

丈月 城

Illustration
シコルスキー

軍神ふたたび

カミナリ!

Campione

EX



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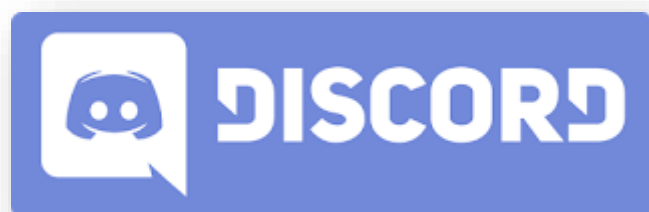
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Side Story – People of Kusanagi Family

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「あ……」

糸まとわぬ姿で護堂に組みしかれる祐理。

奥ゆかしい大和撫子の声は、

「こういうときもあくまでひかえめだ。」

エリカ・ブランドリは

情熱に満ちた愛撫で護堂に迫り、

また彼女自身も護堂に

惜しめない激しさを求めた。



軍神ウルスラグナー

その美貌が放つ輝きはまばゆいほどで、
あらゆる民衆を魅了する
英雄の威徳に充ち満ちていた。





アイシャ夫人

笑顔を絶やさず、旅から旅の日々。
もともと時空の旅人であった彼女、
魔王内戦の終結後は
『パラレルワールド』を渡りあるくという
新たな冒険にハマっていた。

命運を懸け、決戦へ

ウルスラグナも護堂も微笑んでいた。
それは友好の笑みではない。
獰猛なる微笑は体の奥底から闘志があふれ出るからこそ。
強者との出会いをよろこぶ戦士の顔であった。





Introduction

The summary until now

Since killing a god, usurping his authority, and becoming a Campione,

Kusanagi Godou had been involved repeatedly with battles against heretic gods and Campiones of various countries.

Amidst the numerous battles, Godou learned about the existence of the King of the End Rama. Although he planned to obstruct Rama's revival, it still happened.

As long as Campione existed, Rama would keep reviving no matter how many times. And he would also become stronger in proportion to the number of Campione's.

In order to challenge Rama who possessed such characteristic into a decisive duel, Godou joined the battle royal between seven Campiones.

Godou who became the last one remaining, challenged the final battle against Rama—.

That battle was over and five years had passed since the other six Campiones went missing—.

A new spark of battle was about to be created.

Prologue

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"Thank you for expressly coming here. It's a big help."

An old monastery was standing beside a rocky mountain.

Kusanagi Godou spoke his thanks to someone he had arranged to meet with in front of there.

The rocky mountain standing tall at the back had some patches of green grass growing on the slop. The exposed rock surface was conspicuous. It was a place that could be called remote.

It seemed that this Geghard Monastery was more or less a sightseeing place.

But, there wasn't any sign besides of other people Godou and Liliana Kranjcar. Perhaps the cause was because of the inconvenience of access to this place as well as the few number of tourist visiting this country of Armenia.

"But Liliana. It's strange for me to say this even though I was the one calling you here but"

Godou smiled while speaking to his silver haired partner.

"It's surprising that you really come so quickly."

"No. I too was coincidentally at Bucharest."

Liliana who was descended from Eastern Europe spoke the name of Romania's capital city.

This Armenia was more or less categorized as Eastern Europe too. However although it was said to be a part of Europe, it was located at the furthest edge, at the east end. It was adjoined with Russia, Middle East, and central Asia.

Armenia was a country located at the side of Black Sea.

Immediately his comrade who had crossed several country borders to meet him said this to him.

"So my king. What is the reason that you specifically called me to come here?"

"Yeah. I thought that it would be best to have Liliana see this."

"More than Erica, Mariya Yuri, or Seishuuin Ena? In other words I can consider that not only the spiritual sense of a shrine maiden will be needed, but it's also better to have the knowledge of witch for this?"

"Something like that. Anyway, let's wander around the monastery while talking."

The two of them attended the same high school in Japan however that was already five years ago.

During that time, Kusanagi Godou became [the demon king-sama who wandered around even into and across many worlds. As an [aid who often assisted her lord], Liliana would sometimes become his travelling companion, or sometimes become Godou's representative. She played an active role in many fields.

But, as expected Liliana was the best personnel among Godou's partner in regards of being an all-rounder. She was the one who got asked the most to accompany him in his travel as his support.

"It's a bit of coincidence that I came to this area. I only planned to take care a minor business, and when I realized it I arrived here without meaning to."

"Could it be it's related with Longinus's spear?"

"You're sharp. As expected from Liliana."

"Because when talking about Armenia's Geghard Monastery, it's the holy ground which was hiding that divine spear for a long time now, after all. The spear that stabbed Jesus's side and absorbed His blood—"

"Come to think of it, Geghard meant spear huh."

This monastery wasn't made from stone that was the norm in Europe.

The rocky mountain was dug at and the sanctuary of Christianity was assembled inside the hollowed out cavern.

A building in the "style of monastery" was purposefully built at the entrance of the holes as a substitute for the entryway. People could pass through into the cavern from there.

The lighting inside the monastery was minimal and the place was really dim.

However, at the altar located at the deepest part—there was a small hole opened at the ceiling. The sunlight shining in from there was illuminating the inside of the cavern solemnly with mystical atmosphere.....

Godou walked around such place with Liliana while talking.

"After taking care of various things related with the spear, in this place I—happened to find something concerning. I could only see

the back of the figure though. It was someone who I remembered seeing from somewhere. And then....."

Godou closed his mouth at this point.

He wondered what kind of reaction Liliana who was a witch and possessed preeminent power of spiritual sight would show. He wanted to ascertain it without giving her unnecessary information.

Thus—

"Someone who can make a person at your level to say that you're [concerned]....."

Liliana narrowed her eyes with a dignified expression.

After that she muttered "I see" and started walking. Godou followed behind her.

"I'm different from Erica, I didn't face "him" directly. I had only heard about the story of that time. But, because I have a long experience serving Kusanagi Godou—I believe that I'm someone sensitive to "his" presence."

He. Liliana spoke without mentioning any definite name.

And then she walked. She finally came out outside the monastery under the sunlight once more. But, Liliana didn't stop walking and entered the rental car she used to come here.

Godou also quickly slid on the passenger seat. The car immediately took off.

"I understand the reason why I sensed "his" presence in this country."

Liliana grasped the steering wheel and declared solemnly.

As expected she spiritually saw something and now she would guide Godou to the place where he should be at.

"Armenia is a land that become the border of Europe and Asia. Before the propagation of Christianity, mythology that received the influence of both east and west was passed down in this land. Greek mythology, Turkey—Anatolia Peninsula's mythology, and then the orient's Zoroastrianism....."

"....."

"In this Armenia, "he" was called Vahagn. He was considered the same existence with Heracles of the west, and then, with that "war god of the east" —the sword god of dragon slaying."

Dragon slayer. The steel sword gods.

These several years, the chance of hearing this vocabulary was decreasing.

Godou felt nostalgic hearing those words. Then Liliana stopped the rental car.

They passed a straight path of a tranquil rural town and arrived at a place after more than ten minutes. When they entered a side road from the roadway and drove for a bit, there was that historic ruins.

It looked similar with that famous Parthenon Temple.

Stone pillars were lined up, and above them there was a stone roof placed. That was the style.

"This temple site look similar with the one in Greece."

"Naturally. After all this is a product of Hellenism era. This place is Garni Temple, a sacred ground dedicated to the sun god Mithra. Mithra is also from the east—a god whose myth was handed down

from the ancient Persia. His true divine name is Mythra, an existence that "he" revere as lord....."

"So it's a god who is that guy's boss."

"Yes. The god whose back you saw and whose presence's remnant I sensed. He should have come from this temple site."

"You're saying that guy's presence is also remaining here?"

"Yes."

Godou still hadn't forgotten how in the past he fought the sun god Mitras who was the offshoot of Mythra and got his authority of war god Verethragna sealed.

And then, Godou gasped.

Because strength suddenly welled up inside his body and heart.

It was a supernatural phenomenon that lured Kusanagi Godou's heart and body to prepare for battle. It was "that" which happened when a Campione or godslayer and heretic gods encountered each other.

Bam! Godou opened the door loudly and rushed out of the car.

"So it's you, Verethragna!"

He finally yelled that name while running.

The arch-enemy who he faced at the decisive battle against the first godslayer and the King of the End Rama. The youth who declared that the time for their rematch would one day come. The god who transformed into ten avatars. The personification of victory.....

When Godou dashed until beside Garni Temple.

*KUeeeeEEEEEEEEEEH—. *

A bird cried above.

He stopped his legs and looked up. A bird of prey that seemed like an eagle was flying away. It was as though the bird was satisfied after confirming Godou's existence.

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Tokyo Metropolis—.

That interview was carried out in a café at Taitou ward.

"Space distortion?"

"Wait, what is that thing prince?"

Mariya Yuri's eyes opened wide, while Seishuuin Ena asked bluntly.

The other party coolly smiled [Fuh]and started talking fluently.

"It's a phenomenon that is recently affirmed. I named it like that. Fortunately it seems that it doesn't occur in "our earth" but..... There is also world among the diverse worlds where this phenomenon occur frequently."

The voice's owner was the Black Prince, Alexander Gascoigne.

Similar with the young man who Yuri and Ena loved, he was a Campione who murdered god.

"To put it simply, it was a [gate of light]. An assembly of countless lights. But, by passing through it you can arrive at the domain of myth."

"Domain of.....myth?"

Yuri felt an indescribable anxiety and froze.

Her spiritual sense as princess shrine maiden, her spiritual sight that was the finest on earth gave her a warning. That this talk wasn't something they could disregard by all means. Yuri asked.

"What kind of phenomenon is it?"

"What. Greek mythology, Norse mythology, India mythology.....in short it's parallel world that reproduce the mythologies all over the world. Let's call them mythological world. If normal person enter there, it won't become anything decent."

"Gates that connected to such places are appearing everywhere?"

Ena frowned.

"Somehow that remind me of the past, when Aisha-san opened the [Fairy Corridor]. That also gave us a lot of hardship....."

"That's the one."

Black Prince Alec agreed in disgust.

"The space distortion phenomenon that occurred recently and our acquaintance—the most bothersome madam. Perhaps there is a connection between the two. I managed to obtain a data just some time ago that supported it. It wasn't like I really wanted it but....."

"Eh? Aisha-san was finally found!?"

"Even though she is already missing for several years!"

"It's only a trace that I thought belongs to her though."

Ena and Yuri, the two princess shrine maidens were similarly astonished.

Black Prince Alec continued commenting with a really displeased look.

"Even though I was praying that if possible she would be missing for eternity, it didn't bear any fruit. It seemed the godslaying madam-dono was fully enjoying her life. And so, I visited here thinking that I would try consulting "the only godslayer whose dimension travelling rivaled mine" about it."

'Hmph.' Alec spoke in displeasure.

"Kusanagi Godou isn't even at Tokyo that should be his headquarter and his whereabouts is unknown. He isn't reporting his present location even now. Good grief, that guy. What does he think about his position that he is responsible for. No matter what the situation is, a leader has to be available to be contacted anytime. Does he know that?"

"" ""

Yuri and Ena spontaneously stared at the older young man wordlessly.

Then Black Prince Alec came back to his senses and rapidly said this.

"Wait. In the end I only spoke of the common opinion. It's not like I intend to say anything about myself, not at the slightest. I ask the two of you to stop having any strange misunderstandings."ED Note: Pot calling the kettle black.

"Ena and Yuri doesn't say anything though."

"You insist that there is no wrong with yourself exactly because there is a feeling of guilt in your heart....."

"Stop, I'm different from your boss! Don't look at me with those eyes like you are looking at pitiful human who is just all talk-"

"" ""

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The king who appeared at the end of this world, Ramachandra.

Since the devil king extermination hero and Kusanagi Godou's deathly battle, five years had passed.

During that time, the Campiones were of course living a life that was really far from peaceful. However, even then these days were quieter than the year when the hero Rama exercised his fierce might.

Even that period of complacent days would finally end—.

Chapter 1 – The Battle of Those Who Were Left Behind

1

Kusanagi Godou was a university student.

It was true. He attended a historically prestigious university as foreign student. Even then he didn't attend the class satisfactorily and only worked diligently in "extracurricular activities or else field work", but his social status was certainly a university student.

But, as expected his self-awareness as a student was thin.

The same with his attachment toward the city that was used as the origin of the university name. He was unable to call that city as his [second home] or something.

"This is a good city though, the food here is also delicious."

Godou walked in Bologna city while saying that.

It was an ancient city of north Italy. If one had to speak about the city's characteristic other than being a city with history, it could be also called as a [university city] perhaps. It was the center of long-established study and art.

It was one of the oldest universities even at Europe—.

That was Bologna University. After all it was established at 11th century. Its history compared to Japan's prestigious school was at different dimension.

—Godou originally began his overseas student life in Milan.

It was the home town of Erica and Liliana. And a reliable guardian Pablo Blandelli was also living there. However two years ago, the

nostalgic witch of Sardinia Island Lucretia Zola—his friend and also local wife in the end it was only the claim of the person herself requested him.

That day, Lucretia intentionally came to Milan and started saying this.

[I have a request for you in your capacity as one of the Campiones. Actually the university that I was enrolled at for a time.....there is a secret library there that can only be entered by a person who walk the path of magic. A great number of “books with power” are being kept there importantly. Ancient document that record hidden wisdom, forbidden grimoire, epitaph of the age of gods..... And, recently a demand note from the library reached my address. They told me to return the book that I brought out before.]

[Could it be, you forgot to return the book that you borrowed and treated it as your own belonging?]

Godou spoke of the thing that the negligent Lucretia might have done.

But, the correct answer was an evil deed that surpassed his imagination. Sardinia’s witch spoke nonchalantly.

[No. In the first place it was a rare book that was forbidden to be taken out. I had a business and dozens of years ago I borrowed it without permission. And finally they discovered it.]

[.....You just need to return it quickly.]

[Unfortunately, I can’t do that. You had destroyed it.]

[Me?]

[That grimoire, it's called the Secret Tome of Prometheus. The trump card that was used when you accomplished your first godslaying.]

It was a very nostalgic past story. The encounter and parting of Kusanagi Godou with war god Verethragna with Sardinia Island as the stage.

Lucretia who exposed the origin of the item that changed Godou's life spoke smoothly.

[And so, the talk was concluded with the agreement to transfer the godslayer-dono who was born in exchange of the lost book. You, go to Bologna for me.]

Thus, the light speed transfer to Bologna University was completed.

Of course the ordinary people had no way of knowing Kusanagi Godou's name. But, he was recognized as the seventh Campione among Europe's magician society. Such person transferred as a student to the prestigious Bologna University in major subject of archeology as well as magic. It was news that greatly heightened the university's popularity.

Well, this transfer also had few demerits for Godou.

In the end, he was unable to stay for long whether in Milan or Bologna.

"I can't stay for even one continuous week in Bologna and my boarding room, that's really problematic as a student."

The fellow residents of the apartment were surely thinking of Godou as a suspicious Asian person.

He frequently left Bologna and wouldn't return for several days, and sometimes even for several weeks.

Even now he had just returned from Armenia's Geghard Monastery.

He headed to the center of Bologna City with a fast walking.

"I want to try sharing room with other person like a common overseas student....."

He had this kind of living, so of course it was difficult to do that.

He didn't know how he would explain his circumstance to his roommate. There was no way he could honestly speak [A certain hero entrusted me with the fate of devil king extermination, so I kept getting called by various worlds. I also have the work of the devil king more or less].

Besides, it was only sometimes but there were also those who visited him. Just like today—.

"Yuri! It's great that you came!"

"Long time no see, Godou-san."

It was a reunion at Maggiore Plaza.

Bologna's center was also a plaza which was common for Europe's ancient city.

If a tourist was sightseeing with this place as the starting point, they would be able to enjoy several famous places naturally. The fountain of Neptune, the historical Bologna University, the art museum and archaeology museum that was a palace in the past.

There were also many shopping mall and shops of brand item filling the place.

Around the plaza there was also many bars—what would be called as café or gelato shop at Japan.

Well, it was a convenient neighborhood.

He came to meet a visitor from Japan using that place as the rendezvous place.

She was one of his comrades who he had associated with since high school, Mariya Yuri—. Yuri who possessed loveliness and moderation that were similar with sakura petals smiled faintly.

The season was spring. It was early April. It was the season of sakura at this moment.

Both him and also her had passed the age of majority in Japan before they realized it.

Yuri ran toward him with small steps. She was wearing white shirt, khaki colored long skirt, combined with coat in thin grey color.

It was really fitting her. She gave off a tidy atmosphere.

Godou stopped walking and spread both his hands widely. He welcomed her with a wide smile—.

"I've wanted to meet you all this time. I'm really happy that you come this far here."

"Eh—? Go, Godou-san, what's with you so suddenly!?"

Godou hugged his beloved girlfriend as soon as they met.



Shocked by that, Yuri's eyes turned round. She was being hugged firmly by Godou while raising her voice to scold him due to the too sudden embrace.

The refined Yamato Nadeshiko was perplexed by this outrage that was done in a crowded public place.

"Su, suddenly doing this in front of this many people.....it, it's embarrassing."

"It's alright. This isn't Japan, no one is bothered about it."

"Geez..... Godou-san recently became unlike Japanese people in what you're saying and doing. Like how you hugged me like this without any hesitation."

Yuri murmured with a slightly exasperated tone within Godou's arms.

Godou laughed "That might be so" at what his lover pointed out.

"While wandering various countries and worlds, when I realized it I became like this. Looks like I got infected during my travels due to going to places that have a lot of skinship."

He continued making excuse while feeling lovingly at the sensation of hugging Yuri who he missed.

"You know, it's that. Perhaps humans who study abroad or change nationality would get infected by that kind of culture even if they're Japanese.....something like that often happens I think."

"I know nothing about that kind of story!"

"I see. Well, it doesn't really matter."

"Geez. What a hopeless person you are....."

No matter how much she scolded him, Yuri's voice was sweet and she kept being glued close on Godou.

Rather she was spellbound. She was entrusting her willowy body on him. Although she looked like a young lady who was brought up in an enclosed environment and detached from the real world, she was an owner of magnanimity that enabled her to accept all of Kusanagi Godou including his no good and egoistical side. Mariya Yuri was that kind of woman.

That was why, even when Godou suddenly went overboard by covering her lips with a reunion kiss—

"Nn.....that's too rushed....."

"But, there isn't a problem even if I rushed it right?"

"Geez....."

Even though they were in front of public, she only muttered complaint while their lips overlapped. Yuri responded with a terribly happy look.

The two Japanese ascertained each other's affection at the center of ancient city Bologna.

The one who poured cold water at such time was the voice of another woman.

"Godou too has changed completely. Well, the glimpse of that can already for a while now."

"E, Erica-san!?"

"Yo. So you also came here."

"I heard that Yuri headed to Bologna, so I hurried here from Milan."

Yuri separated herself from Godou in panic, so he turned around to that direction.

A blond haired young lady was there without them noticing.

The pure blooded Milan person Erica Blandelli. Today she was dressed in black knitted sweater and chino pants. A scarf of brilliant crimson color was wrapped around her neck. She was clad in her usual <ruby>black and crimson</ruby> coordination.

The two of them spread their hands widely without any prompting and hugged each other.

"I wanted to meet you, my beloved Godou."

"Me too. Well, you are in Italy too so we are meeting frequently though. But that doesn't mean that I think it's alright if I don't meet you."

"Naturally. I won't let you say that you got tired of Erica Blandelli."

They conversed with their faces approaching and kissed each other's cheek.

As expected it was different from their high school time, Godou had gotten used to interacting with this passionate woman and became able to have this kind of exchange really naturally.

And then, Erica directed a lady's smile to Yuri.

It was truly the face of a mistress, queen, female ruler welcoming a guest.

"Now, first let take a rest somewhere. After that let me hear of all the accumulating topics. I'm also curious of what is going on in Japan!"

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They ordered espresso and panini's at a nearby bar and had a coffee break. After that.

Godou, Erica, and Yuri. The three of them started strolling around town together.

They were currently at Maggiore Plaza. First they walked toward the nearby sightseeing spot, San Petronio Cathedral. After that they also intended to see the leaning tower of Bologna (there was other leaning tower than Pisa Tower).

This place was Europe's ancient city that left behind a thick smile of the Middle Age. Even just by strolling aimlessly, tourists should be able to enjoy themselves a lot. However.

"That's right. I've a report to make."

Erica suddenly started talking.

"There is this corridor in Milan that Godou sometimes use right?"

"Yeah. The one that Aisha-san created a long time ago."

That terrifying and bothersome authority the Fairy Corridor.

The ability that produced all over the world door that connected to other world. The metropolis Milan also had a product of that. It was under the management of the magic society Copper Black Cross.

That Milan's passage was actually connected to a certain place in the astral world.

Using that, Godou sometimes would entrust [news for the surface world] to his acquaintance over there—like the princess of glass eyes or the black clothed Buddhist priest. He would lower his head to

them requesting to please send the news to the people on earth because he was busy and didn't have time to go back.....

Like that the letter from Godou who was wandering the parallel worlds would reach Milan.

"That corridor suddenly vanished."

"What!?"

".....Godou-san. I believe the talk that I and Ena-san heard from Black Prince Alec is deeply related with that case."

"Now that you mentioned it, you purposefully came here to report that huh."

"In other words Yuri is having foresight of extremely serious situation then."

She wanted to directly talk with him regarding a super important matter.

Yuri visited until Bologna with that kind of notice.

As the greatest authority of princess shrine maiden in Japan, Mariya Yuri possessed an unrivaled spiritual sight. Just what kind of bad omen she was sensing?

Godou stopped walking and carefully listened along with Erica.

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The reason she yielded the chance to go to Bologna to her princess shrine maiden comrade was simple.

[Then, there won't be any hard feelings. The one who draw the winning lot will go to his majesty's place.]

[I accept. Then, I'll pick this one.]

[Yosh, let's battle! Uwaa!~?]

Two paper scraps were prepared and the one that was colored red at the bottom was the winning lot.

The one who pulled the winning lot was her childhood friend, Yuri who had been supporting Kusanagi Godou's hegemony together with her. Thus Seishu Ena came to London alone.

She was wearing a black pea coat and a similar black beret.

She combined it with a blue jeans and sneakers. With that boyish and dynamic outfit, she was currently traveling within London.

She used the underground train to head to Tottenham Court Road station. From there she walked just for a few minutes.

She arrived at the center of London where a Greek Temple was standing tall—not.

It was the entrance of Great Britain Museum that imitated such structure. Triangle roofs being supported by dozens of cylinder pillars. It was made to closely resemble a Parthenon Temple.

The plaza in front of this museum was the rendezvous place.

"Thank you for coming here, Ena."

"Princess!"

Ena smiled at the lady who called to her.

She was a woman of blooming age wearing a white knitted garment and black dress. Her platinum blond long hair was sublime as usual, making her graceful beautiful face to be even more radiant.

Princess Alice. A lady of a duke house and the former chairman of Britain's Witenagemot.

"I'm glad. I'm relieved that you look really healthy."

Being always cheerful and openhearted, a perfect beauty with no trace of artifice was Seishuuin Ena's selling point.

When she spoke frankly like that, Alice who was sitting on a wheelchair chuckled in amusement.

"Well. Today I'm not in a really great shape and also have a coughing fit you know? A condition like that can't be called as healthy isn't it?" (ED: Its meant she laughed to the point she choked/coughed a little.)

"But, before you could only spend your days lying down on the bed right?"

"That's true, but"

"Then, you're healthy just as Ena thought. After all you somehow went out with your actual body and met Ena. Your complexion also isn't that bad. Right?"

Ena asked for agreement at the person behind Alice.

It was a silver haired lady who was pushing the wheelchair. She wasn't Princess Alice's subordinate or servant, but a guest just like Ena.

Liliana Kranjcar nodded.

"You're right. Previously you would only sent out your ghost body to come out in front of people but—now you're permitted to go out in your real body like this."

Liliana entered London earlier and visited Alice.

After being called by Kusanagi Godou until Armenia's monastery, she swiftly flew to Britain.

Today she had the role of pushing the princess's wheelchair as her escort as well as a knight.

She was wearing a blue shirt and black skinny trouser. On top of that she was wearing a beige trench coat that was fitting for the spring season. Just like how Erica Blandelli's trademark was black and red, Liliana Kranjcar was also constantly persisting to wear blue and black.

The <ruby>blue and black<rt>nerazzurro</rt></ruby> templar knight talked to the princess.

"I believe that this degree of recovery is truly astonishing."

"I'm happy to hear that. Perhaps it's thanks to Godou-san."

"I wonder about that. Our lord only tried using the authority of anti-fate in a whim. He too said that he doesn't know whether it will work or not—"

"His majesty said that didn't he? In his usual crude style."

Ena laughed. Liliana too smiled a bit mean-spiritedly.

"Yes. He said that he only tested it with the expectation that it would be a gain if it goes well by some chance. The consequence of that with princess's recovery is unclear, so there is no need to feel indebted because of that."

"Yep. Perhaps you would become better even without his majesty doing anything."

".....My. The two of you really said it!"

Alice who was sitting on a wheelchair burst laughing.

The princess shrine maiden who was granted a spiritual ability from heaven that was too excessive for the human body. But, in the past she would spend most of her time of the year in bed due to her weak constitution.

In contrast with her excellent spiritual ability, her body was perhaps affected adversely by that.

Such hypothesis was also advocated but the truth of it was unclear.

However, one day, Kusanagi Godou who aimlessly visited Alice suddenly used a new authority.

The authority of fate alteration that the members of Witenagemot named 《Warrior of Anti-Fate》 —.

After reconciling with the King of the End Rama, he usurped that authority from the God of Destiny that was binding the King of the End.

Several years after that Alice was showing a dramatic improvement in her health.

"The fate of sickness that was binding me was severed..... I wonder if it is that kind of trick?"

"Princess. There is no meaning in piling up hypothesis on top of hypothesis."

"Yep yep. It's fine even if you don't force it to become his majesty's achievement, so let's get into the main topic now."

Saying that what he did was because of borrowing someone else's strength, so he didn't ask for any compensation or gratitude for himself.

Kusanagi Godou obviously had that kind of side to him, it was a big factor why he was seen as a moral and chivalrous person. Because Ena and Liliana knew that, they changed the topic together.

Alice shrugged and lightly spoke.

"I understand. Then, let's quickly go somewhere where we can relax."

.

The building of Great Britain Museum was naturally crowded with visitors.

However, this office was extremely tranquil. The mahogany desk and bookshelves, the soft carpet, and other things were creating a stately atmosphere.

Although Alice had resigned from being the chairman, she was still an authority within Witenagemot.

A workplace that was for her exclusive use was prepared within the museum.

"You two, you have heard "that report" from Alexander haven't you?"

Alice spoke as soon as the wheelchair that Liliana was pushing entered the office.

In addition of Seishu Ena, there were only the three of them here.

"Alexander Gascoigne said that he encountered a phenomenon that he suspected to be related with that person who is still missing.....Madam Aisha."

Liliana replied "Yes".

"In the devil king civil war five years ago, six Campiones were sent away to the end of the diverse worlds who know where. Among them Lord Salvatore, John Pluto Smith-sama, and Prince Alec were already returned to [this world]. It also had been confirmed that sect master Luo Hao is safe and sound. The ones whose whereabouts are unknown are only two people—Madam Aisha and Marquis Voban."

"But, our king said that the marquis-san might be dead."

Ena too said that worriedly.

"The one who isn't on this earth and feels like they might make a mess—is Aisha-san as expected. How scary."

"She is that kind of person after all. Even if the person herself doesn't have any such intention, she should be the same, like a walking minefield."

Liliana also spoke. Alice quietly sighed and agreed.

"Yes, truly.Actually after receiving Alexander's report, we Witenagemot also started investigating—and found out something outrageous."

"" ""

The two guests spontaneously fell silent. The princess continued.

"Madam Aisha's corridor, do you two remember it?"

"Of course. The gate that is connected to various eras and the other world."

"It was created here and there all over the world from the madam's authority, the Fairy Corridor wasn't it? Ena and others are also familiar with it but, even though it looks like it vanished, it would pop out due to some kind of impetus."

There was no way to forget it even if they wanted to forget it.

Both Liliana and Ena had also experienced getting swallowed by that mysterious corridor into a time slip.

It became a great expedition to the ancient Gallia. The corridor that was dormant in Toscana Province of Italy was revitalized of all thing by the King of Sword Salvatore Doni.

And then Princess Alice spoke of a surprising report.

"Right. Even though Madam Aisha's corridor looks like they have vanished, it's not terminated by all means—or that's how it should be. Until now that is. But this time's investigation brought it to light.At present, most of the corridors had been completely terminated."

"Eh, no way!?"

"Don't tell me that it's the effect of Madam Aisha dying!?"

"If that's the case, then perhaps this matter would be harmless instead. But, we aren't allowed to be optimistic. Remember, Alexander mentioned about the space distortion right?"

In contrast to Ena and Liliana's shock, Alice was acting dispassionately.

She had to face every kind of difficulty without forgetting her composure. That resolve and determination was pushing the young lady of duke house forward.

"I'm feeling it although only vaguely. From now on somewhere in the diverse worlds there might be unprecedented calamity starting to occur—that's what I feel."

Vaguely. It was a word that Mariya Yuri would also use sometimes.

An owner of extremely outstanding spiritual sight was able to “vaguely” predict even [the frequent regular danger to the world].

Actually they were quite powerful words for Kusanagi Godou’s and his constituents.

3

Two hours later after they parted from Princess Alice.

Dusk was currently approaching in the sky. Liliana Kranjcar and Seishuuin Ena rented a car and drove it through London suburbs.

It was Liliana who was holding the wheel. Ena was on the passenger seat.

It went without saying that London was a big metropolis, but the greenery was increasing around this area.

If they continued driving like this, sooner or later they would reach the area where the rural landscape would continue on and on. There would be vast grassland, fields, and the sporadic forests stretching out everywhere.

But, today they had no intention to go that far. Liliana spoke while driving.

"And what Prince Alec spoke about....."

"Yep. He expressly came until Japan and taught us various things."

Ena was speaking about it once more.

Several days ago, Alexander Gascoigne lectured them for a time. The gist of its content was—.

[Just as you know, I was traveling around all over the diverse worlds.]

[Diverse worlds—speaking in SF term it would be the parallel worlds. Compared to our earth, those worlds only consisted of world that "walked a different history". A world after Jesus Christ wasn't crucified, A world where alien attacked when World War 2 was going on..... Well, among them there was also world with only difference that was still within the measurement error but, let's set that aside.]

[It was from quite a while ago. The parallel world that I visited ended up encountering space distortion frequently. It's the outbreak of gate that is connected to the mythological world.]

[Yes. Just like what I've pointed out, the space distortion is similar with Madam Aisha's "corridor".]

[Furthermore, actually there is also other point that can't be ignored—]

Liliana finally stopped the car.

They arrived at a private property of a certain Britain noble.

But, it was also just an empty lot. Green meadow and grove of mixed trees, a bit of hill, etc, they were all dyed orange by the evening sunset—.

Ena spoke as soon as she got out of the car.

"There is nothing here."

"But, in the past there was a mansion that was built here. Furthermore, this is the place where a world event that couldn't be recorded in history book openly happened."

"Yep. In that mansion three Campiones met together."

"Furthermore it was Madam Aisha, Marquis Voban, sect master Luo Hao—the devil kings of the old generation....."

It seemed to be an occurrence at year 1850.

It was said that it was at the blizzard night. As the result of three devil kings fighting among themselves unleashing their authority fully, the mansion was erased without any trace, furthermore—

A gate toward the fairy boundary opened.

The domain that Liliana and other human magicians called as Astral World/the Boundary of the Life & Immortality.

Madam Aisha who was sucked by this gate arrived at the land of fairy boundary. There she defeated the queen of the country of eternal youth Niamh and obtained the authority the Fairy Corridor.

That must be why. Right now at the mansion's former site where Liliana and Ena were at—

"A corridor connected to the country of everlasting youth existed. But, according to the Witenagemot's investigation even that had been completely terminated a long time ago."

"The princess also said that this is the only corridor near London didn't she?"

"And then, most likely it was also the oldest corridor. This place is the optimum place to verify whether Prince Alec's hypothesis is correct or not."

Liliana and Ena nodded to each other.

There was still a continuation to Prince Alec's report. He also said this.

[A world that is falsely similar with our earth. That's why it's a parallel world though.]

[The arrival points of the space distortions that appeared all over in such world—that's the problem.]

[Actually those points, they're the location where the corridor of Madam Aisha in our world should be at. There is no way it can be considered as coincidence.I can't guess at all just what is happening, but something is absolutely in the middle of happening.]

[Luckily, space distortion still hasn't appeared in our earth.]

[However, it's too optimistic to think that it will continue like that.]

[If you go look at "the place where Madam Aisha messed up something" in the past, there might be a gate toward the mythological world coming into being before long.]

The sun had also completely set when they noticed. It had become night.

The light of sunset was only remaining slightly at the far away sky. However, at the corner of the plot of land where Ena and Liliana were standing—a new light suddenly appeared.

It was a place where there wasn't any artificial light, so the sparkling radiance was bizarrely standing out.

There countless small lights were gathering in half-spherical shape. The diameter was around ten-odd meter. It looked similar to the glittering of the nebula that decorating the night sky.

Liliana gulped.

"It looks really similar with Prince Alec's report."

"Yep! The gate connected to the mythological world, the space distortion—the prince said that it looks like that!"

Ena also yelled vigorously.

Furthermore, the princess shrine maiden of the sword quickly approached the light assembly.

"Wait. It's dangerous to carelessly approach it."

"Even so, we won't understand anything just from watching. Besides if it's just like the prince's story, there shouldn't be any particular problem even if we observe it from nearby. What is really dangerous is when we leap inside—"

The cluster of light with diameter that reached ten-odd meters.

Ena walked until right beside it and suddenly stopped. She abruptly turned around and grinned widely at Liliana. Her expression looked mischievous.

"We got this chance so—let's try entering it with both Ena and you."

"Without even scouting using magic!?"

"Because, this way will be the quickest. Move with haste, people often say."

If the mystery in front of them was the so called space distortion, certainly it would be desirable to solve it quickly. Liliana groaned 'ummm' and pondered just for a bit, then she suddenly resolved herself.

The child of nature Seishuui Ena, and Liliana Kranjcar who excelled in witch techniques.

If it was this combination, then they should be able to deal flexibly with any kind of situation. She judged it so.

.

"What a beautiful place....."

"Yep. It looks really tranquil and easy to live in....."

They leaped into the gate of light and looked around at the world at the other side.

Liliana and Ena were in admiration.

They were at the bank of a lake.

The water was clear and serene. Water plants were growing lushly at the shore.

It was far warmer than the London suburb in spring. It was even slightly hot that they wanted to scoop the lake water and gulped it down to water their throat.

If the water was this clear, wouldn't it taste really sweet?

The trees at the lake shore were also vibrant and abundant with greenery. The wind that refreshingly blew was pleasant.

However—there was something that drew the two's gaze even more than the splendid sight.

".....Just now, there was a dragon flying wasn't there?"

".....Is that a fairy or something that is bathing there? She is so beautiful it won't be really wrong to even call her a peerless beauty."

".....Furthermore there are a lot of them. Everyone is pretty."

A green dragon that was about 20, 30 meter tall was passing overhead.

It undulated its long torso that was like a snake and looked like it was swimming rather than flying in the sky. There were horns growing from its head that looked like antlers. It had no wings.

It wasn't a western style dragon, but a dragon at the eastern world.

Also there were seven women with peerless beauty at the shore. They were giggling cheerfully. Everyone was taking a bath while frolicking with each other.

Their skin was white and their face was Caucasoid. The color of their hair was also bright.

Their beautiful face and naked body were well ordered to a divine degree. They looked radiant—no.

The peerless beauties were all clad in sparkling light particles. It wasn't a metaphor but they were physically shining bright.

Also, the seven colored rainbow in the sky wouldn't vanish no matter how long time passed, becoming a decoration in the sky.....

Ena and Liliana exchanged glances.

"This place, is it a world that reproduced a mythology somewhere just as expected?"

"At the very least it doesn't seem to be a parallel world. I can't think that dragon and fairies would be able appear so brazenly like this no matter how much the world's history is altered."

"Just which mythological world is this Ena wonder?"

While the two of them were exchanging opinion—

A voice called out suddenly from behind. It was a really heavy voice of a man.

"You two, where did you come from? You two don't seem to be a bandit but.....you accursed scoundrels who invaded this holy ground. This place is forbidden to be entered."

Both Ena and Liliana knew the language that was used by the voice.

Both of them turned their gaze together toward the voice's direction. There clad in protective armor, a fierce god with grave angry face was standing without them noticing.

Furthermore, in the place of hair, there was bursting flame going out from his head!

"A martial god talking in Sanskrit language with hair of flame—that means!"

"He is General Kumbhira of the twelve divine generals! One of the fierce gods serving Bhaisajyaguru and protecting the Holy Eagle Peak-. This is the mythological world of Buddhism!"

Liliana and Ena were both shocked.

On the other hand, the flame haired fierce god approached the two ladies with a groan [Nuh]. In addition he unsheathed a long sword from the sheath hanging on his waist—.

Ena was dumbfounded.

"He, he suddenly drew his weapon?"

"Please wait. We aren't anyone suspicious at a—!"

Liliana made excuse in panic. However, the fierce god was curt.

"What are you saying. Aren't you two peeking at the Kinnaris taking a bath."

"" ""

Now that he said that, certainly.

In order to defend herself, Ena summoned the divine sword Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi.

Its shape was strikingly similar with a Japanese katana, but its blade was jet black. It was the greatest divine sword in Japan. But, even when its tip was pointed at him, the flame haired fierce god paid it no heed—.

.

4

Now then—it was a tryst after so long.

Currently, Erica Blandelli was based at Milan located at Italia's northern part. One should be able to come until Bologna in around one hour using train, but the crucial Godou himself tended to be away from here.

Mariya Yuri was residing in Japan.

Because the university she was enrolled was located at Kyoto, her address was also over there.

However, because she also had her duty as princess shrine maiden and as Kusanagi Godou's partner, she often headed everywhere inside Japan. Sometimes she would even go abroad.

In short, the three of them were rarely able to meet.

Just like how fellow lovers in long distance relationship would generally be like that, as expected their emotion was also flaring up greatly in proportion with the time they were parted from each other.

Inside the apartment room that was Godou's [lodging place, after a fashion].

He went home bringing two women. He put down his belongings and thought about preparing coffee, and yet he couldn't recall where the tools were kept.

He rummaged here and there, then he opened the shelves behind Yuri—or he attempted so.

"As expected, I guess I can put it off for later."

Godou's feet spontaneously stopped.

The moment he passed her, he felt that Yuri's gaze was conveying something to him.

Because of their difference in height, if she stared at the face of Godou whose height was more than 180 cm from nearby, naturally it would be an upturned gaze. A great loneliness could be seen from those eyes.

Regardless of her finally being able to meet Godou, there was also keenness within her.

"I've wanted to do this all this time."

"Me too."

The two of them got closer to each other without any prompting from either side and they hugged each other tightly.

Godou smelled the nice scent of Yuri's sleek black hair and became unable to hold back himself anymore. They kissed which they had done repeatedly so many times. When he brought his face closer in order to exchange the first kiss of tonight with his beloved Yamato Nadeshiko, she also closed her eyes in ecstasy—

"Hey"

The back of his head was poked. It was Erica's doing.

Godou hurriedly halted the kiss. Yuri also shrunk her body in embarrassment and felt ashamed.

"My, my apologies. That, I unconsciously became unable to hold back my feelings....."

"Yuri isn't in the wrong. Compared to me who is more or less in the same country with him, your distance from Godou is much farther. But Godou, I wish that you will respect the [pact of ladies and gentlemen] a bit more."

"My bad. What to say—a sudden impulse caught me."

Godou also apologized while slowly feeling the awkwardness.

"Now remember it. [Pact number one. When there are three or more of us present, not a single one will get excluded. This is an absolute rule]."

"Yeah. I won't exclude anyone."

"That's why naturally, it should be done like this."

Erica pulled him. Godou also responded to that. He brought his body closer.

It naturally became a kiss. It was a kiss as though they each tried to plugged the other's lips with their own. The two's tongues and saliva wholly became one in an expression of passion and lust.

When their lips parted, Yuri immediately came beside Erica.

This time he kissed with the black haired maiden. And then the three headed to the bedroom.

—One of the pact [No one could be excluded]. Because of that, in case three or more participants of the pact were present, the only choice available was to "cross the line" together.

(I won't be able to complain even if one day I get stabbed from behind.)

Godou deeply thought.

Erica Blandelli. Mariya Yuri. Liliana Kranjcar. Seishuuin Ena. He would have no objection at all even if one of them killed him.

Kusanagi Godou was a "good-for-nothing" who deserved that.

Thanks to the magic associations in various part of Europe that were supporting him, Japan's History Compilation Committee, and in addition Godou's own organization the League of Round Table, he had no difficulty at all financially. But, nevertheless he also didn't have the desire to live in luxury.

The exception was only his bed that was an extra large king size in his bedroom.

It was because there would situations like these often.

"Ah....."

Yuri was pinned down by Godou without a single string covering her body.

The voice of the refined Yamato Nadeshiko was also restrained even at this kind of time.

But, it wasn't because she was being passive. She would gently accept Godou's act in all respects and responded back softly. Also, when her body and heart were heightened like that, she nonchalantly lifted up her body, then her lovely sakura colored lips and white hands would lovingly touch Godou.

"Nn.....nn....."

His earlobe was sucked by Yuri. Then his neck and collarbone area too.

Joining at that timing was of course Erica. She hugged Godou's back from behind as though to twine around him and kissed from the side.

The breasts of Erica who was wearing nothing except perfume, her skin and her warmth were pleasant.

"Sheesh..... To leave me alone this long, really, if it's not you then I absolutely won't forgive you at this point..... In exchange of making me wait all this time, I want to do this with Godou more. You too are also the same right—nnh"

"Don't ask me such stupid thing at this late."

"Fufufu. It's lovely that you closed my mouth with your kiss. Do it more."

"I'll do it how many times you like."

He repeated the long kiss while massaging Erica's limbs. He caressed her affectionately.

Even at this kind of time—no, exactly because they were on the bed that Erica Blandelli approached Godou with a caress that was filled with passion. She herself was also seeking intensity without any holding back from Godou.

Even then Erica was highly proud. She showed a strong control of herself.

She would forget herself only when crossing the final line for real—

"Aa Godou! Let me.....let me off already! More than this, I'll—!"

"I, I'm also—Godou-san! Ah—to, together with Erica-san.....!"

When it reached this point Yuri too would be thoroughly reaching the peak. Her heart and also her body were coming untied.

Erica and Yuri, both of them held each other's hand and accepted Godou's everything. After that the three of them lied down on the bed in exhaustion and they would also be gasping for a while—

It was a tryst after so long, and then, a climax that was just as usual.

.

Several hours after the three of them returned to the apartment.

It was completely late at night. Godou woke up alone and quietly got out of the bed. Erica and Yuri were still sleeping. The two of them were naked with only a thin blanket covering them. Right after the act, the three of them ran out of strength together.

Godou took out mineral water from the refrigerator.

While he was moistening his throat with the water from the pet bottle, there was a sound. Godou spoke.

"Yuri also want to drink?"

"Ye, yes.Fufufufu"

Yuri came until the living room looking ashamed. Perhaps she was embarrassed from the intensity of the sex that was repeated until they fell asleep. However she suddenly smiled when seeing Godou's figure.

"What's the matter?"

"No. Godou-san is here even when I suddenly wake up at night so—I feel happy."

"Is that so."

"That's so. Godou-san, you didn't return back that often."

"Really my bad."

"Yes. Please be aware of your own bad. In exchange, please make a lot of time to be together with us okay?"

"Yeah."

Yuri unusually spoke selfishly. He felt how dear she was and approached her for a hug.

Kissing her then was already the natural development. By the way, most of the time Yuri was wearing shrine maiden outfit or skirt, but right now she was only covered with a thin blanket.

Her dazzlingly white bare legs and thighs and some other spots could be seen.

The chance to see Yuri like this was few. Even after joining their bodies together, she tended to want to dress as properly as possible in front of Godou.

"Ah.....Godou-san—"

He intended for a light kiss, but he unconsciously leaned forward.

He pecked Yuri's lips several times, then right away when it felt like he would be unable to suppress his excitement—suddenly the princess shrine maiden stiffened.

Her whole body shivered, and after that she looked toward the window in worry.

"What's wrong?"

"I obtained a really bad premonition....."

Yuri suddenly walked away and opened the window.

Byuu! The night wind of spring was becoming stronger when they noticed. Bathed in the strong wind that was blowing until inside the room, Godou noticed it. Could it be this was—.

He looked around the living room. It was in order to search for the clothes that were taken off in flurried pace a while ago.

.

"Uwaa. This is a bit dangerous isn't it!"

"Yes. The situation is extremely hazardous, there is nothing that can be used to change it for the better!"

Seishuui Ena and Liliana Kranjcar were in the middle of running away together.

There was no way for them to win against the fierce god General Kumbhira by fighting him head on. If they could do that then it would be a realization of [godslaying].

They found an opening and then escaped with all their strength. They escaped to a nearby forest to shake him off.

However, the result was a big failure.

Right now the inside of the forest was crowded with many oni with terrifying faces. Bluish black skin and burly naked body, large canine teeth and claws. Their appearance looked very like they ate humans.

Those kind of monsters were incessantly rushing towards them and attacking them.

"I don't want to fight needlessly but—!"

"This isn't the time to say something like that!"

Liliana swung her beloved saber, the magic sword Il Maestro.

Of course Ena also swung the divine sword Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi.

Each time the two's blade cut through air, the man eating onis were cut down and collapsed. However, each time one vanished, the trees of the forest would start transforming.

The completely normal large tree would transform to humanoid shape—into an oni!

"Come to think of it!"

Ena yelled while cutting down another one.

"General Kumbhira is also the boss of Yaksha. Yaksha is spirit of forest and protector of Buddhist doctrines!"

"So we won't be able to escape as long as we don't defeat all the trees in this forest!"

"If we do something like that, then Kumbhira-san will also come over here—ah"

In the middle of melee, Ena noticed the wind shaking the treetop of the forest.

Almost at the same time Liliana and also Ena gasped. They remembered. They and Kusanagi Godou had a useful trump card for this kind of time!

Liliana yelled.

"Kusanagi Godou! Your strength is needed right now!"

If both sides were at place where wind was blowing, then the savior would appear before the person who chanted the name.

That was the first avatar of Verethragna, the Gale authority. Even if they were at another world, the authority would bring Kusanagi Godou to them.

Thus, he came—.

"It's just like what Yuri sensed huh!"

Whirlwind suddenly arose and three silhouetted appeared in the middle of it.

Kusanagi Godou, Erica Blandelli, Mariya Yuri. The only human male among them, the youth immediately chanted the words of power.

"Lancelot, I'm counting on you—!"

(Oo. So you're telling me to rout the demons as protector knight!)

"No need, no need. Just lend me your spear. That'll be enough even without you yourself coming out!"

(Tsk. Just when I thought it's a good chance to let loose!)

While Kusanagi Godou and the unseen protector spirit were conversing telepathically—

A long spear fell from the sky.

It stabbed on the ground. In that instant a shockwave occurred that blew away the Yakshas that were trying to swarm the humans exactly at that moment.

Erica yelled right away.

"This is the chance to retreat, Lily! Quickly!"

"You don't need to tell me! O wings of Strega!"

Liliana Kranjcar's specialty the flight magic.

Blue light filled the surrounding of the five and they flew to the sky along with that light—.

"Are you alright Ena-san!?"

"I'm a bit injured so it's not alright but, it's just a scratch. So Yuri also came for us, thank yo—eeeh?"

They ascended steeply while looking down on the beautiful lake and the forest around it.

The two princess shrine maidens were conversing while being enveloped inside the blue light of flight magic. However, Ena suddenly sniffed with her nose as befitting a child of nature.

"Somehow your majesty and Yuri and also Erica-san.....aren't all of you sweaty?"

"Eh!? The, there is no such thing you know?"

"Ye, yeah. That's just your imagination. You're paying attention to strange thing aren't you, Ena."

"I wonder...."

"Erica, don't tell me....."

"How sharp even though you're just Lily. But it can't be helped can it?"

Liliana who was her old friend as well as rival for a long time glared fixedly at her. Erica shrugged without looking guilty.

"We somehow put on our clothes but, there wasn't any time to take shower."

"Ah. You three were having fun by yourself! Not fair!"

"What's more, it was during the time we were dragged into this kind of danger!?"

"I, I'm sorry, both of you!"

"Nn.....well, anyway Ena and Liliana are saved, so it's all good."

The princess shrine maiden of the sword and the silver haired knight who finally saw through the situation. Erica acted defiantly with cool expression, while Yuri was cowering.

And then Godou concluded it easygoingly.

In any case, the five of them were all together after a long time.

Chapter 2 – Circle of Usurpation

1

Devil king civil war—.

The one who ended that extremely asinine and yet severe “internal strife” was the Fairy Corridor that was opened by godslayer Madam Aisha.

Now then, if asked what happened to the originator Aisha—

"It's really hard to go home to my [original world] isn't it..... This is troubling~"

Even while grumbling like that, the smile in her face never ceased. It was a days of travel to travel.

She who was a traveler of time and space in the first place got stuck with a new adventurer of walking across [parallel world] after the end of devil king civil war.

She was enjoying various places of her destination. For example,

[A world where the model of super famous horror novel, Count Dracula aka Vlad III transformed into a true vampire and became a devil king who ruled the whole Europe as well as Ottoman Empire.]

[A world where the Frankish Kingdom built by Great Emperor Karl didn't split and continued being a united country.]

[A world where at the closing of years of later Han Dynasty, Yellow Turban Rebellion ended in a huge success and political revolution was born due to the top management of Yellow Turban.]

Etc, etc.

It was a homecoming journey that was aiming to her [original world] from such parallel worlds.

There were several methods to move from world to world. For example searching for the “bypath” of the diverse worlds, or searching for fairy or great magician who was able to use the secret technique of teleportation.

Every time Aisha would manage somehow using her wisdom and courage.

Even though she looked like this she was used to traveling and a godslayer on top of that. She also met danger. But, in general it was a fun journey.

Although—she also had worries.

Since the disputes of devil king civil war. Her authority the Fairy Corridor became unusable.

As expected, the authority being made to greatly rampage like that must be bringing a negative outcome to that authority.

"It's unfortunate. Even though it was a power that let me experienced various lovely journeys."

Hics. There were also times where she became tearful from getting driven by feeling of loneliness.

But, Aisha didn't even get fixated at the authority she lost and she was relatively laid-back about it. It couldn't be helped if it was lost. Rather than that she should head toward the hope of tomorrow.

She repeated such days of journey.

However, one night. The sleeping Aisha was reunited with her [mother] within the dream.

.

"Okaa-sama!"

"It has been a long time isn't it, Aisha."

Inside a space that was stretching on endlessly where there was only grey colored emptiness, the two young ladies were facing each other.

Aisha who was born in India and raised in England, and the step mother who guided all godslayers and also the "all giving" goddess Pandora.

As usual, the step mother only looked like a beautiful girl in her early teens but—

"Okaa-sama, aren't you strangely blurred?"

Pandora's figure was really thin.

Whether it was her blond hair that should look gorgeous, or her white skin, or the whiteness of the clothes she was wearing, they were all terribly lackluster in color. At this rate it looked like she would vanish.

Furthermore, the outline of her whole body was also blurry here and there.

Pandora's figure was like a person who was projected in television screen with blurred image.

"It can't be helped. You're in a world that is really far away from our world right now."

Pandora spoke with that blurred form.

"I somehow found your location and tried sending my thought to you. But it's too far, so there is defect coming out like this no matter what I do."

"Haaa, I seee. So that's how it is."

Aisha comprehended it.

"So Okaa-sama. What kind of business do you have tonight?"

"I only want to know if Aisha is doing alright. From how you look like, it looks like it'll be alright even if I don't worry about you. Well, you are a child who will get into a great adventure of the century even if you just go out with the intention of taking a stroll. You can go far away until you're satisfied."

"Allow me to do so! Ah, but"

Here Aisha pleaded.

"Right now the authority to open the corridor is unusable. Do you think this will get fixed?"

"You can't use authority? I'm not feeling anything like that at all though."

Pandora stared fixedly at her step daughter and muttered.

".....You didn't lose it. It's only changed in essence. The power that is contained within is in the process of being reborn in order to invite even more chaos and adventure....."

Her tone was unusually solemn for this lighthearted goddess-sama.

Aisha realized. This was an oracle. Something that was seen by her spiritual sense as god was changed into blank words in order to announce it.

Anyway, there the meeting inside the dream ended.

Her reunion with Pandora didn't remain inside her memory. Aisha returned once more to her days of travel.

But, since then, she forgot about the authority that she lost. Now, what kind of world the next parallel world she went to would be.....?

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Even now—

Aisha didn't notice.

That a strange phenomenon was starting to occur in the parallel world that she had just paraded through.

Gates of light began to appear all over the world.

Countless lights gathered like nebula into a singularity. The phenomenon that Alexander Gascoigne called space distortion. The corridor connected to mythological world.

Right now, an unprecedented danger was attacking the extremely esoteric diverse worlds.

Yes. The [forceful guide to mythological world] that was born unnoticed was roaming the many parallel worlds while oblivious to the convenience of others.

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2

".....So you've come, the heaven-sent child of victory."

A deep voice called out from the person sitting on the throne.

The [king] before his eyes possessed the majesty that was fitting for that voice, deeply chiseled face that was covered with beard, and a robust body.

He was clad in red gown that reached until his feet and a traditional cap.

His hand was holding a scepter—. It was a cane made from gold to display his kingship.

"O Verethragna, the one who smash through all obstacle, the god who subjugate the dragon of Dahak."

"So you are the one who summoned me."

The young man who replied to the king was slender and looked youthful.

But, the radiance that was emitted by that beautiful face was so dazzling. It was filled to the brim with the virtue and authority of a hero that would charm the whole masses. While he was clad in a cloak that looked like a rag, the young man who was called Verethragna looked more noble than anyone on earth.

Verethragna spoke with a brazen tone.

"In that case I'll have to speak my thanks. Exactly because of your call from the end of the diverse worlds that I can manifest once more and obtain a flesh body. O Mithra, the one who speak the correct words and possess thousand ears. O one with ten thousand eyes with magnificent figure. War god Verethragna humbly offer his gratitude."

"No need of that. I am in need of you. That's why I called you."

King Mithra nodded magnanimously.

The god king of the ancient Persia and the god of sun. The god of warrior. The god of law. The god of stock-farming. The god of wealth. The god of contract. Compared to Verethragna who was specialized for battle, he possessed far more diverse authority and attribute.

And then, he was the divine king who the war god of the east ought to serve—.

The place where the two were facing each other was inside an unknown castle.

It was the audience hall for the sake of the vassals to have an audience with the king. However, there were only Mithra and Verethragna within the grand sanctuary.

In this one-on-one situation, Mithra who was clad in the sun's radiance spoke.

"Even so, you were really late. My call had reached you quite some time ago and granted you life and strength didn't it?"

"Indeed. However, I had to give my greeting to my old acquaintance."

Even toward the question of the divine king, the youthful looking war god still spoke insolently.

"Currently I will depart to take care of an affair, but one day I will return to your side. Fufufufu. Forgive this little fun with your kingly tolerance. Besides in the first place"

Verethragna grinned and stared at the sun god.

"Because you purposefully called me from “the beyond”, it took me time to reach you. Oo Mithra, I had to cross over several interstice of time and space to reach this place."

There were many worlds that were following different history—they existed in parallel to an uncountable degree.

That state of the world was called the diverse worlds. The war god Verethragna transformed into a gust of wind and ran through the interstice between worlds.

He was summoned by Mithra who was located at the far beyond parallel world.

The god king of the ancient Persia. He was also grinning.

"Forgive me. There is a necessity that made me called you even then. Actually, the world I’m protecting is in the verge of destruction. An annoying witch from a world somewhere—an accursed godslaying witch wandered in."

"Hou, godslayer!"

"Furthermore the other day, the stars of heaven told me this. [Soon a new godslayer will arrive in pursuit of that witch] it said."

"....."

"The stars also told this. There is a deep inversed fate between that new godslayer and you—the victorious Verethragna, and you should be the one who will become that person’s greatest obstacle."

"Oooh."

If that was the truth, then perhaps there wasn’t any need for him to intentionally give a greeting.

Kukukuku. Verethragna stifled his voice and chuckled. The divine king Mithra watched his loyal subject who was like that with trust and spoke.

"Even so o war god. You are alone, while the enemies are several. It will be great if I, Mithra can assist you but—"

"Is there a reason why you can't?"

"Umu. However, I can grant you something like this."

"This is!?"

The divine king Mithra suddenly waved his scepter.

Right after that, a great sword appeared in front of Verethragna. It stabbed into the stone floor. The blade that was shining in platinum color was wide and thick. It looked similar with a hatchet.

That blade had a similar height with a child. It was a magnificent divine sword.

"Oooh. To think I'll be able to lie my eyes once more on this....."

Verethragna muttered in amazement.

It was a way of speaking that was unbecoming for the god of victory who was overflowing with wisdom. But it couldn't be helped. It was a happening that made a war god of his level to be struck with admiration from the bottom of his heart.

.....In that battle when the hero Rama and his arch-enemy Kusanagi Godou were fighting together.

The king who appeared at the end of this world was wielding this—the divine sword of devil king slaying.

"This is the so called, divine sword of salvation isn't it."

The war god of the east gazed at the divine sword shining in platinum color and spoke that name.

Mithra nodded and spoke further.

"Verethragna. The Mithra in your world and I who am here right now are the identical god, and yet there are several differences between us. For example our other name."

"Hou?"

"When the godslaying devil king bunches are running rampant on earth, there will be warrior who defeat all of them—the hero of devil king extermination. Someone who know about it call me [the king who appear at the end of this world]."

"....."

"In this place I am the one and only King of the End."

"I see. So that's how it is."

Verethragna comprehended the situation.

The world he was originally from was [the world where King Rama was the hero.]. He was called from there to this faraway place, [the world where King Mithra was the hero].

Yes. Even if there wasn't King Ramachandra here, there should be another fitting god for that role.

God who could possibly become the devil king extermination hero and be granted the divine sword of salvation from the god of destiny.

Parallel world—there was a great number of them. There was no way that King Rama would constantly play the hero role in all of them.

Verethragna laughed fiercely.

"How wonderful that you led me—this me to here!"

Of course, there was also Verethragna in the [world of Hero Mithra].

However, in order to intercept the man who one day should come to this world, he was summoned here! In order to confront the godslayer Kusanagi Godou!

His status as that man's arch-enemy was being counted on!

"Fufufufu. I'm grateful to you, King Mithra!"

"I had told you already just now, no need to thank me. You must have faintly guesses it. My body isn't fitting to stand in the battlefield anymore. I'm not a worthy warrior for the sword of salvation."

"By your will."

Certainly, the divine king before his eyes was an existence that was like a sun.

But, it wasn't the sun of daytime. Rather it was a setting sun. While he was a man at the prime of his life who was overflowing with majesty, he was completely exhausted.

His exceptionally dark hair had conspicuous white color in it. The shadows of both his eyes were dark.

His complexion was bad. Although he was overflowing with majesty, he didn't even look like he would be able to stand from his throne. He even felt like a bedridden old man.

Verethragna spoke.

"Your life has been reduced considerably it seems."

"Umu. In order to realize the devil king extermination, I had swung the divine sword of salvation many times—beyond counting. This is the price of that.

The heart and body of the god king that should be immortal was consumed to this degree.

Verethragna understood now. In the [world of King Rama], the hero of devil king extermination didn't try to appear often in the world. He was staying dormant for a thousand year. That was why he wasn't that exhausted. But, a more diligent hero would also get "worn down" quicker.....

The weapon of devil king extermination was an object that shaved even the life of god.

However, Verethragna harbored another question and asked.

"But, those godslayers aren't something that is born often. An era where they don't exist at all shouldn't be that rare. Why are you this exhausted then?"

"I judged not only the godslayers, but also the heretic gods."

"What!?"

"Exactly because there are heretic gods roaming on earth that godslayers are born. In that case, it'll be fine if I also execute such imprudent gods. Thanks to that in the [world of the King of the End Mithra], godslayers hasn't appeared for more than four hundred years already."

"....."

The devil king extermination god used the divine sword of salvation to erase his fellow gods.

The King of the End Mithra confessed those murders. His eyes that were overflowing with virtue and authority showed insane obstinacy just for a moment. But, that too lasted only for a moment.

Mithra immediately recovered his majesty and spoke with the face of a worried king.

"In any case, the world under the protection of the King of the End Mithra has enjoyed a long peace. And yet....."

A godslayer from the outside world slipped in—]

"Umu. Look at this."

In front of Mithra and the war god, a transparent bubble came out.

A young lady was striding through a city of the humans inside the bubble. Brown skin. Eyes that were brimming with curiosity. She was clad in a garment that pagan nun would wear.

Her face looked extremely gentle but—Verethragna understood.

A fitting atmosphere that was characteristic of the [heaven-sent child of calamity], a godslayer was definitely coming from this woman too!

"War god. She is a witch who expressly crossed to here from your world. Your arch-enemy should arrive here too soon chasing after this woman. Before that happen....."

Mithra's scepter pointed at the brown skinned witch.

"Wield the sword of salvation and begin the battle of devil king extermination. Do you accept?"

"By your will. —However my lord. Let me ask one more question."

"What?"

Verethragna sharply gazed at the completely weakened figure of the king.

"I who possess the sword of wisdom understand. Your body, it should have perished a long time ago shouldn't it?"

"....."

"O magnificent Mithra, the one who is like the sun. I'm the one who repel all enemy and demon, and cut apart the mysteries the gods are concealing with sword. It's obvious in my eyes. Your body that is exhausted from the battle of devil king extermination—already doesn't have the fire of life remaining in it. And yet, why are you still alive?"

Mithra's appearance was similar with a setting sun that was going to set completely.

At first, Verethragna thought that Mithra's life was only reduced. But, he was gradually starting to notice. That the Mithra before him was so to speak a burnt residue.

His life had been used up since a long time ago and he should have become a corpse.

The divine king Mithra whose secret was seen through—suddenly grinned.

"As expected from you, war god. It's exactly as you said. In actuality, my body should have been destroyed four hundred years ago. But I asked the secret god of time to use his authority—to stop my time just a moment before I met my death."

"Stopping time? Unbelievable!"

Verethragna was shocked. Mithra nodded to him as the lord.

"It's a preparation for the worst case. When a new godslayer is born once more, I will personally summon a worthy warrior—to entrust to him the fate of the King of the End. And then, the secret god who govern over infinite time, Zurvan finally moved the time of me who should have died."

Right beside Mithra's throne, a god with strange shape appeared.

It was a [mask]. A face made from stone floating in the air. Furthermore, it was modeled after a soul-stirring lion's face and mane—but that wasn't all.

The mask's both sides—both the left side and the right side had snakes growing from there!

There were two living snakes. The snakes were twisting back and forth.

"I see! So you were protecting our king, Zurvan! The secret god who govern over eternity and infinity, the creator of light and darkness! The god who preside even over destiny!"

Verethragna yelled in excitement.

The god of time Zurvan—the stone mask modeled after lion was silent. But the snakes growing from both sides of the mask only let out their tongue *ssshh*.

In exchange Mithra spoke.

"O war god. The time remaining for Mithra is little. Defeat the godslaying witch even if just for a second faster and then return to my castle the Temple of Infinite Time."

"By your will!"

The place where the war god of the east Verethragna was facing the god king Mithra.

Its name was the Temple of Infinite Time. It was also the sanctuary of the god of time and eternity Zurvan.

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3

She came to another new world.

Parallel world. An earth that was walking a different history from Aisha's original world. That was how it should be. However—

"What is the meaning of this?"

Aisha frowned.

"it looks completely the same like the earth that is the [hometown] for me."

The capital Tokyo at Japan country in the first half of the 21st century.

Furthermore it was at Akihabara that was famous as electronic town and also a sight-seeing area—.

That was the girl's current location. She asked for unreasonable things from the fairy king she met at the "previous world" so he opened a teleport gate for her. She arrived in Akihabara when she passed through it.

Perhaps she arrived here because it was a familiar town?

Aisha once was working here as live-in maid.

She also had familiarity with the area. She entered a large bookstore near the station that had its whole building used to sell book and headed straight to the history section.

She picked up a random history book and checked the chronological table.

"My. Jesus-sama didn't become a rock musician, there was also no invention of the steam engine in the Middle Age, Europe. There was also weren't aliens who came using UFO's, became devout believer of Buddha and changed Calcutta into a spaceport.....the chronological table is totally normal just like the earth where I was born and raised at. Could it be, I had inadvertently returned to my original world?"

The great expedition through parallel worlds was finally suspended for the moment.

Aisha sighed and returned the book to the shelves. She started walking trudgingly.

"It can't be helped. Anyway it's Tokyo, perhaps I should show myself at Godou-san's place? Someone who seems like they know that person's address is....."

She left the bookstore and wandered near Akihabara Station.

She found a major chain pawnshop. She immediately rushed inside because she didn't have any Japanese yen in hand due to coming to Japan unexpectedly.

No, in the first place she didn't possess any ready cash that could be used in 21st century earth.

But, Aisha was used to travel. In case something like this happened, she was carrying gems and small jewelry that could easily be converted into money no matter what was the era or country.

She pawned those things and somehow secured some cash.

Well, there was also some trouble in the process but.....

"Eh, identification papers? I'm sorry, unfortunately I don't have any in hand so.....I have a suggestion, my smile will be the guarantee! I'm begging you!"

She overcame the difficulty with her usual pace and obtained traveling expenses.

Aisha resumed walking in the city—and then, she gradually began to notice.

"Eh? The pro-wrestling café in front of the station has changed into a different store now. Even though I really like that café..... The new café is AKB café is it....."

She continued walking while feeling disappointed.

But, Aisha was gradually frowning.

The impression she got from taking a glance at the electronic city didn't differ greatly from her memory. The emporium that sold daily goods from electronic appliances until PC to even game. Bargain sale store that was tax free. Specialized store selling items of every kind catering to otaku. Adult store that was a bit indecent. Privately-run stores operating inconspicuously in the back alley, multi tenant building, or the like—.

However.

Looking closely, there was no store name that matched Aisha's memory.

"The building that was for OraX or Hosomap has its name changed..... Animate's rotten girl store that was visited by Harumi-

san who was my coworker at the maid café each time it was break time had a bit different name—"

A great number of foreign tourists were coming and going. The maids were distributing sightseeing map.

It was that kind of town, so even an India beautiful girl [wearing black nun garment and veil] that she had been wearing since the previous world wasn't that conspicuous.

Aisha fastened her walking pace.

It clicked on her mind. She dashed in order to ascertain her instinct. She arrived in a tidy manga café. She stared at the spines of the comics lined up in a row inside the shelves and yelled with a low voice.

"As I thought!"

At the corner of girl manga. There wasn't even a single title that Aisha knew.

Even though she looked like this, when she was living in Akihabara, she would visit a manga café every night and thoroughly read a lot.

There wasn't even a single work that she read at that time, in exchange titles like The Heart of Thomas, Banana Fish, Hi Izuru Tokoro no Tenshi, Yukan Club, Red River, Fushigi Yuugi, etc, were lined up before her—.

"So it was like that....."

Aisha nodded.

"As I thought, this is one of the parallel worlds. It seems that the historical events aren't really different from my original world

but—the world's small parts that aren't directly related with the history are really different."

If her original world was version 1.1, then this place was 1.2 when all was said and done.

The difference between both worlds was only within the measurement error. She was surprised that there was also this kind of parallel world but—

"As a travel destination it's a bit lacking in appeal. Or perhaps, there is something here that I still haven't noticed.....oh?"

She was walking inside the manga café while vacantly staring at the extensive books collection.

Midway, for some reason she got curious with a long comic that she suddenly found. Aisha took a volume and tried reading it in place.

"Milky way railroad that can go until Andromeda sounds really nice..... Oh!? Ara ara, my my, Okaa-san is!? Ho—how unforgivable, machine earl!"

Without hesitation she pulled out the whole volume 1 until 10 from the shelves.

It was a great adventure tale of a young man who traveled the universe with a mysterious beautiful woman. Aisha moved to a private room and began to enjoy the manga without rushing.

.....Aisha didn't notice even here.

That there was a really suspicious young man within the same manga café.

The cloak that snugly hid his body was the same like a rag. It was grey colored and slightly dirty all over. From his height he looked like fourteen or fifteen years old, but he was wearing hood so his face couldn't be seen.

And then, there was one more thing that was really strange.

Even though this young man was dressed this suspiciously, no one was paying attention to him at all—.

There was a small smile on his lips. Archaic smile. It was the smile of a hunter that [finally found his prey].

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She was focusing on reading, so the night was also getting late quickly.

"My, it's already ten o'clock. I should go to sleep soon."

Aisha closed the manga and muttered.

This manga café also had night pack. Customers could stay the night there. She planned to start her activity from early morning tomorrow, so she would retire for the night already at this time.

"Let's investigate the situation in this world a bit more tomorrow....."

Aisha sorted the plan inside her head while exiting the private room.

She was holding the ten volumes of manga she was reading in her hands. She intended to return them to their former place. But Aisha gasped.

She roughly pushed the books into the nearest shelves and looked around inside the café.

She got a bad feeling. The air was excessively tense. Furthermore, there wasn't anybody else than her, not customers, and not even the staff—

No. There was only one person, a person clad in a ragged cloak was standing there!

Aisha silently moved until near the window.

Her position was at the second floor of a building near the station. Inside the café she could look down to the street through a glass-sided wall. The traffic was light but there was still a lot of pedestrians.

Furthermore, she was really lucky. A metal bat was leaning on the window.

It seemed to be newly bought. It was wrapped in the wrapping paper of the shop that sold it. It seemed to be a lost article. Aisha took it without hesitation and swung it with all her strength!

"Tei-!"

A strike of metallic bat.

The glass window in front of her was smashed apart with *Gashaan!* sound.

Night wind was blowing in. Aisha lightly jumped outside the window.

"It was only for a short while but, I'm in your debt!"

A sudden dive from the building's second floor to the ground.

She landed with a crouch and softened the falling impact.

A normal person would have their legs and knees damaged considerably, but Campione's excessively robust body wouldn't scream just from this much.

The pedestrians showered her with their gaze wondering what just happened, but she paid them no attention at all.

Aisha dashed through the walkway with rapid footsteps.

"Good results should accompany good deeds, bad results should accompany bad deeds. I will do good deed later without fail, so please protect Aisha....."

She muttered her chant while arriving at JR's central ticket gate.

It was emergency so she swiftly jumped over the ticket gate. There wasn't any time to waste to buy the ticket!

"Among others, I'll also repay back the ticket price somehow so pleaseee—!"

Tatatatatata! She dashed through the platform and stair.

She leaped into the train that was just a moment away before departing.

The inside of the train was quite crowded. But it wasn't to a degree that there was congestion. Aisha took a breath "Fuu~" and leaned on the train's door. Right after that.

She looked outside the window and got taken aback from the bottom of her heart.

"That's!?"

Even though it was late at night—an eagle was flying.

It was soaring leisurely in parallel with this train. Furthermore the bird of prey's eyes were directed to inside the train, furthermore that gaze was looking at Aisha who was leaning on the door!

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4

Gashan!

It was the second sound of the glass window being broken that was already the second time just in this night.

The eagle suddenly flew into inside the train that Aisha was boarding. It tackled the window and easily broke through.

However, there wasn't even a single passenger around the broken window.

Although a lot of glass fragments were scattered, no one inside the train was injured.

Was it a mere coincidence, or a thoughtfulness? Either way, the mysterious eagle transformed right after intruding, from the impressive figure of a bird of prey into a human figure—.

It was the person wearing ragged cloak that was in the manga café just now. Aisha grumbled.

"Uuu. So it's the person before just as I thought."

"What a restless girl. To suddenly run away without even hearing my talk."

The [youth] spoke with a magnanimous tone.

The youth had small stature and extraordinary handsome look. He had black hair and delicate features.

But in contrast with the age of his outer appearance that was in the middle of his teenage, he possessed a startling personality. On the other hand the passengers inside the train were flustered.

—Who, who are they?

—Is this some kind of filming?

—Just now, wasn't something like a bird flew in?

The total number of people inside this train was around 10 people. Three young girls who seemed to be friends were whispering to each other. However, no one was making a ruckus.

They were feeling overwhelmed. By the appearance of the young man confronting Aisha.

There was no doubt. Aisha spoke decisively as a godslayer.

"You're, a god aren't you?"

"Indeed. As expected a godslayer can see through me right away."

Aisha's heart and body were bursting with vigorous strength.

Her battle readiness to meet her bitter enemy the gods was in place. Of course Aisha who loved peace didn't lean heavily toward such act of barbarity.

She didn't but, the youthful god was obviously showing a dangerous air.

Even though not the slightest roughness could be felt from him, his clear eyes were piercing her with battle spirit!

"Now see here. I don't have the slightest bit of intention to fight with—"

"Forgive me. Even if you don't, but I myself have it."

The god in youth appearance grinned.

"My lord intend to hand down divine judgment on you. I'm the executioner of that."

"Divine punishment!?"

Aisha was shocked.

"I, I'm, not doing anything bad. I had only just arrived here!"

"About that. This world—it has a greatly different point from the world you were born at."

"Eh?"

Aisha was bewildered by the youth's notice.

The way he spoke was aware of Aisha's status as a traveler who had crossed through countless parallel worlds. The youth god aloofly spoke further.

"Here is [the world where godslayer's existence is unpermitted]. In your world, it's possible for five or six godslayers to exist at the same time. However, here—even with just the birth of one godslayer, the [King of the End] would swiftly descend."

The king who appeared at the end of this world, the devil king extermination hero!

Aisha stared at wonderment. She couldn't believe that there was also one here. Furthermore, it was a hero that was far more diligent than King Rama who she once got a glimpse at.

"When I thought this world is like a version 1.2, but to think there is this kind of difference..... Then, are you this King of the End?"

"No. Till the end I'm nothing more than that person's attendant. For now that is."

"I see....."

This person wasn't the hero-sama himself. Aisha was slightly relieved.

But, the youth said this with a brazen look!

"However I took the sword of salvation in the place of my lord with the intention to grant the fitting retribution to the accursed godslayer. Resolve yourself, witch."

"No waaayyy—!?"

Aisha lamented from hearing the youth's announcement. It was at that instant.

Around ten passengers who were staring at the two from afar, their atmosphere suddenly changed. Even though everyone was either in bewilderment or agitation, suddenly they were bursting with anger.

In addition, that anger was directed toward the youth who was a god.

"Oi brat! It's unforgivable that you're trying to hurt that person!"

"That's right! Be ashamed that you're fighting a girl!"

"Even though you're just a kid, you're the worst! You're too cheeky!"

The passengers criticized the youth altogether.

Everyone intended to protect Aisha who was just a passerby.

"My.....everyone, thank you very much!"

Aisha felt a heat in her chest.

No well, one could also look at this as her authority of charm working automatically like usual to ensnare the people around her. But, just because of that, that didn't mean Aisha was that much of a degenerate she would forget to feel gratitude and deep emotion toward human kindness.

The passengers who were inside the same train only by chance. All of them were coming to Aisha's side.

They intended to use their own body to shield her from the youth.

"Fufufufu. All of you are really heroic."

On the other hand, the youth was smiling.

Archaic smile. He announced along with that dim smile.

"Truly admirable all of you. However, I'm appalled that you all are blocking the path of me the hero. Step back."

"Eh—!?"

Aisha was shocked.

The people who should be protecting the godslaying queen easily stepped back behind Aisha. On top of that they were kneeling on the train's floor!

In addition, they kowtowed toward the youth and rubbed their forehead on the floor.

Everyone was doing that. There wasn't a single exception. The youth nodded in satisfaction.

"Good children, all of you. Well done!"

"So, so you also have the same power....."

An authority of charm that was the same with what godslayer Madam Aisha had.

The youth showed that and then he leisurely walked toward her. He finally faced Aisha and reached out with his right hand—

"O daughter of goddess with beautiful hair, please open the palace of the earth mother!"

Aisha immediately chanted the words of power.

The goddess of spring and winter Persephone. This was the sentence to liberate that authority. Actually she had been preparing this since escaping the manga café.

In order to reverse the authority of deeply benevolent healing to call the [winter and ice snow]—.

Aisha's fighting experience with this was countless. Since the moment she glanced at the youth god, she had a premonition that she wouldn't be able to shake him off by just running away.

"O freezing blizzard, come to me!"

"Nuuh. So you intend to freeze this war god of the east in ice!"

The chanted words of power became cold wave that halted the life of everything.

The movement of the youthful god was also stopped still. Right after that the train also entered into Ochanomizu Station and all the doors opened after the train stopped.

Aisha ran outside without hesitation.

(By the way, the freezing air she released was spreading through the train she was boarding until the station platform. The other

passengers, the driver, and even the people at the platform were swallowed. Around 70 or 80 people were driven to hypothermia.....)

The people became limp and unable to move due to their body temperature getting lowered drastically.

Aisha was running through that as the only energetic one.

"I, I'm sorry, everyone! If there is a chance one day I'll thoroughly apologize for this without fail~!"

As though to chase after her back, the chilly air also crept out until outside the station.

It felt like it would spread until relatively wide range—no, if she was careless it felt like it could also spread across the three wards of Yoda, Bunkyou, and Taitou. But right now she couldn't care about that.

Ran. Ran. Aisha earnestly did nothing but escaping with the running legs she were proud of.

When running away one should just ran with all their strength. It was the wisdom of traveler that Aisha obtained in order to survive dangerous journey.

However, when she arrived until the Nikorai-do near the station—

A demon beast's roar suddenly thundered.

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ooooooooOOOOOOOOOOOOOONNNNNNNN-!

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"Oh? It feels like I have heard this before from somewhere?"

Aisha tilted her head while running.

Right after that, this time the thunderous sound
DOOOOOOOOOOOOONN! of building being destroyed reached her.
It was the sound of the Nikorai-do that she had just ran past
crumbling.

Nikorai-do. Its proper name was Tokyo's Holy Resurrection
Cathedral.

At the end of 19th century, Saint Nikolai arrived in Japan in order to
spread the teaching of Russia Orthodox Church. This cathedral was
constructed here and was called using St. Nikolai's name.

It was a sanctuary that had experienced Great Kanto earthquake
and Great Tokyo Air Raid.

A[boar] charged through and destroyed its dome and roof from
inside the building.

A boar with giant body that reached 20 meter in length. Its whole
body was black and muscularly robust. Its eyes were fierce and
shining fierily. A terrible roar was let out from its mouth.

—OOOOOOOOOOooooooooooooooooNNNNN!

It was a roar that was accompanied by shockwave.

"KYAAAAH!?"

Aisha was sent flying by the voice and fell on her butt.

And then wind blew. At first it was a breeze. But it immediately
whirled into a whirlwind, and before long it became powerful wind
that was blowing noisily—suddenly that youthful god appeared in
front of Aisha.

The gigantic boar had vanished unnoticed.

"You're making me spend much effort, godslayer."

"I, I know someone who has the same authority with you!"

"Fufufufu. O witch who know the arch-enemy of war god Verethragna. The game of tag is over already."

The war god of the east Verethragna told with an archaic smile.

But, a human who would give up from that couldn't possibly kill a god. Aisha desperately searched for a path of survival. She was looking around restlessly while still on her butt.

—What opened the mysterious path was most likely that desperation.

"Oh my!"

"Mu!? A gate of sanctuary also opened here!"

Verethragna frowned.

The roadway in front of Nikorai-do. Suddenly a convergence of light manifested there.

Countless small lights gathered. They were emitting light like a nebula. Aisha instantly realized with her creator instinct.

"The authority of corridor, as I thought it wasn't gone!"

She stood up with *pyon!* as though there was spring in her and leaped toward it vigorously.

She leaped into the light that looked like nebula. At the other side surely there would be a vast land where exciting adventure was waiting for her—.

Aisha departed with such conviction. Or that should be the case.

However, the instant she entered the corridor of light, she heard a voice that descended from the sky.

[I won't let you get away, godslayer.]

"Eh!?"

[Under the name of the King of the End Mithra, and the ruler of eternity and time Zurvan, thy are invited to my castle. Opening the gate of the sanctuary became your fatal mistake.]

"HIIIIIIIIIIIIH!?"

The destination that originally the corridor was connected to—.

It was changed forcefully. Aisha was at her wits' end when she realized that.

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5

Thus, Aisha teleported once more.

The place she arrived to was a white castle.

There was a grand mansion at the center. It was being surrounded by seven towers, a beautiful garden, waterway, fountain, etc. The buildings were mostly created from white stone. It possessed a size and elegance that were fitting for the gods or royalty to live in.

Aisha right now was in the garden.

The artificial pond and fountain were really elegant. There were colorful flowers all over the place.

However, ahead of the stone paving that was displaying the inside of the temple's ground—was a dry desert.

A vast land that consisted of only white sand was stretching without end. There wasn't a single grass growing. This place was a

sanctuary, a white temple existing alone at the middle of night desert.

In exchange, the stars shining in the sky were shockingly radiant.

Especially conspicuous was the large blue star right above her head—

"Eh, earth!?"

Aisha doubted her eyes.

The blue of the ocean and the blend of brown and green that denoted the land. The white color that was the cloud also became a color accent.

It was the figure of earth like in the satellite photo. *Is this place at space?* Aisha thought in bewilderment. Seeing her like that, the war god Verethragna sighed 'fuh' and smiled.

"You're in the residence of my lord, the Temple of Infinite Time."

"Haa.....in other words, this isn't anywhere in earth, but a special space isn't it? It's like the mansion of Plutarchos-san that I visited before—"

"I don't know about that mansion but, your understanding is correct."

Verethragna spoke with a know-it-all airs.

"Here in this temple, no matter how much you rampaged, there won't be any people who get troubled by it. We can have a contest of strength here to our heart's content. Now come."

"N, no! I have only come here but, I'll leave immediately!"

"—You can't."

In front of Aisha, a man in the prime of his life clad in the majesty of a king suddenly appeared.

His divine name was most likely Mithra. That stately voice was the same like the voice she heard in the middle of the teleportation just now.

With the entrance of the king, Verethragna quietly kneeled with his youthful figure.

Also, beside Mithra there was a stone mask of lion appearing. It was floating in the air. The mask that was modeled after the king of hundred beasts had “living snakes” growing from both its sides.

The snakes bared their fangs at Aisha and hissed *Shaah!* threateningly.

And then, Mithra started talking quietly.

"The judgment will begin now. O godslaying witch, your name?"

"A, Aisha."

"Very well."

Mithra who was clad in royal garment thrust the scepter in his hand toward Aisha.

"Then Aisha. The god of law and the King of the End Mithra hand down the verdict of death to you. The execution will be entrusted to Verethragna who wield the sword of salvation—"

"Hiyh!?"

"Is what I want to say but....."

The king's face turned pained here.

"Regrettably, there is a circumstance that doesn't allow me to declare so."

"Hou. O my lord who receive the divine protection of Zurvan. What could be the matter?"

The youth's eyes glinted in amusement. Verethragna cut into the talk.

Mithra spoke with a voice that was oozing with vexation even amidst the dignified tone.

"This accursed witch possess the authority[to open the passage to different world]. In this recent years, the corridor became connected exclusively to only[the territory of mythology]."

"Hohou."

Aisha gasped after she heard what the king and the war god were talking about.

By territory of mythology they meant the mythological world. Come to think of it.

(It's only sometimes but, there were times when the corridor was connected to Olympus Mountain or Midgard. Because it rampaged greatly several years ago, it changed into that kind of ability!)

Aisha grasped that comprehension. Mithra talked further while ignoring her.

"The number of the corridors this accursed witch unthinkingly created isn't just a hundred or two hundred. That number—actually it even reaches 473 in total. All of them right now are connected to some kind of sanctuary."

"From the view point of a god who embody justice, that is really one terrifying deed."

Verethragna smiled callously.

"She ought to be executed swiftly. That's what I'm thinking but, is there a problem?"

"I also agree. However, the divine protection of Zurvan that transcend time gave him the vision of a future. If this witch is executed, at the end all the 473 corridors would start to rampage recklessly in their death throes—we don't know what kind of scar it would leave in the many mythological worlds."

"Hou!?"

"Many of the corridors would be extinguished. But, several wouldn't vanish and persistently continue to remain or even connect two territories of mythology that shouldn't come into contact by any means.....they will become secret passage!"

Mithras spat out angrily.

"For example, if the sanctuary of ancient Persia and Aztec sanctuary that was born at the faraway future life are connected—[the god of snake that is covered in feathers] might stand equal beside Verethragna and Mithra. And then not all gods who come from outside will be wise. They might foolishly rampage as they please and change the plot of the proper myth....."

"That's certainly possible."

Verethragna received that warning and muttered with the face of a wise youth.

"The myth's plot will change. A god who originally shouldn't exist will appear in a myth that must not exist. That will greatly change the way things are for us gods....."

"Umu. Therefore, this witch cannot be killed."

The god king of the ancient Persia solemnly announced.

On the other hand, in contrast of the displeased gods, Aisha sighed in relieve.

It seemed the danger to her life had passed away. After that what was left was to somehow beg the two gods so they would send her back to her original world—

Even though she was thinking that, Mithra said.

"We won't kill the godslaying witch Aisha, however, we'll wholly seal that authority. The means is already worked out....."

The king at the prime of his life quickly signaled with his gaze.

The stone mask of lion that had been floating in standby all this time—had come to in front of Aisha unnoticed.

The two snakes growing from the mask, one of them bit at Aisha's neck.

The suddenness made her unable to dodge and her consciousness quickly became distant. Aisha felt how a terrifying divine power was flowing into her body—.

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".....Oh?"

Aisha suddenly opened her eyes and then she stared in a daze.

She was in a kitchen of a mansion that she was indebted too for a long time. She was living here as a live-in maid.

"I fell asleep. Perhaps I was tired. Various things had happened."

It seemed she was sitting on a chair and fell asleep on the table.



Inside the kitchen, no, inside the mansion there was only Aisha alone. Until a month ago, this place was bustling with the [young lady] who owned this place and the servants.

However, the young lady suddenly died from sickness and the mansion fell into other person's hand.

If Aisha left from here as the last person remaining, this mansion would become completely empty.

"What should I do from now? I had lost my work and also the place to live."

Aisha muttered solemnly.

The girl was born in India that was a colony of Britain. She came to the home country when she was a child. A wealthy family of Britain people took a liking of her and she became a maid that attended to the young lady.

But, the kind master and his wife, along with the young lady got caught in the epidemic and in succession they—

Hics. Tears were welling up.

"You can't be like this, Aisha. You have to live energetically for the share of those who have died too. Perhaps I should try travelling to Greece that Ojou-sama said she want to go to....."

The young lady who took a liking to Aisha left behind a meager inheritance for her.

If it was travel expenses than she had enough. If she was going to travel there was only now!

.....The era was year 1850 in dream.

The whole Europe was being swallowed by a kind of mania. The technological innovation that accompanied the industrial revolution. The spread of steam engine. Colonial expansion toward Asia.

The Indian maid Aisha who lived in that era had only turned seventeen.

The turning point of her life quickly came to her.

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The brown skinned girl was walking while dragging a large travelling bag with her.

She didn't even look back toward the mansion she left. Her destination was station. She would board a locomotive into a long travel. And then she would accomplish a godslaying.

It was the slaughter of Goddess Persephone by the witch Aisha. However.

"However this time, that girl doesn't meet any god. Isn't that right, my lord?"

"Umu. Because there is that set up."

Mithra who was clad in royal garment replied to the question of war god Verethragna.

The stone mask of lion was floating behind the lord and retainer in standby. The three gods were staring at a pond.

The clear spring located in a corner of the sanctuary, the Temple of Infinite Time—.

The figure of Aisha departing to travel was projected in the water surface. Mithra talked.

"Borrowing Zurvan's divine power, that person's body and soul were rewound until when she was seventeen years old. In addition she was sent back to the past 160 years ago. To the era where that girl became a godslayer, where she was only a human."

"The authority of Zuvan who transcend time is truly absurd."

Verethragna spoke a compliment from his heart.

"Over there is year 1857 in human calendar.....is that so?"

"Indeed. In this year, the girl Aisha encountered the goddess Persephone. But, that was in the [world of King of the End Rama]. This time, the place we sent that witch to is different."

"It's the world that your honor built as the King of the End Mithra—the world after the devil king extermination."

"Umu."

Mithra nodded.

"The girl Aisha won't encounter any god like that and continue to travel as a mere human. But, one day due to the mischief of hapless fate, an unexpected sorrow will come over her."

"Hou!"

Inside the fountain's water surface, the life of the girl Aisha was progressing with a terrific speed.

She enjoyed the land of Greece, and then she didn't return to Britain from there and instead toured all over the Mediterranean Sea, and before long in a certain country she visited—

"Thus no godslayer is born and that girl fall into sleep for eternity. With this the peace and balance of the diverse worlds far and wide will be protected for eternity."

"So that accursed witch's hand is sealed like that. Splendid!"

Verethragna clapped his hands and complimented.

In respond, the lord who was protected by the god of time spoke solemnly.

"Next will be your turn, Verethragna. Before long your arch-enemy will come in pursuit of the witch Aisha. Turn the table on him without fail."

"By your will."

Kusanagi Godou. The name of his arch-enemy who was once his friend.

It was finally the time for the rematch. Verethragna felt his fighting spirit was blazing inside.

Chapter 3 – The Beginning of the Last Battle

1

"A world that reproduced a myth huh..... Well, the gods can even come to earth, so it won't be strange even if there's something like this."

Godou muttered with a subdued tone.

He entered the so called space distortion and then returned from a world where Yaksha and Kinnari were living just two hours ago. Right now he was in London late at night.

He was in a room of a hotel near Charing Cross Station.

It was the hotel where Liliana who arrived in London earlier was staying at. Fortunately they could secure empty rooms for several people and everyone came here.

It was a stately building made from brick that would make anyone reminisce of the Victoria dynasty era.

But, the inside of the room was mainly monotone with modern atmosphere. And then, there were Liliana and Ena were right beside Godou.

"You two really worked hard scouting that kind of dangerous place. You two must be tired."

"We're fine. It was a bit thrilling but, your majesty came running to save us. We can even embark there one more time in our current condition. Right Liliana-san?"

".....No."

In contrast to the smiling Ena, Liliana was muttering with a thoughtful face.

By the way, Erica and Yuri were already resting in the room that was assigned to them. There were only these two who were originally in London who were in Godou's room.

Godou was sitting on a double bed. Liliana was also sitting beside him.

"Kusanagi Godou. Please fulfill your duty toward your knight who braved danger for your sake."

"? What do you mean?"

"The wound from the battle just now—it's hurting. As my lord, can I ask you to check the injury?"

Liliana was sitting on the same bed with him and staring at him with an upward gaze from close by.



In Godou's mind, he didn't get the impression that the silver haired knight or the princess shrine maiden of the sword was injured. However, in front of Liliana's passionate gaze, he immediately grasped her meaning.

"Certainly it'll be better to do it quickly. Let me see."

"—Nn"

Godou quickly covered the female knight's lips.

They both closed their eyes and kissed for a long time. Their tongue also thoroughly entangled with each other.

".....Does it hurt?"

"No. That place is not really. Please ascertain it more."

"Okay."

His lips also crawled on her earlobe and then her white nape.

And then he pushed down Liliana who was slender like a girl even now on the bed and stripped her from her clothes piece by piece.

Her bare skin that became completely exposed was dazzlingly white.

The limbs of Liliana who was descended from eastern Europe didn't have any voluptuousness at all. Rather she was endowed with an unrealistic beauty that made him wanted to call her a fairy.

Also, of course there wasn't any trace of any wounds at all on her skin.

Godou wrestled down that slender body and caressed it repeatedly.

"Which part is hurting? What about here?"

"Tha, that place is—nn.....hh. Ascertain everywhere in my body more....."

"Got it."

Godou checked Liliana's everything with his hand and lips and tongue just as he was told.

Shoulder. Upper arm. The breasts that were bulging beautifully even with its gentle curve. The pure white stomach, and then further below it. Thigh—.

In the middle, Liliana circled both her hands around Godou's back and strongly clung on him.

"My lord. Kiss me more—"

She demanded for a kiss greedily while still being pinned down.

It was a terribly passionate conversation that was undoubtedly between lovers. However, it was at this kind of time that Liliana tended to validate their [lord and retainer relationship] the most.

It seemed that in spite of herself, she would obtain a perverse exaltation by doing such thing.

Liliana was the most heated when she was mentioning [knight] on the bed. She would sought for Kusanagi Godou like a blazing flame then.

"Nn.....nnnnnn-!"

Right now the dignified female knight was burying her face onto the sheet while exposing her back.

When Godou's lips glided on the skin that had a texture like silk, Liliana desperately stifled her voice even while being highly strung toward the height of pleasure—.

There Ena finally cut in.

"I, it's unfair, that it's only Liliana-san....."

Ena was also timidly climbing up on the bed where the king and knight were entangled with each other.

Coincidentally Liliana was also getting out of breath at that timing, so Godou turned toward the Yamato Nadeshiko who was usually uninhibited.

At this kind of that Ena was always being innocent and shy no matter what.

She was looking down and wouldn't look directly at Godou. She was also still wearing clothes. Godou placed his hand on the chin of such princess shrine maiden, lifted it up, and kissed her.

Their lips and tongues pressed on each other lovingly for long, then Ena spoke with a subdued tone.

"E, Ena also want your majesty to take off Ena's clothes."

"Got it."

"Ena want his majesty to be affectionate with her just as much like with Liliana-san. If not Ena will resent his majesty a lot."

"I got it."

Godou smiled wryly while stripping naked Ena who was speaking willfully at this moment.

While continuing to kiss and caress her thoroughly, strength left the whole body of the princess shrine maiden who was getting sullen and she was gradually getting excited.

"Nn.....I like it when your majesty does that. I love it....."

When her excitement crossed a line, Ena would recover back her usual boldness.

Even though she had been pinned down until now, she suddenly leaned over Godou and rained down passionate kiss on his lips and other spots.

In addition, she was strongly pushing her breasts that were filled with voluptuousness that Liliana didn't possess on him.

"Your majesty. Ena will give you my everything, so don't bully Ena too much..... Ah, but, if it's just for a little bit, then the throbbing at that kind of time is also not bad though....."



"My bad. You're cute so sometimes I unintentionally do that."

"Geez! Your majesty is really a bad person at this kind of time!"

Her bare skin that was pressed on Godou was hot. *Gyuu-* Ena's magnificently abundant breasts were squashed between the two of them.

While he was flirting around with Ena like that, Liliana also came at his side.

"Kusanagi Godou. Don't forget about me too—"

"Ah, no-. Even Ena want his majesty to dote on her more."

After that the three of them were simply continuing until the end.

Godou made Liliana's whole body convulsing, satisfied Ena to her heart's content, and he also loved the two of them as much as his strength allowed. Then the three of them were completely spent.

It was a moment that was denser and thicker than even the battle and escape from the mythological world.

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When it was over, the three of them were dozing off for a little while.

Each of them covered themselves with blanket without even dressing themselves and nodded off on the double bed. It was strangely enjoyable to act slovenly with their tired body.

Outside the window, the sky was starting to brighten. It was already dawn.

"There were too many things happening yesterday that it was already late when we entered the hotel....."

"But your majesty. Right now Ena is feeling really happy. Being able to welcome the dawn together is something we rarely can do. Right?"

"Yes. I also agree with Seishuuin Ena."

They exchanged lovers' talk on the same bed within the relaxed air.

It had also been long since they shared the languidness together after the deed like this.

If possible, he wanted to stay like this forever. But, perhaps they should get out of the bed soon and showered—while Godou was thinking that.

Liliana raised her voice "Ah".

"That's right. Kusanagi Godou, there is a letter addressed to you."

"For me? From who?"

Before Liliana answered with words, she slipped out of the bed.

She pushed aside the blanket and exposed her naked body comfortably while rummaging her belonging. She took out a smartphone.

Come to think of it, Godou's mobile phone and passport were left behind at Bologna.

It was because he was transported to the mythological world with only the things on him using Verethragna's authority. After this he would need to ask someone to use the magic of summoning to have his things sent to him.

Actually, this kind of thing occasionally happened.

It was one factor that made it difficult to contact Kusanagi Godou within these several years.

And then the smartphone that Liliana presented to him was displaying a mail from Japan.

"Here. Please take a look."

"Eh!? Such thing happened to that fellow!?"

Godou was surprised and he immediately decided.

It was a really busy period but, he had to quickly return back to his country.

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2

"Asuka-chan, you're really pretty! I'm feeling moved."

"Yeah. I'm glad I can attend the ceremony."

Godou replied earnestly at the deeply emotional comment of his little sister, Kusanagi Shizuka.

It was less than three days ago when he was notified [Asuka-chan is going to marry] at London. From there he hurriedly reserved an airplane seat.

Against his inclination, it was thanks to his [immense influence as devil king in Europe].

He returned to his home area Nedzu town district 3 yesterday evening.

It was a really strict schedule. But it was worth it for him to force himself. Godou somehow arrived at the wedding hall of Bunkyou Ward at Sunday 11 AM.

It wasn't a genuine church, but there was a stylish chapel within it.

It was a garden wedding in that ceremonial hall. The beautiful blue sky was stretching above.

The Kusanagi siblings Godou and Shizuku were unusually wearing formal dress. They were mixed between around thirty attendees.

In front of the altar, the priest the bride and groom were facing each other.

The bride wearing white wedding dress was of course Tokunaga Asuka.

She was the childhood friend of the Kusanagi siblings who was similarly born and raised at the third shopping district of Nedzu town. Even her who was a person of firm character and unyielding spirit was an adult at present time and became a bride.

She was making a vow together with the bridegroom who was a company employee in the latter half of his twenties.

"It was a big help that you also contacted Liliana about Asuka's marriage. Thanks a lot, Shizuku. Because of that I didn't miss this."

Godou whispered with a small voice that could only be heard by the little sister beside him.

"I'll become unable to check my phone and computer for mail when I'm busy. I almost missed this."

"Actually it was a suggestion from Hikari. She told me that the mail might have better chance to arrive if it's through Liliana-san."

"I see. That fellow is thoughtful as usual."

"The appointed day was decided in a big hurry. They wanted to hold the ceremony before Asuka-chan's stomach get bigger. I

couldn't get a hold of Onii-chan even after there was only a week left, so I talked to Hikari because it felt like you wouldn't make it in time like that."

Shizuka and Godou were whispering to each other while the marriage ceremony was progressing.

But, the Kusanagi siblings weren't just giving blessing to this marriage, but also talking about this kind of topic.

"It's great that Asuka-chan look happy now~. I'm relieved."

"Well, it's the day of the marriage after all. No matter what will happen later on, it will be bad if she don't at least enjoy the flawless feeling of euphoria today."

"There is also our relative who was like that wasn't it? The valorous person who divorced right after the honeymoon for three times repeatedly."

"You mean the aunt from Monzennaka town. People often say that after the wedding the couple's feeling will cool down."

The most flamboyant person even among Kusanagi clan that was a gathering of ruffian.

The lady of character that partied up the whole at the disco of bubble era. Although the Kusanagi siblings didn't remember their exact family relationship with her, she was [aunt] for them in any case. She who was also a drinking friend of their mother Mayo was a free spirit who had a four time marriage history.

The parents of Kusanagi siblings had also divorced a long time ago.

Well, their father Genzou and their mother Mayo would also occasionally meet even after the divorce. That was because of their

relationship where they would head to bars together. Their disposition was far removed from the “normal divorced parents”.

Kusanagi Shizuku who inherited their blood was dressing up today.

She was undisputedly lovely with her pastel blue dress and pearl necklace.

But, Shizuka spoke about something that was a bit unsuitable with this appearance.

"Perhaps it will be alright. Asuka-chan is a person of common sense and honor student. Even though she is marrying due to an unintended pregnancy, I think she'll be able to do well in building a family."

"Well, of course I'm also thinking so, but still."

"If something happen, then we can think about it at that time. It'll be fine if we just become Asuka-chan's ally totally. For the time being, let's prepare to support her from the three directions of the heart, money, and law."

Shizuku smoothly added beside her wryly smiling brother.

As expected, she was different in this aspect from the average university student.

By the way yesterday, after Godou put his belonging in his house at Nedzu third district, he immediately headed to Asuka's house after that.

His childhood friend was spending her time with her family before the marriage ceremony.

In front of Tokunaga house that was running a sushi restaurant, Godou was talking with Asuka while standing.

[To think that you'll marry already. Come to think of it, how about your college? If I remember right, you're still at your third year right?]

When Godou asked her, Asuka who had grown adult-like told him.

[Right now my priority is the baby. I'm taking temporary absent from the college. When the baby has grown up a bit, I'll return back to college and graduate properly.....that's the plan.]

[The plan huh.]

[The plan is still not fixed but, it'll work out somehow.]

Asuka declared with a bright face, as though to proof the saying that a mother was strong.

Acting following the plan wouldn't be an easy thing to do no matter what due to various reality and the lack of understanding from the family. But, be that as it may Asuka was acting positive.

During the five years Kusanagi Godou was away from Japan, his childhood friend was also experiencing various things.

Godou intentionally didn't delve into that and made a broad grin.

[Anyway congratulations. Ah, if there is something troubling you, just call me too. Even if I can't immediately run to your help, I'll go to meet you without fail.]

[Really? Aren't you being really busy?]

[It's fine. When it looks like it will take quite long for me to go to where you are, I can also call my friends that are near you to help.]

If he heard that his friend was in trouble, he would offer a helping hand.

If she was in a place where Godou's own hand didn't reach, he would ask someone to be his substitute. Fortunately, Kusanagi Godou had a lot of reliable allies.

In front of such Godou, Asuka chuckled.

[You haven't changed since the past, Godou.]

[That so? I should have changed a lot compared to when I was a child though.]

[Aa, like how now you won't be bashful even when facing a girl huh. But, since long ago you're someone who won't spare any effort if it's for your friend. You know, when we were at elementary school too.....]

Asuka was looking back at the past happily.

He talked about various topics with his childhood friend who would marry. It was an unexpectedly enjoyable time.

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After the ceremony, Godou planned to participate in the afterparty too.

It was a small party that gathered the close friends of the bride and groom. However he left behind Shizuka alone in the venue and said "My bad, I got an urgent business" to the bride Asuka and stopped by his home.

He changed from his suits into his normal wear and headed toward—

Chiyoda ward's Ochanomizu.

When he looked from JR's Ochanomizu Station, the direction of Hijiribashi was blockaded.

There was traffic restriction's tape stretched around. It was a measure so that ordinary people wouldn't enter that area. The police officers of the police station that had jurisdiction of the area and riot policemen were on guard there.

But, Godou entered inside the blockade just by showing his face.

Three old acquaintances greeted him there.

"Long time no see, Onii-sama!"

"Ya, my apologies for calling you here."

"I heard that you were attending a celebration, but then this emergency situation occurred. However, there is no greater happiness than being able to see our king's countenance after so long."

Mariya Hikari. A female high school student clad in a shrine maiden outfit.

Amakasu Touma was wearing worn out business suit. He was a master ninja who was a member of History Complication Committee.

And then, Sayanomiya Kaoru. A beautiful woman dressing as a man, a playboy, and the leader of History Compilation Committee. Godou immediately called to the three who were approaching him.

"This emergency situation.....it's about that isn't it, Kaoru-san?"

"Yes. It's just as you say."

A very strange phenomenon was arising before his eyes.

Godou was raised in Bunkyo ward in Tokyo, while Kaoru was raised at Chiyoda ward.

For the two of them, Ochanomizu's Nikorai-do was a really familiar building. However right now in front of that historical building—a gathering of light that looked like a nebula appeared.

Its diameter was around ten meter. It was glittering and terribly radiant.

When Godou was fixing his eyes upon the supernatural phenomenon once more, he was talked to from the side.

"What do you think Godou? The rumored singularity appeared again."

"It's unexpected that it reoccur again when not even a week has passed."

Erica Blandelli. Liliana Kranjcar.

It wasn't just the two who originated from Italia's Milan. Japan's princess shrine maidens were also here.

"Somehow, the situation is getting serious in an amazing speed. To think that it's also appearing at Tokyo, it was really shocking."

"Godou-san—there is one thing that I wish to report....."

Seishuuin Ena. Mariya Yuri. The core members who were supporting Kusanagi Godou's [hegemony] were gathering in Japan after so long, furthermore it was at Tokyo.

But, compared to the other three, Yuri alone was making a tense face.

That meant—Godou asked her.

"Were you able to see something, Yuri?"

"Yes. The instant I arrived here, my sight became pitch black.....I fell into a vision. The figure of Madam Aisha swallowed by a black shadow was—"

Godou nodded hearing the words of the spiritual sight owner who was more outstanding than anyone.

"So the thing that should come finally came..... The clue about Aisha-san who we don't even know where she is wandering at has finally appeared."

"But Godou. There is one problem."

While he was feeling impressed, Erica told him. Liliana also added her words.

"Yes. I and Seishuui Ena who has experience entering into this singularity tried scouting the other side but—"

"This might be a bit impossible for Ena and others. If it's your majesty then I think there won't be any danger but....."

"But?"

"As expected, perhaps your majesty won't be able to pass."

Godou said "Let's see" in respond to Ena's words and approached.

When he was about to enter into the radiant space distortion—

Crackle crackle crackle-!

Several sparks attacked Godou's body.

If his body wasn't the Campione body that possessed strong resistance toward magic and curse, he would taste an impact that was like being attacked by lightning. But, of course it was irrelevant for Kusanagi Godou.

He tried to forcefully enter the space distortion while being showered by crackling sparks.

However, he couldn't.

It was like there was an unseen wall. He couldn't advance further than this.

Godou gave up and took distance from the space distortion. The noisily crackling sparks finally died down and silence returned.

"So no one can enter inside even though it's a gate to a mythological world huh!"

"If it's impossible even for Godou, then I guess that's that. It looks like we'll have to procure the pass key somehow. Or else perhaps destroying the lock itself—"

Erica came to the side of Godou who went outside the distortion point and spoke.

He thought that he would shelve away the case of mythological world away while he was going home this time, but Godou instead obtained a clue in an unexpected shape.

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3

"Someone must have applied a protective magic thing so that gate cannot be used."

Godou muttered while looking down at the light of the space distortion.

The supernatural gate that appeared in front of Nikorai-do. Countless lights were gathering like nebula. Godou was staring at that from the rooftop of a multi-tenant building.

This area was sealed by the police and History Compilation Committee.

There wasn't any ordinary people here due to the evacuation notice. The buildings around Nikorai-do including the building he was at right now were only filled with people involved.

Originally Godou should be at the temporary tent that was used as the countermeasures headquarters.

But, he was purposefully being alone. That way was more convenient in various aspects for him. It should be easier for that "attentive girl" too to come—

Gii-. There was the sound of heavy steel door being opened.

The person came to the rooftop searching for Godou just as he expected.

".....Onii-sama. Is it alright right now?"

"Yeah. Because it's you Hikari, I thought that you will come to meet me soon."

"Really? Fufufufu. That sounds like Onii-sama has faith on me. I'm happy."

It was Mariya Hikari who came.

She was smiling happily. The second daughter of Mariya family who was still an elementary school student when they first met. Today she was wearing the nostalgic uniform of Jounan High School.

Even Hikari would be 17 years old soon. She was currently enrolled in the high school that Godou attended in the past.

"It's not just sounds like it, I have great faith on you. But you know, Hikari."

"What is it?"

"Why do you change into s school uniform? You were wearing shrine maiden outfit before this."

"Of course, it's because I want Onii-sama to have a look! This is our first time meeting since I became high school student!"

Hikari came until in front of Godou and twirled in place.



Thanks to that he could confirm not just her front figure but also her uniform figure from the back. It was the sailor uniform that he saw everyday in the past at his high school period when he was attending Jounan high school.

She had also grown in height and in the length of her limbs. She had become completely womanly.

She looked really similar with her big sister Mariya Yuri. But, Hikari had a friendly atmosphere that was easier to get on with compared to her graceful and Yamato Nadeshiko elder sister.

In front of the girl who had grown a lot, Godou said.

"Come to think of it the last time we met, Hikari was at middle school third grade."

"Yes. There I received that promise....."

Hikari happily muttered and then looked down.

She must be remembering the scene at that time and became embarrassed. That time when she expressed her whole heart to a man who was older and what's more[the partner of her big sister]—.

And then Godou answered her[When you become high school student].....

"Hey, Hikari. That space distortion thing. Why do you think I can't pass through it?"

Godou purposefully didn't touch the past matter and pointed to below.

The rooftop of a five-storey multi tenant building. He was looking down to the space distortion from the edge of it. Countless lights were converging into a cluster.

"Onee-chan said it. It's being locked with a magic that forbids intrusion."

"Guess so. Even I cannot push through, so it's really powerful. Perhaps a god or some fellows who are close to that applied it."

"The power of the like me is completely useless against that."

"Yeah. Normally that is."

"Yes. Without some kind of powerful divine protection, it's really beyond me....."

Hikari was looking up at Godou's face with eyes that were filled with strong will.

The girl who had been intelligent and attentive since she was an elementary school student had thoroughly grown. She was wishing to walk the same path with a [good for nothing] like Kusanagi Godou.

That determination was conveyed to him to a painful degree—Godou pulled Hikari toward himself.

The nervous looking girl was lovely. That was why he told her.

"Just as promised, will you accompany me until I die? Just as you know, I'm a man who really isn't decent at all, so I won't be able to die in a proper way, and surely I'll also trouble you a lot but..... Even so I'll do everything I can for your sake during the time I'm able to stay together with you."

"I'm prepared for everything, Onii-sama....."

Hikari replied bravely with a trembling voice and closed her eyes.

Godou brought his face closer and kissed her lips. It was the proof of the promise. It was also Hikari's first kiss.

After a while, Godou's lips separated from her.

"The next one will be a bit painful. Endure it okay?"

"Of course. When Onii-sama did it with Onee-chan and Erica-neesama.....that's, I secretly watched it, so I understand it well....."

"You did something like that?"

"Because, I envied the big sisters so....."

Godou smiled wryly. In contrast Hikari was making excuse like a spoiled child.

While this girl was a well-balanced "good child", she was also good at asking to be spoiled. That personality of hers was also lovable to Godou.

Godou narrowed his eyes while chanting inside his mouth.

"Pray the words that are true. These words are powerful and firm. These words shall save even those who lose their head—"

After that, he kissed Hikari once more.

In order to breathe into her the scripture he just chanted and—the divine protection of the god of victory.

"A.....aah!?"

Hikari's whole body was trembling hard. She was leaning on him.

Godou held her firmly. Hikari's body was hot like fire. The [divine protection] he bestowed her was hotly blazing inside her and putting a large burden on her. She should be unable to even stand steadily until she got used to it.

"I, I'm sorry, Onii-sama."

"Don't mind it. It's fine even if it's while clinging on me but can you walk? If you can't, then I'll carry you in my arms you know?"

"Yo.....you're going to carry me in a princess carry.....?"

"Yeah. I'm more or less trained in it."

"Tha, that'll be delightful but, I'm fine. If the big sisters saw that, their mood might worsen."

Hikari smiled bravely to him even while looking exhausted.

She was sweaty. But it seemed she had gotten used to the divine protection quickly. How very reliable. The girl who was also Mariya Yuri's little sister brought her lips toward Godou's ear with a joking tone.

She mentioned this with a sweet whisper.

"That's why next time—please do it when it's only the two of us."

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Kusanagi Godou usurped his first authority from the war god Verethragna.

It was named as "The War God of The East" by Greenwich's Witenagemot, but it was called with a really simple name of the Ten Avatars by the Godou himself.

In short it was ten kinds of killer techniques. All of them had conditions of use.

The first avatar was Gale. It could be used only when someone in danger called the name of Kusanagi Godou.

The second avatar was the Bull. It could be used only when fighting an owner of superhuman strength.

The third avatar was White Horse. It could only be used against a great sinner that tormented the masses.

The fourth avatar was the Camel. It could be used only when Godou was severely injured.

The fifth avatar was the Boar. It could be used only when a huge object was offered to the black divine beast as a sacrifice.

The sixth avatar was Youth. It could be used when someone fought or got injured for the sake of Kusanagi Godou.

The seventh avatar was Raptor. It could be used when he received a high speed attack.

The eighth avatar was Ram. It could be used only when he was dying from serious wounds and at the verge of death.

The ninth avatar was Goat. It could be used when the hearts of the gathered populace were thrown out of order by anger, fear, or confusion.

The tenth avatar was Warrior. It could be used only when Godou genuinely understood the identity of the god he faced.

Well, none of them could be used casually.

However, six years had passed since he obtained this authority. His understanding of this ability advanced along with the progress of time. Among them there was also an avatar that got its requirement to use loosened.

That was the Youth.

It was said that war god Verethragna descended to earth for a while as a radiant fifteen years old youth.

Like that he guided the lost populace and protected them. Youth embodied that disposition. In the past it could only be used for the sake of those who risked their life for Godou's sake but—

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"Have you gotten used to it, Hikari?"

"Yes. I'm feeling the strength that I received from Onii-sama dwelling here. It's really warm and powerful—it's really reliable."

Hikari touched below her navel with both hands and narrowed her eyes happily.

That body part was the pit of the stomach. It was an important spot even among the important spots inside human body. It was the source that produced ki and magical power for users of magic and spiritual abilities.

The divine protection was hidden there inside Hikari. Godou took her along while walking.

He left the rooftop of the multi tenant building and looked down to the space distortion. Right now he was at the entrance of the same building. It wouldn't even take two minutes from there to walk until in front of the "actual site" that was Nikorai-do.

"Okay, let's go. I'm counting on your power."

"Please leave it to me!"

The gate of light, the space distortion. The key figures were gathering in front of it.

Sayanomiya Kaoru. Amakasu Touma. And then the female group who were Kusanagi Godou's most important comrades. Their representative Erica Blandelli was the first one to call out to him.

"Where did you go, Godou? You even brought Hikari?"

"Just now, we were talking that perhaps we should ask everyone to withdraw for the moment. The rest can be left to us History Compilation Committee in that case."

Amakasu Touma also spoke. Beside him Sayanomiya Kaoru also nodded.

"Yes. We considered that perhaps we should try thinking for countermeasure through the night for now.But Godou-san, looking at your face, do you perhaps has a secret plan?"

As expected from the talented person of unspecified gender. Kaoru sharply asked him.

She must know intuitively from his attitude that was filled with confidence. Godou laughed.

"Yeah. Actually the two of us were having strategy meeting until now. We're going to pry open that gate with brute force. The preparation is already finished—I'll leave it to you, Hikari."

"Yes-"

Hikari replied energetically and headed toward the space distortion.

Her big sister Yuri tried to stop her in panic.

"You can't! Unlike Godou-san, if we enter there!?"

"It's fine. Watch me, Onee-cha—ah!?"

Hikari who tried to enter the gate was attacked by countless sparks.

It was the baptism that showered Godou too before this. For Campione who couldn't be affected by most kind of magic, a candle's fire felt hotter. However, for someone who wasn't a godslayer—

It was a tremendous heat.

It was to the degree that not even bones would remain after getting burned to nothing by it.

But, although Hikari had been struck by the ominously crackling sparks many times, she firmly increased her spirit high and endured the lightning. In addition she began to chant the words of power.

"Purify wickedness, repel disaster, exorcise misfortune. This shall become the miraculous virtue of blessed people!"

"Eh? You're all right, Hikari!?"

"I see! You granted divine protection to that girl didn't you, Kusanagi Godou!?"

Ena was astonished, while Liliana sharply noticed and grilled Godou about it.

Even during that time Hikari continued chanting and used the spiritual power of calamity purification.

Princess shrine maidens were those who descended from the bloodlines of the witches who were also called as divine ancestors. Due to that blood relationship, they were endowed with innate spiritual abilities from birth.

Hikari's calamity purification was an ability to erase magic and spiritual power.

Of course, it didn't have the miraculous effect to the level that could negate the power used by someone at the class of heretic god.

However, for example if Kusanagi Godou granted her Verethragna's divine protection using the avatar of Youth—she should be able to endure even the harm from the heat and smash through the protective spell.

It was just as expected. The sparks that were attacking Hikari without rest suddenly vanished completely.

"I, I did it, Onii-sama!"

After reporting that with a smile—

Hikari abruptly almost collapsed.

She exhausted all her energy using her calamity purification in full strength. Godou quickly leaped and firmly caught the princess shrine maiden who had accomplished the distinguished service.

He nodded at the girl who had commendably devoted herself to him.

On the other hand, Amakusa was impressed after seeing this from start to end.

"I see, I see. She has been bestowed with the divine protection from the Youth avatar beforehand. I've only heard about the story of it, so it skipped my mind."

"Recently we never head to the "actual site" together after all."

Godou answered. He used honorific language with Amakusa who was older than him. It was a habit that didn't change in these six years. But, there were several developmental changes to Verethragna's authority happening.

The Youth's change was especially remarkable.

He was also able to discover several other methods to bestow the divine protection other than kissing. That was why Godou said.

"When it's necessary even Amakusa-san can also....."

"I'll restrain from that. Even if I receive the divine protection, it can't activate if I can't risk my life for Godou-san's sake. So perhaps it won't be useful. After all my strategy is always [to treasure your life]."

It was easily dodged in Amakusa's usual style.

Then, the [boss] Sayanomiya immediately interrupted.

"I'm interested though. One of these days let me receive the bestowal together with Amakusa-san."

"It's Kaoru-san's own freedom to get a passing fancy. But please don't drag your subordinate into it too. Recently the trend of the society is harsh toward black companys you know?"

"It's alright. It's the readiness of a shinobi to kill one's heart under the blade right?"

The two members of History Compilation Committee were having a labor dispute jokingly.

This atmosphere felt nostalgic somehow. Godou laughed. After that, he whispered to Hikari who was still within his arms' embrace.

"Then I'm going. The continuation of the promise will be after I return."

"Yes! I'll be waiting, Onii-sama!"

"Amakusa-san. Please take care of the clean up. I don't know whether it will be god or demon waiting but—for now I'll take a look at the other side of this gate."

"Understood, your majesty the king. I'm grateful for the division of roles that is putting the right person in the right place."

Godou requested while entrusting the exhausted Hikari. Amakusa replied to him with a jest.

Godou was finally entering into the space distortion while they were seeing him off. He wasn't obstructed by that sparks anymore.

Light. Light. Light. Innumerable lights were dancing chaotically inside.

It was like entering kaleidoscope. When he stepped over that resplendent space, the scenery before his eyes suddenly changed.

.....It was a beautiful garden there.

There was a fountain and small pool that were created from white marble. Vibrant shrubbery was planted on the green lawn. A scenery that softened one's heart like colorful flowers and the like were right in front of him.

When he looked at far away, there was a white palace and tower standing tall there.

Further ahead than that was a completely dried desert. When he looked at the night sky above, surprisingly there was a large blue star that seemed to be earth shining majestically—.

Godou muttered to himself.

"Is this also a mythological world somewhere.....?"

"I wonder? Rather this makes me recall the Plutarchos's Mansion that we visited before. The "singularity of space time" that existed in the end of the Neither world—"

"Yuri!?"

Without him noticing Mariya Yuri had come right behind him.

She had an angry face that she would sometimes show at the period when they had only just met. The dignified expression when she was admonishing Kusanagi Godou's inhumane act formed on her face, glaring toward him.

"Yo, you followed after me huh....."

"Yes. Godou-san, it feels like you intend to dodge the matter like that so..."

"Dodge the matter?"

"My king, of course this is about the matter of granting Verethragna's divine protection to Mariya Hikari. Furthermore it was undoubtedly through a kiss. You and her didn't show yourself for unnaturally long.....there shouldn't be any problem even if we judged using only such circumstantial evidence."

This was obviously a displeased Liliana Kranjcar.

Furthermore, Seishuun Ena who was making an exasperated face and Erica who was standing grimly like a judge handing down judgment were also with them.

"Well, it was also just a matter of time until Hikari too became like that."

Ena muttered seriously.

"But to think that the matter will be developed in a surprise attack like this. Ena thought that it's as expected from your majesty, but we wished that your majesty would say something to us beforehand....."

"Furthermore you plunged into the space distortion just like that through following the natural flow."

Erica too finally opened her mouth as though to summarize the opinions of the female group.

"That was a really smooth move based on how you would be able to escape from being held accountable for a while by evacuating from the scene like that. But, it can be said to be shallow with how you are thinking that such thing would work on us who have known you for long....."

"I have no intention to dodge the matter though....."

Godou scratched his head.

"I only thought that for some reason it would be better to not stay there for long."

"Godou-san! That's what is called dodging the matter!"

Godou shrugged at Yuri's scolding.

"I have no excuse. Please spare me. Also, I think you girls has understand this too but, best regards for the matter of Hikari too. It's mostly just like everyone thought."

"Good grief! Really, someone like you, there is a limit in even being outrageous!"

Erica let out a long sigh.

But, as expected from the free spirit who surpassed even Kusanagi Godou in the term of being unconventional and uninhibited. She didn't try to pursue the matter further than that and changed the topic with a gallant face of a female lion.

"So Godou. Does this place look safe from your eyes?"

"Unfortunately this is a dangerous area. They are here without a doubt."

Godou was feeling the stinging in the air from the moment he arrived here.

The hostility, fighting spirit, determination, and killing intent that were emitted by the people lurking here—he was sensing those things. His instinct as a godslaying beast was telling him.

The arch-enemy of Campione, which was [god] was definitely here without doubt.

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4

"I'll try going inside by myself. Everyone, wait here."

Godou told everyone at the beautiful but mysterious garden.

Every single one of the female group who were his comrades was blessed with talent and also capability.

But, he shouldn't take them around in a situation where there was a possibility of an encounter with some kind of god. If such enemy attacked, they might get dragged into it and lose their life. First Godou would go ahead by himself, and the girls would support him from the rear when it was necessary. That way was logical.

"Please give me backup when it looks like the situation is bad for me. But, when it's dangerous then all of you go retreat without any reservation. You can also go back to earth first without me."

"Yes. Just leave the decision for that to me."

Erica accepted his rough instruction.

Godou placed his whole trust to the intelligence of the crimson knight. Godou nodded and extended his right hand toward the girls.

It wasn't to ask them for handshake or to placed their hand on top of each other.

Liliana gave him a single knife in understanding.

"That thing isn't it? Here."

"Yeah. This is just right after using that avatar."

"Certainly that's true. Even if I'm unwilling that it's Hikari's "leftover"."

Erica stabbed him with a stinging thorn of sarcasm.

Godou smiled bitterly while gripping the knife tightly with his left hand. His skin was cut and fresh blood flowed out in drops.

The knife's blade and handle became soaked in blood—.

Ena then took that knife.

"We will use this carefully. Your majesty too be careful."

"Yeah. Then I'm going."

"Godou-san, I will pray so that the fortunes of war is with you! Also, no matter who is it you encounter please don't let it disturb your heart and just act like how you usually are!"

Yuri called out to Godou who was walking away.

It seemed she had faintly sensed the outline of danger that was waiting for him with her inherent spiritual sight ability. She calmed down her anger and warned him with great sincerity.

Godou felt happy of that while crossing the garden.

A building made from stone was standing tall before him. The style of the building resembled a palace or a temple. He pushed inside and walked through a corridor that was built from bricks.

It was a straight path, so there wasn't any room to get lost.

Forward, forward.

Before long power was brimming from his Campione's heart and body.

As expected, they were there. The gods who were the nemesis of those who murdered god were right nearby. The gash on his palm was already closing up.

The flesh body of Kusanagi Godou that boasted toughness beyond the pale was entering battle preparation.

Godou advanced without pause and arrived at a large hall. There was a throne there and it also had a size that would allow group of vassals to have audience with the king there.

And then—there was a monarch there.

A man at the prime of his life was sitting on the golden throne. He wasn't just wearing a garment for royalty, he was also clad in the majesty of a king. There wasn't even any need to ask, Godou was convinced that this person was a [great king], what's more he was a [grand king of the gods].

However, the shadow of fatigue on his stern face was deep.

Because of hardships that had gone on for long, gloom that was like rust that couldn't be shaken off was clinging on him.

(He is similar with Rama in the past.)

Godou suddenly recalled the name of that hero.

The man who was once his great enemy and later on became his friend. His another name was the King of the End. Godou addressed this person.

"If it's alright tell me your name. You're similar with my acquaintance."

"Guess so. For a godslayer of your level, it won't be strange if you have exchanged blow with a King of the End more than once."

The god on the throne spoke words that he couldn't ignore. Godou asked.

"So you know, about the god of devil king slaying?"

"Of course. Unlike the world where you were born and raised, I—Mithra who is like the sun is no one else than the King of the End in this world that I'm guarding. I am the hero of devil king extermination."

".....Seriously?"

Godou flinched from the power words that came out in succession.

The great god who was revered as the mightiest god before the establishment of Zoroastrianism as the chief god of ancient Persia, but even after the establishment of Zoroastrianism he was still revered in the same status. That was Mithra. The god of the sun and the god of the law and contract. But, for that divinity to double as the King of the End too—

Godou wanted to look up to the sky.

"So such absurd thing is possible. But, that's only if your words aren't a lie though."

"Fuh. Then I'll show you the proof."

As soon as Mithra who was sitting on the throne smiled, *GIIN!* a metallic sound rang out.

Suddenly, a great sword came down and stabbed the floor.

Godou opened his eyes wide in astonishment. He was familiar with it. That sword's blade was really long and large, almost a meter. The make of the blade was thick like a hatchet. Furthermore it was double edged.

That was the powerful sword that hero Rama wielded. The sacred treasure of devil king extermination—!

"The divine sword of salvation, huh....."

Unbelievably, even that weapon was also in this god's possession!

"What an absurd old man. To think you really have the trump card that is the most "effective" against us—the people who killed god."

"A transparent flattery."

Mithra said. The shadow under his eyes was deep. He was tired.

"You understand don't you? I already.....have no spare strength to fight."

"Well, I sensed that vaguely."

Godou had quickly seen that through.

Mithra before him was completely haggard. He was in a state that didn't have the strength that would enable him to fight a young Campione. He was too lacking in vitality.

But, the great king Mithra smiled boldly and muttered.

"Don't be anxious, godslayer. I have prepared the one to inherit the sword of salvation."

"Eh—?"

"Furthermore, it's someone who you're also familiar with. After the death of Mithra, that person will be the one to inherit the mission of devil king extermination and destroy you..... Farewell!"

It was a word of parting that was too sudden.

Mithra's whole body turned into dust along with his clothes right after he said it.

The extinction of the king. In exchange, a wind blew. Even though it was inside a room, a gust of whirlwind came. The next moment, Godou went "!?" in astonishment.

The divine sword of salvation—. Beside the secret sword that was stabbed in the floor, a youth suddenly appeared.

It was a handsome youth with refreshing face and almond eyes. It was a familiar face. Even though he was wearing a ragged cloak, he didn't feel shabby at all.

Rather he even looked sublime due to the charisma that was overflowing from within.

"Come to think of it....."

Godou slowly let out his words.

He was very shocked, so he couldn't move his tongue well.

"Just a little while ago, I felt your presence huh....."

"It's great that my greeting reached you. Long time no see, the one who murdered Verethragna. Kusanagi Godou—as a godslaying beast, you have attained much greatness until this far. Fufufufu, it's strange but I feel happy about that."

The one who smashed every obstacle. The victorious. The War God of the East.

That was to say, the war god Verethragna—. The youth with that divine name was showing an archaic smile that looked dim on his mouth.

"That's how it should be for the man who defeated me! I was looking forward to a reunion with you!"

".....Well, we also unexpectedly met at the territory of the god of destiny five years ago....."

Godou muttered and stared at Verethragna once more.

The momentary chance meeting at that battle against the god of destiny. There he said [Let's meet again without fail someday].

"In the end you kept your promise. Setting that aside tell me. What is this place that looks like temple?"

"It's called the Temple of Infinite Time."

Thinking back, the time he spent as friend with Verethragna was short.

During the several weeks he visited Sardinia Island for the first time, he met him face to face only several times. And yet despite that, he was a [friend] for Kusanagi Godou. Surely Verethragna also felt the same.

That was why even now they were conversing peacefully. There wasn't even any discomfort.

Verethragna spoke further.

"This is a sanctuary located beyond the material worldgetig and spiritual worldmenog, and even beyond the multitude of diverse

worlds. Nothing exist other than this temple—this is an isolated space. It was created by the divine power of the King of the End Mithra and the ruler of eternity Zurvan."

"Even if you said that, it all sounded like gibberish to me though."

Godou grumbled.

"In short, it's an isolated space that is a singularity that don't belong to any world, is that it?"

"That understanding is generally correct. You too have learned much compared to when you were just an ordinary person."

Verethragna grinned.

This kind of conversation was unexpectedly fun. Furthermore words were coming out really naturally. As expected the youth called war god Verethragna and Kusanagi Godou might have excellent compatibility.

But unfortunately, they were also not an opponent that could be let go with just that.

Godou asked in order to approach the heart of the matter.

"But, I don't understand at all the circumstance that allow me to fly from Tokyo's Ochanomizu until this [sanctuary beyond space and time]. Tell me how can that happen. Is it related to Aisha-san—our acquaintance who is also a Campione?"

"Fufufufu. It's something that you have no need to know."

This time Verethragna cut down his question curtly.

"If you really want to know, then make me open my mouth with strength."

"Strength, huh."

"Umu. The strength that you usurped from me. It looks like you have grasped it quite far. Show it to its former owner for a bit."

"I'm a pacifist. I can't just get into a fight that easily."

"This pretentious guy. Then it can't be helped. Allow me—to begin soon."

The instant Verethragna muttered that, he vanished.

The divine sword of salvation that was stabbed on the floor too. But in the place of the pair of war god and sword, a terrifyingly able bodied bull suddenly appeared.

Its size wasn't normal. Not to mention bull, it was as big as a single-storied house.

Yes. The war god Verethragna was a god who changed his form into the ten avatars and grasped victory!

—MuWoooooooooh!

The golden bull with magnificent horns charged forward. It did so while roaring grandly.

"In that case I too—!"

Godou too immediately used the avatar of Bull.

The horns of the approaching giant bull were two. He grabbed each of them with his hands and stood firm.

He mobilized the muscles in his whole body and against the fierce charge of the bull that was trying to explosively dashed to the end of earth—he stopped it completely with brute strength!

A simple ability to wring out superhuman strength from the bottom of the body.

That was Kusanagi Godou's Bull. But, it was a supernatural power that allowed him to lift up even a castle or skyscraper with both arms.

However, in the aspect of strength it didn't lose even against the original.

--MuWoooooooooooooooooooo
oh !

One more roar. Although it was stopped by Godou, the bull didn't falter and this time it was stepping forward to slowly advance with insistent pushes.

It was a posture to “compete in strength” against Godou who was using the same avatar.

"DAAAAAAAAAH!"

MuWooooooohh!

Both sides ferociously howled together and clashed with their whole strength. Then,

Suddenly—lightning surged. Godou was sent flying from being directly hit by that.

"Uwah!?"

Campione possessed terrific resistance against magic or curse.

That was why even after getting showered by lightning attack head on, he got through it with only some stinging on his whole body. But, similar lightning attack assaulted Godou in succession.

The first lightning. The second lightning. Lightning. Lightning. Lightning. Lightning.

When he looked, Verethragna's bull was changing form.

The large body was still as big as a house, and it still had two horns like before. However, the beast standing before him was a Goat with black fur.

Verethragna's Goat was firing lightning without pause from its two horns!

"I also can't talk about other person but—this guy keep changing tirelessly huh!"

Although the manifestation was different, they were both fellow user of authority with similar nature.

An unprecedented showdown against a rival who "meshed well" with him. Godou was unconsciously smiling fiercely. And then, he chanted his trump card's words of power.

"The Lord hath spoken. The sinner must be punished. May his spine be crushed, may bones be broken, tendons torn, his brain be smashed—!"

Right after that, the floor under his feet cracked.

From underground—the giant beast that was also Kusanagi Godou's other self the Boar flew out and headbutted Verethragna's Goat!

oooooooooooooooooooooooooNN!

The roar that was also filled with ultrasonic waves thundered. Rubbles of various size rained down from above.

The hall of the king of the temple at the other side of this world—its floor, stone pillars, and also the ceiling were smashed and demolished all at once.

By the giant body of the Boar that surpassed twenty meters in total length.

Its fur was jet black, sharp tusks grew from its mouth, and its body was impressively muscular.

As a trump card that could be “summoned quickly” at any kind of fight, the monster did a good work or rather it was rampaging—

It was killed instantly.

OOOOooooooooNNNNNNNNN!?

The boar cried with a bewildered voice. A fifteen years old youth was standing on its head.

The form of war god Verethragna as a hero. He—was stabbing the tip of a divine sword shining in platinum color into the Boar’s head.

The divine sword of salvation. The sword that existed for the sake of accomplishing devil king extermination.

As its wielder the youth Verethragna heroically declared.

"The demon beast that is also my other self! You are really formidable but, your facing the wrong opponent! Right now I’m possessing the ultimate[steel]!"

OOOO——ooooooooNNNNNNN!?

The howl finally became like a scream. Verethragna landed on the ground in his youth form.

Even though he had a small body, he was handling the great sword that was one meter long lightly. The scene of him standing in the king's hall that was covered with rubbles was truly soul-stirring.

This youth wasn't a king. But he was overflowing with the majesty of a great general, of the victorious one.

On the other hand, Kusanagi Godou who was at the assaulting side was a beast, his creed was to live even dirtily. If his arch-enemy held his trump card the sword, then he had no intention to be stingy—.

Verethragna smiled seeing Godou's weapon.

"Come to think of it, you also obtained power that I didn't know huh."

"It's not at the level of yours but, it's really useful. Allow me to fight using this in the second round."

An ancient curved sword that bore a strong likeness to Japanese katana. However, its blade was jet black.

Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi—. Godou grabbed the divine sword that was also his second authority with one hand and pointed its tip toward Verethragna. Of course that wasn't the conduct of a swordsman.

It was like the performance of a batter announcing his victory beforehand towards a pitcher.



Chapter 4 – A Reunion, O My Arch Enemy

1

The Temple of Infinite Time—.

A new sun and dark star manifested in the sky of the isolated space located beyond this world.

The diameter of both of them was around 50 or 60 meters. Although they were called a star they were the size of an asteroid. But, they were the product of the supernatural, which contained a terrific divine power.

The white star that was created by the divine sword of salvation. It was continuing to emit the lightning of devil king extermination endlessly.

The jet black star created by the authority Black Sword. It pulled everything around it with super gravitational force, sucking them in.

The supernatural suction force became wind, and then became storms that devastated the surrounding of the black star.

Godou who was controlling it was on the ground. He was in the palace of the Ten Kings of the End Mithra—right at the middle of the desert stretching outside it.

"O secret record of the dawn, grant the wisdom of goddess to me!"

Godou stabbed Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi into the sand and chanted the words of power.

.....It would take a bit of time until it started to get going for real. The Black Sword had that kind of weak point at the past. But five

years had passed since he obtained it. Godou had learned the secret trick of [quicken the pace of starting up of the black star by pouring nearly double the mystical force of the usual use].

Right now speed was more important than consumption rate! Godou didn't hesitate and deployed the Black Sword at full force.

—The white star was unleashing lightning toward every direction of 360 degree around it. Lightning surged and attacked everywhere.

Hundreds, thousands of lightning flashed in the sky per second.

But, most of them were sucked into the spherical darkness and vanished.

The blowing storm toward the black star—the suction force that swallowed everything twisted the trajectory of the lightning, pulling them in completely.

It was a supernatural phenomenon that mocked the laws of physics.

The authority black star of the

Black Sword was greedily swallowing the lightning of salvation!

[O thousand of dragons and thousand of snakes—. Right now is the time to gather, turn into a sword!]

Godou sent his thought toward Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi.

—Absorb them. Absorb all those lightning.

He fought five times against the hero Rama. He knew more than anyone just how troublesome being fired at by so many lightning of salvation. He strengthened his thought due to that desperation and Godou's authority became even more powerful.

The lightning that was fired continuously for several tens of thousands, several hundred of millions—the majority of them were absorbed successfully.

The lightning attacks that should be randomly flying got their course forcefully twisted and most of them charged into the star of darkness.

The state of the sky where the two stars were floating was a maelstrom like that.

In contrast below—

"Oo!? It became something that caused a storm to this degree!"

Verethragna was staring in wonderment. He was also on the ground like Godou.

The two of them were separated from each other in a distance where the swords wouldn't reach. Both of them were focusing on controlling the [weapon] that was manifested in the sky above.

Godou stabbed Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi into the ground, while Verethragna was holding the sword of salvation in his right hand.

The gallant youthful god smiled boldly.

"Fufufufu. What a terrifying opponent, to be able to suppress the sword of salvation!"

"My bad but, I've fought a guy who can handle that thing better than you. I've learned how to seal it a long time ago!"

Godou boasted. The storm of suction was blowing violently on the ground too. Originally it was a magical wind that would completely suck the Temple of Infinite Time into the dark star in the sky.

Yes. The lightning of salvation should be raining down toward the ground too like a heavy rain.

But the lightning struck the ground as though they only sometimes remembered to do it. Although the wind was certainly strong, it was only to the degree of “commonly strong wind”.

Due to the lightning of salvation and the magic wind of suction, originally the ground should be destroyed until its original shape was gone.

That was just how much the Black Sword was exerting its strength at the sky because it was continuing to swallow the lightning attack that should be scattered randomly as well as endlessly.

In the confrontation of trump card that was their sword, Kusanagi Godou was in advantage—not.

"Fumu. Then I guess I shall unsheathe one more sword."

"That thing is!?"

This time it was Godou's turn to gaze in wonderment.

Because in Verethragna's left hand, a long sword with golden blade appeared.

The divine sword of salvation in the right hand—the great sword shining with platinum color was still staying there. In other words it was two-sword style. While his arms were the slender arms of a small young man, Verethragna was taking stance with the two swords without any difficulty.

And then the long sword in his left hand, its tip was pointed to the sky. Toward the dark star of the Black Sword.

"Fear my name. I am the one who smash through every obstacle. Those with power or those with injustice, none can possibly strike me down—. Fear my sword, Verethragna's sword!"

The words of power were chanted solemnly.

Godou understood. The sword that would cut the god's name as well as the god's power. Verethragna finally unsheathed the sword of wisdom that was shining gold.

In order to seal Kusanagi Godou's trump card the Black Sword, he took on the form of the Warrior.

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Now then—.

White star and darkness star were clashing in the sky.

At the same time, the girls supporting Kusanagi Godou were surrounded by a mountain of rubble.

The hall where the King of the End was sitting in his throne and then it got destroyed just a little while ago—they arrived at that demolished site.

Standing at the forefront of the girls was Mariya Yuri.

Although, the other three weren't dragging her forcefully here.

She was looking around with a hazy gaze that wasn't really looking at her front. She was wandering in the hall with footsteps like she was sleepwalking.

Yuri was muttering to herself. Most likely she was doing it unconsciously.

"The Temple of Infinite Time.....Mithra.....Zurvan.....the god who govern over destiny and eternity Zurvan.....and then that person, the madam who create the mysterious corridor—"

The girls were also user of magic and sorcery.

Even though they weren't directly present there, using several magic they saw and heard of the exchange between the men. The conversation of Kusanagi Godou with God Mithra and War God Verethragna—.

Like that they learned several phrases.

Yuri spoke them out while wandering unsteadily.

"Looks like a vision is coming down on Yuri. I wonder if she is seeing something."

"Or perhaps, she is looking for something....."

Erica and Liliana were whispering to each other.

They were following the princess shrine maiden who was in a state of trance from a little bit of distance. They were talking while paying meticulous care so to not break the trance of the spiritual sight user with a rude loud voice.

Such thing was a common knowledge for the like of Seishuuin Ena so she only followed without saying a single word.

She used her foot to push away pieces of rubble that looked like they would trip the unsteady Yuri. Sometimes she would gently push her to change her direction so that she wouldn't crash on wall or the like.

She was the friend who had associated the longest with Yuri as fellow princess shrine maiden.

And then—

The spiritual sight user who was in a trance finally stopped walking.

Her hazy gaze suddenly turned clear and her back also straightened. After that Yuri let out a long sigh and breathed deeply.

Ena who was following beside her all this time immediately asked.

"And, what did you see, Yuri?"

"The scenes.....of the past. The King of the End Mithra and the War God Verethragna were conversing about something here. They did something to Madam Aisha who wandered into the Temple of Infinite Time. But, there is just one thing that I couldn't see."

"Hee. It's impossible even for Yuri?"

Yuri nodded at the princess shrine maiden's reply.

"Yes. The ruler of time and eternity sent Madam Aisha to "somewhere"—I don't know where is that destination."

"I see."

Liliana made a broad grin gallantly.

"Tell me the detail later on.....just now, Mariya Yuri muttered a god's name that caught my attention. The god of destiny and the ruler of eternal time Zurvan. He is a god allied with the god king of the ancient Persia Mithra. They have a tightly knit relationship."

"So I guess, Zurvan wanted to make Madam Aisha disappear."

Erica said with her usual intelligence.

"Also despite hearing his name coming out several times since just now, that god hasn't showed himself even once to us."

"Yeah. If he won't come out, it'll be necessary to invite him then."

Erica and Liliana nodded to each other.

In the hand of the red and blue knights, their favorite weapon appeared suddenly.

The slender magic sword Cuore di Leone. The magic sword with the shape of saber Il Maestro. They were the twin swords that were awarded to the two of them at their childhood after they combined their strength.

And then Liliana moved.

"They attack the people of Midian—"

She chanted the words of power of the sacred technique of massacre, the Holy Severance while holding the saber's handle in reverse.

"Young men and even the king are all put to the sword without exception and killed. Just as commanded by the Lord to Moses!"

Blue light enveloped all over Liliana's slender body and the blade of the magic sword. It was the proof of the ritual that could injure even god. If it was the current her than she could easily massacre even a crowd that numbered more than a hundred. Just by thrusting her finger she could cause paralyze at the heart of that number without exception and annihilated them.

The magic sword Il Maestro that was entrusted with that secret power was thrown by Liliana like throwing a javelin.

"They visit to where Moses is bringing what they snatch and plunder!"

The saber that was clad in blue light flew like a swallow and stabbed empty air.

Liliana was sensing that point with her witch's spiritual sense. That [someone terrifying] was lurking there. Due to the sword throw, the empty space immediately cracked.

Prang!

There was the sound of something hard being smashed. The crack on empty air was blown away completely.

A mask made from stone was floating in the air. It was imitating the face of a lion and its mane, on top of that it was so big that an adult human could lie down on it.

"Everyone, please be careful!"

Yuri quickly yelled. She could see the god's name.

"That is the god of time and eternity Zurvan!"

".....Affir, mative."

Zurvan who had the shape of a lion mask spoke with a stiff voice.

The four maidens were taken aback. He was a god, so no matter what kind of shape he had it wouldn't be strange that he could speak. However, the voice was just too robotic.

Zurvan continued further.

"I comment the discernment of the four of you. However it's meaningless. What can you possibly do, against an opponent who governs time?"

Liliana whispered to Erica after receiving that overly peculiar declaration.

".....It seems, we can more or less hold communication with him."

".....He doesn't look like someone who we can expect to have a pleasant talk with. Come to think of it, the god's name of Zurvan, originally it should be nothing more than a concept that means [the flow of time]."

"Yes. That concept then gradually got talked as a "god with personality""

"Is his way of talking that robotic because his personality was added later?"

"Perhaps, even the inside of the gods are very eccentric people....."

Ena was also joining the whispering. Right after that.]

"Warning. Discussion is also meaningless."

Zurvan spoke once more.

At the same time there was also an offensive ear *KlIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIN!* that started to resound. The four girls not only got goosebumps on their whole body—

"Uwah. Our body is floating!?"

"No good! This is a divine punishment from Zurvan-sama!"

"Erica!"

"Leave it to me! In order to maintain the order of Rome, the senate give counsel to strip the right to command the whole armyimperium—Senate's Last CounselSenatus Consultum Ultimum, announce!"

The instant the body of all four of them floated weightlessly.

Erica quickly chanted the words of power and constructed her most solid magic defense.

The magic sword of lion Cuore di Leone changed shape into a long steel chain and turned in circles around them with an amazing speed.

The chain surrounded the four maidens who floated in the air by several layers—the encirclement was completed in the blink of eye.

The creator Erica asked loudly.

"How is that, Zurvan-sama!?"

"Let me answer. It's meaningless. All of you, should return to before you were given life."

KliliiiiiiiiN!

The noise resounded even more shrilly. And then Cuore di Leone's chain along with the four maidens—suddenly vanished.

They disappeared really simply.

It was done very easily, as though they never existed since the beginning.

The shrill noise also stopped. The mountain of rubbles that was the hall of the king just a little while ago recovered the silence like this.

The time god Zurvan was only floating without even boasting about his victory.

The eye parts of the stone mask that imitated the figure of lion were hollow holes. But the next instant, if these eyes had actual substance, surely it would be opened widely.

".....So you surpassed the expectation of Zurvan."

Jararararararararara!

There was the sound of a heavy chain being dragged. The the circling chain that surrounded Erica, Yuri, Liliana, and Ena, the four of them appeared once more.

Liliana was holding up a short sword that was soaked in blood with a reverent manner.

The blood's trace that was clinging on that short sword—no, on the blade was shining gold. In addition that light was enveloping the four who served Kusanagi Godou.

As though it was powerfully defending them.

"I conclude, that's the divine protection from the authority of a war god."

"Yes. The stigmata from the blood of our king Kusanagi Godou—this is its grace!"

Erica declared proudly in respond to Zurvan's whisper.

During these five years, the Campione who they loved discovered it. The method to grant the divine protection of Youth avatar toward a group and strengthened them more effectively.

Liliana talked solemnly while continuing to lift up the short sword.

"The people who are entrusted with his blood is also granted the divine protection of Verethragna and become the army of victory. Of course, there is no way it will allow us to fight equally against your grace who is a god but.....if it's only for a very short time, we will be able to hold out somehow!"

"While we're holding out—we can also do something like this!"

The one who rushed out when the time was ripe was, Seishuuin Ena.

The princess shrine maiden of the sword. She was undoubtedly the one who excelled the most in combat ability. Because she was able to share the divine sword Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi with Kusanagi Godou.

Right now that sword should be used in the duel against Verethragna but—

"Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi! I ask you to manifest your shadow here!"

Ama no Murakumo suddenly also appeared in the hands of the sprinting Ena.

The treasured sword that was also one of the three sacred treasures of Japan, naturally it was at least endowed with the skillfulness of being able to fight at two places simultaneously.

"Please do that thing after so long! Copy the power of Zurvan-sama!"

[Ou!]

The divine sword that possessed its own will responded strongly.

With her reliable partner in hands—Ena swung it down from the stance of *hasso*. (TN: A kendo stance, where you hold the sword to point up and your hands are positioned in front of your right chest)

The jet black sword hit Zurvan's stone mask, between its eyebrows. But, the mask that imitated a lion wasn't even scratched.

Even so Ena pushed Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi's blade on Zurvan and hummed the spell words.

"O sword that my husband bestow to me, display the technique plundering right here!"

"Divine sword and your user. I recognize that you possess the technique of imitation. Halt it immediately. I won't allow the invasion of my, Zurvan's divine authority."

"Don't joke! It'll be meaningless if I stop here!"

"Understood. I'll resume removing all of you."

Zurvan declared to erase the one who was pressing Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi on him.

The noise *KliiiiiiiiiiiiiN!* rang out once more. It was shriller than before. It caused one to feel like the blood of their whole body would boil from the unpleasantness that was filling them.

The god attempted to erase their existence once more by the noise.

The protective chain instantly turned to dust from receiving that. Erica frowned.

"It looks like this is the limit with our strength!"

"Indeed. We also don't know when the miraculous effect of the divine protection bestowed to us will run out. The remaining path of survival is—"

"Please hurry, Ena-san!"

"It's fine, I'm already finished. Your majesty, quickly come here—Kusanagi Godou!"

What was protecting Ena who was rushing forward alone and the remaining three was only Verethragna's divine protection.

But, even the golden light enveloping them was flickering intensely. It was like the fire of a candle that could die out anytime.

Seishuuin Ena laughed loudly within that upheaval and recited the name of her beloved young man.

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2

Two-sword style using the divine sword of salvation and the golden sword.

The “trump card” that war god Verethragna finally liberated—. Godou shuddered while readying himself. No, he couldn’t help but readying himself.

Verethragna stared at such Godou and made a hazy smile.

"Fufufufu. It looks like you understand the dreadfulness of these two swords."

"Obviously. Your sword had also been a great help to me after all."

Godou grumbled.

Verethragna’s sword that was shining gold. It was tempered by words of power and increased its might using wisdom. It was a secret sword that was combining offense and defense. However, it couldn’t become a threat to the degree of cutting down the enemy in just one stroke. Godou who was its user understood that well.

Lacking in power to conclude the battle. Those were the words that a representative soccer player of Japan often said in the past.

Those words could also be applied as it was to Verethragna’s sword. It was useful whether in offense or defense, and it also could endure being used flexibly. But even with those advantages, it didn’t have the showiness of splitting the target into two with one stroke.

In contrast, the divine sword of salvation was exactly the definition of power to decide the battle.

It possessed the might to bury even the stubborn and tenacious Campione with just one attack, and it could emit such might without end. If its fault had to be listed, then it would be how it was leaning too much to its destructive aspect.

This two-sword style so to speak was the fusion of hard and soft.

The divine sword of salvation that was hard to the extreme. The golden sword that was soft to the extreme. Godou could comprehend better than anyone the how troublesome it would be when both were combined.

The black star of Kusanagi Godou was suppressing the white star in the sky above.

The whole rain of lightning that was fired endlessly was continuously absorbed by the super gravitational force.

But, even so it was unknown how long it could keep doing that. Of course he could also similarly chant the words of power of the sword to oppose the enemy with the same two-sword style but—

(Perhaps I'll be the one.....my control of Ama no Murakumo will be really lax.)

He had that kind of premonition.

But, even so it seemed like there would be no way except that. Godou tensed himself and be on his guard of when the youth Verethragna would start chant his words of power.

How much would he be able to put the detail of the Black Sword authority in his words of power to tear it to pieces—?

However, the radiant fifteen years old youth said "Damn you" with a bitter smile. He glanced to the sky and stared at Godou's dark star with suspicion.

"What's that power? The authorities of multiple gods are entangling with each other into a strange state....."

"Aa, now that you mention it. It was really a mess when I received it. Certainly, it must be hard to understand."

Godou recalled the way the Black Sword came to be. Those events could even be called as weird.

Originally it was the secret formula of mother earth goddess that Goddess Athena left behind. "The Witch of the Dawn" Circe then did something with it so that even Godou could handle it. The last deciding factor was Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi.

Three gods were involved to grant him this extraordinary authority.

Exactly because of that it was hard to understand. In a sense, the process of battles he had gone through until now became of help to Godou at this point.

He had to be thankful to Athena and Circe, and also to his "iron partner who was quick to get into battle".

A strange deep emotion was welling up. However, Verethragna finally narrowed his almond eyes further and glared at Godou while rebuking him!

"It's vague but I can see it. The spirit of earth dwelling deep inside you and—the spell book of the age of god that is engraved with the crest of the dawn! First I will expose those [names] under the light of the sun!"

"Shit, as expected from you!"

Verethragna was approaching the heart of the matter.

Perhaps it would be finally time to invest his rook and bishop pieces. The war god of the lance Lancelot and the white monkey god of the wind Hanuman. He was going to summon the [ace up his sleeve] that he had been preserving until now.

Godou heard that voice.

[Your majesty, quickly come here—Kusanagi Godou! Let's chase after Aisha-san together!]

"What do you say!?"

He certainly heard Seishuuin Ena's voice regardless of the distance separating them.

The first avatar Gale. The power in order to save someone in danger was reaching him. His heart was also connected the princess shrine maiden of the sword through Ame no Murakumo.

Godou guessed Ena's intention and smiled fiercely.

"So that's how it is. Then it's change of plan!"

"Mu!?"

"My bad. The match with you is suspended. First I'll—go save Aisha-san!"

He declared and used the avatar of Gale.

Wind was whirling noisily around Godou.

Furthermore—the Black Sword was also halted. The storm of super gravitational force and its source the dark star, they disappeared easily along with Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi that was stabbed on the ground. The infinite lightning attacks that the white star

unleashed weren't sucked anymore. They scattered to all directions at this timing!

The boisterous dance of lightning scorched the air and ground. Verethragna yelled in the middle of that.

"What're you planning to do, Kusanagi Godou!?"

Godou didn't answer the question and rode the wind to teleport instantly.

And then after an instant.

He appeared in the demolished site of a hall that was buried highly with mountain of rubbles. Four girls were facing a mysterious god there.

The enemy was a stone mask with lion face floating in the air.

The left eye of the mask shined just for a moment. Bathed by that light, Ena was sent flying backward. She was rolling until where Erica, Liliana, and Yuri were standing at.

Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi also fell down from the princess shrine maiden's hand—Godou quickly picked that up.

"Your majesty!"

Godou nodded at Ena who tried to stand up and the other three.

They were safe must be because of the divine protection of the Youth and the enemy was a type of god who didn't hold any interest to worldly affair like a battle.

That enemy, the god who Ena told him as the god of time Zurvan was—

Speaking out his robotic voice with a peculiar tone.

"So you come, godslaying beast."

The lightning of salvation was also raining down on this destroyed hall.

Here and there the floor's stone was exploded apart, the stone wall and pillars were blown away to pieces. There was no leeway to converse with Zurvan. Godou spoke.

"I'll take you on next time. —You can do it right?"

[Ou.]

Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi that Godou picked up shortly answered and began chanting as a living sword.

[Eternity, infinity, perpetuity, creation, destiny.....god of time there, I will borrow several authorities that you possess for a short while. I won't stop even if you refuse though.]

"So you stole the authority of Zurvan, sword god from the furthest east?"

Yamato imperial court of ancient Japan conquered the barbarians who continued to resist the subjugation effort with swords and armies.

They employed the people who surrendered as manservant or soldier, making those people's strength as their own. The sacred treasure that was worshipped by Yamato imperial court, Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi was the symbol of such armed might and plunder.

Therefore it could copy a fragment of the power and nature of the enemy it faced.

This time, the authority that the divine sword copied after Ena asked it to was—

"You opened the gate of time?"

"You can manipulate time, right!? You brought Aisha-san to somewhere using that power. My comrades have seen that through. If we reenact it after.....!"

Kusanagi Godou and his comrades, all five of them shined white and suddenly vanished at the next moment.

It was the beginning of a journey that crossed time.

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And then when he noticed, Godou and others were at the bank of a large river.

Although there were many clouds, the weather was sunny. The sunlight was quite strong. The season was around the early summer. They could guess that it was morning from the sun's position.

The riverside where they were at and also the opposite shore were facing a bustling traffic.

"This river, I'm familiar with it for some reason.....or rather, I've seen it quite recently."

Godou carefully looked around at the scenery and muttered.

The river's width was also wide. It was flowing right in the middle of a great city.

There was also a large bridge made from stone crossing it. There were five arches, wooden boat loaded with crated package was passing under them.

In addition, a lot of people and—large group of horse carriages were crossing the bridge.

Not to mention car, even a single bicycle couldn't be seen. Liliana who was staring at the same scenery suddenly spoke.

"This is Thames River and London Bridge. I think there won't be any problem to judge that our current position is the center of London. However it doesn't seem to be the 21st century."

"Guessing from the city's state, it's around 18th or 19th century I guess?"

Erica stated that.

Car still hadn't existed. Or perhaps it still hadn't been popularized among the people.

There were a lot of town houses along the main street that were built using brick, furthermore it was red brick. Surely if they walked in the city, they would be able to find landmark that was familiar even at the modern era.

Great Britain Museum. London Tower. Buckingham Palace. Westminster Abbey, etc.....

"We also have really gotten used to this kind of journey haven't we?"

Ena commented casually.

She stapled her fingers together behind her head without looking particularly nervous. This too must be because of experience. On the other hand, her serious fellow shrine maiden Yuri spoke with a deep emotion.

"But I'm surprised. Both Ena-san and Godou-san suddenly decided to pursue Madam Aisha and crossed over time....."

"Even I thought that it's reckless though. But, even in the case that I won against Verethragna"

Godou spoke seriously.

"We won't have any clue of where Aisha-san is."

"Ena also thought so. But, Yuri taught us of what happened over there. Ena got the idea that if we can borrow the authority used to send the madam to the past, then perhaps we would be able to follow after her."

The nature child Ena also said carelessly.

She was an existence that was closest to Godou in the aspect of taking action using her instincts.

In contrast, Liliana was the adjutant whose role was to support Godou rationally. The silver haired female knight muttered in worry.

"The problem is.....London is already developing into a metropolis. The population is easily over a million people here. Singling out Madam Aisha from all these people....."

"It will be hard huh, as expected."

"Yes. Rather perhaps we should wait until that person mess up something in her usual style and cause a great commotion. Before that let's secure a place where we can calm down."

"That's no good, Liliana-sana."

Yuri raised her opinion in a hurry.

"King Mithra asserted that he sealed the power of Madam Aisha."

"What? Then, the madam right now is a normal woman!?"

Liliana was astonished. Beside her Erica opened her mouth.

"Can I also say one more thing? Whether she has authority or not, our search target is Madam Aisha. Will that person stay still in one place?"

Actually what she pointed out was really correct. Godou gasped.

"Now that you mention it that's true. Aisha-san might not be in London anymore!"

"Perhaps it'll be no good if we don't really put in effort and carry out a search for a long period..... Here there's a suggestion that I want to make."

A boldness to take someone by surprise was Erica Blandelli's true worth.

She smiled with a gorgeousness that was really like her. The young lady who was called as Crimson Devil Diavollo Rosso said.

"Godou. Let's immediately go to the suburb. We're searching for a race track."

"Eh?"

Godou was astounded by the suggestion that was overly unexpected.

Actually this conversation was exactly the one that would become the first step of a longstanding [conquest] but—Godou himself didn't even think of such thing at the slightest.

.

3

Aisha departed to travel by herself in the young age of 17 years old.

Riding steam locomotives, steamboats, or horse carriages, she was touring the coast area of Mediterranean Sea as she pleased. She had been traveling like this for several months.

She didn't decide her destination. She would stay for a while in the land that she felt was interesting.

When she had enjoyed it enough, she would depart to the next land.

After staying in Greece that was her heart's desire, she went to the large city Istanbul.

In Kairo,

Egypt' she was also able to make a lot of friends. From there she passed Malta Island, Tunis, and then she landed on the country of passion, Spain.

She reached to the ancient city Valencia while aimlessly wandering the eastern part.

.....At the Middle Age it was invaded by the Moor people who were Muslim and it was put under their rule throughout several centuries. Later on a country restorationreconquista was started by several Christian countries and then Valencia Kingdom was born as a part of Aragon United Kingdom—.

Aisha came to Valencia that had such history.

In the recent years due to being dragged into Napoleon War, where it was repeatedly attacked and occupied by Frances army, and the frequent guerilla warfare by the uprising people, it was without any exaggeration, a dangerous area.

But, right now the political situation was stable. Due to the spread of the industrial revolution, it was also developing as a city.

There she was enjoying her stay leisurely—or that should be the case.

"I wonder, why am I in this kind of place?"

That night, Aisha was tilting her head.

Her female friend who she became close with in Valencia city invited her saying [There will be a special mass three days later]. She was interested and came along with her.

She got into a horse carriage with her friend and arrived at a farm village where there was nothing but farm land.

She had fun interacting with the idyll villagers and enjoyed countryside food starting from paella. While doing that the night of the mass came.

Aisha vaguely thought that a Catholic ceremony would be held.

But late at night, a festival suddenly started.

Several tables were lined up at the public square at the center of the village. They lit fire grandly there. The villagers were bringing a feast to there. And then they had a grand banquet where they drank and sang.

The villagers were gulping down wine while dancing and making strange voice.

Their yelling voice—their words were excessively blasphemous. Aisha was dumbfounded.

"We will begin the ritual now!"

"Throw out the bread and blood! Throw out everything to the land now! The promised day right near us!"

"Only the dying flesh and the blood of redemption will be the delight of the holy grail. Oo Lord, please come. Lord please come. O Lord, we will throw out your flesh and blood to the land!"

"The Lord's blood become the wine, His flesh become the bread, they become the offering to the holy grail!"

"Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen."

"Holy grail. Please guide us in the place of the shitty Lord!"

The holy grail that they mentioned was right beside the bonfire.

To describe it concisely it was a lump of rock. A lump of rock with faint pink color was lying down there.

It was brought out from the cave at the outskirts of the village at the same time when the sun was starting to sink. It was placed on a parade float that was decorated gorgeously. It was then transported until the square of the village.

Rather than a mass, it was a banquet of a demon. It was a mad festival that was worthy of the designation of Sabbath.

"Say.....what could, that be?"

Aisha talked to the person beside her with a small voice. It was the female friend who invited her to this mass.

The woman who was heavily drunk stopped yelling and dancing. She kneeled and prostrated toward the pink lump of rock. Aisha asked to her whisperingly.

"That rock, for some reason it looks like a lying down cow to me though....."

"My, you're really just like I anticipated! As I thought you are a chosen person!"

"?"

"Listen. In the past, the priests were also preaching the teaching of Christ in this land too. But one day, a pagan goddess came. Our ancestors immediately became her devout believer but—suddenly she died. That goddess's corpse became stone and became the holy grail that we worship!"

".....Haa"

"And then when the chosen person look at the holy grail, they will get the vision of a beautiful cow or a goddess. It seems that kind of person can become a special offering. Lovely isn't it?"

"O, offering?"

As expected, the story and tension that were just too heretical made even Aisha to be creeped out.

Even so the mass was progressing. The old pastor-sama who was also the village chief led a single lamb toward the pink lump of rock.

"O holy grail. Please accept the sacrifice this time."

The pastor pushed the quiet lamb to make it went beside the rock.

Then the adorable and obedient lamb was—sucked in. Into the pink lump of rock.

The lump of rock was faintly turning transparent with pink colors.

Inside the figure of the lamb curling into itself could be seen clearly.

It seemed to be sleeping. Aisha leaned forward. But the next instant, the sleeping lamb vanished inside the rock.

Furthermore a piglet, a calf, and even a small horse were also led there as the second wave of offering.

The cute and small animals. Everyone was absorbed into the pink lump of rock and vanished as expected.

"E.....eeh!?"

Aisha was astonished. But, she was ignored and the ritual was progressing further.

"My people, rejoice. The holy grail devour the sacrifices, bringing them into itself. The holy grail is happy."

The old pastor nodded and then announced proudly.

"Then, bring the next sacrifice here."

"Understood. Now, it's your turn."

"Heh? E, err, why are you taking me to the front row~-!?"

Several villagers including the female friend who she made in Valencia.

They were pushing her back insistently. Aisha was pushed hard until she came to right before the lump of rock. She then fell in front of it.

The pastor waiting there was putting a smile that was like mask on his face.

"Now the last sacrifice. The gate to the country of god is right over there."

"Hyoeeeeh!? I, isn't this the so called heretic or demonic ritual-!? The one where a young maiden is sacrificed-!"

"This isn't heretical. It's none other than our religion that is the legitimate and righteous religion."

"This isn't a joke! Let me go home—ah"

Aisha immediately got up and tried to run away.

But the pastor pushed her just before she started running. *Ton-*. Aisha staggered and crashed on the pink colored rock lump. She was absorbed into it.....

.

The India born maid woman who was coming along to the ritual without any concern.

She was swallowed as a sacrifice for the holy grail. In a farming village where the people were secretly protecting the doctrine and tradition of heretical Christianity of Servius faction.

.....Until this point, it was something that occurred often in this village.

The holy grail that was passed down in the village for generations seemed to be something that stocked up [power] by devouring and absorbing life endlessly. In any case that was what was said in the tradition.

And then this time an India woman who introduced herself as Aisha was swallowed.

Even though that was all there was to it—

"Tha, that woman, she won't vanish!?"

One villager yelled and pointed.

The faintly transparent pink rock—the girl Aisha was absorbed into it.

All the sacrifices until now would vanish in ten-odd seconds no matter who. Just like how stomach was digesting food. However this time Aisha's body wouldn't vanish no matter how long time passed.

She was taken in by the pink rock and lied down with her eyes closed as though she was sleeping.

There was no change even after they waited for an hour. Even after half a day passed, even when a day went by, the girl Aisha's body wouldn't vanish. She was transformed into a "sleeping princess" inside the rock.

And then finally a month later—.

Even now the brown skinned girl Aisha didn't vanish. She was still like a sleeping princess.

At this point, the village chief who was also a pastor groaned.

"A saint..... This person is the saint who the holy grail recognized!"

"Oo, saint!""Saint!""Everyone, let's praise the saint!""Saint-sama!""Saint-sama!""Saint-sama!""Saint-sama!"

The pastor and the villagers gathered at the cave at the outskirts of the village.

The object that was the target of their cheers—the girl Aisha was still staying as sleeping princess inside the holy grail.

.

Thus—

Aisha who was sent to the middle of 19th century due to the plot that was prepared by the King of the End Mithra and god of time Zurvan fell into eternal sleep.

Of course, the current her wasn't a "godslayer".

But Mithra and his cohorts were on their guard. It was doubtful that the wildness and danger possessed by that abnormal species of godslaying beast could be taken away completely just by doing something like turning their body and heart in time.

That was why they sealed her. They forced Aisha to become a meaningless existence with an eternal sleep.

However.

It was slightly too optimistic even for the god king Mithra.....no. He forgot.

This world was a world where godslayer hadn't existed for several hundred years continuously. With godslayer nonexistent, naturally the record about them was also fading.

Just how extremely abnormal and outrageous the existence of the godslaying beast was—.

Right now, a situation that surpassed Mithra's assumption was starting.

.

4

"To think, that it will become this kind of journey."

Godou muttered vacantly.

He was nonchalantly gazing at the marine blue color of Mediterranean Sea while feeling the sea breeze.

He was sprawling on a deck chair. He took lodging in a high class hotel at the beach. Right now he was lazing around at an exclusive beach for the hotel's quest.

This place was a resort area that was famous even in Greece, Santorini Island—.

Beside Godou, the four girls were also similarly relaxing.

"Hey Godou. Want to go swimming soon? Though the swimsuit of 19th century is unfashionable, so it might be unsatisfying for you even though we finally came to sea. But for that, the charm of Erica Blandelli can cover for it as you can see."

"Of course it's not just Erica, I will also come along."

A while ago the two of them changed into swimsuits.

As usual, Erica's swimsuit was crimson while Liliana was blue.

Although this was the 19th century. Although at the modern era there was variegated type like bikini or tankini, in this era the situation was different. The top wear was a sleeveless flannel shirt where the front was tightened using buttons. The bottom wear was a loose pants that reached the knee.

It was combined with a green frilly hat that looked similar to a shower cap.

Of course it was swimsuit so the fabric was thin. However, it was certain that it wasn't an object that exposed skin. With the moral and ethics of Europe in this era, that kind of appearance with high exposure rate wasn't permitted to appear in public.

But, as expected it would be a sight for the sore eyes for ladies with attractive faces and figures to stand in the beach while being lightly dressed.

If Erica was a camellia with wide petals, then Liliana might be a slender lily.

".....So, how is it? Kusanagi Godou?"

"What do you mean how?"

"When speaking in the style of 21st century, between me and Erica, which one of us is more stylish."

"No comment.....aa, no. I'll just say that both of you looks really good."

"My. Even Godou has become really capable to evade danger safely."

"That's because I've been trained by you girls."

The two princes shrine maidens were also relaxing on deck chair.

Yuri was wearing a light pink [dress], while Ena was wearing a yellow one. It wasn't a dress type swimsuit but a [dress that was used for clothes] with a lot of fabric that would make one wonder if it was a dressing gown. This too was a swimsuit of the 19th century Europe.

Even while it was an outfit that was too old fashioned, the smiling Yuri was lovely like a sakura petal.

"I'm feeling calmer with this kind of swimsuit. I'm a bit weak against swimsuits with little fabric....."

"Ena is fine with either I guess. Ah, but, it might also be good to not wear anything and swim. This beach is reserved only for your majesty and us anyway."

Ena said with the brightness that was like a summer's sunflower. Yuri remonstrated her in panic.

"E, Ena-san. Saying such thing with a loud voice like that is....."

"Of course at that time Ena will also ask Yuri to accompany me."

"Geez-"

The two princess shrine maidens conversed in relaxation intimately.

Godou recalled the particulars of this one week and immersed himself in deep emotion.

"I never thought that we will come to this kind of place in a journey to search for Aisha-san.I can't really calm down though, to have wild merrymaking like this using easy money earned in that way."

"It's fine. Everything is won over using Kusanagi Godou's resourcefulness♪"

Erica winked mischievously toward the grumbling Godou.

.

A week ago when they arrived at London in year 1857.

The men of Victoria dynasty's Britain were being crazy about a certain gambling. Its nickname was the Sport of Kings. It was horse racing.

Horse racing was the taste of aristocrats. Its reach spread until the men of middle class and low class and it became a national gamble that represented Britain.

Even at the outskirts of London, historical race track like Ascot and Epsom existed.

That day—.

After acting independently inside London for a while, Erica returned bringing ready cash. Most likely she procured it using illegal method and magic.

And then she pushed the bundle of pound note of unknown origin to Godou,

[Now Godou! Whether it's to build a living foundation in this era or to search for Madam Aisha, we need war funds. It's your turn!]

[My turn? What are you telling me to do?]

[Of course, it's too win big using "that talent" of yours.]

Thus Godou's party embarked to the race track at London's outskirts.

The wildly excited men got bloodshot eyes. They tightly gripped their betting ticket and stared hard at the race of the racehorses passionately. The place resembled the colosseum.

[However, even if you tell me to win big.....]

[You our king are also a phenomenal gambler. If there is a horse that catch your eyes, then surely it will become the winner.]

[Liliana too, don't speak unreasonably.]

[Hey. Which horse does Yuri think will be it? Tell Ena.]

[Who knows.....? I don't know anything about racehorse so I don't particularly—ah. That horse over there is a bit curious. It's only vaguely though.]

[Your majesty! Ena recommend that horse's betting ticket! That gray one!]

[This time it's Ena who is saying strange thing.....hm? That guy over there, he got really nice eyes there. It feels like there is this aura from him.]

With that kind of way, they bought betting ticket for each race for the whole day. The result.

In less than a day, an absurd amount of pound notes and gold coins became Kusanagi Godou's possession. If this was in 21st century Japan, it was an amount that couldn't be obtained without winning a lottery's grand prize.

Erica also obtained a certain information.

The location of the mansion where India born maid girl Aisha was working at. And then, the girl said that she would go to Santorini Island in Greece and departed—.

It was this kind of situation that caused Godou and others to be at a beach resort right now.

.

The evening sun was setting beside the horizon.

Godou was leisurely walking while showering in the sunlight with color that looked similar with crimson flame. He was alone with Erica at the sandy beach of Santorini Island.

It was a strategy meeting that doubled as strolling in the cool of the evening. Godou grumbled.

"It's nice and all to pursue in a hurry but.....as expected it doesn't look like we have any hope of being able to meet with Aisha-san."

"Of course it is. After all we are only five people."

Erica spoke with a know-it-all airs while walking right beside Godou.

"Even if we split and ask around, we obtain zero result. Though if there are crime prevention cameras all over the island and we have the photo of Madam Aisha, we might have a slight chance."

There was no way such thing existed at Greece in the middle of 19th century.

Godou smiled wryly and shrugged.

"If only there're a lot of people who cooperate with us at least."

"So it's something like that. The power of organization is indispensable for doing something like searching for someone."

"If this is the Europe of our world, we'll be able to borrow the strength of Erica's uncle or Alice-san. Over here it feels like there is nobody who seems to be magician or witch."

"I.....wonder about that."

Erica who excelled more than anyone in regard to worldly wisdom spoke.

"This world is certainly falsely similar with our earth. But, magicians and their association definitely exist. The indication and trace of that—actually I discovered several of them."

"As expected from Erica."

"Hey Godou. This is my suggestion but, do you want to try destroying a close city somewhere using something like the Boar? Surely the magicians in hiding will rush out like that."

"I retract my previous statement. As I thought you're someone like a demon."

The two of them were watching the sunset of Santorini Island together while making light talk.

The blazing setting sun was dyeing the beach and sea crimson. Such scenery was strangely nostalgic. They felt an indescribable healing from that.

.....No. Godou suddenly thought.

"It's not the scenery that is nostalgic. It feels nostalgic to do something like this with Erica."

"Of course it is."

Erica spoke in exasperation.

"You flew around everywhere in these several years—doing something like relaxing for more than a week at my or other girl's places was something you never done. We could only be together for one or two day at best, after that you would hurriedly go to a parallel world somewhere."

".....Now that you mention it, that's right."

"Doing this is really nostalgic. The last time might be during the time you were a high school student in Tokyo."

"Was I neglecting to visit that much!?"

"You have really become something like a workaholic, Godou. This is a good chance, you should travel this era with the feeling of honeymoon with us for a while. Relax and have fun. Be carefree and enjoy it. Eat a lot, make love with us."

The young lady with crimson as her trademark was smiling inside the setting sun.

That smile was really like Erica, a smile that was filled with the composure of queen. That gorgeousness and consideration were lovely. Godou put his hand around her waist and pulled her close to him.

He kissed her with the passionate kiss between lovers.

He spent plenty of time to join their lips and tongue deeply.

"Hey..... Do you want to search for a place inside the city where we can be alone.....?"

Erica's whisper coiled around his ear.

She was also aroused. The heat of her breath and the trembling of her body were conveyed to him.



"What a bad girl. You're going to keep it a secret from everyone?"

"That way will keep any quarrel from happening and make it easier for Godou too right? Now, give up and become Erica Blandelli's accomplice, Don Juan-dono—"

When he was listening to Erica's sweet whisper with his ear.

Suddenly the thundering sound of lightning roared.

DOoooOOOOOOONNNNNNN—!

The evening sky was filled with dark clouds with amazing speed. But the lightning strike only happened once. What fell further wasn't just lightning—

"Even though this should be my first time seeing it, there is a lot of déjà vu here."

"That's because we have thoroughly witnessed the spectacle with similar workmanship but different style. It can't be helped. Let's postpone the romantic time for later and face the absurd reality."

The resort area of Santorini Island.

Even at the modern era there was almost no high-rise building here, so of course there was none in the 19th century.

That was why—it could be seen clearly even from the beach. A monster sized male deer descended along with the lightning strike in the rustic town area and destroyed any houses it could reach around it.

It was a gigantic male deer with body length around thirty meters.

It performed headbutts and tackles with that size, mowing down the single story houses. Pulverizing them.

It had really magnificent antlers on its head. The pointed tips cut apart every kind of building material with sharpness and power that couldn't be rivaled by any kind of heavy machinery—.

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Godou came to the urban area along with Erica.

The gigantic deer was rampaging every which way. Many residences were running around trying to escape. There must also be people getting squashed under the destroyed houses. Fires were rising here and there.

"That monster, it need to be taken care of in a hurry....."

"It's truly your field of expertise—oh? Look there, Godou!"

The gigantic deer was being unruly at where Erica pointed.

But currently it wasn't the houses in the city that were receiving the anger of the gigantic beast. It was seven or eight people. Their appearance varied. There was gentleman who was wearing a well-tailored suit, but there was also a large man wearing dirty shirt who seemed like a longshoreman. There was even a lady a wearing dress.

They were holding weapons like saber, musket, short staff, hand axe, and so on.

With those weapons—they were facing the gigantic deer while giving off the grief and terror of someone directly facing death from their whole body.

But, the gigantic deer didn't even pay any mind to the tiny hindrances—

Zun-. Zun-. It made a heavy footstep and shook the ground while advancing forward without stopping.

In respond, the gentleman armed with saber charged.

His expression was desperate. He was making his weapon's blade to shine bright with reinforcement magic. But, the giant deer's front leg wasn't even scratched at the slightest.

It was truly a courageous but doomed resistance.

The deer didn't even notice that it was stabbed with a sword and continued to advance with heavy footsteps.

There, the lady's musket spouted fire.

It wasn't an allegory. The gun muzzle was spewing flame like a flame thrower.

Magical flame. However, for the giant deer it wasn't even as hot as a match fire. It didn't pay any attention at all.

Godou carelessly stepped forward into that upheaval.

He was sprightly like he was just going into the living room of his lodging place. The unruly giant deer tried to step on Godou who was approaching carelessly with its front leg.

In this case, of course the supernatural strength of Bull could be used—

"Let's see."

Godou unhurriedly lifted up his right hand and caught the sole of the deer's foot.

Without pause he swung his right arm as though performing an overhead throw. Like doing the short put in track-and-field events, the giant deer was thrown toward the sea.

The giant body that was most likely weighing several hundred tons with size of more than thirty meters was thrown.

Goron, goron! The giant body was rolling around on the beach of Santorini Island.

""""!?""""

The people who were facing the deer were—staring at Godou in unison.

They were undoubtedly magicians. Thinking that he had to explain the situation, Godou immediately took care of the hindrance.

"The bearer of sharp tusks.....anyway just beat it up."

It wasn't an obstacle that required him to fire up himself.

What he summoned with half-hearted words of power were naturally the fifth avatar Boar.

The dark clouds covering the whole sky was blocking the evening sun. The sea surface was eerily black. Flying out from there was also a black giant beast—.

The divine beast Boar used the momentum of its entrance and collided on the giant deer from its head.

HIIIIIIIIINNNNNN-!?

The scream of the deer was high-pitched. It sounded pathetic.

From here everything went following Godou's pace. The twenty meter size of the Boar was two size smaller than the giant deer.

However without even minding the difference in size, the Boar charged at the prey.

The Boar stabbed the deer's stomach with its mouth's tusks, bit at its neck, and tore its flesh. Blood splashed in the air, and the smell of blood also drifted. It was really a gruesome sight.

Godou frowned.

"That guy, he is getting carried away."

"I, is that your underling.....? It's as though that's a divine beast from the myth—"

The magicians were gathering beside Godou when he noticed.

They were displaying awe toward "transcendental being" in their face and voice while speaking respectfully. He had no intention to scare them. Godou was about to reply to them cordially—

"Yes. That is indeed a divine beast that my lord and husband employed. Watch the gallant figure of the beast that is mentioned in the myth of ancient Persia!"

Erica interrupted him. She was pointing at the Boar with an exaggerated hand movement.

"Now that it has come to this there is no reason to hide. Listen, right now the one in front of you is a devil king who murdered god and usurped their sacred authority. An existence that is falsely similar with magician. The monarch who ought to rule everything involved with sorcery, the king among kings."

"Go, godslayer.....?"

Erica's promotional line was too bombastic, however the magicians were receiving a deep impression.

The man with the appearance of a sailor who was seemingly injured from the battle just now from how he was soaked in blood

along with some others were piously kneeling as though they were encountering Christ himself. They were moved to tears.

The eyes of Erica who was setting up this scene was clearly saying this.

[If we don't have any subordinate or cooperator, then we just need to create them. Isn't that right, Godou!]

Like that.

Chapter 5 – The String of Fate, Shall be Severed

1

Year 1858, January.

Marseille was the number one city throughout southern France.

It was a port city that was facing the Mediterranean Sea and the center of the Provence region. It was also in the top category as a port city. Its location was great for trade in the Mediterranean Sea.

Marseille's main street was Canebiere Street.

It was equivalent to Champs Elysees in Paris. The citizens and also the travelers were naturally gathering there, shops of every type were standing in a row, creating vitality of the city—.

In the terrace seat of a café that was operating in that main street.

Sunlight was showering the location fully. It looked really pleasant there.

It was because the sky was sunny and there was also no wind. But, as expected from midwinter even when wearing a thick coat, cold air was still cold as expected.

There was only one group of customers drinking tea while enjoying the open air's freshness.

Three gentlemen with nice attire were sitting around a table in the corner. They all had dark faces while exchanging information in whispers.

"Yo, last week was a disaster huh. I heard, "the said beast" also descended at the headquarter of you guys Old Lady in Torino."

"Yeah. Thanks to that we were very tired."

"It's not just Torino that got visited by misfortune. The other day, in our France's Cannes that monster—the "beast of disaster" also appeared. From the sky along with lightning....."

"In these three months, the cities that became victim of disaster were Torino, Cannes, Genoa, Barcelona—"

"Don't forget Nice and Avignon too. This is truly an alarming situation."

"But fortunately, in our city there was a savior.....no, a person who introduced himself as devil king who came to our assistance. Thanks to him the damage could be limited to minimum."

"Then, you intentionally came to Marseille for "expressing your gratitude"?"

"Correct. With this our association the Old Lady will also be placed under those newcomers—the Campiones. As the leader of a long-established prestigious organization of the righteous faction, this situation also makes me want to bite my handkerchief in vexation. But—"

"But, what?"

"It can't be helped. After all his absurdity is the real thing....."

"Him, huh....."

"Is it true? What they said that he murdered a god and usurped the god's sacred authority?"

"There is no way the like of me understand that! Well, if I can say my personal opinion.....I don't think that it's a false information at all. If there is a person in this world who is worthy for the title of godslayer, it'll be nobody else than Caesar."

"The godslaying devil king. Caesar Blandelli, huh....."

"Come to think of it, if I remember right there was also a noble family called Blandelli in Milano's Copper Black Cross. Is he from that house?"

"I think not. When he is concerned, from his appearance he's absolutely not someone born around here."

"How do you know that?"

"Because I had met him directly."

"You! You've experience meeting Caesar face to face!?"

"Yeah. Last week, at Torino that became a battlefield. I'm going to "express my gratitude" after this will be my second audience with him."

"What kind of person he is!?"

"If you want to know that, then you guys can visit Caesar's mansion directly. In the first place, you came to this Marseille with that intention right?"

"" ""

"White Giant and St. Germanus, two prominent organizations in regard to Europe sorcery. For the leaders of those two organizations to become this engrossed with that person. The growth of influence of Lord Caesar is still not going to stop at present eh!"

.

The period of 1850 reached its latter half where a commotion swept through Europe's sorcery society.

It was because of the descend of the beasts of disaster that started since around half a year ago.

The sky would be covered with dark clouds without any portent, then a giant magical beast would descend—. Such mysterious and absurd big incident would occur twice or thrice a month.

The beast of disaster sometimes could be deer, but sometimes it could also be bull or horse.

There was also case when it was fierce beast like wolf, lion, or tiger, and there was also example of pig or bird.

In all the case the beasts would possess an abnormal size and fierceness. The beasts would rampage around without discrimination using their huge size, destroying town and city.

The beasts of disaster mainly descended on Europe's southern part or eastern part.

But sometimes they would also appear at the western or northern part of Europe. The danger could occur anywhere.

—From time immemorial, it would be the obligation of the magicians to face such supernatural phenomenon.

The students who investigated the path of magic ought to shoulder the “duty of the noblemannoblesse oblige”. They shouldn't just inherit the knowledge of the mystery and magic, but when those wisdoms became harmful to society then they should protect the populace using their body as shield. That was the good sense of the world of sorcery.

However this time the magicians were gnashing their teeth and clenching their fists in anger and regret.

Because they couldn't oppose the greatness of the beasts at all.

Even when the egoistic high ranked magicians reluctantly joined hand and combined their strength to subjugate the beasts, it was mostly useless.

Against the out of norm disaster, their efforts were equally not working.

Whether it was weapon that was enchanted with magic power, or magic art of offense, or the martial arts of the templar knights. Or even when several hundred practitioners solidified their organization like an army and exerted their whole force, everything ended with the same result.

But—the magicians had choices.

Would they face the giant beast that suddenly descended with their own powerless art? Or, would they recite the name of the devil king that burst into fame half a year ago?

Right now, almost all the magicians in Europe knew that rumor.

—When their life was in danger, if they were in a place where the wind was blowing, that would be a good opportunity to summon him.

Chant the great name of that king. The name of Caesar Blandelli.

The commander-in-chief who was leading the rising magic association Campiones, the one who was said to have killed a god.

No matter where the beast of disaster appeared, the devil king Caesar would arrive together with a whirlwind. And then, he would chant the words of power of victory.

[The one unblunted and unapproachable! Oath breaking sinners be purged by the iron hammer of justice!]

[For victory, hasten forth before me! O immortal sun, lend me a quick shining steed!]

[O guardian of the righteous, I invite you and offer sacrifice. I will perform justice, please grant me the right path and light!]

Each time miracle would occur.

A divine beast boasting jet black fur and brawny giant build would rush on the ground, from the sky the heated light of sun would come down like a spear. Thunder clouds that could swallow even a metropolis like Paris or London would fill the sky and strike everything with inexhaustible lightning bolts.

The populace living in Europe didn't know the name of devil king Caesar.

It was a secret that was only told to those who walked the path of sorcery, a part of the royalty, nobility, political, and the wealthy.

And then those who knew the name of Caesar would be afraid of the threat of the beasts of disaster while also feeling awe to the terrific existence of the godslayer that could handily defeat such threat.....

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"Kusanagi Godou. A messenger from Bohemia's king comes."

"Hmm. Then, bring him here."

In a new high-end residential area that was also close to Marseille's port.

In a stylish mansion located at the neighborhood where recently the bourgeois class and the like of traders would often move into.

Godou received a report from Liliana Kranjcar inside a big greenhouse of the mansion and easily gave a quick reply.

Seishu Ena grinned smugly while holding scissors she was using to trim flowers like roses or camellia.

"That's no good your majesty. It's not like a devil king to readily allow a mere messenger to have an audience. In this case shouldn't the king himself or a retainer with authority of a prime minister be the one coming here?"

"I, isn't that putting on air a little bit too much?"

"But, Godou-san right now is Caesar Blandelli so—"

This was Yuri's comment.

The graceful Yamato Nadeshiko was carrying a silver tray. She was helping with the gardening by picking up the branch's or tuft of flowers that Ena snipped down.

"Shouldn't you make an appeal with the appropriate dignity? It's Erica-san's plan to give impression that the godslayer Caesar is an extraordinary existence and establish an influence that cannot be matched by anyone within a year....."

"So even Yuri is getting carried away."

Godou smiled wryly. When it came to the girls, they gave out ideas one after another to produce the [Devil King Caesar!] with Kusanagi Godou as the front man.

By the way everyone was stylishly wearing the outfit of this era.

Yuri was wearing a long sleeved blue day dress. It was a clothing of the modern era's but the fringe of the skirt was reaching all the way until the ankle and expanded out gently.

Liliana was dressed in a male outfit in the style of gentleman. She was wearing a blue frock coat, white shirt, and black long trousers.

Ena was wearing a waistcoat on top of a shirt, and a knee-length trouser that was similar to knickerbockers.

As though to represent the girls who had gotten really used even to this environment, Yuri who was clad in a dress, chuckled.

"I'm sorry. The plan is going better than expected that I'm somehow enjoying it. But, Godou-san right now is like—Marquis Voban in his younger days that I learned from hearsay."

"It's indeed like that."

Liliana boasted with a triumphant look.

"The role model of Caesar Blandelly is exactly that person. Kranjcar House had served the marquis for many years. Because of that I understand really well in regard to that aspect of him."

Godou right now was placing his headquarter in Marseille, France.

Not just magicians, even business leaders, royalty, and government VIP's were seeking to meet him. Just like how Marquis Voban was in Europe's 18th century—.

Two hundred magicians in total had already gathered under Kusanagi Godou and swore their fealty to him.

That organization for the time being was named as Campione's Association.

Erica and others sometimes would call Godou as Campione. That nickname was added with “s” before they noticed and it was settled as the organization’s name.

The one managing this newly rising association was Liliana Kranjcar.

The female knight who was the devil king Caesar’s aide, secretary, and even his “lover”. Liliana was entrusted with the full authority to take the rudder of the organization along with such titles.

Thanks to that the boss Godou was living a leisurely life that was free from the worldly cares.

He would only go to business trip sometimes when it was time to advocate the name of Caesar and fought giant creature as Campione. He would also have audience with the important people of various countries in Europe and the authorities of the world of sorcery. It was enough with that.

Other than that he would leave various matters to others, for them to do as they saw fit.

Today too he was relaxing, drinking coffee in the greenhouse and admiring the brilliantly colored flowers.

Yuri and Ena were taking care of the flowers in turn. Perhaps thanks to the two them having knowledge in flower arrangement, they were tidying up the flowers skillfully.

These several years, he was living from journey to journey.

Godou was enjoying the peaceful time after so long while feeling admiration.

"However, the avatar of Gale can be used even when I was called using my alias huh. I never tested that before coming here so I didn't know....."

"But even the gods has various names."

"If the person who call the name is conscious of Godou-san's existence, then that will be enough."

The princess shrine maidens spoke together. Liliana was also grinning.

"It was fortunate to notice that in the early stage. Thanks to that the organization's influence increased easily."

Caesar Blandelli. It was Godou's alias.

They didn't know what would happen to this world where Mithra was the King of the End in the future.

But, a mysterious easterner grasping the hegemony of the underworld in 19th century Europe—not leaving behind such information as much as possible would lower the effect to the history.

With that judgment, Godou used Europe's name even though his outer appearance was oriental.

The Blandelli family name was chosen randomly by Erica. After all Caesar was [a name that didn't exist in the family tree of the real Blandelli House].

".....But you know. Those beasts of disaster, what are they?"

Ena suddenly said.

"In the end, we don't understand at all the true identity of them. I wish we can get information about them quickly. Ah, but Yuri, you said that you felt something about them?"

"Yes. It was when I happened to be present at the site where those beasts descended."

Yuri taught them her oracle with a serious face.

"The beasts are always born from dark clouds and descend to the land..... I sense that those clouds are also a [source of life]."

"I see. So they are clouds of life."

Yuri nodded at Liliana's reply.

"Yes. If we can find the place where the clouds of life is created—I feel that we'll also be able to discover the source of this commotion there."

"Got it. Let's try increasing the number of people to investigate it."

"We also have to search for Aisha-san. This is just my guesswork but, perhaps that person is also involved with the commotion this time."

Liliana folded her arms after hearing Ena's arbitrary assumption.

"That's more an unjust suspicion rather than guesswork, but it's just too possible to be the case....."

"If it's okay then perhaps Ena should also take a look here and there? Recently we are staying in Marseille, so Ena is slightly unable to calm down."

Seishuui Ena repeatedly spent her days secluding herself in the mountain even while being raised as a daughter of a high-class family.

Liliana nodded at the proposal that was really fitting for the beautiful child of nature.

"So you will do that for us. That'll help.Also there is something I wish to request from Mariya Yuri—"

Normally it was Erica's position to put this group in order.

But there were various situations that right now Liliana was the one taking the manager role.

.....Godou was watching the exchange of the girls with a smile, but he suddenly noticed. He took out his pocket watch that was made by the Swiss.

He opened it. It was three PM. It would soon be the appointed time.

"My bad. I'm going to take a look at how Erica is doing. See you girls later."

As soon as he said that, Godou left the greenhouse with light footwork.

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2

As expected Erica's bedroom also had nice lighting from the sunlight although it wasn't as good as the greenhouse.

Godou spoke to the owner of the room who was lying down on the bed.

"How do you feel? Your complexion looks better than yesterday."

"So so, I guess. Yesterday was the worst. I couldn't get up from the bed for the whole day."

After answering with a sour look, Erica put her hand on her mouth.

It was to hide her yawn. Even though the sun was still high in the sky, she was wearing negligee and sleeping on the bed. Her lower body and stomach were covered by a blanket.

A cushion was affixed on her back. She was facing Godou while leaning on it.

"I'm also really sleepy right now. To think that the period of morning sickness is this horrible, I didn't want to experience this.I heard that there is difference based on the individual on just how painful morning sickness is."

The tone of the sleepy looking Erica was filled with strength.

"With Erica Blandelli's good luck, surely I will be able to go through it easily—that was what I expected, and yet! This is frustrating."

"You're raising a life inside your body after all."

Godou spoke with a deep feeling.

One month had passed already since Erica's pregnancy came to light.

Right now was the period when the morning sickness was the worst. Numerous poor physical states that represented nausea and listlessness assaulted Erica without end. Sleepiness and shivers were also the symptoms of it.

As expected even Erica was weary from it.

"Aa! I want to be liberated quickly from this torture!"

She unusually let out a grumble. It was a way of speaking that was unbecoming for Diavollo Rosso who believed in being elegant and gorgeous no matter what time it was.

The female knight and lady who was audacious and full of composure.

That was the identity of Erica Blandelli. And yet she was now like this!

But, Godou felt that his partner who was like this was irresistibly lovely. Even a great woman like Erica was getting troubled to this degree. Pregnancy and childbirth were just that momentous. She was planning to bear with it and gave birth to Kusanagi Godou's child.

There was a chair beside the bed. Godou was sitting on it.

"Well, just stay quiet for a while. It's still not the stable period right?"

"Yes. I never thought that an inconvenient period like this will come in my life."

Erica who was a free spirit at heart was grumbling again in frustration.

Even Godou only saw her being like this for the first time.

"It has been around six.....no, seven years since when we first met. It felt long, but it also felt short."

"You should call it long. Quite some time has passed since we made love with each other in the physical aspect too. The frequency of it was piling up in lieu of us being unable to meet often....."

"Be a little bit more moderate with your phrasing."

It was a roundabout way of talking that was really like Erica. Godou smiled wryly.

However, the maiden who would become a mother, one of these days didn't even pay any attention to that request.

"A certain hypothesis came to mind from the matter this time. —Hey Godou, your partner isn't just me right? There is also Yuri and Lily and also Ena-san."

".....Well yeah."

"You and also us are young, right now is the period that is the most suitable to conceive children without a doubt."

"That's why, be a bit more indirect when speaking about that!"

"Listen to me until the end before getting embarrassed. Listen, Godou. Even you manage to get more leeway with your time, especially since we came to this world of King of the End Mithra, and the number of times you make love with us also became many. The probability of us four getting pregnant simultaneously is even quite great from the frequency....."

The adult topic continued still with the excessively direct phrasing.

However, the talker Erica was looking really serious.

"And then—although Campione is formerly human, they are existence that is falsely similar to human isn't it? It's to the degree that it's fine to even call them a different species."

"About that then certainly, I can't deny it."

Campione was so tenacious that they wouldn't die even when killed, and they absurdly excelled in battle.

It was a characteristic that was shared by many Campiones. Placing this kind of bunch into the category of [human] would cause the normal humans to complain.

Erica finally expressed her conclusion in front of one said person.

"From all of those, I made a conjecture. The possibility of conceiving a child from the "cross-species breeding" between Campione and human must be extremely low."

".....I see. I never thought about that."

Godou blinked.

Come to think of it, the ancient godslayer Urdin who he encountered previously.

Godou was also staying for a while in his "inner palace" that gathered more than ten wives and mistresses. But at that time he didn't feel the presence of children at all.

Of course, they might be entrusted to other place but.....

"Could it be, you—this is why you declared that you [absolutely will give birth]?"

Actually right after the pregnancy came to light, Godou was worried.

They weren't in the world that they originally belonged to. In addition the situation was uncertain. He wondered if it was alright to have children like this.

But, Erica firmly insisted to the worried gene provider that she would give birth.

"If I have to confess, it's exactly like that. If I let go of the chance this time, it will be uncertain if I'll be able to leave behind Kusanagi Godou's blood to the later generation or not."

"Eh!? It was that big of a problem!?"

"There was also a Campione among my—Blandelli House's ancestors. But based on the family tree that I saw, the legitimate child who shared his blood was only one. Even though it seemed he had wives and mistresses that couldn't be counted with the fingers of both hands. Most likely he also had no illegitimate child—"

"....."

The relationship between Campione and normal humans was truly difficult.

However, a child who overcame such difficulty was dwelling inside Erica's stomach. Knowing that, Godou felt an emotion that couldn't be described with words.

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Since then, after a while—

Godou made a trip until the southern part of France, at the side of the Atlantic Ocean.

A "beast of disaster" descended at Bordeaux that was famous as producing area of wine. He travelled with the avatar of Gale and destroyed the enemy with Boar.

Well, it was a simple daily business like usual.

However, it only took an instant when going, but the path home took quite some time.

In the end he spent one day casually changing steam trains from Bordeaux to return until his headquarter.

.....That day, Marseille was really sunny.

"Perhaps I'll take a bit of walk."

He wanted to quickly confirm that nothing happened to the pregnant Erica.

However based on a whim, Godou began to stroll wandering the city. Thinking back, he spent more than five years going through days where he didn't even have the leeway to do that.

It would be nice to walk alone sometimes—.

Today Godou was wearing a black frock coat, white shirt, scarf around his neck, and grey long trousers. He was also carrying a stick.

There were a lot of Frenchmen sending curious gaze to the Asian person dressed as a gentleman.

However Godou paid it no heed. It was because he had the defiance to only persist with his own style no matter where he went, and no matter what kind of people he was surrounded with.

That was why he enjoyed walking in the city alone brazenly.

Currently he was wandering around the station. It was St. Charles station that he made use of just now. Not even ten years had passed since it was built.

The modernization of France was currently progressing under the order of Emperor Napoleon III.

The railroad network was also expanding smoothly. Even from this Marseilles people would be able to go all the way too the capital, Paris.

The castle walls that had protected the cities since the Middle Age had been mostly demolished.

Large scale land readjustment, road construction, the construction of factories, ammunition factories, warehouses, and so on were

carried forward everywhere. Whether for good or bad this city had vitality.

Marseille was the number two city even in a large country like France due to its trade port.

Sailors, harbor's manual laborers, merchants, suspicious gangsters, prostitutes, military officers, police officers, government officials, bank employees, etc. were clamoring in one place.

If there were a lot of people, there would also be a lot of quarrel. The whole city was being enveloped in chaos.

That was mysteriously pleasant for a human like Kusanagi Godou.

"It will be afternoon soon. I'm hungry....."

Midway, he entered a sloppy restaurant.

Potato mixed with salted cod broken into small pieces and crushed, combined with garlic, and then placed on sliced baguette. Sausage made from lamb meat and seasoned with spices. Bouillabaisse that was the specialty of a city near the sea. Even though all of them were simple food and yet they were delicious enough.

He exited the restaurant and looked around at the market. Before he realized it, the time was already past 2 PM.

He should go home soon—when he was thinking that.

"What!?"

Godou gasped and raised his face. Power was overflowing from his heart and body to a violent degree. He sharply glared at the direction of the bustling traffic.

Within the crowd, a youth wearing old cloak was standing still.

It was a heavy traffic with a lot of people coming and going. It would be really bothersome if someone was standing still in the middle of that. But the passerbys didn't even pay it any mind. They were avoiding the youth with natural movement.

Kusanagi Godou was the only person there who perceived the youth.

"It seems you have something good happened to you. You're in a really good mood."

War god Verethragna. The radiant fifteen years old youth was there.

He was slowly walking toward him. An opponent who he once killed. The previous rematch was also suspended half-heartedly. Truthfully, it wouldn't be strange even if a duel began at this moment.

It was the encounter of that kind of two people. However.

"You. Finally you come huh."

"It's really mysterious. For me to feel this joyful from encountering the man who killed me."

When Godou spoke calmly, Verethragna also replied casually.

The two who ought to fight. The two who ought to kill each other. However, the two of them was bonded not only by an opposing fate but also by a favorable fate.

Godou spoke once more.

"You're really late. I completely thought that you would come chasing me right away. And yet you didn't show up in front of me for more than half a year—. Did you play hooky?"

"What are you saying? After you departed, I also demanded to Zurvan immediately."

"To that guy? For what?"

"I asked him to please bring me to where my arch-enemy is quickly. However, time travelling is something uncertain. Although it's possible to head toward the same era of the one who went ahead, it's also likely for a gap of several months to be created. It's something that can't be helped."

"Now that you mentioned it, we had also experienced something like that occasionally."

It was a phenomenon that also occurred in the expedition toward ancient Gallia when they were going after Salvatore Doni.

He wondered what he was doing right now, that man who was spreading around the proclamation that Kusanagi Godou was his rival. It seemed that man had quickly got bored of wandering around the parallel worlds here and there but—.

".....Well, that guy doesn't matter I guess."

Godou addressed the arch-enemy who was in front of him right now.

"Where're we going to do it?"

"Anywhere."

A responsive answer. As expected, he and Kusanagi Godou were exceptionally compatible with each other.

Both sides grinned widely, then they continued further with the face of a prank-loving boy.

"When?"

"Anytime.However, let's postpone it for a bit."

Verethragna's additional comment made Godou said "Hee" while his eyes snapped wide open.

"That's not like you. Getting cold feet isn't your personality right?"

"Of course. But, I wish to see with these eyes. —The reason that make you so happy like that. Only after that I will exert my whole body and soul to be victorious against Kusanagi Godou without fail."

The war god of the east gallantly declared.

"Now, mine arch-enemy! Display to me the treasure that you have obtained!"

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The day he reunited with Verethragna.

The princess shrine maidens weren't at Kusanagi Godou's mansion. In order to investigate the [aforementioned matter], Ena set off on a trip while Yuri was stepping outside.

Liliana Kranjcar was also in the middle of going away from the headquarter to take care of a business of the Campiones association.

Otherwise there were only the servants working in the mansion and the subordinates of the association. That was Godou only brought him to meet Erica who was suffering from morning sickness.

She was lying on bed even today with her body leaning on the cushion placed on her back.

"You brought a rare guest here."

"Well."

Godou's explanation was excessively simple. Erica was astonished for a moment.

But, she immediately straightened her back. Although she didn't get up from the bed, she gave a greeting with as much elegance she could.

"It has been a long time, Verethragna-sama."

"Umu, I remember you. So the girl from that time will soon become a mother."

War god Verethragna narrowed his almond-shaped eyes even further.

However, their relationship wasn't one where they would exchange words of blessing with each other. The beautiful face of the youth quickly changed into the brazen face of a resolute warrior.

"It pain my heart to make you into a widow but—you should resolve yourself from now on. This man's thread of life will soon be severed and leave his corpse in the battlefield."

"Please rest assured. Even without being told that, it's a truth that I have been aware of for a long time ago."

Erica didn't even get agitated at the slightest and spoke smoothly.

"No matter what kind of hero, no one has ever won a hundred battle a hundred times. And that is even truer when it comes to the godslayer who are opposing the mighty gods. My husband Kusanagi Godou too will someday be smeared with a defeat in a battlefield somewhere..... That too is the rule of the battlefield. Even though your honorable self is a god of war, there is no need to lecture me of this."

"Fufu. As expected from a bride of a godslayer. Very good."

Verethragna praised with his archaic smile.

He stared at the stomach of Erica that was hidden under the blanket.

"This is a precious life that will be born to this world, I want to wish for the child's happiness in this chance but.....I believe another words would be more fitting for the children who will be swallowed by the hapless fate one day."

He spoke dispassionately with the earnestness that was fitting for a divine hero.

"Listen well, be strong, strong to a degree that won't put shame to your father and mother. Because when you children are fully matured, neither of them will be at your side!"

"You even proclaim your victory at my children huh."

Verethragna's bombastic proclamation.

I'll defeat your father before you grow up—. Godou interpreted it like that and smiled wryly. Very well, bring it on!

He felt lively and called to the war god.

"Then, let's begin soon."

"How hasty. At the very least we should withdraw from the presence of the mother and child."

Fighting spirit was drawn tautly between the godslayer and the war god.

Erica on the bed held her breath to watch over the course of events—at that time. The bedroom's door was opened loudly and Liliana entered.

"So you are here, Kusanagi Godou—what!?"

As expected even the female knight was astounded by Verethragna's existence.

Godou exchanged gaze with Liliana and nodded without looking really perturbed.

"What happened? Is it an emergency situation?"

"Ye, yes, well..... Seishuuin Ena and Mariya Yuri who went out to search for Madam Aisha sent an outrageous report—"

Liliana spoke while sending glances to Verethragna.

In that instant, the radiant fifteen years old youth started laughing loudly.

"Oo! I presume that you all have also finally noticed what that accursed witch had done—just how big this matter that was brought about!"

"Eh? So Aisha-san really made a mess just as we thought?"

Verethragna magnanimously chuckled at the exasperated Godou.

"Kukukuku. Well, you can listen to your retainer's report. You will be able to listen to a tale that is really hard to believe, but one where you won't have any other choice but to believe it!"

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3

Just a little while ago, Kusanagi Godou went until Bordeaux and subjugated a beast of disaster.

The beast this time was a huge pig. However, that was a trivial matter. An even more serious incident was in progress behind the scene.

"So it's not a waste to make Yuri stand watch for several days."

[I'm happy to be of use.]

Around the same time when Kusanagi Godou returned back to Marseille—

Ena was sprinting through the mountain forest at the northwest area of Spain. She ran through wilderness with agility that wasn't inferior to a monkey. She was jumping from branch to branch and ran the whole distance with astounding speed.

It was truly a performance that lived up to the reputation of the nature child Seishuuin Ena.

Originally, there shouldn't be anyone who was capable to keep up with the princess shrine maiden of the sword in mountainous region.

However right now, Mariya Yuri—her ghost body was accompanying her closely. She was floating lightly in the air and flew with speed that didn't lose even against Ena's swiftness.

[Spiritual Body Separation]. By use [Psychic Sensing] and using ectoplasm or spirit body one can create something akin to a doppelganger of the soul. In the past, it was a technique that Princess Alice often used.

As a shrine maiden who possessed similar spiritual power of telepathy, Yuri also tried imitating it.

[When I climbed high in the sky with this form and looked down toward the ground, the "cloud of life"—the cloud that gave birth to the beasts of disaster appeared. It was truly a divine aid.]

Yuri who became a spirit body wasn't affected by the availability of oxygen or atmospheric pressure.

She climbed until the altitude of 700 meters and observed whether there was the ominous cloud showing up at the area of southern Europe and Mediterranean Sea. She repeated that for several days.

(By the way, Yuri's true body was in the mansion of Marseille even now. The body was laid down on a bed inside a bedroom and sleeping.)

The place where the cloud originated from was discovered from this kind of sequence of events—.

Ena rushed through mountains like wind toward that place.

Although it was a word that couldn't possibly be known by European people in 19th century, but if descendant from a hundred years later witnessed the current Ena, surely they would yell [Ninja!].

Like that, the two princess shrine maidens arrived at northwest Spain.

They passed through the Catalunya region, and entered deep inside the Valencia region—there they finally caught sight of that disastrous spectacle.

".....Uwaa. In a sense, this is just as expected—or not I guess. This is without a doubt something that far outside our expectations."

(To think that Madam Aisha will end up like this.....)

Ena was exasperated, while Yuri was also in a state of lamentation.

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.....The girl who was born in India, Aisha was captured as sacrifice by the villagers.

The villagers belonged to the heretical Servitus faction of Christianity. However, that fact wasn't important at all in this case. Later on they would be recorded simply as [they] or [villagers].

The holy grail that was passed down for generations among them, that pink colored lump of rock.

According to the village's tradition—

One day the jet black holy mother who brought many lives on earth descended to the surface world.

But she was attacked by a warrior carrying a sword that shined bright and lost her life. Her corpse one day turned into rock and changed into the holy grail..... It was that kind of object.

Inside this mysterious rock, the girl Aisha was sleeping.

The villagers worshiped the holy grail and the girl as a set. They wildly adored her as the [Holy mother!].

During that time, a miracle started.

White gas puffed out from the holy grail, and surprisingly it climbed high to the sky and became cloud—it would then make a “beast of disaster” to descend at where the cloud drifted to.

One of the villagers asked the village chief who was also a pastor.

Why was this kind of miracle occurred?

"The jet black holy mother who we're worshipping is the mother nature itself. She is also the queen of the bird and beast, the one who govern over both life and death—. It's not strange at all that she dispatch her servant like that to the surface to scatter death and destruction."

"Is that true, pastor!?"

"Umu. In order to purify the dirtied land, the goddess dispatched the raging beast to us. Rejoice, everyone!"

"OOOOOOOOOO!"

The beasts of disaster descended everywhere in south Europe, destroying cities and towns.

The villagers were terribly happy. The village was in excitement day after day like a festival.

It was because they didn't only hold faith to heretical Christianity, they also studied evil sorcery and proactively carried out wicked ritual like sacrificing humans and the like. They were an evil magician cult. The misfortune of the people of the world was a happy matter for them.

The great joy and wild excitement of the village continued for around half a month—.

However, the days of supreme bliss ended suddenly.

The godslaying devil king Caesar Blandelli entered the stage.

Since that day the beasts of disaster were reduced into the "loser role". South Europe that was turned into a melting pot of terror and chaos recovered peace with Caesar's strength.

The magicians of the righteous faction that could only shake in their boots against the threat of the beasts until now.

When they recited the name of Caesar, that man would come flying from out of nowhere and consigned the beasts to oblivion like it was a chore!

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"Oo, holy grail and saint!"

"Curse our resented enemy Caesar Blandelli!"

"Curse him! Curse him! Curse him! Curse him!"

"Damn you, accursed Caesar, our hateful enemy!"

Deep inside a mountain in Valencia region, in front of a precipitous cliff.

There, the villagers who imprisoned the girl Aisha were gathering.

They filled their body with blazing rage, killing intent, curse, and twisted sense of justice. They raised their voices loudly and spewed out their hatred to Caesar Blandelli.

It was late at night. The full moon was rising up until near the zenith.

The people were prostrating toward the holy grail that swallowed Aisha.

The pink colored lump of rock was half transparent. Inside it the brown skinned beautiful girl was lying down sleeping.

The shape of the lump of rock was vaguely similar with a large cow. The size was also around that big.

This holy grail was supported by wooden material that forcefully made it stood up. The villagers set it up like this in order to face the girl sleeping inside and offered their prayer to her from the front.

And then, very suddenly—

Blink. Aisha's eyes opened wide.

(.....My? I, what is it I have been doing until now?)

She hazily thought inside the transparent pink stone.

(If I remember correctly, I was attacked by strange gods in a place with name like[Temple of Infinity!]..... This place, where in the world is this?)

Aisha's consciousness was still hazy.

But, her memory was recovering in fragments. Furthermore her half awakened body was brimming with unprecedented amount of mystical force.

A source of power that made her worthy as godslayer, the queen of the mysterious cave was—.

Right now, outside the holy grail that was containing Aisha, dozens of people were praying for something really passionately.

"O maiden of holy grail, we beg you to bring down the divine punishment to the enemy of justice Caesar!"

"The devil king Caesar is truly the root of all evil! I beg you, with your great power please do something about that person!"

"We offer our prayer to the mother of holy grail and saint!"

Aisha sorted out those earnest requests inside her hazy mind—

(I seeeee. A person called Caesar-san is tormenting these people. It makes me a bit tearful. How pitiful they are.....)

If it was her usual self, then Aisha would be moved to tears right now.

However, her flesh body was still half asleep. She still couldn't move even a single finger. She couldn't remember the particular but, right now she was being imprisoned inside a rock.

The rock that was called as holy grail by the people outside was accumulating a terrific amount of mystical force—

(Ah, I see. I understand!)

Aisha noticed.

(Because I absorbed a lot of power from this rock and got a lot of rest from sleeping for a long time, that the[seal] Zurvan-sama applied on me got dispelled!)

She had never learned magic but, she had a lot of experience as godslayer.

Aisha easily saw through the mechanism of the matter and comprehended it. Even if Zurvan used her authority of time to return her back to her youth, as expected she was a “godslayer”.

Certainly both her body and memory were returned to the time she was seventeen years old who didn’t know anything.

However, thanks to an absurd amount of mystical force charging Aisha’s body and mind, even that[return to youth’s effect] was negated.

The resistance to curse and sorcery that devil king Campione possessed was heightened—.

Aisha understood her situation in general.

But unfortunately she was still imprisoned inside the holy grail and couldn’t move. The people outside were praying zealously toward her who was in that state.

"O maiden of the holy grail, please grant us your divine protection.....!"

"Please punish the hated enemy Caeasar!"

The kind Aisha was the heaven-sent child of love and virtue at any time.

Naturally, her heart was moved by their yell.

(They're speaking that far, and they're pitiful so.....perhaps, I should give help.)

Certainly at this time it didn't look like she could get out from the so called holy grail.

It would also become a way for her to kill time during that, and above all else she conveniently—could use the power of holy grail really easily.....

(Eii)

She tried sending her thought slightly.

White smoke puffed out from the lump of rock where Aisha was in. It climbed high to the night sky. It then turned into cloud and drifted to somewhere.

(That cloud, somehow it seems that it will create my friend.....)

Aisha vaguely sensed the cloud's role.

During the time she was imprisoned inside the strange holy grail thing, the power relationship between them got overturned.

Or rather, there was no way[an inorganic substance that wasn't even heretic god] would be able to imprison a devil king Campione for eternity. No, well, until just a little while ago Aisha was just a normal human so, it also felt like the particular was a bit inconsistent but—

(But in the past, someone told me this. We are[creatures that make the unreasonable to be passed in heaven using strength], that person said. Is that perhaps because there is something like this?)

Even while questioning herself, Aisha began to do a trial run.

She heightened her focus and produced the cloud of life one after another. *Puff puff puff*. The clouds rising up from the holy grail were drifting to east, to west, to north, to anywhere without any order.

After it arrived at somewhere, it would give birth to Aisha's[friend] from it.

(My, how lovely! I have to fight with everyone against Caesar-san, and bring back peace to this world!)

"Oo, maiden of the holy grail!"

"Our gratitude to the miracle that you show us!"

"Glory to the jet black holy mother and her maiden!""Glory to them!""Halleluya!""Praise be to god, halleluya!""Halleluya!""Halleluya!"

The people outside were rejoicing.

After the clouds of life were generated in succession for the seventh time.

(I have to work hard to prepare for the coming day of the decisive battle!)

Aisha completely felt that she had done a [good thing].

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The princess shrine maidens witness this kind of event from the beginning to end.

Ena was hiding behind a cover. Yuri who transformed into ghost body climbed to the sky. This act happened in the middle of a mountain in Valencia region.

When the two of them joined up, they began to have discussion in whispers.

"The rock those evil magicians called as the holy grail—. It created the "beasts of disaster" and the "clouds of life", Ena thinks."

[I also felt that's the case.]

Yuri immediately agreed with Ena's hypothesis.

She was perceiving the event's outline in general with her preeminent spiritual sight ability.

[The body of Madam Aisha who was swallowed for some reason—couldn't be digested somehow, and from there it seemed that the rock became strange.....]

"It got controlled by Aisha-san instead?"

[I think that's the case.]

"Uuuun.....the harm was still be smaller than when she ran wild with only her own strength."

[Indeed.....]

The shrine maidens nodded to each other with gloomy expression.

But, Yuri immediately raised her face with dignity and spoke with determination.

[I will return to my real body and inform Godou-san of this. We have to take a countermeasure immediately!]

"Then, Ena will stay here and continue to observe. This is becoming something outrageous.....!"

[If it's possible, let's contact Madam Aisha and ask her to stop her folly—her barbarism.....no, her terrifying act immediately!]

"Got it. I'll try that. But that person, I wonder if Ena will be able to stop her....."

As expected even Yuri was so flustered that her tongue slipped.

Even the carefree Ena was unusually tensing her expression with heroic resolve.

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—The [devil king sealing] by the King of the End Mithra and the god of time Zurvan. What overturned it was as expected, the unruly hidden reserves of strength of Madam Aisha.

Chapter 6 – Before Beginning the Trip

1

The village where the magicians of the evil cult took root were living—

It was inconspicuously located in the north of Valencia region, in the mountainous region of Iberian mountain range.

It was a period where cars or planes still didn't exist. Even the steam train hadn't promulgated that much. The place couldn't be reached without traversing the meandering mountain road by walking, using a horse or a horse carriage.

Well, it was a tiny mountain village.

There was only around twenty or thirty houses made from stone in this settlement that was created along the valley.

The villagers obtained the provisions for their living from meager dry field farming and their pasturage. For the villagers, things like sacrifice ritual or magic was one of their few pastimes—or perhaps it would be unfair to call it that.

However right now, this tiny settlement was greatly bustling.

"It's amazing how many are gathered, really....."

"Umu. It seems that your fellow godslayer is truly a lady without any integrity."

In respond to Kusanagi Godou's muttering, his partner this time commented back.

They were hiding among the conifers that grew a lot in the mountain range. They could look down towards the village in the valley from the mountainside. The village was overflowing with gigantic beasts.

Lions, bears, pigs, snakes, deer, horses, lizards, crocodiles—.

Anyway the animals that varied numbered more than fifty.

Each of them were abnormally sized around 20~30 meters long. All of them were lying down on the ground while curling their bodies. They were on standby like dogs with good discipline.

However, it seemed there was some turmoil to reach this point.

The houses of the village—around half of them were smashed apart into wreckage of rubble and building materials. The other half was safe was perhaps because the houses weren't built close to each other but scattered all over which was fortunate.

"No matter how you look at it, the place was ravaged by a huge army of beasts."

Godou muttered.

A pink colored lump of rock was laid down on the square that was in the center of the village.

It couldn't be seen from here but Madam Aisha should be inside it. Also, right beside the lump of rock there were dozens of humans huddling close together.

They were staring at the "beasts of disaster" with a scared look—.

"I can feel the fear of those people. They are completely afraid."

His partner was slightly sympathetic to the villagers. Godou shrugged.

"If those kinds of things are in this village, then even those guys who are evil cult members won't be able to endure."

"It can be said that they're reaping what they sow but, they're also pitiful. Surely they never imagined even in their wildest dreams that the maiden they sacrificed is actually a godslayer!"

It was a fitting speech for a protector of justice.

His partner—war god Verethragna and Godou were in a truce for these three days.

It was because the clouds of life were being generated one after another and the beasts of disaster descended all over south Europe. It was the result of the "sleeping princess" Madam Aisha who controlled the item called holy grail and misusing its power.

Verethragna said this in the mansion of Marseilles.

[Just between you and me, I have to confess. Regarding the matter of that witch, my lord Mithra and the king of time Zurvan had "blundered". As the one entrusted with the sword of salvation, I have to clean up their mess.]

[What a coincidence.]

Godou too immediately said this.

[I also intend to clean up the mess of that person's misconduct.]

[Fumu.]

Verethragna only replied shortly.

However after that, the godslayer and the war god went around everywhere in south Europe together and crushed the beasts of disaster one after another. Then they finally arrived to this enemy

headquarters. Even without speaking any words they naturally acted together.

Just like that nostalgic journey in Sardinia Island.

And then even now Kusanagi Godou and war god Verethragna were standing side by side.

"Yosh, let's start."

"I think you're aware of this already but, in the end this is only a preliminary skirmish. Don't run out of strength just from this."

"Who are you saying that to? In this situation I'm the reigning champion who is receiving your challenge. It's me who can act haughtily while looking down on you, don't forget that."

"Fuh—"

That faint smile surfaced on the lips of the war god from his exchange with Godou.

From here words were already weapon for the sake of fighting. Verethragna chanted first.

"Thus speaketh Lord Mithra..... The sinful shall be met with justice. May spines be crushed, may bones be broken, tendons torn, hair brains and blood mingled and trampled together with the earth"

The body of the handsome youth swelled up. He started to transform into a lump of flesh densely covered in black fur.

Godou also didn't lose and chanted the "continuation".

"The one unblunted and unapproachable! Oath breaking sinners be purged by the iron hammer of justice!"

OOOOOOOooooooooOOOOOOOOOOOONN!

The divine beast Boar flew out from underground while roaring. It was the offshoot of Kusanagi Godou, the fifth avatar of Verethragna.

The jet black destroyer rushed down the mountain and charged fiercely to the settlement along the valley.

Right beside it—a Boar that possessed practically the same physique and muscularity with Kusanagi Godou's offshoot was running. It was the form that the radiant handsome youth transformed into.

Right now, the two Boars were running parallel to each other while going down the slope of the mountain like an avalanche.

In order to pulverize and trample every obstruction standing before them. In order to carry out the first and last joint battle of Kusanagi Godou and the war god of the east.....

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DODODODODO—!

The ground was shaking with intense vibration.

(Earthquake.....is it a landslide?)

Aisha thought in a daze inside the holy grail that was producing to life.

(I have to ask beast friends to protect everyone in the village.)

She had diligently created the beast army in preparation to confront the devil king Caesar. There was also that one time when a part of the beasts went wild in the middle, but everyone had calmed down completely. The villagers were also really happy and offered their prayer of thanks to Aisha=holy grail.

Also, she got the feeling there was also a single voice pleading [Aisha-san! I beg you, please stop already!] to her.

Unfortunately however, when she was inside the holy grail she was unable to grasp the situation outside in detail.

(.....There is someone creeping about doing something isn't there?)

She ended the thought with that.

But if a great commotion began outside like now—

(My? My my my my!?)

Aisha was flustered.

The beast army that she prepared after much effort was now being massacred helplessly.....?

Two jet black divine beasts that looked like they were twins were running to every which way, jumping around, obliterating the animals of Aisha's army in the mountain village located in the valley.

All her animals were taken care of in practically a single hit.

The attacks consisted of a fierce charge followed with head butt, body tackle, or a thrust of tusks growing from their mouth.

With such rough but hearty brute force, the two black divine beasts sent the animals of Aisha flying one after another. The two beasts went further by trampling their opponents with their front legs or kicking using their rear legs. They also used the tusks in their mouth to pierce the soft belly of their opponent before digging in and gouging the flesh.

The villagers were also falling into despair. They began to escape.

"Ca, Caesar's demon beast came out!?"

"There are two of them!? This is the end—!"

"O maiden, o holy grail, grant us your divine protection.....UWAAAAAAAH!"

Even the villagers who tried to hold their ground couldn't endure anymore if the scuffling giant creatures got near. They were running away in full speed.

And then—Aisha felt two people coming to right near her.

"So this thing is the rumored holy grail. It's true. Aisha-san is inside there."

"It seems that she is more or less awake but, apparently she is still half asleep. To spread that many disasters everywhere on the surface world when she is in this state. What a truly terrifying woman."

"Do you recognize me, Aisha-san?No reaction. It's just like Ena said."

"Looks like there is no other choice but to forcefully cut her off from this. Let's see."

It was a tall young man and a short boy.

The two of them exchanged gaze. Then a long sword suddenly appeared in the boy's right hand.

"As expected. Can you cut it?"

"Umu. It's clearly visible with my spiritual sight. This holy grail thing, is a mother earth goddess who was killed by the King of the End Mithra a long time ago—her corpse then became this rock. The goddess when she was alive was named Maria of Ephesus. O sword of wisdom, cut apart these name and divinity without fail....."

The boy thrust his sword while chanting.

It was a golden blade that was shining with sublime radiance.

Stab. The holy grail was easily pierced. Even though normally the hard rock surface would deflect the tip of the sword. *Zubu zubu*. The sword was going even deeper inside—

The golden tip arrived until right before Aisha's eyes.

In that moment, she felt her body becoming light. Her consciousness suddenly became clear.

"The power of the holy grail stone is sealed by my sword. You can do it now."

"Yosh, Aisha-san!"

The tall young man.....no, Kusanagi Godou's hand reached out.

This time his right hand was plunging into the transparent pink rock like it was water. That hand grabbed Aisha's arm and pulled her out.

Zaba-! It was a feeling like being pulled out from underwater back to open air.

Thus the godslaying madam was revived. Aisha muttered in a daze with vacant gaze.

"Fueeee.....Kusanagi-san, good morning....."

"Really, what a easygoing person."

The young man was her old acquaintance and her fellow godslayer, Kusanagi Godou.

He was staring at the half awake Aisha in exasperation. There was also a boy around fifteen years old right beside the godslaying young man, holding a golden sword. What was his name again?

Anyway he was her savior. She had to express her gratitude.

"Thank you, very much.....fueee....."

She was still unbearably sleepy. Plop.

Aisha was lying spread-eagled on the ground and began to sleep soundly.

.

2

"The small mercy in this is that Aisha-san's original authority wasn't used."

Godou talked to himself after finishing the work.

"Perhaps it became impossible to use because she got absorbed into this holy grail thing though. Her authorities are all even more troublesome than the ability to create strange zoo so that's honestly a great help."

The small village of the evil cult had become a battlefield.

The beasts of disaster and also the two Boards were already gone. The place was falling silent.

The settlement that was originally standing quietly at the valley even if it was small was blessed with the tasteful scenery of mountain village even if it didn't have the showiness of the city.

However right now, whether it was the modest field, the trees, or the houses of the village, all of them were mowed down.

They were trampled underfoot, kicked to smithereens, and crushed into dust.

It was an atrocious scenery as though there was bomb going off here. It was due to dozens of giant creatures rampaging here without holding back.

The only people remaining here were Godou, Verethragna, and the sleeping India girl—.

"She is sleeping with a peaceful face. Really, this person is truly outrageous....."

"She is truly a lady who ought to be praised as a hero. Though that's only if we close our eyes from the deed she is guilty of....."

Madam Aisha who was falling asleep once more was rolling in her sleep in front of them.

To think that the day would come where he was watching this scene together with this youth! Such deep emotion made Godou smiled wryly. Verethragna beside him also smiled abruptly.

Now, from here was the main event—.

"You, what do you plan to do with Aisha-san? Are you going to kill her?"

"I can't do that because there are circumstances. Next I will throw her into prison with my own hands and keep her there until her death as an eternal prisoner."

"There is a slight part of me that want to agree with that but, no. I can't accept that."

"You won't accept it?"

"Yeah. This person is my friend.....or perhaps it's difficult to call her that but, I have known her for quite long, and I don't have the slightest intention to abandon her. That's why, it ends here."

"Umu. It ends here."

An agreement was established readily.

Their joint battle ended here. From here on would finally be the time for the decisive battle—.

Godou faced Verethragna straight forwardly. He deliberately paid no heed to the sleeping Madam Aisha. He had no leeway to do such thing.

.....This time, Verethragna suddenly started by summoning the golden sword.



"You take out your trump card really quickly there."

"Fuh. The phase of probing each other's hand has ended a long time ago in the previous battle. That doesn't apply to me alone, you are the same aren't you?"

It was a question that didn't even need to be answered. Both Verethragna and Godou were smiling.

It wasn't a friendly smile. It was a fierce smile that came out exactly because of the fighting spirit overflowing from deep inside. It was the face of warrior that rejoiced being able to meet a strong opponent.

"Can you now cut my ability that creates that storm?"

"I won't say I can't.But, there is something that has to be sealed first than that."

Verethragna pointed the tip of his golden sword to Godou.

"I am the one who smash every obstacle. Kusanagi Godou, even the authority that you usurped from me—I will smash it. With the sword of wisdom, I will cut apart my own divine power!"

Many light spheres floated up from the ground.

The light spheres also rapidly came into being from the youth's chanting voice.

The whole surrounding was filled with innumerable light spheres in the blink of eye. And then, every single one of them were holding back Kusanagi Godou.

Verethragna chanted further.

"You took possession of a war god's power by usurpation. A god of victory, a god who bring justice, a god who guides, a powerful god, a righteous god, a protector god, a reincarnating god. You have

grasped all the ten aspects of I, Verethragna. In that case I shall announce. I will seal everything."

The words of power became blade, which became sword.

If words that detailed a god could be turned into weapon, then it should be easy to forge a sword to cut himself—. Verethragna's sword was being completed in a terrifying speed.

Godou too started chanting in hurry.

"By means of the skill of wisdom, and the skill of word, I shall be victorious over all ene—tsk, no good huh."

Godou also spoke the words of power to cut apart war god Verethragna, but.

Usually, light would be created from his voice. But right now he couldn't even feel any sign of that happening. The authority that should be deeply rooted in the heart and body of Kusanagi Godou couldn't be called out at all.

Shuu-! Verethragna came to him with a thrust of his golden sword.

Godou tried using Raptor as a test.

But, as expected there wasn't even any sign of it activating. He immediately jumped away, dodging the sword.

"If I got hit by that, I'll lose ten weapons....."

"Forcing yourself to do something like receiving everything I have has come back to haunt you. As your arch-enemy, and as your temporary friend it's really joyous to witness your mettle but....."

A golden sword was grasped in Verethragna's right hand.

In addition, a great sword also appeared in his left hand. Brilliant light dwelled inside its blade—it was the divine sword of salvation. He assaulted Godou again with the two sword style that combined the hard and soft together once more!

(My lord, Kusanagi Godou!)

Suddenly a [voice] reached Godou's heart.

(Grant a turn to me, the queen of the spear soon! Since the war this time began, I have only lent you my spear once! I cannot hold back anymore after being shown a fight this heated!)

It was a direct request from the war god Lancelot.

The god of the spear who was turned into Kusanagi Godou's authority. The owner of intense emotion that surpassed even the Boar was waiting for the time to join the battle impatiently. Certainly if the Ten Avatars weren't available, then he had no choice but to take her out.

However, Godou refused.

"It's still not the [time]. Your turn is on hold until the time where the match will be genuinely decided! Wait for a bit more over there!"

In exchange what he sent out was this one.

"Hanuman! The great monkey who stole the sun, this is time to show your stuff!"

"O sword of salvation—what!?"

As expected even Verethragna was surprised.

Because the moment the source that emitted the lighting of salvation—the white star materialized in the sky, a black shadow

swallowed it. It was a shadow in the shape of a brawny giant monkey.

The shadow of Hanuman was capable of ever-changing appearance. It could become any size no matter how big.

Something like a pseudo astronomical object with diameter around forty or fifty meters could be taken in easily.

Sparks scattered over and over inside that shadow. Lightning flashed with crackling sound. The lightning of salvation snapped and burst out without pause. But Hanuman's shadow splendidly suppressed it.

Verethragna yelled.

"So you swallow my lightning attack formation. Not bad!"

"Useful guy isn't he? I thought he would become a trump card and held it back!"

Against flame and high temperature, Hanuman's authority could absorb it.

Even if it was the lightning of salvation, if it was just for a short time then Hanuman would manage somehow—. Godou had such conviction. And then, he expected that short time extension would eventually become the key to decide the match without doubt. His beastly instinct as godslayer that was without logic told him that.

This time wouldn't continue forever. That was why he called Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi.

The black sword with a gentle curve appeared in Godou's right hand. Verethragna glanced at it and said.

"You plan to use that sword? That sword which was bestowed with the great black art from the two goddesses.....the ancient snake goddess Athena and the witch of the dawn Circe."

"So you have seen through it already. As I thought."

"That black sword, feel free to draw it out. I shall face it no matter what."

"No..... That one absolutely won't be able to defeat you. The weapon that I choose is this one."

To win against the heaven-sent child of victory, there was only "this method".

It was a development that was just like his resolve. That was why Godou didn't hesitate and chanted resolutely.

"I know about it, Verethragna—"

"What!?"

"Your sword by no means is an absolute weapon. Because I had used that thing for so many times—I understand!"

"You.....you're chanting the words of power of the sword once more!?"

Godou's voice sublimated into words of power, but there wasn't any sign at all it would become the sword.

Even so Godou didn't falter—no, he defiantly continued his chant. Because he already had no more way to surpass Verethragna other than this!

"Until now Verethragna's sword has been sealed multiple times. By Athena who you mentioned, by Perseus, and also by Erlang Shen. That's why.....I'll do the same thing!"

Godou swung up Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi with one hand.

The tip of the black sword pointed to the sky. Around the treasured sword of Japan and Kusanagi Godou, a great number of balls of light floated, sealing his authority that he usurped from the war god.

However, “something” that opposed it started to appear.

Balls of darkness—.

One, then another one came forth in the air.

Their size was exactly the same with the light ball that was produced by the words of power of the sword.

"Ama no Murakumo! Create the sword in my place. Copy the sword of me and Verethragna, and call to this place—the sword to cut apart that guy’s authority!"

[Ou!]

It was a short but strong reply.

The ominous jet black sword started to shake *buuuun, buuuun*.

That vibration sound created out the balls of darkness. It was the [song] of Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi, its words of power.

The balls of darkness that came into being one after another entwined around the balls of light filling the surrounding, or else they collided on the balls of light—.

Copying the power of other person—till the end those balls were imitation from Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi’s power.

It was an authority that was falsely similar with the original. It couldn’t be sealed by Verethragna’s sword that cut divine power. That was why even when the Ten Avatars of Godou were unusable,

the balls of darkness increased in number rapidly and filled the air in the same quantity with the balls of light.

The small light and darkness began to fight each other here and there.

Verethragna rebuked Godou.

"You imitated my sword? You want to surpass me with something like this—with this sword that is literally prepared hastily?"

"It doesn't matter if it's hastily prepared or not, it just needs to be useful!"

Godou put on a brave front even while feeling anxious that his opponent hit the bull's eye.

As expected from the originator. He saw through it quickly. The copy from Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi wasn't something that could be maintained for long. But, he needed that slight time extension!

Godou stabbed the vibrating Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi into the ground.

And then, at this time. Hanuman's shadow burst out in the sky above.

It became unable to suppress the divine sword of salvation. Verethragna who was using two swords pointed at Godou with the white divine sword in his left hand.

"Alright—then, I shall see what can you do with that hastily prepared blade!"

"That's just what I want! Fear me for I have wings!"

A streak of lightning fell from the sky.

It was the armament of heaven that was bestowed to the hero in order to accomplish the devil king extermination. Godou sensed it approaching while using the avatar of Raptor this time.

The darkness balls created by Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi was neutralizing the light balls—Verethragna's sword.

Right now, Kusanagi Godou obtained godspeed and agility.

Even the lightning that was falling with the speed of 150 km/second toward him looked like it was slowing down. If he had to describe it, the speed looked the same like when a stone was thrown toward him from afar.

He could dodge it just barely if it was like this. Just like when he faced Rama in the past. But.

(Ama no Murakumo's time extension, it can hold for two or three minutes I guess.....)

Godou secretly calculated while accelerating—not.

Because doing that wouldn't be the optimum use of the time extension that Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi gave him.

Godou instead let himself to get hit by the lightning of salvation. Heat and intense pain ran through his whole body. He began to accelerate at that moment. He also howled in order to whip his body that received a painful blow.

Verethragna who stood ready with his two swords was astonished.

Even though Godou activated his godspeed, he intentionally received the lightning. Godou's foolish move took him by surprise. Godou ran at full speed toward that war god.

Using his godspeed he moved to left and right to dodge the lightning attack raining down from the sky—.

"Muh!?"

Verethragna glared at the approaching Godou with his almond eyes.

The speed was faster than sound, it practically rivaled lightning. That was godspeed. But, he too was a user of godspeed. It seemed he could see the movement of Godou that transformed into a flash running toward him.

He crossed his two swords to form [X], creating a defensive stance. As expected from him.

"But, that's already too late!"

Godou was already circling behind Verethragna.

The enemy was the war god of the east, the heaven-sent child of victory. He even possessed the divine sword of salvation that he used for his two-sword style while firmly perceiving his opponent who was moving in godspeed—if he was in full readiness, then he would manage such a thing somehow. The god in the form of youth was a warrior of such caliber.

That was why Godou became wounded, in order to take him by surprise.

And then, it was also for the sake of activating this avatar.

"Upon my mighty self.....I shall bear the symbol of the raging camel!"

He leaped to the air behind Verethragna, and launched a fierce spinning kick.

He splendidly struck the back of the head of the youth god. In addition mystical force dwelled in the dorsum of the foot that was riding the power of the kick, causing an explosion. *DOOOON!*

"O—OOOH!?"

Verethragna was sent flying by the explosion behind him. His body pitched forward and fell.

Well, normally it wouldn't be strange if the back of the head that was directly hit got blown off. To get away with only this much, it was to be expected from the great warrior whose name was associated with the sword god of steel. It was worthy of praise.

During that time—Godou dashed toward Madam Aisha.

He lifted up the sleeping godslayer and ran toward faraway using godspeed while giving order.

"It's alright now, the time has come!"

(Understood! I've been waiting impatiently for this time, truly.....!)

It was the reply from war god Lancelot.

.

.....A little while before the duel between fellow owner of ten avatars began.

Lancelot mounted a white horse soaring in the sky and arrived in the sky above the mountain village that became a battlefield. Without pause she slipped into a random cloud and waited.

She was the queen of the Amazon's and the embodiment of thunder and lightning.

Whether it was lightning clouds or rain clouds, lurking inside a cloud was child's play for her.

Like that she was waiting. For the command from the king—Raise your battle cry, wield your sharp spear and beautiful shield and advance, such a command.

The time finally came. Lancelot kicked the stomach of her beloved horse.

"We master and servant NOW will become a tremendous lightning. We will transform into a flash of light that gallop down, gouging a large hole in the ground along with the war god Verethragna. You can do it right?"

Neiiiiigh

Her beloved horse answered with a neigh. The horse was armored with a breastplate, helmet, and greaves for the use of the horse.

Lancelot herself was also fully equipped with silver chainmail, steel helmet, a long spear, and caltrop shaped shield. And then, they finally started dashing.

Their aim was the ground, at Verethragna who was finally falling down due to her lord's kick.

The war god was now exposing his defenseless back to the sky. Lancelot and her beloved horse were falling like meteor.

.

—*GOooooooooOOOOOOOOOOOOOONN!*

Light and heat and shockwave were raging mad. It became a state of affair where a crater with diameter of 15 or 16 kilometer was suddenly gouged out in the middle Valencia's mountain.

The small village of the heretical magicians was also erased cleanly. It was obliterated from the surface of the earth.

There were two gods at the center of the explosion. Queen Lancelot who was looking down on the enemy from above her horse, and Verethragna who was falling flat on the ground in vain.

A great sword shining in platinum color was also lying down right beside the youthful god.

Of course, it was the divine sword of salvation.

In the sky, the white star, the words of power of the sword, and the balls of darkness that was sealing them, all of them were gone. Everything was returned to “zero” by the attack of the war god Lancelot.



3

"Are you alright, your majesty?"

"Isn't your body at its limit already?"

"Well.....I'm still barely alright, I think I can hold out somehow. I can force myself if it's just for a bit more. It's the critical moment here, so I'll hold out for a little longer."

"Acknowledged. Please leave the rest to me."

"I'm counting on you, Liliana. Of course Ena and Yuri too. I'll leave Aisha-san to you three."

Kusanagi Godou withdrew from the battlefield temporarily using the godspeed of Raptor avatar.

He was surrounded by the women who were supporting him. Seishuuin Ena and Mariya Yuri, and also Liliana Kranjcar.

Madam Aisha was still sleeping carefree like usual.

Also, they were several kilometers away from the crater that Lancelot gouged out.

".....However, I'm in a really pained state here."

Godou smiled wryly.

He was sitting on a tree's stump in order to rest his body even for a bit. Although he cornered Verethragna somehow, his body was near its limit.

First was the fatigue from using the avatars of Raptor and Camel at the same time.

In addition was the damage he received from the lightning of salvation. Although that self-destruction was necessary in order to take the war god by surprise and activate Camel, as expected it was harsh.....

"But unlike that time with Rama, his weapon wasn't filled with poison."

Just that point alone was fortunate.

Numerous weapons that were bestowed from the gods and immortal beings were lurking within the lightning of the hero Rama. There were also some that possessed special effect like poison and the like. This time Godou was mutually assaulted by pain as though his whole body was going to be torn to pieces and a feeling of lethargy. But, well, he felt like he could still endure it somehow.

—Yes. The requirement to use Camel was getting deeply wounded.

In exchange he became resistant toward intense pain while using it, so he could move around quite energetically.

But, if that blessing was gone, the damage would become unendurable and stopped Kusanagi Godou's movement.....

His head was feeling throbbing pain was the burden from using Raptor and Camel simultaneously even now.

Ama no Murakumo no Tsurugi was also unusable for a while. It was dragged into the explosion that Lancelot caused and got damaged quite seriously. If he forcefully used it, it would only get broken into pieces.

His battle potential was less than half of his normal state. Godou spoke his wishful thinking.

"If I manage to K.O. Verethragna, then I won't need to hang on anymore but—"

Right after that.

(.....U, ku—what power.....!?)

The astounded feeling of Lancelot was conveyed to him.

The conflict against Verethragna who should be defeated already was still continuing! And then, the one in disadvantage was obviously the war god of the lance—!

Godou whipped his pained body and slowly stood up.

"I'm going now. If the worst happen then everyone, do what you think is the best."

Godou deliberately didn't say anything about Erica who was left behind in Valencia because of her pregnancy and about the child who would be born soon.

Because these girls who had accompanied him until this point—would surely not do anything of ill intent.

Yuri spoke as the representative of the side who was seeing him off.

"Yes. I pray that the fortune of war is with you. Come back safely.....I won't say that to you. Because those words aren't worthy of being words of parting to you."

Those were valiant words that didn't suit the graceful Yamato Nadeshiko.

"Yep. Show everything you got, your majesty. As expected, Ena want to see when Kusanagi Godou wins and achieves outrageous things."

While those were cheerful and openhearted words, they were filled with resolve that was fitting for a daughter of samurai's like Ena.

And then for the last, Liliaa nodded to him.

"It's my duty to compensate for my lord's absence. That goes whether you're alive or dead. That's why what you should think about right now is only the battle before you."

"Yeah. I'm really thankful to hear that from you all."

In the first place, as someone whose child would be born soon, he shouldn't challenge this kind of battle.

A parent has a responsibility to raise his child. However, even then the girls said that it was alright for him to fight. They gave a push to a good-for-nothing like him. He was really grateful.

—He had to go now. Godou ran off with the godspeed of Raptor.

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At the crater after everything was blown away.

There was only soil and sand in that leveled ground. There was no scenery drearier than this. There was only dust and dirt obstructing one's sight.

That was why it was really standing out, the two people fighting at the "bottom" of the crater that was shaped like a mortar.

One of them was armed with a long spear and shield, while the other one was armed with the divine sword of salvation.

They were Lancelot who seemed to have lost her horse and Verethragna. The scene was similar with a fight in a mortar shaped

stadium with audiences seats set up at the surrounding. Godou unconsciously muttered.

"It's like an arena....."

And then, the one in disadvantage was Lancelot.

Verethragna had been struck hard along with the ground by an overwhelming blow. Lancelot was also armed with a spear that was far superior in reach against a sword. And yet she was in a one-sided defensive battle.

She was unable to even thrust with her spear. She was only raising her shield to block the fierce attacks.

Verethragna swung and swung the divine sword of salvation without rest. He attacked incessantly to cut down the queen of the spear. The platinum sword and the youth's body were discharging electricity without pause.

"Kuh..... What technique!"

"My apologies but even I can't stop this momentum anymore. If you fear death, then be gone quickly from my presence, o war god of the west!"

Lightning was created each time Verethragna moved and spoke.

Electricity burst out from his whole body, burning the surrounding space. Front, back, left, right, diagonal, the electricity was flying to random directions.

Lancelot was pushed back and overwhelmed by that trackless lightning attack and the divine sword's might.

"Rama too became like that before huh....."

So to speak it was lightning attack body. Godou recalled.

It was the form of the hero of salvation focusing on nothing but attack without minding about their appearance anymore. Furthermore, Verethragna continued wielding the divine sword with savage intensity.

Lancelot held up her caltrop shaped shield and desperately blocked the slashes.

Giin, giin, giin!

Each time the divine sword that was clad in lightning hit the shield, a dull metallic sound would reverberate.

As to be expected from Lancelot, she was somehow managing to defend against it. However, she could deal with the unceasing lightning attack from the divine sword and the youth's body—

"Tsk. How fierce you are, war god of the east!"

Even the veteran warrior Lancelot shrunk back from the repeated blows of the lightning.

On the other hand, Verethragna who was in advantage was—wielding the divine sword and unleashing lightning with a vexed expression. He was also muttering as though to spit out his words.

"Good grief! The world really just won't go as you want it to!"

Was he irritated by Lancelot's tenacity?

Godou noticed the moment he was feeling dubious. His eyes were stolen by the lightning attack body's fierceness, so he was unable to detect it right away but—an immense magical power was welling up from Verethragna.

"The dreadfulness of the power coming out from that guy's body.....I see!"

If that magical power was measured with number, than the result would surpass the amount that Campione like Kusanagi Godou or the other heretic gods had by multiple times.

That was right. When there were two or more godslayers, the King of the End would become even stronger—.

In order to accomplish the mission of devil king extermination, fate would back him up. This phenomenon had been witnessed multiple times. Godou immediately gave instruction.

"—That's the Great Law of the Covenant! Come back Lancelot!"

The figure of the protector knight who was being pressed back vanished like mirage.

The time Lancelot could fight in full power was short. There would be no meaning even if she pointlessly held on. Verethragna who lost the enemy before his eyes turned his gaze toward Godou.

The youth's body and the sword of salvation were still emitting crackling lighting endlessly.

But, the firing range was around five or six meters. It didn't reach Godou who was at the distance.

"So you also can do that huh....."

Godou recalled. How the Great Sage Equal of Heaven also copied the Great Law of the Covenant.

It also felt like that doing imitation wasn't fitting for the hero Verethragna who was always following the noble and righteous path,

but it wouldn't be strange even if he could do it. Godou could accept it in a sense.

Verethragna himself was speaking with cynicism somewhere in his tone.

"This person kindly bestowed it to me. It was really something to be thankful about."

"Person?"

Godou tilted his head.

Right after that, a stone mask of lion appeared above Verethragna's head.

"It's a reasonable measure. At present there are two godslayers existing in this world, Kusanagi Godou and Aisha of Alexandria. In that case, erasing them using the Great Law of the Covenant is only most prudent."

"Zurvan, so it's you!"

A stone mask with living snake growing from both its sides was floating in the air—.

Based from what Godou knew, such object could only be Zurvan. And then he remembered.

"Come to think of it, Zurvan doesn't just govern over time, you are also a creator god, and what's more you're a god of destiny too....."

"Indeed. My official duties also include maintaining and managing 《absolute fate》."

Zurvan talked with a voice that sounded too particular.

His shape was too different from the god of destiny that he encountered five years ago, but this hermaphroditic god was also [a bearer of fate]!

Godou realized the severity of the situation and grumbled.

"This is absurd. So this time I'm facing both the hero and the god of destiny together. Isn't this even harsher than the time with Rama?"

Furthermore, Godou right now was fatigued on top of being seriously wounded.

He was using Raptor and Camel simultaneously until now, but the burden from that was giving him a headache that would reach the limit soon. It was hard to endure the pain that felt like it would split open his head.

He finally stopped using Raptor and left only Camel that was strong toward pain while—

"It can't be helped. Guess.....I'll give up already."

"What did you say!?"

"You will surrender the fight, and recognize your defeat? To think that a godslaying beast will possess such laudable character. From the experience of I, Zurvan, this strange occurrence is the first time in the universe. It's worthy of my shock."

Hearing the mutter of Godou—

Verethragna was astonished. Zurvan too was more or less expressing his [shock] even while his tone was still too flat.

In contrast, the person in question Kusanagi Godou was smiling fiercely.

"Don't misunderstand me..... I'm not throwing away the match. I'm giving up [winning as the matter of course]. Whether I'll live or die, win or lose—I'll decide them with a big gamble that leaves the matter to chance. Even I don't know what's going to happen, but I'll have you guys go along with me."

The [fifth authority] sleeping at the depth of his body. Godou called it out.

"I'm using it, the power of 《anti-destiny》. What I obtained when defeating the god of destiny of our world—the authority for opposing destiny."

.

4

"Be destroyed, gate of destiny. I shall cut open my own path by myself."

Godou chanted shortly—the words of power were disappointingly short.

It was that kind of thing. For them godslayer, the act of standing against destiny was like that. It was just very much natural thing to do that there wasn't any formalities to adhere to.

After all they became like this by fighting a god and slaying it thus gaining some of its power.

And then power that looked like wave was spreading from Godou's body.

It was a surge that changed the way the world and universe was. A wave that erased the strings of karma that caused all kinds of phenomenon, and returned the pattern of the vast fabric called destiny back to being "plain". With the existence called Kusanagi

Godou as the source, it was spreading to every corner of the diverse worlds.

Ordinary person couldn't see it. They couldn't feel it.

However for the gods, of course it was different for them. Verethragna opened his eyes wide in wonderment.

"My arch-enemy. So you attempted to break the yoke of destiny....."

The youth didn't even hide his irritation since his body was emitting lightning attacks unceasingly.

When he opened both his eyes widely, light of resolve was dwelling within his almond eyes. Verethragna who possessed the hero's sword stabbed the divine sword in his hand into the ground.

Verethragna's body immediately stopped emitting electricity. Zurvan spoke.

"What's the matter, war god?"

"Use it, Zurvan. Kusanagi Godou has lost most of his weapons, and he is wounded. Attacking such man with a sword will affect my honor. You should be the one to hold the sword of salvation."

"....."

"In regard to martial arts I have slight superiority than you. You should accept the kindness of your pioneer."

".....Very well."

The divine sword of salvation floated up lightly and flew toward Zurvan.

The stone mask didn't have anything like arm. However, the mask that was modeled after a lion had a "living snake" growing from its left and right side. The left side's snake entwined around the divine sword's handle and the mask took a stance as though it had hand.

"O lightning, accomplish the mission of devil king extermination."

Lightning was shooting out from the divine sword that Zurvan lifted up in the air.

It became an attack of divine punishment that came down toward Kusanagi Godou on the ground. Godou who didn't even have the godspeed of Raptor anymore had no way to dodge—.

In reality, his last ray of hope was only the authority of anti-destiny.

(Did something happen, or nothing has happened, which is it—!?)

There was far bigger chance of nothing happened, even after Godou used it with expectation.

But this time Zurvan who was also a god of destiny was in the battlefield. That was different from usual. And then, the lightning of salvation that fell from the sky reached Godou's head—

Hyuu-! It was the sound of cutting through air.

Something that came flying from who knew where pierced the lightning above Godou.

The lightning of salvation was—easily dispersed. It became small light particles that were scattered everywhere, and then they vanished!

".....The lightning of salvation was negated?"

Zurvan felt dubious. He lifted up the divine sword once more.

Lightning descended once more. It was pierced through along with *Hyuu-!* sound—by a yellow arrow. An arrow moving in godspeed that caught even a falling lightning. Both the shooter and the arrow weren't normal. In addition the lightning of salvation was dispersed and erased, so it was even more absurd.

"Then!"

The god of time and also the god of destiny continuously unleashed thunderbolt.

All of them were pierced by yellow arrows. The arrows came flying from far beyond the empty sky, hitting the lightning with accuracy of one hundred hits from one hundred shots, and extinguished their targets.

Just whose backup was this—"a certain picture" formed in the back of Godou's mind.

.....In an unknown corner of the diverse worlds somewhere, there was a lush forest and beautiful spring.

.....A good-looking man was standing on its side. He nocked a yellow arrow on his steel longbow with a refreshing expression, and fired it to the sky. The arrow crossed even the interstice of dimensions and reached to above his sworn friend's head.

.....An arrow that sealed even the lightning of salvation. It was the weapon that the strongest hero treasured.

.....The hero fired arrows rapidly. The one with the role to hand over the arrows from the quiver was his kneeling little brother. His face's feature was exactly the same like his beautiful big brother but, the little brother's skin was brown.

"So the power of anti-destiny communicated with that guy—"

The great hero Rama and his little brother Laksmana realized their friend's dilemma and they showed their chivalrous spirit like this.

Godou grinned and glared at his arch-enemy. The radiant fifteen years old youth, the war god Verethragna slowly drew near.

"Looks like I can focus to the battle against you with this."

"I too have entrusted the meddlesome sword away. Now I can be carefree."

"Yeah. Certainly you look like you've thrown away a heavy burden. Though for me, it'll be great if you can also forget your match with me at the same time."

Although it sounded like a joke, Godou was relatively serious.

But, Verethragna snorted.

"Foolish. It's impossible to not settle this after coming this far."

"That so? Both of us have really good affinity with each other right?"

Godou spoke further.

"I also won't mind if you put priority to friendship you know?"

"That is that, this is this. You and I aren't just being connected with a favorable bond, we're also god and godslayer who're connected by a strong inverse bond. When such two people meet, there isn't any choice of not fighting."

"But you, regarding that sword, you hated it right?"

"Obviously. I will fight with my own ability as one warrior—I have that resolve. And yet, the sword of salvation and Zurvan nagging me

for every single thing is irritating. As expected, I won't feel satisfied if I don't move my body and my authority as I wish."

"Right now—can you do that?"

"Umu."

Perhaps, this was also the effect of the anti-destiny.

But, it was also something trivial. Godou accepted his friend's fighting spirit and spoke dispassionately.

"I see. Then, it can't be helped."

The talk was over. As expected, it seemed it would be impossible to have ceasefire here.

They reunited like this due to the guidance of a hapless fate.

At the end of the talk Verethragna—lunged with a spear hand. His hand opened its palm, his five fingers stretched out, and it lunged straight!

Godou warded it off with Camel's kick, or that was his intention.

"Guhah!?"

"You are wounded just as I thought..... There is already no sharpness in your movement."

The spear hand gouged his solar plexus. Godou writhed in pain.

Verethragna smiled calmly, then he punched the face, launched a middle spinning kick, striking the jaw from right below using his palm, and dealt an elbow strike to the heart with a smoothly flowing movement.

All of them were clean hits. Godou couldn't defend at all.

(It's harsh as expected.....)

Godou realized it while being struck repeatedly.

It wasn't about technique or anything, the small-statured Verethragna was surpassing him in power.

Although he had let go of the divine sword, the Great Law of the Covenant was boosting him. While the combo the war god unleashed was fluent, its momentum that was like a surging wave couldn't be stopped—.

Godou's body and legs staggered. It was hard already to even stand.

As expected he couldn't attack or defend properly in this state. What should he do to match Verethragna with his current self—?

When he found his answer, the pregnant Erica and their child came to mind.

Hesitation. Indecision. A big gambling that surpassed the authority of anti-destiny. However, his wild nature and battle instinct immediately made him cut away that doubt.

Even if the current me cannot defend—!

Verethragna's left fist sunk into his stomach. He caught that thin wrist with his right hand.

"OOOOOOOOOOO-!"

"What, the avatar of Bull!?"

The arm strength of Verethragna that tried to shake off Godou's hand was immense.

Surely it could lift up even a thousand raging bulls. That was why, he also opposed with the avatar of Bull. He didn't need Camel anymore.

Godou felt dizzy even while grabbing Verethragna's hand with superhuman strength.

The toughness of Camel that was strong against intense pain had vanished and he got a lot closer to his limit. His consciousness was getting far away. But he was fine. He just needed to endure for thirty more seconds—.

Godou screamed as though to howl and carried it out.

"Gu.....AAAAAAAAAAAH!"

His head was creaking as though it would break down.

He was attacked once more with the burden of using two avatars at the same time. He had to end it quickly. Godou chanted the words of power in one breath.

"Come to me, for the victory! Immortal sun, lend me a quick, shining steed!"

"Oo! This time you call for the White Stallion—!?"

"It goes without saying for me, but you'll also become the target. At Sardinia Island you rampaged as you pleased and tormented the island's people right!?"

"!? So you intend to be burnt to death together with me huh, Kusanagi Godou!"

"I'll have you accompany me, Verethragna!"

What he chose at the end was the fateful White Stallion.

The spear of sun that could be fired only toward great sinner who tormented the populace. It was also the weapon that consigned the war god of the east to oblivion in the past at Sardinia Island. It was something he stole using the divine tool Prometheus Tome.

Godou whispered to the friend right before his eyes.

He did that while pulling the thin arm along with Verethragna's youthful form, that slender body along toward him.

"The match with you, with this—this conclusion is enough for me. What about you? How far.....are you going to compete with me?"

"....."

If he was asked where, then he would answer anywhere. If he was asked when, then whenever.

The youth had answered like that. But when he was asked [how far], he couldn't answer right away. He was simply staring straight into Godou's eyes with earnestness.

—From the eastern sky, a lump of flame came down.

It had huge size that would swallow the whole crater that had just been freshly created. The great hole that had a diameter of more than ten kilometer was instantly filled with flame of scorching heat.

Furthermore the flame didn't weaken in intensity. It was burning up straight toward the sky.

Without stopping it became a flame pillar that reached until the cloud and scorched the sky.

The flame of cremation was too grand. Even the vitality possessed by Campione's body, or the power of resistance toward magic that was overly tough, they weren't a match against this.

Godou certainly saw it while being helplessly burnt and turning into ash.

Verethragna nodded with a peaceful expression. His expression became the same like that time when they first met in that nostalgic Sardinia Island.

The face of the youth that had the likeness of a big shot, with the attitude of leaving it to the wind where he would go. Within that face—.

.

5

"So it's over....."

Zurvan saw it through from the height of the sky.

The flame blast from Verethragna's White Stallion finally stopped burning. The war god and godslayer were burned to death together within it.

The giant crater that became a crematory was originally a site where everything was blasted away.

After the terrific combustion was over, there was only heat remaining. Well, the ground's surface was still tinged with high heat, but that too would soon die down. The White Stallion that caused the great fire had left from the ground a long time ago. Its influence was thinning down each second so—.

When time the heat on the surface had lessened greatly, Zurvan descended down.

It was in order to confirm the corpse that became ashes.

".....It's here."

Kusanagi Godou. The godslayer who possessed the authority of anti-destiny.

He was an unexpectedly dangerous enemy. Although he chose to die by fire himself, he was still a threat. Zurvan who was a transcendent over time understood.

"As expected....."

Kusanagi Godou who should have become ashes due to the flame he summoned himself.

However right now that body was lying down on the ground without a single burn mark on it, heavily sleeping. This too was his ability.

The regenerative power that originated from Verethragna's eighth avatar, Ram—.

"Kusanagi Godou can resurrect and come back even after he falls into the abyss of death. As I thought, it become like this. What incorrigible existence....."

The snake growing from the right side of Zurvan's mask—.

It was still entwining around the handle of the divine sword of salvation. The snake's head and torso were wrapped around the divine sword's handle, holding it like a human's hand would.

Zurvan swung down the radiant divine sword.

The destination of that blade was the peacefully sleeping Kusanagi Godou but,

The divine sword of salvation was deflected away. By a golden sword that interrupted from the side. Its user drew out a second sword—

"Why, Verethragna?"

Zurvan groaned.

The eyebrow of the lion stone mask was pierced by the golden tip.

The crack from there spread like web, and Zurvan's body—the stone mask that resembled a lion crumbled into pieces.

The hollow parts that acted as eyes vainly stared at his attacker.

Verethragna who swung the golden sword shrugged his shoulders aloofly.

"You asked me why. That's a difficult question."

"Thy have.....no motive to, kill me....."

"If I'm forced to say, it's because you're in the way. The unresolved matter that was the rematch has ended for now, and I've also finished doing my duty to the King of the End Mithra to some degree. Don't you think I won't be punished even if I do as I please from here? For that you who seem like someone who would punish me for that—need to be taken care of first."

"Th.....thy are also incorrigible....."

Zurvan left those words behind and completely crumbled.

He became scattered apart and his fragments were blown by the wind. They became ashes and scattered away.

Verethragna didn't even glance at the end of the defeated. In exchange he glanced at the sleeping Kusanagi Godou and muttered "Hmph".

"Really what a foolish man. If my revival doesn't make it in time, or if I don't feel like getting in the way of Zurvan, then it would be the end of the line for you and yet....."

And then, his gaze softened slightly and he also announced this.

"In the first place, there isn't any guarantee that I won't take your head in your sleep!"

"Err.....Verethragna-sama?"

"Come to think of it, the three of you also accompanied Kusanagi Godou. In that case he might be able to stave off the danger. Of course, it would be difficult for ordinary person to oppose god though."

The three maidens had arrived unnoticed.

The one who timidly called out was Mariya Yuri. Seishuuin Ena and Liliana Kranjcar were also staring at the war god meekly.

"Don't you ask in what way I resurrected. I am none other than the original user of the Ten Avatars. Verethragna is also in possession of the life of the Ram that will revive in its death."

"We, we're aware."

"More importantly.....Verethragna-sama assisted his majesty, is it because you two are friends just as expected?"

Ena asked bluntly replacing Yuri who was shrinking back in hesitation.

Verethragna displayed his usual archaic smile and,

"I wonder. Perhaps that is so, or perhaps it's the result of derangement after getting deceived by that so called anti-destiny. It's something that you three has no need to know."

He wittily dodged the question with a willful tone.

And then he turned his back on Kusanagi Godou and his party, and left with light footsteps. He only stared forward and didn't glance behind even once.

He intended to depart. Liliana noticed that and called out.

"Please wait! Is there anything that we should convey to Kusanagi Godou.....!?"

"None. If the string of mysterious fate guides us, then one day we will surely reunite. If not then that's it. it can be simply left to our favorable bond and inverse bond.Aah, but wait."

Without stopping to walk or even looking back,

However, Verethragna said this toward the sleeping Kusanagi Godou.

"One day the time of decision will arrive. I said it the other day, [Be strong to a degree that won't put shame to your father and mother]. I'll say the same thing to you, [Have the strength to ascertain, what will be the best]. Those are my words to you as a temporary friend!"

Thus the death match with the war god of the east had its curtain closed like that.

Final Chapter – While Waiting For Godou

1

About one year passed since the battle against Verethragna as well as Zurvan.

The commander-in-chief of the Campiones association, Caesar Blandelli.

Aka Godou was changing residence. Although he was still staying in the [world of the King of the End Mithra], he moved from Marseille of southern France to Valencia City.

He set up a new home at the center of the city and lived spiritedly there.

It was because the baby was born safely.

Furthermore, there were two of them. They were twins. Naturally the boisterousness that was characteristic of a home with a baby doubled.

"Leo is always cheery. He is smiling to anyone."

"Monica-chan is calm no matter what. She has a side that is a bit unlike a baby. Perhaps she will become an amazing big-shot in the future."

"Leo too is a popular person who everyone loves. He might become something like an idol~"

There were two cradles, and also two napping babies.

Yuri and Ena were peering at each of them and smiled with their eyes.

Recently this kind of scene would be repeated almost every day in the hall of Caesar estate. Rather than the babies' actual father and mother, it was instead the princess shrine maidens who were doting and taking care all of the babies' need. They were like grandparents who met their grandsons.

Liliana who was relatively composed toward the babies murmured with a subdued tone.

"If I have to say which, then Monica is the one taking after Erica....."

"I wonder about that. If you look at them from the aspect of sociability, then it's Leonardo instead who is taking after me. If I'm forced to say then, Monica is—right, she is an unfriendly child isn't she?"

Erica spoke frankly even though she was the actual mother.

Perhaps because in this family there were three other women who became substitute mothers, even without Erica kindly looking after them, the two babies didn't feel loneliness.

It might be because of that, or perhaps because of her base personality, Erica was the one who interacted with the babies with the most candidness.

She was speaking without hesitation toward the princess shrine maidens who were staring smilingly and lovingly at the babies even now—toward the two women who obviously tended to pamper the babies.

"Well, just because they're blood relative to a Campione, there isn't any guarantee that they'll grow up to be a big-shot. Such things

has been proven by history. I think these two children shouldn't be burdened by excessive expectations for their future. Ena-san and also Yuri-san too, please collect yourself more."

"Eeee. Let's do it, giving these two a gifted education."

"Even if it's not a gifted education, let's prepare a good environment to educate the two of them, Erica-san! Doesn't Godou-san also think so!?"

The graceful Yuri unusually became heated. Godou smiled wryly and answered.

"It will be enough for me as long as they don't become people who frequently make trouble for other people."

"In other words, Godou wants them to not become like their father."

Erica laughed merrily.

She was wearing a crimson dress. It was designed to be widely opened from her shoulders until her chest. The sleeve was short, the waist was tight, and the skirt was softly flaring wide. She finally finished giving birth and became able to dress up gorgeously. It was really like Erica to not dress like a mother.

Liliana who was dressed in male clothing commented beside her gorgeous rival.

"For the time being the two look similar with Erica. Of course as they grow up, they will go through various changes."

The big brother was Leonardo Blandelli, the little sister was Monica Blandelli.

They were male and female fraternal twins. They were fraternal so they didn't really look similar but, both of them had blond hair. Well, it also often happened that the color of a baby's hair would change as they grew up—.

Liliana continued speaking.

"This is my instinct as witch but, I feel that the two of them have talent in magic. When they were made to touch several magical tools and grimoires, they didn't get scared or cry. Instead they fiddled with those things calmly like a toy."

"There is that way of checking?"

"Yes. A baby's senses are sensitive, so when they get near followers of the path of magic or those in that territory, without grounding in that field will show an intense reaction of refusal."

No matter what she said, Liliana too was paying a lot of attention to the twins.

She was originally a helpful girl. Each time the babies cried she would take care of them attentively. Thanks to that they could have it easy even though this was a laborious period of taking care of baby.

—Anyway, Godou became a father of twins.

It was really noisy when the two of them started crying together.

Godou himself also got really used in taking various cares of the babies. Such livelihood was continuing for several months. Furthermore there wasn't any battle with gods occurring at all.

Rather it was a peaceful days for Kusanagi Godou.

"This place—the world of the King of the End Mithra seems to be alright already, so we have to return to our original world soon. I'm also concerned about how the other diverse worlds are doing."

Godou muttered. Liliana also nodded.

"It's also uncertain how the previously mentioned space distortion phenomena will develop from here on."

"Soon it will also be the time for Leo and Monica to crawl and so on. As Ena thought, Ena wants to return over there before they become fully matured. Right Yuri?"

"Yes. But, actually I'm—a bit concerned about “that problem” though....."

When Ena turned the topic toward her, Yuri was hesitant to say.

That problem. It was a well-known matter to these members. It was still unsettled, so they couldn't really return to their original world yet.

"You mean about the holy grail and Madam Aisha. Everyone, how about we check the situation after this?"

Erica addressed everyone as befitting her managing role.

.

There was a cathedral at the center of Valencia City.

That bell tower was called with a nickname of Torre del Micalet. It boasted the height of fifty meters. It was the symbol of the city along with the cathedral.

.....Underground it, there was a hidden room.

As Caesar Blandelli, Godou ordered the magicians of the Campiones association and the cathedral staff to create the room with utmost secrecy.

Placed in there was that pink colored lump of rock—

"There is no change with the holy grail and Aisha-san huh."

Madam Aisha was wrapped with a blanket on a bed while sleeping soundly.

The lump of rock placed beside her was Valencia's holy grail. It was the source of life that gave birth to the beasts of disaster and storage of an immense magical power.

Godou and his comrades visited the underground of the cathedral.

The twin siblings—Leonardo was held up by Godou, while Monica was held by her mother Erica.

The big brother was sleeping well so he was quiet. In contrast Monica was hugging her mother's chest while looking around restlessly at the underground room.

Even though she had no way of knowing where this was and what kind of facility it was.

Erica held up her beloved daughter who was like that while sighing in melancholy.

"In the end, even after getting pulled out from inside the holy grail, the "synchronization" of Madam Aisha and the holy grail is still not undone....."

"She won't wake up in these several months no matter what we do....."

Liliana also muttered. Ena also spoke with a troubled face.

"Well, if that's all then we'll be able to think [She is a good person but she is also an extremely troublesome person, so it might be lucky if she keep sleeping like this♪] though....."

"We don't know when the holy grail will take in Madam Aisha again. Being optimistic is forbidden."

Liliana warned really like a serious knight that she was.

By the way, it seemed that the sleeping Madam Aisha didn't even need to excrete or take in nutrition, so rather than calling her asleep it might more of a type of a state of apparent death.

"To think that someone like Madam Aisha, is being suppressed helplessly like this....."

Yuri muttered with a worried look. However, Ena didn't agree.

"Ena wonders about that. The line of thinking that she is using this chance to catch up on her sleep after she had been going in a long journey continuously also seems possible. After all in the devil king civil war her authority was made to run wild and she drove away six Campiones to other dimensions."

"Certainly even though the person herself didn't feel it, the possibility that her fatigue was piling up might be high."

Liliana was also nodding.

Erica was looking down on such godslaying madam while speaking.

"In any case we should attempt to destroy the holy grail. We have been searching for the method to do that these several months. But, Yuri you don't agree to that do you?"

"I feel that the destruction of the holy grail will bring great disaster to this region."

Yuri warned with a serious expression.

"From the time of the previous battle, the holy grail somehow got connected deeply to the earth vein of this Valencia region. It gave birth to the "beasts of disaster" by absorbing that vein's aura—"

"That's what Yuri is feeling. Then, it's obviously the correct interpretation."

Erica shrugged.

A giant crater was gouged in the land at the battle against Verethragna.

At that time the holy grail was thought to be erased too from it. But, later on the site's investigation discovered the lump of pink rock to be covered with soil and sand.

Unbelievably, the holy grail was completely unharmed.

Perhaps, it was protected by the[connection with the earth vein] that Yuri mentioned.

Godou spoke in conclusion.

"Then, we'll change to plan B that we asked Liliana. The preparation is already finished right?"

"Yes. I purchased a mansion located at the outskirt of Valencia City and applied many layers of powerful barrier magic. If we hide Madam Aisha inside it—"

"The synchronization with the holy grail might also weaken, right?"

"We can hope for that with not so but it is a low probability. Let's transport the madam there tonight."

Actually they once attempted the plan to move Madam Aisha faraway.

It was even a rough plan to forcefully send her back to their original world, hoping that perhaps with that her connection to the holy grail could be severed forcibly.

However just before they carried it out, the holy grail caused an abnormal agitation of aura.

In addition almost the whole region of Valencia was attacked by earthquake—the plan ended up being suspended.

The damage was only being several bricks of the houses falling off but, if they continued the plan at that time, it was unknown how great the quake would become. They didn't want to imagine it.

Leonardo woke up in Godou's arms.

The boy who was always affable smiled innocently at his father.

Godou nodded back to him while saying.

"Well, we have confirmed before that nothing strange will happen if we only move her within Valencia City. Let's try this experiment."

.

However—.

The situation met a development that they didn't even expect.

.

2

The lord of war god Lancelot finally became a father.

His residence right now was overflowing with baby's crying voice and laughing voices. It was always loud. Lancelot du Lac was watching over that smilingly.

The queen of the witches—the divine ancestor who was a girl in both heart and body, Guinevere.

Since the time she called that girl as[beloved child] and protected her, she didn't hate children by any means.

The knight of the spear wouldn't obtain a material body if there was no order from her lord Kusanagi Godou. But, usually she could come out to the surface world as a spiritual body and wandered around as she pleased.

Recently she was making use of that privilege often.

It was in order to watch over the devil king's two children and secured their safety.

Lancelot was secretly keeping a watchful eye on the twins like their protector knight. And then tonight, her prudence prevented the situation from becoming the "worst case".

Caesar residence deep at night—.

When Lancelot passed in front of the bedroom where the twins and their mother Erica were sleeping, she felt a very minute stirring in the air.

She could pass through the door because she was a spiritual body. She immediately intruded inside the bedroom.

And then, she immediately sent out her thought.

"My lord, grant me strength! For the sake of saving your children!"

Lancelot didn't wait for reply from her king and flew outside the mansion.

Sleeping on the bedroom's bed was only the queen Erica. The twins weren't there. But the knight Lancelot who was also an expert in hunting followed the aura of the kidnapper and began her pursuit.

.

When Godou received the request from the white knight, he was coincidentally going out to the city at night.

He immediately hurried to the cathedral and rushed to the underground—he faced the twins who were safe somehow and also Lancelot.

"We were saved thanks to you, Lancelot."

"Doing this much is only natural for a knight. But my lord, this turned to be a slightly troublesome matter."

"Looks like it....."

The twins were at the feet of the materialized Lancelot.

Leonardo and Monica were wearing silk clothes. The two of them were plopped on the floor. They were sitting on the stone floor with their back straightened still.

The two of them were babies who soon would be able to crawl.

There was no way they could sit in such posture so well. The best they could do should be to use both their hands to somehow lift up their upper body.

But above all else, the twins were staring fixedly at their father.

From their gaze a definite will and—even intelligence could be felt.

The pink colored lump of rock was placed behind the twins. It was Valencia's holy grail that for some reason looked like a "lying down female cow" to Godou.

The armed Lancelot was standing imposingly between the rock and the twins.

She was obstructing the twins' approach no matter what. Such resolve was overflowing from her.

"I pursued the presence of the ground spirit that kidnapped the babies and arrived here. The children held on to the holy grail with their own hands while standing up—even now it was trying to take them in."

"Just like Aisha-san huh....."

"Umu. I hurriedly pulled away the twins from the holy grail but.....it's just like you see."

The moment the knight cut off her words.

Leonardo and Monica suddenly opened their mouth and spoke out words.

[—So you have come, godslayer. The father of the chosen children.]

The twins spoke the same words with perfect unison.

Furthermore, they were using the voice of adult woman. While their voices were vibrating the air, white light was blinking inside the holy grail. The light also vanished when the voice cut off.

There was no doubt. The twins were speaking as the proxy of the holy grail's will!

[—It was regrettable that the knight over there got in the way but, it can't be helped.]

[—If it's like this, let me make a request from you.]

[—Entrust these twins to me. I won't do anything bad to them.]

Godou was irritated at the detail that was spoken out from the lips of the two babies.

"Entrust? You really speak one hell of a bullshit there. You plan to imprison them inside you just like Aisha-san right?"

Godou questioned accusingly. But the twins answered with a very calm voice.

[—No. I have given up on that.]

[—In the first place it won't bring a significant benefit for me to take in two babies who aren't even godslayers.]

[—But, these children possess inborn natures that is a gift from the heavens. Both the elder brother and the little sister have the talent that is worthy for them to become my priest.]

[—I, the mother of the earth, ought to possess the fitting authority for my rank. Don't you think so?]

[—I believe that I will be able to establish that with these chosen twins.]

[—Of course, I shall bestow the suitable reward to them as my priest. Let me see.....the twins will become able to control the power of the mother earth goddess as they will it. They will be in possession of supreme power in the world of man. Ah, of course that is if the godslayers are excluded.]

It was a one-sided suggestion from the corpse of a goddess, the holy grail. Godou was exasperated.

"So you're telling me, to make my children serve as priests for their gifted education huh."

[—But, it's a role that has to be filled by someone. Furthermore, it has to be by someone who possesses the suitable talent. If this is not done.....]

Leonardo and Monica spoke coldly with the goddess's voice.

[—A calamity will occur.]

.

A week passed since the kidnapping of the twins.

During that time, a lookout was placed to guard Leonardo and Monica by turn even at night. In the end there wasn't any more kidnapper intruding but.....

In exchange the true shape of the [calamity] became clear.

"It's another earthquake....."

Ena was looking up at the ceiling anxiously inside the dining hall of Caesar residence.

The chandelier was shaking back and forth. Of course the floor too. Porcelain plates and utensils were clattering inside the cupboard, making her feeling terrible anxiety.

When the cupboard somehow managed to not topple over, the earthquake was also quieting down.

"Recently it will happen three or four times a day without fail..... This is an alarming situation. Furthermore, the shaking is getting stronger the longer this goes on."

Liliana spoke with a sigh.

"During this week, we cooperated with the witches of the Campiones association and tried to investigate the land at the outskirt of Valencia. There is no more doubt that the holy grail and the earth vein are connected. And then, the most troublesome problem is—the awakening of the soul."

"By soul, do you mean that? The soul of that holy grail?"

Liliana affirmed "Yes" to Godou's question.

"If I'm to speak exactly just like my spiritual instinct as a witch saw it, the cause is most likely Madam Aisha. Even like that the madam is a Campione, she is containing a soul that more wild than anyone. Perhaps influenced—no, dragged out by the violent spirit of the dead goddess and has awakened....."

"And then the earth vein is getting unruly, so the earthquake also happen frequently. So that's what's going on."

Godou looked up to the ceiling.

It couldn't be said as fair to blame everything on Madam Aisha. However, he guessed it would be fine to ask the woman to take around seventy percent responsibility of this—.

"The culprit is only doing her sleeping beauty impression soundly in a mansion in the outskirts. How envious."

"Just perhaps, Ena thinks that the connection with Aisha-san is becoming more distant that this is one of the reasons why the holy grail started searching for a priest or priestess."

Seishuuin Ena was the one of the most knowledgeable in regard to the connection between gods and humans.

The princess shrine maiden of the sword spoke solemnly.

"There Leo and Monica caught its eyes. They had also gone to where the holy grail was several times along with Ena or his majesty. But, even though they aren't even one year old, they're able to contain the spirit of nature inside themselves to that degree, they're really amazing children. When they grow up, they might be able to become the same like Ena."

Ena who was sitting on the chair was placing Leonardo on her lap.

He was a child who wasn't scared of strangers, but he would become especially in a good mood when being hugged by woman. Even now he was smiling amiably.

Ena stared lovingly on the back of the head of such boy while saying.

"The technique of divine possession to welcome the spirit of a god into oneself—. I want to teach it to them properly one day. We can seclude ourselves in the mountain together or something....."

"Err, Godou-san."

Yuri started speaking while carrying Monica.

The graceful princess shrine maiden had a brooding look. Godou's daughter was looking up at her with a dubious look.

"I have something to report. The matter that we have been investigating for some time—the way to return to the world where the King of the End is Rama-sama, I believe that we might have learned it."

"Is that true, Yuri!? Amazing!"

The reason why they were staying in this Valencia for a year and a half without returning to their original world.

Of course they were also worried about the situation with the holy grail. But, them not knowing the method to return back with all of them together was also a big factor of that. After all they came to the nineteenth century of the world where the King of the End was Mithra by the authority of the god of time Zurvan.

Perhaps if it was only Godou alone then he would manage somehow.

However this time he had the girls and the twins with him.

Actually Mariya Yuri was single handedly taking the role of searching for the proper way to return home. She used her spiritual sight to sense the direction where it felt like there was a clue, then she would become a spirit body and head there—.

But even though it should be a good news, Yuri was reporting with a hesitant look.

"I found the route to visit that Temple of Infinite Time through the Netherworld. When I intruded over there—I found it. The space distortion connected to our world....."

"Aah. You mean the one connected to Ochanomizu!"

Godou recalled.

"With this we can go home anytime. Thanks a lot, Yuri."

"But.....I, have several things I'm concerned about."

.

Late night at Caesar residence—. Godou was in Erica's bedroom.

The two of them were beside the cradle. They had been awake all this time while watching over the sleeping twins, Leonardo and Monica.

Godou spoke with a subdued tone.

"These two, they have been synchronizing to a degree where they can receive words of power from that holy grail."

"Yes. If Leo and Monica are separated from the holy grail in their current condition.....a bad influence might appear in the two's body and heart. If it's someone else—someone like Lily for example telling me this, then I'll say [You're thinking too much] and curtly ignore it, perhaps."

Erica lovingly touched Monica's cheek and Leo's forehead.

"But, the prophet this time isn't Lily or Troy's legendary Cassandra. But the oracle of Mariya Yuri who we trust more than anyone."

"It's an experiment that we don't really want to test huh....."

Godou's voice was surprisingly powerless even to himself.

"Should we live permanently here with everyone instead?"

"I wonder. Yuri gave one more warning right? The corrective force of history—"

"....."

Previously, they fully experienced that existence in the ancient Galia.

When an irregular that changed the history that was already fixed slipped in, that change would be made as though it didn't exist. That was history's corrective force.

This place was the middle of 19th century of the world of the King of the End Mithra.

They hadn't particularly experienced the existence of the corrective force here but.....

"The recent [earthquake] and [numerous unusual events that might shake the world history]are—the product of the corrective force. That conception was certainly something that we didn't think of."

"Until Yuri told us that is....."

"But thinking back now, we are extraordinarily irregular existences here. We are visitors from the future.....furthermore we are from the future of a parallel world. This is a considerably distorted and twisted situation we are in. Well, if Godou isn't here, then it might not become that much of a serious matter but—"

"....."

Kusanagi Godou was a godslayer. An extraordinary existence.

He also wasn't in a state of apparent death like Madam Aisha.

He also wasn't like his other comrades, who although they were quite strong., after all they were still human in the end.

If he felt like it, he guessed that he would be able to continue staying in this era without paying any heed to the influence of the corrective force. But, the influence toward his surrounding and to the world might become immeasurable.....no. In fact, currently it was becoming like that—.

"In the end, the answer is decided huh."

Godou talked to himself.

He was looking down toward his children who were sleeping in the cradle in front of him.

.....He was living a really dangerous life if he said so himself. He had experienced countless experiences of dying or almost getting killed. However right now a fear that he had never felt no matter how dangerous the situation was grabbing Kusanagi Godou's heart and body.

It felt like the ground below him would crumble down.

Right now he was going to lose these children—.

"Come to think of it, Verethragna said various things."

"Thinking back now, he might be able to see slight sign of the situation becoming like this."

Verethragna didn't warn them clearly but, he certainly said it.

The children who one day would be swallowed by hapless fate. When they matured, both their father and mother would surely be gone from their side. Have the strength to ascertain, just what would be the best—.

"I have decided."

"I also have a plan."

Godou and Erica nodded to each other.

.

A month after that. The preparation was advancing with great hurry.

The twins and the holy grail were entrusted to the leadership of the Campione association. They were asked to protect and take care of the twins' upbringing.

They were also instructed to hide the "departure and abdication" of the commander-in-chief Caesar Blandelli aka Kusanagi Godou for three years, and then after that news was officially announced the association would welcome its second generation leader.

The role as the next commander-in-chief and the association's protector was entrusted to her.

"I'm counting on you, Lancelot."

"Umu. I will do everything that I can."

The cathedral's underground. Godou and others were in the holy ground where the holy grail was enshrined.

Lancelot who one day would become the association's leader was also materializing in order to give the final farewell.

In order to protect the association that they built and the twins to the maximum degree, Godou left behind the knight who he could most trust here.

At the very least he wanted one of his authorities to protect his children—.

"How is your connection with the holy grail?"

"It's very satisfactory. If I'm at its side, I will be able to draw out strength from it as I please."

Lancelot du Lac chuckled at Godou's question.

In exchange of leaving behind the twins here, Godou and others demanded to the holy grail, 'hand over a fragment of you'. The rock fragment that was shaved from the pink rock lump was swallowed by Lancelot.

.....Valencia region's earth vein that was connected to the holy grail.

It was a contract in the form of a spiritual union in order to draw out mystical force.

Until now the knight of the lance was receiving mystical force from Kusanagi Godou. Now they sought for the source of that power from the holy grail and the earth vein. With this even after Godou left, Lancelot would be able to act by herself.

"Don't waste it pointlessly too much okay? It seems the earth vein thing won't get dried out that easily but, it shouldn't be something that can be used too much and won't bring a negative effect."

"I'll keep that in mind. Leave it to me, my king."

It would require troublesome explanation so Lancelot du Lac's name was kept secret from the leadership of the Campiones association.

Then, when they noticed the call sign the White Queen was spreading.

It seemed they considered Lancelot as an ancestor of the Blandelli house who returned as a guardian spirit.

Lancelot aka White Queen said.

"After the twins grow up, I shall concede the seat of commander-in-chief to the one with superior caliber as leader."

"Perhaps both of them won't be suited for it, so you don't need to be fixated with that."

"No. By doing that, everyone will come to a point where they consider that the bloodline of Blandelli is the one and only royalty of the Campiones association. That too will become another shield that protects the twins and their descendants. I intend to protect the Blandelli clan including their offspring."

"Leonardo and Monica's offspring huh....."

Godou glanced at the twins.

Ena was holding Leonardo and Yuri was holding Monica. The big brother was smiling cheerfully, while the little sister was looking sullen.

These twins—were handed to leadership of the Campiones association who were on standby there.

".....Live on energetically."

"E, even if we're going far away, we absolutely won't forget the two of you!"

Ena was looking slightly tearful. As for Yuri, she finally managed to stop crying only just now. Her throat was clogged with a sob.

On the other hand, Liliana was lifting up a long sword that was placed inside its sheath.

"Is this alright, Erica?"

"Yes. At the very least I'll also leave this much."

"Okay—. Then, we will also entrust this. The sword of lion that will become Blandelli House's treasure, Cuore di Leone."

Erica changed it into a slim sword using her magic of iron transmutation.

Cuore di Leone that meant the soul of lion returned to its original shape of a broad one-handed sword. It was sheathed inside a leather sheath. Liliana handed it to one of the leaders.

Erica was watching with her usual—elegance that was like a queen.

In this one month, she who was the mother of the twins was busy preparing for their departure.

She had discussion many times with the leadership of the Campiones association, instructed them regarding the management of the organization from here on, and in addition she also prepared “a certain thing”. She mostly left the taking care of the twins to other people.

During that time she was the very picture of gorgeousness, acting with resoluteness.

.....If the time when she was crying loudly on Godou’s chest last night one day before the departure was excluded—.

"I began writing this which doubled as something to kill time before I gave birth. To think that I’ll leave this behind in this way. Once more I’m feeling it keenly, that you really don’t know what will happen in the future of your life."

Erica muttered with a thick book in her arms.

It had a binding of black leather. A crimson rose was drawn on its cover. But, the thing that was worthy of special mention above all else must be the extraordinary unearthly aura that the book was clad with.

In this one month, Erica was spending almost all of her free time for this book.

"This is the first grimoire that I wrote—and then this should become my masterpiece. Can I ask you to give this to the children when they arrive at the suitable stage?"

"Understood."

Lancelot readily accepted the grimoire Erica entrusted to her.

.....All the matters had been finished before their departure. After that it became harder to depart the more they spent time like this. Godou announced as the leader.

"Liliana, begin."

"By your will."

During the preparatory phase, Liliana was constantly being composed and sticking to the support role.

For the sake of Godou and Erica who got a difficult choice forced on them, and also for the sake of the twins' future, she deliberately didn't show her emotion on the surface. Thus she had taken care of various problems for them.

Liliana opened the gate to the Astral World using the secret ritual of the witch.

From there they headed to the Temple of Infinite Time with Yuri's guidance, to return to their original world—the world where Rama was the King of the End.

It was the end of the long, truly long expedition.

The twins who inherited the blood of Kusanagi Godou were entrusted to complete strangers even if they were their comrades in

the association. Leonardo and Monica. Godou turned toward them and yelled.

"See ya, you guys! Come to my place without fail, okay!"

.

4

"Then, Onii-sama finally found it?"

His pillow talk partner was Hikari.

Even the second daughter of Mariya family who he knew since she was an elementary school student finally became twenty years old this year. Well, they already had lied on top of each other many times like this for several years now—.

Hikari was using Godou's arm as a pillow and slept right beside him.

The princess shrine maiden whose whole body was shaking in the throes of passion until just now before she finally became unable to hold back her voice wasn't wearing anything on her body except a blanket.

"Yeah. I finally found the way to return to the world of the King of the End Mithra."

"Ho, how is it, the situation over there!? The children of Onii-sama—!?"

"Haha. The place that I reached in the end was the 21st century of the world of King of the End Mithra. I couldn't meet those two."

Godou smiled wryly.

It must be thanks to the passing of time. His heart wasn't that disturbed even when talking about the twins.

Well, sometimes he would be attacked by a feeling of loss as though a part of his body had been torn off and he would want to run off somewhere. Also, from the start he was already a person who liked children but, he would become especially gentle when he happened to see a baby.....

Even so recently there was a discovery that made his heart felt at ease.

"But, when I tried going to Valencia on the other side, the Campiones association that I made was still existing there. The scale isn't as great as in the past but, it seems to be an organization with some vitality."

"The, then Onii-sama, that—"

"Blandelli House also remained even now. I also tried contacting the child who will become the next commander-in-chief while hiding my identity. It was a boy named Julio. That kid really got a good head on his shoulders. It even made me uneasy whether he really is my descendant."

"Co, congratulations!"

"I couldn't meet Lancelot though. The holy grail hidden in the cathedral and Torre del Miguelete—there is a magic mechanism that withdraws power from it and suppress that fellow from running wild. It looks like the mechanism has evolved a lot. Perhaps it was the work of Leo or Monica. They studied Erica's book....."

"Ah.....Onii-sama."

"My bad. When I got happy, I get into the mood again."

Hikari was surprised when Godou suddenly plugged up her lips.

However, the princess shrine maiden whose body had grown up to possess beautiful proportions like her big sister Yuri immediately clung on him and started kissing back.

"I'm also happy. Please feel free....."

"Yeah."

.

Years passed and Godou received several changes.

The change that was the greatest even among all of them was his headquarters. For a traveler who crossed through the diverse worlds, a planes walker, a property that was worthy for his rank was necessary.

"You have prepared a very tasteful dwelling, Godou."

"Welcome Nee-san. Yinghua."

"Long time no see, honorable uncle."

"Hikari is also here, so talk to her later. She was worried about you, you know?"

"Geh. That woman is also here? That girl sometimes is strangely sharp and tough to deal with, so I want to avoid meeting her though....."

His step-sister who he was reunited with two years ago unexpectedly.

The godslayer clad in fluttery ancient Chinese outfit narrowed her eyes and stared at the garden of his new home. It was a property

with a garden attached. It is such a spacious size that it would be hard to be tended to.

Lu Yinghua who had grown into a young man was standing behind his master.

She was dressed in a modern looking long sleeved T-shirt and skinny jeans.

He had also grown tall although not as tall as Godou. Physically he had reached his peak. If it was purely a martial art competition, then Erica, Liliana, Ena and others would be already behind him. While he was a disciple of a godslayer, he was a “divine child” that was beloved by the god of martial arts.

Yinghua was also looking around busily at the garden of his new home with an impressed look.

"So this place is the aforementioned temple of something or other that got rebuilt....."

"Yeah. The Temple of Infinite Time. In the past, the King of the End Mithra and Zurvan used this place as their hideout. It's the so called singular point of the diverse worlds."

One could enjoy watching the colorful flowers in the garden.

The pond and fountain would undoubtedly also heal one's fatigue from long travel. Other than the beautiful garden it was also equipped with the king's residence and seven towers. It could welcome dozens of guests.

Godou guided his stepsister toward the mansion while saying.

"If you like, relax for a while here. I prepared this place for that."

"Hou. You're telling me to heal the fatigue from my travel?"

Luo Hou smiled.

"Fufufufu. Even though you were that boorish in your youth, now you have become really capable to be considerate. Or perhaps, this is the guidance of that girl?"

"Right on. Erica is also here, so can I ask Nee-san to meet her?"

Of course Mariya Yuri, Liliana Kranjcar, and Seishuun Ena were also with him here.

And then one day, perhaps—.

"It will be nice if those guys also come though."

Godou was aware that he got a distant look while looking up to the sky.

The sky of the Temple of Infinite Time here had the stars of the universe and the blue earth floating in it. It was just like the sky if one looked up from the moon surface.

Several years ago, after deciding to part with the twins—.

Erica suggested a plan with a heated tone.

[Let's create a place somewhere in the diverse worlds that will become a terminal as well as rest spot, and use it as our base.]

[A rest spot you say?]

[Yes. A place where Godou and Prince Alec, and also other people traveling through the diverse worlds can easily visit to take a momentary rest and exchange information. Perhaps we will also be able to obtain information about our children and their family through it. Besides.....]

At that time Erica rubbed her cheek on Leo and Monica with hope filling her voice.

The lady and talented woman who was always indifferent toward her children's future was—displaying the figure of an idiotic parents affection for the first time and the last time at that moment.

[If it's these children, then surely they will become magician who is a cut above the rest, and become able to read the grimoire—《the memorandum for Plane walkers》 that I'll write for them after this. And then one day they will cross over the divider of world and space-time to the resting spot where their parents are.]

[Now that you mention it, recently you are writing something aren't you?]

[Because before giving birth I was told to rest by everyone and had a lot of time in my hand. And then I felt like trying my hand in writing a grimoire. I wrote the secret art that I, Lily, Yuri, and Ena-san learned, and I also added the knowledge about Campiones and the gods. But, I want to add even more things there.]

[What kind of things?]

[Obviously it's the knowledge necessary in order to travel the diverse worlds. Also, I want to write about the way to go the several existing singularities. Plutarch's Mansion, Temple of Infinite Time..... Hey Godou, don't you feel a bit excited!?]

Erica's eyes twinkled and she said this.

[One day—perhaps, Leo and Monica who have grown into adults will appear suddenly in front of me and Godou. The two of them who has become fully fledged plane walkers. There is also the possibility of them becoming older than us!]

Erica's suggestion was completely a pipe dream. However, it was also a dream that he wanted to try to believe.

That was why Godou created "this place". Right now the Temple of Infinite Time was the base for the Campione Kusanagi Godou's activity as well as his dwelling.

.

Kusanagi Godou would keep living from here on too as [a Campione and a traveler of the sanctuary].

And then he had a dear wish. That one day, he would be reunited with the children who shared his blood and embrace his son and daughter with these hands.



Afterword

Everyone, long time no see.

Campione! met its conclusion as a long series with 21 volumes in total, but in this chance I'm able to deliver a supplemental volume.

This too can only happen because of everyone's favor.

Let me say my deep thanks in this chance.

This time is the special volume after the conclusion, or perhaps, it's the true conclusion volume.....?

Actually, after finishing writing this Campione EX!, the feeling of "completion" is honestly surpassing the time I finished writing volume 21.

Perhaps, it's because the publication of EX had been tentatively decided since the time I was writing the latter part of devil king civil war (wry smile). I more or less announced it like "It's unclear whether I'll make one or not", but both me and the editor side called this episode the true final volume with the feeling of "But, perhaps it will be published!" and we normally had preparatory meeting for it.....

Even so, Erica and others the heroines that I hadn't written for a long time.

I needed quite some time until I recalled [They're this kind of character huh].

But when it came to that madam, I was able to write her normally without that kind of bewilderment from her entrance scene until the

last. In regard to this, perhaps it's as expected that it's the proof her existence is just that absurd.

.

(From here I'll start talking about the inside story that will completely be spoiler, so for those with the creed to read the afterword before the story, I recommend to withdraw temporarily.)

.

This time is the reunion volume of original vs usurper.

Our main character accomplished cycle hit of using all his ten avatars in one volume that is most likely the first time throughout the series.

(Well, the avatar of Go● has few depiction though.)

Also, one other theme is the missing link with Shiniki no Campiones.

In short, the relationship is like this.

Julio over there=Godou and Erica's oo. This part had been foreshadowed bit by bit since the first volume of Shiniki~.

Perhaps a lot of people had noticed it?

Over there the White Queen and the sleeping princess also made their appearance around "150 years after those people" (In addition the other characters too).

The tale of the travelers going around the many mythological worlds, Shiniki no Campiones.

The readers who still hasn't read it, it'll be to my delight if you can take a look at it.

.

By the way, I guess those who have it already know but

Shiniki no Campiones volume 4 special version is accompanied with audio drama. Kusanagi Godou is mixed up with the characters appearing there.

The one who voiced him is of course Matsuoka Yoshitsugu-san who also did the same in the anime.

Godou in this drama is assumed to be ● years after Campione volume EX.

I had this kind of conversation with Matsuoka-san just before the recording.

.

Matsuoka-san "How old should I assume Godou's age is?"

Author "For the time being, a middle-aged man. How old Matsuoka-san is right now?"

Matsuoka-san "3● years old"

Author "I think it'll be fine if you think of Godou to be exactly at that age. Also Godou has children. That man too is already a father."

Matsuoka-san "Children! Is the mother Erica just as I thought!?"

Author "I have to write about that from here on."

.

In this audio drama, the main character of Shiniki~, Rokuhara Ren confront & compete with Godou plentifully.

With the mythological world 《hero world Hyperborea》 that is filled with a lot of mystery as the stage, the two main characters crossed the divider of dimension and meet by chance in this episode. I can recommend it with confidence even toward the readers who only read Campione!.

Especially the latter half, the two's dialogue got heated up to the climax.

Godou who behaved like a senior the whole time. The junior Ren who toyed with that like a little devil.

Human relationship that didn't feel like it could happen in Campione! is depicted there. If you like, please try searching for it in the bookstores of the whole country.

Also, it's irregular but,

After this afterword there is a bonus track attached. It's like the additional clip after the ending roll in movie.

.....Oh?

It feels like a radio wave that is like a prophecy is coming from far beyond.....

.....Let's see. In hero world Hyperborea located at the extreme north of the diverse worlds, the gods, godslayers, and heroes crossed over the divider of worlds and mythologies and gathered, starting the tale of adventures and great wars or not..... The characters of Campione! and Campiones are also jumbled together.....?

.....Hmm.

Well, in any case, the plan is not yet fixed.

For those who are curious please check volume 5 of Shiniki no Campiones that is schedule to be on sale this summer. Perhaps a prophecy with a little higher accuracy will arrive there.

.

Now then. With EX volume this time, the long Campione! series too is finally ending.

I managed to continue writing my debut work as a novelist for more than ten years which wasn't something that I planned, it's truly an unexpected blessing.

I'm really thankful for everyone who has been reading until this point.

It will be great if someday we can reunite again somewhere.

Side Story – People of Kusanagi Family

"Yo Godou. I came to play♪"

"Go home right away."

"Oi oi-!? Your headquarter is a place of repose that that won't refuse anyone who come right!? What's more, when it come to me, I'm the best friend of Kusanagi Godou, your eternal rival!"

"Shut up. All of those are your own claim."

Godou spoke curtly.

Several years had passed since he used this Temple of Infinite Time as base. During that time, it had welcome many guests but,

This was his first visit.

The blonde Italian youth, the king of the sword, a handsome man and yet a matchless idiot—.

"Certainly the management policy here is to not refuse anyone who come but, just now, there is additional policy of 'except Salvatore Doni'."

"Uwah. That's a petty line like that isn't like you at all!"

"Then I'll let you rest here just for ten minutes. After that go home quickly."

"What are you saying? I came intruding here properly bringing the sleepover set. Let me relax here for two or three days."

Doni should be arriving here at the end of a long journey across the diverse worlds, but.

Red aloha shirt, shorts that reached til his knee, and sunglasses. He arrived in front of Godou wearing such joke appearance. Right now he was making a carefree laugh at the beautiful garden of the temple.

But, on his back were a rough bag and a sheath that was holding a long sword—

Godou who had known him for so long understood.

Putting aside his appearance, Doni's heart and body showed no openings. While he was acting natural that made him even looked defenseless, if this man was approached by danger he would instantly draw out his sword and brilliantly respond.

Doni, or rather this idiot was acting suitably in his own idiotic way—

He was going into a journey with resolve. Perhaps.

".....Damn."

Godou cursed. Even if the guest was an idiot like this, if they wished to stay then he wouldn't refused them no matter what. The rule that he levied on himself was unpleasant.

He walked ahead with the feeling of biting a sour grape and led Doni to the guest room.

"Anyway it'll be just for one night okay?"

"We're friend aren't we? Shouldn't you reword it there with [It's fine even if you want to stay here for ten years you know, my friend]?"

"Who will say something like that, you damn idiot!"

.

"And, why do you come until this kind of place?"

Godou asked bluntly.

"You called going around the diverse worlds here and there one by one as [troublesome, tedious] and completely avoided it right?"

In exchange, Doni would fight the gods who manifested on earth before anyone else.

Godou and Black Prince Alec, and then John Pluto Smith who was also a fairy king tended to be "absent", so the chance for Doni to fight inevitably increased.

Doni who was shrewdly enjoying his life smiled broadly.

"It's nice of you to ask, as expected from my best friend."

In the garden of the temple, there was spring and also waterway.

A wooden table was placed in the middle of such refreshing scenery. The two men were drinking red wine that was brought out from the kitchen by themselves. Of course they would pour their own drink. Pouring wine for this idiot or the reverse was something he wouldn't accept for anything.

The snack was assorted cheeses that he chose randomly and bread, salt and pepper, and olive oil only.

It was a really rough drinking bout without any presence of woman.

"Actually, I got an encouraging news from Alec."

"From that guy? So such a rare event exists. That guy is blatantly avoiding you right? He would say things like [Our talk won't mesh with each other it's tiring]."

"Even though he said things like that but when it's time to talk he would blabber on and on smoothly. That's how Alec is."

"That's also true."

They drank a glass of wine one after another with their common acquaintance Black Prince Alec as appetizer.

Doni happily drained up the red liquid and mentioned a certain place name.

"Hey Godou. Do you know about Hyperborea?"

"More or less. If I'm not wrong it's the name of a country that came out in Greek mythology.....I think."

"It seems that recently Alec visited there."

"You mean, the mythological world?"

"Yep. Mythological world Hyperborea. Actually the one who pried open the corridor connected to there, was that Madam Aisha it seems."

"The traces of damage from that person occasionally comes out even after she retired huh....."

Godou unconsciously got a faraway look and cursed.

Even now she should be sleeping at the Valencia of the world of King of the End Mithra.

Staying behind over there was her who was turned into a "sleeping beauty" even though she was a Campione and Lancelot who could hardly be called as a god now. And then Leonardo and Monica who obtained regional and spiritual bonds with that world through the holy grail.

There shouldn't be any considerable factor that would stimulate the history's corrective force.

As though to prove that, since the "retirement" of Madam Aisha, the occurrence of space distortion had quieted down completely but—.

Recently it was happening frequently here and there in the diverse worlds again.

Perhaps some kind of change was happening in the body of the sleeping Madam Aisha?

"And, what about Hyperborea?"

Godou urged Doni to continue even while feeling anxiety.

The carefree Campione who was born in Italy answered easily.

"That place might become an [arena] someday. Alec predicted that. Humans like us and gods would gather from "outside" and rampage over there—yeah."

".....Arena?"

Godou felt unease hearing that disquieting word.

In contrast Doni was smiling cheerfully and said something fishy.

"That's what he said. I too want to try visiting there no matter what. Do you know the way to go there Godou?"

"No. Ask the prince that beforehand."

"His guard was a bit up toward me. That guy Alec, he kept silent in the middle."

"Well, of course he would."

There must be a reason why he didn't want a man like Salvatore Doni to approach.

A reason from the mythological world Hyperborea. Godou was making a disinterested face in front of Doni while secretly deciding.

(Perhaps I'll try going there somehow one of these days.)

Also, he would have to gather information from the Black Prince himself.

(Even so what does he mean by arena?)

Mythological world Hyperborea.

A mystery lurking in a sanctuary that he hadn't seen. Salvatore Doni whose eyes were sparkling in expectation. In front of these, Godou's wariness and curiosity were awakened together.

.

Hero world Hyperborea.

Later on this mythological world would be described as [a garden and also arena where the gods and godslayers were jumbled together] by Alexander Gascoigne.

The origin that led Kusanagi Godou there was his reunion with his "best friend" Salvatore Doni.

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