friends?

When Takashi thought about it, Aoi's girl friends wouldn't hang out with

Yasutaka either.

(Then, who the heck are they with?)

"Well, who are you with?"

Not able to figure out the answer, Takashi decided to ask Yasutaka meekly.

".....Let's see. I can tell you. But, you absolutely can not carelessly say anything about this, alright?"

"Oh, what? Did you start something interesting?"

Leaning forward, Takashi looked excited and Yasutaka chronologically explained the events from last night till today.

Footnotes:

1. あなたじゃないけどこれも縁だしね。I did the best I could with this.[]
2. びっくり / Bikkuri could mean either surprised or amazed. For me, surprised could mean either positive or negative, while amazed can only be something positive.[]

Chapter 7: Does it match?

Takashi looked excited as he listened to Yasutaka's story, but his expressions didn't take long to change from one of excitement to perplexity and then surprise.

"An e, elf girl..... from a parallel world to your house.....?"

"Yeah, that's most likely the case. At first, I thought she was an alien, but according to Aoi, she's from an elf tribe and works as an adventurer in the parallel world."

As he was explaining to Takashi, although a bit late, Yasutaka wondered "What does an adventurer do, exactly?".

Meanwhile, before he knew it, Takashi had a dreary air about him, looking down as he muttered something.

"O, oi, Takashi.....? W, what wrong.....?"

When Yasutaka, who was worried about Takashi's strange state, called out to him, Takashi looked at him sharply.

"MAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAARVELOUS[1]!!!"

"Ta, Takashi.....?"

"Parallel world! Adventurer! Elf! Beautiful girl! Magnificent!! How wonderful..... Well done getting involved, Yasutaka!! To have such a wonderful close friend, right now, I'm deeply moved!!"

Standing up, Takashi roared. Even as the he was looked at strangely by the surrounding people, he was too excited to be bothered by it.

"O, oi, Takashi!! First of all, settle down! And take a seat! People are looking.....!! "

Having been admonished by Yasutaka, Takashi finally composed himself and sat down.

"Ah, my bad. I was so shocked that I lost myself there."

"You really like fantasy with swords and magic, huh....."

"Yeah!! Fantasy is my favourite!!"

Takashi clenched both his fists and had illusionary hellfire behind him as he declared it.

Right. Just as he himself had declared, Takashi is an extreme fantasy otaku.

Tall, good looking, and is physically fit, Takashi has everything going for him but, in reality, he's not popular with the girls in school.

The reason is, of course, because he is an extreme fantasy otaku. However, the person himself doesn't seem to care as he doesn't particularly try to hide it.

"S, so then, where is the elf girl now.....?"

"She's buying stuff like clothes with Aoi, and will soon be here....."

And when Yasutaka said so, he and Takashi heard a familiar voice, one they've gotten used to since they were kids.

"Ara? Takashi? Why is Takashi here?"

"Fufufufufu. It's been decided! To call each other, it doesn't matter how far apart Yasutaka and I are because we are bound together by the eternal bond called love!"

With his teeth sparkling unnecessarily, Takashi declared such elegant words to Yasutaka and Aoi.

"Quit it. I'll get mad. I don't have a hobby (of watching) that sort of thing."
(Aoi)

"I also want you to stop. It's so disgusting." (Yasutaka)

"What a coincidence, Yasutaka. The truth is, I'm also disgusted." (Takashi)

After a short while, the three looked at each other and laughed.

With a puzzled expression, Eru was watching the three intently, but they didn't notice for quite a while.



"It's nice to meet you, Elf-ojousan. I am Yasutaka's close friend, Hagino

Naturally, eyes gathered from the surroundings, but Takashi continued shouting without minding them.

"THIS IS A REAL MAGIC ITEM!! R, right now I am experiencing real magic!! MAAARVELOUS!!"

"Sure, it's marvelous!! So calm down already!!"(Yasutaka)

"That's right!! If this continues, they'll think we're the same as you!!"(Aoi)

Yasutaka and Aoi were pulling on Takashi's clothes, trying desperately to make him sit down.

It was effective, Takashi finally regained his composure and settled down. Although, his breathing was still rough.

"Haa, haa, haa, haa, haa..... Maaan, I'm really psyched!! Magic is the best!! Parallel world's Elf girl is the best!! Eru-chan! For me, meeting with you is the best present from God!!"

Once again, with his teeth sparkling unnecessarily, Takashi smiled refreshingly. Nonetheless, his heavy nasal breathing ruined the refreshing-ness.

"Okaaay!! Since tomorrow is Sunday, let's stay up all night for Eru-chan's welcome party!!"

"Ara, that sounds nice. Then..... Will it be fine to do it at Yasutaka's house? If it's at my house, my brother....."

"My house and family..... my parents, older sister and younger sister are there. Is it okay, Yasutaka?"

"Yeah. There's nobody at my house, after all. But, don't get carried away and cause a ruckus late at night, alright?"

After that, they bought light snacks and drinks, then made plans for later while eating little by little.

Partway through,

"W, what is this bright green drink..... Could this be some kind of magic potion.....? Also, what is that white thing on top.....?"

"This is called melon soda, a rather orthodox beverage in this world. That

thing on top is a sweet called ice cream."

"Me, *melon soda with ice cream*....."

As Aoi explained, Eru inquisitively stared at the melon soda with glittering eyes. Her level of curiosity towards the unknown, is it because she's an adventurer?

Eru stared at the melon soda for a while, but eventually she readied herself and touched the straw with her cherry blossom coloured lips. And she sipped, sucking in the melon soda.

As soon as she did, Eru's already large eyes widened even more.

"W, what is thi..... **goho*!! *goho*!!* In, the inside of my mouth feels bubbly..... **keho*!!*[\[2\]](#)"

Having drunk a carbonated beverage for the first time, Eru was bewildered while she coughed violently.

Looking at Eru, Aoi and Takashi had some really pleased smiles.

"Niiiiice, that reaction. Thank you for that promise[\[3\]](#)!" (Aoi)

"Un un. That was a splendid reaction. Eru-chan, good job!!"(Takashi)

"No, this level of bullying, it's normally called a bad prank....."(Yasutaka)

Yasutaka stared at the two, who were watching as Eru had become teary-eyed from her coughing fit, while he rubbed Eru's back.



After buying a few more change of clothes, pajamas for sleeping, and daily necessities for Eru, Yasutaka and the group started to discuss whether to leave I-ON soon.

"There's nothing left that we forgot to buy, right?"

"Yeah, I think we're good now. If there's something missing, it'd be fine to just buy it at our neighbourhood."

"Then up next is, the necessary foodstuff for Eru's welcoming party tonight."

After depositing the shopping bags into a free coin locker, they headed to the

grocery store.

Suddenly, Eru called out to the others.

"*Yasutaka-san..... Aoi-san..... Takashi-san.....* Thank you very much for today. I'll definitely pay back the money you spent here someday....."

Declaring so, Eru bowed deeply towards the three.

When Eru crossed over to this world, she had some silver and copper coins on her but neither can it be used as it is nor do they know how much it would be worth in this world.

That's why, the cost of today's shopping was mostly footed by Yasutaka, with Aoi and Takashi pitching in a little bit.

This is influenced by the buying power of those who do or don't have jobs here.

Wearing the translation earring, Aoi interpreted Eru's words to Yasutaka and Takashi.

"Don't worry about it. This happened because we're connected by something, is what I think." (Yasutaka)

"That's right. It hasn't been long but, our bond still important." (Aoi)

"Besides, it's been promised that the first people you meet after crossing worlds would be gentle and try to be helpful, you know?" (Takeshi)

".....Yes!"

Though tears welled up on the corners of her eyes, Eru was smiling. The truth is that she really felt she was lucky.

Her first encounter since being transferred to another world was with Yasutaka.

If it was a cruel person that appeared, she could have been sold as a slave without even asking questions or, at worst, be violent with her then and there. Thinking about it that way, it really was good fortune that Yasutaka was the first one to appear. And everyone she met through him, received her favourably. This, too, could really only be called good fortune.

While thanking such good fortune, Eru wiped the tears on her eyes with her fingertip and, once again, smiled at them.



On their way back after they finished buying groceries, Yasutaka remembered something.

"Oh yeah, Aoi. I promised I'd buy something for you. Is there anything you want?"

"Eh? I, it doesn't have to be today, you know? You spent quite a lot today, didn't you? It'd be fine to get it after you receive your next pay."

"N? What are you talking about?" (Takashi)

Yasutaka explained to Takashi about his promise with Aoi. Upon hearing this, Takashi gave a meaningful glance at Aoi, whose cheeks turned red and eyes were swimming.

"Hoh. Heeeh. Fuun.[\[4\]](#)"

"W, what? Got something to say?"

"Nope, not reeaally. I just thought you tried real hard. Well, good for you, huh?"

"S, shut up!!"

Aoi continuously hit Takashi's back with her fists. Her cheeks were redder than before.

Watching the two's bickering, Yasutaka and Eru looked at each other with wry smiles.

"As always, they sure do get along well."

"Dādil Sū Zāin."

Even without the translation earring, Yasutaka vaguely understood what Eru said.

Right now, she was probably feeling the same as him.

"Alright alright, it's time to stop playing around and decide on what you want, Aoi."

When Yasutaka called out to Aoi who was still hitting Takashi, she turned to him and remembered.

".....Is it really okay? Even if it's today.....?"

"Yeah. But, like I said before, nothing too expensive, alright?"

"W, well then....."

Aoi hurriedly looked around.

At first, she considered asking for clothes, but then that wouldn't be any different from Eru. "Then, I might as well get something memorable for both Yasutaka and I." She began to think so.

Looking around, one of the stores lined up that came into Aoi's view stood out.

"Ah, that one! That one is nice!"

Aoi pointed at a shop then dashed over to it.

The store she found, it was an accessory shop that uses natural stones.

"This is..... a jeweller's shop? Uwaa, there are so many pretty gemstones."
(Eru)

"They're not high grade ones but..... Well, they look alike though." (Aoi)

The two looked like they were having fun as they picked up bracelets and pendants. Even from different worlds, girls are still girls. Yasutaka, who was watching the girls look at accessories leisurely, got his side elbowed by Takashi who was beside him.

"Is it fine to use that money? Weren't you working so you could get a motorbike and license?"

"It's fine. Because the school doesn't allow it, I can't get a license till I graduate anyway. I can save up for the motorbike slowly."

At the high school the three go to, it's against school regulations to take a motorbike or car license. Additionally, it was originally prohibited for students to work part time, but because of Yasutaka's current circumstances where both his parents being away for work, he was given special permission to work part-

time under the condition that he is employed by someone who has known him for a long time.

It seems that the school side judged that it would be more convenient to work for an acquaintance, where he could be watched over by an adult, rather than be left alone without his parents.

While Yasutaka and Takashi were having such a conversation, Aoi decided what she wanted to buy. When they approached Aoi who beckoned, she happily held out the merchandise to Yasutaka.

"This! I like this one!"

The item Aoi held out to Yasutaka was a bracelet that adorned by crystals and an amethyst as a charm point.

"Hee. That's pretty nice, huh? The price is reasonable and it suits you, Aoi."
(Yasutaka)

"Y, you think so?"

With slightly red cheeks, Aoi looked abash and happy.

While Takashi was watching the two, he got an idea.

"Oh yeah! Since it's come to this, why not get for four people?"

"What do you mean?"

"Wai-, Takashi! What are you proposing all of a sudden!?"

Yasutaka looked curious while Aoi seemed a bit flustered. As for the other one, Eru still seemed to be having fun looking at the merchandise.

"It's to commemorate us meeting Eru-chan. How about buying bracelets of the same design for four people? Ah, I'll be the one to buy for myself and Eru-chan. I'll do that much since I'm the one who suggested it. And then, Yasutaka for Aoi, and Aoi for Yasutaka, you guys buy for each other. How's that?"

Takashi's last words tugged at Aoi's heartstrings.

(Exchanging accessories with the same design as presents. Un, great. Really great.)

"Th, that's right. I, isn't that fine? It's to commemorate meeting Eru, after all."
(Aoi)

"But then it wouldn't make sense for Aoi and I to buy for each other, though? Each buying for himself wou....."

"I, it's fine!! I'll buy the one for Yasutaka!!"

"O, okay....."

Pressured by Aoi's drive, Yasutaka could only agree.

In the end, four bracelets with the same design were bought.

The only difference was the color of the stone used as a charm point. Their respective colours were, purple for Aoi's amethyst, green for Eru's peridot, black for Yasutaka's hematite, and blue for Takashi's aqua aura.

Looking at bracelets on their wrists, the four people smiled happily.

Footnotes:

1. Takashi's english exclamations are mostly said in katakana.[]
2. Coughing sounds. ごほ goho・けほ keho.[]
3. 御約束 oyakusoku promise. Basically something that's typical in stories / cliched scenes. There will be more of these in the future and I might not make footnotes for them.[]
4. Just sound them out like he did. ほー。へー。ふーん。[]

Chapter 8: A Freeloader?

"Well then!! To celebrate Eru-chan and our meeting——"

Standing up, Takashi held up a cup of soft drink as he, as a representative for everyone present, gave a toast.

"KanPpPpaaAai!!"

Because of the weird intonation of the toast, Yasutaka and Aoi looked puzzled.

"What? That weird pronunciation for [Kanpai] is.....?"

Having heard Aoi's question, Takashi, with a triumphant look, explained.

"Nu-uh? I heard that the chief priest of Ōsu Kannon^[1] toasts this way, so I imitated him."

"..... as usual, you know some odd trivia....."

Astonished, Yasutaka's muttering resounded in the living room of the his house.



Yasutaka and the others left I-ON. Enlisting the help of Takashi who also came to I-ON on his bike, they distributed the shopping bags between the three bicycles so it could be brought to Yasutaka's house.

And after the bags were carried into Yasutaka's house, Aoi and Takashi temporarily returned to their respective houses.

So they could stay over at Yasutaka's house, they prepared a change of clothes and informed their parents.

It is likely that the two's parents won't object to them staying at Yasutaka's house.

Yasutaka, Aoi, and Takashi had often stayed over at each other's houses. They've been doing this since they met in elementary school.

Especially since Yasutaka's parents live elsewhere, they gather at his house

more often.

Because Aoi and Takashi's parents know the situation in Yasutaka's house, they seem to let their children do as they like.

While waiting for Aoi and Takashi who would return soon, Yasutaka made preparations for dinner which included Takashi and Aoi's portions, and brought in the dried laundry.

Meanwhile, Eru was engrossed in the picture book that Yasutaka bought in I-ON for her.

As one would expect, the translations earrings can't translate the characters, but even so, Eru still found looking at the coloured picture book, enjoyable.

"If you're fine with me, I can teach you the characters and language here?"

"Would you really!?"

When Yasutaka who was watching Eru look at the picture book with so much enthusiasm, nonchalantly offered to teach her, the girl's eyes sparkled with desire.

"Then, let's do it little by little starting tomorrow. But, even in this world, Japanese is said to be a hard language....."

"I'm sure it would be fine! Though it may not look like it, I have learned not only elven language and lingua franca, but also dwarven language. I'll definitely learn the language of *Yasutaka-san's* country!"

Adorably, Eru clenched her fists as she was filled with motivation.

He later learned in detail that Eru used to only understand elven language which could be also be called her mother tongue. When she left to become an adventurer, it seems she learned other languages with the help of the her magic earrings.

"Fuun. Then, after you memorise the alphabet and basic words, it might be a good idea to watch TV to get used to Japanese."

Thinking it would be a good way for her to familiarize herself with Japanese, Yasutaka suggested it to Eru.

"TV.....?" What is a TV?"

"This, is a TV."

Picking up the remote controller from the coffee table in front of the sofa, he turned on the TV.

As soon as he did, the TV's black screen brightened and it projected the evening news programme.

"Eh..... th, this is..... an illusion.....? Or are there lots of brownies[2] inside this thin slab-like box.....?"

If Aoi and Takashi were here, they would say "Thank you for the promised reaction!" and do a thumbs up, but unfortunately Yasutaka doesn't have any knowledge regarding this.

Which is why, Yasutaka just explained what a TV is to Eru.

".....I don't know the detailed principles but electromagnetic waves from afar transmit information which is then projected into this screen..... was it? That's why, it isn't magic."

Although he said that to Eru, Yasutaka remembered hearing the theory "Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.[3]" from somewhere before.

Certainly, from Eru's perspective, most of the science and technology of this world wouldn't seem much different from magic.

(Language won't be enough, in the future, I'd have to teach her common sense as well.) Yasutaka grumbled internally.



As Eru was being given explanations by Yasutaka on how devices that use modern technology such as TVs and phones work, Aoi and Takashi came back to the house.

Not only did they change clothes, but they each brought food and drinks with them.

That having been said, this was already the usual for them. They have an unspoken agreement that whenever they stay at another's house, they would bring something over.

To begin with, the party called "Eru's Welcome Party" started because Takashi has always loved celebrations and Aoi doesn't dislike lively occasions either. The merry-making of his childhood friends was already a usual thing for Yasutaka, and for Eru who is an adventurer from the other world, it was typical for them to have a feast after a hard job.

And so, the welcome party began. Most of the food and drinks from this world are things Eru had never encountered before. She asked the three about all sorts of things about the foodstuff as she tried them.

Occasionally, her eyes would flicker when flavours she's never tried before burst in her mouth.

Yasutaka and his friends would laugh loudly at Eru's appearance, and would take turns to share some hilarious episodes of their past to her.

The four people truly enjoyed the welcome party, however, it wasn't like all their worries have disappeared.

Considering that Eru is in an unknown world, unaware of how everything works, there's no way she's not anxious.

From here, the childhood friends, too, do not know what to do with Eru, who drifted here from another world. Of course, they had no plans to abandon her, but even though she's just one person — an elf, to be precise — it's completely different from picking up and raising a dog or a cat.

In a way, Eru is currently no different from an illegal immigrant. With how it is right now, if she were to get seriously ill or injured in the future, she can't be brought to the hospital.

If they did, Eru's true identity would be exposed immediately.

What will they do with her from now on? For senior high school students such as Yasutaka and his friends, it was a question that they could not answer.

Someday, a time would come where they have to consult with an adult they trust concerning her.

However.

Just for now, they'll solve the problems they can manage by themselves. This

is what they, along with Eru, decided after some discussion during the party.



"———so, let's first resolve the problem in front of us."

The one to speak up was Aoi.

With the food Yasutaka and Aoi prepared having mostly settled in their stomachs, they were now talking about the differences between the worlds while snacking on sweets.

"And what is this problem in front of us?"

"Where Eru will stay for tonight, of course."

At Aoi's words, Yasutaka, Takashi and Eru looked at each other.

"There's no way we can make Eru, a girl, stay at the house of Yasutaka, a guy who's living alone, right?"

"That's true..... So then, Aoi's place?"

"I had that idea at first too but..... that's definitely impossible."

With her index and middle finger on her brows, Aoi looked like she'd swallowed a bitter bug.

"Why can't it be Aoi's house?"

When Yasutaka asked with a curious look, an extremely complicated expression rose from Aoi for just a moment then she muttered why.

".....my brother."

"Eh? Aoi's brother..... Takanori-san? What's wrong with him?"

Kimura Takashi is Aoi's older brother, a young man striving to become the shopkeeper of a coffee shop, their family's business. Also, being 26 years old, he has a bit of an age gap with Aoi.

Although he's shorter than Yasutaka, he weighs about 30 kilos more and has a somewhat portly figure, but Takanori is a virtuous person that would do no harm to Eru.

Just like with Aoi, Yasutaka and Takashi also socialize with Takanori, so they

know him very well.

"He's not the kind of person who would do something bad and take advantage of someone, right? That having been said, since Eru-chan would be with you, it's not like he'd have the guts to do anything bad either?"

As Takashi had said, rather than a virtuous person, Aoi's brother is the timid type.

Yasutaka and Takashi couldn't imagine Takanori having the guts to play a prank or cause mischief at all.

"With regards to that, as her sister, I also agree with Takashi. But that's not the problem. I sense that my issue would be that Eru is a genuine elf."

A genuine elf. When Aoi said that, disregarding Yasutaka, Takashi was completely convinced.

Aoi's brother, Takanori, is even more of a severe fantasy otaku than Takashi and has an abnormal obsession with elves (Elf Mania). He would become a warrior in order to obtain any figure or goods related to elves.

What would happen if *that* Takanori ends up living with Eru, a real elf?

"If that brother of mine lives with a real elf, he would be moe all day and we'd lose the normality of our daily lives!! I'm sure of it!!"

As Aoi clenched her fist in emphasis, Takashi was repeatedly nodded his head in agreement.

"I see..... The goods Takanori-san collects..... Those were elves....."

Although Yasutaka knew of Takanori's hobby, he only knew that they would be characters of an anime or something, and was unaware that the goods Takanori collected were elf related. Or rather, it reeked of too much danger that he didn't try to find out.

"So that means....."

Yasutaka and Aoi's gaze turned to Takashi.

"U~n..... There's an extra room in my house so there's no problem there but..... there's an extremely loose-tongued person there....."

"Akira-san, huh....."

Akari is Takashi's elder sister, and as the younger brother has said, she's an extremely talkative person who can't keep a secret.

If Eru lived in Takashi's house where Akira is, it is likely that in three days, Eru's existence would spread not just to the neighbourhood but the whole of Nisshin City.

".....So then..... Yasutaka's house is the only choice, after all."

Aoi spoke her mind as she realized it. At least among the three, the only place Eru can live in secretly was here, Yasutaka's house.

However, her complicated thoughts didn't allow her to realize it so readily.

"Alright!? Yasutaka!!"

Aoi was severely looking daggers at Yasutaka.

"Just because there would only be the two of you, if you do anything weird to Eru..... I'll kill you?"

"Y, yeah. I won't do that."

Aoi glared at the visibly frightened and nodding Yasutaka suspiciously then faced Eru.

"I'll come to this house as much as possible. If..... If Yasutaka does anything, you'll make sure to tell me, right?"

"*Va.....Va-su*"

Right now, Yasutaka is the one wearing the earring so Aoi can't understand Eru's words. But she understood that the words just now was equivalent to a "Yes".

"It won't happen so..... Eru, best regards."

"A, ano—, *Yasutaka*-san. I have an opinion as to where I will be living..... or rather, where I plan to....."

At the conclusion, it seems that the person concerned, Eru, finally had some sort of proposal.

Not just Yasutaka but Aoi and Takashi were also eagerly waiting for Eru to continue talking.

"I am truly grateful that you would receive me here, however, I would be a nuisance..... Therefore, if you could point me to a cheap inn around this area, I plan to move there."

"A, an Inn?"

"Yes, an Inn, An establishment for adventurers would be even more convenient. Though it may not seem like it, but I am a bit experienced as an adventurer in the town of Prius. Al, also, may I ask you to inform me where the Adventurer's Guild in this town is located? If so, then I believe I can register by myself. Actually, when I left my hometown, the elf village, this is..... a, are? What is the matter, *Yasutaka-san*?"

Eru noticed that Yasutaka was looking at her in blank amazement. She couldn't understand why he was making such an expression.

It was a matter of course for adventurers to register at the adventurer's guild and get work from there. This was common sense for Eru.

Meanwhile, having come to his senses, Yasutaka interpreted her words to Takashi and Aoi.

When the two heard it, they had the same expression Yasutaka had not long ago and were staring at Eru blankly.

"You see, Eru-chan....."

Just how long did the three stare blankly at Eru? Coming to his senses at last, Takashi opened his mouth.

"Yes, what is it, *Takashi-san*?"

"———got none."

"None? What has none?"

"This town..... No, this world's got no adventurer's guild. Of course, there's no jobs or systems for adventurers too."

"Eh.....? Th, there's no..... adventurer's guild.....? And no adventurers

either.....?"

In this world, there are those who call themselves adventurers but it's entirely different from what Eru calls adventurers.

After hearing Takashi's explanation, it was Eru's turn to look dumbfounded.

With Eru's common sense, it's not unthinkable for a big town to not have an adventurer's guild. But with no adventurers in this world, it's logical that there would be no adventurer's guild.

"That's how it is, so..... Eru-chan, what are you gonna do now?"

Takashi asked with a teasing smile.

Eru who was dumbfounded was trying desperately to think, while looking at the three in turns.

And then,

".....Yasutaka-san, thank you for taking care of me at your house....."

She faced Yasutaka and bowed deeply, and then the three laughed and once again welcomed Eru.

And so,

An elf girl who lost her way from a parallel world, came to live at the Akatsuka residence in Nisshin City, Aichi Prefecture as a freeloader.

Footnotes:

1. 大須観音 / Ōsu Kannon is a Buddhist Temple in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture. As for the intonation, priests have a certain way of saying a sutra. Imagine it that way.[]
2. ブラウニー / Brownie is a household spirit in English and Scottish folklore.[]
3. Third law of Clarke's three laws. Raw was written in English, followed by a Japanese translation.[]