

S I D E A



The high school of Hakuryo Gakuin, a private school with a prestigious name and high reputation.

The president's office is located in the second school building.

The president was naturally there, flanked by a woman dressed in an indigo maid's outfit who was his confidant and personal attendant, as well as the head of the school's education department.

Halfway through the lunch break, both had already eaten lunch.

The windows let in gentle sunlight, which illuminates the powerful mahogany desk.

The face of the board chairperson, JiFeng Tianyi, who was lying on the desk with her upper body on the floor, was so relaxed that I wanted to tell her that even a cat taking a nap is not that careless.

It's autumn. It's peaceful."

Director, if you are not busy, you can start work here.

He was processing a pile of documents at an ungodly speed beside low-ranking Maple.

The documents are piled high in a heap, and you take them from the top, divide them into several piles, and scribble down what you need.

The pace never quickens or slows.

Kaede's lips twitched as she plopped down on the desk, looking sideways at the mechanical work.

It's my lunch break now, so I'll take a break. It's bad for digestion to work after eating all day. But I feel a little hungry. - Kikan, can you peel me a sweet chestnut?

I won't give it to you.

"Oh, you're so stingy. Chestnuts are a good thing. Chestnut gohan is delicious. But matsutake mushroom rice is good, too. The returning bonito is eaten as tataki, and the persimmon is eaten when it is ripe. Oh, but there is also a pear liqueur. Grapes. wine....."

(alt: "Mu, it's stingy. Chestnuts ... Chestnuts are good. Chestnut rice is delicious, isn't it? But matsutake mushroom rice is also delicious. Eat bonito with tataki, and the persimmons are ripe and ripe ... Ah, but the pear liqueur is also Grape Wine ") Kaede mumbled for a while and then said, "Ha ha!

He exhaled deeply and said, "Autumn is all about food, isn't it? Art and sports are good, but food is the best with sake. The combination of delicious autumn flavors and good sake.

Kaede stared at the sky with eyes that seemed to be in a daze, and then suddenly she lifted her body from the desk, and her eyes sparkled as if she were a child talking about a dream.

I've come up with a great idea!

Yes, Mr. President?

The first time I saw her, I thought she was a very nice person, and I was very happy to see her.

Hearing this smart suggestion, Fukayoshi finally stopped his work and looked at Kaede's face.

Although his facial expression remained mostly unchanged, a slight look of dismay spread across his intelligent eyes.

Therefore, the students will not have classes today. As previously announced, we will now conduct unannounced examinations.

When this was explained to the students, all of the students in the obedience course who were gathered in the classroom were stunned.

The "Squire Training Course," in which students wear tuxedos, morning coats, maids' dresses, and other uniforms that would not be out of place in a high school classroom.

The students at the "Mere Old Man" are looking at each other and tilting their heads.

We've had them do all kinds of crazy things, but we've never had such a sudden change in schedule, so they haven't been able to keep up.

The challenge is to prepare a course meal using seasonal ingredients. The challenge is to prepare a course meal using seasonal ingredients from any genre, including Japanese, Western, Chinese, ethnic, and folk cuisine. The time limit is 90 minutes, with 15 minutes for a pre-meeting.

That is why he is so quick to explain.

There is no end to the number of questions you will be asked, so it is quicker to force the issue without giving them any room to take advantage.

The "serving size" is for one person. However, since there will be three judges, including a student from the upper school education department who will be assisting you, you may want to prepare portions that can be divided among the three judges. Due to the nature of the judging

process, all dishes will be prepared and delivered in a separate room. Be creative when choosing items that will not taste good cold. Remember, the purpose of this test is to see how well you do. But more importantly, you will learn the importance of teamwork and communication through collaboration. And most importantly, you will give your host a taste of the seasonal ingredients that are only available at that time of year. Please keep this in mind. (alt: "The amount is for one person. However, since there are three judges, including students from the upper education department who ask for cooperation, it is preferable to have one that can be set aside. And because of the judging, all the dishes are completed in a separate room. It is a form of carrying things. If you choose a product that will ruin the taste when cooled, be creative. Well, this test naturally includes the purpose of seeing the skill. Rather than that, I learned the importance of teamwork and communication through collaborative work ... And above all, it has the important significance of having the supposed master taste the seasonal ingredients that can only be eaten at that time. So, everyone, please keep it in your chest. ") After I have said all that, let's take a quick look at the students' expressions.

A few of the students still seemed to want to say something, but they were too engulfed in the atmosphere to speak up.

Satisfied with the results, Fukayoshi went to work on the closing.

Please confirm your group on the bulletin board, and go to your assigned classroom. That's all from me.

"Oh, and I'd like to add something, but please make sure your food goes well with the alcohol, okay? By the way, I can handle everything from Hav to Romanée-Conti, so don't worry about that.

The students looked unconvinced by the president's insane words, but instead of making any unnecessary comments, they hurriedly left the classroom to check the bulletin board.

As Kaede waved them off with her hand, Fukakan let out a secret sigh.

This test, which the President came up with on an impulse during a lunch break, was not in itself a bad idea.

But how much money did it cost to set up the kitchen in an empty classroom so that the test could be administered in just under an hour, and to scavenge the ingredients at the same time?

It should have been enough to buy a small mansion in Tokyo.

It would have been better if it had been the next day or later at least.

Since the Chancellor was being selfish, we decided to use the funds from the Tianyung Ci family's property instead of the academy's.

Next to her, Kaede, looking as excited as ever, was humming in a good mood without knowing what was going on, "Hmmm, I'm looking forward to it. I'm so happy to know that it's handmade by the students, and now it has the added power of autumnal flavors. I wonder if this will make the drinks go up? Why don't I serve you some of my secret whiskey?"

"....., but I should warn you, Mr. President."

(alt: "... I'll tell you, the chairman.") What's up, Shikan?

We have granted requests for food that goes well with alcohol, but we have not authorized the consumption of alcohol during working hours.

"..... え?

I'm not sure I understand what was being said at first, but I observed that her loose smile gradually faded and finally turned into despair.

(alt: At first I didn't understand what was said, but the smiles of all the smiles gradually faded, and at the end, I carefully observed that they were dyed in despair.) Drinking alcohol during meals is strictly prohibited. You may drink tea, health drinks, Dr. Pepper, root beer, or anything else you like, as long as it is non-alcoholic. Please feel free to do so."

"Hey, it's not like, it's ~~~~~!"

Seeing Kaede scream as if she had been told she had cancer,....., the corner of her mouth turned up just a little bit.

I felt slightly better.

..... So, what's up with this group?

When he arrived at the posted cooking area, Akiharu made his first comment.

The room, which should have been vacant when we entered yesterday for cleaning, has been transformed into an impressive kitchen in just one day, and all the other staff are already there.

The names of the team members were politely written in front of the door, and the exact same information was written on a piece of paper on the cooking table: "Team F: Sanae Shiki Kagami, Kaoru Daichi, and Akiharu Hino".

I am sure of it.

There was Shiki Kagami, an ambiguously beautiful woman of outstanding style in a maid's outfit; Daichi, a neutrally beautiful boy of small stature wearing a morning coat; and myself, a yankee with brown hair and a safety pin attached to my right ear in three vertical positions.

It was a bad combination.

And if it's a combination, then "Why do you have a five-member squad and a four-member squad, but we're the only three-member squad? What kind of favoritism is this?"

"Since everyone's cooking skills are unknown, I think they assigned the groups so that they would have an average based on the results so far."

The fact that she expressed her opinion with a clear face was very earth-shattering, as if she didn't feel at all disadvantaged.

In fact, he even smiled wickedly and said, "I guess because of me, you have fewer people in your group than the others. All you have to do is to make sure I do more than three people's work to meet their expectations.

But hey, why make such an acrobatic formation when you can just make five squads of five and it all fits together."

I still can't agree with Akiharu.

I tend to complain a lot, and I don't have much motivation.

Even though it is a sudden and unpredictable event, it is difficult to know how to raise the tension.

Apparently, Daichi was not pleased with such an attitude, and he looked up at me from below with a glare, his lips pouting in dissatisfaction, "..... Hino doesn't want to be in the same group as me?"

No, it's not like that. It's rather reassuring to be with you."

It is not an attempt to put on a good mood or to make things right, but that is what Akiharu truly believes.

Daichi is the top student in his class, and since we know each other well as roommates, it would be ridiculous to say that we have any complaints about him.

He is an honest guy at heart, so even now his mouth is slightly parted in a bashful manner as if to say, "Yes, isn't that right?" Hino also said before that he could cook, so there was no problem. I'm sure the two of us can cook something that rivals or even surpasses what the rest of the team can do.

I'm not sure if that's true or not. I'm only as good as anyone else, but if the earth is there."
(alt: "Hmm ... well, maybe. I'm only as good as a human, but if I have the earth.") Yes," he said. Then I guess it's okay."

He can't seem to hide his happiness at being praised, and his voice rises, but that's a little naive, Daichi.

At least, I'm not that optimistic.

There is a reason for that.

To remind Daichi, who seemed to have completely forgotten about this, Akiharu quickly pointed in a certain direction with his thumb.

"So, what should I do about the uncertainty factor over there, which is not likely to be positive but only negative?"

Incidentally, the person to whom the point was made tilted his head and seemed to have no idea what he was talking about.

It's a great way to stir up my anxiety, even in that way.

But Daichi seems to understand, and his previously confident face quickly becomes clouded. Well, if you know what Shiki Kagami is, it's a natural reaction.

How can I be assured that this woman, who has the greatest talent in the world for accelerating things in the wrong direction with her naturalness, goofiness, and extremely bad judgment, will be on the same team?

No matter how versatile the earth is, it should be a little difficult to hold the Four Seasons Mirror perfectly in place.

..... No, it's not just anyone's business.

We are not able to afford the number of people we need, and we have to follow up on the Shiki Kagami, so we have to make sure that it is done properly.

I don't know how much this exam will count toward my grade, and I'm not really interested in it, but I can finally do this kind of human-like training to become a butler or a maid.

(alt: I don't know how much this exam will be reflected in my grades, and I'm not really interested in it, but I can finally do this kind of human-like training to become a butler or maid.)

They have been thrown into swimming pools while wearing school uniforms and drowned in washing machine-like rapids, carried across mountains on bales of rice, and required to go barefoot into the summer sea to catch fish and shellfish.

If we are extravagant, we may be forced to keep digging with a shovel until the next time we get a hot spring.

So, here, I would like to show an adult attitude, or rather, a sense of tolerance.

We will do our best to do as much as we can.

..... For now, let's decide what we are going to make. We need to make a menu that allows plenty of time for accidents to occur.

(alt: "... For the time being, decide what to make. Assuming that an accident will occur, we have to make a menu with plenty of time.") Yes, that's right. It takes a bit of time to reheat them over

there, so you can have a menu that tastes good even when it's cold with autumn flavors, huh? It's a little limited, but it's rather easy to narrow down the items.

Daichi slammed his head in agreement with my suggestion.

Shiki Kagami, on the other hand, said, "Um, before we do that, shouldn't we decide on a leader?"

He was a bit reserved, but he was more truthful than I expected.

I see...a leader.

Although it is only a three-person team, it is certainly necessary to have a person in command. It would be a shame to lose time wondering what to do when the time comes.

While admiring the fact that Shiki Kagami is so good, Akiharu looked at the earth without even pausing to think about it.

The earth also notices and their eyes meet.

A small nod was given in return, as if communication was complete.

So, we'll leave the leadership to Daichi.

"Yeah, what?"

..... For some reason, Shiki Kagami was surprised at the ostentation.

The unexpected reaction caused my heart to race.

For the time being, Akiharu asks her in a calm manner.

"....., what's the problem?"

I'm going to cook for you! In a case like this, the girl has to take the lead! I'm even wearing this frilly apron dress.

The first thing that comes to mind is the fact that the two of them have been in the same room together for a long time, and they are now in the same room together.

By the way, "The girl..."

I think Daichi's eyes became unusually stern around the time he made his comment, but I'll leave it at that for now.

..... Well, what's the appeal now? You want to be a leader? And the reason for that is gender and apron dresses? No, well, you certainly look good in an apron dress.

The fact that it is worn over a maid's dress gives it a soft cuteness, and even so, the form it takes up around the bust is lovely.

The problem is that they never seem to touch on the important parts.

..... By the way, it's Shiki Kagami.

(alt: "... By the way, it's a four-season mirror.") Yes, what is it?

"You can't cook?"

Of course!

Shiki Kagami smiled more prettily than a blooming cosmos and said, "When I put on this apron dress, I was sure of it. I thought, 'Oh, I'm going to be able to make something delicious! So I should be able to do it, although I haven't tried it yet.

"..... understood very well."

(alt: "..... I understand well") I knew that Shiki Kagami was no good.

Sure enough, this guy is not going to be of any use to us.

I can say that without a doubt.

This certainty is entirely in my mind.

I was tempted to scratch my head and say, "Oh my God," but I held back because it would have been troublesome if Shiki Kagami, who looked as if she did not understand what was going on, had a hard time with it.

In the end, it seems that all we can do is hope for the earth.

Well, I'm sure Daichi will live up to my expectations, so that's a relief. "..... What's the matter with you at all? Just because you have a bit of a womanly figure doesn't mean that you look good in an apron.

..... The owner of the site was talking to himself in a way that made me very uneasy.

No, what is it?

Daichi is small for a man and has a very well-developed face. Does he have a desire to dress up as a woman?

Or perhaps you are more of a girlie girl, and like to look at and collect pretty things? I didn't get that vibe at all from living in the same room, but maybe it's true? Wow - I can't do it, it's too much like it if I imagine it.

If the big land in the apron dress smiles at you, that's pretty bad, but you're still a man.

In addition, it would be highly improbable for him to smile in a feminine way.

However, the girl is a very misguided and clumsy, and an honor student who for some reason has fallen into the dark side.

Honors student.

Do we have to collaborate with these people to cook?

"..... is worried, hey."

(alt: "..... I'm worried, hey") With nothing but dark clouds in the future, Akiharu couldn't help but let it slip.

After a few minutes of arguing, the leader of the group was replaced by another "signboard girl.

and "Site Supervisor

The two frameworks were then settled on: "The first is to create a new framework for the development of the new project," and "The second is to create a new framework for the development of the new project.

Shiki Kagami was very happy, while Daichi was reluctant to accept the new position.

Akiharu, who had become the leader in a few days, was relieved and prayed that Shiki Kagami would remain quiet and not notice the insignificance of the signboard girls until the end, before finally getting down to business.

"So, what do you make? I can cook a little home cooking, but what about Daichi?"

I think I have a large repertoire. Without a recipe, I can't make something that elaborate.

"Well, I prefer French food."

Ignore Shiki Kagami for the time being, as he starts talking about something completely unrelated.

Akiharu crosses his arms and tries to list the autumn ingredients he knows.

Eggplant, sweet potatoes, squash? We'll have fall swordfish, salmon, and maybe some flatfish?"

Sardines, bonito, and mackerel, too. Mushrooms, too, are available year-round, but they should be considered a seasonal food.

Meat is not really seasonal, right? So will be the main course.

I think that's a good idea. I can cut the fish myself, and it shouldn't take too long.
(alt: "I think that's good. If it's a fish, I'll handle it and it shouldn't take too much time.") We'll have to decide whether to bake it or boil it, and how to combine it with the other items."

The plan is smoothly developed in conversation with Daichi.

This could be called roommate breathing, or it could be between people who can cook to a certain degree, but either way it's a good thing because it reduces the amount of time you spend worrying about it.

Shiki Kagami, who is not allowed to interrupt, is wiping the kitchen with a rag, but we don't have the luxury of touching her, so we'll let her drink her tears.

That's for the good of the group.

In order to make the best use of the limited time available now, Akiharu proceeds to talk with Daichi in a face-to-face manner.

I don't know how to cook it other than grilling it. Salmon is also grilled and stewed in cream, but I don't know how to do that. Hirame is sashimi?

I think salmon and sole are usually made into meunière. Or you can braise them in white wine."

I've never had that one before. I've never had it, but does it taste good cold?"

It tastes better freshly made, but I don't think it's so bad."

After looking down for a while, Daichi told him so, and Akiharu said, "Yes.

Then he muttered, "Well, let's make it the main course. Then, it would be good to have a soup with vegetables.

If so, let's use pumpkin. "Then let's use squash. We can make a cold potage.

I'm not sure I'm going to be able to do it. So, shall we use mushrooms as an appetizer? I'll just sauté them and that will be enough.

What about dessert? It's a little bit boring to just cut up grapes and persimmons and put them on the table.

But I don't know how to cook with fruit. And jelly and cake, they take time, don't you think?

..... I once made pear in syrup. If that's all right, I'll do it.

(alt: "... I've made it once if it's pickled in pear syrup. If that's okay, I'll do it.") Oh, so it's autumn for pears, too, huh? Then I leave it to you. Don't cry while you're lying down!

Shiki Kagami, who was unable to participate in the serious discussion, was curled up on the floor in a cocoon.

I may feel sorry for them, but I'm busy right now, so I'm depressed.

..... And she looks up at me with tears on her cheeks.

It was as if we had done something wrong.

Feeling something awkward in the chest area, Akiharu scratches his cheek lightly with his finger.

But it's not like there's any garbage, and that shouldn't make you feel uncomfortable.

When I looked at Daichi for help, my cool roommate looked down at me coldly and said, "Your clothes are dirty. Come here and change your clothes before cooking.

Ugh!"

With one cool-headed word, Shiki Kagami's eyes welled up with tears.

..... No, well, you're absolutely right.

What would it be like to suddenly put a stop to it? I don't know if it is human nature, or if it is the mercy of a warrior.

Yes, this is the time to show some mercy.

Now that we've become a liability, not only useless, but a threat to the atmosphere, we need to do something about it.

It is also the duty of the leader, albeit in name only.

While realizing that being a leader is a role of loss and feeling slightly depressed, Akiharu gently placed his hand on Shiki Kagami's shoulder and said, "I understand, I understand, it was hard for you too, not having a position, wasn't it? I understand that very well, so get up anyway.

"Ugh ahhh Mr. Hino, I me!!"

"..... ugh."

(alt: "..... Wow") I couldn't help but let out a cry as I gazed directly at the extraordinary sight.

Shiki Kagami's moist eyes are more protective than those of an abandoned puppy, and her hot cheeks and full lips are always so sexy, and today she's not just dressed as a maid, she's wearing an optional apron dress, God damn it.

Her clothes were a little wrinkled and disheveled, and her skirt was rolled up to her knees.

Damn, I have to endure this every time, I can't stand it.

This time, though, it's okay because Daichi is with us.

And, to add insult to injury, Daichi's gaze is painful.

It would be fine if they were looking at me enviously, but I could feel a negative aura that clearly indicated otherwise, and it was stabbing me in the heart.

At times like this, being looked at with disgust by the same sex is more painful than being looked at with contempt by the opposite sex.

However, I don't like to be looked at with understanding.

..... This is not good.

I have to switch my mind to the examinations from now on.

Shaking his head a couple of times, Akiharu grabbed Shikikyo's arms with both hands and pulled her up to a standing position.

At that time, I was a bit nervous about the thinness of my arms and the feeling of their softness, but I had already predicted that to some extent, so I didn't show it in my facial expression. should be able to do that.

(alt: At that time, I was confused by the thinness of the arm and the fluffy feel of the upper arm, but it was predicted to some extent, so I should not have expressed it in my facial expression.) I feel as if the eyes of the earth have become even more stern, but that's just my imagination, it should be so.

Telling himself this, Akiharu cleared his mind of all distractions, and with the mindset of a leader in mind, he spoke to Shiki Kagami in as calm a voice as he could manage.

Shiki Kagami: "Listen, Shiki Kagami. I'm not sure if this is a good idea or not, but I'm sure it's a good idea. You may not be able to cook, that's for sure.

(alt: "Well, the four seasons mirror. We are members of the same group, so we should make up for the shortcomings. You may not be able to cook for sure.") Ugh not available

But you are a signboard girl. In other words, you are the mascot girl. You don't have to be a good cook, but if you behave in a cheerful and energetic way, and make us and our guests happy, then you will fulfill your role, do you understand what I mean?

"is: ie"

Shiki Kagami somehow nodded her head while still limping.

I'm sure you get it. Then, for now, you can not only change your clothes, but also take a shower and clean your hair. I'll take care of things while you're gone.

(alt: "... Okay, did you understand? Then, you shouldn't just change your clothes —, or take a shower and clean your hair. I'll do something with me while you're away. Please wash it without worrying about it. ") Shiki wiped away the tears from the corners of her eyes with the flat of her thumb, and her moist eyes sparkled as she held Akiharu's hand in both of hers, as if to wrap it tightly.

I'll do my best! I will polish my toenails as best I can and come back clean!"

After making this strong declaration, Shiki Kagami rushed out of the cooking room.

Akiharu watched it and said, "Phew.

I let out a small exhale.

I wondered what was going to happen, but things worked out.

In this condition, it might not end so badly.

While he was feeling satisfied after finishing his work, - for some reason, Akiharu felt a steady gaze from the side of his head.

Without any need for confirmation, the owner of the house in the mainland, with eyes strangely sober, as if looking at a life dropout or a middle-aged woman caught shoplifting, said quietly, "I'm sorry, but I can't help it.

(alt: Needless to say, the Lord was on the ground, with strangely awakened eyes, like seeing a middle-aged aunt who was shoplifted and caught by a fallen man in life ...) "..... hino"

What?"

You should not be a butler, you should be a host, you seductress.

..... No, I mean, what is it?

What is it about this feeling of being unable to accept it? Well, I do have to admit that it does smell a bit smelly, and I do feel as though I might have said it in a fraudulent way, but why should I be told that much by the same man?

I was just trying to fulfill my duty as a leader, and that's all I was trying to do, and that's all I was trying to do, and that's all I was trying to do.

While feeling that somewhere far away, Akiharu muttered to himself in his mind.

Correction to my earlier comment.

I'm sorry, but it's too much to ask them to work well together.

(alt: I'm sorry it's too impossible to do it all together.) I sighed heavily, warning myself that I was overconfident.

Although there were only three members in the group, and Shiki Kagami had left and there were only two of them, Akiharu was not in a hurry to start the test.

I would never be able to say this to him, but I was rather thankful that Shiki Kagami was not there.

This saves a lot of wasted time and effort.

..... but one word from Daichi remains as damage, and I can't motivate myself.

I hate to be lazy, but I know that people can't always move so quickly when they don't have the energy.

And you don't have to be too uptight about it.

This is especially true since, after a quick discussion with Daichi, we estimated that it would take less than an hour to make the whole thing.

I can probably do it on my own, if I only have the recipe.

It may take a bit of time to process the fish, but I'm sure we'll get it done.

(alt: It may take some time to handle the fish, but it will be possible as a result.) Therefore, even though Akiharu is depressed to the point of despondency, he does not feel any sense of urgency.

Like myself, there was a man who had taken off his morning coat and was wearing a vest with sleeves tucked under his arms.

Although I've never seen my roommate cook, I've seen her show off her versatility, so I shouldn't have anything to worry about in terms of technique.

I'm still a little concerned about it, though.

After carefully washing her hands, Akiharu wiped them dry with a towel and observed the earth as she headed toward the ingredients.

Only Daichi knew how to make pear syrup, and because it had to be prepared and boiled, there was a possibility that he might not make it in time if he didn't start first.

So Daichi went over to the table with a pile of fruit and picked up two pears.

It's probably the size of a softball because it's a kouzui pear, but in the hands of a small man in a large land, it looks a little big.

..... is not the time to sit back and take the high road."

This is my first attempt at pumpkin soup and my first attempt at making it cold, so there is a chance it could go wrong.

So, Akiharu took his eyes off the earth and began to select ingredients.

There was a knitting basket with pumpkins, carrots, potatoes, and onions, so we put the necessary ingredients in it.

The rest is pot.

I'm not sure if it's a good idea to use a pressure cooker or not, but I've heard that Daichi said it's better to use a pressure cooker, so I'm going to look for one," Akiharu said as he turned around with the basket in his hands, "Look, a pressure cooker. I think this size is enough.

(alt: The earth said that it was better to use a pressure cooker, so when I searched for it, Akiharu looked back while holding the basket — "See, pressure cooker. I think this size is enough.") A large man with a one-handed pan was standing right in front of me.

"..... arigato"

I'm not sure what you mean by that, but I'm sure you're right.

(alt: Reflexively, Akiharu tried to receive the pressure cooker — No, it wasn't.) I can't receive it because my hands are full with the basket, but that's not the point.

"Daichi, how about you make a dessert?"

In response to a simple and genuine question, Daichi replied, "I'm soaking in salt water. I have nothing to do for a few minutes, so I'm going to help.

He said something a little offensive with a clear-cut look on his face.

..... Wait.

You were talking about pears in salt water, weren't you? I glance at the cooker and see a shiny silver bowl.

If they are soaking, they must be talking about that.

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) Driven by doubt, Akiharu slowly approached the cooker.

Place the heavy, cumbersome basket of ingredients on the edge of the cooktop and take a peek inside the bowl.

There, two pears, cut cleanly from their skins and seeds, were floating in the salt water.

..... Is that it?

You often see it on TV cooking shows: "This is what I did with that.

The "Mere Old Man" is not sure.

(alt: Was activated?) No, I know there's no way that could be the case, but Then what is it, this thing that was peeled and cut so beautifully that it looks like a sample, was it done in the minute or so that you were picking out the vegetables? Either way, it seems impossible to me.

Daichi is an excellent student, but he also acts strangely, so it's a little late for him to be doing this, but what do you think of this easy cooking situation? I'm curious about, but I can't help thinking about unnecessary things.

The examination is in progress.

Telling herself this, Akiharu talks to Daichi.

"Hey, you cut them into pieces and cook them in a pot, right?"

Yes, that's right. "Yes, you can make enough for two people, so you don't need to make too much.

Okay. Now help me wash it."

Quick "I get it."

The workers prepare to peel onions and wash away the soil from potatoes alongside the earth, which has been returned to its original state.

The pumpkin is cooked with the skin, so be a little careful.

And Akiharu was on standby with a carrot in one hand and a knife in the other.

Next door, Daichi also had a potato in his hand and was lightly holding a knife.

Incidentally, the potato is a rather small-sized makuine.

The carrots were not as hard as I had expected, probably because they had been kept at room temperature.

When refrigerated, they are hard and difficult to peel, but this is not so.

I put the knife in, thinking it will be relatively easy to peel, but being that it's been so long, I'm careful not to let my hand slip.

Slowly, as if regaining his old instincts, he said, "..... Huh?"

I think I saw something shimmering on the right side of my field of vision, and I looked in that direction and was stunned.

The potatoes, peeled and naked, were cut and dropped.

"..... What the hell is that?"

The earth is calm.

They don't even look at me.

But I have a knife in one hand, and the potato I was holding in the other hand is gone, so I'm pretty sure that's it.

In order to force her head to work properly, Akiharu returned her gaze to the carrots in her hand,....., but she was still concerned about them.

It would be strange not to be concerned about what exactly is going on with the current bizarre phenomenon.

How did something as magical as falling from the distortions of space come about?

A sharp pain was felt in his left thumb, and Akiharu felt like lashing his tongue.

I thought too much about unnecessary things when I was working with knives.

Apparently, a slight malfunction in his hand caused him to cut his finger on a knife that was supposed to be peeling a carrot.

He looks at his thumb, which immediately starts to heat up, and sighs.

When was the last time you got hurt by mere peeling?

Fortunately, or should I say fortunately, the wound is shallow.

I just cut my thumb, and although some blood is flowing, it should stop soon if left untreated.

However, if you continue to peel the carrots in this state, they will become bloody and horrifying.

I had no choice but to temporarily suspend the peeling.

Putting down the carrots, Akiharu turns on the water tap to let the water out and lightly washes his hands.

It stains the wound a little, but nothing serious.

I am rather ashamed of myself for having suffered such an injury.

I should have been told repeatedly by my mother to be careful when holding a kitchen knife, but I couldn't believe I made a mistake because I was so concerned about that rather silly scene.

I felt like sighing again and asked, "..... Hino? Are you hurt, by any chance?"

Daichi, who seemed to have noticed our situation, raised his eyebrows and asked, "What's going on here?"

It's even more depressing to have to go through all that trouble and worry.

However, if I keep making a sour face, I might not be able to recover during the exam, so I forced myself to smile and said, "Ah, it's just a cut. I'm sorry, but there should be an adhesive bandage in the inside pocket of my jacket, could you please take it off?"

..... I understand. Wait, stay.

(alt: "... Okay. Wait.") With a small nod, Daichi lightly washed his hands, wiped them with a towel, took off his morning coat, and walked quickly to the chair on which he had hung it.

So I took a piece of kitchen paper and wiped my wet hands with it so that I could put a bandage on them right away.

The wound still bled a little, but it was shallow enough to stop immediately if left untreated.

I brought it. You got this, right?"

Oh, thank you.

I accept the bandage that Daichi immediately brings and peel off the wrapping.

I never thought I would have to take such an exam or that I would have to use a knife to cut my finger, but I am glad I always carry it with me.

I tried to put the plaster on with one hand and tried to do it properly with the other hand.

..... This is a very difficult? No..... this.....

"....., what are you doing? - Give me that."

As I struggled unsuccessfully, the earth suddenly took away my bandage.

"Here, I'll put it up. Give me your finger."

"..... Oh, sorry."

(alt: "... Oh, bad") It was only after I was told that I realized how easy it would be to ask for help.

What kind of an idiot are you, anyway?

Well, since we have not been able to get along well with each other for a while since we came here, we may have developed a habit of being reserved.

She was petite but blunt and beautiful, so it was a little difficult for me to get to know her.

Anyway, let's take advantage of the kindness of Daichi, who is standing by with a bandage.

To make it easier to paste, Akiharu brings his left hand in front of Daichi's chest and turns his palm upward.

Perhaps it was because he had been out of action for a while and had been sloppy, or perhaps it was because he was bleeding again.

Well, this level of cleaning with kitchen paper is no problem,..... but for some reason, the big land was staring at the wound with blood floating in it with great vigor.

It may not be unusual, but the seriousness of his eyes and the tense expression on his face seem to have become rigid and motionless. This is scary, to say the least.

(alt: It's not unusual, but the eyes and the tense expression of the seriousness itself have become stiff and immobile This is scary.) "Yeah, the big land"

I couldn't turn my eyes away from Daichi though I couldn't help feeling awkward, and I was looking at him intently.

..... Hino. Have you disinfected yourself?"

When asked, Akiharu recalls that he had only washed them with water.

I had some disinfectant alcohol that I used to wash my hands, but I never thought of disinfecting a small cut.

No, I didn't, but"

Does that mean I should properly disinfect before applying a bandage?

Sure, you're going to be cooking, so you might as well do your disinfection properly, but even if you're, what's with all the weird intensity? She could not grasp the situation completely and could not help but be puzzled.

In contrast, Daichi switched from holding the bandage in both hands to one hand and grabbed Akiharu's left hand with his free right hand without hesitation.

What is"

He didn't understand what he was doing and tried to question him, but Daichi's sharp eyes stifled his words and he said, "Just leave it to me.

That word was enough to completely put me off my game.

Daichi, with a serious expression of firmness in his face, made a small guttural sound, pulled his left hand from his grasp, and gently licked the wound as if he were putting his mouth on it.



"Hey!"

"Disinfection," he said. You have to stay.

"No, it's patience, it's"!"

During his protest, he felt a numbing sensation in his medulla oblongata, and Akiharu panicked and kept his mouth shut.

I'm not sure if it's because she doesn't want to suck my finger, but Daichi was gently licking the wound, pressing her lips against the belly of the finger, and it felt rather ticklish and pleasurable than stinging.

(alt: Perhaps I don't like to hold my fingers, but the earth gently licks the wound while gently pressing my lips against the belly of my fingers, and it feels like it's tickling rather than smearing. Wait, the brain that recognizes it with pleasure is dangerous.) But I don't like it when you trace a wound that looks like you drew a line diagonally across it.

(alt: However, it's not easy to trace a wound that looks like a line drawn diagonally ... It's a problem even if you can convey such a strange feeling.) What feels good feels bad.

If it's a girl, then it's a guy, but he has a much prettier face than most women, so is not the issue.

"..... u ah"

(alt: "..... Wow") The disinfection of the earth's out-of-the-ordinary, pleasant-to-be-troubled soil should have taken less than ten seconds, by my count.

But I am sure that in such a short period of time, I was in a state of exhaustion, and I realized that I was also mentally rather...well...quite exhausted, I guess.

The way Daichi, with a subtle blush on her cheeks that you can't tell unless you look closely, applies the bandage to me makes her look extremely sexy, which is already a terminal symptom.

No doubt.

In the midst of this incredibly awkward feeling, Akiharu decided that he still had to say what he needed to say, so he made a somewhat scratchy voice, while being strangely conscious of his parched mouth.

"Uh, that, thank you."

"..... No, it's no big deal."

(alt: "... No, it's not a big deal.") I wonder if it is my imagination or not that these words also have a somewhat embarrassing ring to them.

I can't go to the trouble of checking, and I feel like it would be difficult to respond to anything that comes out of that check.

I have a feeling, or perhaps I can say with certainty, that this is the case.

So, without saying anything else, Akiharu returned to cooking, compared Daichi's back and the plaster on his thumb, and let out a big sigh.

Ever since I came to Hakuryo, I've been feeling like things have been happening to me that I can't quite believe. I realized again that maybe it's not just my imagination.

(alt: Ever since I came to this White Rei Ryo, I felt like something was happening that made me unbelievable, but ... I realized again that it was probably not because of my mind. It has been done.) Although the cooking became a little awkward due to the happenings, the cooking itself proceeded smoothly.

Of course, the success of the land must have had a great impact, but the most important factor was that we didn't choose too difficult or elaborate dishes.

After soaking the pears in salted water, we sliced them thinly, put them in a pan, sprinkled lemon juice and sugar over them, and left them to soak for now.

After a few minutes, the pears are heated over a flame to remove the starch, and the water is skimmed off when the pears are clear.

It is already served a little on a plate.

Sauteed mushrooms and herbs are also easy.

Simply sauté selected eringi mushrooms, maitake mushrooms, and shimeji mushrooms with herbs and lightly heat through.

This has already been done by Akiharu.

Cold soups are also boiled, blended, simmered one more time, and now chilled in the refrigerator.

Later, when serving, a sprinkle of chopped parsley completes the dish.

The last dish is steamed salmon with white wine. The king salmon, which is a large fish, is easily sliced by the chef's skill, and after baking, white wine is added in the pan and steamed for a while before serving.

I'm not sure what to say.

(alt: — By that.) With five minutes remaining, I had time to chat with Daichi at a time when I would normally have been in a hurry.

I had completely forgotten about it because I was spending so much time relaxing that I didn't think I was in the middle of an exam.

I was reminded that I and Daichi were not the only members of the group, but that there was another person.

I'm back!

The door to the cooking room opens with a bang, and a girl in an apron dress over a maid's uniform enters with a dazzling smile on her face.

"Our signboard girl, Sanae Shiki Kagami, has returned! We've washed our bodies and souls, and we've come back polished to the very tips of our toes."

It seems there is no mistaking her words. Shiki Kagami not only changed her clothes, but also moistened her hair, and her cheeks were glistening with luster.

It was so beautiful that I was tempted to say, "Did you go to some beauty salon?"

..... Well, that doesn't mean there's nothing left for me to do, even if I appeared on stage with my eyes bubbling over with excitement.

Akiharu wonders how he is supposed to communicate this, but Shiki Kagami approaches him without mercy, her eyes full of anticipation.

"Well, Leader, I'm sorry, but I'm not sure I can help you. I know I'm very late, but what do you want me to do?"

"Doing Doing or"

Frankly, there is nothing.

..... but I feel like I should tell them that, and I also feel like I should do something about it.

After thinking for a moment, Akiharu looked at the plate with pears in syrup.

Maybe that'll work.

Even Shiki Kagami is a bit of a fool.

Thinking so, Akiharu nodded his head and then said, "Okay, Shiki Kagami. You make the whipped cream for the dessert."

I understand!

We will prepare the ingredients and you will be in charge of whisking., I need two bowls, one large and one small, some ice water, and some granulated sugar."

After issuing instructions, you take the whipped cream out of the refrigerator.

I added it to the cold soup earlier, so the amount is less, but I only use a little bit for whipping, so it shouldn't be a problem.

As I was pouring the cream into a small bowl that Daichi offered me, he said, "..... Hino, you don't need whipping cream.

Daichi looked at me suspiciously and said in a small voice that Shiki Kagami could not hear. But if we don't do something, he's not going to do anything.

"Yes, but if it's about the squad's performance, then it doesn't matter, does it?"

"If it's just the results, you know. I'm sure that Fukagan-sensei has cameras in all the exam rooms to record the results. If they find out that he's the only one who didn't do anything and lower his evaluation, it would be very sad, wouldn't it?

..... Indeed. It's not good to give a motivated person a low grade without giving him something to do.

(alt: "..... Sure. It's not good to give a motivated guy a low rating without doing anything.") Daichi nodded his head in agreement, although he was probably considering the possibility of a camera as well.

With their approval, add the appropriate amount of granulated sugar to the bowl of whipped cream, and layer it in the bowl of ice water.

Then, he thrust the bowl and the whisk that Daichi had so deftly handed to him at Shiki Kagami.

"All right, mix this. Just mix it! There are actually many tricks and tips, but I'm not going to say anything right now.

"Ha, yes! I will do my best as a signboard girl!

Shiki received the bowl and whisk with a happy look on her face, and in a complete change, she looked at the whipped cream with a serious gaze "I'm going to do it!

With a shout, Shiki Kagami began mixing with gusto.

Making whipped cream is rather tiring when you do it by hand, but don't worry, it's Shiki Kagami.

He is strong despite his thin arms, and his physical fitness is not a problem since he has undergone six months of basic training in the training department.

If there was a problem, it would be whether or not he would not exhibit his natural screw-ups, but I kept an eye on this and did not issue any complicated instructions.

If it's just mixing, then even Shiki Kagami will say, "Oh, no! Yah, it's gonna fly all over the place.?"

Because Shiki mirror "I'm not sure if the bowl is stable hmm..."

(alt: Even the four seasons mirror — "Bo, the bowl is stable ... Hyan") Shiki Kagami, Dashi "Ya, ugh, ah, he, this is... ah... ah... ah... ah... ah... Aah!

(alt: Shiki Kagami, Dashi ... "Yeah, uh, uh ... yeah ... this, this — ahhhhh !?") I see, it's a four seasons mirror. - I did say to mix it up.

(alt: Yes, it's a four-season mirror — Certainly, I told you to mix it.) Anyway, he said, "Mix it up.

The maid's clothes and apron dress, soaked in places by the still-hot crème and ice water, stick to the skin, revealing Shiki's well-developed body, especially her prominent breasts, one button undone from a tumble... I'm looking down on you, but I'm seeing a lot, aren't I? I wonder if he knows what's going on? I've come this far, and I'm starting to think that maybe they're doing this on purpose, and maybe I should just wander over and take them up on their offer. No good, it's the end of the line.



Shiki Kagami was on the verge of knocking herself down, but on top of that, Shiki Kagami was dragging her feet and saying, "Ugh, I've just become so beautiful, and now I'm getting dirty with cream."

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) Akiharu was having difficulty processing the difficult emotions, and while searching for the right words to say to Shiki Kagami, who was limping, he thought of a suitable one-word phrase and said it without looking at her.

"..... For now, take another bath and change your clothes, and come on."

(alt: "... For the time being, take a big bath and change your clothes.") "..... yes ❖
....."

(alt: "..... Yes") And don't lick the whipped cream off your cheeks. Please don't do me any more favors.

(alt: "..... Also, don't lick the cream on your cheeks. I'm asking you, so please forgive me anymore") The signboard girl tilted her head curiously, as if she didn't understand, and then the chime rang, announcing the end of the exam.

The first group was the last to taste the food, in alphabetical order.

This allowed me and Daichi time to shower and change, which was a big help.

However, I still think that was the biggest reason for my defeat.

I don't say "earliest".

If not for the last minute, Shiki Kagami would not have made it to the tasting just in time to shower and change clothes, even if she and the earth were still dirty.

Thank you for your patience.

Ignoring the fact that I was not waiting for them at all, I should not have opened the door with a smile as lively as that of cherry blossoms in full bloom.

And if they were not the last pair, the judges were different.

This is because the chairman of the board of directors said, "The person in charge of the tasting for Team F is..."

I think that should be the case.

The judges, flanked by the president, are Tomomi Saikei, a first-year upper division student, on the left, and Selnia Iori Flamehart, also a first-year upper division student, on the right.

Tomomi, on the left, is an honor student with light-blue hair that falls to her shoulders.

Also, the sliced pears stuck to his forehead are a good match.

Selnia, on the right, is a Western-style beauty with long, golden hair that she wears like a drill, and even her obviously angry face does not detract from her beauty.

Even if there are mushrooms stuck in your hair, it doesn't matter.

Maple, in the center, was lying on the table.

It had been rampaging until a while ago, but it seems to have directly swallowed a salmon fillet.

By the way, Fukakan, standing behind him, suffered no damage.

Shiki Kagami tripped over her own feet on her first step and yanked her cart over with a vengeance, leaving her soaked in cold potage and half in tears.

..... I'd rather cry, but apparently that's not allowed.

So, with a desperate smile on her face, Akiharu said, "So, the menu for the F team is 'sauteed mushrooms and herbs, cold pumpkin soup, steamed king salmon with white wine and pickled pear syrup, all poured on top of each other'"

I tried to say so with my maximum sense of humor.

I was half imagining it, but no one laughed at me.

Tomomi is smiling, but that doesn't mean she is smiling.

The masks are not moving.

It is not necessary to check what kind of expression is really on their faces underneath.

However, there was no way out for us either, so we had no choice but to push forward.

This time, we had the rare opportunity to be treated to a surprise program by our very own signature girl, but what will the score be?

I tried to peek at her with a stiff smile and a slightly weak salutation, and I regretted not asking her right away.

No one changed facial expressions or moved.

I could feel the anger rising by a few percent, and the atmosphere was so tight that I could get down on my knees and apologize without any hesitation. I really want to cry.

(alt: However, I felt that my anger had increased by a few percent on my skin, and now I can sit down on the ground without any hesitation and apologize. The air has become so stiff that I really want to cry.) I would rather disappear.

However, despite Akiharu's wishes, Tomomi's smile became even softer as she picked up a pear stuck to her forehead and asked, "So, who is the representative of this group who gave you this wonderful present?

I was asked this question.

But for some reason, their gaze never leaves me.

The other, Selnia, brushing off the mushrooms that adorn her hair, said, "Yes, that's right. Who is in charge? I would very much like to know.

He said so, but his gaze was firmly locked on to himself.

The two of them make Akiharu realize once again that he cannot escape.

The two, who normally don't get along and fight all the time, are so focused on one goal that it seems unlikely they will ever get along again.

Excellent.

If it weren't for the revenge of the blows, or at least if the target wasn't me, I'd be happy to do it with all my hands.

Reality is too severe.

Still, I tried to make eye contact with Daichi and Shiki Kagami, who worked hard to get through the exam together in order to save their lives, and I said to them, "..... leader is Hino.

HIKKU Hino is the leader of

..... Neither of them made eye contact with me.

The air becomes even more tense due to the betrayal of the site manager and the signer's daughter.

There is no way to know that, or rather, it would be happier not to know, but I can understand without any way of knowing.

And then, "ah,, so it's really Akiharu-kun, after all.?"

"Huh,, it's you after all.?"

Tomomi and Selnia said similar things and got up at about the same time.

Both of us corrected the smiling faces at No, correction.

He turned his scary smile towards me and said, "..... Then, Akiharu-kun,"

"..... prepared to?"

An unprecedented combination announced the beginning of hell.

Akiharu's smile remained tight as she prayed in her heart.

Sincerely hoping that God or Buddha will grant your wish, make the greatest possible concessions, and pray anyway.

I hope you will lose your mind as soon as possible.

By the way.

His prayers were not heeded, and he was forced to prepare for death on four occasions.

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It has been more than half a year since Kaoru Daichi (♀) entered Hakuryo College of Education as a male student.

The documents were forged, and the students lived in the dormitories as boys, wearing morning coats instead of maids' uniforms.

In the beginning, I was nervous that they would find out I was a woman, or that I would be made aware of the difference between men and women for the slightest thing, which made me uncomfortable, but now I'm completely used to it.

At the same time, I've gotten used to the ridiculousness of Hakuryo, a rich school, and don't care much anymore if something a little outlandish happens.

However, I was surprised when I was suddenly asked to prepare a course meal for the exam.

It's not normal to ask them to do something without any practical training.

Kaoru secretly thinks that the only thing that could be called a blessing in disguise is that her roommate, Akiharu Hino, has been assigned to the same group.

Even for a man, if this had been Todoroki, I could only say it would have been terrible.

It doesn't matter if he's a skilled cook or not, his weather is so weather-beaten that he's missing about three screws.

If it's one of the three families, I can still make compromises. But since they are prettier than the girls who are lousy at male habits, I may end up feeling restless after all.

(alt: The three families can still make compromises, but ... they are more cute than the girls who are not good at the habits of men, so it may be uncomfortable after all.) Therefore, it may not be so much luck to work with Hino, but it must be a good fortune.

Although there were only three members in the group, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Fukaba for his good fortune in dividing the group.

I think so, but I do not know.

The man in front of me, Hino, does not seem to be motivated or convinced or, at any rate, he does not seem to be chewing on his joy.

So, Kaoru was a bit confused. "..... Hino doesn't want to be in the same group as me?"

I complain.

I don't think it's very popular, but I've already said it.

I tried to kill my expression as much as possible so that I wouldn't have to do any more deplorable things, but I still stared at Hino with a slightly saddened look on my face. Rather, it's reassuring to be with you.

The words that came back were so typical of Hino that Kaoru felt the urge to hold her chest immediately, but she managed to overcome the urge.

Why should I be moved by something as simple as being told something a little too good to be true?

It almost came out on my face.

It's a poker face, a poker face After telling herself that, Kaoru did her best to remain calm and continued talking, "So, what would you do to save those uncertainties over there that are likely to be nothing but negative rather than positive?"

Kaoru finally noticed the presence of Shiki Kagami Sanae at the end of Hino's thumb

The three-person team understood that the Shiki Kagami was also incorporated into the project.

But apparently, the brain did not want to recognize it.

Because it is the enemy.

No, perhaps the word "enemy" is not the right word.

This is more like one-sided jealousy.

I don't hate them, but I can't be tolerant of them.

that (something mentioned before which is distant psychologically or in terms of time)

Kaoru recently thinks.

The world is a very unfair place.

Otherwise, there should not be such a difference.

Shiki Kagami and myself - we are the same woman, but why are we so different?

If she has feminine flesh, she won't be able to pretend to be a man as she does now, which may be annoying, but if that happens, she will be able to give up.

It's annoying and disgusting to have these feelings of not being able to give up clinging to you.

Just thinking about it makes me sick, but it's a poker face.

Hino was saying something to me and making eye contact with me, but I was so focused that I had no idea what he was talking about.

So Kaoru responded with words like that and said, "I'll leave it to you.

I nodded my head and said, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry.

(alt: He nodded in the sense that.) As I did this, I gradually came to terms with it.

Yes, you don't have to worry about other people, because they are not in the same situation as you.

It's not that appearance is everything, and it's not that I don't like my face or body that much.

It's not good to turn a blind eye to reality, and we are about to take an exam.

I have to let go of any illusions.

..... Okay, we're good.

It seems that I have succeeded in bringing closure to myself.

Kaoru felt fine and listened to Shiki Kagami, who was arguing with Hino about something, "In a case like this, the girl should take the lead! I'm even wearing this frilly apron dress.

..... I regretted so much that I should not have listened.

Kaoru desperately wants to vent her resentment and anger at Shiki Kagami for saying something that irks her to no end, but she holds herself back.

Calm down, she has no bad intentions.

Since no one knows that I am a woman, that statement does not mean that I am presumptuous, but merely that I am asserting myself as a woman. I am asserting myself too much, you know.

(alt: Nobody knows that I'm a woman, so I'm not thinking about that statement, I'm just asserting that I'm a woman I'm too assertive. Yes.) What is it with you, Shiki Kagami?

I don't know what to do with your feminine body, your large breasts, or the fact that you look good in an apron, but I can't calm down.

(alt: Because I have a slightly feminine body, my chest is big, and my apron looks good, so what's the matter? This ——— Oh, I can't calm down at all.) You have to be cool and keep your poker face on.

Kaoru took a deep breath to avoid being perceived as such and remained silent while pretending to be as cool-headed as possible, when she heard Hino's small, complaining voice.

"..... is a little disturbing, hey."

(alt: "..... I'm worried, hey") Oh, absolutely," Kaoru agreed wholeheartedly.

Perhaps the paths that lead to these impressions are very different.

Although there were some things she couldn't stomach, she decided on the menu and the chime rang, so Kaoru decided to start cooking right away.

As I took off my morning coat, rolled up my shirt sleeves to my elbows, and washed my hands, all I could think of in my mind was how I was going to get back at Hino.

There is no Shiki Kagami.

They should be on their way to the shower room by now, having been seduced by Hino's sweet words.

Therefore, there are only two people here, myself and Hino.
Moreover, Hino seemed to be in a subtle mood.

I think one of the reasons is what I said earlier, but Kaoru has no intention of apologizing for it.

It is the other side that is at fault.

It's like they're hosts from somewhere, and they deceive us so well.

I don't have that kind of attitude toward my roommates.

Gender discrimination?

If that's the case, it would be a big mistake, but I can't suggest it.

That also makes me angry.

If this happens, I won't be able to stop myself from teaching that seductress a lesson.

With a slightly warped determination to make her realize who is truly useful and who she should rely on, Kaoru quickly washed her hands and approached the corner where the ingredients were piled up.

The first step is to pickle the pears in syrup, which requires a bit of time and effort.

Among the fruits beside the vegetables, Kaoru quickly spots a Kosui pear, grabs two, and heads to the kitchen.

After rinsing the pears, take the knives and bowls out of the cabinet under the sink.

It's been a long time since I've held a knife.

When I went home for a few days during the summer vacation, my mother and grandmother were so busy cooking that I had no time to help them.

I wasn't nervous at all, but I was sure I had a good grip on the knife, and I had an image in my mind of what it would be like to cut the pear, and I thought, "Okay, I'll do it.

I mutter to myself, and brace myself.

Concentrating on the thin edge of the knife, Kaoru throws the pear to the height of her face,
"..... つ ! "

With a strong spirit, the right hand that holds the knife flashes.

The blade moves shallowly into the surface of the pear, which has stopped moving in mid-air, and the player quickly turns his wrist to make a circle around the pear, sewing a gap between the peel and the fruit.

Three times.

The top and bottom are cut a little thicker.

Two flashes to cross.

The center, which also contains the seeds, is hard and not very tasty, so I hollowed it out in an arc.

..... As a result, the pear that fell into the bowl in her hand was cut into the shape she had imagined, and Kaoru was a little relieved.

I was able to properly throw all the unwanted pieces, including the peel, into the triangular corner of the sink, and my score was acceptable, even on a scale of 1 to 5.

Next, peel and cut down the other one, this time taking it a little easier.

This was also a success, and once the water and natural salt were added to the bowl, the first stage was quickly completed.

Seeing the pears floating in the air, Kaoru felt a little proud.

How is this deftness?

If being a good cook means being feminine, then it should also mean being perfectly feminine.

I saw Hino putting vegetables in a basket.

Since he was going to make cold pumpkin soup, he should have started by peeling and cutting the pumpkin.

..... Okay."

Kaoru thought, "I'll help her out a little.

I am sure that Hino's guy will be convinced when he sees how I handle the knife.

They should be impressed and recognize their usefulness once again.

At a glance, materials seemed to be ready.

So Kaoru takes out the pressure cooker she found when she checked the sink cabinet, and heads for Hino with it.

When I pointed the pressure cooker at Hino, who turned around, he looked slightly stunned.

I'm a little concerned, but right now the more important thing is to show this man my skills.

Kaoru briefly responds to his question about how she is doing at work, and tells him that she is going to help him.

For some reason, Hino is not convinced and heads to the cooking table with a basket, so I follow him with the pressure cooker.

She sets down the basket and pot, rinses the vegetables, and meanwhile, Kaoru tries to appear calm, excited that the show is getting closer by the minute.

While I was responding to Hino's question, I was imagining in my mind's eye myself as a Yamato Nadeshiko (a woman who plays the role of a courtesan), brilliantly handling a kitchen knife, and if I wasn't careful, my mouth would start to curl up into a ball.

I told myself to be patient, to be patient, and even then, I quickly washed the vegetables so that the moment of activity would come as soon as possible, and then the time came.

With a knife and potatoes in her hands, Kaoru's elation reaches a peak and she confirms from the corner of her eye that Hino is right next to her.

Since I'm working on peeling the carrots, they won't be disappearing anytime soon.

Satisfied with this, Kaoru said in her heart, "Just look at my pretty face.

He throws the potato into the air.

Then, with an artistic movement that was so smooth and graceful that even I was surprised, he flashed the knife in his right hand without any waste.

It was decided.

This is a perfect score.

The potatoes were a little difficult to remove the sprouts, but I was able to hollow them out with the tip of the blade and throw them and their skins into a triangular corner of the sink.

Even my grandmother in the countryside should not be able to complain about the current techniques.

Kaoru was so excited that she wanted to say, "What do you think?" Without moving her eyes, she looked at Hino and was mortified.

I had just completed a perfect technique that could not have been possible any more, but Hino was not looking at me.

What a cold bastard.

Even a good wife couldn't have seen her feminine knife handling.

The thought of it makes Kaoru's stomach churn, and to drown out her frustration, she begins to work on her next prey.

The well-grown, heavy pumpkins have slightly hard skins.

But it doesn't matter.

A mere pumpkin peel is no match for this rage, this power, and this well-honed skill.

In an instant, the large pumpkin is divided into four pieces, one of which falls, already cut and ready to cook.

It also worked quite well.

And yet, Hino still does not see it.

On the contrary, they seem to be stubbornly trying not to look at us.

Kuu This is what I mean by "regretful".

There aren't many occasions when I can show off my feminine side like this.

If you are going into the cooking process in earnest, it should not be so easy because it is a strange department.

That's why I'm here to tell Hino about my womanly side. No, wait.

(alt: That's why here in Hino, what's your feminine place No, wait.) If I do this, is there a possibility that they will find out that I am a woman?

That's not good.

Even if Hino finds out, I have a feeling that he will keep quiet as long as I explain the situation properly, and I have no doubt that he will.

But then, the meaning of living in the same room would be different, and there is a possibility that Hino might not be able to control himself and try to have an affair. If something like that should happen, it would be a disaster, so we must hide it from the public.

..... but then will always be treated as a man.

That's why I can't deny that there's a part of me that feels a little bad, feels a pang of doubt in my chest, and in order to distract myself as much as possible, I'm going to wield the knife to find my next target... mmm?"

At that time, Kaoru finally realized.

At the sink, Hino was exposing her thumb to the water that had been left out, with a somewhat melancholy expression on her face.

Hino? Are you hurt, by any chance?"

I just cut myself a little bit. I'm sorry, but there should be an adhesive bandage in the inside pocket of my jacket, could you please take it off?"

Kaoru was relieved to see that the wound did not appear to be very deep.

But my attention soon shifted to the request.

He quickly sets down the knife, washes his hands, wipes them dry with a towel, and walks quickly over to the chair on which Hino's jacket is hanging.

In the inside pocket of his morning coat, which was slightly larger than his own, there was indeed an adhesive bandage.

Not only that, but there is even a sewing set.

Even I, a woman, would not carry such a thing around with me. But Hino is a man after my own heart, and I cannot underestimate him.

(alt: Such a woman, even though she doesn't carry her around with her, is Hino, and I can't despise her.) Anyway, I went to Hino with only one adhesive bandage.

When I showed him the adhesive bandage for confirmation, he simply accepted it with thanks and began to peel off the wrapping.

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) Kaoru glances at her with silent protest, wondering if that's not quite right. I was going to put it up, but what's with your casual attitude?

..... No, "curt" is an overstatement.

He's a man with a sense of propriety, though.

But it's terrible.

I can't say I'm going to put a bandage on it myself.

It's not that I want to put it up, but we're in the same group, we're roommates, and it's nice that he's nice to me. As my frustration began to build up, I looked at Hino resentfully and wondered what she was going to do about it, "No..... this....."

There were people who were struggling with the application process.

Just when she thought she had a chance, Kaoru's body had already moved into action, and she quickly took the adhesive bandage from Hino's hand.

"Here, I'll put it up. Give me your finger."

"..... Oh, sorry."

(alt: "... Oh, bad") After a little startled eye fluttering, Hino says yes, and then offers his left hand in an honest gesture.

Kaoru's cheeks almost relaxed with a sense of superiority that welled up despite the mere act of applying an adhesive bandage, and she said, "Normalcy, normalcy.

I told myself, "I'm not going to be a part of this.

It's nothing to get excited about.

I quickly put a band-aid on it, received the words of gratitude that I would probably be told, and that was the end of it.

I have to get back to work.

With that thought in mind, I set my sights on Hino's thumb and said, "..... what the hell."

Hino was the one who let out a voice, but Kaoru also raised an eyebrow at the same time.

Blood was floating in the wound.

Although it is a small wound, it does not mean that it will close up immediately and the bleeding will stop.

That's why we do what we do.

Yes, the treatment.

If you are injured, wash with water and disinfect, then apply a bandage, gauze, or bandage.

But this time, it should not have been disinfected.

As far as I could see, they did not.

When we asked Hino for confirmation, he replied that he had not done so.

In other words, disinfection is necessary.

If it's necessary, we have to do it.

We don't have much time, so the best thing to do is to get it done quickly.

Fortunately, I have known how to treat small wounds since ancient times.

Then do it.

The serious brainstorming session came to a unanimous conclusion, and Kaoru switched the bandage to one hand and gently let her tongue crawl over the small wound that runs across Hino's thumb.

"Tēm?"

"I... I... I..."

(alt: 「———」) Hino was complaining about something, but I responded with appropriate words and continued.

Lick the wound carefully and painstakingly to remove germs.

However, the wound is small and requires only a slight movement of the tip of the tongue.

It is a little vulgar and embarrassing to lick it all over.

It's embarrassing enough even now, but I can't help it.

This is an allowance, so we have to do it.

Lick the wound somewhat carefully and apply an adhesive bandage.

I think my face is getting a little hot, but I'm pretty sure they don't notice.

Hino, who seemed a little confused, nevertheless thanked me properly.

With that, Kaoru returns to cooking with a sense of satisfaction.

It feels good to do good things.

It is also a dedicated wound care followed by cooking.

It should not be easy to act in such a feminine manner.

Even if he looks a little masculine on the outside, it's what's inside that counts.

He could do such a good job of making women aware, he should at least take a look at Hino.

.....

(alt: I was able to make this much more conscious of the woman, and Hino's guy also reviewed it a little — "..... Nu?") Then, Kaoru noticed something.

I think I did a good job of cooking and treating the wound like a woman.

But if you do it while people think you're a man, what do they think of you? "..... Fail"

Kaoru finally realizes that appealing to her femininity in her current state is meaningless.

We can't afford to be upset when we realize that what we're doing is subtly wrong.

Kaoru has done more than three jobs as she declared, such as cooking fish and making desserts.

..... Well, I was a little depressed, but I was able to get back on my feet while cooking alongside Hino.

The food was reasonably well done.

I am proud of the taste, but I am also confident in the taste.

It was also a harvest that we learned that Hino can cook reasonably well, as evidenced by the way he seasoned the food.

Yes, the food was very good.

The problem is that the test is about to end.

The trigger for Shiki Kagami's return was Hino's warm-hearted and unnecessary order to make whipped cream.

I, too, underestimated Shiki Kagami.

But I don't think it's crazy to think that even the simple task of stirring the cream could go wrong.

..... Well, I don't care what you can or can't predict.

It was a later festival.

It makes no sense to wait until after it has happened.

The important thing to note is that all three of them ended up covered in cream.

Hino then half-forcibly took me into the shower room.

..... what do we do now?"

I tried whispering in my mouth, but there was nothing I could do.

The situation is quite bad.

If I had to endure this feeling of wanting to disappear right now, I wish I had never thought of taking a shower.

The changing rooms and showers were connected, so it was natural to go there to change out of cream-stained clothes.

There are only five boys in the upper and lower classes combined.

That's why there are individual spare uniforms in the locker room.

But I can't take off my clothes in front of Hino.

I've been able to avoid being seen as a good roommate, but what am I supposed to do now that I'm being exposed?

So Kaoru decided to wait for Hino to finish changing for now.

..... I never thought Hino would undress and take a shower.

I panicked at Hino's nakedness, and even though I kept calmly chanting in my mind, "It's a poker face," it didn't have much effect, so I replied to his unexpected words with two words.

I don't have time, but I can at least wash my hair and body. Let's get on with it.

Yeah, that's right.

As if in haste, Hino disappeared into the shower room.

Left in the changing room, Kaoru regained some of her composure.

There was no way I could take such a dangerous shower.

A change of clothes is enough.

In fact, that alone is enough to be dangerous.

But - my hair and skin are definitely sticky because of the whipped cream.

Frankly, it's disgusting.

I want to wash it away.

Fortunately, Hino was using the shower in the back of the room.

In other words, use the showers near the entrance and you will not be seen.

Hino: Shower, wipe, and dress earlier than Hino.

It is a very difficult mission.

There are many psychological problems as well.

Although there is a partition, the faces and feet that are not hidden are in full view.

If you are not very good, you may be able to see more, depending on the angle.

The mere thought of it made me feel a strong resistance to being completely naked in the shower, where there was not even a place to hide.

I was in a situation where I didn't have time to think about it, but if I hadn't been in a corner, it wouldn't have happened.

You would not have made that decision.

The same is true of the other two.

And now I have to blame myself for having made the decision.

I opened the stainless steel door and slipped into the compartment on the right.
However, I had completely forgotten about a very important issue.

"..... ugh"

(alt: "..... Uhh")



The first time she saw Hino taking a shower at the far end of the room, Kaoru hurriedly averted her gaze and turned over.

I look at the shower overhead as if it were a waterfall, and try my best to tell myself to calm down, calm down, calm down.

Don't worry, they can't see our bodies.

Hino's body is only visible from the shoulders up, so the image should not be that significant.

She tried to believe that it was much less revealing than a bathing suit, that she could just see her face, but she couldn't do it, and Kaoru was even more distraught.

I was naked here, and they were naked there, which made for a very uncomfortable environment.

I had never used this shower room before, so I had no idea what to expect.

The mere thought that someone might be staring at me makes my heart skip a beat, and the slightest change in the sound of the shower, perhaps a change in the point at which I wash, makes me nervous, and sometimes I even hear "ah".

And, "Get on with it, you're not doing it."

I feel as if someone is peeking in on me and looking at my whole body.

..... I know it's all in my head.

Kaoru was so upset that she dropped the sponge several times in the middle of washing her body.

Picking them up is another challenge.

The bottom of my knees are visible from the other side, and I can't help but worry that they might see me when I bend over.

We understand that Hino will not be seen as not bending down at the same time.

That's not going to happen.

..... Although I knew it wasn't there, I hesitated, looked at Hino's situation, watched his heart palpitate, waited for the right moment, and finally picked it up, an incredibly heartbreaking task.

In the meantime, time is running out and impatience is increasing.

I was about to cry when I picked up the sponge and heard the sound of the cock twisting, which told me that my time was up.

The sound of water subsided with a "squeak, squeak" sound.

Instead, Kaoru's heart was pounding wildly.

While I was feeling deathly anxious, I heard footsteps approaching and said, "I'm going up first. Hurry up, earth, hurry up!"

The first time I saw her, I thought she was going to be a little bit of a mess.

"..... didn't make it to in time."

(alt: "..... be not in time.....") I curl up in a ball with my head in my hands and think, "This is the worst."

I don't know how they could have done all the work before we had finished washing our bodies.

(alt: — No way, I would finish the whole process before I finished washing my body.) It is an unforeseen event.

I don't care how fast you wash it, it's too fast.

My father and grandfather liked long baths, so I was careless, but to finish the whole process in just five minutes?

I doubt if they really washed it properly.

Fortunately, the shower room has dividers separating the individual spaces, so Hino should have been able to see me from shoulder level and knee level as I walked by, but I wanted to complain or two.

Wash your body more properly.

No, that's not the problem. No, that's not the problem. "..... can't get out of here
(alt: No, the problem isn't that, but "..... I can't get out if I keep doing this")
Now, you have nothing to show for it.

I'm sure that if someone sees me naked, they will know that I'm a woman.

(alt: It's natural because I take a shower, but if I can see her naked, I'm sure she'll be a woman.
) The former is more important than the latter, although the embarrassment of being seen naked is stronger.

If it was revealed that she was a woman while attending school as a boy, she might be expelled from school.

I definitely want to avoid that.

Oh, but to be seen naked as I was born, it would have been better if my body had grown up to be as fine as Shiki Kagami's if I was going to be seen naked.

I know that Hino's eyes are riveted on her breasts that have grown to the point of being almost ripped off, her surprisingly thin waist, and her thighs, which are not that thick but are still very firm.

I guess since he's a guy, he prefers that kind of feminine figure. I wonder why I'm so concerned about him.

(alt: After all, he's also a man, so I wonder if he has such a feminine figure Why do I care about him so much?) I mean, he's not a bad guy, he's a rather nice guy, but that's not the point, he just doesn't have the luxury to spend his time on such a lovey-dovey thing right now. Kaoru slammed her fist against the wall at the thought that she could not come to a coherent conclusion.

Damn, everything is Hino's fault"

While I think this is a self-serving shift of responsibility, I cannot help but feel compelled to say so.

Women's minds are complicated.

..... But lamenting won't get you started.

We have to do something about it.

Kaoru twisted the cock to lower the temperature of the water and cool her head down as well.

After all, if you are seen naked, you are out.

Then, paradoxically, we should do something about it.

Open the door and knock Hino out before he can turn around. That's it!

(alt: "... Open the door and faint before Hino looks back ... this is it!") The door connecting the locker room and the shower room to the lockers Hino normally uses is less than five meters away.

A single leap is all it takes to zero this level of damage, and there is also the option of throwing a bar of soap through a shallow open door to knock them out.

The scary thing is the possibility of failure.

It is difficult to make a decision unless he is looking backward, and Hino's instincts are sharp at the right moment, perhaps because he is used to fighting or because he is prone to getting involved in troublesome situations.

I don't think they will be able to dodge the fastest blow, but there is a good chance that they will be shifted to a different location.

But it is also true that I can't think of any other way.

While we are in this quandary, we do not know when the situation will worsen.

I have no choice but to do it.

Kaoru, determined, turns off the shower and takes a deep breath.

I don't like to ask for help from God, so I pray to my ancestors for success.

I pray for the blessing of my children, who are not good enough for you, and I pray for you.

What?

Immediately after the prayer.

The sound of a door opening was heard along with Hino's voice calling out.

A little later, I hear footsteps, dripping with water.

Kaoru could easily imagine what this meant.

He quickly tried to hide himself, but there was nothing there except the sponge he used to wash his body.

Kaoru stiffened as she turned her back to the entrance, placing her hand over her heart, which was thumping like never before.

This right after offering a prayer.

Yes, ancestors.

Kaoru opens her mouth to glare at the shower nozzle as it drips water.

"What is it? If you have something to do, do it quickly. If not, get out of here.

"Yeah, because it looks like you didn't come in with a towel. I thought I'd give it to you."

Kaoru was relieved to hear Hino's normal tone of voice.

Thank God, they don't seem to have found out.

Hino is a simple person who easily expresses his emotions.

If that is not the case, then it must be okay.

..... Or, if you think about it, there is a divider.

The blindfold also serves as a blindfold, so that although the other side can see your face and legs, they should not be able to see your torso.

It is embarrassing to be seen naked, even if it is a part of the body that is normally exposed, but it is better than being seen in a part of the body that is not meant to be seen.

I have calmed down a little.

And if you look at it in a calm way, you realize that it is quite unnatural for the shower to remain turned backward while the shower is turned off.

..... I'm sorry. I appreciate it."

(alt: "... I'm sorry to bother you. Thank you.") So Kaoru turned around with a word of thanks and met the eyes of Akiharu Hino, who was looking at her with his arm on the dividing board.

This time, Kaoru is completely rigid.

Because the divider also serves as a blindfold, so that people can't see what they don't want to be seen.

And yet, the fact that we're looking at it from above the board means that half of the board's functionality has been lost, so we're naked, and while we're turning around, I'm sure the lower half of our bodies aren't even visible, but from the angle of view, our breasts, unprotected and without any kind of sarashi or wrapping, are... well, they are... they are. Hino's reflection said, "Here, take this. I'm going to go out first because I don't want the order for tasting to come around too soon, but you should go out as soon as you can, too.

(alt: However, looking from the top of the board means that half of the board's function is meaningless, so I'm naked, and while I'm turning around, I can't see the lower half of my body, but the angle. The point is that the chest is unprotected and has nothing wrapped around it. — While Kaoru's thoughts are clouded, Hino is reflected in the sight — "See, this. The order of tasting turns quickly. I'll be one step ahead because I'm in trouble if I come, but you too should be as soon as possible. ") Without any upset or surprise, he threw a bath towel in his hand and gave it to her.

Then, without any reaction, she walked out of the shower room.

Five seconds, ten seconds, a minute pass, but nothing happens.

"..... え?

With a stiff posture and a bath towel thrown by Hino over her head, Kaoru was finally able to voice her doubts.

..... I just got a perfect view of my chest.

No doubt.

Since they forgot to even hide it with their hands, they must have seen it for sure by now.

And yet what was the meaning of that reaction? Picking up a bath towel, Kaoru stared at her body and came to her conclusion.

"..... He couldn't have known I was a woman even after seeing my breasts? ...?

Kaoru looked down at her chest in shock.

Sadly, it was almost flat.

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) "Well, she didn't get found out, so what the heck."

I would have liked to have been able to think of it as "I'm not a good person," but unfortunately, I did not have that kind of flexibility and positivity.

Disappointed, Kaoru exits the shower room and slowly gets dressed.

Never before had I felt so empty with a sarashi wrapped around my chest.

In the end, Shiki Kagami again failed the exam at the very end, and the dish was thrown around by the judges, which was a terrible ending.

Kaoru could not help Hino Akiharu, who was being tortured by the two judges from the Horticulture Department, Saikyo Tomomi and Selnia lori Flameheart, taking the blame for the situation.

Suck on it, you enemy of women.