

～営業部覚醒編～

2

Kiyuna Toto

喜友名トト

悪の組織の 求人広告



MFファクトリー

The Evil Organization's Recruitment Ad

- Aku no Soshiki no Kyuujinkoukoku -

- Volume 2 -

The Sales Department Awakens

~ The Beatle ~

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– SYNOPSIS –

Komori Neito decides to leave his NEET lifestyle behind and tries applying for jobs.

He finds a recruitment ad for the premier evil organization that is always fighting against super sentai heroes, and decides to go for the job interview.

Having no skills apart from the right attitude of hating the current world, Komori starts off as a low-level minion and works his way up the corporate ladder of Metallica, the world's greatest evil organization.

CHAPTER 12

MY DARLING OVER PAPA

Neito was going to transfer to Metallica's Main Office: Second Sale Department. It was located under the building where He first took his recruitment exam.

By the looks of it, the main office was underneath the building and the building above was just a cover to divert suspicion.

[I'll be transferring to the sales department today. My name is Komori Neito and I'll be in your care from now on. A pleasure to meet you all.]

Without delay, He was given a tour of the department's office. Artificial lights made the office bright even though they were underground.

For an evil organization, the office seemed normal, like the ones you would see in any company.

An enormous screen was placed in the middle of the room, feeding in images of the outside world.

"Damn", he thought, "the amount of stress in this office is too damn high".

[Yes, you proved to be proficient in your previous department, did you not Mr. Komori? I know you just transferred here, but I want to you to give your undivided effort in working here. Your desk is over there. Use it to its full extent and don't hesitate to ask anyone for help.]

The Department Chief seems like a nice guy.

Unlike in the past, He had his own desk with his own workload. The office's spaciousness surprised him but it was the Department Chief that surprised him the most.

He mentioned earlier that his name was Izumi.

If he remembered correctly, he once saw him on T.V. ... He was a well known politician, always wearing an expensive looking suit matching his silver hair. He was often called “The Roman Grey Politician” by the public.

[I see.... Metallica is “that” kind of Organization...] Neito thought.

After Izumi introduced Neito and gave him a tour of the office, some of the staff greeted him, while some went back to their own work.

An elite looking old man, an antisocial looking guy and a tall African-American, No matter where he looked, none of them seemed like a guy you could trust.

Gulp... Neito anxiously swallowed his saliva. It was as if in any moment, he would be pounded into cake in seconds.

I'll somehow manage this...

It was in that moment...

[Whoa! There you are *Nate!*]

The voice didn't come from near him. It sounded off as a light mellifluous voice and it was heard throughout the entire floor.

[??]

He saw an unfamiliar young woman near the entrance.

The young woman had platinum blonde hair and blue eyes...

Now that you mention it, her Japanese intonation was kinda off... She must be a foreigner.

Tying her hair in a ponytail, she wore a short neat miniskirt and she had a smooth fair skin with a baby like face. She looked very tender and gorgeous... though her chest had surprisingly great volume.

In other words, she was a cheerful young woman. What she stuck out to Neito because he a thing for lolis... He got weirded out.

[??]

Huh? Did she just call out to me? Who is this girl anyway?

Neito didn't recognize her one bit. Panicking, He looked at Izumi for answers.

[Oh... I'm sorry Komori-kun. I'll explain it later. For now, take care of her please...?]

Izumi went on to check on other the staff, looking troubled.

[Hmm... You look normal-ish *Nate!* I thought you were some kind of amazing buff guy, though I wouldn't say that I dislike you. (Smile)]

The young lady steadily approached Neito staring him down with her deep blue eyes.

Whoa, looking at her closely, she's a real beauty. And what is this 'you're that guy' thing?

[Oh—Ummm... Hello there. I'm Komori Neito, Nice to meet you...]

She didn't look like it but maybe she was one of the Sales Department's staff...

Neito thought about it for a while.

[Hmmm? What happened? Are you nervous?]

[Well... No... Hahaha...]

I don't know who the heck you are, but give me a break! I'm still a virgin...

Up until this point in life, Neito wasn't really good at dealing with girls. In Mayu's case, she was just considerate towards a fellow co-worker and was just giving him a hand.

Now this blonde girl appears out of nowhere...

Neito didn't know what to do anymore.

It's true that in the past few months, He was only surrounded by men of all age. Now this girl comes in and starts getting close to him.

He was more confused and troubled than ever.

Neito didn't have a choice but give out a faint laugh.

[Anice is *Nate's* assistant. There's no need for you to be nervous!]

She pronounced the word "*assistant*" with such native accent.

Oh god, help me

Neito came in the most Neito way possible to the Sales Department with strong resolve. And now this resolve was broken down easily by this young woman.

[Assistant? Huh? What the-?]

Neito looked at Izumi, who was coming back to them.

[... Will you come with me for a second?]

[Sure...]

[What's happening? Anice also wants to come!]

[No... could you... please wait over there?]

[Whyyy?]

Neito was slightly bothered when he noticed Izumi was talking to Anice in a respectful tone, but he shook it off and went on to the other room as instructed.

[... Who is that woman?]

[Hmm... Well, as she said, she's your assistant from now on... We'll be taking care of her for a while... just think of it as her part time job.]

[Wut?]

His head full of questions; he said it without meaning to.

First of all, why the heck does Metallica allow part timers? Second, who the heck is that blonde girl? Lastly, why the heck would the organization give an assistant to a new guy? There's also the Department Chief's behavior when he's near her...

[...This is just between us okay...? Anice is actually the daughter of Crimson's CEO...]

[Wut?!]

Daughter of the CEO? If I'm right, CEO means something like the owner of the company right?

Neito reacted so loud; other people noticed it outside the room.

Crimson is an Organization that's the same as Metallica, considered as one of the "Evil Organizations". They're based off in California, but recently, they focused their activities in New York.

If Metallica boasts in man-power, Crimson boasts in technology and weaponry. Crimson develops "Jacket Armors" using cutting edge technology and distributed them abroad. They are considered as the "Manufactures for Evil" and were particularly well known in Metallica.

Controlling multiple mafias and gangs abroad, they were considered as an international threat. In other words, it wasn't an Organization you want to cross with.

... That was common knowledge for Neito. Heck, even an ordinary civilian would know that.

[Listen, it's unofficial, but Metallica and Crimson have agreed on a joint venture... think of it as sharing our ideas with a fellow company... As for our situation, higher ups agreed that it would be good to build up trust from within...]

[... Is that so?]

Neito didn't know the dangling wed of affairs Metallica was having.

[And then that Miss Anice? Well, I kind of get the situation, but was it necessary for them to send the CEO's daughter? Then there's the case of her being my assistant...]

Neito simply didn't know what it meant. He was just a new guy in the company. A misfit in the lower department, and now he's getting an assistant. Why the heck would the higher ups do that?

[After all we are dealing with the Crimson CEO's daughter. We weren't in a position to decline them and it seems like Crimson's boss gave in to his daughter's selfish request. If you want to know more, ask her yourself]

[Whaa—That might be...]

[Also, think of it for a moment, if anything happens to her, by any chance, it would cause a huge problem for our part.]

Neito immediately knew what he meant. If something were to happen to her, No doubt, it would be Metallica versus Crimson. An all out war would begin.

[Hello!]

The door opened and Anice's head peeked in.

[Oh, Hello]

After Neito answered, Anice came in and immediately sat beside Neito.

[Did you know that I personally requested to be your assistant?]

[It seems...that way...]

[What's with that tone? C'mon be honest with me.]

Even if you say that, if I even anger Crimson's boss, my head would be off my head before I even notice

She really did wish to be her assistant. Neito didn't know what to do. Neito then started to ask her discretely.

[Well... yes... Then, can I ask you something?]

[Sure! What is it?]

Having eye contact would be bad for me. Oh god her fair skin is already bad enough for me

[Why did you want to be my assistant?]

In regard with that question, Anice held her laugh and answered with confidence.

[Because *Nate* is cool and tough looking. And also, I know you're a *Bad Boy*...]

What the heck is she saying?

Neito couldn't hold on much longer.

[No no no no no! What the heck are you saying? I'm not a tough guy!]

[?... Oh you're gonna do it that way huh? A samurai always does that... *Nate* looks helpless and weak, but in reality...]

This is bad. I'm not getting through her. Why the heck is she starting at me with those admiring eyes? In the first place, not all Japanese are samurai!

[No no no no! You got me all wrong here!]

[Hmmm... but I know you fought Dylan and won!]

[I did not win... that was just... well...]

Does she even know the specifics? Just because she's the daughter of Crimson's CEO, doesn't give her the right to know the happenings within Metallica. The story probably changed as it was passed down from one person to another. Gratifying his small feat and turning it into a huge victory. What the heck is the intelligence department doing? Fuck them.

It wasn't avoidable that he took the interest of Crimson's boss which he never even met.

[Because my Papa said "Your darling should be stronger and more sinister than Me or I won't approve of him!" That's also why I never had a lover in my life... *Nate*, my Papa seems to approve of you.]

Now that's just scary. Every guy Anice got close to got annihilated because her Father didn't approve them. What kind of person is stronger and more sinister than Crimson's boss?" Neito reflected for a while and thought "In the whole world, I can only think of 3 guys...

Wait a second; did she just call me her Darling??

Neito thought of it for a moment, but as time went on he became more confused.

[And did you know? Ever since I was little, I studied a lot of things. I'm proficient and strong at it! I think I would be of great use to you *Nate!*]

Well that was very obvious. She's probably a genius of some sort. I reckon she's probably stronger than me... Now that you mention it, she's really proficient in Japanese. Well, she's a genius after all... what should I expect?

He just couldn't say it out loud...

[Yeah... well, I understand...]

[Yeah! Nice to meet you Darli—I mean *Nate!*]

Although Anice halfway through said Darling, Neito decided he shouldn't touch the topic anymore.

Then he reflected for a moment. He can't do much at His situation; at least He should look on the bright side. Which, he had 2 things going for him.

One; he is happy. No matter how complicated his situation was, it was the first time a girl fancied him. Not to mention that she's a beautiful young lady, and He's honestly happy for that part, even though if he screwed up, his head would pop off his neck without notice... But then it's something.

Two; He thought of it for a while, but it would be probably be the first time in his entire life that he would meet a person as sincere as Anice.

At this point, maybe Her as His assistant didn't seem such a bad thing...

[Well then, Nice to meet you too Anice.]

After Neito said that, Anice started giggling as if she was embarrassed, but there was a tone of appreciation behind it.

[Yeah! But first, let's head to the cafeteria for lunch!]

With her bight smile and cheerful attitude, Neito looked at her and thought to himself

Maybe I'm now really a bad guy...

CHAPTER 13

PERHAPS IT'S TOO GREAT TO BEAR ON MY HANDS

[Ha-!]

Neito woke up in his hard bed, drenched in cold sweat.

[A dream of that moment again ... I thought those dreams were over.]

This time, He dreamt of the time they were briefed in and started heading out. It really was an excruciating night.

[Oh shit. I'm going to be late]

Neito wasn't going to be depressed over that dream. He went on to work at the office as usual.

[Good Morning...]

After a few months in, He was already getting used to having a social life, to the point that he could greet his coworkers with ease.

[Oh, Good Morning...]

[...Yeah]

[Let's put in our best effort today!]

Each of his coworkers replied to him differently.

[Aa! There you are *Nate*! Good Morning! Intelligence department is having a briefing today at 11 AM.]

Among all things, He was grateful for his assistant. He was grateful, but the situation he was in was still messed up as hell.

He's a little happy. No, He is VERY happy for being able to meet such a girl. Her bright cheerful tone always greets him every morning... If only she was a girl he accidentally met in the bustling city, with a normal father, things could've been better.

[Good Morning...Thanks as usual.]

[Hehehe—. You're welcome. Fufufu—.]

For some reason, she was in a good mood today. He wanted to ask her why, but his shift was starting. Neito immediately went on to work.

Work in the Sales Department was mostly paperwork as expected. To sum it all up, it was just reading reports and articles, making and planning appropriate decisions, then sending and informing other departments. They weren't required to go out and fight on the front lines.

Neito wasn't used to paperwork, so at first he struggled to get the work done. It's not like he wasn't struggling now, but the amount of paperwork to be done was too damn high.

Seeing the work ahead of him, he strengthened his resolve, eager to finish it as fast as possible. No sooner than later, Izumi called him into his office.

He entered the room and immediately sat down on the sofa.

[Did something happen?]

[Yes... I have a few questions for you]

[Yes...?]

[About that plan you drew up the other day... What does this plan mean? The orders were to eliminate the Guardian Squadron situated on the fort at map coordinate C22, but your plan involves attacking an area away from the designated coordinates... Do you mind explaining?]

Izumi pointed at the plans he drew.

What if he won't forgive me for drawing up such a plan?

[Yes. In regards with that... C22 is a formidable position, attacking it head on would be futile. But the order still stands...]

[Then why?]

[C22 is as I said, a formidable position. Attacking it would prove to be our disadvantage... unless we draw them out. I propose that we sabotage a nearby area, destroying multiple buildings and causing a panic among the citizens. It might be small scale, but it would draw out the Guardians in C22 hoping to help the people and control the situation. Once they are out, it is when we can attack them.]

[What if... They won't come out to aid the citizens?]

[They WILL come out. I know, that there is no Guardian heartless enough to cast away those who are in need. If we can't draw them out, we might as well broadcast the screams of the people to the Guardians...]

[I understand... But, for this plan to work, it would involve us attacking an unrelated area, does it not?]

Neito understood at that moment, that it was Izumi's way of checking if He was willing to take the responsibility for the plan He drew up.

For a moment, he hesitated.

Metallica would definitely get a bad reputation over this...but what about it? Metallica is an Evil Organization. What could they expect? Metallica is prepared to do what ever it takes to achieve their goal, even if the actions to be done are inhumane.

[Yes, we need to sabotage a different area.]

Neito answered in a calm and controlled voice.

[That's a cruel way of executing a plan...

Well, and order is an order. I'm sure that such measures taken would be forgiven.

That's all. You can go now.]

[Thank you...]

Izumi is wrong. I know that my plan could not be forgiven by the company. What is bad is bad. And what is destroyed is destroyed. There's now way they could forgive me for drawing up such a messed up plan.

Neito couldn't put it out into words. He went out Izumi's office silently.

After Neito went out his office, Izumi thought to himself for a while.

His decision making skills... are different from the others. He doesn't hesitate to make plans that violate basic human morality.

I doubt I could've thought of such plan... Even if I did have the idea, I doubt it would be as cruel and complex as Neito's...

He is fast and efficient in his work, and he is cruel enough to be promoted to the Operations and Planning Department.

Call it what you may, but He has this evil aura surrounding him. Calling it potential would be too much...He really is a person to look out for...

I doubt that this talent would be recognized... We're in Metallica after all.

Perhaps it's too great to bear on my hands... I might lose to Him easily

Izumi gave a sigh and took a sip at his coffee.

CHAPTER 14

DID THE AIR AROUND YOU CHANGE?

Neito finally got to eat lunch alone. He ate curry in the company's cafeteria alone.

Anice usually calls out "Lets have lunch *Nate!*" everyday, and accompanies Him during lunch, but she wasn't with Him today.

Despite Her looks, she was a sincere and serious person. Today, She had an errand to run in the Department.

She's way younger than me, but she's got a good grip on life than me. She's always bright and cheerful... if only Her Father wasn't the Boss of Crimson, things could've been better.

Maybe I could try to sweet talk her... No, no, no, no...

Just thinking about made Him all red. He was about to scoop another spoonful from his plate when He saw someone familiar bringing his lunch plate, walking towards Him.

[Komori...?]

[Aa, It's you Ikeno... It's been a while.]

It was his all handsome coworker, Ikeno. They haven't met each other since the recruitment exam. Neito heard that Ikeno was assigned to the Operations and Planning Department (*As expected*).

[Hey... Did the Air around You change?]

Ikeno asked Neito, suspiciously looking at Him.

[I don't know... it still hasn't been a year. Maybe I've changed]

[I heard that you were transferred from the General Affairs Department to the Sales Department]

[...Yeah]

[I never thought I would see you in the main office... but that's great for you huh?]

[Yeah, Thanks]

Ikeno stood while talking with Neito, but after a while, he noticed he was standing out among the crowd. Nobody sat near Neito so Ikeno sat across him and began eating. I'd like to mention that he was having Carbonara for lunch.(Note: It was said in first person towards the audience)

[By the way, did you hear? There's a meeting going to be held later in the afternoon.]

Ikeno's words... it may not seem like it, but he's talking to as if he's trying to mock me

[Meeting? Oh yeah, it was on my schedule a while back]

One of Neito's plans was approved a few days ago, and a meeting was to be held on how to defeat the Guardians. The meeting involved capturing one of Metallica's enemy, "Beetle", alive to attain the Rocks Organization's technology. The technology would prove to be useful, if they can analyze and exploit its weakness, aiding Metallica in their conquest.

[Oh yeah, it's a joint meeting between the Operations and Planning Department, and the Sales Department right? I heard that we're going to be tackling on how to deal with Beetle]

Ikeno looked surprised upon hearing those words.

[Wow... you seem to be in touch with the higher-ups in your Department... They even let you in the topic of the meeting.]

Maybe he's also an underling in the Operations and Planning Department... I doubt our experience would differ since I'm from the Sales Department.

In a few words, Neito was always jealous of Ikeno.

[No... it's because I'm attending that meeting]

[What?! You?! You've got to be kidding me]

[Nah, I got invited a while back. Though, It's my first meeting ever since I entered this company.]

In planning against the Guardians, any form of Intel was needed. Neito had experience in fighting one of them, so Izumi invited him into the meeting.

[Is that so... I'll be in that meeting too]

[Then, It'll be our first time working together. Let's do our best.]

[Oh...Yeah...]

For now, Neito wanted to stop talking about work. He saw the opportunity to talk with Ikeno casually but...

[I'm done *Nate!* Hey, can I come over there?!]

A cheerful voice sounded off away from him. It took no effort at all to recognize his assistant calling out.

She looked like a high school student, but she looked beautiful with the light illuminating her blonde hair. She tied her hair in a ponytail and approached Neito and Ikeno with an air of delight.

[You're having Curry again? That's not healthy *Nate...* You won't get that proper nutrition from that dish alone. Hmm? Who's this guy?]

[He's my coworker, Ikeno. He's a handsome guy, isn't he?]

Anice stared at Ikeno for a while... Then averted her eyes from him.

[Yeah, you're handsome, but my darl-]

[Oh snap! I ran out of sauce... Would you mind getting some for me Anice?]

He managed to make an excuse, but he said too loud and attracted other people's attention.

It would be bad if Ikeno knew about our situation.

[Hmm? Sure. You're really hopeless *Nate...*]

Anice went on to get some sauce.

[...]

[...]

There was an awkward silence between them, but Ikeno soon broke the silence.

[Anyway, we have a meeting this afternoon and I'll be in charge of the planning. I doubt we'll need you there but, you should come and listen just in case. I really hope that the Sales Department wouldn't bring the Plan down.]

[Yeah...I'll do that]

Ikeno then stood up and left.

Neito wasn't dumb enough not to notice it. He knew Ikeno was making fun of him, and it was very obvious. He couldn't do anything now...

But,

Neito didn't care. What was important to him, was fulfilling the task given.

He wasn't strong enough as Anice said so, and He may not have the potential as Manaka said... Even so, He'll do it. That's all there is to it.

Then and there, Neito wanted to look cool for once. It wasn't like he was confident that he was going to do it, and he wouldn't say that he had the confidence to proclaim it out loud. It was just that, for once he wanted to look cool for himself.

He said in a small but firm voice.

[I have no plans to remain the same, and act below you Ikeno]

Hahaha

Maybe I sounded too cool...

At that moment...

[That right *Nate*! Crush that Ikeno to ashes!]

[Waaa- stop listening to me! Forget what I just said!]

Anice appeared out nowhere, smiling and bringing sauce with her. She sat beside Neito with an air of delight.

CHAPTER 15

OF COURSE

*+Comments are in /*Example Comment*/Don't mind them.*

+Neito's thoughts are italicized.

The meeting's topic was simple. Capture and take hold of the Rocks Organization's research facility. Securing the facility would provide them some information and data on Beate's High Tech Armor "Harrison".

Beate was a member of the Rocks Organization, one of the defenders of Justice. Beate was different from the others with his High Tech Armor, and is well known among the population.

Beate's Armor "Harrison, uses plasma energy to enhance his battle capabilities, using thrusters and boosters. This made his movements faster and much more deadly.

Normally, Metalica would have also dispatched some power armor to match Beate, but this time, it was impossible. Beate's "Harrison" was too advanced for the Company's standard armor.

A while back, when Beate's fame began rising, "Harrison" was deemed too dangerous to fall into enemy hands. The Rocks Organization then ordered the research to be classified so the project went underground.

If you think about it, the meeting should be simple. Plan, Assign and Execute.

Neito expected the meeting to progress smoothly, but it dragged on longer than expected.

[With that, we'll be sending C rank employee and 10 combatants from the General Affairs Department. I think that's enough to infiltrate and capture the facility.]

Ikeno, who headed the meeting, was too focused on details. It was just... a waste of time.

[We only need 1 person to secure the files and armor. After the infiltration, he will head to west Japan and deliver the data and armor to our R&D Department. As long as Beatle is not there, there should be no problem.]

Ikeno's nerves were already twitching from the meeting.

It's true... if Beatle won't be there, that force should be enough. But...

Neito disagreed with the idea.

[Lets not waste unnecessary resource on destroying structures, instead, lets keep our attack force small. We will have the element of surprise on our side when we capture the facility.]

That concludes my plan. Any objections?]

As Ikeno looked for reaffirmation. People who participated in the meeting were already agreeing among themselves. As long as there's a unit to capture the facility, then they would just approve since they had no part in it. The plan was simple and was rather "too peaceful".

But Neito was against the plan.

It's true that it was the first time Neito participated in a meeting, and He may be inexperienced at these things. But...

Neito voiced out.

[I'm... against the plan.]

Everybody at once looked at Neito. One of them, Ikeno, replied with a jokingly tone.

[Hahaha...Hey Komori, nobody asked for your opinion.]

Metallica's planning committee, and its participants in the meeting were no amateurs, they were professional in their specialized field, but most of all, they were evil people. The pressure they are facing is huge but, Neito couldn't let them cut corners on this plan.

[Actually, let us hear your opinion Komori]

It was the Sales Department's Chief, Izumi, who came to his aid.

Neito then continued.

[... We should destroy the facility completely. Not only will this create panic within the facility, but we can use this as a diversion to secure the data.]

[What!?!]

The room was suddenly baffled by the idea. I mean Neito got it. It was the direct opposite of the plan. The plan was just to stealthily infiltrate the facility and secure the data, avoiding unnecessary fights. Not only did the infiltration unit lack the force to fight, but the enemy might have a hidden weapon they can use against the infiltrators.

[Would you mind... explaining Komori?]

Izumi then spoke out amid chaos.

[I believe that this is the necessary action to take. Maybe, as Ikeno suggested, if Beatle wasn't there, then we could capture the facility. But what about Harrison's researchers?]

Ikeno got *triggered* by Neito words.

[What heck are you trying to say?! Since we would have captured the facility, they have no other choice but to obey us!]

[I think you're mistaken. They may yield to us physically, but not mentally.]

As Neito continued, He once again felt that feeling. The feeling when he confronted Shigeta, and that time he decided to shoot down Dylan.

A Cold and Dark feeling enveloped him. The following words then came out.

[Won't they be waiting for Beatle to rescue them?]

[!]

[A hero of justice always arrives late. We can't let them have their hopes up. Everybody knows that.]

[We must entirely crush those hopes up and break their hearts. 5 will infiltrate the facility. Eliminate anyone who stands in the way, and then destroy the whole facility entirely. We will rob them of everything they have and take them as prisoners.]

[...You...]

Neito became the center of attention in the room.

[You know... not all opinions are appreciated in Metallica...]

Ikeno then started thinking of objections to Neito's Idea.

[In the current public's view, Metallica holds a lot of influence in society, but in the long run, is that influence going to last? You don't have to be on the side of justice in order for you to have control over the world. But, defeating that Justice would hold a lot of meaning in the public view, changing public opinion will ultimately lead to world domination. Metallica holds a lot of power now, but will never get the public's approval.]

[... and then?] /*Note: Not sure who said this, but it is either Neito or Izumi*/

[In other words, an Evil Organization can not be always an Evil Organization. We need to achieve our goals in the following years to gain public approval. Then we would be able convince the public that we are on their side. The case lays the same here. Harrison's research facility is not known in public and I doubt its whereabouts are not well known. If we go in quietly and peacefully, retrieve the data and materials, the matter would just be hushed up in secret. It would be passed down in the shadows and the matter would just slip away quietly. I believe it is important to have a good reputation in the eyes of the public]

/*Note: This was Ikeno's speech*/

Ikeno had the spotlight again in the room, the room became quiet at the persuasiveness of the speech.

[Who said that we need to go in a "quiet and peaceful" manner? In my experience, there is no policy that we, an Evil Organization, should abide by that... And that "Long

run” you said, how many years would that take? 10 years? 100 years?](Note: Neito speaking)

[Why you...!]

Neito had no plans of backing down. He wasn't planning waiting. Much less go by “quiet and peaceful” methods.

[Instead of going for the uncertain method, I think we should crush every enemy one by one. It is the fastest and most effective way.]

He had no plans of containing the evil within him.

[Aren't we an Evil Organization?! What is wrong, with us doing evil things?!]

Neito banged his fists on the meeting's table. He knew he sounded crazy, but his instincts told him he was right.

[Why you little...]

The air around the room once again changed.

Everybody knew it when they entered the company. To have a better position in life... believing they can change the world... or because they had no other path to take. They were a bunch of people prepared to do evil in order for them to attain what they needed.

Neito's word had an effect on the room to a certain extent. Only Ikeno and Neito's words were heard throughout the room. Everybody else fell silent.

[... The plan you are suggesting has a point, but it is impossible to do in our current situation.]

Ikeno also wouldn't yield. Neito knew he had something up his sleeve.

[Impossible? Why?]

[By company regulations, if you go in with a small force of 5 people, in order for you to control the situation tightly, the main office set a rule that the other 3 must be accompanied by 2 other level 2 employees.]

Ikeno's words sounded firm and absolute. Neito evaluated the need for that regulation.

It is true that if there are people holding tremendous power in the scene, it would be easy to control the team and deal with any emergency situation.

Every Metallica employee has a level designated to them. Ever since Neito entered the company, he was level 1, while Ikeno was level 2.

[...]

[Do you think that there is a person that would go by your ridiculous plan? Even to let an opportunity where they could avoid danger?]

The room became quiet once again.

It wasn't because they wanted to avoid danger, I doubt. Everybody in the main Office must have seen the battlefield once or twice.

But, it was clear that Neito lost the argument today.

[...]

Should I just give up the idea...?

It was then Izumi spoke with a heavy tone.

[...ikeno-kun, Do you plan on appearing on the actual scene?]

[I am prepared to do so, but in this case, I have deemed it to be unnecessary.]

After receiving that response, Izumi took a deep breath and...

[...Is that so... Then, it can't be helped. Komori, I'm promoting you to level 2]

It all happened shockingly fast.

[Wha-?]

[Chief Izumi, are you serious?!]

[I authorize the promotion by the power vested upon me as a Department Chief.]

[Why would you go that far...?]

Participants of the meeting at once were making noise over the decision. It was an expected reaction I guess.

[Izumi-san....]

Neito was trying to figure out Izumi's real intention. But, if that was possible... if He could be on site then...

[Komori, I may not look like it, but I have high expectations of you. And I have gone through the same thing in the past. That's why, If you're insisting that much, I'm willing to do this for you]

Izumi was smiling. He didn't even look like an evil person. Neito didn't know what Izumi expected of him but, in the situation he was in, it was the greatest life boat he could have.

[Thank You Very Much!]

[But that doesn't leave you from your duties. Don't expect special treatment. But, I have a condition]

Izumi's suddenly became cold and dark. It was like he was a different person. Neito then felt the pressure. Its true that he cant always depend on this kind of kindness within the company.

Izumi's eyes pierced through Neito's mind. Neito was about to tremble in fear, but he held it in. He knew it wasn't going to be an easy condition. Everybody saw what was coming.

The room fell silent.

Izumi spoke care freely.

[I will promote you to level 2 and give you the authority to command the infiltration unit. I will give you 3 people from the General Affairs Department but...]

Neito heard the sound of saliva being swallowed.

[In addition to capturing the armor Harrison, I task you to defeat Beatle himself.]

Beatle, the Hero that wears the armor of science. As a member of the Rocks Organization, He possessed superhuman powers with the help of his suit.

Metallica was tasked to face him. In other words, prepare to die. Risk your life. Everybody knew that in the room.

The air stood still. Neito also stood still.

Challenging Beatle is like going to hell. But if He would accept the condition, it still would be hell for him. He knew Metallica was not some kind of easy Organization to be in.

[... Are you still willing to do it?]

Neito wasn't let the opportunity pass. He shook his fears, stood up and answered.

[Of couse.]

This time, He wasn't going to let it end like the time he fought Dylan. He was in on his own volition, in order for him to achieve his goals. He was prepared to risk his life to triumph over the Hero of Justice.

Neito made his decision.

CHAPTER 16

WE'RE BEATING HIM DOWN. LET ME SHOW YOU THE POWER OF A VILLAIN

[So that's Harrison's research facility huh...?]

They were in the Kibuki prefecture, up in the isolated mountains. Neito lead the infiltration squad up the mountain at night, using the cover of darkness. They were getting closer to the facility.

The facility was among the mountain ravines, standing quietly. Neito and his squad looked at it on top of a cliff. The moon lighted the path of the soldiers of evil.

[I already explained the plan a while back but... are there any questions?]

Neito asked the guys from the General Affairs.

Neito didn't know any of them. They were all wearing combat suits and showed a sense of nervousness.

There was one among them, for no apparent reason, stopped moving. He was calm and alert, unlike the others who were starting to get tense.

[Um...]

One guy then spoke out with a tense and trembling voice.

[Why is someone from the main office, taking part of this mission?]

It was a question of identity. Neito himself volunteered to do so. Usually, people in the Main Office only make plans for operations like this... They never had to go out in the field. He was, in their eyes, a rare person to go out like this.

[It's because, *Nate* had this idea!]

Anice, who was at Neito's side, replied happily and energetically.

Truthfully, He didn't want to bring Anice along but, she insisted [No! I want to come! I'm your assistant! I also want to see you fight! If you're going to fight, I have to be there with you!]

/*Anice's dialogue is far by the hardest to translate in this series. Had to cut out the tsundere part*/

And that's how she persuaded Neito with teary eyes. He had no choice but to bring her along.

Her hair today was straight, and in order for her to move more easily, she tied it in a ponytail.

Her white skin, blonde hair and her charming atmosphere were still gorgeous even in this situation. Her eyes were shining with glee.

[Did you know? Did you know? *Nate* is...]

[Could you pipe it down a little bit Anice?]

[I'm...I'm sorry]

Neito just wanted to warn her, but she took it as if he was scolding her. She acted like a small cute animal reconsidering her action, which in turn bothered Neito but He focused on the task at hand. He decided to answer the question asked of him.

[It is in order for us to raise the possibility of succeeding the mission, as well as keeping the loss we might have to a minimal. I wouldn't want to lose any of you guys from the General Affairs under my command. Hmm?]

After hearing his words, the guys from the General Affairs started making a commotion among them.

Maybe they think that they're just pawns meant to be used...

In reality, there were a lot of people who think like that when they're sent off to battle.

[I'm usually an on-site person. I somehow know what you are feeling right now.]

Neito wasn't lying. What he said was the truth. He was supposed to exterminate an enemy, but saying that wouldn't help.

Once again, they were a commotion among them.

[Until now, there was no person who would say such things to us...]/*Gen.Affair Guys*/

[Are you serious?]/* Gen.Affair Guys */

[Of course. If this mission goes well, I'll vouch in a special bonus for you guys.]

[Are...Are you serious?! Yahoo]/*No, not the Email, Yahoo as in celebrating*/

Neito was true to his word. If this battle goes well, that is, if he defeats Beatle, I'm sure his actions would be forgiven. But, if the mission fails, He dies.

[... You're a weird person, Mr. Main Office...]

The guy, who was quiet calm and was just listening to him, spoke out.

Since it was before mission, the guy didn't wear his visors. Neito could clearly see his face. He had a scar and an eye of a hawk which was sharp as a blade. He looked like he was in his 30s. Even as Neito commanding the squad, he looked stronger than Neito. He named himself as *Tsurugi*. /*Not sure if I should translate it to: Blade, or just let it be Tsurugi*/

[...Is that so... I'm just...]

[But this and that happens after we complete this mission. If we were decimated after the battle, you could just blow your lie away.]

Neito responded.

[... I plan on winning. There is a point I want to get across...]

[Hmm... I see... Then, let's see if your resolve is real...]

Tsurugi then fitted in his visors.

One minute until the plan commences. They were entering standby phase.

Neito closed his eyes.

[*Nate? Are you Okay?*]

Anice suddenly asked him so he opened his eyes.

Remember that feeling again. I can't be stopped. I'll keep on going. It's a clear straight line towards the top.

[... .. Let's Move Out! Follow Me!]

A Cold and Dark Feeling enveloped him, fueling “that” drive within him.

[Here we Go!]

[U, Uu ooo oo oo!!!] /*IDK how to translate a battle cry...*/

Neito used the rope he prepared beforehand, to slide down directly onto the facility.

The others were late in the descent but they commenced their vertical descent after a while. Looking at it from below, Neito saw that is still had an impact. Unknown infiltrators were descending from the cliff, with their huge bodies and sinister intentions. He knew that the guys in his squad must have worked in Manual Labor.

His squad was composed of low level people from the General Affairs Department. When the mission starts, they wouldn't be allowed to talk and only follow his orders. In other words, Neito was the head and brain of the whole mission. Everything relied on him.

With a weight of 200 kilos, his squad landed a few meters away from him. One after the other, the sound of them landing echoed everywhere.

He knew that their bodies were firm, but falling from such height generated enough noise to warn Harrison's researchers of their arrival. A few minutes later, an alarm sounded of the entire facility.

He knew that they were preparing to intercept them. It was all within hypothesis.

If you looked at it, they were far superior to Beetle in terms of number. The plan was to showcase their sinister power to the enemy. Little tricks and resistance were futile meant nothing to them.

Neito equipped and activated his weapon, "Break-Blade". It was a super oscillation type weapon.

Break-Blade could fire of faint light to resonate a low note.

¹General Affair Combatants wore all black, giving off a sinister aura. In the middle, leading them was Neito, who ordered...

Normally, he wouldn't have said anything like this... it was not in his character. Honestly, he was afraid to say it out loud but...

[We're Beating Him Down. Let me Show you the Power of a Villain.]

CHAPTER 17

YO, HERO

The offence on Harrison's research facility dragged on to a melee battle. It was very clear that it was a civilian facility because the resistance was small coming from the research personnel. They were equipped with basic arms and didn't pose much threat.

What bothered them most were the robots made with the power of science. They were humanoid type robots that were equipped with rifles with rubber bullets, and a huge and heavy police baton. They arrived wave after wave, and as the battle raged on, the sounds of motor and gears clashing became more prominent.

Everybody was busy trying to push them off. As more came, the shutters began closing. Neito advanced in hopes of destroying the shutters.

/*protective shutter in order to shelter the personnel*/

[Uu ooo ooo!!!]

[Take this you piece of scrap metal!]

Everybody fought hard and had an individual battle raging on. Among the combatants, a few people stood out.

[Gaaaaaaa -!!!!] /*Idk how to translate the sounds of battle...*/

Their raw power can't be stopped. It was useless stopping demons from going on a rampage. They sent each robot flying off their heels and advanced boldly.

/* Demons, cuz they're evil and forceful*/

Blade shouted.

[Do you think such simple machines would stop me?!]

He was equipped with a traditional Japanese Katana. He easily dodged the rubber bullets and split a robot's head in half as if he was cutting through cloth. Striking once again, he split the robot's body in half.

[Take this! And this! And this!]

/*Once again, I don't know how to translate this part. I just substituted the words to what he would likely say this situation in English.* /

Anice, Neito's assistant, was unparalleled in terms of firepower. She was equipped with a miniature version of a rail gun, and her rate of fire was decimating the enemies while providing support from the backlines.

She sounded weird while firing the gun, but her movements were so graceful, that Neito couldn't help but admire her.

Amid all chaos and yellow gunfire in the battle, Neito fought with all his strength.

[Daa aa aaa aaa!]

Neito was proficient in dodging the bullets. Nothing fired from a long distance could match his speed.

Their armor was bullet proof from the rubber bullets. He relied on this advantage to advance close to the enemy and thrust his blade.

Of course it hurt. It may be bullet proof, but the force of impact could still be felt within. Even though it hurt, he wasn't planning on letting go of his blade. Until the Oscillation wave destroys the enemy, he wouldn't let it go. He held on to his weapon tightly. The robot reached for its Police baton and started pounding his left shoulder. He still didn't let go.

[Hurry up and die already! Daaa aa aaa!]

The robot soldier gave out a huge clank, and then stopped moving. Neito confirmed that the system got shut down, then proceeded to remove his blade.

[...Haa...haa... Next!]

They struggled for a while but they managed to end the melee battle. In the first place, they had a huge advantage if “He” wasn’t here. They managed to subdue the robot soldiers and got through the shutters where the researchers and personnel were hiding. They took them into their custody and gagged them with cloth in their mouth. They then went on to destroy the entire facility throughout.

[...Anice, can you give out the command to destroy the facility?]

As his breathing got heavier, Neito left Anice in command.

[Sure... But why? Are you sure you don’t want to do it?]

Anice was catching her breath while asking Neito.

I guess it was expected from a tough bred person to have this much stamina...

[I need time to prepare for something...]

He needs to hurry. He needed to finish preparations before Beatle arrives.

Neito entered [Preparation Phase] alone and remained the same for a few minutes. He went to the open square where they secured the researchers, and entered standby phase. He acted like a commander and sat down on a chair.

[...Do you think He is coming?]

Blade asked Neito.

He knew that Beatle was supposed to be in another location. Even if He got the news that this place was attacked, there is still some distance to travel. But,

[He’s coming. I’m sure of it.]

Neito affirmed.

No matter how tiring it is, now matter how far he is, he knew Beatle was coming. Beatle, the Hero was coming.

Even though they were enemies, Neito believed in the Heroes. He believed in their courage. The courage he once adored as a kid, but now, they were enemies.

[!]

A loud sound echoed within the facility. The sound came from near the entrance. They suspected that it was the sound of the barricade they set up being destroyed.

[I told you so.]

Within a few second after the sound, a hero appeared in the square they were in.

The shoulder booster that was equipped was in full power. It was a terrifying display of speed and power.

Air was gushing out under his feet. It seems that he was hovering.

Hmm... As I thought, He looks so cool. Unlike Dylan, he has this metallic feel with him with a touch of simplicity...

[... What have you done...]

His voice of lamenting... sounds young...

He got angry after seeing that the facility he was associated with, was destroyed.

[... I can't forgive you for this...]

Beagle's suit glowed in golden color and gave off a sound. similar to an aircraft taking off, near his feet. No doubt he was still young. While sitting on the chair, Neito rearranged himself. People were staring at him and at Beagle. He was at the center trying to make a laugh out of the situation.

He looked like a villain while doing it, but it was part of the play in hopes of crushing the researchers' hope of being saved, and to boost the morale of his comrades.

[Yo, Hero. You're late...]

Neito hid his emotion behind a mask. He hid the fact that; he was all beaten up and tired from the fight, he feared fighting a super human enemy enraged by their actions, he needs to fight in order for his squad to be saved, and he was nervous in facing this hero all alone.

He said it in an Evil tone.

CHAPTER 18

HE REALLY WAS STRONG

[Wait for me. I'm going to save everybody.]

As Beatle said it, his thrusters revved up to full power while Beatle himself took up his battle stance. His eye cameras "Twin Eyes" gleamed in light and his horn, (a beetle's horn, from which his name originated) attached to his head protector was dyed in gold.

Neito provoked Beatle in a hateful tone.

[Are you going to fight? Do you really think you can win against me?]

Neito knew that it wasn't part of his character to say something like that, but he made it as realistic as possible. His heart said so otherwise.

It was expected of Beatle, not moving a single flinch and drawing back from a battle, this hero who protects society, He's truly admirable.

[You'll fight? Good. I'll take you on.]

I have no plan on holding back. I'm going to defeat you and move forward.

[Here I come!]

Beatle's thrusters fired up and released a blast of air under his foot and aimed directly at Neito.

[... .. Do it.]

Neito gave the order to fire. 3 demons fired a claw like blow to the path Beatle was heading for. /*As mentioned in the previous chapter, they looked like black demons attacking from the facility since they're evil and all.*/

[Ha—aa — !!]

Beatle took a hit to an arm. The 3 infiltrators used their weight and pulled Beatle in.

In no time, Neito gave an order to his squad.

[Now is the time. To those with a ranged weapon, fire all together at once.]

[Aye Aye Sir!]

The first to respond was Anice. She fired at an unimaginable speed while seemingly looking innocent.

The others followed her lead and started shooting. Bullets were whizzing around Beatle.

[It's pointless!]

The attack didn't affect Beatle a single bit. He deployed a barrier from his horn and stopped every bullet that came his way.

As expected of someone who brought down many villains. Numbers don't mean anything to him.

[Hmm... it is as one would expect.]

Neito looked confident and calm but inside; he was in a state of shock.

Dylan was strong... But this guy is on a whole new level. It would be illogical if a normal person could beat him... But I can't just surrender.

[You're kidding me right? After all that attack...]

[He's a monster... There's no way we could win...]

[We're going to get killed... Me.. everybody is!]

General Affair guys started running away. It can't be helped. They must have felt what he felt when he first experienced Dylan's strength up front.

But He didn't plan on backing off.

Neito stood up from his chair and raised his blade.

[Don't falter! We are Metallica! A proud Evil Organization!

Beatle just finished a separate mission before coming here. His energy supply must be low. Continue attacking throughout!]

The only chance of winning was exploiting that point.

Beatle must have used up a sufficient amount of energy before coming here. He also needs energy to deploy his barrier.

Different from the other Guardians, Beetle's armor needs energy from an external source. They must have known the risk of running out of energy.

Their attacks weren't effective but, they weren't entirely pointless. They have 3 guys pulling him in the front while the others supported them by cover fire. At least they succeeded in stopping Beetle's advance.

They were busy stopping Beetle in his tracks. And it wasn't like they had limitless bullets. But if this goes on, they'll have the disadvantage.

[Fire! Fire! Fire! Keep firing! We have sufficient enough bullets!]

Neito got into the mood.

[U oo oo oo!!!]

Somehow he managed to pull his spirits back together and resumed attacking.

[... Curse you!... using such dirty tricks...]

It was then...

[Beatle! The new energy crystal is the Research Lab B! Hurry and exchange parts and... Defeat Metallica!]

[Wha-!?!]

Neito turned around.

One of the researchers managed to free himself and inform Beatle. They didn't tie him securely enough. He held a gun pointing to one from the General Affairs. He risked his life just to inform Beatle.

[Understood! Wait for me! I'm going to save you all!]

Beatle reversed his thrust and headed off to the Lab. After acquiring the info, he darted off as fast his thrusters' could carry him.

[Damn it! I won't let you... we're following him!]

Neito gave out the order and then proceeded to the direction Beatle was headed.

Beatle was too fast. Their bare foot movements were no match for His hovering and thrusters.

Arriving in Research Lad B, they saw Beatle acquiring the Energy Crystal.

[You're too late, Evil Beings.]

Beatle turned the situation upside down.

Anice asked in a weak hearted voice.

[Nate! Beatle has the Crystal!... What should we do?...]

She knew that if they lost the battle, they were done for.

I'm sorry Anice... I'm not as strong as you think I am... Are you disappointed?

[Tschh... Do Heroes of Justice always have good luck?...]

[If there is such a thing as Fate, it will never take on the side of Evil. Here I come, Metallica! This is where the real fight starts!]

Beatle opened a compartment in his abdomen and exchanged the old and inserted the crystal.

Neito shouted.

[Stop!!!]

Beatle shouted in a victorious tone.

[Charge – On!]

The next moment, The armor emitted a strong light and the sound of it activating echoed off the room... But it didn't happen.

[What! Why...!?!]

Beatle's armor lost its light. He immediately fell into his knees. The sounds of motor, the sound of his thrusters... just disappeared.

[Ha Ha Ha Ha... This is a masterpiece.]

Neito clapped his hands while sneering at Beatle.

[What... does this mean?...]

[Don't you understand? The Crystal you inserted was a Crystal used to stop functions and movements from the outside.]

Neito produced a sinister laugh.

[Of course, it is standard for any machine to have a device that stops it in case it went haywire.]

During that time, Neito couldn't see Beatle's face under his helmet but, he knew Beatle was bewildered by what just happened.

[But my companion said...]

Your companion informed you even if it would cost his life?

Neito couldn't help but give of a grin. It was just too good for him.

[Ha Ha Ha ha. You still don't get it, don't you? You're so thick, Fine, I'll tell you what it means.]

That was just a lie. I knew where they kept the device that could stop a prototype in case it went out of control. I just passed down that info onto you. I had it intentionally let his mouth gag be loose in order for him to inform you.]

[You fiend...]

[It was really simple... I just threatened him, saying that he'll get a bullet unless he "Risky his life" to give you the information. I knew you would confide in your companions and would rush to get the device. He just sold out a Hero of Justice. I guess that's cruel of him huh? Ha Ha Ha Ha!]

[You piece of... You were the one who threatened him! He has no fault!]

Beate's armor was just dead weight without energy. Without being able to change and replenish his energy, his boosters and thrusters were useless. With a weight of a few hundred kilos, he wasn't able to stand back up.

Neito smiled and activated his Break-Blade while walking towards Beate.

[... Wo, Wow....]

His Squad was too impressed, having witness such Evil committed before their eyes.

[... Is that all you have to say Beate? I am Metallica. There is nothing wrong with me doing wrong things] /*This sounds better in Japanese*/

[! At least! At least spare the researchers and personnel. They followed you without question right?]

[... .. Including the one who gave you false information?]

[Of course.]

[... .. I understand. I'll at least spare their lives. But, if you put up a fight or try to resist us, there won't be any guarantee that I won't kill them. It is obvious, but we need to destroy the armor you're wearing.]

[... .. You better keep your promise.]

[... .. Nobody knows...]

After the conversation ended, Neito turned to Beatle who was kneeling down. He held up his blade and stroke Beatle's helmet.

There was a cracking sound, followed by a loud vibration. After the two sounds echoed, Beatle's Armor cracked, and started shattering from head to toe.

[Hmm... you're young as I thought.]

Inside the cracked armor showed a young guy, fainted from the strike.

[Huh-... and that is the end of this guy. With us capturing and securing the researchers, they won't be able to create another "BeatleArmor". This guy can't do anything to us now. In addition to that, the researchers' won't be fighting back, seeing their Hero defeated, and knowing that there's a traitor among them. They have no choice but to obey us.]

Neito used all of his power and stamina in the battle. He staggered.

[Are you Okay Mr. Main Office?]

Blade immediately came to his aid and gave him a shoulder.

[... Yeah, I just need a little rest and I'll e fine.]

Neito somehow managed a response.

[We really did win huh? You're one hell of a guy. Was Beatle weaker than you expected?]

[... ...]

It was no such thing... He was strong. He really was a strong guy.

He didn't have anything towards the guy who betrayed him. Even before he fainted, he secured his companion's lives above his life. Those words were strong enough on their own. As a defender of society, he really was an admirable guy.

[... ... He really was a strong guy. Beatle really was a strong guy.]

He was a fine, noble and admirable person. In opposite to that, I defeated him using dirty tricks. I won't regret my actions. But I will abide by the promise I made.

[... .. You really are a weird one...]

[Never mind that... is everybody okay? Are they safe?]

Although Neito was disoriented, He needed to confirm.

[Yeah, everybody only sustained a minor injury. There were no deaths.]

[Hahaha... That's good... really good...]

Damn... I'm too tired. Is it okay for me to pass out here?

[*Naate!!* You were amazing ! So that's how you fight ! Anice is so thrilled right now !]

After completing the first phase, Anice rushed to him. Her white cheeks were red from the excitement. Her voice was unnecessarily too excited with a serious air.

[... .. Well...umm... that's why I told you that I'm not that stro-...]

[No, that's no such thing. You were really cool back there!]

Hearing it from someone who was raised in California, and a daughter of an Evil Boss with straight way expressing it felt weird to Neito.

[Hey-]

Without warning, Anice hugged Neito. She was more slender and delicate than expected, He felt her Chest push his.

He panicked.

[... .. Wait a... ..]

[? Hmmm? You really can't be helped *Nate*... Fufufu...]

[... ..Sto-... Stop-]

Neito who took more damage than anybody, lost to her tenderness, and fell asleep.

CHAPTER 19

ODEN, OR SOMETHING

A quiet room existed in the Main Office.

People call it “The Boss’ Room”. Within it, a man sat down in a stylish chair.

He may be old, but he was the symbol of the Organization he headed. Behind him were steel wings framed neatly.

He reviewed the documents presented before him.

The documents contained the records of his subordinates. He was scanning through the documents, dividing them left and right.

[Hou...]

The man stopped.

Komori Neito :

April 2213 – Entered the company as a volunteer. Assigned to the General Affairs Department.

August 2213 – Moved to the Second Sales Department.

October 2213 – Promoted to Core level 2

Business Ability: C | Battle Ability: D | Adaptability: Uninspected | Commanding Capability: C+ Special Skill Evaluation: E | Overall Score/Evaluation: D

In charge of Evaluation on Findings Section.

After experiencing a battle with the Hero Dylan, moved to the Second Sales Department. Had a great evaluation result within the Sales Department. Was in charge of planning an offence to capture the Harrison research facility with Ikeno. Took command of a unit and contributed with the destruction of Beagle. May be impulsive

in certain times. Received high approval from the squad He led. Proves to have potential. Received high expectations from His superiors.

/*I know, I know... these things should be in bullet form. I'm just following the format of the author... and it's not my job. */

Special Note: Has Anice Jairus as his assistant, as part of the inter-employee exchange program between Metallica and Crimson. Treat with caution.

[Ah... that brat from that time...]

The man put Neito's document on his right, and scanned the next document.

Ikeno Reiji:

April 2113 – Entered the company through the American Selection Test Specialized in Management. Assigned to the Planning Department. Was experienced enough to be promoted to Core level 2.

September 2113 – Promoted to Core level 3.

Business Ability: A | Battle Ability: B | Adaptability: A | Commanding Capability: A | Special Skill /Evaluation: A | Overall Score/Evaluation: A.

/*Sigh... here we go again...*/

In charge of management.

Demonstrated proficiency in management ever since He entered the company. Has high battle management and decisive skill, and was in charge of multiple operations. Has high battle capabilities and can quickly adapt if sent to the front lines with high vitality. The Planning Department's Ace. Gained honors in planning the offensive against Beate.

Special Note: Had relations with Kagawa from General Affairs, Hirasawa from Accounting. In a relationship with Chelsea from R&D.

[Hmm. He is a well-made man. He's someone who fits the description of a Hero.]

The man set Ikeno's document to his left.

[Let's see whose next... HouHou- She quite a beauty...]

Mayuzumi Maki:

April 2113 – Entered the company through the American Selection Test Specializing in Development. Assigned to the General Affairs Department.

Business Ability: B | Battle Ability: E | Adaptability: C | Commanding Capability: D | Special Ability Evaluation: A

Assigned to the Management section.

Although assigned to the General Affairs (G.A) Department, She works hard either way. She is calm and gentle, and is popular within the company. She is young compared to her Co-workers, but is very sociable. Her Business Capabilities are on the passing mark. She hopes to be reassigned to the R&D Department, wanting to use her skills acquired in M.I.T as soon as possible.

Special Notes: She is Half Sapas (Mother's Side). She plans to submit an entry on next year's Remodeling Project Competition.

*/*not sure what Sapas means when translated ... I'll just go with it*/*

[Hm Hm... She goes... on my left. She is a beauty after all. It can't be helped if she gets favored.]

After the Harrison Offensive, Neito passed out and was confined to bed for 2 days. He was very nervous on the day he would come back to the office.

*/*Assume that the facility is named Harrison, it does manufacture and research Beate's "Harrison" armor after all*/*

He nervously entered the Second Sales Department. Anice jumped at him.

[*Nate!* ! Are you feeling well now? I've been waiting for You!]

[Oh... yeah...]

Her smile was beautiful as usual.

He had a feeling she was too inspired by the foul methods He used in defeating Beatle. He already had this feeling when she came to see him the other day.

Neito's usual thoughts:

Oh shit... If the Crimson's Boss hears anything about me...

Didn't pop up today... He wouldn't deny that he was happy by his accomplishment. But he wouldn't express it in public. Because He thought he would look really creepy doing so.

Neito thought of apologizing to people he caused trouble by his absence. He started off to Izumi.

[Good Morning Chief. I- I may have caused you trouble by being absent. I'm sorry.]

[Oh, it's fine since you're fully recovered. You really did well. And as promised, You captured the Harrison facility, and brought down Beatle. You really are something. It was worth it promoting you. Thank you.]

Izumi was smiling, unlike the person he saw a while back during the meeting. It was if he was a different person.

[Tha- Thank you very much. It was because you supported me back then, that I was able to do this much.]

It was the truth. If Neito messed up, Izumi wouldn't have gotten off the hook easily.

But He believed in Me and pushed me to my limits. This usual, humble man risked his career for me.

Neito felt the approval of his superiors for the first time.

[Everybody eyes here. Although the credit goes to the Planning Department, We can't deny Komori-kun's effort in bringing the plan to a success. Let us congratulate him]

[You did well, Komori.]

[That was a miracle.]

[I really thought that you were going to die!]

[You really showed them your willpower to rise up from the G.A Department.]

[Promoted to Level 2 huh? I guess I'll be lining behind you huh?]

His coworkers gave out a round of applause and their own words towards his success.

[... .. Thank you very much. I was able to do well because of Chief Izumi and your guidance. I'll keep doing my best.]

It was the only thing he could say at that moment. He was about to cry from the joy.

Of course He knew. He knew that if he was defeated, He would be evicted out of the company. They would've put all the blame on Izumi, putting him into shame. Even though his actions /*of defeating Beatle*/were not accepted by society, He was just about to cry.

After that, he decided to finish some paperwork. The day dragged on to night.

[Good work today... aren't you going to finish up?]

[Ah, well... I still haven't finished my written report so...]

[Do you want help?]

[No... This is the last so...]

One by one, the staff left the office and went home. Neito remained working alone in the office.

After 3 working hours, he almost finished his report. He had no working experience in this field, so it was obvious, that he took 3 times longer to finish his work.

[Ah... I'm so tired. I can't do it anymore....]

Neito was talking to himself, but as he locked the Sales Department's door, He saw a figure outside.

[Woah... .. You- you scared me.... Maki-san?]

Maki, whom he took the entrance exam together, was standing in front of him. It really was a long time since they met again. The only time they got to actually speak with each other was in the hospital room after Neito got hospitalized. Although he moved to the main office, he still caught a glimpse of her, but they never had the chance to talk to each other.

He thought of starting a conversation with her, but he thought that, maybe he would be a bother to her or yet, he might say some weird things. The other reason was, maybe she was too busy for him to enter her life.

[I-I'm sorry... U-Ummm... Good Work Today...] /*She definitely a shy-dere idk the exact word.* /

Maki noticed Neito, and displayed a sense of panic. She wore a white sweater and a skirt today. She was fondling her skirt as if she was bothered by something.

[? Good work too... Is something bothering you? Why are you here at the Sales Department...?]

[No, but... ..]

[Ah, did you want something from me? Were there any defect in our goods?]

[That-That's not it!] /*how do I make this part cute?*/

[?? It's getting late and I really want to go home...]

[Umm...Wait!]

[Wha-What?]

[Neito-kun, it's been a while since you moved to this department... It wouldn't hurt to see me once in a while would it?]

She replied in an upset tone.

[I tried coming here multiple times, but you weren't here.]

Maki showed a face of dissatisfaction.

[I-I'm sorry. A lot has happened ever since...]

Neito was bewildered. He never thought of it that way. As fellow coworkers who entered the company together, they always need to get in touch with each other?... Neito wasn't familiar with such things.

[I really was worried about you...]

Maki stared Neito in the eyes. He was used to Anice doing it, but he still wasn't used to speaking with other girls.

[Ah...I'm Sorry. Well, Let's—Ummm...]

Neito was in a state of confusion. Maki, looking at him, laughed for a while.

Thank god she wasn't mad at me for real...

[Ha ha ha. That's enough. It's just a joke... Anyway, will you join me for dinner?]

That escalated quickly.

[Wait... were you waiting for me the whole time?]

[... .. Yes.... I rather not have you ask that question.]

[You could've called me out]

[... .. but you looked so serious. I couldn't just interrupt you. I didn't know you could make that kind of face, Neito-kun]

Neito didn't understand her one bit.

*stares at Neito

[Aa! I heard about it! You accomplished such a great feat! That's the reason! We'll go celebrate!]

[Aa—I see. Should we also invite Ikeno? Do you know his contact details?]

[Aa—well Ikeno... is with his department celebrating their victory.]

[I see...]

If he remembered, Izumi also told him that the credit for their victory went to the Planning Department. It can't be helped either way. They were the ones who planned the assault anyway. It seems when Neito was resting, Ikeno's achievements got spread throughout the company.

It figures. What did expect from that guy?

[I think you need to be recognized more.]

[Hm? No no no. There's no need for that. Besides, I really don't care about such things...]

[Well... that's that. How about it? Do you want to celebrate with just the two of us?]

[...]

[Is it... not good enough?]

That wasn't the case. He was just glad someone invited him. He was deeply moved by the invitation, that couldn't give out a reply for a moment.

This girl is really kind. And as usual, she's cute as ever. She's so pure and innocent, you wouldn't say that she's from an Evil Organization. Just walking with her makes my nose bleed, Now what if we ate together? Would I be able to hold out? What's so interesting about me anyway? Why does she always come to me?

Neito wasn't stupid enough to refuse her offer.

[No No No. Let's go! Thanks. I really appreciate the offer.]

Maki's face brightened up as soon as Neito answered. She looked like a flower blooming in the spring.

Before He noticed, His heart rate was going up, and he began to sweat nervously.

[Yeah! Thank god. Shall we go? What do you want to eat Neito-kun?]

He thought for a while.

What does a girl even like to eat? Do we need to go to a fancy restaurant? Shit, This month's salary is about to run out. My salary is too low even for a simply office worker...

Neito got lost in his thoughts for a while. His head began blanking out.

[... Oden... Or something...]

[Hmm... Oden?]

[Is it a bad idea?]

[That's no such thing! I really like radishes!]

Wow, I also like radishes...

After hearing her words, Neito felt relieved.

Is this what it feels to be healed emotionally?

CHAPTER 20

IT'S DELICIOUS. REALLY

[One Shochu and a boiled egg please.]

In the end, Neito went on the usual Oden shop he always goes to.

It was a cheap shop, up by a guard railing, but there were no other places he could of. Anyway, Maki was asking him to

[Bring me to the place where you usually eat!]

And he had no choice but to submit to her request because she was too polite in suggesting her request.

On the other hand, This Oden shop was pretty good. While being an Oden shop, the place also serves ordinary food served in diners, such as *Menchikatsu* or *Potato salad*.

Although the owner has a scar on his face and looks like a *yakuza*, he really was a kind and generous person.

[Here you go, young man. You brought yourself a really cute lady with you today... Is this your...]

[Give me a break Owner... She's just my coworker. If you indicate it that way, wouldn't that be rude?]

Neito replied jokingly to the shop owner while pouring Shochu into their cups. He took a glance at Maki.

Oh shit, what if she takes this seriously

[No! no no! I'm totally fine with it. Really!]

Maki shook her hands in denial.

She really is a nice person.

[Hahaha. What will you be having Miss?]

[Aa, Umm—I'll have broiled radish first...]

[Coming right up...]

After a while, a hot piping Oden was served to her. They were the only costumers in the shop. *Maybe the shop isn't successful because of the Owner's face...*

They made a toast and started eating.

[Wow. It really does look delicious. Thanks for the meal! A - ha Fu—fu—]

*/*this is supposed to be Maki blowing her Oden...*/*

After swallowing, she showed a face of delight while blowing for another. Neito couldn't help but look at her.

[??... What are you looking at...? Aa! Is there something in my face?!]

[No... well... Is it good?]

[It's really good!]

[I agree. It's kind of dirty but this is really a good store.]

[Well, I'm sorry that it's that dirty. Here, it's on the house]

*/*The Owner replied in a sarcastic tone*/*

[Thank you very much]

Two of them sat in the old shop eating Oden. It wasn't a while when they finally got comfortable enough to talk to each other.

[Did you know that you're the 3rd person to have a meal with me in my entire life?]

[Hmm? I-Is that so?]

[Yeah. The first two were a Senpai from Metallica and a High School friend a while back.]

[Is that so...]

[Neito-kun, what do you usually do on your day off?]

[Hmm. Well, I train by myself. Other than that, I just withdraw from society for a while. What about you?]

[Wow! training by yourself is quite impressive. Me? Well, I'm very free on that day so I usually read a book or take a walk.]

[You're like an intellectual type... Oh yeah, you said you have a college degree right? Was it from Masa- Massachusetts? You're younger than me, but you have a college degree... that's really impressive. What kind of degree did you earn?]

[Umm... Biology... and Umm... Engineering]

[Whoa- that's impressive]

[I-It's no big deal, really. You're more impressive than me, accomplishing so much in your first year in the company. Oh, by the way, once again congratulations on your victory]

It wasn't as grand as a usual celebration party would go, but Neito had fun. Somehow, He felt Maki was also having fun.

She looked a little drunk; her cheeks were pink from the alcohol. Even so, she looked beautiful as usual.

[Hmm—Did you do something good?]

The store owner sometimes joins his customer's conversations, but he knows his place. He asks them discreetly and knows when to ask.

[That's right! Neito-kun was amazing!]

[Is that so? I hope you continue to be successful in your career.]

The shop owner then brought another serving of Shochu and poured it in for him. It was different kind this time. It was a more expensive kind of Shochu this time.

[Owner... what is-]

[It's to the future of your career! It's on the house]

Neito didn't think of it badly, but having expectations on him was too much, even for him.

[Hahaha... but I'm just a regular office worker so...]

He reached out for tea, but Maki looked at him.

[What are you saying?! That has nothing to do with it. I know you have potential within you]

He purposely asked the owner to serve not too alcoholic drinks to Maki in order for her not to be drunk, but tension began to rise in the shop.

[You're quite famous within a part of the company. "We're an Evil Organization! What's wrong with us doing Evil Deeds?" you sounded really cool back then.]

She sounded of to imitate him; she looked really cute doing so. She didn't even sound like him.

Neito laughed without noticing. It was too embarrassing for him, so he decided to change the topic.

[By the way, why did you join Metallica?]

It bothered him ever since they took the entrance exam together.

He knew Ikeno's motives. He was a kind of person who desired knowledge, he wanted power, which Metallica could supply him easily. Maki on the other hand, didn't look that way.

[...]

Maki fell silent.

Shit, I must have hit on something personal.

Neito was about to apologize, but Maki straightened her face, as if she decided something, and replied Neito's question.

[... I'm half Sapas... My mother was a Sapas...]

The air in the shop suddenly stood still. Silence rang out. He didn't know if the Shop owner heard her, but he was deep in the shop. /*Shop owner was in the shop out of visual range*/

Sapas. They were commonly known throughout the world as "The fallen Evil Organization". In reality, the word was to describe a race. Their race evolved differently from normal human beings, and they were considered aborigines.

Other than possessing high intellectual ability, they were no different from normal beings. They existed even before the current civilization was built, and they entered a Cold Sleep for a long period of time. /*Cold Sleep = Hibernation?*/

They awakened to the present world, amazed at the change that happened. Even so, their intellectual capabilities were unmatched throughout the passage of time. They soon forged an alliance prompting coexistence between normal human beings and their race.

There were extremist within them, called "The Black Sapas", who believed that they were the superior race, and they should be in charge of the world. So They declared a war against the rest of humanity.

A battle between the "Black Sapas" and Guardians raged on for many years but eventually, the Guardians won and the "Black Sapas" were defeated.

Sapas' who weren't "Black" hid in the corner of the world avoiding public eye and humiliation. They weren't granted any rights.

There's no imagining what kind of treatment they had been through...

[... My mother wasn't a Black Sapas. She met my father and lived a normal life, until I was 8. Guardians took her, and that was the last we saw of her...]

[... I see...]

Neito understood her. He once experienced a similar situation.

[... It's not like I wanted revenge but...]

Neito somehow understood her. He was sure she really wanted to change the world. She wanted to create a world where Mothers aren't taken from her child with no reason.

He just couldn't agree with her. Without the Evil Organization, the world would've been at peace. He was sure many people wanted it to remain that way. Many people would like to preserve that peace, that's why Rocks and Guardians exist.

She doesn't care how many years it would take to change the world, but she chose to join Metallica other than go down another path to change the world. Rocks or Metallica? Which side was on the side of justice? The answer was very obvious.

[... .. I'm really a bad person after all... I kept it from you that I'm a Sapas... I'm sorry. You're the first one I've told my secret to...]

Maki was trembling. Her shoulders were shaking a little bit.

That's no such thing... You aren't a bad person

He couldn't say it out loud. It would sound like a white lie.

Neito didn't want to lie to her. So he did something out of the ordinary. He pat her head.

He didn't know if she would be grossed out by his actions, but it was the only thing he could think of to comfort her.

[I don't care if you're a Sapas. If we were to compare, I think I would turn out to be more evil than you...]

Maki raised her head, looking surprised.

[Let's change the world... together...]

Neito couldn't say it out good, but He managed to get his thoughts across.

Even evil can't accept who you are, but I'm different. I won't deny who you are. I'll always fight. With my friends, you, together.

[... .. yeah]

Maki raised her face. Her eyes were wet, but they weren't from crying.

[Here, it's on the house.]

The shop owner came back in the perfect timing, bringing in two cups of tea with him.

[M-Malt Tea?]

[It's today's special]

The cup gave off a delicious smell.

[Maki-san, you should try their tea. It's really delicious. Although it's just service tea]

Neito beamed her in a cheerful tone.

[But That doesn't mean that you need to go... This isn't Kyoto after all.]

The shop Owner laughed after remarking so. Despite his evil look, he remarked in a cheerful and playful way. Maki laughed happily.

[Yes... Thank you...] /*This part is supposed to be *Itadakimasu*

[Thank you for the offer] but It's weird in a English translation, so I changed it */

The two of them drank in silence.

Damn, it's really good.

Looking at his side, Maki was crying while drinking.

[It's Delicious. Really...]

She's the cutest thing I ever looked at.

The shop Owner stepped out and lit a smoke.

After eating Maki told him.

[Haa—That was really delicious ... Neito-kun...]

[Hmm?]

[I'll be in your care from now on. Let's change the world together.]

Her face brightened up. Neito replied

[Of course]

I'll continue fighting. But you opened my eyes. I'm not alone in this fight.

CHAPTER 21

I AM STRONG

5 months passed since the the battle against Beetle. After the encounter, Neito was involved in planning various offensives against the Guardians, and if it was necessary, Neito went out as a field agent. After the destruction of the Guardian's facilities, Metallica gained control and the the respect of the mafia and various gangster organizations.

In a short period of time, Neito succeeded all the operation he handled. It was easier to accomplish those missions with the full aid and reinforcements of Metallica, rather than the the time he fought solely with Beetle and Dylan. Neito's style was unique among the Department, and this, inspired other staff to follow his example. It became a custom within the the Department that they go into battle and take command of the troops, even if it meant risking their lives.

Neito, who was considered the the weakest among the Department, defeated Beetle, and rose among the ranks within the Department. Before He knew it, the attitude of the staff towards him suddenly changed.

In terms of result, The Sales Department achieved a lot more than they ever did in the past. Dramatic experiences lead to motivation, and motivation leads to success. This was caused by a single new employee.

[... And with that, The Second Sales Department has achieved a lot more this term, rather than the the previous terms. Everyone, we really did well. I hope we will continue to progress like this in the following terms. I'm counting on all of you.]

The year ended with Izumi's speech, followed by the constant appreciation of the staff members towards Izumi. Neito had no room to speculate, but He knew Izumi's prestige went up within the company as the Sales Department started producing results. That's how much The Second Sales Department's success influenced the company.

[We're finally through!]

[All right!]

[...Huh-]

The staff celebrated with a sense of accomplishment in their voices. Neito also felt the same. He agreed that they did great this year. He was nominated as “The Rookie Of The Year”. Although He was close to getting the award, He didn’t make the cut. It was unfortunate, but He was satisfied with himself.

Neito knew that his success was influenced by the support given to him by Izumi. He went to thank Izumi, who was sitting in his desk, before he decided to go home.

[Good job today, Chief. I have been in your care this year. I hope I can count on you in the the following years too.]

[Ah... Yeah.... Wait, Komori. I’m sorry, but could you come in early tomorrow? I’ll meet you in my room tomorrow morning. I have something to discuss with you.]

[?? Okay...]

Izumi expressed a sense of disappointment.

The next day, Neito arrived in the office early than usual. He went in the the Department Chief’s office.

[Pardon me for the intrusion.]

[Oh, come in. Take a sit.]

[??]

There was someone other than Izumi inside the office. He looked like a top company executive.

Wait... I know him from somewhere...

He had a huge physical build, tied up his hair and wore a long coat. Looking closely, his eyes were green.

He must be a foreigner...

His muscles were clearly visible in his tight clothes. He released an overwhelming fierce aura, as if he was trying to overwhelm him.

[This person is the head of the personnel affairs section; He's the Director, General Raz.]

/* it could be Director General Raz to make It more cool*/

[Director...?]

Neito suddenly remembered.

I remember now... He was there in the the entrance examination. In that way, he could look like a normal person while being able to scout new recruits... If that's the case, he really has a lot of roles to take in this company. He's head of the personnel affairs, also the managing director and a General? Is the title of General just an honorary title?

[So you're the bastard Komori Neito huh? I should've known you since I was in the interview, but your face don't ring a bell. You're awfully nice, for a person with such a reputation. Tell me, can you really fight?]

[...]

Neito thought to himself.

He's a managing director. In other words, this person is one of the the people who reside on the top of Metallica, close to achieving world domination. Why is this man in front of me? I heard his name a while back. General Raz: He was with Metallica founding days. He aided Metallica to make it the company it is now. He defeated 200 Guardians by himself, took down the Chinese mafia and He is considered as an equal to Rock's best Guardians.

[Hey punk, Answer my question. Can you really fight?]

[I...]

He couldn't go on with a reply. He tried his best not to reply against Raz's humor. Thinking about the the path He has been threading, He wouldn't want somebody like Raz take him on lightly.

[I will fight. No matter what method it takes to win.]

Neito replied in a serious tone.

He held back himself from crumbling in nervousness. With his reply, He slowly applied pressure to the villain who looked down on him.

[Hmm... At least you got guts.]

[...Thank you very much]

The air of tension within the the room was at its peak. Izumi cut right in the conversation.

[General Raz, I think that's enough... Shall we get into the main topic?]

[Yeah... Pardon me kid. I just wanted to test you.]

[Yeah...]

What the the hell is this all about?

Neito had no idea at all.

[Komori, There has been an official announcement made by the personnel affairs section...]

[Wha-]

Official Announcement... Am I going to be moved again? I just finished my first year in this Department... Now I'm going to be moved again?

[I know you were doing good ever since you entered the the Sales Department, and I honestly think that it's unfortunate that we're letting you go, but we need you transfer to an another field.]

[But... why so soon?]

Neito replied in bewilderment.

Maybe it's a demotion. I was finally getting used to the work in this Department, and I'm sure I produced results in my stay here.

[Don't take it that way. It's not a demotion. You've been specially requested to the personnel affairs section. That's the the reason why General Raz is here. I couldn't just announce it officially.]

["Special"?)

[General Raz, Will you do the honor?]

Izumi looked at General Raz. General Raz cleared his throat and announced in a low voice.

[Komori Neito, I assign you to be deployed at the special region. With this in effect, I promote you to Core Level 3. You will receive subordinates from Metallica Main Office's General Affairs Department. You will take your men and head to the the special region. We expect great things from you... Dismissed!]

[... ...]

Neito got lost in Raz's words.

Level 3 would mean Chief Clerk class. He knew that much.

*/*Chief Clerk or Squad Leader class – I don't know which is best to use*/*

Special Region: The region which holds Metallica's (business) interest. He knew what it meant, but, he was still lost in words.

[Komori! This is clearly a promotion! It's no doubt that it would benefit you greatly if you went to the personnel affairs section. It's unheard of someone from a clerical position to be transferred to be a field official ever since Metallica was founded.]

[Are you listening punk?! Give me a reply!]

[... Ye-Yeah]

[What's the matter? Are you dissatisfied? I can dismiss this promotion if you want to.]

The idea of dismissing the the promotion appealed to him. He was just getting used to the Department. It wasn't like He was dissatisfied with his work. And that way, He would be close to where Maki is. *Where the heck is this special region anyway? My life would continue to be peaceful if I remain within the Sales Department.*

But,

He couldn't just leave it that way. As Izumi said, it was a special case that he would be transferred to the personnel affairs section. It was exemption, that a normal civilian like him would instantly get promoted to Core Level 3 and become a Squad leader, immediately taking command of a squad. Maybe His efforts against Beetle and Dylan, or the deeds he did within the Department were recognized. Or was there an alternate motive for his promotion.

I took down Dylan and Beetle with unfair tactics... maybe I was just lucky...

That fight wasn't just it. He gained experience while in the Department. Ever since he was transferred, He gained confidence and He acknowledged his capabilities.

Metallica is an Evil Organization, I'll use any unfair method, even it is cowardly to achieve my goals. There is no other way. That's the only way they will acknowledge our power.

The the hesitation to stay within the Department, the the uneasiness of being assigned to the special region and the fear of a conspiracy within the personnel affairs... Neito strengthened his resolve

I am Strong.

[No, I'm not dissatisfied at all. I accept the the promotion. I also accept the the reassignment to the the special region. You can count on me.]

I will keep on on moving forward.

CHAPTER 22

I'LL USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO FINISH THE INTRODUCTIONS

Neito got promoted to Core Level 3, and accepted his assignment to the special region.

Raz took a deep breath and Izumi gave a sense of relief.

[Is that so...? Do your best not to get killed kid. Izumi, I'm done here. I'll be on my way.]

[Yes... sorry for the bother]

In Raz's position, a promotion to be a squad leader wasn't such a big thing. He stood up and quickly left the room.

[Komori, could you wait here a bit? I'll call your subordinates. I'll use this opportunity to finish the introductions.]

Izumi was well prepared for the situation. Neito felt jitter-ish from the announcement. He commanded people from the G.A Department, but it was because he was the on site officer. The situation just demanded him to take command. It was a first of him to have real subordinates under him. Anice was just Anice, He couldn't call her a subordinate. Anice was "special".

Subordinates huh? I wonder who they'll be... It is both something to worry about and to look forward to.

There was a knock the the Department Chief's room.

After waiting for Izumi's response, the first person came in.

[... ...! You're -]

[It has been a long time.]

Neito remembered the one who entered, in other words, the one who would become Neito subordinate.

He had a long glossy black hair, with eyes of an eagle looking its prey. He was tall, and was about 30 years of age. He was with him in the Harrison offensive.

[... .. Tsurugi-san?]

[Tsurugi...? I guess that's good enough.]

He answered in a calm and low voice.

This guy? My subordinate? No, No No. That's clearly off the roof. Having a subordinate that's more powerful than the leader is clearly ridiculous.

[Izumi-san... Umm... What does this mea—]

Neito turned to ask Izumi but it was Tsurugi who gave an answer to his question.

[I volunteered to be in this squad. I decided that you are worthy enough to be my superior.]

What the hell is this guy? He's speaking like a sengoku samurai... If I remember right, He's just a chivalrous guy...

[Komori, I don't know the full details, but why not? He's the man of honor in the Italian mafia, and he came here in order to assist Metallica with his skills, but for some reason, he ended up in the G.A Department]

Izumi explained Tsurugi's situation. Neito consented.

So that's why... And I thought it was weird having such a strong guy in the bottom ranks of the G.A Department. He's part of the Head-Hunting group recruited for Metallica huh? How the hell did this guy end up in the G.A Department? And why the hell is He now under me?

[Umm... Tsurugi-san, Why me?]

Tsurugi gave off a chuckle. He was a well built, rough man.

[I fell in love with you... your "Evil" to be precise... I'll follow you anywhere... Boss]

[But being assigned to the special region would prove to be troublesome for you...]

[There's nothing to worry about if I stick to you.]

[Yeah... I guess that'll do]

[Understood Boss.]

Neito had nothing else to say on the matter. Thinking about it carefully, there's nothing wrong with Tsurugi accompanying him.

He knew Tsurugi from the Harrison offensive; his battle capabilities, his self control, his decisiveness and his strange loyalty towards him.

There was no disadvantage having him. He pledged his blade to Neito, and if that's the case, He'll use him to his max potential.

After his conversation with Tsurugi, a feint knock came at the door. The door opened and a man came in.

[Come In. Komori, I'll introduce you to the second member of your squad.]

[G'morning]

The guy who entered had a light and bright voice.

It's not only the voice... His whole vibe is very light and cheerful.

The guy that came in had a light brown hair, wore a slim suit and had a gaudy face. He's young apparently.

[Oh, This guy will be my superior?]

[He is Niina Kazuma-kun]

[Nice to meet you, I'm assigned to your squad. It I'll be officially entering this company this April. I don't have any battle experience, but I graduated college for your information]

Entering the company next year? He must be a new guy.

Neito was just one term ahead of him.

[Y-Yeah.... Nice to meet you too.]

[Eh? That guy is my superior? But this guy looks stronger than him? You serious?]

The man called *Niina Kazuma* regarded Tsurugi as the squad leader.

That's entirely acceptable.

[I'll just say that I'm the squad leader.]

[Whoa... Is this for real? You're really my life model. Is it true that you defeated Beetle?
How much of the story is true Senpai?]

[Well... All of it is true]

[That's one awesome feat there...]

The air became quiet and still for a moment, just like the time General Raz spoke to Neito a few moment ago.

For once, Neito wasn't overcome by his feelings.

That battle really does mean a lot to him.

Izumi whispered to Neito in a low voice.

[... It doesn't look like it, but Niina-kun aced the quiz on the entrance exam... And well, the result would be... You would have to babysit him I guess...]

Neito had no reason to complain on the task given.

[No problem chief. Niina, it must be hard on you to be assigned to the special region off the bat]

[Well, I really don't want to, but I have no choice.]

Wouldn't Tsurugi be mad about him and his style?

Neito turned to Tsurugi. He didn't give a damn. Looking at it closely, Tsurugi only looked at Niina, as if he was trying to protect Neito from any danger.

[Chief Izumi. Is this all of my squad members?]

[Yeah... I had the intention of leaving it so, but...]

As Izumi finished his words, The door opened the same time as they heard a knock from it.

[*Naaate!* You got promoted! Congratulations!]

A girl came in with a blonde hair. She was one of the world's elite; with a deadly father who would kill you instantly the moment he finds out you hurt his daughter. She was one of the *Untouchables*.

[Y-Yeah... Thanks.]

[Good Job! Anice knew that you would become great in the nick of time! It's okay! I'll always be with you, even if you change jobs... You'll never be lonely!]

Anice held Neito's hand tightly and gave of a big smile.

[Hmm? Are you coming too?]

[Yeah! Are you happy?]

Neito looked at Izumi. He signaled that it wasn't his idea, and slid his fingers sideways on his throat.

He couldn't refuse him huh...? The middle management section must be rough for him...

Neito looked at Tsurugi. Tsurugi NE'd and gave a sense of laughter.

/*NE = Nose exhale – The thing you actually do when you find something funny on the internet; blowing out a small amount of air through the nasal passage.* /

Niina was saying something like [Whoa, she's really cute... You're really amazing Senpai]

[C'Est la vie] /*Neito doesn't speak French */

With that, Neito with his 3 subordinates were officially assigned to the special region.

At the end of the day, Neito invited his new subordinates out for a drink. Well, it was something like “deepening our friendship” type of celebration. The 3 of the replied.

[We’ll be in your care from now on]

[Well, I have some private work to do so I’ll be going home first...]

[What? You’re all going? That’s not fair... Who’s paying?]

