

The second semester final exams were over, and the test break passed without incident.

This is all well and good for Hedier as an individual, but if you take his feelings into account, it's a whole different story.

Eiche-Hadim's expression, as he gazed at the night sky beyond the window, always seemed to have a hint of transient melancholy about it, despite the fact that it was the most beautiful thing in the land.

It is not necessary to consider what the cause of the problem is.

Hedier can't even begin to measure the amount of love her husband has for the man, but the look on his face tells her that he is not something that can be easily cut off and forgotten.

Otherwise, I would have done my own dirty work and buried Akiharu Hino in the dark long ago.
"....."

(alt: 「.....」) A faint sigh escaped Aiche's lips as she gazed up at the stars.

Through her years of experience, Hedier knows exactly what her husband's concerns are.

Recently, the behavior of the female students around Akiharu Hino has changed a little.

Many of them are aggressively trying to take the students out of Hakurei Ling, or are spending time alone with them or behaving in a somewhat unsightly manner.

I don't care if he takes a wife other than his real wife or has a mistress, but as a follower, I don't like the fact that he is always with other women without Aishe, who is supposed to be his real wife.

(alt: It doesn't matter if he takes a wife other than his legal wife or has a mistress, but as a servant, it's a little off-putting to be with other women besides Aishe, who is supposed to be a candidate for legal wife. I don't really like it.) I wish my husband could be as active as he is, but his personality and religion prevent him from being too flashy.

Especially when going out, we need to be well-prepared, so we tend to be late.

Still, the modest Aiche has no complaints, but only a growing feeling of Hedier is not convinced by the situation.

Above all, we have very little time left.

What can I do for my husband with the limited time I have? Hedier thought deeply about it and eventually came to a conclusion.

Aishe suddenly turns to me, without making any sound or moving.

The wise master seems to sense something and looks at Hedier with a small tilt of his head.

Hedier responded with the biggest smile he could muster.

No, it's all right, Miss Eiche, everything is perfect, everything is fine. Everything is in good hands here at Hedier.

The students in the junior high school have classes and service activities in the afternoons as well.

The difference in treatment is natural, so I'm not complaining, but I was a little tired, as if my body was slowing down from the exams and vacations.

So, I wonder if it would be easier to just pass out, as the Fukakan-produced "This is just the way it is, isn't it?"

I was on my way to the cafeteria to get a good lunch so that I could make it through the class, which made me think, "I'm not going to make it through this class."

They stopped when they saw the notice posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

I thought the second semester would be over soon, but it turns out there was quite an event at the end.

"..... Oh."

(alt: "... Oh") Daichi's voice next to me in agreement sounded a little stunned, or at least decidedly not pleased.

Well, since it is the same for me, Akiharu looks at the paper in front of him again while playing with the safety pin in his right ear.

The notice, which is posted along with details of competitions in which students are participating, and announcements of private exhibitions by famous painters, includes an announcement for a Christmas dance.

It says, "..... is an annual event, so the president doesn't just open it on a whim. This is a young lady's school after all. She does this every year?

"Yeah, man, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. You know, you can inevitably hold hands with the girls, get physical, and make out with them.

That is, if we can participate.

Todoroki is already excited and assertive, but Sanke is as calm as ever as he pokes fun at Todoroki.

If we are roommates with this pseudo-Kansai-speaking pornographic idiot, we will either become more violent or more enlightened, but it seems we are becoming more and more the latter.

Well, Sanke are right.

The question is whether or not the participation of education students is allowed, and from there, whether or not men can participate.

It's not that I want to participate, so either way is fine for Akiharu, but if I have to participate as a backstage person, I can't make plans on that day but "..... Well, I don't have plans on Christmas Eve, do I?

Hmm? What's the matter, Akki, did you mean to run away?

There is no such a partner. With you, if we don't have this event, we'll just go about our lives as usual.

I'm not happy to be lumped in with them. I'm working on finding the love of my life before the day of the event, you know?"

"....., you know, you can stop dragging me into this."

(alt: "... Um, can you please stop getting me involved in that?") I know that the two of them, or rather Todoroki, are going out on the town to pick up girls with Sanke, which they don't like, but I don't think a miracle success will happen in less than ten days.

If it were just Sanke, but if the Todoroki were there, it would be impossible.

His face is not so bad, but he is so desperate that it is kind of scary.

However, Akiharu could not laugh at such a roar.

I am sure they will have to get together with other men as well, since they will probably have no partners.

I'm sure you've been thinking about it, but isn't the 24th just after winter break? Don't some students have to go home?"

If this is an annual event, I think many students will attend the ball and then go home."

"Ah, yes, that's true. I see what's going on here.

Daichi's words are true, and if that were the case, it would mean that most upper secondary students would likely participate.

Then, Selnia might be there on the same day.

I was planning to give it to her before I went on vacation, but I was thinking that if she was coming to the ball, I could give it to her then.

(alt: I've been asked for a birthday present, and since you've been helping me in so many ways, I was wondering if I could give it to you, so I was planning to give it to you before the holidays started, but... butoh. If you're coming to the meeting, should I hand it over at that time?) I think it is better to give them on the day of the birthday.

..... It seems a little empty coming from someone who forgot her cousin's birthday.

I decided that I would make sure to check with the person in question later, so I decided to head for the cafeteria, and I looked away from the bulletin board.

That's you.

"Please call me that, sir. Or have you already forgotten my name in your sesame-meat-and-fava-bean-sized brain, then I'm afraid I have no choice.

"....., what's the big deal about?"

Don't talk nonsense, Mike. This must be part of the play.

While she will deal with Todoroki's off-the-mark comments in secret later, Akiharu looks around at the upperclassmen standing in the hallway.

Hedier's presence today, with his abusive tongue, should have meant that his husband Eiche was right there with him, but for some reason, he was not there.

The chador is wrapped around the body, making it conspicuous and easily recognizable at a glance.

As a follower of the Ahramite religion, which has many strict precepts, it is difficult for him to appear in the presence of so many other men, so he may be hiding somewhere.

The fact that the girl is not in the shadows nearby, but the possibility of a trap is even greater. I know you are looking for Miss Eiche, but I am afraid she is not here. Now is the time for you to go to your room and meditate.

"Well,, are you sure you're the only one?"

Yes, that's right, and now that you finally understand, would you please come with Hedier here?

"No, I'm not sure if you can come over, but I'm going to go to for lunch."

(alt: "No, even if you asked me if I could come, I'm going to eat lunch now...") "Will it be quick, or are you too small a vessel to be flexible for a few minutes when an older woman has asked you with her head down?"

..... has clearly created an asking for help, which is not an attitude.

I didn't put my head down at all.

Can't you at least try to match what they say and do? Akiharu scratches the back of his head and sighs in resignation at Hedier, who is still the same.

If you refuse at this point, you could be kidnapped.

If that's the case, it's best to go along with them quietly.

I'm not sure if I'll be free by the time I can properly eat lunch, but it can't be helped.

(alt: I'm worried whether I'll be released by the time I can eat lunch properly, but it can't be helped.) There is almost no room for choice.

I've got some business to attend to at, so you guys go ahead. I would appreciate it if you could order something for me while you're at it.

Oh. Watch your back."

Daichi says it in a serious tone, but Akiharu can't laugh it off.

One would normally wonder why someone would be so concerned about a woman who has something to do with them, but it is a maître d'affaires.

Since their lives are in serious danger, there is no way they can be careless.

However, it seems that Daichi is the only one who truly knows the horror of Hedier, and Todoroki and the others wave their hands in the air and say, "Oh, oh, go on. If things get too dirty, I'll shove a bottle of Tabasco in your mouth later, so be prepared.

Okay, I'll see you later.

As I lightly raised my hand in farewell, Hedier quickly turned on his heel and went on ahead of me.

For a moment, I was tempted to dash away, but I knew that if I did, I would probably get blasted with a blade.

Hedier walks silently down the aisle toward the special school building.

The hallway is deserted and only the sound of footsteps can be heard: but only from me, and not from the feet of the maid of honor who is supposed to be walking in front of me.

Fukaba can do the same thing, but do professional butlers and maids really need to have this kind of ninja skill? If so, the road ahead is a very long one. and as Akiharu looked away, Hedier suddenly stopped and said, "This is the place, please come in.

With that, he opened the unplated classroom door.

The interior of the room, which could only be considered an empty classroom, made Akiharu wonder if he had done what he was told, but he soon realized that the room looked vaguely familiar.

The unused classrooms may all look alike, but if you take a closer look, you'll see that they're clean and are probably correct.

Is this the room Eiche used to change in?

"Good answer, sir. I'm glad to see you've learned to use your head a little better than before."

"....., well, that's okay, but"

(alt: "... well, it's fine, but...") I don't feel like getting angry at this time when I was frankly abused by this lady's assistant as if I were at a snack bar.

If you get angry at every word she says, you will experience the kind of death that would only be possible in a comic book, where the blood vessels in your head would break and you would keel over.

Even so, it was still slightly damaged, so Akiharu proceeded to the back of the room, feeling somewhat naïve.

The curtains by the window are open now, but I remember the first time we met, Aiche was changing around here.

I never would have guessed that someone was changing inside and who would have thought they would almost get killed afterwards?

A murder in a prestigious schoolhouse is not the stuff of mystery novels.

Akiharu looks back with the obvious question in his mind, "Why did the person who pointed the dull, shiny dagger at me lead me here?"

Then Hedier closed the door and for some reason locked it with a click.

"....., uh,, why the key?"

I don't welcome any interference. Some thuggish butler cadet proved to me that even the smallest possibility can be catastrophic if overlooked.

I was straight-up humiliated.

It is very strange how someone who is unwillingly trying to make his master his wife can say such a thing.

"What do you want from me at? You brought me all the way out here."

Akiharu asks Hedier to finish early because he has lunch to prepare.

However, we must remain alert and ready to move at any time.

If I'm not good enough, I might say, "I knew it, and I thought we should continue where we left off."

The only thing that can happen is that he will swing his deadly blade at you again.

Whether he knew what we were thinking or not, Hedier looked at us as if he were a threatening child with a toy weapon. But soon his eyes softened and narrowed.

(alt: Whether he knew what I was thinking or not, Hedie's eyes looked like he was looking at a child with a toy weapon and menacing him... but soon his eyes narrowed softly.) Before Akiharu could even think about what that meant, she asked, "It's been quite a while since Master witnessed Miss Aiche's soft skin on that day, but has there been any change in your mind yet?"

What's a change of heart?

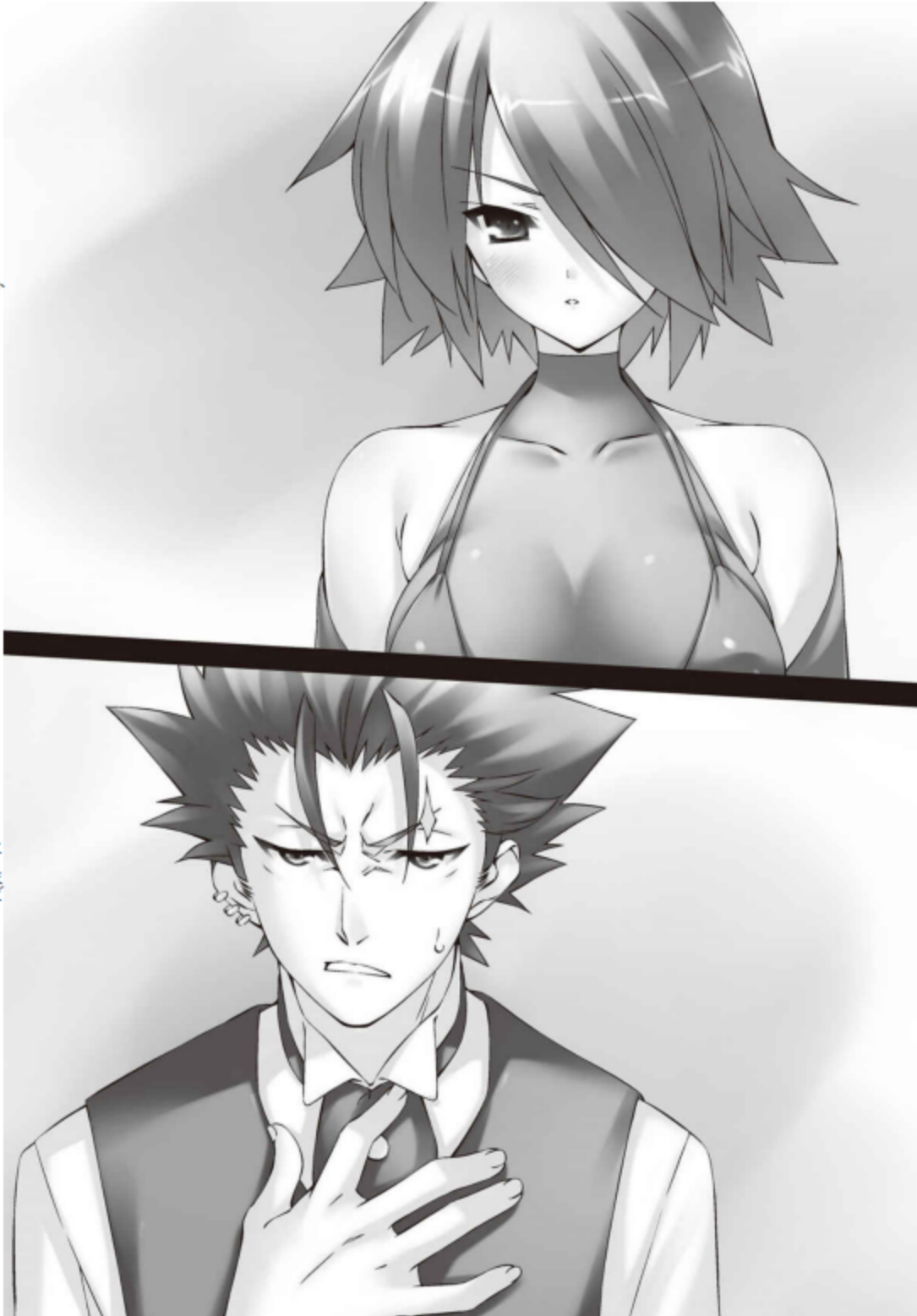
"Your marriage to the young lady, I hope you understand."

If this lady wants to talk to me, it would have to be on a specific topic, but I can't say it lightly.

If the content is related to marriage, it is natural to be hesitant.

As Akiharu pondered the appropriate response, Hedier, who had approached him while he was out of sight for a moment, came up right next to him and started checking the locks on the windows as well.

I don't really care, but when I cross the street in front of it, I smell a faint citrus odor, which makes me strangely nervous.



While being slightly puzzled by the proximity, Akiharu made it clear that he did not want to give up the initiative completely.

I'm sorry to be your maid of honor, but I have no intention of getting married. I'm sorry to be your maid of honor, but I have no intention of getting married.

(alt: "I feel bad for you, the maid, but I have no intention of getting married.) "Well, does that mean that you will not take responsibility and wait for the statute of limitations to run out, while leaving your daughter's beautiful body in a state of disrepair? You're a real scoundrel, you bastard of a master."

What the hell is your interpretation?

"I'm not saying anything wrong, but what is it?"

Expression! Think more about how you express yourself!

The words were stabbed at him from a different angle than usual, and Akiharu had to endure the pain in his conscience.

It's a poor way of putting it, but it doesn't mean it's untrue, and I'm tingling with guilt.

Akiharu again became more vigilant, wondering just how versatile this witch is.

But for some reason, Hedier's expression was not the kind that teases us, but rather I'm out of tune, this one.

I can't read what they are thinking at all.

Usually, no matter how much I ridicule them, they exert a drop of hostility or pressure that I can't overlook at a level that makes me want to say that it is the realm of murderous intent, but not today only today.

In addition, Aiche had been left behind, which was an unusual situation.

What does she really think she is doing?

Unless I was struck by lightning and my train of thought switched to a strange state, or some deity stood in my dream pillow and forced me to change my mind, I would not be convinced.

Or this itself is some kind of trap.

When Akiharu was in doubt, Hedier laughed at the thought and loosened his lips.

It's just a confirmation, nothing to overreact to. I'm personally sorry, but at this point I think we should just let it go."

Is it? What are you?"

At the moment when Akiharu raised his eyebrows in disbelief, he thought, "This is really strange.

In a few days, Miss Eiche will return to her home country.

I could not believe my ears at the most shocking statement so far.

Hedier, however, is unconcerned about our situation, and continues on in a nonchalant manner.

I will never see him again, and I deserve to shed tears. I am very sorry to say that your daughter seems to have very different feelings about this.

"Oh, what? You've done it twice: huh?"

"Oh, sir, if you have juvenile dementia, do you know of any good poisons I could procure for you?"

No, refer him to a doctor! Or symptomatic treatment!"

However, if you respect your husband's desire not to have his family take care of his successor, then you must make up your mind.

Don't respect me just at a time like this! I mean, you don't have dementia!"

The fact that they say such scary things so casually as they always do makes me feel relieved.

But, how far does this Murder's Handmaiden want to go to find out what is going on over here?

There was no doubt that there was something that was said that could not be missed.

After exhaling deeply, Akiharu slowly looked into Hedier's eyes and opened his mouth.

What do you mean, "....., back home"? And that we'll never see each other again.

It means what it says, nothing more. Miss Eiche and I will be returning home at the end of the second semester.

"But what about the Christmas Ball?"

I think I may have missed the point a little since I said it, but I'm still so confused that I can't really wrap my head around it.

The content is content and too abrupt.

Why would Miss Eiche participate in an event that takes place on the occasion of a pagan festival? I am well aware of Japanese culture and the situation at Hakurei Ling, but I have no intention of participating.

Well,, that's true. But then, are we going to leave after the ceremony? That's a bit rushed.

This is something that has been in the works for a long time, not something that just came up yesterday or today. If the Master had expressed his intention to marry Miss Eiche, it would have been a different matter.

I know it makes me feel like it's my fault, but no matter how much Akiharu says, "Well, then..."

I can't make a promise of marriage to him.

It is an issue that has a great bearing on my life.

It should not be so easy.

First of all, if this is not an urgent matter, I would like to ask you something.

"..... Why are you telling me this now? Eicher might not be able to tell you himself, but he would at least be there to tell you.

Although she rarely speaks for religious reasons, she does speak up when she and her prospective husband are alone, and even if she doesn't, she is likely to be beside Hedier, who speaks for her, because it is an important conversation.

But in reality, there is only one Hedier.

Considering Eiche's character as a lady-like, polite person, I have to chisel my head out of my ass.

"..... because Miss Eiche stopped it."

(alt: "...because Miss Aishe was stopped.") Did you stop? You mean, stopped talking?"

Yes, yes, this is Hedier's sole discretion today. The Mistress was going to return home on her last day with only her greetings, without informing the Master.

"Why would you bother with"?

The more I listen, the more confused I get, but that's what I'm most concerned about.

There are many things I would like to know, such as the reason why Aiche decided not to tell me about her return, or the reason why she decided not to return to her country. I can't

believe that Hedier, who is supposed to be like a stone on the other side of Daichi, would act on her own accord and betray me.

(alt: There are many things I want to know, such as why Aishe had to return to her country, or why she decided not to tell herself about her return... To think that Hedie, who should have known about this as little as a stone, would act arbitrarily and could be taken as betrayal.) This is more surprising than having a girlfriend who is beautiful and has a normal personality and hobbies.

Akiharu's gaze is filled with suspicion as he wonders what she means when she has been trying to frame him for Aiche's sake.

Hedier's response to this was, "I'm only doing what I think is best for Miss Eiche, and I don't care what you accuse me of afterwards."

The smile on his face was refreshingly different from his previous sneers and social pleasantries.

I was always hostile toward the Lord, so I was in a bad mood when he made this kind of face.

Moreover, the remarks that embarrassed Akiharu were not over yet.

I don't think it would please Miss Aiche to force you to take marital vows in such a situation. Therefore, the only thing I can do is to inform the Master.

Is that all there is to? Usually, it's more like

I would never ask him to do anything for me at this point in my life. But well, could you please not tell Miss Eiche that I have told him about this? She is a kind young lady, and it might hurt her heart to know that she has caused you unnecessary worry."

That's fine, but

I wonder if that is really all there is to it.

I understand what Hedier is saying, and his dedication is admirable, but I would have thought he would have taken a more aggressive approach in the past, so I am inclined to think there is more to it than meets the eye.

But...

"Thank you so much, it was worth the trip."

When Akiharu saw Hedier really lowering his head this time in front of him, he could say nothing more.

And to Hedier, who was still bowing, "If there's anything I can do to help you, you can do it. I said that to myself.

The night of that day.

In her room at the dormitory, Akiharu asked her roommate, Daichi, a question before going to bed.

I'm sorry," he said. Before you entered Hakuryo, did your local acquaintances throw you a farewell party or a pep rally?"

I didn't want to go through the trouble of making a proper pretense and setting up a plausible scenario, so I decided to ask a direct question.

I don't have the dexterity to follow a good plan.

So it should have been quite sudden, but Daichi, sitting up in bed, only slightly frowned and answered me.

"Other than a simple family meal, there was nothing special going on."

I guess that's what it's all about.

I don't know what you are referring to, but in my case, it is not helpful at all. I was the only student at my school, deep in the mountains, and I hardly knew anyone outside of my own family.

(alt: "... I don't know what you want to refer to, but in my case it's not helpful at all. I'm the only student at school, deep in the mountains, and I didn't have many acquaintances outside of my immediate family. Na") "Oh, seriously? I've heard about this place, but is it really that rural?"

Wasn't that what they called a "marginalized village"? I wonder how that school didn't close down.

While Akiharu's mouth was open in surprise and admiration, Daichi looked at him and said, "Hino, how about you? What about you, Hino? Before I came here, the person who sent me away..."

Oh, there was a time when I was in the dormitory. Since it was a dormitory, the guy I shared a room with and some other guys from the same class gathered at and called it a big place?"

Looking at my current roommate with nostalgic memories, I was as stunned as someone who had just witnessed the existence of a tonkatsu parfait for the first time.

There should have been nothing surprising in what I just said, but what is this reaction?

I can't believe I had a proper friend in Hino...? What?

"You said some pretty horrible things out there, didn't you?"

Because but such pretense is

I'm not sure I believe it, but I'm sure that's what they thought of me.

(alt: Daichi shook his small fist and said he couldn't believe it, but... Is that what you thought?)
I wonder if I should cry in a corner of the room.

Well, I guess it's not hard to understand.

I haven't kept in touch with him since he came to Hakuryo.

If only I had had a cell phone when I was at my old school, I would still be in touch with you today. Unfortunately, I only have the dorm phone number in my notebook and no personal contact information.

(alt: When I was at my previous school, as long as I had a cell phone, I could still contact them, but unfortunately, I only have the dormitory's phone number in my notebook, and I don't know their personal contact information. .) And since they weren't exactly close friends, the ones who did gather were often looking for a reason to make a fuss, or were envious of the fact that I was transferring to a former princess school.

So, no, it's nothing special.

..... but it sure made me happy and encouraged me.

I mean, it's not like we don't do anything, you know.

(alt: "As I thought, I don't do anything, huh...") The murmur he let out with his arms folded, made Akiharu think again.

Things are completely different from how I was then, and I can't publicly send them off because I promised not to tell anyone. But now that I know, I wanted to do something about it.

(alt: The situation is completely different from what I was at that time, and I promised that I would not send him off to the public, so I can't do it, but... now that I know, I wanted to do

something.) Although there are some things that don't add up because of a chance accident, she is the one who has shown her affection for me.

However, if there's anything I can do...

Hedier's response to this comment was, "Nothing in particular, not from me.

The company's response was unapologetic.

I was annoyed at the excessive demands they were making, but I didn't expect them to say anything.

That witch has really betrayed my expectations.

So Akiharu had no choice but to think for himself and ask Daichi how he would have been happy to be sent away. failed spectacularly, and nothing was gained.

(alt: So Akiharu had no choice but to think and act for himself, and asked Daichi how he would have been happy to have been sent out, but... it was a spectacular failure, and he gained nothing.) "..... mu"

(alt: "..... Muu.....") The only thing that comes to mind is making memories or giving gifts.

But if I, who should know nothing about it, suddenly did such a thing, it would be extremely unnatural and cause me a lot of trouble.

Falling onto the bed with his hands raised as if to indicate that he's finished, Akiharu sighs heavily and then realizes that he's not.

I was aware that Daichi, in the bed next to me, was staring at me.

"I don't know, but someone is going somewhere very far away?"

What?" Uh, yeah. That's about it."

Hedier's orders were, "Don't tell Eiche."

However, it would be better to keep quiet about this because it would be difficult to know who would hear.

As Akiharu muddled his words with this thought, Daichi, for some reason, crawled on all fours and approached us just as he was about to fall off the bed, and said, "..... that.... Are you going to quit Hakuryo"?"

"Ew!"

With a serious look on his face, he came barreling in with pinpoint statements.

This made even Akiharu raise his head and look at Daichi's face.

I had no idea that she would realize that much just from our conversation.

What kind of psychic powers are you talking about?

As Akiharu took a deep breath to calm his heartbeat, which had quickened in surprise, Daichi opened his mouth while glancing away, as if he were a doctor announcing a serious medical condition.

If you're having a hard time with or if you have a problem with, I can help you with that

"No, not really, I don't really know either.?"

Akiharu, who was impatiently trying to call out a series of denials and excuses, suddenly noticed a discomfort and stopped speaking.

Wasn't that something funny? "..... Daichi? Who are you to talk about quitting Hakuryo?

Of course, Hino...

"Okay, there you go. You've made a mistake. I'm not quitting.

When he said that, Akiharu was convinced that it was as he thought.

When I thought something was wrong, he seemed to have mistakenly thought he was quitting. Normally, someone who is about to quit would not bring up the subject of an expulsion party on their own.

It was an inadvertent mistake, not unlike Daichi, but it was a relief for us.

I know he's the kind of guy who will keep quiet if I keep quiet even if he finds out, but still.

However, it seems that Akiharu was not the only one relieved, as Daichi also relaxed his stern expression, dropped his shoulders, and let out a deep breath.

"..... so, or, don't say anything too confusing."

(alt: ".....Yes, huh....., don't make such confusing remarks.") Sorry, sorry. I didn't mean to do that, but I'm sorry for worrying you.

(alt: "No, it's bad. I didn't mean to do that, but I was worried.") I'm not worried about

.....

Turning his head away, Daichi then closed the curtains around the bed.

He may be embarrassed to be seen reacting in such a way that is out of character for him.

..... He's a cool guy, but he's childish in this way, and it's kind of funny.

(alt: It might be embarrassing to see such an uncharacteristic reaction, but... he's a cool guy, but this kind of side is childish, and it's kind of funny.) After laughing out loud, Akiharu reaches for the bedside switch to turn off the light, and with a snap, turns off the light.

Then I get into bed, fold my hands behind my head, close my eyes, and think.

As Daichi showed me with his face, parting is a serious event.

Compared to my classmates and the Minas and Pinnas, with whom I get along reasonably well, the time I spent with the Aiches was short, but the impact was so strong that I may never forget it.

That's why, once again, I want to do something for him in the end,..... but it's not something I can cherish, and Hedier has got my sleeve up,..... "..... Nope,....." he says.

After much deliberation, Akiharu's answer is: "Ah, it's just a coincidence!

".....?"

At this call, which even Akiharu himself found a little deliberate, Aiche, who was in front of a cyclamen flowerbed, turned around with a slow movement.

Hedier, who was also standing by, turned to me and said bluntly, "What are you doing here?

I was surprised to see the way they looked at me, as if they were saying, "You've got to go back.

The pressure is scary, but it is not the same as quietness.

If Aiche is there, there is no reason for a sudden assault.

Why do we have to deal with wild animals and tribes that don't understand our language with a smile on our face that proves we have no hostile intentions? But it's better than not doing it and getting hurt or being robbed at knifepoint.

In any case, considering his own safety, Akiharu stopped a few steps away and looked not at Aiche, but at Hedier.

I need to talk to your maid of honor. Can I borrow her?"

Huh? What are you talking about, this bigoted Master? I, Hedier, have not the slightest intention of accepting orders from anyone other than our master, Miss Eiche.

As expected, Hedier's words of abuse and rejection fly in like a machine gun, but even they end abruptly.

The reason is simple: Eiche stopped it, and it should be

Since his eyes are looking at his master and Aiche is staring at his handmaiden, they are probably having some kind of conversation using the communication set attached to their clothes.

While Akiharu watched for a moment, after a moment Hedier said, "..... Then, Miss Aiche, please wait here for a moment. I will not go out of your sight, but even if it is not an emergency, I will come to you as soon as you call me, even if you need me for something small.

After saying this and lowering her head to Aiche, she moved closer to Akiharu.

I guess this means that my request has been approved, but I am afraid of face, not smiling at all.

Then, sir, please finish quickly. It is impossible for you to leave this place, but I will allow you to move around a little.

Oh, yeah. Okay, then. This way."

While slightly freaked out, Akiharu looks around for a suitable place and moves to the fountain, hoping that he can get far enough away so that Aiche cannot hear his conversation.

Hedier comes up behind her without a hint of hesitation and says, "..... I am so embarrassed by your thoughtless husband, I told him it was a secret from you, but his attitude is like he is trying to show that he knows.

I'm sorry about that, but I don't know how to contact you personally, and I wanted to ask you directly. Let's see, Is this a good place to start?"

I think that's about right. Please be brief.

Akiharu is somewhat nervous when Hedier, who has positioned himself with the fountain in the background so that he can check out both himself and his master at the same time, cuts him off.

"About yesterday, I wanted to ask you something."

Please say so. Whether or not I will answer is another matter, but I am prepared to listen."

He always has a tricky way of saying things.

I don't want to one day be able to enjoy this as a taste of being an attendant, but I guess that won't matter once I go back home and we don't see each other anymore.

It is precisely because she thinks so that Akiharu speaks up with a question that he has been pondering over all night.

"Is Eicher convinced that he should return home?"

A twitch, a very slight eyebrow twitch, and Hedier responds, "..... What does that mean? The intent of the question is unclear and I can't answer it.

So, is he not opposed to returning home and not coming back to Hakuryo? A lady-in-waiting would know, wouldn't she?

This may sound a bit provocative, but the content is what we want to hear.

If we are not at least this aggressive, there is a possibility that they will not open their mouths.

While inwardly feeling somewhat nervous, Akiharu stared at Hedier as if in a glare and said once again, "I'm not sure what I'm supposed to be doing here.

(alt: While feeling a little nervous in his heart, Akiharu glared at Hedie and said again.) If Aiche wants to go home, or if he is satisfied with his decision to return, then all I can do is say

goodbye for the last time. However, if she is not willing to go back, and she has no choice but to go to, then I want to help her as much as I can so that she can stay."

I thought I made it clear yesterday. There is not a single thing that I want from you, sir.

"That's your opinion, right? I'm just asking you to tell me how you feel about Eiche.

I understand that this is a very aggressive argument, and I wonder why they are doing it while we are talking, even though they are staring at us.

Hedier seems to share the same opinion, and asks me in a voice that is more dismayed than angry.

I don't understand why your husband, who is so bad at being a good friend and a good wife, would go to such lengths. And if that's what you really want, it's easy, just have Master work it out with Miss Eiche and everything will be fine."

It's impossible. I can't do that. At least, I don't feel like it right now.

"And yet you want to help your daughter? You've got a lot of nerve talking like that, don't you think?"

I know I'm talking out of turn, but please."

I can't lower my head because Aiche is watching from afar.

Therefore, Akiharu had no choice but to say something with the utmost sincerity.

It is sad and more than that, it is a pity that the person who told me that he/she loves me, no matter how it may look, will leave the country without my wish and I will never see him/her again.

(alt: No matter how you look at it, someone who said they liked you, but you didn't want to go back to your country and never see them again... After all, it's lonely, and more than that, it's depressing.) I know I am being very selfish since I have declared that I don't want to get married, but still....

First of all, if you have a problem with it, it is the fault of the maid of honor who told you the story.

I'm all for shifting the blame.

While Akiharu stared at her with a clenched fist, Hedier's eyes were fixed intently on her, but after a moment, she let out a sigh as if the threads that had been holding her back had been cut.

"What a selfish husband you have!"

That's what I think, too.

If it weren't for Miss Eiche's reminder, I would have put a blade in your mouth to stop you from saying anything.

"..... will not tolerate that."

(alt: "... I'm sorry for that.") I mean, how can you say that with a slight smile on your face?

Clearly, the idea is that of someone skilled in interrogation.

As Akiharu was feeling mild remorse, wondering if he had made his decision too early (.....), Hedier checked his master's condition and then slowly opened his lips.

The main reason she wanted to come home was because there was no progress with you.

"What? Oh, because of me?"

I had considered the possibility that it might be so, but I didn't realize it was so straightforward.

(alt: Maybe, I was thinking about that possibility, but... I didn't think it was a straight ball.) Hedier nodded his head without smiling at Akiharu, who was unintentionally upset and pointed at him.

It's clear that the family back home has good reason to be concerned, and it's because of their concern for Miss Eiche. If your relationship with your husband does not work out, it will cause you a lot of heartbreak. There is absolutely no way to avoid the risk of another man seeing her bare skin again, so we have no choice but to return her to her home country and try to avoid any eventuality.

"..... I understand that, but why now?"

It was during the first semester that Akiharu accidentally saw Aiche change her clothes.

I can understand if you want to deport since you are on summer vacation.

But it's the end of the second semester.

I think it would be okay for them to stay at least during their sophomore year, even if they don't return home at this time.

When I returned home in the summer, it had not been long since I met my husband. But six months have passed since then, and he is still playing around with women other than Miss Eiche.

(alt: "When I returned to Japan in the summer, it hadn't been that long since I met my husband. However, even though half a year had passed since then, my husband was a woman other than Aishe-sama. I'm just dumbfounded playing with...") "No, wait, what's with the deliberate exaggeration?

If that is not the case, then you must tell us everything you have done with a woman in the past month, with your neck on the chopping block, and assure us that you have done nothing of the sort. I, Hedier, will be your judge and enforcer.

"What is that, a guilty verdict? I'm not playing with a girl like that for real!

If it was just a sarcastic pursuit, but it contained enough serious fear to send a nasty sweat down one's spine, Akiharu would deny it with all his might.

Hedier, however, gave me a cold stare and said, "So you treat a woman without any favors or ulterior motives? Or is this all just a bunch of nonsense that you're not playing with me because you mean everything you say?

"So, that's"

I was at a loss for words when I tried to answer.

I can totally deny the latter, but I can't say for sure that the former is not true.

It's not that he has ulterior motives like Todoroki, but if he's happy to be with you and happy to be asked for help, it means he likes you at least a little bit. If this was just a normal question, he would have just said, "No!

(alt: I'm not full of ulterior motives like Todoroki, but the fact that I'm happy to be with you and happy to be relied on means that there's more than a little kindness to me... If this was just a normal question, I'd be bullish. "Hey! 』) I could say, "I want to do this," but I can't because the pressure is too much.

As if he could see right through me, Hedier leaned in close and said, "Well, what do you think, mister? If you can't answer me, I'll be happy to torture your soft parts.

It may sound a little erotic, but it's her throat that is being stroked by the slender fingertips wrapped in a glove.

In the clear autumn sky, the prospect of death is more powerful and makes me want to cry. I'm not talking about tickling or squeezing, but rather a quick and easy way to get rid of the maître d'.

The subtle touch of his fingers on her throat was a little scary, and his thin smile was somewhat scary, so Akiharu wanted to escape as quickly as possible. I can't do anything if you complain about what I'm doing as a friend or as an extension of my work as an obedience student!

"Oh, my God, is that what you really think? If there's even a hint of a lie in there, then it's time to put a stop to it, isn't it?"

I swear I mean it, so don't say anything scary!

He said this as if he was yelling, and then he scratched at his larynx with his finger and finally Hedier pulled his hand away.

If you say so, then I will believe you, since you, the Master, have pledged your life to me.

I'm glad you understand.

(alt: "... it's more important that you understand me.") With a sense of relief, Akiharu thinks so from the bottom of his heart.

Because I felt my life was in real danger.

It was quite a close call, because I could understand a little bit how an innocent person might be tempted to confess to a crime even though he or she had been falsely accused.

After letting out a deep breath, Akiharu puts his hand on his neck and rubs the spot where he was stroked, and Hedier finally starts talking again.

I've decided to believe it was a misunderstanding, but the question remains, what does it look like from the outside? There were a number of collaborators in Hakuryo, and if their impression was the same, it would be conveyed to the home country as if it were true. As a result, we have decided to return home.

..... So, what does Eiche think?"

The young lady is very single-minded. But she is not the kind of person who will go out of her way to cause trouble for anyone, so if you give an order or make an appeal to your family back home, they will probably nod their heads and not tell you what they really think. But that's only if things stay the same.

After a deliberate implication, Hedier looks at his master and says, "It's not too late. It is not difficult to prove that there is still a small chance that Mademoiselle Eiche and her husband will be married.

What are you going to do about for proof?

All you have to do is show the two of you being friendly to a third party, and word will spread naturally."

Akiharu frowns as he puts his hand on the safety pin in his right ear.

Does that mean you're pretending to be in a relationship with?"

If anything, that level of closeness is desirable. It is a hope, but if you estimate the line too low, it may end up being ineffective. If the last day of school is in two days, today is probably the best time.

Akiharu nodded his head in agreement with these words.

In fact, I don't know how likely it is that Aiche will be able to stay in Japan, but it seems likely that it will be effective.

(alt: In fact, I don't know how likely it is that Aishe will be able to stay in Japan by doing that, but it seemed like it would be effective.) It may be a result of strangling myself, but since we are responsible for half of the accident, I have to be somewhat prepared.

..... The only problem is that today is the end of the day.

With his hand over his ear to wrap the safety pin, cooled by the outside air, Akiharu thinks and chooses his words before asking Hedier, "What do you want me to do with the safety pin?"

It's not even 4:00 in the morning. Even if we do show off in public, the sun will be up in an hour or so, and the upper school dorms are forbidden to boys, so what are we going to do?"

I had come in before to nurse Selnia, but that was part of an exam, and I had a special permit.

It is hard to believe that this would be acceptable on a personal matter.

If you go to apply for a job, you will probably be caught by "Shikan," and you will be re-educated from sitting on the floor to folding your mat.

In addition, the number of students using cafes and cafeterias has been decreasing since the weather started to get colder, so unless there is a large number of students, the event is likely to be pointless.

When I looked at Hedier to see how she was planning to exploit the situation, she smiled wryly and said, "Don't worry, we only have a few students and teachers who have provided information to the Hadim family, but we are aware of all the channels of communication leading to them. Even if the person in question doesn't see it, if only their friends witness it, word will surely spread over the course of a day or night."

..... doesn't sound too sure, is it ok?"

Don't worry, Hedier will make good use of the uninvolved witnesses who were present at your sudden approach, and he will pull it off. I will do everything possible for your daughter's sake. Yes, I will do my best.

If that's the case, then fine, but isn't pretty well prepared?"

When you can answer so smoothly, one begins to wonder if you are being set up.

She is a very careful and careful assistant in a different sense from her black-hearted childhood friend, so it is not impossible that this is the case.

However, if that is the case, there should be no reason to refuse when we offered our help yesterday. When Akiharu wrinkled his brow, not knowing what was right, Hedier replied with a clear expression, "As a maid of honor, it is only natural for me to take every precaution for my master. I had expected these preparations to be in vain."

(alt: However, if that's the case, there shouldn't be any reason to refuse yesterday's offer of cooperation... Akiharu didn't know what was right and frowned. It's only natural to do everything possible for your master's sake.) Oh, really? Does that mean I've outfoxed you a little?"

Yes, for an inexperienced, gutless husband, he's good, better than broken noncombustibles that can't be recycled, I'd say.

..... I feel like it's hopeless that this woman, who gives out lines that make me think she's being fought over rather than praised, is a collaborator. Well, I guess you have to do what you have to do once you've decided to do it.

(alt: Far from being praised, this woman who spouts lines that can only be thought of as a quarrel, is a collaborator, and I feel hopelessly hopeless, but ... Well, I decided to do it, so I have

no choice but to do it. .) Still feeling slightly unsettled, Akiharu let out a resigned sigh and said, "..... Well then, for now, let's take your husband and move to a popular place.

I understand, but I would ask that you keep this confidential with Miss Eiche and refrain from any attempts at affectation."

Since it was not necessary to be told, Akiharu responded by raising his hand and said, "I understand. I understand, but I can't guarantee that I will be able to do it well.

Yes, we don't expect much, but be warned that if you don't do your best, you could get skewered.

".....?"

(alt: 「 ? 」) Perhaps, if I had agreed to Eiche's return, a safer and happier future would have been waiting for me.? Before starting the mission, Akiharu had such regrets and started walking to the flowerbed where Aiche was waiting, wondering seriously where he had gone wrong.

"Can I talk to you for a minute?"

Aiche nodded her head without any doubts at our invitation, and although she was able to move easily, she sat down with bated breath, thinking that the problem would start from here.

Even though it was somewhat late after school, there were still some customers at the café terrace.

Among them, there were Hou and a student from the upper secondary school who I recognized but did not know his name, which made me feel a little awkward.

I thought I might run into someone I knew, but being seen in person still makes my back itch.

Also, the fact that the driller will probably hear about it on the confirmed course and might say something about it later is also a source of depression.

However, Hedier, who was standing close to Aiche, was making eyes at me, and it seemed that there was a target inside the café.

I don't know who it is, but if the plan is to go ahead as planned, it seems impossible to change the location without doing something.

(alt: I don't know who that person is, but if things go according to plan... it seems impossible to change places without doing anything.) Akiharu decided that it could not be helped, and with a curious look on her face, she asked a fellow student maid who came to take her order for tea, and then faced Aiche once again.

I can feel their eyes on me, and the conversation at the other tables is quieter than when I entered the café, so as expected, I'm getting a lot of attention.

The only way to win is to make Aiche and I think we are a reasonably close couple, if not quite like lovers.

..... The problem is that I have no idea what kind of conversation I'm supposed to have with them.

Suddenly at a loss for a topic, Akiharu tried to get a good look at Aiche's face, ".....".

Failed spectacularly.

We were already aware that the chador hid everything but the eyes, so we had very little information to go on.

Oh no, he seems to be more nervous than he realizes.

I try to look at Hedier for a rescue ship but I guess I'll just have to ignore him.
I could have predicted this, but what a lack of cooperation.

While sweating, Akiharu gazed into Aiche's brownish eyes, the only one peeking into hers, and said, "Ahh well, it's almost the end of the second semester.

I tried to talk about anything and everything, and tried to raise a simple topic of conversation. It may only be a time saver, but it should be much better than facing them in silence.

While hoping to find a new ray of light in the conversation, Akiharu is conscious of the gazes around him, so he builds a smile and asks, "How did you do on the final exam? "How did you do on your final exams? I just managed to pass the average.

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) "Eiche has an image of being a good student. Maybe she's high in her grade? Or maybe she's not good at Japanese tests?"

"....."

"..... Let's see What did you do on your test vacation? I'll tell you what I did during my test vacation.

"....."

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) "....."

..... What should I do, my heart is breaking as fast as I can.! No matter what I say, there is no reply as if it were a matter of course.

(alt:What should I do, I feel like my heart will break soon.....! No matter what I say, I get no response.) She tilts her head a little, and if you look closely, her eyes are slightly narrowed and rounded, so she is reacting, but she stares at Hedier with half-open eyes, but he ignores her after all.

Surely, you're right, "We'd like to talk privately, so don't interrupt me."

I was the one who said, "I'm not a translator," but I didn't realize they would stop me from translating.

You guys are not eye-to-eye like a master and servant, so you could have taken that into consideration.

It's hard to ask them to participate in the conversation now, and since their goal is to be there, the only thing I can do is try to read their reactions.

Akiharu decided that this was a new kind of ordeal, and looked at Aiche with renewed determination, determined to take on the challenge with determination.

The enemy is formidable, but you have to face him.! Smile, or at least smile in a friendly way, and resume the battle.

(alt: The enemies are tough, but if you don't face them, nothing will happen...! With a smile, or at least a friendly smile, I resumed the battle.) I went to Guam with an acquaintance during my test vacation, and it really is a tropical country. Although it was only for a night or two, I was surprised at how cold it was in Japan when I came back.

"....."

I'm not sure if it's too cold in the Middle East this time of year, or if it's too cold in Aiche country. Or do they feel differently than we do?"

"....."

..... And, uh, that thing. It might be better if it's a little bit colder. It's hard to be hot in that outfit, isn't it?

"....."

"..... that"

(alt: "..... That.....") "....."

(alt: 「.....」) "..... 部屋に帰ら せて頂きます....."

(alt: ".....I will let you go back to my room.....") It's kind of impossible.

Super impossible.

My heart was broken.

Aishe turns her eyes to Akiharu, who stands up slowly, having lost patience with the situation.

They are innocent and clear eyes, but now they have the opposite effect, gouging my heart even more. Oh my God, I really want to cry.

(alt: Her eyes were innocent and clear, but now they're having the opposite effect and they're going out my heart even more... Oh, I really want to cry.) "Oh, my dear sir, how dare you, you want to punish me by making me leave my seat without a drink in my hand?"

..... Moreover, the tongue-tied samurai lady, who had decided to remain silent, took the trouble to approach me and talk to me at this time.! I know Aiche can't speak in a crowded place, but without an interpreter, it's just impossible!

(alt: ... On top of that, the sharp-tongued maid, who had decided to stay silent, purposely approached me at this timing and started talking to me...! Akiharu, holding back tears, glared at Hediye, and said in a voice that was as low as possible, "I almost died from loneliness before I even got to know how to behave! I know Aishe can't speak in a crowded place. , it's impossible without an interpreter!") What kind of a spoiled child are you? You are a worthless creature who can't even make a single crawl at night.

Don't encourage criminal behavior by telling me what to do!

You have to be careful with your attitude, or the target will think you don't get along."

Hedier shook his head as if to say, "Oh dear." Akiharu was prepared to be half-dead today and defied him, "If you can't have a conversation, you can just write to each other. I know you used to do that before.

"..... aa"

I had completely forgotten about that.

I made a stupid voice and sat down on the chair.

Or, to be more precise, he lost his strength and collapsed to his knees.

I'm not sure how much I can change the fact that I'm a moron, no matter how much I try to defend myself.

(alt:No, even though it's called a friendly conversation, it's not good because it's misleading, so don't say it right away. But I'm an idiot and I can't seem to change the fact.) After a long sigh, Akiharu raised his head and smiled weakly at Aiche, who was staring at him with concern.

"....., uh, I'm sorry, but can you do me a favor and write this down for me? I'm still a low-level follower, and I can't understand anything with just eye contact."

"....."

But as usual, there was no response from Aiche.

However, after a slight shudder, he took a leather notebook and fountain pen from his pocket and placed them on the table.

As Akiharu was delighted at this small thing, a student brought her a cup of tea, and she bowed her head with a sincere smile.

I'll pretend I didn't see the other person walk away with a slightly lifted smile on his face because it made me feel good.

Anyway, let's start over from here.

Regaining a little of her energy, Akiharu made "a conversation that seemed to be about that. Open your mouth again.

So I'm going to ask you again, how did you do during your test vacation?"

I was not particularly different from my usual holiday. The only thing I have to say is that Hedier gave me a haircut.

"Wow, you can do that with your hair, well, it's hidden and you can't see it, but I guess you can do that."

There is nothing that Hedier can not do. I am very grateful for all the help you have given me.

"..... so?"

The reason for this rather weak reply is that I was a little taken aback when I saw that the maid of honor behind Aiche had begun to cry with joy without uttering a sound.

She is always heartless or even cruel to me, but she really seems to be special to my husband.

..... For now, I ignore Hedier, who produces a silk handkerchief and wipes her tears.

Now that communication is finally possible, we must work harder.

So you didn't go out of Hakuryo during your vacation?

Yes, I am a member of the public. There was a movie I wanted to see that was in theaters, so I decided to go see it."

You couldn't make it?"

"Hedier ordered the film and gave us the use of a multi-purpose hall to watch it.

"..... what kind of tour de force, or perhaps you'd like to talk about which is better, renting out a movie theater or??"

Either way, it is unthinkable from the perspective of ordinary people, and Akiharu does not know whether to be impressed or appalled.

What is the correct response?

I also wonder if, from a casual observer's point of view, this exchange is appropriate for a couple to engage in.

It seems to be getting the target's attention, but I suddenly find myself wondering if I'm doing a good job

Tëm, you are in the cafe terrace, and the conversation has disappeared.

Looking around, the number of customers was the same as when we arrived.

And yet no one was talking, and several girls hurriedly turned away to look away. The only one who didn't react in any extreme way when Akiharu looked at her was Hou.

(alt: Even so, no one spoke to him, and moreover, there were several female students who turned their heads in haste to avert their gaze... Only Otori didn't react in any extreme way to Akiharu's eyes.) I knew he was looking at me, but he didn't try to hide it.

..... But you look quite uncomfortable or worried or perhaps you are feeling sorry for me in combination...? I'm sorry...? I'm not sure, but I'm not sure.

Aiche and communication certainly became possible.

It's totally different from before.

..... But that's just from your point of view, and from the other end of, you are still seen as the guy who keeps talking to himself, or the guy who can't read the situation who keeps babbling on and on even though he's not being taken seriously. There is also the possibility that he is! Moreover, as if to confirm this idea, people from all over the place were whispering, "..... still need to contact security.

Or, "..... Oh, what a laborious"

And then he started saying, "..... This is no good. It's no good. It's not something that can be fixed and repaired any more.!"

(alt: I started to say things like that-- "...This is no good. It's not at the level where I can just cover it up and do something about it...!") "Mr. Akiharu? Please, Chima.

Aiche asked me curiously, but I had no time to finish writing.

Akiharu, who had given up and realized that the wound would only widen no matter what he did, stood up immediately and took Aiche's hand, who was holding a fountain pen, and at that moment, "Finally, the worst is over!

The other customers were making noises as if to say, "We've got to go!

Still taking care not to be violent, Akiharu pulled Aiche's hand and slipped out of the café terrace as if to escape. Hedier's sighs coming from behind him made him realize that he could not go on like this.

(alt: Even so, he pulled Aiche's hand while being careful not to be violent, and Akiharu escaped from the cafe terrace as though he was running away...Hedier's sighs came from behind him, strongly telling him that it couldn't end like this. thought.) "..... next to next to because we won't fuck it up."

(alt: "... next time... next time I won't screw up...") Walking away from the café terrace and toward the school building, Akiharu mutters in his mouth and glances behind him.

Eiche, following three steps away, has no questions about his sudden escape, but Hédié, standing behind him, looks at him and says, "You are a useless husband.

He was in a full-fledged mood of not being able to retreat.

The main reason for this is for Aiche, but if it comes to this, it is also a matter of will.

I'm talking about the attitude of the Marder's maid of honor, as if she had not expected it from the beginning.

So Akiharu decided that it was no longer the time to choose his opponent, and walked toward the special school building. Luckily, he saw the target coming from the other side.

(alt: So Akiharu, unless he had already chosen his opponent, was walking toward the special school building, but... luckily, he could see the target coming from the other side.) Although it was still far away, two rather small figures were walking around talking about something.

It was already getting dark, so they were probably on their way back to their dormitories.

I'm glad we didn't get off on the wrong foot, and it's great to be able to do it before my energy wanes.

Thinking that he had no choice but to do this, Akiharu subtly adjusted his course of action so that he and Mina Sakurazawa and Pina Sformkran-Esto, a duo of apparent children, would meet up with each other.

By the way, the target is not Pina, but Mina.

Aiche and Mina are in the same class, and it seems that one of their classmates is the informant to the Hadim family.

Hedier told me that if I did well, I would be the talk of the classroom tomorrow afternoon, and since I was a famous painter myself, I would be a more valuable source of information than the average young lady.

The reason why Akiharu didn't go for Minami in the beginning was because he was embarrassed and felt guilty about acting like a girlfriend in front of someone he was much closer to. But that's no longer the case.

(alt: However, the reason Akiharu didn't aim for everyone's ex from the beginning was because he felt embarrassed and guilty about acting like a lover in front of someone he was on good terms with, but... that doesn't matter anymore.) We can't afford to pick and choose our opponents, and we're running out of time.

As Akiharu was saying to herself, "I'm going to try this again," they seemed to have noticed her presence and suddenly stopped.

I was careful not to be too aware of them, but I got close enough to ask them, "..... What? You two have been playing this late?"

Trying to be as nonchalant as possible, I lightly raise my hand in greeting. Why do both Kaminami and Pina look at me with furrowed brows?

The eyes are not so much looking at a familiar person, but more like a suspicious person, and it's funny, because we're still in the greeting stage, let alone making a mistake.

As Akiharu began to wonder what was going on, Pina opened her small mouth and asked him as if she was representing him.

"Akihar, what are you doing? That is an unusual combination."

What is that? It's just an eiche.

Akiharu was frozen as she tried to casually appeal, "We were just talking, we're actually good friends.

I slowly turn around and see Aiche keeping her position three steps away from me. This is a pretty impossible way to look at conversation or friendship.

(alt: If I slowly turn around, I see Aishe standing three paces away from me... with this, I can't help but look like I'm having a conversation or getting along.) This trap that he had completely overlooked caused him to panic, and he repeatedly told himself to calm down.

It is still possible, and should be within the scope of what I can follow up on.

I don't care if Tomomi is a skeptic, but with these two, it depends on how things unfold from here.! The first time I saw her, I thought she was a little bit too shy, but she was so happy to see me that she was so happy to see me.

(alt: The skeptical Tomomi doesn't know what to do, but with these two opponents, depending on how things unfold from here on out...! Akiharu, for the time being, beckoned to Aishe with a smile on her face, though she might have been holding back so that she wouldn't realize her turmoil.) The fact that they were so open to coming up next to me should have helped to take away some of the bad image.

Akiharu, thinking of attacking as if to fold up, turned to Minami and her friends and said, "Hey, actually, you know. I was talking with Aiche at the café terrace earlier, but we were getting too excited and it was bothering people around us, so we decided to change the place.

"..... gets you excited, then, and?"

"..... Mr. Hadim and?"

I was looked at with suspicion.

They even looked at each other and started whispering to each other about something or other.

After I said it, I thought I might be overreacting, but I guess that's as far as I got.

In any case, it is important to "like" even if a little aggressively.

He said he would not show it.

After confirming that their eyes were looking this way, Akiharu tried to hold Aiche's hand but stopped himself.

I know you did it earlier, but if you are walking together while holding hands, but what about suddenly doing it when you are stopped? Does it make you look like a couple in a relationship or close to it? I mean, I've done it before with two people in front of me, at least holding hands.

You might not think you're in a deep relationship with someone if they do something you've already done.

Then, I'd have to go to more extreme, but hugging and kissing would be too much to ask for.

I can't do it even in a group of two, but if I do it in public, I might die in agony from embarrassment.

While Akiharu is struggling with this issue, the little duo's suspicious glances do not leave his mind.

In fact, the suspicion of some kind seemed to be growing more and more serious, and the expression on his face was becoming more serious.

Not wanting to sit around and dither, Akiharu decided, "It's getting cold if we stand around talking too much, so we're going over there.

(alt: Akiharu made up his mind that if this were to happen, he wouldn't be able to hold back.)
I reached out to hold Aiche's shoulder and said, "Let's go.

The first time I saw him, he was so excited that I could not believe my eyes.



"....."

(alt: 「.....」) "....."

(alt: 「.....」) (alt: 「.....」) "....."

Naturally, this was witnessed by Minna and her friends, and an extremely awkward silence ensued.

However, Akiharu is not only awkward, but also embarrassed and shocked, and to be honest, he wants to die lightly.

..... If someone says they love you and you try to hold them by the shoulders and they reject you... ..! It's not because he has ulterior motives, but because he had no choice.

(alt:Even if someone says they like me, I want to put them on their shoulders and get rejected.....! I didn't have any ulterior motives either, and I had no choice but to do it.) I wish she'd get hit by lightning or something right now and erase her memory,..... As Akiharu turns away from the painful reality, Pina, who has been around for some time, taps him on the arm and says, "..... If you're okay with that mistress, I'm always willing to talk to you.

"....."

(alt: 「.....」) He spoke compassionate words to her and walked away toward the dormitory.

With that backdrop, Akiharu could not say anything.

..... I don't know what to do, but I felt like crying even more when she was nice to me.

(alt: ... What should I do?) Also, my chest hurts and it tingles.

I somehow managed to hold back my tears and looked to the side to see Aiche slightly lowering her head and saying, " — I'm sorry. It is forbidden by law to engage in lewd acts in public, and I personally feel ashamed to do so," the young lady said.

(alt: When I managed to hold back my tears and looked to the side, Aishe bowed her head slightly and said, ``I'm sorry. As an individual, I'm ashamed...', says the young lady.") Hedier, who was standing behind me, could interpret, but even if I understood his intentions, the damage would still be the same.

"..... or"

(alt: ".....Is that so.....") It's all right, miss, you don't have to worry about it, there's nothing wrong. The Master is a man of large heart and deep-seated capacity, and I am sure that inside you are shouting that a chaste woman will be on fire when the time comes.

"Nobody said anything about that?"

The first thing to do is to make sure that you have a good understanding of what is going on in your life.

I am so tired that my motivation meter is almost at zero.

Still, I must do my best for Aiche, so I summoned up what little energy I had left and looked at Minami, who still remained.

They still look at me with pity, which causes additional damage to my heart, but I ignore it as much as possible.

But if it's impossible to have a conversation or use direct means, then what should we do?

Um, yeah,

However, it is not directed at me, but surprisingly at Aiche.

Well, they don't seem to be in the same grade at all, but they are still classmates, and it would not be surprising if they had something to say to each other.

Looking at the little senior who was fidgeting and folding her hands in front of her chest, Akiharu put her hand to her chin and said "Mina, I have some things to do at home starting

tomorrow and I don't think I'll see you for another two semesters, so I thought I'd say goodbye before it's too late.

I was forced to stop thinking about it, because it was so critical.

She seems to be completely unaware that Aiche is going back to her country. She doesn't seem to realize the existence of the landmines or that she has inadvertently stepped on one herself, which makes Akiharu break out in cold sweat.

..... I don't know, maybe I should force my way into the conversation and change the subject.!

(alt: What should I do, should I force myself to enter the conversation and change the subject...!?) But it wouldn't do to have her realize that I knew she was coming home. On the other hand, it might be bad if I left her there. As Akiharu watched with bated breath, Aiche said, "— — 'Thank you very much for your kindness,' Miss Aiche said. As Akiharu watched with bated breath, Aiche's eyes peeked through the chador and narrowed gently, "Miss Aiche says, 'Thank you very much for your kindness.

(alt: However, it would be bad if they knew that I was going to return to Japan. Then, Aishe gently narrowed her eyes as she peered through the cracks in her chador, and said, "- 'Thank you very much for your kindness,' says Aishe.") "Oh, no, it's nothing serious. But will be happy to see you again next year, okay?"

I'm not sure how much more I can take from this, so I'm going to stop the conversation right now and say, "Yes, this is the one I'd like to talk to you about. I'm looking forward to seeing you next year.

(alt: Akiharu thought that this was the limit to the somewhat shy words, and immediately tried to stop the conversation. It is said that)
Hmm? Now, what is that, just normally? What was that conversation that just happened to have some crazy facts woven into it, like? "See you in three semesters, then?"
Yes, I'll see you on the first day of the third semester. Please take care.

While Akiharu was shocked, the women finished their farewell speeches, and Mina went off in the same direction as Pina.

All that remained were Eiche and Hedier and their newborn doubts.

It's a very difficult question to get into, but if you don't touch on it, it doesn't make sense.

That is why Akiharu was afraid to ask that question.

Let's see... Eiche and the others are going back to their countries after the second semester, right?"

Yes. Hah! Hah! Did you know?

"Yeah, well, yeah. So, when you just told Minna, 'See you next year'?"

"You mean, 'I'm not wrong?'"

Aishe's confusion deepened when she saw Aishe's eyes peeking out from the chador, and she held out her hand as if waiting for him to respond, "But, but, if you mean what you say, then what? See you next year?"

That's the plan.

"Is it something like, or a party somewhere, or inviting someone to your house?"

No, I don't think so. There are no plans to do so at this time.

"So, uh, that you're not coming back to Japan anymore is?"

"Are you coming back?"

Hedier, who is translating, wonders if he is mimicking Eiche's small inclination of her head and her tone of voice: "Miss Eiche says that she will return home after the closing ceremony, but will be back before the start of the third semester.

In the end, he returned to his normal voice and said it all with dignity.

Hearing this, Akiharu somehow looked up at the sky and shifted his gaze to the setting sun and the orange-colored mountains. It took him nearly a minute to take in the situation.

(alt: Hearing that, Akiharu somehow looked up at the sky... He shifted his gaze to the setting sun and the mountains dyed in orange... He took a full minute to comprehend the situation.)

..... Come here, you little handmaiden. I have something important to tell you.

(alt: "...Hey waitress over there, come over here. I have something important to talk to you about.") What is it, Master, that you want to use Hedier as a plaything in exchange for the Eiche? You are a masterful and outrageous person, I'm afraid."

"....., come here for a minute."

(alt: ".....It's okay, come here for a minute.") He has no energy to interrupt his tongue and leads Hedier to a place a little farther away from Aiche.

Then, with eyes full of vindictiveness, he glared at the clear-faced maid of honor and said, "You're talking crazy, aren't you? "You're talking crazy. Weren't you going to be forced to leave Hakuryo upon your return?

I don't remember making such a statement. Yes, I swear to God.

"....., that thing about never coming back, that's!"

(alt: "... you'll never come back, is that...!?") Oh, that means, "I will not return to Japan this year. I'm afraid I've caused some misunderstanding.

I can assure you that there is no misunderstanding.

This means that this is simply a case of the handmaiden saying, "..... you deliberately mislead me!"

"Well, well, well, sir, it is not a very commendable thing to speak out in a suspicious manner without proof, is it?"

Even if there's no physical evidence, everything that's happened so far is evidence, isn't it? "Where did he go when he said he wouldn't be able to return home because of his family back home?"

There is a theory that it is an auditory hallucination. Or it could be a misunderstanding on the part of the husband, who is pathologically preoccupied.

There's nothing anywhere!

Hedier maintains a cool face and his reaction makes Akiharu weakens.

I feel like an idiot for being so excited.

He sighed heavily, then stared at the samurai in front of him with half-open eyes and asked, "What the hell do you want? This makes no sense at all.

I am hardly angry, but rather, I feel deflated and confused, which is why I ask such a question.

I've been trying to make myself and Aiche get together in various ways, but this time I don't know what they're trying to do.

(alt: I've been plotting various things to make myself and Aishe stick together, but I don't know what my intentions are this time.) I don't think I'm the one who got caught up in the passion and said, "Well, I'll marry you or do whatever you want!

Even if she had not said what she did and it had not been discovered, there would have been little to nothing positive to add to the situation.

And I'd say to the other students, "They're dating, aren't they?"

Hedier's attitude is strange if his strategy is to make the audience think that he is a "good guy".

I think it is reasonable to follow up more and pay more attention to creating an atmosphere that is appropriate for the situation.

Hedier smiled happily at Akiharu, who had no idea what his purpose was, and said, "My original purpose was already over, so I was just testing Master's manhood as an entertainment. I was surprised to see that it was worse than I expected.

(alt: Akiharu didn't know what he was aiming for, and Hedie smiled happily, saying, ``I've already accomplished my original goal, so I tried to show off your manliness as a sideshow, but... I guess. As expected, I was surprised that it was worse.") "..... Just out of curiosity, which of the sideshows are you referring to?"

The way you behaved as if you were a lover with the young lady. I knew from the beginning that you and the young lady were not compatible, but I never thought it would go this far.

In other words, they were just playing with us.

I wonder if this is a good time to cry. What is the original purpose of, anyway?

I don't have the energy to engage in any more idle chatter, so I'll just ask him straight out.

Then Hedier leaned in close and whispered softly in my ear.

I was planning to have the Master make some sort of approach to Miss Eiche.

What approach?"

No matter how dangerous the other party may be, she is still a beautiful woman, and she is still too close to him, making Akiharu nervous as she listens to him.

The sweet scent of perfume tickles my nose, and our feet are touching, albeit through our clothes. What is this situation! In response to her desperate attempts to avoid any upset, Hedier continues, "No matter how simple-minded and cold-blooded your husband may be, he has decided that if he can't see your daughter anymore, he will do something to help her. That is why I declined the initial offer to emphasize that I would act on my own initiative. I was a little surprised that he would be so proactive."

(alt: The sweet scent of perfume tickles my nose, and even though it's through my clothes, my feet are touching... What the hell is this situation...!? Desperate to keep his turmoil from being noticed, Hedie continued, "Even if my husband is a cold-blooded husband, I will do something about it if my daughter returns to Japan and I can't see her again." That's why I turned down the initial offer in order to emphasize the meaning of moving according to my own will... I didn't expect it to be so aggressive.") What do you mean, "unexpected?"

I thought that since he's such a bad husband, he'd just try to make memories before the last day of school and ask Miss Eiche to go somewhere, only to have her turn him down.

I don't know if it's a premise that asking someone out on a date to make memories in Japan will be turned down.

(alt: Putting aside the idea of asking someone out on a date to make memories in Japan, is it the premise that they will refuse?) I really wonder how much I am devalued in this handmaiden's eyes.

But now I can make some sense of it.

And I knew there was nothing wrong with Aiche.

No matter how much Hedier has screwed up, I can't blame him. In the end, there's nothing I can do but cry myself to sleep with painful memories.

(alt: No matter how much Hedie does it, I can't blame that person... In the end, it seems that the only thing I can do is cry and fall asleep with painful memories.) Almost as soon as she sighs, Hedier steps away from her body, and then shows an uncharacteristic gesture of bowing deeply toward Akiharu.

The results were quite interesting, and we thank you for that. I'm not sure I want you to get too carried away."

(alt: "The results were quite interesting, and I would like to thank you for that.) "..... What's with the interesting results?"

The way he said it was strangely suggestive, so I asked out of reflex.

Well, I don't think that this lady will give me a straight answer, and she will just spit poison at me.

In front of Akiharu, who was thinking about this, Hedier smiled seductively and said, "I am relieved that no one seems to have become a special presence in the heart of the Master yet. I don't care how many wives and concubines you have, but the only one worthy of being the first one is Mademoiselle Aiche.

The bomb was dropped unexpectedly, and Akiharu's eyes widened involuntarily.

Unfortunately, it is difficult to say that he himself is the right person for your daughter, but we can do something about that by correcting her while hoping for the best in the future. There is still plenty of time left.

But Hedier didn't care about our reaction, and after talking some more, he turned away and said, "Well, sir, we'll see you again later, or next year. I hope that when we meet again, you will appreciate Miss Eiche even more highly than you do now and nurture your love for her."

"....." Hey, wait! When did I ever

"Well, well, well," he said, "not even an hour ago, did you forget what you said? I don't mind if you have amnesia, but if you forget about your daughter, you know"

He deliberately gives her a piercing look, but Akiharu doesn't have the luxury of feeling fear.

I understand that Hedier's earlier statement was made when he was confronted in the flower garden, but why would he go to the trouble of saying such a thing?

And no, it's not that. It's more like, "I don't like anyone."

The question is, why is he so upset by his own statement, "I am not a good person," and why should he be so upset?

In my vision, I see Aiche politely lowering his head and walking somewhere with Hedier.

But I can't even raise my hand in response.

With his thoughts jumbled by the accident and the traffic jam, Akiharu stood there for a while and eventually, unable to realize what had caused his mind to be so violently shaken, he returned to his dormitory at night in a daze and with unsteady steps.