

And in the precincts of the shrine, the voice of a magical girl echoed! "With the power of love in my heart, one throw, a must kill! "The whirlwind bullet to destroy humanity!"

At the same time as she shouted, the girl in the strange leotard turned her stick around and used the hammer at the end of the stick to say, "Is that all there is to it?"

He beat up the stone statues of komainu (stone guardian dogs) as if to say, "I'll beat you up, no questions asked! It's the fast and furious attack of the komainu.

An innocent child would have burst into tears, but the man in the kimono confronting the girl did not change his stiff, tight expression and said, "Miss, you're not going to hit me.

What do you think of that? Oh, it's a sharp curve!

"Hey, that course is a ah!"

The man who looked panicked somehow went to hit the stone statue on the bashbub himself.

Naturally, they rolled over the grounds with a clattering, miserable appearance.

Normally, I would have said, "Oh, no. I might have killed him."

The man was hit by a blow that made him break out in a cold sweat, but he still managed to look up, shaking and shaking.

"Gosh, you can't be serious, they're going to kill a car that was given to them by the boss!"

I knew that you, who felt more indebtedness and humanity toward my father than anyone else, would definitely protect him at all costs. You're so smart, aren't you?

The man finishes his last line, drops his head, and faints.

And then the girl swung the stick and said, "Yeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!"

The dance of triumph is a dance of joy.

On the back of an unconscious man.

Finally, satisfied after a few breathless jumps, the girl smiles and moves him off of her.

Then, I turned the stick around once.

Then a blinding light enveloped my entire body and the next moment it burst out and disappeared, and I was back in my uniform instead of the strange leotard I was wearing.

The person who was hiding in the main shrine building was watching the scene.

It's not like Koiko was Magical Diva! Hah!

(alt: "..... That's right ... Koiko-chan was just a magical diva ...!") To the shocking truth, a girl who looked like a junior high school student's lips trembled, "At last, Momiji has found out who Magical Diva really is! Momiji is caught between friendship and duty, while Koiko, unaware of the situation, is still consumed by it. But when the Koume clan leader himself arrives at the school for a class visit, everything goes awry! What will be the outcome of the battle between the two transformed students and their class visit? Next time: "Class visitation day! The Hammer Girls Dance in Red! Please look forward to the next installment of "Hammer Girls Dance in Red!

The warning image on the screen ended, and then the screen went dark.

I think the second term is good after all. Not only the comedy parts, but also the battle scenes have been powered up. Above all, the new characters are cute.

I also like the spineless scenario of the first season," she said. In that sense, the battle with Ryu the Black Eel that began last week was quite moving.

As the lights slowly come on, Akiharu Hino responds to their sincere words with, "..... Is that so?

I could only say this and let out a deep breath.

The three of us were not watching a movie, but an animation DVD screening.

The planner of the event, Tiyo Ji Feng, who used the multipurpose hall for a very personal reason because she is the president of the board of directors, was very satisfied and nodded her head constantly, and Pina, a middle school student next to her, also seemed to be enjoying herself.

Akiharu, who was not at all at ease with the situation, twisted his head while feeling a little uncomfortable and said, "That Ryu guy's attacks weren't hitting, so I trained to be able to rotate the hammer when I hit him with it, right? But he dodged and ended up aiming at a valuable car. What was the point of the first half of the training?"

Noooo," Akiharu reasoned. Anime is to be watched and enjoyed straight through, that's the polite thing to do.

That's right, Magical Diva is all about emptying your mind and having fun with an open mind, right?

The two of them were giving her a hard time, and Akiharu couldn't say a word.

I don't know why, I just asked him a question that was rather obvious, but the way he looked at me like I was a child in trouble made me feel like it was my fault.

(alt: I wonder why, even though I just posed a question for granted, it makes me feel like I'm bad when I look at that troubled child.) Should I apologize for not being able to read the air? Well, whether I should apologize or not is beside the point.

I thought it was a bit of a mess and not really suitable for children to watch, but it was surprisingly entertaining."

When Akiharu expressed his frank impression, Pina seemed to like his comment and smiled broadly and said, "Hmm! Magical Diva is very funny!

The first time I went to the restaurant, I was surprised to see a small, but very nice, restaurant. The teacher was so impressed by the first season that he even came forward to sponsor the event.

I have heard rumors of such a thing. Was it because of the power of T'ien-loong Ji'ae that exposure became more widespread after the second term?"

"Well, that's not all. Our sponsor gave us the right to introduce a new character based on the motif of the teacher as our rival!

You're not mature enough for that!

..... I have never seen such a selfish use of money.

After going into it as much as he could, Akiharu became seriously concerned about whether such a person would be okay as the chairman of the board of directors.

If it weren't for Shinkan, things would be really bad.

Sighing deeply, Akiharu then looked closely at the profile of the girl next to him.

It is time to ask the princess with long silver hair in twin tails and big cat-like eyes, a junior named Pina Sformkran-Esto, about something.

So why did you suddenly ask me to go to the screening again? I mean, it's not that I don't have time, but what's the point of renting such a big place and having just the three of us?"

It was the mistress who decided to invite Akihar, but it was Kaede who decided to use this place."

Actually, what you just saw was the latest episode, and it will be aired the day after tomorrow. Our sponsor, the professor, received a DVD of the episode to check it out.

Heh"

So I wanted to brag about it!

That's it? I don't even know what you're bragging about., Pina? Are you so jealous that you have to bite my face off?

"U, u, I don't envy you! Nooooo, just wait and see, I'm Kaede. In a few years, with the power of the Kingdom of Sfor, they will create high-quality animation, and like a black ship, they will shock the Japanese animation world.

"So don't you dare throw your power and finances in that direction! Especially you, Pina, because your country is not a democracy and you're in serious trouble because of what could happen, okay?

Pina's cheeks puffed up in disapproval at the words of Akiharu, who had investigated her country, albeit only a little, since they had become acquainted.

What's with that rebellious face?

I'll make sure to teach this little girl the strictness of upper and lower relationships from the very beginning.

..... Well, this is just a joke of momentum.

Otherwise, it would be difficult.

Mainly the people of the Kingdom of Sfor.

When Akiharu was worried about the future of the country, the cheerful and smiling president said, "I'm so happy to hear that.

(alt: When Akibare was worried about the future of a country, the cheerful and smiling chairman said, "Hofu ...") He let out a small exhale and slowly stood up.

I'm not sure if this is a good time for me to leave, but I'm going to leave you now. I've left the rest to you, Esther, so please do your best.

(alt: "— By the way, the bragging of the animation is over, and the teacher is sorry to say that I'm sorry to say that I've left the rest to Mr. Estou, so please do your best.") "Well, it's been entrusted to me. Kaede, too, be sure not to forget about what happened."

..... There's something about the atmosphere that smells like a secret meeting.

It may not be surprising that the two of them are plotting something.

Kaede likes to surprise everyone around her, including Shinka, with unexpected events, and Pina is a naughty kid both inside and out.

After watching them leave the multipurpose hall, waving their hands like school children, Akiharu asked Pina, who remained behind.

So, why did you hold the screening? If you wanted to tell everyone how interesting this cartoon is, why didn't you just abuse your authority and make it an event like a plenary session?"

"Well, I'll get back to you on that. Bye."

..... No, again, none of the above is necessary. I was only joking."

"Nooo, what are you talking about? Akihar must have felt some of the fun of Magical Diva, right? And I have to tell you that I also watched the DVD with Kaede from the first season over the last holidays, and it lit a fire in my heart. Yes, you might say it lit a fire in my heart.

Hmmm?"

Touching a safety pin attached to his ear, Akiharu growls softly.

The princess's eyes twinkled and her hand rested on her flimsy chest as if overflowing with dreams and hopes.

You know that magic trick where money comes out one after another, and you think, "I'm going to be rich with this magic trick!

I'm like a child who has been convinced that he is a child.

Suddenly in the full throes of adolescence, Pina stood up vigorously and, as if that were not enough, jumped onto the seat.

I have made up my mind.

"..... what?"

I'm going to make my debut as a fanzine author with Magical Diva!

With an almost audible "Bishy" sound effect, Pina made her declaration.



Hearing this, Akiharu nodded his head and then asked, "What's a doujinshi at?"
No. Don't you know, Akihar?

"Ah, no, I've heard about it somehow. As I recall, it was some sort of self-published literary magazine, right?

It's the same thing, but it's not the same thing!

No, I have no idea what you are talking about, because I have no idea what you mean.

Certainly, what Akihar is saying should be correct in its original meaning, but the mistress is talking about the manga."

..... Hmmm? Is there a comic book?

In other words, individuals or groups of like-minded people get together to make comics. Of course, there are also dōjinshi of the novel and commentary type, but I make manga.

Even Akiharu, who was not familiar with this kind of story, could understand it if it was explained to that extent.

In other words, the princess of a certain country, whose eyes are filled with anticipation and excitement, has just declared, "You're going to draw a Magical Diva comic strip?"

"..... Okay, then! The time has come for you to take the first step toward realizing your ambitions!

He said, "Hey, so I know you draw comic books, but why did you call me?"

Mm. I hope that this screening has given you a good understanding of Magical Diva. If it hasn't sunk in yet, I will make you watch all the DVDs from the first season to the latest episode.

..... Isn't that what some people call brainwashing? I mean, I get that it's kind of fun, but no way, man.

"Well, you're very perceptive. Akihar is going to make a coterie magazine with me.

As if by natural progression, Pina readily made such a statement.

I was able to predict from the beginning that such a development would occur, so I am not that surprised, but whether or not I agree with it is a different story.

In the first place, I thought, "I don't mind if I help out, but why don't you and the board chairman do it together? These things are supposed to be done by a group of people who like the work together, right?"

Noooo, that's a good argument. But you know, Akihar. The world does not revolve only around good arguments.

Frowning, Pina folded her arms and said, "I'm a bad painter, and Kaede is a consumer only and has no interest in being a creator."

No, you're saying that's fundamentally wrong. How could you even talk about making a doujinshi with that?"

It's because there's a flame of passion swirling around it! In the first place, doujin activities are carried out based on the simple principle of "because I like it" in accordance with one's own desires. Of course, since it is not free, even amateur works become products, and since the market has expanded, there are those who focus on the economic effects of their activities., but the basis is still the enthusiasm to do something because you want to do it.

(alt: "That's because the flames of passion are swirling! In the first place, doujin activities are carried out based on the simple principle of" I like it "according to my own desires. , Because of the expansion of the market, there are some people who focus on economic effects, but the basics are the enthusiasm to do it because they want to do it. ") "....., your partner doesn't have the same enthusiasm, does he?"

Since I saw him leave after showing a pre-broadcast cartoon, I should not have had to confirm this with him.

In general, she is not the type of person who plans, but is not the type to lead with a self-centered approach.

While Akiharu was half-convinced that the president would not be as proactive as usual, he received a surprising response.

Kaede is the one who handles the event itself. "Kaede will be in charge of the event itself, and I'm sure Tenjoji's staff will be able to manage it well.

(alt: "Maple is going to be the one who handles the event itself. If you are a staff member of Tenjoji, you can manage it well.") is going to be another one of those "deep quiet" developments.

(alt: "... Is it a development where deep quietness is driven out again?") As someone who has received his daily instruction, I feel sorry for him.

I'm sure he's too good at what he does, but I wonder if he'll end up getting stressed out again.

(alt: I'm sure he can do it because he's too good, but will he be stressed again?) In addition, it is hard for Akiharu to imagine how much it must be mentally stressful to be dressed as a maid at an event like this.

Anyway, bye.

Pina jumped down from the chair, placing her hands on her hips and puffing out her chest while turning toward Akiharu and saying, "I have made up my mind. I have decided to make a coterie magazine of Magical Diva. Of course, this is my first time doing this, so there is a great possibility of failure, but it is worth the challenge. As long as the flame of passion is not extinguished, I am prepared to accept failure no matter how many times it may occur.

Just as Akiharu was thinking that Pina's spirit was a great thing, Pina's expression clouded slightly.

As I said before, maple trees are not on the creative side. I was thinking of doing it on my own, but I was wondering if you wouldn't help me?"

Nn....."

Since drawing manga is something unknown to him, and he did not know what to do or how to help, Akiharu avoided giving an immediate answer.

..... but in the end the answer was unlikely to change.

I can't help but think that when I see underclassmen trying to hide their insecurities in front of me, but failing spectacularly.

I'm not the type of person who can be harsh with younger people, but when they look at me with that kind of anxious, clingy look in their eyes, I just can't help but feel bad.

It's all right, it's already a lost game.

To overturn it, I would have to be born again and live a completely different life, which I probably won't be able to do.

Chuckling at his own thoughts, Akiharu then told Pina with a sense of raising the white flag.

Okay, I'll help you. I can't do much.

Oh, man! That makes me so happy!

And if they are pleased like this, they will have no choice but to push and do something about it.

If there was a tail or something, he would be bobbing his head and wagging his tail.

"So what am I supposed to do?"

Mm. First of all, I ask you, can you draw?"

It was a natural question, and I expected that Akiharu would ask it as well.

So, with a relaxed smile on his face, he said, "That was in the first grade of junior high school. As part of an art class, we went to the zoo, and the assignment was to draw a picture of an animal of our choice within the time limit. I decided to draw an African elephant.

"Hmm. Uh?"

When the art teacher saw the painstakingly completed painting, he said, "Um, Hino-kun? I don't think it's a good idea to draw a plankton in a zoo picture, do you? And"

With a feeling of looking up into the distance, Akiharu is immersed in nostalgic memories.

It was almost three years ago, but I still remember the expression on my father's face when he found that painting and quietly pretended not to see it.

And what was Pina's response when I told her the story: "....."?

I was amazed by the most painstaking and compassionate look in his eyes that I have ever seen.

..... Yeah, that's kind of annoying.

So, well, that's it. I don't care how bad Pina is at drawing, she's better than me. I'm sure you've practiced a lot, right?

"Ummm... but not much more than a child's rakugo."

"But you still want to make it, don't you? If that's the case, I don't think you have to be so concerned about the quality of the product.

It may be so. But if I'm going to make something, I want to make it as good as possible, that's my honest feeling. Of course, it is important to work together with like-minded people.

That's right.

The reason Akiharu was asked to join the project was not because of the pictures, but rather because he was "an easygoing person who would be willing to work with me.

This should be the reason.

..... Well, since there was only so much I could do to help with the cartooning process, it seemed better to cooperate through other approaches.

He folded his arms and looked up at the high ceiling of the multipurpose hall and suddenly had an idea that seemed to come from God.

(alt: Now, what happened, Akiharu folded his arms and looked up at the high ceiling of the multipurpose hall for a while ... —— Suddenly, he came up with an idea as if God had come down.) Yes, if you are not useful, bring someone who is.

We are looking for someone who is interested in manga and animation, and who is also interested in creation itself.

With the image of his small senior in his mind, Akiharu asked Pina, "What do you want to do?

"..... Hey, can we get more members yet?"

No?" That's all well and good, but do you have any idea who we're dealing with?"

"Oh, just one. Do you know a senior named Mina Sakurazawa? She's about the same size as Pina, but she's older than me.

Of course I know, but you didn't invite Akiharu and Mimina to"!

Oh, no way.

Pina smirks and nods, and then, holding her hands in the shape of goo, she says, "Let's get Mimina to dress up as the Magical Diva!"

When the princess was so excited that she started to say something terrible, Akiharu said, "That's right. Of course we should work hard on the production, but it's also a good idea to attack from that side, isn't it?"

I get my point across and give the thumbs up.

I'm sure that little senior would look great as a magical girl.

(alt: If you're that little senior, you're sure to look good in a magical girl.) I've seen Pina wearing it before, and I've seen it on, so I'm pretty sure.

I heard on some TV program that the flashier the better. Pina would be perfect if she could sell side by side."

Much. I agree!"

"Why don't you do the same thing? There was a rival character, so if the two of you stand side by side, you'll stand out like a sore thumb!

Mmmmmmm I'm starting to feel like I'm going to make it!

Akiharu nodded his head in agreement with Pina's buoyant words.

The only problem was that although I had made a plan to incorporate him into the group, I could not get the consent of that little senior.

The next day, Sunday, Akiharu decided to start recruiting immediately.

Since he could not reach her by phone, Akiharu decided that she was not at the dormitory, and tried to think of something.

As she is quite shy and withdrawn, she should never leave Hakurei Ling even on her days off.

..... means you are most likely at the museum or behind the library again.

Although I thought it was a rather aggressive deduction, I had no other guesses, so I decided to go for it, and either I was right on target or lucky, I was able to find it around the crossroads to the point I had set my sights on.

Of the two girls on the side of the road, the one with the smaller head was immediately recognizable as Minna.

It was a little out of the ordinary, but I'm glad we found it right away.

However, I also wonder if I should interrupt the conversation, so I casually approach them.

If it looks like it's going to be a long time, you can let them know you have something to do and temporarily withdraw.

"....., well, but is that necessary, or?"

As they got closer, I could read their expressions, and Akiharu muttered something in a whisper.

I felt that Minna, holding the sketchbook as if she were cradling it to her chest, was not quite at her ease.

I felt as if I were nervously facing a teacher I wasn't good at.

"So, Mr. Sakurazawa? Will you please think about it?"

Meanwhile, the person she was facing had a face she had never seen before.

If you are a first-year student, you should at least recognize him or her, so he or she is probably a senior.

Her soft, reddish hair was slightly longer than her shoulders, perhaps due to the slightly tilted sunlight, and she had a slightly self-assertive look in her eyes.

However, his demeanor is soft, just like a student in the upper secondary education department.

..... If we were classmates and had never actually met before, I'd have a hard time dealing with it.

I heard that a butler has to remember the faces of his clients and customers in order to do his job, so I may have to do a three-hour montage of nervous breakdowns after being lectured in depth again.

As Akiharu shook his head to shake off the nightmarish past, their gazes turned toward him, as if they had caught sight of something moving.

This is very awkward because I didn't intend to disturb

The child from the other side of the room looks at me with eyes that are the opposite of friendly.

It's not comfortable, but if you suddenly turn your back and run away, that's what a prowler looks like.

..... Hey, senior. Sketching as usual today?"

Akiharu raised his hand lightly in order to distract himself from the situation.

And yet, their reactions were quite different.

Mina lowered her head slightly with a somewhat relieved look on her face, while the stranger's shoulders shook for a moment and she took a step back as if to raise her level of alertness.

Is that your subtly raised right hand? Do you think we're going to attack you by any chance, damn it?

I was so used to it that I couldn't help but get a twisted look in my eyes at the damage I had done, but she wasn't looking at me anymore, so I was safe.

She was embarrassed to be so upset, so she stroked her hair with her right hand, as if to cover up her embarrassment, and turned to Minami and said, "Well then, Ms. Sakurazawa, we can talk about this another time tomorrow.

"Uh, yeah."

I hope you'll give me a good answer.

With that, she bowed her head and quickly walked away.

Funny, it's just like running away.

Even though there's nothing to be afraid of,..... I really wonder if I should do something about it. Before the second semester started I thought about it and decided to stop after all, "I'm going to change my hair back to black and take away the safety pins.

(alt: There's nothing scary about it Isn't it really bad if I don't do something about it ... I thought about it before I entered the second semester, and decided to stop it. plan") When Akiharu strongly felt the need to reexamine the ".....", he said, "Oh, um,, well, thank you.

I was so grateful that Minami came to my side and tugged my sleeve.

Akiharu frowned, wondering what in the world this was a thank-you for, and said, "..... ah. I thought I was interrupting something, but it wasn't that, was it?"

"U-....., yes, or maybe"

The reply was not clear, but I understood.

That's because she's a bitch, you know.

He is not the kind of person who would say such a direct thing.

He has the common sense of an ordinary person in Hakuryo.

Perhaps she could sense what Akiharu was thinking, Mina flapped her left hand in a panicked manner and said, "Oh, no, it's not that I don't like Mr. Abei or anything like that. It's not that I don't like you, Mr. Abei.

"No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no. I understand.

Blushing and covering her mouth with her sketchbook, she said, "U~....."

To Minami, who snarled, Akiharu tried to appear as casual as possible and asked, "So, that Abei-san is a classmate of your senior?"

Umm, yeah. Same class

Okay, you're a senior student after all.

Even though I could not talk to them, or even face them up close, I was branded as a child who could not even distinguish between his classmates, even though I had two choices: run away or swoon.

I'm glad to hear that.

Having felt at ease, Akiharu decided to quickly get down to business.

Momentum is important in this kind of thing.

I was looking for a senior colleague. Is everything okay now?"

"What are you also to Minna?"

I felt a strong connection with my seniors who were looking up at me anxiously.

So that means your classmate is, too?

Yes, that's right. Mr. Abei also has a favor to ask of you.

Saying this with a downcast look on her face, Mina's expression clouded over.

Seeing this, Akiharu was at a loss as to how to start the conversation.

I don't know much about it, but I heard that the business with a classmate named Abei was not a good one.

(alt: I'm not sure, but it seems that the requirements of a classmate named Abei weren't very good.) It's times like this when I ask, "Would you like to join me in a doujinshi?"

I feel that you are not reading the situation well enough to make such an invitation.

Thinking of a nice way to put his senpai in a good mood, Akiharu went through his pockets and retrieved the object he wanted.

"..... seniors. Here, for now."

(alt: "... Senior. For the time being, this") Ummm?" Hey, why the candy?"

I said, "No, you know, I think he'll be happy. I thought it would make them more energetic and full of life."

Oh, one candy cane doesn't make you that way. You're being rude, you know that?

Even though she was very angry, she didn't push back the candy I gave her, so I guess you could say that the operation was a success.

It is still easier to be angry than depressed.

The reason for the victory was the milk flavor.

While relieved to see his senior begin to lick the candy, Akiharu chooses his words carefully and begins to talk, hoping to start with something light at this point.

Oh, that's it. Are you good at comic books and video games?"

Ummm?" Uh, yeah. Maybe as much as anyone else."

So, what about anime? I hear there are a lot of late-night and cable TV shows these days."

I should probably ask in a more interesting way, but my knowledge is limited.

Yesterday, Pina talked a lot about how the DVDs would be better than the terrestrial version, but I couldn't understand a word of what she was saying, as if I were listening to a foreign language.

I had the impression that she was talking to a Scandinavian girl with silver hair and slightly red eyes, which made me feel that way even more so.

As Akiharu waited for his response, wondering if this senior is the type of person who can properly translate that conversation into a language other than magic, he heard the following words: "I didn't see it. I didn't see it, did you?"

Mina subtly averts her gaze and begins to play with the ground with the tip of her shoe.

..... was, frankly, incredibly suspicious.

Akiharu thought, "....."

(alt: 「.....」) I raised my voice, somewhat deliberately, and said, "I see, I see, you don't watch cartoons.

"Ho, really? You're an adult, you don't watch cartoons anymore.

If you didn't see it, that's fine. But I see, I have some useful information about anime, but if you haven't seen it, I don't have any choice but to tell you.

At our words, Minna's face goes up and she begins to blush as she mumbles and moves her mouth around.

In addition, she was clearly interested in me, as she looked back and forth between the tip of her shoe and my face.

When he gets a response like this, which is so easy to understand, he feels like making fun of it, and in a tone of voice that is as disappointed as possible, he says, "Talking to people who aren't interested is just boring. I'll just have to catch someone else who seems to like him.

"..... so, so but"

(alt: "..... Yeah ... but ...") I'm sorry to hear that. I thought maybe you could talk to a senior, but if you can't, I guess I'll have to do it.

(alt: "Yeah, I'm sorry. I thought that seniors could understand the story, but if it's impossible, it can't be helped.") "..... つ, aa no"

(alt: "..... Ah") "Hmm? What's the matter, sir?"

I mean, you know. If you want to talk, I'll listen to you, Hah!

Okay, they're biting.

No, it's not worth going out of my way to tell my seniors. I'm sorry for making you feel uncomfortable.

(alt: "No, it's not enough to tell my seniors. It's bad to be careful.") "Oh, I'll tell your anime-loving friends about you at and"

Ho"

Akiharu's smile deepened inwardly as he thought, "Oh, so that's how it came to be after all.

Then, well,"

Yes. I'll make sure you know.

"Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes. I'd like to tell you about it in person, so please introduce me to someone you know.

"..... aa"

(alt: "..... Ah") The smile on his face quickly faded, and he asked, "I mean, do I really know anyone who can talk to my seniors like that?"

"..... it ha, u~....."

(alt: "... That is, Uh ...") They may be desperately trying to give us a name, but their little mouths are still not moving clearly.

I could have just made something up and said it, but this senior is either bad at summarizing or too naïve.

Perhaps they are both right.

It's fun to make fun of you for not being able to express your true feelings, but now that you're slowly starting to look like you're about to cry, it's time to move on.

To show that he was joking, Akiharu put his hand on Minami's head, which was about the size of a small elementary school student, and lightly stroked her hair as if to ruffle it.

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I was just kidding. If you want to know, I'll tell you.

(alt: "Bad, bad, the joke has passed. If my seniors want to know, I'll teach them properly.")

"Mi-Mi-Minna is, you know, separately"

"No, I already know you're interested. It's okay to watch cartoons."

It's not good. I'm going to turn 20 next year, and I'm an adult, but still watching cartoons is not good.

"If you're saying that, the chancellor, who's already 20 years old, would have seen it. Well, in his case, he's a little too mature for that.

I also think it's wrong to say that they will turn 20 next year when they are only around 10 years old.

It's hard to believe that this senior will be an adult next year, even after knowing him for a while.

She smiled at Minami, whose cheeks were puffed out in embarrassment and whose age was in the single digits, as if to dissolve her anger, and then finally went on to the main topic.

The chairman of the board of directors is a sponsor of an animated program, so he has DVDs of the show before it aired on TV. It's called Magical Diva, and it's on late on Tuesday nights.

..... Do you know about it, seniors?"

Oh Yeah. I'm too sleepy to stay awake, so I'm recording it and watching it."

"Do the dormitories in the department of higher education have, say, TVs and VCRs in individual rooms?"

Yes, it is. It's a DVD recorder with a built-in HDD, not a video recorder.

Akiharu didn't know this word, even though Minami casually mentioned it.

Although it is predictable that this is probably the latest device to replace the VCR, knowledge of such electronic products is quite poor.

I'm not as good as Daichi, but I still don't know how to use a computer, so if the day comes when I have to use it in class as the curriculum progresses, I'm going to be in trouble.

"Well,, by the way, do you bring that kind of thing in personally?"

If you find something you want, circle it in the catalog and apply for it. If you do that, you can get a sample.

"..... sample."

(alt: "..... Free sample") It's obvious that the adults are trying to make a good impression on the young ladies, and it's almost as if they're trying to hide their behind-the-scenes activities.

Well, for the students in the upper secondary school, there must be no difference whether they pay for free or not.

It's a school that only the rich can get into.

Well, in that sense, you may be lucky if you are special to Nami.

I'm not interested in that, but does the president have the DVDs of the previous episodes? Can he show it to us at"

"Oh, that's not a problem, I mean, I can brag about it, so I guess I'm in good company."

I knew about the animation and thought the feel was not so bad.

With the first and even the second gate already passed, Akiharu felt that this could go quite well, so he exerted all his strength and smiled in the most friendly way possible and said, "Actually, there's this guy who wants to make that Magical Diva fanzine.

The "U.....? "Do you like me, sir?"

Oh. There's a little silver-haired girl in the middle school named Pina. Do you know her?"

"Uh, yeah,, I know, but"

The expression on Minami's face, which had been quite pleasant until a few minutes ago, is now a little shadowy.

When Akiharu wondered if it was because I suddenly mentioned a third party's name, I asked, "What is this 'dojinshi'?"

I was asked some tough questions that I am not an expert in explaining.

"Uh, let's see,, I think, if I'm not mistaken, you're supposed to form a circle, either individually or with a group of friends, right,? Then they draw comic books, write novels, make books, and sell them.

..... Do you draw cartoons with Magical Diva? Um, how do you do the printing and stuff?"

"....., how would you do that?"

I had not heard anything about that area at all.

"Well, maybe it's all right. She is a princess of a country, and she is backed by the president of the board of directors. The problem now is not so much that there are not enough members to work with, but rather that there are not enough members to work with.

"U..... so, to you and me?"

Oh. I was going to ask Tomomi and Selnia to join me, but they didn't seem to be interested in that kind of thing, so I decided against it. I thought you might be a good fit.

After I tell them, I regret a little that I may have been too honest.

It would not be nice to hear that you have already found the right person.

I'm not sure if I made her feel bad or not, but she looked at the little senior in front of her and wanted to tilt her head back.

(alt: Worried that he might have made him feel sick, Akiharu looked at the little senior in front of him ... As a result, he wanted to tilt his head.) Why do I feel like a kid who wanders backstage at an event and comes face-to-face with a costumed hero in undress? WATCH: So there it is. Pina seems pretty serious about this, but I'd appreciate it if you'd try to join in or watch with a light heart. I'm sure I still don't understand the essence of magical violence in action.

I was told to watch all the DVDs of the first season by the end of the next consecutive holidays, and I was even given a playback device for that purpose, so I'm sure I'll get at least a glimpse of it in the near future.

(alt: By the end of the next consecutive holidays, I was told that I should watch all the DVDs of the first term, and I was handed over to the playback equipment for that purpose, so I wonder if I can grasp a scale in the near future.) At any rate, the cat princess must be happy to have more friends.

We are similar in age and appearance, and our seniors are a little different from the other ladies, so we may be more compatible with them than we think.

Although Akiharu would like to have Momina participate by all means, he does not want to force her to do so.

I think I know what I'm talking about.

I'm talking about if you have the time and inclination. Pina says that doujinshi is a form of communication while satisfying the desire for self-expression and creativity, so I don't think it's a bad idea to do it just for fun.

I know what you want to say. But you can also"

What do you have? Well, did your classmate ask you to do something for him earlier?"

While thinking it was impolite, Akiharu asked Minami, whose expression was again downcast, "What do you think of this?"

I had no idea what exactly was going on, but I was concerned because I thought it might be the cause of the darkness and heaviness that was weighing down on Minna.

This is how the guardian's spirit is stirred.

Although it pains her conscience to put pressure on Minna, if she just waits for her to speak voluntarily, she is likely to run away before she even opens her mouth.

The little older man glanced up at me as if he were writing with his toes on the ground, and said, "U~..... you know, right? Mr. Abei's father is going to start a new painting contest.

Hmm?"

I don't really know, but they're going to make it a great competition. So, I want you to participate if you can."

"I see... that's what you're talking about."

It's easy to forget because he looks like a grade-schooler, but he is a world-class painter. Is it not surprising that we receive offers to participate in competitions and art exhibitions?

But, as I recall, I heard something about this before: "Wasn't it because of those kinds of offers that you came to Hakurei Ling?"

I didn't say anything terrible about your family. It's just that the president was concerned and wanted to help.

(alt: "Uh, I'm not saying that it's annoying But the director-sensei who was worried for the convenience, so ...") "Come on, man, you hated it. But you're still hesitating whether to exhibit or not?"

Akiharu would have refused in two-tenths of a second.

But Minna looked puzzled and said, "Because you are in the same class as Abei that"

I said, "Don't worry about such things at all. "Don't worry about it. From the way you look, you don't want to serve it, do you?"

Oh, there are many things that happen to adults. It's not that easy."

"Adult." No, well, yeah.

She always seems to be "a lady in spite of my appearance.

I thought it was a statement, and was about to butt in reflexively, but then I suddenly reconsidered and decided to agree.

Although their age is one thing, these seniors have different life experiences from other upper secondary school students and from the average high school student.

She was hospitalized for a long time for a heart ailment, and then her talent for painting was discovered and she became a celebrity.

It wasn't just that they had lived three years longer than I had, but that they might have seen things in the world they normally wouldn't have seen, experiences they wouldn't have wanted to have.

In this light, it is impossible to dismiss your words out of hand.

..... However, I don't really understand what this little person is going through as an adult.

However, since I could understand more or less what Minna was saying, Akiharu was at a loss for words.

"I don't know if I'll actually enter the competition, but I don't think I'll be watching cartoons or selling comic books when I'm so worried about whether or not I'll actually enter."

(alt: "Contest, uh ... and whether or not it actually appears, don't you feel like watching anime or selling manga when you're worried?") "Oh, uh,, but aren't you going to be in trouble without me?"

Hmm?" Well, yeah.

Without her seniors, Pina would have to play cosplay by herself.

If this is the case, she might float a bit, and there might be some uncertainty as to whether or not the princess, who has a surprisingly chicken-like disposition, will be able to endure it.

But, "Making coterie magazine is just like having a stall at a school festival, isn't it? I think there's a point in making it and completing it. That's just my opinion, though.

I think Kaede would agree with that.

What about Pina?

Maybe a little subtle.

But if it's Tomomi, it's definitely going to be a head-on argument.

He is both a commercialist and a perfectionist.

So, at the worst, me and Pina should be able to manage on our own. I'm a complete outsider, so I'm not sure I'll be able to do much.

(alt: "So in the worst case, I and Pina alone should be able to do something about it. I'm a perfect outsider, so I can't do much.") "..... Are we doing this just the two of us? Just you and her?

When asked to confirm, Akiharu responded with a nod.

I want to show the seniors how unmotivated the president is.

..... So, why is this older guy looking up at me like he's in a bad mood? There was no reason to be in a bad mood during our brief exchange.

We can't pester them with words, as we should.

If you have such a useful skill, then you should be able to understand why Minna became so disheveled in the first place.

The candy ball bribe that could have been the trump card has already been played.

While Akiharu was thinking about what would happen, Minami made the first move.

He turned his sketchbook to his back, and again fiddled with the ground with the tip of his shoe, "..... You know," he said. I'd like to think about something.

Participation? I'm glad you're considering it, but is a good idea?"

Yeah. "Well, just a little bit, but I thought I wanted to try it.

The next day, Monday night.

To report on the current situation, Akiharu met up with Pina and decided to talk about yesterday's events in brief.

The location, by the way, is a lake surrounded by forests, which is associated with a certain fate.

Since it is already October, it has already passed the point of coolness and become chilly.

Even though Autumn Sun wearing a long-sleeved parka, albeit a thin one, thought so, Pina was still in her middle school summer uniform, cheerfully walking back and forth along the lakeside, "No. That means we can't get any help.

(alt: Even though it's thin, I think it's true even in Akiharu wearing a long-sleeved hoodie, but Pina energetically went back and forth along the lakeside in her middle school summer uniform, saying, "Nuu ... In other words, a collaborator was obtained. That's right. ") Oh, I'm sorry. Even the senior who gave me the most positive answer said, as I said before, that it's on hold."

(alt: "Oh, bad. Even the senior who gave me the most positive answer was on hold, as I said earlier.") I tried to talk to a few people after Minna, but got zero good responses.

I realized how unpopular I am.

That's fine. You are doing a good job.

Oh, you seem like a person who stands on top.

For the first time, Pina has the dignity of a princess: "I'm not the only one who can do it," she said to Tomomi. I have no other acquaintances, so I'm sure of it.

(alt: For the first time, Pina has the dignity of a princess.) No, it was a friendless person's way of opening up.

There was nothing dignified or grandiose about it.

However, because he was so proud to say such a thing, Akiharu couldn't help but laugh inside his mouth.

He put his hand over his face to hide it and said, "Well, then, that's it. Even if you can't help, try talking to him sometime. At least you know you have something in common.

Noooo Well, I'll think about it and leave it. I'll think about it, and I'll think about it.

"Oh, you think so?"

Mm-hmm. That physique, while being a senior, is perfect for a mascot character. Moreover, I can understand the fun of Magical Diva. Mina is a girl without a doubt.

Pina, sitting on a rock by the pond, folded her arms and nodded her head.

Akiharu agreed with her, but there was one thing that bothered him.

Well, you call all the upperclassmen and teachers by their first names, don't you?

"Well, it's a sign of my affection. You once told me that I could forget my identity as long as I was a student at Baili Ling.

"Oh, yeah, that's right, no."

When the stunted Nordic girl in front of me introduced herself as a princess, I think she said something along those lines.

But if that's the case, then shouldn't we use honorifics for our elders? Well, it's not really for me to say, but..."

I can't do that.

When she received an unexpectedly clear rejection, Akiharu looked at Pina with a furrowed brow.

Her face is somewhat more serious than usual, and I somehow think that if she grows up to be an adult, she will become a beautiful woman.

Although it had nothing to do with the current conversation, Pina's expression was so clear and dignified that such a thought suddenly occurred to me.

For the first time, she looks like a proper princess.

I know it may be a bit of a misnomer to say this, but there is a difference between a concubine and another person. No matter how much Tomomi may be the daughter of a world-renowned Saikyo family, there is no telling how much disrepute she would be in if she were seen conversing with a concubine on an equal footing. Age difference is not an issue. Among the Hakurei mausoleums, Kaede is the only one who matches her in rank.

Senior, but? I mean, he's got to be pretty famous, no matter what his family background is.

According to what Minna told me, her father is a wealthy man in a company that imports and sells furniture from overseas, and her mother is a full-time housewife, which would not normally allow her to attend Hakuryo.

Therefore, no matter how much the former president personally encouraged the transfer, the fact that there was no outcry from other students indicates that the talent and achievement of the students were recognized.

Still, Pina shook her head.

In a few years, I'll know, but right now it's not possible. It would be an exaggeration to say that an artist can only be publicly recognized after his lifetime, but it is not enough for him to receive a medal or two. It is difficult for an individual talent alone to match the history of the nation and the blood that the concubines have accumulated.

I see. Naah.

(alt: "I see ...") The others are well aware of the difference between themselves and the concubine, so even if they tried to talk, they would only be able to engage in superficial conversation. I am not looking for that kind of relationship. Moreover, as a princess of a country, even those few people with whom I can speak frankly have the audacity to speak lightly.

..... It was kind of a messy story.

The fact that Pina's words are so carefully chosen makes them seem even more unrealistic.

"If you're, then you shouldn't have said anything about taking me on as a retainer or anything like that, should you?"

Oh, that's a pretty good point. But that was not a public announcement, it was just a promise. Probably no one took it seriously.

If it's, well, I guess I'm okay.

"Mm, I'm fine. You don't want to create an unnecessary hierarchical relationship among yourselves, do you?"

At that suggestion, Akiharu tried to recall the faces of the members of the same education department.

Todoroki doesn't seem to mind at all, but Daichi and Sanke seem to be sensible people, so maybe they might be a bit reserved.

This is even more so when it is a group of girls you are not that close to.

I can't believe Pina thought so much about it.

To be honest, I thought she would be more of a "bombshell" type of girl than Selnia.

Akiharu offers a series of apologies in his mind, then turns to Pina again.

So, how does calling someone by their name as a sign of affection work?"

Nugu? Well, uh, you know, that..."

No, which one?

So, since there is no one but you who can speak properly, I don't know."

(alt: "Well, I don't know because there is no one other than you who can speak properly.") "..... oh and"

(alt: "..... Oops") Oh no, I think I stepped on a land mine.

It is awkward and difficult to make amends or call for help.

Pina's appearance, which changed from sitting on her haunches to sitting in the gym before I knew it, made me feel guilty again.

This little princess has created a huge difference between light and dark.

I would like to see a more detailed setting of the emotional gears.

Since it was clearly caused by his own words, Akiharu pondered for a while and thought about what he should do about it. After some time, he reached into his pocket and pulled out the desired object, and held it out in front of the princess, who had shifted into an athletic position.

(alt: Apparently, it was caused by my own words, so I thought that Akiharu had to do something about it for a while ... After a while, I thrust my hand into my pocket and took out the desired object, and the princess moved to the gymnasium. I presented it in front of my eyes.) Pina, don't say a word. Just take it.

..... What is this,"

I apologize for hurting a sensitive adolescent girl," he said. Here."

Taste of the candy was a favorite of the children.

"....., you are or"

(alt: "....., You that") "Hmm. What's wrong? Why don't you take it?"

"..... Do you think you can make my mistress feel better with a single candy bar?"

Unexpectedly, Pina got angry with such force that she might jump up and down.

This development made Akiharu twist her head and think, "..... is strange, even though it tastes like milk,"

What if it's milk flavor? What if it's milk-flavored?

"Well, you can't handle pain or bitterness, can you? You used to get all teary-eyed when you chewed mentholated gum."

Forget about it as fast as you can! Yes, you'll do this to your head, which thinks of all kinds of nonsense!

"You idiot, don't try to jump on me when I'm by the water!"

In the end, Pina's mood continued to be unstable, and the flight continued to be unstable.

After much fussing and gasping for breath, Pina slipped and fell on the moss and ran home half-crying, and that was the end of the meeting.

And the next day.

Akiharu was on duty at the café terrace, so he headed to work immediately after school.

I was somewhat unsteady on my feet after the military-like harassment of afternoon classroom lectures in an air chair.

I wiped the sweat off with a wet towel.

After changing her undergarments and fixing her clothes and hair, Akiharu was ready for her new job as a waiter, and she was ready for her new job as a butler, and she was in charge of the area of the café terrace.

I consciously rounded my tense back and let out an involuntary sigh.

Well, yes, it happens all the time.

It is no exaggeration to say that this is an everyday occurrence.

When Tomomi or Selnia is not available, I usually end my working hours without having to deal with anyone.

In the beginning, the adults and the girls in the Education Department came, but after the second semester, they stopped coming unless they had something legitimate to do, like drinking tea.

It is not hard to think that they are heartless.

But she knows that this is a misguided accusation, and so she tries to put it out of her mind.

"Maybe no one's coming to today, huh?"

Tomomi said she had an appointment with a friend from another class, and Selnia was out shopping with Feng.

I don't think that the students in the education department would go out of their way to have an elegant tea time at a café after such a class.

If you just want to drink tea, you can drink it in the lobby of the dormitory.

Since it's hopeless to get any visitors except acquaintances, it automatically means that no one today is going to be able to get to

"..... う.....?"

While looking at the front of the café terrace in a daze, dominated by a feeling of resignation, Akiharu, who was probably passing by by chance, shouted at the sight of Minami, and the other side responded, ".....".

"....."

Somehow, their eyes met, and they stiffened.

Now I am left wondering what to do from here.

The fence surrounding the café makes it hard to see, but the sketchbook in Minna's hand is the one she always carries.

He probably plans to go to the back of his favorite library and paint alone in peace and quiet.

In other words, from a different point of view, you have a lot of free time.

In addition, it is easy to see how this side looks from the other side.

It was a very lonely situation, as there were several groups of customers in the area where the maids were, but none in my place.

Moreover, I am confident that when our eyes met, I was exuding an aura of considerable pity.

Minna glanced at the sketchbook and library in her hand, but she still could not abandon the devastation, and hesitantly walked into the café terrace.

I chose a seat at the end of this deserted area and sat down.

She may seem like a shy child who has come to a relative's house she doesn't know well, but that is why Akiharu is impressed by her attentiveness.

..... I guess she is just too good-natured and weak-minded to turn a blind eye to this situation, which is probably why she decided to come to Hakuryo.

I agree.

After thinking about it while preparing a glass and a bottle of mineral water, Akiharu presented the menu and water in front of Minna while taking care of his manners.

Without making eye contact, he said, "Uh, orange juice or iced milk"

The person taking the order gave a rather strict order, so I thought for a moment and then said, "The temperature is a little low today, so I'm going to take the order.

The reason for this choice is that "I'm sorry to keep you waiting. I made you an orange juice, is that okay with you?"

"Uh, yeah, is fine, but"

"Is there a problem, sir?"

I'm going to go to I don't like the way you talk. It doesn't suit you.

(alt: "Well ... that's right. I don't like that way of speaking. It doesn't look good ...") He was cut off in a mumbling tone of voice.

The senior staff looked at me apologetically, but I was responsible for the problem, so I didn't need to worry about it or even tell her if I did.

I'm not saying that Akiharu himself fully understands that this is not suitable for him, but...

..... Hey, senior. This is my job, after all."

In order to avoid being overheard by the maid in the next area, I quietly and quietly speak in a low voice, as if I am making an excuse.

Then, Mina's lips turned slightly pouty.



I'm not sure if it's because I'm not a good listener, or because I'm not a good listener, or because I'm not a good listener. I can't help but feel uncomfortable.

(alt: "... Because I usually talk so violently. I just feel uncomfortable.") It's...

Instead, he said, "As you use it in your work, your tone of voice will become more polite and courteous. Maybe."

"U -"

He holds a glass of orange juice in both hands to his mouth and drinks it with a look of dissatisfaction on his face.

This is a statement of "I'm not convinced."

I wonder if this person is an elementary school student after all.

Akiharu tried to touch the safety pin in his right ear to see what would happen, but he was already at work, so he held back.

As I was absentmindedly rubbing my fingers together, Minami put her glass on the table, looked up and said, "..... You know, I've been thinking about this for a while. About what we talked about yesterday,"

"Oh?"

For a moment, Akiharu, not understanding what his senpai was talking about, frowned and said, "..... ah, ah, ah. That thing from the manga?"

Yes, that's it. You know, Minna, I've been thinking about it all night.

The answer came out unexpectedly quickly, and Akiharu was not prepared to listen to it. As a result, it did not come true to his satisfaction.

(alt: In response to the unexpectedly quick answer, Akibare tried to listen without being prepared for his heart ... As a result, it didn't come true.) Oh? Mr. Sakurazawa, I didn't know you were there.

Huh!" Oh, Mr. Abei,"

I looked in the direction of the voice and saw the upperclassmen I had seen yesterday on the other side of the hedge where you Kimi was.

When a second-year student named Abei came into the café terrace, he did not take a seat but stood next to Minami and gracefully greeted her.

Watching from the side, Akiharu was at a loss for what to do.

Mina's face is somewhat troubled, but ours is even more so.

There is no manual for when a customer does not intend to sit at a table, and it feels wrong to talk to them badly.

Mr. Abei seemed to have noticed the presence of Akiharu, who was just standing there in a blank stare, and glanced at me, then immediately returned his gaze to Minna.

As I expected, the response was to try to keep the delinquents sitting on the side of the road out of sight.

I've been looking for you. If we had selected the same classes, we wouldn't have had to go through all this trouble. But there's nothing we can do about that now, is there? I should be thankful that I was able to find it.

"Oh,, you know, still?"

Yes, it's about the competition. Have you given it some thought?

When Mr. Abei asked this question, a pure smile appeared on his face, as if he had not the slightest idea that he would be rejected.

This is quite difficult to do.

From his reaction, it seems that he has no intention of accepting it, but it must be hard for a senior with a heart as small as a hamster to express his rejection to someone who is smiling like that.

As Akiharu, who is at work and can only watch, gazes at her, Miminami raises her head while slightly quivering her eyelashes and turns to Mr. Abei, who looks as if he is eagerly awaiting her reply, "..... Um, you know. I don't want to enter the competition.

He said it in a very low voice, but he did say it.

This was a surprising turn of events for Akiharu, who had expected a more euphemistic refusal.

Maybe I just couldn't find a good excuse, but even if so, it's admirable.

I think so even more so when I see her looking so apologetic and small.

The one who was turned down, however, cracked his wide-open eyes open several times and slowly tilted his head back.

It's like a foreigner hearing a harshly accented dialect for the first time.

I'm sorry, "..... I didn't hear you right. Yeah, I must have misheard you. I can't believe I turned you down for the competition.

(alt: "... I'm sorry. I can't hear you well ... Yeah, you made a mistake, right? I refused to put up for the competition.") U....., wrong, not"

"Are you sure you don't want me to send you to"?"

"..... Yeah."

(alt: "..... yes") The reconfirmation was successfully completed.

But the air in the room was "good, good, good."

It is so heavy that even a butterfly flying comfortably might fall.

Even the third-party autumn weather reminded me of something urgent.

I feel awkward and want to stay away from this place.

Both of them were frozen for a moment, but it was Mr. Abei who made the first move, literally doubting his own ears.

Why? This should not be a bad story for Mr. Sakurazawa either!

"But, you know, I've decided not to go anywhere for a while, so I'm going to"

How long is a while? Since Mr. Sakurazawa transferred to Hakuryo - No, even before that, you have not held any solo exhibitions or participated in any competitions, and you have been silent for a long time. Of course, you continue to paint, don't you?

It's, yeah, I'm working on it, but"

If so, don't you have a lot of unpublished works? All you have to do is submit one of them that you think is good enough. Why is that?"

"..... that"

(alt: "..... That.....") She was so excited that she turned over with a blush on her cheeks.

I have no choice.

At this point in time, we can't say what our position is or that we are in the middle of a service project.

Akiharu took a step forward, knowing that he would be clearly scolded by Shinka later on.

I raised my right hand as if to make my presence known, and then said, "Sorry to interrupt. What is it? It's none of your business.

When Mr. Abei was so obviously wary of Akiharu, Akiharu inwardly said, "That's right. I think, "What is it about this place that makes it so special? Certainly, this is a matter for both of us.

But, well, I have no intention of pulling my head out of my ass once I've stuck it in, so I'm not going to say, "Well, it's nothing to do with that. That little senior of mine is going to make a comic with some other people including me. I'm sorry, but you'll have to give that up."

(alt: But, well, I have no intention of retracting my neck once I've stuck it in, so I said, "No, it doesn't matter. That little senior, this time I'm going to make a manga with some people, including me. I'm sorry, but that's it. Give up ") Huh!"

What is that about?

In the heat of the moment, they took the liberty of making their own declaration.

While the two were frozen, Akiharu was trying to go as far as he could go, while constructing a setting in his mind that looked like that.

So, that's it. "So that's why I heard that you don't enter competitions or anything until you feel like it, and then try to expand your potential, or something like that.

"Son, Nancy, you're a cartoon. What a cartoon! Your father's contest is open to entries from 28 countries, and is still talked about as being very prestigious, judged by some of the most important people in the art world. It would definitely be good for Mr. Sakurazawa if he entered the contest."

(alt: "That's ... manga, manga! Father's competition is soliciting applications from 28 countries, and it will be a very authoritative one that will be judged by those who are also listed as major figures in the art world. It's still a hot topic enough ... If you put it up, it's definitely for Sakurazawa-san ... ") Is it because he is angry or because he is feeling an overflowing of unidentifiable emotions?

Well, either way, this is not likely to be interpreted favorably.

However, Akiharu does not feel good about Abei's words, so in a sense, we are both on the same side.

It's up to you to decide whether it's for your senior's benefit or not. He is still a student, so let him do what he wants to do."

..... Well, we haven't gotten a guarantee that they will cooperate with us in producing doujinshi yet.

What's more, they make us do cosplay.

No, I'm going to ask you to help me a little with the comic production.

I know it is an unnecessary meddling, but even for Akiharu, there is no way he can just back out now after getting involved in all of this.

..... I'm selfish.

When I was a little stunned by my behavior, Mr. Abei turned his sharp gaze on me.

I know you may not be a student of education, but this is not an invitation to have fun! This is about Mr. Sakurazawa's prosperous future.

I don't want to force someone else to intervene, but...

I'm tempted to meddle! I can't just stand by and watch Mr. Sakurazawa, who has been so selective in his manga and other works, squandering his talent!

While Minna seemed to be unable to keep up with the development, Abei was so heated up that his neck was slightly reddish.

Akiharu is aware that his own voice is getting louder as well, but even though his rational mind is telling him to calm down, he is unable to control his agitated emotions.

And the problem is that I can't figure out where to drop it.

"..... That's why the Education Department is so bad! You're no use to us!

At the words that were spat out in an aggravated manner, Akiharu almost reflexively tried to reply, "Then I'll take your place!

The sudden turn of events had us gasping for breath with every word.

A voice that was completely unexpected rang out, but there was no time for Akiharu to be surprised by it.

It was a sight to behold, as a figure dashed in like a gust of wind and jumped onto an empty table in close proximity to us.

Not only Akiharu, but also Mina, Mr. Abei, and everyone else in the café were looking at the girl on the table with her hands on her hips and her chest proudly stretched out.

She was dressed in her middle school uniform, smiling broadly, and said, "If there are not enough students in the Education Department, Pina Sformkulan-Esto will fill Akihar's shoes!

Raise your voice and say, "Bishy!

I pointed at Mr. Abei, as if I could hear his voice.

The person pointed at me looked obviously upset and said, "Why is Mr. Esteau here?"

"Hmph, that's obvious. I am the one who is leading the production of the fanzine Akihar was talking about! Therefore, it stands to reason that if Akihar, who is acting as my hands and feet, is unable to handle the situation, I should be the one in the spotlight!"

Abei puts his hands over his mouth and is surprised.

Pina smiled as if she had already won and closed her eyes in satisfaction after seeing the nice reaction.

However, when Akiharu finally came out of the shock and approached me, he opened his eyes and looked at me, as if he sensed my footsteps and my presence. Go ahead, praise me as much as you like!

Who gave you that compliment? Just get out of the way, a princess shouldn't be doing such a lowly thing!

"No, you sashayed in at the critical moment, and yet you're cursing at me!"

..... If you knew even a part of the content of the conversation that was in dispute, then you must have been listening in somewhere and waiting for the conversation to start. I'm not the perverted narcissist Daikichi, so don't do anything embarrassing."

"No, I'm not... but, then, I'm taking off my shoes, aren't I?"

But that doesn't mean we can just sit at the table! I got your shoes for you, now get down and put them on.

Since being angry is not enough, Akiharu picks up the shoes that were taken off near the table, arranges them, and puts them on the ground.

Finally, Pina reluctantly steps off the table, puts on her heel-less shoes, and says, "..... noooo planning to take advantage of height is"

I don't care about any of that. Just do it the usual way. The usual way.

While he was so stunned that he let out a big breath, Akiharu inwardly thanked Pina for her action.

Jumping on the table is out of the question.

I don't know how long she has been there, but since she is a princess, she must have been walking around looking for you just like Abei did.

(alt: I don't know when it came from, but since it was this princess, she must have been walking around looking for everyone in the same way as Senior Abe.) The timing is too good to be coincidental, and he has a personality that is unlikely to stay still.

And although he kept an eye on things for a while, the situation was what it was, so he came out.

It cooled my head a little, too.

That alone was gratifying, but Pina was not about to let it end there.

Pina moved in front of Mr. Abei with a small stride that befits her size, staring straight into his face, which was somewhat higher than hers, and said, "It took a little time, but as I said before, I'll take care of it. "It took a little time, but as I said before, I'll take her.

Well, that is, of course, if you're the princess, Esther, but

I should have told you that the leader of the coterie who wants to add Mimina to the group is the mistress. It was also Mistress who suggested that I draw the cartoons you made fun of. Therefore, if you have something to say, it is only right that you say it to me.

Pina's usual tone of voice and the dignity she usually displays is refreshing.

It's a wonder that he is the same person who was half-crying after being scolded by the president for staying up all night playing games with him.

The world is full of mysteries.

Well, it's not a big pressure for Akiharu, who has to do something that is like being a relative or a half guardian of a child.

However, facing Pina, Mr. Abei was expressing his opinion from the opposite side, and since he was like a fairly straight upper secondary school student who was not of the strange sort, he was on the edge of a confrontation with the princess.

Abei, who looked somewhat lost as his gaze wandered, clasped his right hand in front of his chest and said, "..... I beg your pardon, but it is wrong for you to let Miss Sakurazawa go along with Estoux's amusement, even if she is a princess.

"How about"?

I think it is all for your benefit to paint pictures with the viewer in mind and to enter them in competitions. Of course, you may think that entering a competition sponsored by my father is a personal affair, but still...!

The upperclassmen, perhaps out of sheer stubbornness, chose to maintain a confrontational posture rather than flee.

I am impressed by the skill of the adversary.

But this is Pina's stage now.

In front of Akiharu's eyes, Pina does not break her dignity against her older counterpart.

He was looking straight at his opponent as if he was ready to knock him away no matter what kind of sword strikes came his way.

Then I ask you, are you saying that drawing cartoons is not for Miminas?

Of course! If you have the time to do such a thing, it would be much better for you to submit your work to a prestigious competition..." "Of course! ..."

Pina, on the other hand, raised her mouth slightly and said, "That's out of the question.

With one word, he cut them off.

Abei was stunned, and when he looked at her, she too had a surprised look on her face.
I'm sure the other students who were listening in were too.
(alt: I'm sure there are other students who were listening.) However, Akiharu did not change his expression.

I thought you were taking things too far at once, but that's all there is to it.
It is as if someone who has only painted landscapes tried painting abstracts, or someone who has only painted ink paintings tried oil paintings. It is almost certain that by drawing cartoons, you will learn new techniques and broaden your horizons, but to deny this by merely tracing the surface is outrageous!

"..... ㄟ....."
(alt: ".....") What do you mean, a competition? Mimina's name is already known all over the world. If she is already well known in her own country, why should she be entered in a competition now?

Yes, that may be so, but more than ever.
It's no use. First of all, a prestigious competition is only as strong as its history. There is no prestige in a competition that has been widely publicized and has a jury composed of well-known people. It is only when an unknown person becomes famous in the course of 10, 20, or even 100 years of history that the competition becomes more than just a formality; it becomes a value. To submit a work to the Miminas after all these years is nothing more than an attempt to add to the prestige of the competition. It seems to me that you are just trying to ride on the coattails of the competition.

Oh, a dry opinion.
She is a princess in this area. She speaks easily with a mixture of difficult words.
I have a much richer vocabulary than my Japanese self.

When Akiharu wondered how Abei, who is also Japanese, was doing, he looked at and saw a face so pale and bloodless that he felt sorry for it.

Even so, he still hasn't given up, his slightly moistened eyes sharply sharpened, "It's Esther who's trying to ride the coattails, isn't it!

..... No? What the hell is that?"
As I recall, doujinshi are not only about making books, but also about selling them, aren't they?
How much is the value of a manga drawn by Mr. Sakurazawa to a collector?
"Oh, that's it. Then you're mistaken.

Pina, who did not say anything until the very end, but acted as if she were trying to scare away a flying insect, said, "I will not mention Mimina's name. I don't even know if I can get her to draw me a cartoon or not.

"....., hmm?"
"..... What? Then what are you going to do with?"

While the sophomore pair's eyes flutter, Pina's expression remains unchanged.
The little princess continued without hesitation, maintaining her natural, pompous demeanor.
As I said, the leader is the mistress. If Mimina also wants to paint, then of course I will let her paint as much as she wants. But for now, all we ask is for Mimina to join us and enjoy our time together.

"..... Then, why is Mr. Sakurazawa here?"

Because we're all the same. As long as we share the same love of animation and the desire to be on the creative side, it doesn't matter if Mina can't draw or paint. The most important thing is that we all have the same ambition!

The café terrace fell silent at his clear words.

Akiharu was a little moved by Pina's behavior, which made him feel as if he were watching a performance on stage.

I guess I can do it when I have to.

I am relieved to see that he is not like other chancellors who only do unnecessary things when they have to.

This must have come as a shock to Mr. Abei.

Pina was not looking for painting talent or name value, but simply companionship.

Of course, Akiharu is not at all surprised, or rather, he feels that it is too late because he had been thinking the same way.

Of course, it is better to have people who can draw well, but what is more important is to have people who want to do it and are willing to do it.

This is even more so because I don't have that much of an attachment to anime and manga.

I should have told Minna something like that yesterday, but she still seemed surprised.

A slight blush tinged her cheeks, and with a gulp of her mouth, she said, "Yes, together"

I am very happy to see you here.

Well, at any rate, after being told all this, I'm sure Abei will refrain from interrupting, so Akiharu thought of a good way to settle the matter and said, "Hmph, we have no guilty conscience, but what about you who were accusing us? Most likely, you were just trying to get Mimina out of the way so you could take advantage of her, but I don't think so. Mnh-mnh!

Akiharu hurriedly covered Pina's mouth with his hand as she began to get into a good mood, but he felt that he was just a little too late.

Damn you, you Lolita nerd princess.

He easily took the plunge, and this area was just as childlike as it appeared to be.

"Mmmm-mmmm~!"

"Oh, no, don't bite, don't bite! All right, I'm gonna take my hands off you, okay?

What the hell are you doing? I have done nothing wrong!

The protests are, in a sense, justified.

I'm sure I'm not saying anything wrong, but read the atmosphere.

(alt: I'm certainly not saying the wrong thing ... but read the air.) What are you going to do? What are you going to do to complicate a story that was about to come together so nicely?

I am sure Mr. Abei would not have gone quietly if he had been told in that way.

The unfortunate development made Akiharu want to sigh in anticipation of the emotional exchange that was to follow, and she gently looked into Abei's expression,, ".....
..... Eh?

I just made such a silly voice.

Because this was a surprise.

I thought for sure he was going to tomato his face in anger, but "..... ugh that's terrible"

(alt: I thought that I was absolutely angry and made my face look like a tomato ... "..... Ukku It's terrible ...") Why does this senior have tears in his eyes? And why is his lip

slightly trembling? While we were dumbfounded, tears were pouring out of Mr. Abei's somewhat slit eyes, which had a strong self-assertion, and he said, "..... hey I was thinking about you, Mr. Sakurazawa,..... and I wanted to be of help to your father. I thought about it, but... .. ugh... .."

Finally, I couldn't help but cry.

..... Well, uh, is that it? You're saying that he wasn't selfishly taking advantage of her, but rather, he was acting out of consideration for her talent and future? And she had no bad intentions at all, just because of her healthy character? After grasping the situation, Akiharu looked at Pina's face right next to him.

The other side looked at me at a similar timing, and the smile that had been so proud of me earlier was painted over with a brilliantly uneasy one, and said a few words.

"..... sounds like the concubine is the villain of"

I'm not sure what to think, but I'm not sure what to think.

(alt: No matter how you look at it, I tried to put in a rush — Akiharu noticed his situation.) I wondered why so many other people on the terrace were looking at me so coldly, and not only at Pina.

..... No. It's supposed to be an isolated offender and a waiter who couldn't stop him, but that's the way he looks at his accomplice.

..... No, it's more likely that they think he's the main culprit.

I'll tell you one thing: "I may look like this, but I'm actually a gentleman.

We have to appeal to the public! For some reason, there are always bad rumors circulating, and I have to dispel them! While a little bit of personal feelings were involved, Akiharu approached Mr. Abei's side in a wake-like atmosphere and spoke to him with words full of sincerity.

I'm sorry, senior. Pina didn't mean to hurt you either. I apologize for that.

(alt: "Senior, I'm sorry. Pina wasn't ill. I'll apologize.") I don't need any more words of comfort from you! That's how you intend to take advantage of my broken heart and play with it!

..... I was told some very, very horrible things.

Oh, no. How can she be treated like a scoundrel for her well-meaning actions, huh? And it's not just Mr. Abei glaring at me with a blister on his face. The eyes of the other female students around us have become infected with the feeling that we're looking at something dirty.

I wonder where I should file a complaint? The result is still so bad that I can do nothing but sigh.

"Oh my God, this feels like"

The sudden feeling of intense cold made Autumn Sun reflexively turn her head to look at and, as expected, the person she most did not want to see in this place appeared in the distance.

The school building is not in a hurry to run, but an indigo maid's outfit is approaching at a strange speed.

The person who was the worst enemy of Hakuryo, or rather, the worst person to make an enemy of in Hakuryo, was approaching rapidly.

If that person came, we could settle the situation, but the cost would be too great.

Especially if it is known that you, as an obedience student, were on the perpetrator's side, what kind of punishment is awaiting you?! This is the first thing I'm going to say.

As I was breaking out in a cold sweat at the sight of this tragedy, I felt the impact of something on my back.

Although she did not fall because of her light weight, something in her back spoke as Akiharu held on as if stepping on tatara.

It's not good! Get out of here before the tangerines come!

"Hey, Pina, call me Pina. What are you...

Now, run for your lives! I'm just a little bit afraid of Tangerine's sermons! But only a little bit!

The first time I saw her, she was screaming in my ear, and in addition, she was pulling my hair tightly, so I had no choice but to make a decision, and Akiharu made up her mind.

He quickly moved out of the way, held her around the waist with his left arm, and ran away like a hare.

"Ya... sneak... Akihar, you're so fast! You're too fast!

What are you going to do?

Even if their voices reach your ears, you ignore them completely.

Even if I were to appear before Fukagan later, I would have to minimize the possibility of these two being lectured together as well.

I mean, not, "Oh, shit! You're going to get three hours of remorse and a lecture, right?

I couldn't ignore the hell of the quiet recommendation that was to follow, so I raised such a pathetic voice and ran around to the least popular places.

When he reached the back of the museum, he checked in front of, behind, and to the left of the museum to make sure there were no other students there, and finally stopped.

I'm not so tired that I breathe on my shoulders, but I feel so mentally drained that I want to kneel right here and sigh.

"....., ugh, I've had a rough time of it."

(alt: "... Unuu, you had a terrible eye.") That's my line," he said. You need to reflect a little.

With these words, Akiharu lightly poked Pina on the head.

Still, Pina held her hands over the area that had been struck by the lightest of blows, and said, "Wow, I never thought I'd end up like that"

I agree with you, but it doesn't change the fact that I caused all this by my own words. I'll be careful next time.

Nu....."

Pina seemed to have reflected on the situation, as she had no further complaints.

Then, the next question is: "I'm sorry, my senpai, too. I'm sorry I got you into this.

(alt: Then, the problem after that is — "Seniors are also bad. I got involved.") When I apologized to Minami for kidnapping her in the confusion, the little senior, who had been concerned about her clothes, which had apparently been disheveled during the transport, looked up with a panicked expression.

"Uh, yeah,, but that's just for you"

"It may have been an unnecessary intervention, you know. No way, that Abei-senpai was such a pure person.

(alt: "Maybe it was an extra effort ... No way, that senior Abe was such a pure person ...")

The last, terrible comment was made at the very end, but I think she was insane, yes.

It is both for the other person and for yourself.

I was surprised, too. I must devote myself to improving my eyes to see more clearly.

"But you both worked so hard for me, and, that I don't really care."

He says this while wriggling his fingers crossed in front of his stomach.

I would have liked to thank him in a better way, but this seemed to be the limit for him.

Since that is also very feminine, Akiharu has no choice but to reply with a smile.

"It's not enough to be thanked. No, I mean, should I be mad at you?"

"What, what? What? Why?"

No, because they took the liberty of incorporating me into their cartoon-making group. I didn't even hear his reply, and he talked to me like that."

Of course, I had thought that if we could get through the situation, we would go back to the drawing board and confirm Minna's intentions once again.

But when the story got so convoluted, I decided to stop reading the manga because it was too much like my skin.

I feel it is difficult to say this lightly.

Especially if they were seniors with small hearts like squirrels.

What Akiharu felt most regrettable about this incident was not so much about Mr. Abei, but about that.

In the heat of the moment, things got complicated.

So I'm really sorry, and I've tried to apologize, but....

I forgot to do it because of the blank expression on Minna's face as she looked at me.

Why is it that dogs are classified as feline-eyed?

I wondered if I was reacting like a child who had just been told for the first time, and then the narrow brows furrowed as she said, "..... Are you sure you... didn't understand what we decided to do together,? didn't you understand that we decided to work together?"

"..... な ぬ?"

"..... ぬ ぬ う?"

I was surprised to hear that.

"Oh, huh? Really? I thought it wasn't so bad, but really?"

Yes! That's why I was so happy for you and for!

"Hey, hey, tamma-tamma! Calm down, sir!"

What's wrong? Did you get a stomach ache?"

That's a big deal. Let me show you something, Akiharu. I'll pet it for you.

No! No, no, no, I'm relieved.

He scratched the back of his head, saying, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

(alt: As I said, I scratched the back of my head.) Ah, yeah, that's really good.

I was relieved from the bottom of my heart because I had been worried that I might have done something that was not in accordance with Minna's will.

I still did something wrong, and I feel bad about what I did to Mr. Abei. There are many things I need to reflect on. But, yes, it was good.

(alt: There is no change in imitating too much, and I have done something bad for Senior Abe, and although I have a lot of remorse, it was good.) Akiharu is immersed for a moment in the feeling of emptying his chest, and then he stands up straight.

The first problem was solved.

Then, instead of looking back, I should think about the future," I said, looking at Pina and Mina in turn. Pina is welcome to join us, too, right?"

Mm! Of course, as like-minded people, we have not a single reason to refuse. We'll decide the details later.

Let's see... Yes, yes. Nice to meet you, Mr. Esteau."

Pina is fine.

Saying this, Pina cheerfully held out her right hand.

Perhaps realizing the meaning of this, Minna gradually held out her right hand and shook hands with him.

Mina is smiling a bit shyly.

Pina's smile was as if she couldn't hold back her joy.

Seeing them together, Akiharu's cheeks naturally relaxed.

A lot has happened, and I'm sure a lot will happen in the future, but at any rate, it was a good experience.

(alt: There were various things, and I'm sure there will be various things in the future, but anyway, it was good.) So, let's get to work right away!

When Pina declared enthusiastically, Akiharu said, "Ah.

Mina nodded her head in agreement.

And then, "Hey,, what's this all about?

The first thing that came out of their mouths was a scream of protest.

"Hey, why is this... Why do you look like this?

"No, I'm not told I look like this after all these years."

"Mmm, mmm, it suits you as expected. It may require some adjustment, but Mimina looks perfect in the Magical Maple costume!

"Ugh, I'm not happy!"

Mina denied it with tears in her eyes, but Pina was right.

So Akiharu nodded and said, "Hey, senior, when you said you were going to change, didn't you think there was any question about it?"

I thought you had to change into something you don't mind getting dirty to draw comics! I felt a little funny during the process, but I didn't realize it was happening until I looked in the mirror.

No, it's too late.

Why didn't they reconsider the meaning of changing clothes in front of the costumes, which consisted of a shabby hat and a sweet Lolita dress in white and pink?

Pina, who was standing next to me with her arms folded, had changed into her old Magical Diva costume, so it would have been a wonder if I didn't notice.

Minami's face turned bright red, and she swung a huge pico-pico hammer around in her hand, "What does this outfit have to do with making a doujinshi?

What?" You're going to be a vendor at the event wearing that, right?"

Mm. I'm with you, so don't worry!"

Nothing is safe! You, you, you, you are thinking of drawing a comic book at!

Mm-mm-mm, good luck there, too!"

I don't want it there either, but only in comic books! I can't go out in public looking like this, it's impossible!"

It's all right, senpai. You look pretty good."

I'm not happy, I'm not happy at all. I'm absolutely disgusted.

I know. "I know, I know, I know. It's a Japanese proverb that says, 'Like it or not, it's all in your mind!'

That's why it's not true!

For nearly 30 minutes after that, Minami's protests and the persuasions and reassurances by Akiharu and Pina continued.

It was clear to see which side had to break, as Minna clutched her knees after being knocked to the ground.

After that, there were various difficulties and troubles after we moved on to production, but - well, that's a story for another time.

For the time being, although various sacrifices were made, the situation has been settled.

.....

(alt: For the time being, although various sacrifices were made, it was settled in a circle for the time being Maybe.)