

あすみ圭  
Asumi Kei

# 月が導く異世界道中

13

Tsukiga Michibiku Isekai Dōchū



# **Tsuki ga Michibiku Isekai Douchuu**

**– Moon-led Journey Across Another World –**

**- Volume 13 -**

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**[ Reigokai: Isekai Translations ]**



主な  
登場人物

Shiki

元は「リッチ」と呼ばれる  
骸骨型のアンデッドモンスター。  
真と契約したこと  
人の姿となった。

Tomoe

しん  
元は「蜃」と呼ばれた竜。  
真と契約したことによって  
人の姿を得た。

Mio

元は巨大な蜘蛛。  
真と契約して、  
人の姿を得た。

Amelia

真の講義を受ける  
生徒の一人。  
誠に思いを寄せるが……

Jin

真の講義を受ける  
生徒達のリーダー役。  
クズノハ商会への  
就職を熱烈希望。

Misumi Makoto

本作の主人公。  
親の都合で異世界へ召喚  
されちゃった悲運な高校生。  
ロツツガルドでは  
一躍人気講師に。

Ema

亜空の雑事を取り仕切る  
敏腕ハイランドオーク。  
怒ると怖い。

# Chapter 193

## Gift from a God

“Good morning.”

As soon as I woke up, I did my daily bow shooting and return to the mansion. At the entrance, there was Tomoe and Shiki.

Maybe because of the after-effects of depleting a high amount of magic power, my head was a bit heavy.

When I was pulling my bow, I felt refreshed, but when I finished, that sluggish sensation returned.

While I was greeting the two, my head went round and round and there was no change.

“Good morning, Waka. It looks like your complexion is still not that good but... could it be that for Waka, pulling the bow works as a medicine?” (Tomoe)

“Good morning, Waka-sama.” (Shiki)

“Instead of calling it medicine, it is more like a part of me. I was told that it was okay to not hold back after all.” (Makoto)

I look at the bow in my hands and a wry smile appears in both of their faces.

“The classes are tomorrow, is what I have heard but, are you heading somewhere today?” (Shiki)

“...No, I still haven’t decided yet. I have something to take care of in Rotsgard, so I was thinking about showing my face in the store, but... I think that’s all I have in my plans.” (Makoto)

“Then can you accompany me for a bit? There seems to be a small change in Asora you see.” (Tomoe)

“...In that case, I will change quickly. Mio is already there?” (Makoto)

I ask Tomoe as we walk the corridor.

“No, she has unexpectedly woken up early you see. She said that she will be checking the bowl and has gone to the Eldwas’ furnace.” (Tomoe)

“Bowl... ah, the cooking one. Ceramics have already been completely incorporated in Asora huh. I thought it would end up as a hobby for only a part of them, that’s unexpected.” (Makoto)

I had the Eldwas make a furnace and have them practice ceramic.

Of course, it was the proposal of Tomoe.

It is quite a while back, but the pottery that was created from the ceramic was liked by the people of Asora.

Interestingly, the Highland Orcs, Mist Lizards, Arkes, Gorgons, and the Winged-kins; in all the races, there were people that showed interest in it.

In Asora where metallic and wooden tools prevailed even in tableware, lately, it has been ceramics in all.

It has become natural to make the tablewares that one will be using on their own.

I returned to my room and finished changing, and once again follow the two.

Breakfast will be for later.

If something has happened in Asora, I have to know swiftly.

“Ceramics serve as greetings from the Company, in negotiations, and even for souvenirs. It is truly convenient. Seeing that there’s currently no products similar to others, it seems like everyone is adhering to reproducing it by magic. It is a grateful thing for us that it is showing worth, but, although it is true that they are not teaching the manufacturing methods, they are not trying to hide it at all. How idiotic.” (Shiki)

When we grouped up again, the conversation was still about ceramic.

Shiki was prioritizing the ‘worth’ of ceramic.

Maybe that's why he has begun giving them away in negotiations and important customers as gifts.

Lately, this has also been known around as a defining product of the Kuzunoha Company.

...There's also talk that it is being sold at high prices in the black market.

I think that it won't be long for Limia and Gritonia to begin making them as well though.

Also, Lorel has the knowledge of our world as well, moreover, there's already people putting it into practice, so there should be no reason to be getting this much attention.

Yeah.

Just like how Shiki said, we are not making obvious the manufacturing method, but we are not hiding it either.

That's why I thought it was strange that it hasn't been copied till now.

Even in the store, the Eldwas, Forest Ogres, and Shiki himself were distributing the bowls they made to the customers.

It is limited to a number of important customers is what I told them, and the others, I left it to their own discretion.

By the way, in terms of how well they are made, I think that the ones the Eldwas make are number one, but for some reason, the ones that Akua, Eris and Shiki worked on, have more popularity.

Maybe that's why the Eldwas had their competitive spirit lit on and increased their own skills, and it seems a portion of the dilettantes assessed them highly.

“Well, in given time, it will circulate to the Empire and the Kingdom, won't it? There's the hero there and all.” (Makoto)

“Right. Well, it is already pretty well-known that it is our style anyways. It won't really

bother us." (Shiki)

"Right. Then Tomoe, what was that about a change?" (Makoto)

"Yes, according to the Winged-kin... it seems like at the northeast, a giant lake can be seen." (Tomoe)

"Lake?" (Makoto)

Does that mean the terrain has increased?

But I don't have more followers.

It is way too short of a time for a lake to have formed naturally, but if it is Asora... it might be possible?

Ah, they did say it was giant, so even in Asora, that wouldn't happen.

"Yes, they said that it was the first time they have seen a size like this, and that they can't see the end of it. Everything is water, and that new scent was carried by the wind, they said. We won't know until we actually see it ourselves though." (Tomoe)

"So big you can't see the end of it, and a new scent? Could that possible be..." (Makoto)

"Yes, I also thought of the probability. And so, I was bringing Shiki to check it out and met with Waka." (Tomoe)

"Lately, I have been going with Mio-dono to the port city when there's time, so I am already used to seeing the sea." (Shiki)

Shiki speaks about a port city.

As expected, the two thought the same as I.

"Sea huh." (Makoto)

"It can be taken that way. And in reality, when I asked the Winged-kin if it was the sea, they asked me what was that." (Tomoe)

"But if it's the sea, Waka-sama hasn't gotten a new follower, and I don't think Asora

has expanded for no reason. It might be some sort of sign." (Shiki)

That's true.

Until now, Asora has been increasing its size depending on my increase in magic power.

But it hasn't made any big changes in topography.

Those kind of cases occur when a new follower like Mio and Tomoe get added to the team.

The biggest change lately would be... the addition of Sari.

She is the first demon element here, but she doesn't have much power, so I don't think this place would change much just because she was added.

Demi-humans, Mamonos, and hyumans who have more power than her have entered, and it hasn't shown much change, so the chances are low.

"Anyways, I want to confirm it quick. Tomoe, you know where it is, right?" (Makoto)

"Of course. Just in case, I have told everyone not to get close to it." (Tomoe)

"Then, let's go. Can we teleport there?" (Makoto)

"Yes." (Tomoe)

Tomoe quickly creates a Mist Gate.

I don't think it will be dangerous, but it is the first time something like this has occurred.

With a bit of cautiousness, I enter the mist, and then...

A pure white sandy beach, and waves of water, water, water... a whole space of water and the horizon that can be seen afar.

A splendid beach like the ones that can be seen in the southern touring catalogues.

“ ”

...  
I was speechless.

This is the sea.

It is a type that I have not seen in real life, but I was sure that it was the sea.

I have actual proof that poisons practically don't work on me, so without much cautiousness, I went to the beach and gave a lick to the water.

Yeah, it is salty.



Salt water.

Tomoe and Shiki did the same and nod.

“This is definitely the sea.”

“It is the sea, it is strangely peaceful though.”

“No doubt about it.”

Shiki, who has done a variety of tasks in the port city, seems to be excited.

I use [Sakai] to search for our current location and the end of the sea.

There's a number of islands, and there's also a wall of mist quite far.

Just that it is not visible from here, so it must be really far.

From the Mirage Town to here... I wonder, maybe with a carriage it will take quite a bit to get here.

It might take one to two hours if they hurry, but it would be necessary to have transportation.

Ah, I spontaneously thought of the carriage with luggage accounted as well.

If it's just people in it, it should be a bit faster.

Especially the Winged-kin, I think they would arrive here pretty fast.

But to make it realistically possible to come and go regularly, there would be a need for a method to teleport huh.

Specially in Asora where there's no enemy, there's not much worry about setting a teleport formation.

“Now that I think about it, at our back...?!”

I am at the very center of the sandy beach. Maybe because of my surprise in the sea, I didn't check out the scale of the beach.

Thinking about that, I look at my back.

There, the sandy beach continued for a while, and then, it turns into land.

This is something that I somewhat understood with Sakai though. But looking at it with my own eyes makes my body stiffen.

At the other side of the white sand that continues on for a while, there's dry land.

In the land, there's sparse amounts of grass growing, and trees here and there.

It could be said that at the other side of the super high quality beach, it was a bit dry.

But that's not the part I was surprised about.

It was the fact that there was something there that Sakai didn't detect at all.

That's one of the reasons.

The other reason, are the trees.

A tree I have only seen once in TV, but has an unforgettable form.

"Hm, it seems like there's something there. A sign? In Asora?" (Tomoe)

It seems like Tomoe has also noticed it.

It is not surprising that she hasn't given attention to the trees.

I approach the sign that Tomoe pointed out and my Sakai didn't react to.

I activate my Magic Armor, and use Sakai in enhancement as I approach.

I was quite on guard.

Approaching it, and arriving at the sign from a distance where I can read its contents...

"...Hah?" (Makoto)

I unconsciously let out a stupefied voice.

Tomoe and Shiki also run to where I was.

Each time they kick the sand, it makes a \*kyukyu\* sound and it makes it less dramatic.

When I finish reading it till the end, the sign shines brightly and flew up.

Yeah, like a touch and go.

...Hah...

'You have really increased your magic power, Makoto. This is a gift from me. I had my brother help a bit, but it is frankly, the sea! By the way, this is a relay gift, and the gift from Daikoku-jisan<*oldman*> will be coming a bit later. Do your best from now on as well. Also, after you finish reading this sign, it will become fireworks. There's no reason for it.'

-By Susanoo."

And so, that's what was written.

And here I was wondering what was going on.

Now that he mentions it, when those Gods came, they did say something about gifts.

...It seems that because of Daikokuten-sama's gift, I ended up seeing those weird dreams, so at this rate, I feel like I will be played around for 1 more round.

I don't know what it will be, but I think that once I increase my magic power more and make Asora bigger, I will know.

Sea.

The sea huh.

What an incredible surprise.

It seems like there are rich people that get things like islands and castles, but receiving a sea is kinda... rare, I think.

A \*Don\* sound that let us know of the firework resounded in the sky.

“Waka, what’s going on?” (Tomoe)

“Are you hurt anywhere?” (Shiki)

“I am fine. It is from a God, he says that he will be giving me a sea.” (Makoto)

“...”

“...”

“It seems like in this matter of the sea, we are free to use it in whichever way we like.” (Makoto)

“So a sea is something that can be given.” (Tomoe)

“Even if it’s Asora, that’s way too absurd.” (Shiki)

Shiki’s voice was a bit cracked.

I feel like the words of Shiki about being absurd include me as well.

Please spare me from that.

I also understand how you feel.

“The sign didn’t mention it, but with that tree here, I wonder if Athena-sama was involved in this as well.” (Makoto)

“Tree? The tree that is here and there? It is certainly true that it has an interesting shape. As I thought, it really is something from your world, Waka?” (Tomoe)

“Yeah. This is my first time seeing this personally though. It has that form, after all. I don’t think there’s a way I would mistake it.” (Makoto)

“Is it a tree that’s related to a God? In other words, a type of sacred tree? Now that you mention it, I have heard from Tomoe-dono that there are Shrines in your world that are made in places with these kind of sacred trees.” (Shiki)

Shiki makes a wrong guess about my words and is deeply misunderstanding.

"No, sacred trees are mostly trees that have history in it and are seen to have long longevity-ja ga." (Tomoe)

Tomoe seems to have begun holding a dispute with Shiki.

Well, there's no need to do something like that. Tomoe's explanation is correct after all.

"Shiki, I didn't say it with that meaning. I brought out the name of that God because that tree originally grows in places close to where people who hold believe towards that God are." (Makoto)

I think that this was part of a homework I had.

"From its shape, it looks like a mushroom." (Shiki)

Right.

It has a look like that of a mushroom or a broccoli.

From a set distance of the trunk, a large amount of branches spread, and at the top side of it, it is filled in green.

The trunk stretching straight up makes it look like a mushroom, but midway, it ramifies and that makes it look like broccoli.

Its name has impact, and after looking at its strange look from videos, I was able to clearly remember it.

I really wanted to one day see it for myself, but to think that it would be fulfilled in this way.

"It is called the Socotra Dragon Tree, and it is written as Dragon Blood Tree." (Makoto)



“...Quite the dangerous name it has.” (Tomoe)

Tomoe had a slightly bitter face.

“In my world, dragons didn’t exist, so I think dragons had no real relation to it. If I remember correctly, the sap that comes out from the trunk is deep red, and it serves as medicine. And they called it dragon blood or something like that, so it moved by word of mouth and was called the Dragon Blood Tree... or so I think” (Makoto)

There’s Gods, so maybe Dragons actually did exist, but well, in my common sense, they didn’t, so...

If a dragon was actually involved in that tree, it would be interesting, but that’s of no importance right now.

There’s no way to confirm it after all.

“A red sap that can be used as medicine. That’s interesting.” (Shiki)

Shiki looks at the Dragon Blood Tree with different eyes.

“Yeah, it is not only used as ointment, it seems like it has a trait of hardening in rain, so it seems like it was used as a pill as well.” (Makoto)

“...Do you mind if I investigate it?” (Shiki)

“It’s fine. It’s related with the flora, so call the Arkes and Forest Onis as well, okay?” (Makoto)

“Yes!” (Shiki)

“Waka, in my part, I want to investigate the sea itself. Do you mind if I use Mio for that?” (Tomoe)

“Okay.” (Makoto)

“...Just that, Mio and I aren’t specialized in the sea, so if possible, it would be a great help if we had someone that knew of the sea and what’s in it.” (Tomoe)

“True. Is there someone like that?” (Makoto)

"None. How about it, Waka? Asora has increased in size quite a bit, so how about doing a resident selection again?" (Tomoe)

"New residents huh. Looking at the Gorgons and the Winged-kin, if it's the people that you guys select, it won't be a problem, maybe." (Makoto)

"Of course, I will have Waka do a final interview." (Tomoe)

Uh, she got me.

Even though I haven't proposed anything, she already got me.

Hm?

Ah!

"Hm, I will do that, but hey Tomoe, weren't there people that weren't able to pass in the end? The small ones." (Makoto)

"Small... ah, there were. I heard they made Ema angry. I don't remember if they were fairies or spirits or whatever" (Tomoe)

"Yeah, those guys... eh? What was their name?" (Makoto)

Ah... ehm...

"Antonio?" (Makoto)

"If I remember correctly, they did have that kind of name. It was A-something." (Tomoe)

"What happened to them? We want people related to water right now but, can you investigate that just in case?" (Makoto)

"...Waka-sama, Tomoe-dono; they are called Al-Efemera. A peculiar fairy race that controls a part of the Spirits." (Shiki)

Shiki entered the conversation that was proceeding between Tomoe and I.

Oh, right.

They did have that kind of name!

The only thing I could remember was how feisty they were.

"Oh, Al-Efemera huh. I could only remember that they were a spunky bunch." (Tomoe)

So Tomoe was almost the same huh.

Who was the one that was responsible for them?

As I thought, I can't remember the details.

"Thanks, Shiki. Al-Efemera, right. Then Tomoe, begin the selection, okay?" (Makoto)

"...No well, there's already a flood of people wishing for migration, you know? Even if I call it selection, it is more like, finally opening one door for a massive line. Well, it is something like that, so it won't take that much time. What we will be doing is having a few interviews, and investigate the particulars of that race, so... it won't be long before Waka interviews them." (Tomoe)

"...A flood, I see. Well, I count on you for the investigation of the numbers in the race and its scale." (Makoto)

Tomoe and Shiki had begun doing thought transmission.

As for me, I was looking at the sea.

The more I looked at it, the more this beach instilled my desire to take off my clothes and jump into it.

I feel like I can expect quite a bit when the starry sky and the moon come out.

With this scale, there shouldn't be any complains in having it as a private beach for a bit of time, right?

My expectations are growing.

Anyways, new residents, and a subject that Shiki is interested in researching huh.

Counting the business in the demon race territory, there are a lot of things to do now.

When I go to Rotsgard, there will probably be talk about me going to Lorel, so the other party will most likely want it to happen soon.

It is known that I went to the Empire, so even if I don't refuse them, I wonder when I will actually be able to go.

Mio and Senpai didn't have a good atmosphere between them, so if possible, I should leave Mio. I want to go in a time when Senpai is not there and return though.

Regarding this, I should confirm the plans.

Thinking of resting today and working tomorrow might have been a bit of wishful thinking from me.

Looking at the waves that were peacefully overlapping in the sea, matters appear one after another, and yet, I make a bitter smile.

Yeah, let's begin moving starting today.

The only business I had in Rotsgard was to look at the weakened Root that Tomoe told me about, but that idiot, he literally used all his strength in that blaze, and because of the recoil, he is bedridden, or so I heard.

He is really an idiot to the core.

About visiting Root... I will do some extra tasks while I'm there.

And so, from today on, I will be working.

# Chapter 194

## Arrival at Academy Town where his students await

From the other side of the door, a voice saying: 'Come in', sounded.

The woman that guided me here confirmed this, and after bowing, she leaves.

Compared to before, she is a bit dry.

That Root is down on bed, so it should be easier to work though.

Now that I think about it, Rembrandt-san and Morris-san would open the door just like that and invite me in, and then, they would enter themselves as well, but it seems here is different.

"I was told that he would be in his office, so I thought that it wouldn't be that impressive, but as always, you go one step above my expectations." (Makoto)

In the past there was no bed in the office, and yet, there's one now.

The position of the sofa has changed as well.

He probably intended to have the people that visit him use that.

...Well, if it's this excessively spacious office, using it as a sickroom is not impossible.

The security seems to be decent, so one would be able to relax.

After a moment of being lost for words, I called out the owner of this room, in other words, Root.

At Root who is at the bed that's temporarily there, and who is already in a costume like that of a wounded person.

"Thanks for visiting, Raidou-dono. As the Head of the Adventurer Guild, I am sorry for showing you this pathetic shape of mine." (Root)



What kind of laudable things are you saying this late in the game?

In the first place, what's this about being wounded?

Root's whole body is covered in bandages. And his left foot is plastered like how they classically do when one has a bone fracture; lifted up and hanged.

It is true that he looks like a picturesque wounded person.

It even looks grave.

But from what I have heard, the reason why he is down is because of the after-effects of using blaze, in other words, exhaustion.

"Doing something stupid in a divine form, and when you return, you do a cosplay of an injured person? You must be betting your life in this joke." (Makoto)

"How rude to call it cosplay. These are all real wounds, Raidou-dono." (Root)

"I heard that it was exhaustion and that it will take one week for full recovery though." (Makoto)

"...Raidou-dono, that information is old. A while ago it would have been true though. From what I see now, it will take around 1 month to recover." (Root)

...What's that about 'from what I see'?

Have a doctor look at it.

Now that I think about it, in this world, there's no big hospital.

There are small places for medical examination, but I don't see a place that has a good amount of beds and medical staff.

It will mostly be done with magic, and it is true that there are many medicines that show their effects in a really fast manner, but... a doctor huh.

Treating dragons would be a special case, so excluding that point, yeah... a veterinarian, or a demi-human doctor, it might be good to try raising one.

Well, even if I say that, the one who will do the actual raising will not be me, and the one who will be thinking about the curriculum and producing it will not be me either.

I will just be telling and leaving everything to others, so I can't just carefreely tell them to try it and it is also unknown if it will actually give form.

Well, it would be good if it serves as some sort of impetus.

"Did you make a diagnosis by yourself?" (Makoto)

"Of course, Raidou-dono. Even if I look like this, I am confident that my medical skills are better than those of the doctors and priests around." (Root)

For a while now he has been going 'Raidou-dono, Raidou-dono'.

What he is saying is also normal, so maybe today he is scheming something.

It is a saving grace that I don't have to hear the thoughts of a pervert, but this is eerie.

He always calls me Makoto-kun.

He calls me Raidou-dono only when he is acting as the Guild Master.

But right now we are inside the office, so there's no need to do that.

"And? You are quite distant here. What are you scheming today, Ro-?" (Makoto)

"Raidou-dono!" (Root)

?

How unusual for him to cut off my words.

"It seems like you get along pretty well. There's a lot of mysteries regarding him, but it seems like it has increased by one more. Well then Falz-dono, please rest properly and have your body recover. About the matter of the representative, I have understood the situation, so it is fine now."

!!

"I am sorry for not being able to give you much hospitality and has ended up all being talk about work, representative Zara. In the meantime, I will be counting on you." (Root)

"Between us, visits are a pretext. Don't mind it. I see, Falz-dono and him, both have a lot of secrets. Maybe that was the motive to how you get along? Then, maybe I should have secrets myself and see how it goes, hahaha." (Zara)

...

"Please don't joke." (Root)

"The cooperation of you two was a big help in the recovery of Rotsgard. Being in good terms with each other is something to be happy about. I might have been a bit jealous. Now then, see you later." (Zara)

"Yeah, you as well, take care of yourself." (Root)

W-Why is Zara-san here?

I should have activated Sakai.

In the first place, Root should tell me with thought transmission.

Ah, in this room you can't use thought transmission.

It seems to be the prided technology(self-proclaimed) of Root.

(Raidou, when you finish the visit, lend me your time. I will be waiting, not at the merchant guild, but at my store.) (Zara)

As he passes beside me, he whispers.

Without hearing the answer, Zara-san leaves.

Ah, my next plan has been decided.

My plans were to eat, check my store, and then go to the Academy though.

It is bitter that all of those plans are postponable.

It is hard to refuse a person that has been taking care of me in this town.

“Root, aren’t you cruel?” (Makoto)

“I thought I was doing a good enough follow-up for you to notice though.” (Root)

After Zara-san left, I immediately voice out my complains.

“In the first place, if you have a visitor already, it is alright to just have me wait. From what I see, the conversation was over already after all.” (Makoto)

“Makoto-kun too; I thought that since you are standing in this stage, you maybe would be able to manage, and wanted to try it out.” (Root)

“Do tests in tests. Don’t suddenly go for it in crucial moments.” (Makoto)

“If I remember correctly, in the olden days, Zara got very good at erasing his presence. But it isn’t something that can’t be sounded out. Wouldn’t it be good for Makoto-kun to be able to do something a high ranked adventurer can? It seems like you have magic that specializes in searching, but do that without relying on it.” (Root)

“Guh.” (Makoto)

“Also, just like what I said before, I am currently gravely wounded.” (Root)

“I did hear. It will take 1 month to recover, right? Weren’t you only tired because of using blaze?” (Makoto)

“...While I was down on bed, I had visitors you see. Two women with fiendish smiles.” (Root)

“Women huh.” (Makoto)

There’s still brave people out there that can do this much to Root huh.

“Those women entered this room I was resting in, and in an instant, they flipped me out of bed, and while laughing malevolently, they assaulted me with punches and kicks.” (Root)

Malevolently... scary.

We are talking about this pervert, so there's no doubt he has bought the grudge of many.

But to invade when he is weakened and assault him while laughing...

Your daily actions are important.

Lately I haven't taken care of my students, so maybe there's a need to be slightly gentler with them.

Yeah.

"Karma, what a deep word, isn't it?" (Makoto)

"...Words that have no trace of sympathy towards me. Even though one of them was the samurai otaku of your place though." (Root)

Hah?

"Even though I was so exhausted that I couldn't make a single move, that samurai otaku and that middle-aged desert lizard woman brought blunt weapons and came to beat me up!" (Root)

Tomoe, just when I was wondering that she was strangely kind when speaking of Root, it wasn't because she was bribed, but because she had already been refreshed.

I remember the words of Tomoe a few days ago: 'Even if he is like that, it is true that he has been taking care of us, so how about going to visit him at least once, Waka?'

When I look at this terrible spectacle and look back at what she said, the meaning changes into having a loyal dog showing its hunting results to its master.

Leaving aside if she is actually a loyal dog type.

In that case, the other one is Sand Wave, Grount-san?

Regarding her, I was told that she doesn't leave the White Desert so I had to bring the egg to her.

If she can come to Rotsgard to beat up Root, shouldn't she be able to come get the egg?

...Or could it be that this pervert is that much troublesome even within the superior dragons?

“I see.” (Makoto)

“In the first place, isn’t the original reason for it because you brought out that possibility from the sacred treasure? Just what kind of luck you have, Makoto-kun?! And yet, that Tomoe said: ‘You went all the way to a demon race city to stalk Waka? It seems like Waka has collapsed, what will you do about it?’! And Grount was Grount, the only thing she said was: ‘Hohohoho!’! That’s scary!” (Root)

“?!! That’s wrong isn’t it?! You are the main culprit for setting up a stupid attack that would make you drop for 1 week! In the first place, I wasn’t the one who activated it, it was the demon race people! Do you know how much trouble I had to go through to stop that genocidal weapon by the name of blaze?!” (Makoto)

“For some reason, I am absolutely sure that it wouldn’t have happened if you weren’t there! It troubled me as well you know?! I was in the middle of seducing my new secretary in a restaurant with good atmosphere, when I was forcefully summoned! Thanks to that, she thought I suddenly ran away from her, and because I have been bedridden, it is incredibly difficult to do a follow-up!!” (Root)

“Like hell I care! Here I nullified all of those buckshots and the thick one that came after, and collapsed from that! Even so, one of the attacks fell to the far mountains, and things turned hectic. I later received a report that there were no casualties, so I was a bit relieved though! There were several tens of deaths at the city, so don’t turn defiant!” (Makoto)

“I set it up with power enough to cause a hole on the level of a country after a—, wait, several tens?” (Root)

There were probably more, but as far as I know!

“That’s right! Because of the roar that came before the blaze, severals tens of deaths appeared, mainly within the children and old ones of the demon race! If we were to count the other injured ones, the digits would increase by two you know?! Reflect on what you have done, reflect on it!” (Makoto)

“Eh, isn’t that place in cinders, or more like, didn’t it end up with a deep hole? I heard the place of Crimson Red was safe, but the demon race settlements that were around

the area were wiped out, right?" (Root)

"No way. I received it all and nullified it. The price was that I collapsed though. You made me feel the stifling sensation of having my magic power deplete, something that I would have preferred not tasting it ever. Why did I have to collapse from taking care of your own blunders? Remembering it, even now I... yeah, Tomoe did good! That's how I feel!" (Makoto)

"...Makoto-kun." (Root)

"What's up, suddenly going quiet." (Makoto)

"How did you make it disappear?" (Root)

"I had Mio gather it, and then, I received it and extinguished it." (Makoto)

"With magic?" (Root)

The atmosphere of Root changed.

How to say it, it was as if a mass of curiosity was reflected in those eyes.

His eyes being blank was also kinda scary.

"By changing my Magic Armor, or something like that. I had Shiki provide support, so I actually don't know the details well." (Makoto)

I felt like it would be better to not mention Creation, so I decide to play the fool.

I explain by mixing in some truth and make it hard to discover.

"A change to Materia Prima... That... can you do it now?" (Root)

"You really don't listen to what others say. Didn't I tell you that I had Shiki provide support? I can't." (Makoto)

"...I see. You were able to, in essence, stop it by yourself without having casualties in the surroundings... I see..." (Root)

It seems like he has begun muttering by himself.

That's new.

Just that, in Root's case, the new facets I see of him are all disappointing.

"Heey, are you alive? While I was in this visit, I was thinking about receiving the candidates list of the adventurers that can go to Kaleneon; you can do it, right? Hellooo~" (Makoto)

"...Makoto-kun, I am hurt." (Root)

"If you are saying that, use the word wounded, or maybe, 'I have been wounded', would be more accurate? No wait, listen to what I am saying." (Makoto)

"That's not it. Those two wounded my body, but Makoto-kun has left my heart in shambles. That's why saying: 'I am hurt', is correct." (Root)

"...You know, I am sorry to say this but, that goes for both of us." (Makoto)

"That's why, please leave for today. If it's about the list, I have left it with the girl that guided you here, so you can just take it. I may be in this state, but I haven't cut corners, so don't worry." (Root)

"Ah, I see." (Makoto)

"That's right. A few moments ago, Zara called for you, right? Go there already." (Root)

How cold.

That helps me a lot.

"Understood. Take care of yourself." (Makoto)

"I am waiting for you to creep in my bed at night." (Root)

"Yeah, I will tell Tomoe and Grount-san that message." (Makoto)

"..."

"Well then." (Makoto)

I have already gotten used to his sexual harassment.

Now then, let's go to Zara-san's store.

If I remember correctly, the brothel... I mean, the real estate store.

When he is speaking about 'my store', he means that place.

Publicly, Zara-san doesn't touch brothels.

I give a backward glance at Root, and head outside to receive the tube that has the list inside from the reception lady.



"Have you been doing outside work lately? Since that incident, your popularity has increased, and beginning with the major powers, the other countries are also calling for you, is how things are going?"

"...Just as you have surmised." (Makoto)

Arriving at the store of Zara-san, I was acquainted enough with the reception and the employees to exchange greetings and be welcomed, and was allowed inside the room of the representative.

It seems like there's pretty few merchants brought into the room of Zara-san instead of his office, and the first time I was allowed to the room, there were eyes of surprise and doubt directed at me.

And so, Zara-san is in the middle of seeing through the outside work I have been doing recently.

"It seems like you have done a bad management in your visits to the places... is what I want to say, but there's no way you would be able to refuse Gritonia and Limia, so well, there are times when people have to taste busier times than others. This can't be helped." (Zara)

Oh?

I thought he would get angry at me, but he is being kind of nice.

Because of his looks, I feel around 50% more kindness.

"You are always absent in the Guild meetings, but the representative is properly coming out, so there should be no problem. I was surprised that the representative was not Shiki-san but a demi-human. After the incident, this town has lessened its discrimination towards demi-humans. There have been many survivors that were saved by demi-humans after all. I don't know how long this will last, but it seems like it still isn't that time." (Zara)

"That's a good inclination." (Makoto)

"The Church doesn't seem to like this much, but the tops of this town's church are good willed. The current head at that place may not look like it, but she is a good listener." (Zara)

The only thing I remember about her is that she has a nice voice, but it seems she is somewhat exemplar.

For people that are dispatched to other towns, it is a necessary ability.

"Your representatives are also doing their part, you know? Those girls... Akua and Eris, was it? Those girls have given a number of sharp opinions and interesting proposals. There are people that say it with a joking tone but with serious eyes that they would prefer to have them attend more instead of you." (Zara)

"...I would prefer if you were to just mention the joking part." (Makoto)

"Idiot, learn of the atmosphere. Every time, there's someone that proposes those two to start a business, but they always immediately reject it. I don't know why, but you were blessed with good subordinates. Treasure them, and make them useful for your own growth." (Zara)

"Yes, I will do my best." (Makoto)

"Since the time Rembrandt told me of you, I have been watching you, but it seems like it is not that you are messing around, just that you haven't caught up, that's all. Despite this, your surrounding environment and the goods you have are so extraordinary, that you are steadily increasing your position. That's close to terrifying." (Zara)

Totally true.

...Like seriously true.

I didn't expect that Zara-san would be the one telling me this though.

"I am still inexperienced, and I'm lacking a lot." (Makoto)

"Yeah, really. If we are to seriously raise you as a merchant, I think it would be best to cut you off your surroundings and have you work at a branch store of some random town. If it were me, I would do that. But in your case, you are a 'fighting merchant' after all, no, an 'army merchant' would be more fitting, maybe? It kinda feels lukewarm. 'Annihilation Merchant', 'Landmine Merchant'...it somehow isn't coming out well, but it is around those types. There's no precedents." (Zara)

W-What cruel comparisons.

Moreover, the word merchant totally feels like an extra.

"Uhm, and so, what business did you have?" (Makoto)

Being teased more than this will make me sad, so I decide to hear what he has to say.

My stomach doesn't hurt from just meeting him anymore, but after this, I want to go to the Academy.

I want to finish the irregular business as soon as possible.

"Hm, yeah, I have two. The first one is regarding the cooperation for the future reconstruction. The other is about Ester." (Zara)

Leaving aside the reconstruction, the place of Ester-san?

Something to do with the brothel?

In that case, it must be about 'those girls'.

I haven't been told about any problems.

I would be able to understand if Ester-san has opinions she would want to tell Zara-san but, I wonder what it is about?

"Cooperation for the reconstruction, is it." (Makoto)

"Yeah, currently, you are leaving the reconstruction to your employees and your students. It has been quite helpful. And about that, there's something I want to confirm but, can we continue the cooperation in this pace?" (Zara)

"Of course. There's still areas that haven't been reconstructed, and the places where the last variants rampaged, are still in shambles. I heard that that place will be serviced as a park, so it should be the first to be constructed, right?" (Makoto)

"That's a great help. Honestly, the cooperation of Kuzunoha Company is so crucial that it is influencing the pace of it. The two big trees that suddenly appeared have enough presence to become the symbol of Academy Town in the future. I can't increase the priority in construction, but I would want to work in that area." (Zara)

If the variants are able to provide a restful place for the people of this town in the future, it isn't a bad place to die.

The park may not be high priority, but if we are able to maintain the speed of reconstruction, it is not a far off future.

"And so, was there some sort of problem in Ester-san's place? They are girls that are inexperienced with the outside world, but I thought that they didn't cause any problems though." (Makoto)

"...No problem has been caused. Raidou, you, where did you kidnap those girls from?" (Zara)

"...Zara-san, that's not a funny joke. I just purely worked as an intermediary. I just tied the girls with a place to work in." (Makoto)

There's no way I would be trafficking hyumans.

Kuzunoha Company won't do business that I don't want to do.

I am already in depression because of the matter of that demon, Sari.

It seems like no matter what, trafficking slaves is not fit for me.

"Fuh, it is a joke. But I didn't think that you would bring women when I gave you that

free pass to the brothels. And it seems you haven't 'used' it, not even once, Raidou. Ester was sad that you didn't come." (Zara)

"Please spare me from that. I don't have the time to—" (Makoto)

"Time to embrace a woman is something that can be created even if busy. If you really wanted to embrace one, that is." (Zara)

"In the first place, Ester-san is not a prostitute but the store manager, isn't she?" (Makoto)

"Manager and prostitute. If she likes the customer, she will accompany them. She must have proclaimed herself as a prostitute when she spoke with you, right? Well, in truth, the amount of people that she likes can be counted with the fingers of a hand, so you can brag about it, you know." (Zara)

"Brag about what. Then there's no real problem with those girls, right?" (Makoto)

"In general, no. If I had to say one, it is that I was asked if I can increase the numbers more." (Zara)

"Numbers?" (Makoto)

"You presented them as demi-humans, but in reality, we are able to put them out in the store as hyumans to the customers. It is quite popular. There are customers that have become addicted already." (Zara)

If I called them mamonos, they wouldn't accept them, so I told them they were demi-humans. And yet, at some point in time, they were beginning to treat them as hyumans huh.

It's not turning into a problem, so oh well.

"As a hyuman? Well, there are no special traits that can be seen in their outward appearance after all." (Makoto)

"That's right. There are no few amount of idiots that only take hyumans within the customers, but if they don't notice it, it doesn't matter to us. If they don't like it, they should notice it. In that case, we show them as hyumans in good faith." (Zara)

In those parts, I don't have that way of thinking.

The kind of thinking that it is the customers' fault for not noticing what the goods taken from the store are and fool them.

By the way, in this world, it is quite normal for customers to request connoisseurs, so people that have a standard of only using genuine articles like me, are in the minority.

"About the popularity, is there no envy from the other girls?" (Makoto)

"In that aspect, Ester is properly holding the reins. And so, the reconstruction is going well, and the customers, the men from town, workers from outside, guardians of the students, and a variety of other people have been increasing. There's been talk about creating a new community building. And, I was asked if there were other girls from their village that can come here. Ester-san has been pestering me about it." (Zara)

"I see." (Makoto)

I think I heard something about the guardians of the students, but I ignore it.

"Just like you told me, I have not investigated the backgrounds of those girls. That's why I am asking you in this way. How about it?" (Zara)

"...If it's a few, I think there will be some that will want to. In a near future, I will have someone from my company give you the details of my answer" (Makoto)

Actually, it is limited to the Gorgons that have been able to somewhat control their petrification ability though. I have been sending a few of them to the brothel of Rotsgard.

Regarding this matter, Zara-san is also referring to those girls.

It doesn't seem like they have been causing any real problems, so it looks like it is going really well.

When I got the free pass, I thought it was a waste of a treasure, but I am happy that it was able to work as a plus for the Gorgons, Zara-san, and me.

But the petrification control is a bottleneck, and it isn't something that all of them are able to do.

Right now, unless they are quite the strong Gorgons, they are unable to leave Asora.

From within them, half of them have been sent to the brothel, and half have been placed around the company and as clerks.

“I am counting on you.” (Zara)

“Here as well, I am grateful to have them working.” (Makoto)

“...I am truly relieved that it didn’t come to having them die without me noticing and ending up in a dispute with you. They are able to suppress the violent customers as well after all. They are truly priceless treasures. Please tell them from my part that they can come work at my place anytime they want.” (Zara)

“Got it.” (Makoto)

“Also, it seems like those girls are sleeping at your Kuzunoha Company but, are you okay with the rumors? If you want to, I can prepare a place for them to live in. If they have some sort of custom that makes it hard to live together, it doesn’t have to be in the brothel, I can prepare a house for them if necessary.” (Zara)

“You are really rating them highly.” (Makoto)

“I like people that are positive and talented at their own job after all.” (Zara)

...I am positive, but I don’t think I’m talented, so...

Let’s just honestly accept the acknowledgement he has given to the Gorgons.

They are also working diligently in the company as well, so I am grateful.

“I will tell them. If business here is done, I will be taking my leave now.” (Makoto)

“That’s all I had to say. Just, this is something I am curious about, so I will ask. Raidou, do you intend to do something at the sea this time? From here to the sea, it is quite far, but you smell like salt, you know? Even if you are working outside, the sea was unexpected. In winter, the sea gets rough, so it doesn’t serve as good business.” (Zara)

“Ah, this is...” (Makoto)

"If it is related to your business, there's no need to force yourself to tell me. I don't think I will hear it. Actually, I want to scold you to keep it to yourself." (Zara)

"...Thanks for the lecture. It is related to a business that I might have in the future, so I will be keeping it to myself." (Makoto)

"Good. That sincerity of yours, hide it when doing business here. It is ideal, but the places where that can be used are few." (Zara)

"Yes, well then, I will be taking my leave." (Makoto)

"Sorry for having you come all the way here. Be careful... well, it might not be necessary for you, but there's unnecessary trouble littered anywhere. Tread smartly." (Zara)

How to say it, every time I meet with him, it always ends with a lecture.

As I thought, I am no good with him.

Ehm, add in my schedule: 'how many of the Gorgons can currently go outside'.

When I return to Asora, I was planning on having the Winged-kin bring a few people related to the sea.

I was thinking of having the Gorgons tag along with that, but it seems like that won't do now.

In the first place, I am having those girls do something close to stock-farming in Asora, so it is fine to leave it like that.

It is going well after all.

Now then, there will soon be new residents, so it is not a pressing matter.

It is close to noon, and in this time, the store gets quite busy, so it will be better if I don't go.

The business I have left now would be, contacting Limia, and the Academy.

The contact from Limia will be sent to the store, so first is the Academy huh.

Right now it is lunch time, so it will be easy to find Jin and the others.

When they are in the middle of classes, I would have to leave messages, and it will increase the trouble.

I will have to do a follow-up since they have been working hard in the reconstruction.

It is proper to tell them that classes will be beginning for real.

About the applications for new students, it will probably go smoother if I first head to the office department.

Just that, it will be troublesome with the Academy Principal and the teacher faction.

While feeling my feet slightly heavy, I head out to the main street that has completely returned to its original state.

Now then, next will be the Academy.

# Chapter 195

## End of century Academy

There's liveliness.

Or more like, blood lust?

The Academy I have been long absent for, has a strange atmosphere.

The stone paved path that goes from the main gate to the first school building gives an atmosphere of rich people attending this Academy.

The outdoor facilities that are used for practical skill classes and the field are basically at the far side where the dorms are located, so this part is in essence, not that rough.

And yet, right now I can slightly feel a fighting atmosphere, and I could hear shouts with fighting spirit, even if it was low from here.

Is it the effects of the variant incident?

I made the lectures of Jin and the others be mainly about the reconstruction of the outside district, so I haven't really come to the Academy often, and I don't know the current situation.

I had Shiki come to the Academy a few times, but there were no reports regarding this atmosphere.

Well, it may have gotten slightly noisier, but if the motivation has increased in the students, there should be no problem.

I will quickly contact the office department and do the procedures for my class. After that, I will just check on Jin and the others, and then, I don't have any other plans for the day.

No, since tomorrow I have class, even if I don't meet them when I look around, there's no problem.

Going to the office department should be enough.

The longer I stay, the more chances there will be for the Academy Principal to call me.

“Thank you for your hard work~”

“!!”

The first school building is the place where the guests, guardians, and the contractors normally come to.

The students themselves don't go there often, but the school building is always neat, and the maintenance on it is fast.

In the case of this Academy, the school building that the students frequent, is also quite high grade, like one step higher.

This first building can be considered the reception room of the Rotsgard Academy.

I have been here frequently, so I went straight to the office department, and spoke out.

In an instant, the people at the reception room look at me all at once.

W-What's going on?

“Uhm, I am the temporary teacher Raidou. I have come here to present the contents of my class and to change a part of it, so I want to finish the formalities...” (Makoto)

“You finally, finally came, Raidou-sensei!”

“Eh?”

“I contacted your assistant Shiki-san several times to have Raidou-sensei come, but at those times, I was always rejected, telling me that you were doing business in other towns. Seriously, I was troubled!”

Aside from the person that immediately came to speak with me in the reception room, several others came to the room as well and approached me.

Glaring, smiles that had been relieved from tension, and there were even some that

were sobbing; there were way too many reactions.

Just that, I could nod at the words of that person who said that everyone was troubled.

"I am sorry for being absent all this time. I was called by the Gritonia Empire, and when I left, there was a matter that felt like it might serve as a new business you see. Uhm... I judged it was best if it was as fast as possible, so I left again. I did leave a notice of my temporal leave, didn't I?" (Makoto)

I did ask Shiki to do it after all.

"It is true that we did receive it. Anyways, this..."

What was given to me was a brown envelope.

It is quite big and thick.

When it was given to me, I caught sight of the contents for a bit, and it seems like it is all documents though.

But if they are giving it to me in this way all piled up, I don't think it is something urgent.

It is fine to just confirm the contents of it slowly.

"Let me tell you this, everything in there are documents that have to be urgently confirmed."

...

Seriously?

...All of this?

"Also..."

Soon after, I was given another brown envelope that had the same thickness, filled almost to its limit.

One after the other.

I have six now.

"Next, there's documents related to the Academy's internal affairs, and they have been put together at the neighboring room of the temporary teacher's office. We were told that those documents can't be checked unless Raidou-sensei sees them first, so I requested Shiki-san about it."

"...Why in the neighboring room? It is always left at the desk of the office, right?"  
(Makoto)

"...About that..."

"Yes?" (Makoto)

"Because it couldn't fit all."

"Hah?" (Makoto)

"The office is used by other teachers as well, so at the current state, it would fill up around one third of the room in documents. There are also claims because of the lack of answer, so it is not like everything is related to different matters, but classifying them all from our side would be difficult. It took our all just to sort them by date."

'I also have other work, you know?', are the kind of eyes I was making.

"There's a nonstop flood of enquiries and thought transmissions, not only from the Academy's foreign affairs, there's also from the town, and from other countries. A percent of office work is responsibility of Raidou-sensei, in the current office department."

You are kidding, right?

"..."

I have no words.

I only gulped down.

"The temporary work regarding the reconstruction is also a lot, and we are like this. You must have understood after seeing this, but this is a grave situation for the office

department. But you finally came. The arrangement of the documents and the processing of it, from today on, please work on them as you steadily bring them back home."

"...Y-Yes." (Makoto)

"And about the formalities for the class, I will hear the concrete contents of it."

"Increase in students, and..." (Makoto)

"!!"

What a big reaction.

"The limit of classes I have—" (Makoto)

"Can't do."

"Eh? Uhm, you should be able to reduce the amount of classes, right?" (Makoto)

"Can't do."

"I just have to request for an increase in students and take out the request applications, right? By cancelling the temporary stop of it." (Makoto)

"Yes, that's possible. Actually, I have already received a special exception to increase the students participating in your class, so I would like you to please increase it to the present limit of 80 students."

E-Eighty?

Are you crazy?

Even in Japan, a class was less than half that number.

I don't even have a teaching qualification, so there's no way I would be able to teach that amount of people.

It is a class where there's the risk of injury since they are practical lessons. The major premise is that it has to be limited to a number that Shiki and I can manage.

“...Please don’t say the unreasonable. Even if I say increase, it would be around double of the current state. I was thinking of increasing it to around 4-5 students.” (Makoto)

Things like: ‘Impossible.’, ‘Too few.’, ‘Blood will be raining, you know.’, ‘How irresponsible.’, were what they were saying.

“That kind of number is like throwing a pebble in the water, Sensei.”

“Even if you say that, it is my limit after all. I don’t want to be a teacher that lets his students die after all. More importantly, why can’t you decrease the number of classes?” (Makoto)

Shiki did say that even if they die, we can somehow manage.

...’Even if they die, we can somehow manage’?, what kind of somehow?

“If I had to put it in one word, it is the consensus of the Academy.”

“Consensus?” (Makoto)

“Students, teachers, and the factions that are related to management, have stated that it is acceptable for Raidou-sensei to increase the percentage of work in this Academy, but they don’t want you to reduce it. Even though it is a situation where there is a fight for authority, this one point has been approved by them all. We can tell from the large amount of documents, that the students have taken an interest in the teacher after all. And that’s why, it will be incredibly troublesome to have you do the opposite of that.”

“Even if you say it is troublesome...” (Makoto)

I don’t care about those circumstances.

In the first place, I have no intentions of getting involved as a teacher for more than once a week.

Actually, I came here to make it twice a month.

“If you want to reduce the number of classes no matter what because of personal circumstances...”

“Yeah?” (Makoto)

“Please ask that when I am not in charge.”

“...Ehm...” (Makoto)

“The employee that approves that right now, would definitely get fired. Finding employment is hard, you know?”

T-That's truly none of my business.

“Are you telling me to have someone, who's prepared to be fired, do it?” (Makoto)

I don't mind though.

“We do understand that Raidou-sensei is not doing this because you want to. That's why... can you at least maintain the current status quo, please?”

The eyes of the person in charge glitter.

Don't cry!

“Maintain it huh.” (Makoto)

“It will be delightful to increase the number of students, but there's also unreasonable requests we are unable to take, you see. If possible, can I ask you to please stay as a temporary teacher for once a week?”

“I... will return to the company once and think about it. Then, please resume the acceptance of applications for the class. Ah, right. Do you know where my students Jin, Amelia, and the others are?” (Makoto)

I try asking without much expectations

I do have prospects of where they could be, like the self-study outdoor fields.

“They are at the cafeteria.”

“I see. I will go around randomly and... Cafeteria?” (Makoto)

An unexpected answer came.

Why does this person know?

"Yes. Lately, at this time, there's a variety of things happening in the cafeteria."

"Variety of things?" (Makoto)

"A variety of things."

"...For now, I will go check. Thank you." (Makoto)

Cafeteria huh.

So the lunchtime has been shifted.

I have placed the documents in a big suitcase, so it is hard to walk.

Well, I know where they are already, so I will just head straight to the cafeteria.

The gazes of the students that are frequently turned at me had strange liveliness as always.

The scent of food from the cafeteria grew stronger, and yet, the gazes didn't change.

"Now that I think about it, even when it is already pass lunchtime, there's still a set meal that's still available. It might be good to eat that before leaving." (Makoto)

While having a carefree thought, I enter the cafeteria.

Jin and the others are... here.

At a long table of the cafeteria, they were having their lunch as they face each other.

...While having a gallery at their surroundings.

Why is there a gallery when eating?

Envy and bloodthirsty gazes were being poured at them.

Maybe because of that, there aren't many gazes turned my way.

I am slightly grateful.

“You are open, Jin!!”

“I am not.” (Jin)

\*Baki\*

Without even looking back, Jin did a backhand fist towards the face of the hoodlum that suddenly attacked him from behind. The fist caved into his face and the hoodlum is sent flying back into the crowd of people.



“I've got you!”

“What did you get? How bothersome.” (Amelia)

Amelia evades the flashing dagger that was aimed at her, and thrusts the hand that held a fork.

Suddenly, a scream resounds.

What's with this end of century spectacle?

“Sif-senpai, please go out with m—”

\*Bon!\*

Even if it was small, a clear sound of an explosion resounded. A love confession that would soften this atmosphere has been shot down.

The one confessing has gotten an afro in an instant and falls speechless.

In a lot of meanings, he was a brave one.

“ ”  
“ ”

Sif said nothing.

H-How cruel.

Nevertheless, what a hard to approach atmosphere.

There's most likely a bounty placed on Jin and the others.

If it's in this Academy, the unreasonable demands of the powerful nobles and merchants are normally approved, so it is possible.

And in reality, I had previous experience of suffering at the Academy Festival.

With that much interference, transgressions, moreover, harassment towards me; even if the person in question is dead, the punishment they were given was way too light.

This place is really scary.

The big nobles and merchants are also good at feigning innocence, and on top of that, they are underhanded, which makes it the worst.

When I go to Limia, I might have to meet with people related to that Ilumgand, and that makes me depressed.

It is the country that's taking care of Hibiki-senpai, but for me, it is a target I would want to avoid.

“Sensei!!”

“?!!”

As I get closer to check the situation, Jin's side called me out.

In response, the surroundings get noisy in an instant.

“I have been away for a while, and the Academy has turned dangerous, Jin.” (Makoto)

“You saw that just now?” (Jin)

“Yeah. Did someone place a bounty on you guys or something?” (Makoto)

When speaking to students, I speak the same way as I did with written communication, by talking indifferently.

Because there were harsh impressions like majestic, and weird, when I began speaking.

When I used written communication, the impressions it gave were indifference, composed, and unperturbed, so I am performing in my own way.

“No way. More importantly, it seems like you have resumed the applications for students.” (Jin)

Why do you know that already?

Are the rumors in school going at lightspeed?

While I was greeting the other students, Jin speaks about what I did at the office department a few moments ago.

“...You learned of it way too fast. Was it Shiki?” (Makoto)

“No, it seems to be information from a reliable source of the office department. Because of that, it has become like this after all.” (Jin)

“By ‘like this’, you mean the strange liveliness that’s surrounding the Academy?” (Makoto)

But I feel like the order of events is weird.

“It has been like this since that incident. The students that have begun to crave for power have become more active in practical lessons and real combat has been implemented. There was also an increase in temporary teachers and a reformation of the self-study system. The atmosphere of Rotsgard has changed quite a lot.” (Jin)

“Heh~” (Makoto)

Oops.

Be dignified, dignified.

With a stern expression.

“Because of this, there’s the hunted side. Just like this, there has been past occasions where they have surrounded us in this way, but...” (Jin)

Saying this, Jin looks at the gallery.

I’m surprised you can eat like this.

If it were me, I would prefer to endure going without one meal, rather than eating in this atmosphere.

“These guys seem to have learned about the increase in Raidou-sensei’s number of students. Just that, the most it will be taking is around five. And so, to show their own strength and to increase the slots available, it has instantly turned lunch into a thrilling event.” (Jin)

They even know the numbers.

How scary is the speed of rumors in Rotsgard Academy.

Walls have ears, and doors have eyes.

No, it is more like everything is made of glass.

"As a teacher, being evaluated so highly is something to be happy about, but... being too dangerous is troublesome. There's other ways to show your strength." (Makoto)

"Seriously!!" (Amelia)

From within my students that were silent, Amelia shouts loudly.

"Amelia?" (Makoto)

Slightly surprised, I call her name, and she hit the table hard.

"If you really wanted to stealthily have Raidou-sensei evaluate you guys, you should help out on the reconstruction work we are made to do everyday!!! And yet, you didn't do that at all, and simply went to assault us... Just how much... You don't know just how harsh it is, you bunch of idiots!!" (Amelia)

I did say that if you had free time from classes, you guys should help out with the reconstruction but, she was doing it everyday?

How diligent, Amelia.

\*Ban!!\*

Again, the sound of hitting the table.

This time was, Izumo?

He hit the table with a fist.

He is trembling. It must have hurt a lot.

"Exactly! Even though I am a magician, everyone says this: 'How convenient', 'What a

great help'. Dragging me around like a work-horse, and using my magic close to the very limit, they tell me that it was a reward and I, who didn't have the strength left to oppose, was poured down alcohol and greasy food with no taste down my throat!! It was so harsh that I wanted to shout what kind of torture is this!! And yet, the important reconstruction is still not complete and there's still a mountain of things left to do! To be envied by a bunch of bastards that just comfortably attend classes without helping at all, don't joke around!!" (Izumo)

"A magician still has it better. When your magic power runs out, it is over, right? But me, I have to cast stamina and physical strength recovery magic, and they use me for heavy labour till the very limits of my physical and magical power! I have already learned how to make a simple house!!" (Misura)

After Izumo, Misura's voice trembles.

As a defensive wall-type warrior, it is a given that he has high physical strength, and even if it's unskilled, he can also use healing magic.

I have heard that in constructions, especially in the construction of buildings, they play an active role.

It seems like they have piled up a lot in them but, you two, if it was so rough, you should have just reduced the number to two or three times a week.

It wasn't forced after all.

Counting Amelia as well, how diligent.

"If you are talking about physical and magical limit, I as well." (Daeno)

...Daena too?

I have heard from Zara-san that he has been helping as a messenger and delivery of goods.

"But it is still nice for you Misura, you are still single, right? But me, once I return to my room, my wife tells me this: 'Why do you always return so late?', 'Helping out in the reconstruction is not the work a student should be doing, so treasure your family a bit more'. Being super tired and returning in tears, I get those words. It gets to my heart..." (Daena)

If it's so harsh, the same thing I said applies to you as well, Daena.

You are married, so treasure that.

Isn't what your wife said correct?

I haven't met her, but I sympathized with his wife.

"But once classes are over, we have to help with the reconstruction. That's why we do our best everyday. These pestering bunch should know of our actions to a certain degree, and yet, they don't even touch that topic. Like that, there's no way we would want to recommend or serve as intermediaries for anyone, right, Raidou-sensei?" (Jin)

Jin puts it all together

I feel like I now slightly understand the strange liveliness and the over excessive actions of Jin and the others.

But...

"No well, Jin, I have somewhat understood what you want to say and the situation. But, I don't remember telling you to help in the reconstruction everyday though?" (Makoto)

"..."

...

Starting with Jin, everyone looked at me intently.

The only ones that were normal were the Rembrandt sisters. The only ones who I didn't tell them anything about helping with the reconstruction. The two only smiled at me.

I planned on having them help out as well, but Rembrandt-san had played the first move with Zara-san.

It seems like they sometimes help in the reconstruction, but it was mostly from behind-the-scenes. In the first place, they mostly help out in the work of the Merchant Guild.

His wife did say to treat them the same as the other students, and Rembrandt-san supposedly agreed to it though.

As expected of a shrewd merchant.

“Yusuri-san, she...” (Jin)

“Hm?” (Makoto)

I ask for a repetition of the words Jin muttered.

“After being thoroughly pummeled by Yusuri-san...” (Jin)

“Completely defeated by Zwei-san in close combat.”

“Being unable to even get close to Blue Lizard-san, and be completely wiped out...”

“After that, we were forcefully healed, and in a team fight with everyone, they broke our weapons and heart.”

My students have a pain-filled face as they speak of the situation as if recounting a nightmare.

Around that time when I told them about helping in the reconstruction, I feel like it is true that something like that happened.

“Raidou-sensei told us this when we were totally unable to move: ‘I am counting on you in the help with the reconstruction’. Shiki-san didn’t heal us. Instead, he created a barrier so that the surrounding mamonos won’t get close, and then, he chased after Sensei.”

“...”

Is that so?

I don’t remember well though.

I most likely told Shiki that I would leave him to handle the rest, so I don’t know the details of what he did.

Then Shiki didn't heal them.

"I won't be able to forget the starry sky and coldness of that day. I felt like it was engraved in my very bones that I should help out with the reconstruction without missing a day." (Jin)

I didn't have that intention at all.

It seems like I have made them misunderstand.

But in exchange, it looks like their basic foundation has increased quite a lot, so if the results are good, it is fine. Yeah.

"In the first place, I didn't have those intentions. From what I see, you have become relatively stronger, so do be satisfied with that. Also, I have gotten permission to use the field for the class tomorrow, so if you are going to attend, don't go to the reconstruction of the town. Since I am here already, I will directly contact them that you won't be going. Well then, do your best in the afternoon as well." (Makoto)

"...You will properly give us classes, right?!" (Jin)

"I will have to go to Limia in a near future, so I feel that it would be bad not to do classes a few times before that, as a temporary teacher of the Academy." (Makoto)

I return a positive response towards the words filled with expectations of Jin.

Even if I say classes, it will be just confirming their current state and pointing out their next task though.

Their good part is that I know they will definitely tackle the task to their very best.

As expected of promising students.

"Raidou."

When I was about to leave, an unfamiliar voice stops me.

I turn to where it came from, and as expected, an unfamiliar face.

A person from the gallery huh.

In that case, a person that wants to participate in my class?

“What?” (Makoto)

Acting as a tired teacher, I ask.

It is my job, so it can't be helped.

Maybe it will be easier if I switch back to written communication?

“You will be increasing your students in a near future, right?”

“Yeah, I am planning to, that is.” (Makoto)

“When? The information said it was only a few, but is that true? What's the criteria of the selection?”

“...I am going to Limia Empire, so it will be after that. The information that it will be only a few is true. About the selection, I will first choose by documents. If you want to apply, leave your application before I head to Limia. Does that satisfy your questions?” (Makoto)

“So that means the deadline will be until Sensei has left to Limia, right? Then what part of the document will you be taking into account? I want to take it as a reference, so please tell me.”

What a briskly girl.

It does seem like she is trying to hide it, but I understand what this girl is trying to ask, so I should answer it straight and direct.

I want to return quickly after all.

“Aside from grades and fortés, I won't look at anything else. And if there's other documents aside from the application form added to it, I won't take a single look at it. After that, Shiki and I will be watching your performance in person and decide then. That's all.” (Makoto)

“!! Thank you very much!”

I tell her that connections are of no importance.

It seems like she understood what I was trying to say.

But it really makes me waver.

It makes my shoulders stiff, but I should continue with this character.

Maybe I should just return to written communication.

Or maybe go with the disinterested attitude, or with my natural self.

...The third option is a no go.

They are not my friends or anything, and I have no plans in doing that.

This is a job, so I think that there's the need of a clear line to demarc this.

Ah, should I go to the library... No need for that, right.

The librarian Eva is already not there anymore.

The image of a praiseworthy librarian that will be losing nights of sleep appears in my head.

Feeling the change in the association with this Academy after all this time, my mouth changes into a smile.

Without returning to my office, I peek at the neighboring room, and it was certainly true that it had become a room of documents.

...Later, I will come together with Shiki to get them.

With this, my things to do are over.

Let's return to the sea-I mean, to Asora.



There's liveliness.

Or more like, bloodthirst?

When I returned to Asora, I was going to go to Ema's place to confirm the people that can be moved before going to the sea, and at that moment, I felt a déjà vu.

Ema was making a dangerous face that's normally not seen in her.

I thought that she would be together with Tomoe or Shiki, but the situation and expression is different from my expectations.

At the place where she is -the training grounds outside the town-, aside from Ema, there's several Orcs, Lizards, and one Arke.

Also, small fairies; I think there are about tens to hundreds, but they were confronting Ema as they swarm and float.

Ah, those... if I remember correctly, Antonio-No wait, Al... Al-Efemera!!

Right, right.

But Asora really moves fast.

So they have already brought them.

...Could it be that the sea races are already waiting for the interview?

No way.

"Ema, these guys are the Al-Efemera, right? There's a strange atmosphere though."  
(Makoto)

Should I call it a critical situation?

Ema had gotten into a fight with them in the past, so I have a bad feeling about this.

"Oh, Waka-sama! It is not to the point of calling it a strange atmosphere. These people

were acting as usual, so we were just in the middle of scolding them." (Ema)

"As usual... It feels like the atmosphere has changed quite a lot though?" (Makoto)

"They were just getting conceited by saying things like they dealt with the Riz, and after that, they made several other threats retreat." (Ema)

Because of that?

Leaving aside the King's attitude, the bunch at his back are radiating bloodthirst.

It is not like it was directed at anyone in specific, it was the type that was scattered to the surroundings.

It resembled the type of bloodthirst that a part of the people, who have taken the bootcamp of Tomoe for the first time, release.

It was like an improvised army.

"Asora's king! Our name is Al-Elemera! Is the Asora King the kind of person that would forget the name of a race that he has had an interview with?!"

"Eh? Al-Elemera? Ah, I see. I am sorry for my rudeness." (Makoto)

To think that even Shiki couldn't remember them properly.

Even though they are a feisty bunch, they are not a really memorable race.

"Waka-sama, there's no need to apologize. For these people, it is enough to call them flying ants. Calling them in an exaggerated name is just a waste." (Ema)

Ema is sharp towards them.

Maybe she doesn't like their wild behavior.

"It is not a waste! We are the kings of Fairies! When your subordinates are rude, your King becomes rude as well, Orc woman! Just like promised, we dealt with the Liz, and yet, why didn't you contact us?! If you had maintained your promise, we wouldn't have lost so many comrades!"

It looks like there are a lot flying around, but it seems like the numbers have reduced a lot.

How many of them were there?

I don't remember.

"Ara ara, you call yourselves the Kings of Fairies, and yet, how childish. Did you forget what I said already? I said that: 'Once you deal with the Liz, come here again', you know? If you defeated the Liz, why didn't you come back here? I thought that you were all eaten and had already gone extinct." (Ema)

"Like I would know how to come here! That's unfair, Orc woman!"

"In that case, before flying away driven by your anger, you should have told me that: 'After we defeat the Liz, contact us again', right? If we had three hundred of you noisy bunch in Asora, it would be an annoyance. You have been reduced in numbers nicely, ufufufufu." (Ema)

Dark.

There's a dark Ema here.

To come to Asora on their own is unreasonable.

They are not Gods.

I don't know what they were crying about at that time, but this is kinda... cruel.

Let's try not to make Ema angry.

When I look, the other races had a bitter smile.

A part of the Orcs had blue faces.

Could it be that Ema still has more to bring out?

If there's still more changes to her, I don't want to see them.

Even so, Ema seems to know these guys well, so she most likely knew that I had gotten

their name wrong, moreover, she even knew how many they were.

If they had three hundred, their numbers decreased by around  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

That's quite the damage.

"Why didn't you tell us this, King of Asora."

"Eh? Even if you ask me that..." (Makoto)

"You were the one who let us go! Ehm... ehm... King of Asora!"

...

Ah, could it be, they also forgot my name?

If memory serves right, they haven't called Ema by her name either.

What, so it goes both ways.

"Of all things, to snap at Waka-sama again... I'm already... ufu, ufu... Just like last time, I let off this guys because they were brought by Mio-sama, but it seems like there's no need for that now. Even though we were slightly pitying you and reconsidered the migration of you guys..." (Ema)

"We passed the ordeal! The abundant forest we lived in has been engulfed by an abominable purple cloud and it is already a poisonous swamp. We don't have a place to live! We will live here!"

Oh, his haughty attitude is unbreakable.

Personally, I prefer to watch this liberal type of people from a far away distance.

If it were in TV, I would like to watch it.

Asora is big, so if we just find a random dwelling for them to live in, I don't think it would pose much trouble.

With the addition of a sea, the scale of Asora is big enough to even make it a pain to calculate.

“...I see. Then live here. You said you liked forests, right? Live in whatever forest you want.” (Ema)

Is what I thought, and Ema says just what I was thinking.

Based on her attitude until now, this is unexpected though.

Also, it is unexpected that she would decide this kind of things by herself.

Even though she normally comes to us for permission.

“!! Those words, I certainly heard them!!”

“Just that, we won’t relate to you in any way. But if you want to no matter what, you can grovel on the ground and beg, and I will *think* about it.” (Ema)

“Listen, everyone! We have obtained a new home! Okay, we are going to that forest there! Hurry and create our houses! Gather food!!”

“Oooooh~~!!”

“...”

The Al-Elemera fly all at once.

It is like honeybees moving.

While looking at them fly away, I glance at Ema who is beside me.

She has an incredibly good smile.

It makes my back shiver though.

I instinctively turned my eyes away, but it was a wide smile.

“Now then everyone, let’s return to our jobs. Even something called a sea has appeared, so we will have to think about the logistics of Asora.” (Ema)

“Right.”

Me and everyone else nods.

"Waka-sama, regarding the races that live in the sea, and the races that can possibly live in it; there's a list about them now. I think the list will get bigger but, can you give it a check?" (Ema)

"Yeah, got it." (Makoto)

"Shiki-sama was saying that we should open that part of the beach and create a port. For now, we have moved a few Eldwas over there. The craftsmen that are at the port city outside, said that they will return to Asora if there's a need for boats." (Ema)

Oh.

Without resting for a day, they have immediately moved.

For me who leaves tomorrow's things for tomorrow, this is an unbelievable speed.

Ema was giving accurate instructions to the races that were with us.

It was such a change that it felt like the conflict just now didn't happen.

"Uhm, Ema, about the Al-Elemera..." (Makoto)

"Yes, what is it?" (Ema)

Even so, it was bothering me, so I tried asking.

"Why did you easily let them migrate? Even though you were quite angered." (Makoto)

It wasn't a flow where she would be letting them at all, and there was no apology from them, and yet, why?

"I have gone too far in front of Waka-sama. I am very sorry." (Ema)

She first apologized to me.

"No, don't mind it. Just, why?" (Makoto)

"...Waka-sama, do you know what happened to the mamonos that Tomoe-sama threw

here?" (Ema)

"Mamonos like the Liz?" (Makoto)

"Yeah." (Ema)

"If I remember correctly, I heard they were exterminated by things like wolves, bears, oxen, and wild boars." (Makoto)

"That's right. They have been practically wiped out." (Ema)

"..."

"..."

"Uhm you see, even if you tell me 'that's right'..." (Makoto)

"Waka-sama is not giving them their protection. In other words, those guys that are deemed as a differing force, are not much different from mamonos." (Ema)

No different from mamonos, she says.

Meaning...

"A poor excuse of fairies that consider something like a Liz as a threat, and have been reduced by almost half in numbers in this short amount of time, moreover, with that level of intelligence; they will definitely ignore the warnings of the wolves-dono. I don't do pointless lies, so if they end up fewer than half their numbers and grovel on the ground... Fufu, I will think about it." (Ema)

Uwaaa.

Dark Ema has evolved into Abyssal Ema.

"Asora is certainly a paradise. There's no strife between races like in the wasteland, and there's an extensive land, so there's no need to fight for it. However, there's rules in Asora as well. Outlaws that don't follow this and just live by their own rules, will be exterminated by nature." (Ema)

"Rules in Asora huh." (Makoto)

Nothing comes to mind.

"Strength or protection; if they don't have any of these two, this place cannot be considered a complete paradise. The beasts that originally live in this place are powerful after all." (Ema)

Once again, Ema laughs violently.

An Asora that's not a paradise huh.

Surrounded by games and internet in my original world, I was filled with entertainment, so there's a part of me that finds this place slightly boring, but the other residents voice out with truest sincerity that this is paradise itself.

That's why I also thought that this place was plentiful and easy to live in.

From what Ema said, when your position and allies change, this place will not always be a paradise.

I didn't think about it.

I really am no good with 'looking at it in the perspective of others'.

I shift my sight from the scary smile to the list that was given to me.

Half-fish race, mermaids, sea anemones, and joke-looking people that have the body of a fish and hyuman limbs.

It was truly a list of water races.

There will most likely be candidates from Tomoe and the others, so I will take those into account when I think about it.

The sea is vast.

If they want to, I don't mind having all of them living there.

# Chapter 196

## Unknown Sky

Sari was looking at the stars while feeling deep unpleasantness for being unable to arrange her mixed thoughts.

Her eyes were distant as she kept looking at the stars.

“The scale is one, two, three, or maybe four... no, that’s not it.”

She mutters lowly.

Without being heard by anyone, those words fade and vanish.

“Even though what I have to do hasn’t changed, I can’t move.”

For her, this was something unusual.

Think and act.

She has never hesitated in acting.

Abandoning her own position till now, she easily did something like engraving the slavery stigma onto her body, and the actions following that.

And this here is the result of it.

In the next move, she has to enter deep into Raidou’s domain. And yet, in this place that he has brought her into himself -In Asora-, Sari has been unable to make contact with Raidou properly.

The actual state of affairs is that the time she has been staring at the starry sky has increased.

“Could it be that Raidou is the king of a different world?”

Sari looked at the starry sky and thought this.

It is heavily different from how Raidou himself sees it, but the understanding of Sari wasn't that far from reality.

He has a space called Asora.

That space has been expanding in size, and currently, it has a vast land, sky, and sea. It is already in a state where it is fitting to call it a 'world'.

And one can only enter Asora with them as intermediaries, and they themselves can enter and exit as they want.

From the standpoint of Sari who doesn't know the circumstances, Raidou is the king of a parallel world, and she is a guest of his world. Without any decorated words, she can even be considered an 'intruder'.

His attitude of antagonising the Goddess could now be understandable in her view.

But if that's the case, the fact that 'Raidou is a hyuman', would be a contradiction in itself, is how Sari thought.

Or could it be that there's hyumans in parallel worlds as well, and this world is under the protection of an existence like that of a Goddess?

If that's the case, why is there no other hyuman in this world called Asora?

What about an existence that is related to that Goddess?

For a while since she is been here, Sari has been flooded by this thoughts that had no answers, and was unable to act.

"Anyways, becoming a friend of Raidou is the first priority. If I become a close friend of his... Raidou probably wouldn't do 'something as meager' as turning his fangs towards the demon race..."

Raidou 'always' moves by his emotions.

That's what Sari guesses.

That's why, she will be by his side, and if she is able to change those emotions of his, she will be able to obtain safety.

She has been calmly looking at Raidou when she was outside, and that's why, she reached this conclusion and acted in this way. It could be said that she got a good grasp on him.

...It can't be considered a perfect analysis though.

In Sari's view, it was a scary result.

If imprudently dealt, Raidou might not even care about the whole picture, and destroy a country and race just because of a reason like being asked by someone close to him.

If someone with a deep hatred towards the demon race becomes a close friend of his, or a lover, there's a possibility of Raidou turning hostile towards the demon race.

Things like diplomacy, period, or economics; those kind of things would hold no weight.

If even Raidou turns into an enemy, added with the heroes and the Goddess, the demon race will be exterminated.

Sari was sure of this.

Looking at Asora, she thought exactly like this.

"Totally self-sufficient. Even though powerful races are mixed here, they have an army that works together splendidly well. They clearly possess crafts that surpass ours by several steps. A teleportation ability that not only makes it possible for them to attack any place without the need for a march, it can also be used for retreats. Added to that, there's the abnormally high individual battle power of the close aides of Raidou." (Sari)

If she had to put out a weakness of them, it would be their numbers.

Asora doesn't have that much population.

For a fertile land, it has a low population to the point that it was strange.

Sari still didn't know of the reason why.

But even the hyumans that are the strongest force in her world, would they really fight against them just because they are winning in numbers, when all of these disadvantages are lined up?

If her father the Demon Lord had accurate information of Raidou and Asora, what would he have done? She tried to imagine it.

"Even if it's slightly disadvantageous, he would probably make an alliance. Fufufu, it doesn't sound like it would be a talk to a company, but a talk between countries." (Sari)

By the way, if Sari were the Lord, she would have wished to migrate into this Asora.

But that's because she still hasn't been in a position of responsibility within the race, and he is a rare type of hyuman that the demon race doesn't hate.

As long as Raidou acknowledges it, it would be a great proposal that would lead to the least sacrifices, and would bring a peaceful future.

In a sense, it would be a proposal that would be ideal for the future of the race.

But...

"Without doubt, there will objections from the majority, moreover, there's the danger of me being assassinated for it. The hatred for hyumans... and the will of the demon race. If this is the will of the demon race, his Majesty would oppose this proposition even if it is the path to destruction." (Sari)

Sari had a sad expression in her face.

Thinking about her father, this is something that comes into her mind at times; just what kind of existence is an excelling Lord?

There's probably several different types, but the Demon Lord Zef is the type of Lord that would make reality the demon race's will.

For that sake, he would easily shelve his own will.

In that sense, the actions of Zef are incredibly simple.

Pass judgement to the hyumans, and prosperity to the demon race.

That's all.

And those two come in a set.

It can't be toppled.

Sari does think that having the demon race prosper and triumphing over the hyumans is one way of revenge, but most of the demons don't think that way.

They want the blood of hyumans.

"If Raidou were to approve of the demon race's objective of passing judgement to the hyumans, there would be a different path. Just that, the chances of it are way too low."

(Sari)

In the end, she couldn't put anything in order.

It was at that moment...

"Sari, are you available now?"

"!! Yes, go ahead, Waka-sama." (Sari)

Sari heard a voice there's no way she would hear wrong.

By the way, the one who opened the door was the owner of the voice.

The lifelong master of Sari; the person who she bounded her own stigma with.

No one was accompanying him today.

Without knowing about her worries at all, Raidou naturally entered her room.

"You don't look well. Are you okay?" (Raidou)

"I'm okay. I am just slightly in disorder because I am still not used to my surroundings. I am sorry for making you worry. Is there something you needed?" (Sari)

"I wanted to have Sari work a bit in something, you see." (Makoto)

"Just say the word. Giving this much hospitality to a slave like me, there's no need to be reserved." (Sari)

These were the true feelings of Sari.

As a slave, Sari has received a better treatment than what she was prepared for.

They are not forcing her into any work, so right now, the treatment they are giving her is like that of a guest.

It was temporary, but she was still in an unbelievable situation.

"I see. Tomorrow morning, there's a race I want you to meet. Meet them, and well, I want you to hear their requests and what they have to say." (Makoto)

"I don't mind but, is that a job that's okay for me to be doing?" (Sari)

Even with this light explanation, it was clear that this had an atmosphere different from that of a miscellaneous job.

Because of that, Sari asks to confirm.

"Yeah. We are low in people, and Shiki did say that you seem to have past knowledge." (Makoto)

"...Meaning that I can be useful, right? Understood. I am happy that you believe in me enough to give me work." (Sari)

"Because you can't betray us, right? With the ritual and all that." (Makoto)

"Yes. I don't have the intentions to betray you either, and I can't betray you. Even so, you don't have any suspicions that there may be some sort of loophole. I am truly lucky that the person I have decided as my master is an open-minded person." (Sari)

"...Loophole huh. I didn't even think about it. Because there's no need to think about it, right?" (Makoto)

"Is that so?" (Sari)

“Yeah. Because if you do something like that, Sari would be my enemy, right? You must have some reason to work under me with the resolve to die, so something as careless as that, the intelligent Sari wouldn’t do that.” (Makoto)

“...”

“I am not good at thinking that much. Betrayers are enemies, contributors are allies. That’s how I think, and that’s all. I want to go simple.” (Makoto)

What a scary thing to say, is what Sari thought.

“For example; in the case that it looks like a betrayal when it was actually for the good of Waka-sama?” (Sari)

“If I notice that it is good, then an ally; if I don’t notice it, enemy. Simple, right?” (Makoto)

“...”

Raidou nonchalantly said this.

On the other hand, Sari was speechless.

She added into her data that he is someone with a thought pattern that’s scarier than she originally thought.

“Hm? What’s wrong?” (Makoto)

“Nothing. I will keep those words in mind.” (Sari)

“...I see. And so, about the race I want you to meet.” (Makoto)

“Yes?” (Sari)

“There’s a race that wants to migrate to this place you see, a race called Lorelei. It seems like they were originally from the demon race, but as they were living in the sea, it seems like they have become a different race and things changed. Have you heard about it?” (Makoto)

“...Lorelei?!” (Sari)

"Good, it looks like you know them." (Makoto)

"I have heard that in a long past, there was a household of the demon race that was called Lorelei that had escaped into the sea and disappeared." (Sari)

"Then it is probably them. Their outward appearance is similar to the demon race after all. It seems like they were in quite the cold sea, but because of a slight connection, there was talk about having them migrate here, you see." (Makoto)

"Migrate?!" (Sari)

"And so, there's going to be an interview. But there's the need to arrange the information of the race and the requests the other side has beforehand, right? I am counting on you for that." (Makoto)

"...This place accepts the migration of a race?" (Sari)

"Yeah, well, depends on the situation though. This time it is applications for people that live in the sea, it seems." (Makoto)

"It seems? Wasn't Waka-sama the one who ordered it?" (Sari)

"Ah, would that be the case? Asora is big after all. Even if everything moves as I order, there's just no time. The people that want to live here can participate in an interview by all means, is how I feel. But in reality, there's a lot going on, and it can't go smoothly like that." (Makoto)

"...Is that so." (Sari)

"Sari, you can have a house made somewhere eventually. If you want to, after the migration of the Lorelei is decided, it should be fine to live with them. It seems like you were the same race in the past after all." (Makoto)

Raidou continued making carefree statements.

But he is the king of this Asora.

"I-I see... Uhm! About the investigation, I will properly do it. Is it okay to begin starting tomorrow?" (Sari)

"Yeah, I am counting on you. I will place a Gorgon and an Orc to assist you, so go at it without pressure." (Makoto)

(...Is it for surveillance? Or is it really out of goodwill? This plan is probably from someone else, so there's that chance, and it makes it hard to tell.) (Sari)

"Sari?" (Makoto)

"Ah, sorry! Thank you for your kindness, Waka-sama." (Sari)

"Well then, good night." (Makoto)

"Good night." (Sari)

Sari still doesn't know Raidou's real name.

She hasn't been told.

Leaving aside Raidou himself, she is in a situation where her surroundings don't trust her.

She doesn't know that reality, but she does feel like she is being tested.

Even if she is ready or not, Sari thought that from now on, it was a critical moment for her.



"Ah, Shiki. About the preliminary investigation, I have requested it from Sari just like you told me." (Makoto)

"Thanks, Waka-sama. If we don't make those kind of people work, it would be a bad example. You have been a big help." (Shiki)

"I was being reserved because she was a girl after all. Because you told me, it served as a chance. The one that should be giving his thanks is me." (Makoto)

"I am grateful to hear that." (Shiki)

"By the way, what's that?" (Makoto)

After returning from asking Sari to investigate the Lorelei, I met with Shiki and follow his gaze, and there, I saw Ema and the Al-Elemera.

Just that, the Al-Elemeras that are always flying around, are now on the floor.

What a rare sight.

Reflexively, I ask Shiki for an explanation of the situation.

“Ah, just like you see. The Al-Elemera are, how to say it, partly similar to Waka-sama.”  
(Shiki)

“Ehm...” (Makoto)

I couldn’t understand the meaning of Shiki’s words.

“Looking for a place to live in, they were strolling the forest, and in the very first day, they broke onto the den the wolves live in.” (Shiki)

“...Uwaaa” (Makoto)

All of a sudden they were at that place huh.

What an unlucky bunch.

Ah, they are indeed similar to me in that part.

“They were splendidly scattered and are now like this. Not everyone can cut through their bad luck like Waka-sama does after all. Well, it can be said that they are normal.”  
(Shiki)

“Now that I look properly, they are doing dogeza. Ah, Ema did say something like that. I see... the king and the important people are doing dogeza huh.” (Makoto)

“No, all the race is.” (Shiki)

“...Quite a big part was caught by the wolves huh.” (Makoto)

Their numbers are a lot less than when I saw them last time.

The wolves against them wouldn't even amount to a fight.

"They have been scared witless and have run back here." (Shiki)

The wolves of Asora are crazy strong.

No, it seems like the living beings of Asora in general are quite strong. The carnivorous beasts are especially strong within that group.

Currently, the wolves are in the strongest class.

If it turns into a serious fight with them, even Orcs and Lizardmen might be in danger.

They are like experts in forest and group fights.

...The first time I encountered them, I was truly relieved that I was sturdy.

Also, I was deeply moved when I was able to speak with the wolves.

Because of reasons, I am the only one that's able to though.

Well, wolves are intelligent, so even without speaking, they are able to communicate with their actions.

They properly give warnings.

The problem is if the other side complies with those warnings.

And it seems like the Al-Elemera weren't able to do that.

"...I wonder if Ema will forgive them." (Makoto)

"Even if she does, the Al-Elemera will probably not be able to lift their heads to Ema anymore." (Shiki)

"Now that you mention it Shiki, it wasn't Al-Efemera." (Makoto)

"My apologies. Remembering the names of something like flying insects, is pretty difficult huh." (Shiki)

He easily admitted it.

He didn't even try to smooth it over.

"Even though they are feisty, their impression is weak after all." (Makoto)

"Seriously." (Shiki)

"Ah, by the way, did you hear the talk about what they said of their forest?" (Makoto)

"If I remember correctly, it was done in by a purple cloud." (Shiki)

"Do you know the details?" (Makoto)

"Yes. It is a big disaster, but it is a phenomenon that happens pretty often in the wastelands. Thick accumulated dark purple clouds bring about strong rain and it fills the land in poison." (Shiki)

A cloud that rains down poison huh.

Sounds dangerous.

I am glad I didn't encounter that when I was in the wasteland.

When he says thick and accumulated, does he refer to a form like that of a cumulonimbus cloud?

If that's in purple color... it would have quite the intensity.

"That's troublesome." (Makoto)

"It is only possible to take refuge, so things like bases that have a set location would be completely wiped out. Just that..." (Shiki)

Shiki who was explaining, slightly hesitates in saying the next.

"Just that?" (Makoto)

I urge him to continue.

"I heard this from Tomoe-dono, but that purple cloud isn't actually from the weather; it is actually a living being." (Shiki)

"Living being? A cloud is?" (Makoto)

That's hard to believe.

"She said they were a group of small gas living beings. Normally, they are not much of a threat, but when it surpasses a set number of them, they grow bigger in a breath and bring about disaster. As expected of someone that has lived a long time, she has quite the vast knowledge." (Shiki)

"A gas living being. As I thought, it just doesn't ring well." (Makoto)

"But being a living being means it has life force, so in other words, I thought that it might be possible to kill them or scatter them." (Shiki)

"I see. It is certainly true that if we kill the living, they will stop." (Makoto)

"But well, they are special beings that move in group, so if they are a gas type where each one is as small as a grain, trying to kill them might not be realistic. It doesn't have much relation to Asora in the first place, so I don't think there's much need to research it." (Shiki)

"I want to see it at least once. How about you, Shiki?" (Makoto)

"To tell the truth... I am also interested. There's a mountain of work to do, so right now I can't move though." (Shiki)

"Hm... in that case, how about asking Tomoe and Mio to bring a sample?" (Makoto)

"It seems like the two of them are busy as well, so... how about asking the Winged-kin? It seems like they haven't heard of it, but maybe they will be able to bring new information of it." (Shiki)

"As expected of Shiki. Yeah, let's try that!" (Makoto)

If it has an interesting special characteristic, I might be able to use it in the lectures of the Academy.

In the case that it is hard to utilize, it would be biohazardous, so I will refrain from using it.

Even if there's still a brief time before going to Limia, I still have to do the things I can do at Asora and the Academy.

"But I think that it will be impossible to utilize it in the lectures of the students." (Shiki)

"...As expected of Shiki. Wait, since when did you learn to read minds?!" (Makoto)

"Guessing what my master thinks, is a basic skill of a butler; is what Morris-dono said, so I tried learning it." (Shiki)

It is not 'I tried learning it'.

That's normally not possible.

"You are a diligent one, Shiki." (Makoto)

"I am honored." (Shiki)

'Maybe I should just throw all the classes in the Academy to Shiki', is what I slightly thought.

# Chapter 197

## Like a Phoenix

“Wa~, how splendid. So that’s the purple cloud that’s been doing no good.”

At a certain place of the wasteland, looking up at the sky, there’s a purple cumulonimbus cloud.

It had a magnificent size and height.

A purple cloud in the blue sky.

What a highlight.

“It has quite the scale. With this, counting the location, a lot of casualties might be brought about.”

The one who accompanied me when I said I wanted to see a purple cloud if there’s one out, was Tomoe.

Quickly investigating the area that it appeared in, she brought me here.

“Place? Around where is this in the wasteland?” (Makoto)

“At a considerably eastern part. The mountain range that can be seen at the front is dividing the lands other than the wasteland.” (Tomoe)

Tomoe points at the mountains rising perpendicularly.

Obviously, I can’t see the other side.

“When you say east, does that mean it doesn’t have anything to do with Tsige? There’s no base here so, where would the casualties come from?” (Makoto)

“Lorel Union. At the other side of this wasteland is the Lorel Union. If I remember correctly... there isn’t such an important place or a big town in the maps, but there

should be a forest and a river, so those will be exposed to damage." (Tomoe)

"The wasteland is really vast huh. It even makes contact with Lorel territory." (Makoto)

There's no accurate portrayal of the wasteland in maps, so I didn't know.

"The mountain range continues on for quite a long way, so it doesn't feel as if it is making contact with Lorel after all." (Tomoe)

"If I remember correctly, Lime is currently there, right?" (Makoto)

Hibiki-senpai is in Lorel, and Lime is telling us her movements.

It seems like he is going together with them, and the detailed information reaches Tomoe's place.

"Yeah. I am already thinking about having him return soon though." (Tomoe)

"That means Hibiki-senpai and her group are about to return to Limia?" (Makoto)

"That's what's expected. I have been unable to make contact with him these last few days, so it is only a guess though." (Tomoe)

"If it's Lime, he should be fine. Senpai is also there after all." (Makoto)

Tomoe makes a slight face of unamusement.

"Is Hibiki that much of a person? It is certainly true that her head works relatively well, but I honestly don't think she is as high as Waka praises her to be." (Tomoe)

"I think that Hibiki-senpai is a genius. To the point that I wouldn't be able to believe that she is only one year apart from me. I do think that my bow skills can be considered a talent, but Senpai is really a person that can do anything." (Makoto)

"Aren't you over evaluating her?" (Tomoe)

"Really?" (Makoto)

"It is certainly true that she has excelling points, but I think that Waka is an even more excelling existence. That's how I feel. It is hard to say this, but Waka's evaluation of

Hibiki might enter into the category of admiration." (Tomoe)

"...Maybe. If Senpai were exactly as I had imagined her to be, she wouldn't be in this parallel world in the first place. I wasn't able to ask her about this the time I met her, but well, I admit that admiration is mixed in it." (Makoto)

"Waka won't grow dependant on Hibiki, but it looked like she had more talent in being a politician than being a warrior. It might be unnecessary, but just to give you a slight warning." (Tomoe)

"Thanks, Tomoe. I will be careful." (Makoto)

Well, even if she says that, I don't think that Hibiki-senpai would set me up.

There's no reason for that.

Leaving aside Tomoki, I think Senpai is okay.

I did give a warning to Tomoki after all.

"...And so, Waka, have you seen plenty enough of that purple cloud?" (Tomoe)

"Even when we call it, there's no reaction. It seems like it is impossible to communicate. I think there's a way, but... there's no need to go that far." (Makoto)

"Then you don't mind heading back now, right? Later you have classes, and there's also the contact of Limia. Shiki has gone to Rotsgard first, so Waka should also go soon." (Tomoe)

"Yeah. It doesn't seem like it can be used in my lectures after all. Next is..." (Makoto)

I call Azusa and set an arrow.

"Waka?" (Tomoe)

"If we leave it be, it will head to Lorel, right? That place is working as a receptacle for otherworldlers, so I was thinking about helping them a bit, you see." (Makoto)

"In that case, the debt would be bigger when damage is caused, you know?" (Tomoe)

“Hahaha, how to say it, it is not like I want them to be indebted.” (Makoto)

“Compassion is not for others to see, or something like that?” (Tomoe)

“It is a bit different from that too.” (Makoto)

Preparing the arrow, and in a stance where my aim is plenty enough, I answer Tomoe.

The location I placed my aim at was a core-looking part that I found by using [Sakai].

At a point where it is especially thick in density within that gas formed cloud.

If I shoot there, it will probably show results.

What Tomoe said might be close to how I feel, but it is slightly different.

I look for a word that might serve to denote it.

“Ah, right. ‘Sending a favor’, might be closer.” (Makoto)

Releasing my arrow, I speak out the words that I felt were most appropriate.

“Sending a favor?” (Tomoe)

“They gave a home to the Japanese otherworlders that fell into a parallel world. Leaving aside their motives, I think there were many who were saved because of that.” (Makoto)

“Well, that’s probably the case.” (Tomoe)

“That’s why I felt a debt towards that action of Lorel, and I am returning that debt. It is not a debt that I received though.” (Makoto)

“Is that something the preceding Japanese wished for? To return the favour of people you don’t even know of, it is a feeling I don’t understand well. I also don’t understand why you won’t look for a reward in this matter.” (Tomoe)

The place that the arrow pierced had a hole opened in it, and with that as the starting point, the purple cloud scatters.

The resistance was low.

It is true that it shot through the target, and yet, it felt like it was a fake.

It is the peculiar feeling of an archer that was telling me this.

But it is certain that I did shoot through their link, so it's probably not gonna turn into a big disaster.

Frankly speaking, the fact that the sensation of 'killing' it is not clear is making me have a bad feeling.

Even if I want to confirm it, I don't have the time.

Well, if anything happens in Lorel, I have the reports of Lime.

It should be okay to deal with it when I learn of it.

"Why I did this, or anything further than that, even I don't completely understand it myself. Just that, since they took care of my fellow Japanese, I thought of helping them out a bit. Sending a favour is just how I called it." (Makoto)

"So my learning is still lacking huh. I have to devote myself more. No matter the case, it was splendid. With this, it will probably be unable to create any big evil." (Tomoe)

"Ah!"

Damn it!

"What's wrong?" (Tomoe)

"Sample. Shiki said he was interested as well!" (Makoto)

"If it's about that, I have already collected it and send it to Asora. If it's only a small amount, it shouldn't pose any danger, and it won't pose any problems either." (Tomoe)

"...I'm glad. Then, let's go back." (Makoto)

"Understood. About the people that are going to migrate to the sea, I am thinking about selecting them with the idea of Waka. It will probably take a whole day with Mio and

I. If I think about the dried anchovies I will be able to grill, this cannot be called a pain though. Fufufufu~~" (Tomoe)

"Prepare a kotatsu and oranges." (Makoto)

"Well well, I am looking forward to it." (Tomoe)

Now then, I wonder how Jin and the others are doing.



[Now then, it has been a while since our last lecture.]

Shiki and I were at the outdoor field of the Academy, facing the students.

But what's bothering me is not the serious expressions of my students, it's the massive amount of gazes being poured at us.

[There's a lot of spectators.]

[I want you to step back so that you don't get injured though.]

The later half, I write it towards the students that are spectating.

But the response that came back was mostly about them not minding.

Even though most would leave after saying this in the past.

Well, if they say it is okay to get injured, it is fine then.

The contents of it are the same as what I applied at the office department after all.

[How enthusiastic. Well, okay. Just like always, we will be doing a combination of mock battle and reflection.]

Jin silently lifted his hand.

[What is it, Jin?]

"Who's the opponent? We want to change our formation depending on it." (Jin)

It seems like they have been thinking about it a lot and have prepared for the lesson.

Truly zealous.

Comparing it to when I was in senior high school, it makes me feel embarrassed.

But this time would trouble me.

Because I want to see their current skills after all.

[First of all, I will have everyone face a new opponent. The contemplation of it will come later as homework. The mock battle will be with a long distance and close combat. We will be doing a mock battle with the party that you have assigned for it, and do a contemplation and discussion of it. These are the plans for today.]

“A-A new enemy?” (Jin)

Without the need to wait for Jin’s words, tension runs within the group of students.

I wanted to see how much strength they have against an enemy they don’t have information or countermeasures of, and then, after carefully seeing it, I will decide how to train them.

...But the opponent is someone that, if I could take my time looking at the fight, they would already reach the approved line though.

“There’s no way... it could be Shiki-san or Sensei, right?” (Amelia)

Amelia asked nervously.

...

Eh? Did their heads get slow because they tasted being matchless in this End of the Century-turned Academy?

“There’s no way Waka-sama or I would be your opponents. If you get conceited like that, you will bring about unnecessary injuries you know, Amelia.” (Shiki)

“Sorry!!” (Amelia)

Shiki says it for me.

With how it looks, I will have to wring them a bit harder huh.

[Then, prepare.]

“Raidou-sensei! When you say ‘as always’, you mean... everything goes, right?” (Yuno)

Yuno asks for confirmation.

[Of course. Struggle with everything you have.]

“Understood!!” (Yuno)

It seems like she has a hidden card.

The students that were guided by Shiki take their positions, and then they make their formation.

...They are divided in a standard formation of vanguard protecting the rear guard.

They don't know what will be coming, so they are going to face it with the standard first huh.

That they don't have a clever scheme might be an indication of their self-confidence.

Now then, let's call them then.

The two are busy, so let's go with a time limit.

I confirm the situation with thought transmission, and then, I open a door for Asora.

“...”

“...”

The ones who appeared were two.

The two were looking at their surroundings and confirming their opponents, and after bowing once at me, they looked towards Jin and the others, and took their stances.

“Then, I am counting on you; Ema, Agarest.” (Makoto)

I whisper towards the two.

Confirming that both nod, I take distance from the place that will most likely turn into a battleground.

The opponents of Jin’s group this time are Highland Orcs.

Number one magician, Ema; and the number one warrior, Agarest.

The small height Ema and the giant Agarest that surpasses 2 meters. The difference in height is so big, that one would wonder if they are actually from the same race. But even if they look like this, Ema would win in a long ranged fight.

Now then, what will happen?

Or more like, how many minutes will they last, huh.

While at it, I exchanged looks with Shiki, and he understood what I wanted.

“Begin!” (Shiki)

At the same time as the signal comes, Jin and Daena go for the first move, and dash.

Daena is faster by one body length.

It is a power that he has been training since before the Academy festival.

Without any extra details, it is enhancement to all stats. Daena himself calls it Second Stage.

He is using it from the very beginning.

Compared to the instantaneous enhancement of Jin, its consumption is not good, but to get twice as strong is kinda... appealing.

At that rate, if Agarest doesn’t move, it feels like Daena will arrive first by several seconds.

The rear guard didn't move, and while being cautious of the Orcs, they began their arias.

And there's also the vanguard that serves as the role of shield, Misura, standing at the starting point, and it seems he is just waiting and watching.

It is not like they are being overawed or being negligent huh.

Agarest is a macho that looks like a mass of muscles, and in contrast, Ema has a harmless appearance like that of a plushie.

With the first look at them, one would normally get scared or underestimate them, but it seems they are not. That's impressive.

“I will scatter them.” (Agarest)

“Yeah, that's what I thought you would say.” (Ema)

Looking forward, the short words of Agarest were responded by Ema who is at his back.

Right after, the body of Agarest was wrapped in a dark red light, at its surface, patterns rose and it increased his intensity.

Daeno who saw this, decreased his speed; Jin also grabbed his sword with both hands and took a stance.

Too bad.

The correct answer was to continue running forward.

“Fuh~~”

Pointing his shoulder guard to the front, he holds his halberd with the opposite hand.

Agarest who is heavily equipped, charges power into his body and breathes in. He makes a clear to understand expression.

‘I will be rushing now’, is what his stance was saying.

No, it's exactly what he did.

"!!"

"Daena, spread!" (Jin)

"Understood!" (Daena)

Being pressed by the pressure, the hesitant Jin and Daena moved.

Their judgment was fast.

Just like what Jin feared, Agarest rushed forward while still enveloped in light.

It was truly the dash of an Orc that left everything to power.

If it were a normal situation, Jin's judgment would have made it with spare time, but there's also the spell of Ema.

I heard that in Kaleneon, he used his whole power and had become stalwart in the fight of Kaleneon.

If Agarest comes flying, it would seriously be no joke.

Agarest passes through the middle of Jin and Daena who had gone to the left and right, and they were assaulted by the squall created by Agarest and the spell of Ema.

"Geh?!"

"A shock wave, and also, heat?! Guh! Damn it!!"

Even though they weren't touched, the two students were fallen on the ground as if a car had crashed on them.

Jin seemed like he still had the ability to speak so, maybe he let himself be blown away without going against it?

It looks like he is not unscathed, but it doesn't seem like he is completely out of the fight.

Daena looks like he is still okay. So his elevated powers saved him huh.

But how will the students that are in the crashing point fare?

Agarest's attack has not even begun.

But this is strange.

His movements were slightly dull.

Did Jin and Daena do something?

"Mi-Misura... I am counting on you?"

Amelia deploys a barrier and takes distance from Misura.

She said it in doubt maybe because the barrier she made herself would serve for basically nothing, and she is unable to gauge the power of that attack.

Following, Izumo and Sif also create a barrier, and support Misura as they back away.

In a manner that she covers Sif, Yuno also backs away.

...Even if it's his role, it looked like bullying.

All the magician members are already maintaining their magic ready to be activated.

It is impressive that they are able to challenge this when just a few seconds ago they were screaming.

So they will be activating those spells soon, facing Agarest.

Misura...

"Scary. This is seriously scary. A giant mass of steel is charging towards me with enhancement magic. Even if I block him, the people at my back will be shooting the spells and hitting him along with me. Why did I choose to be the role of a wall?"  
(Misura)

"How pathetic to show fear in your face... Hm?"

“...But, this is a lot better than going against Tomoe-san!” (Misura)

He became serious again huh.

It is certainly true that Agarest is better than being trained by Tomoe.

It is unreasonable to choose between bad or worst though.

“...Hoh~”

The shoulder guard of Agarest destroys the three barriers without showing much deceleration, and the greatsword of Misura made a dull and heavy sound as they collided.

Normally, because of the height difference, Misura would be sent flying, but... as expected of Misura that is completely specialized in defense.

He is also able to shift the power of the attack well in practice.

There should be quite the shock and damage, but he was able to stop Agarest.

I also shared the simple surprise of him.

As expected of Tomoe's favorite.

But in terms of follow-up actions, he is out.

“Splendid. I was surprised.” (Agarest)

Agarest indifferently mutters.

It may be at this late of a time, but is it okay to be speaking in common language?

Maybe I should have made them mute like the Lizardmen?

Oh, the halberd of Agarest approaches to the side of Misura.

Well, he is already unable to move, so evasion will be impossible.

While Sif and Izumo were preparing their spells, and Amelia her bow...

“Everyone, it still isn’t over!!” (Misura)

Misura commands the rear with unexpected words.

And then, as if he had no damage, he swings the great sword that was down, stopped the halberd, and then shifted it aside.

Hey hey.

He should have received enough damage to even reverse his organs.

At the Academy festival, Misura had a dangerous hidden card like ignoring damage, or more like, it was numbing the sense of pain and aiming for a simultaneous strike.

But even if he used it in this occasion, his body shouldn’t be able to respond to his call.

Just what did he use?

“Now!!” (Misura)

While I was surprised, Misura shouted this one word that resounded in the whole place.

“Hm?” (Agarest)

Agarest noticed an abnormality from his feet, but by that time, it was already too late.

The ground undulates, wraps around the body of Agarest, and on top of negating the support magic that Ema placed, it restrained his movements.

Sif huh.

Misura received that support, and with a light move, he retreated back.

While that happened, fire and wind raged towards Agarest and was attacked by a fire tornado.

“Guh.”

A linked attack between Izumo and Sif.

With the upper half that Agarest barely managed to free, he swung his halberd and was trying to scatter the fire and wind.

And then, an arrow that had already finished targeting its objective flew into it.

...

It was stopped by the halberd.

As expected of Agarest.

He still has leeway with that toughness.

After that, a magic formation endowed to the arrow exploded as if stolen directly from Shiki's forte.

In that part, Sif is also involved.

By giving firepower of her own to the attacks of others, she is able to make even stronger attacks.

Instead of synthesizing magic on her own, the power and consumption is better this way.

If I remember correctly, that arrow was the one they used to defeat Ilumgand.

Amelia has already completely added it into her repertoire.

They are fighting while thinking well, moreover, they are seriously trying to win.

Everyone has grown more than I thought.

"Just because you are a magician, doesn't mean I will hold back."

...

Jin and Daeno who I thought were still recovering, had targeted Ema and charged at her.

So that signal was also for Jin and Daena!

Daena was already at a distance where making an aria was impossible, and Jin stopped his feet at a slightly further away position.

Impressive.

Their foundation is good as well, but it seems like Jin and the others have seriously worked hard to win against the Mist Lizards.

That's why they were able to prepare a plan like this even when their opponent changed.

Seriously impressive.

"I will seal her movements! Daena, finish it!!" (Jin)

I feel like Jin had activated a magic that was hard to see.

Its presence was strangely dim, so I can't tell well though.

"Of course. Got her!!" (Daena)

The dagger of Daena approaches Ema, and then... it slashes air.

"...Hah??"

"An illusion?!"

As if the landscape had been rippled like a water surface, Ema's figure disappears.

It was a good fight.

It was worth seeing.

Sif who won the Academy festival, was called the champion, but if the students that are spectating this spread rumors of this fight, Jin and the others, all of them will be the champions of this End of the Century Academy.

"Hyumans are also beings that can't be underestimated huh. It has been a good learning experience. But student-san, in the field, what you first have to suspect is camouflaging moves, you know? Especially against opponents that are not moving."

(Ema)

“!!”

The voice came from a place slightly further away from Agarest.

At that place, Ema was there.

In reality, Ema was clung onto Agarest and was together with him until the middle.

Because Jin and Daena were blown away, they were unable to catch the real body of Ema.

But even if you call it camouflage... it is quite hard to see through an illusion that has presence.

And when it is a camouflage that is enough to blend into a plain that has a good field of view, I feel like it is already something on another level of camouflage.

Unless it is cancelled, Jin's group wouldn't be able to notice.

She is the almighty magician of Asora, Ema-san, after all.

She is in perfect form.

In her surroundings, she has already deployed several magic formations.

Too late.

Jin was punched by several unknown things to the point that he was lifted up to mid-air; Daena was instantly turned into an ice pickle; the footing of Misura turned liquid, and when he was buried up to his neck, the ground turned hard again, restraining him; Izumo silently fell asleep on the ground.

The remaining were Amelia, Sif, and Yuno huh.

Eh? Now that I mention it, Yuno...

“Rocket Kiiick!!”

Wa?

Aimed at Ema who was activating several spells, something was falling from the sky.

Ema who was aiming to defeat Amelia and Sif, quickly cancelled the two spells, and takes distance from the falling object.

It seems like it didn't hit, but...

Ema was now behind Agarest.

And then, at the falling point...

“...”

Everyone was silent.

That's an obvious state, as there's a strange 'something' standing there after all.

“Why is that thing going to where Yuno is?” (Makoto)

My voice unconsciously came out.

As if being squeezed out.

For a moment, the image of the radical gravure version of Hibiki-senpai came to my mind.

But more than that, this deep crimson suit gave me a headache.

So when Yuno equips it, it is red huh.

No, that's not it!!

Mio, didn't you say that you only created one of those?!

A suit that tells about the preferences of someone completely.

Even though it fell from the sky at high speed, it is completely fine. Pointless endurance.

An attack power that was enough to gouge a hole in the ground, and a technique name that doesn't match its power.

The thing that I equipped in Limia and pledged not to ever wear again in my life... was there.

"It is okay to utilize equipment from the Kuzunoha Company, right Sensei?! I have taken a liking to this! It is my main equipment! I need a lot of magic power at the time of equipping it though." (Yuno)

Please spare me.

"Now then, here I come! This power that I obtained in exchange for the treasured book of mother. I have to create results, or I won't have a tomorrow!" (Yuno)

Even if you get results, you are a goner.

Fuh~~

At the same time as I sigh, I face towards the scene.

Agarest has already gotten out of the restrain and is completely fine, and Ema has already taken her stance.

It should be fine to leave it to them, but no, as expected, I will step in.

Shiki is also placing his hand on his head as if holding back his headache.

I can totally understand how he feels.

[Yuno, was that from Mio?]

"Yes, it is from Mio-sama. It was given to me through Beren-san! All-purpose full body armor, trial version, Excavator!" (Yuno)

Excavator...

Heavy equipment huh.

Or more like, that thing will actually be able to do a lot.

If Beren is also involved in it, I will have to believe that its capabilities have been limited!

But more than that, just looking at it makes me writhe!

I might die from embarrassment.

[What book did you take out from Oku-sama?]

I have to return it to her.

And I have to give a sermon to Mio.

“All four volumes of Lorel’s local dishes. It was already gathering dust anyways, so...”  
(Yuno)

It seems like the tension has calmed down a bit.

Maybe they were able to guess my actions from now on.

Even if you understand it, it doesn’t mean that I will be forgiving you, you know?

[Yuno]

“Y-Yes?” (Yuno)

[Reflect on it!]

I hit the helmet.

Hit it.

Hit it.

Hit it.

“Kyaa!! Sensei, I am being buried! I will end up buried!!” (Yuno)

[Reflect on it in a dark place. Actually, be buried.]

I heard a ‘Kyaaa’, but I ignore it.

I bury her deeply.

No, I hit.

Yuno was safely sunk unto the ground without any regrets.

Finished.

“Ema, sorry but, can you search for those books that Mio seems to have? I will go return them.” (Makoto)

“Ah, yes.” (Ema)

Ema who was completely out of combat mode, agreed to what I said.

I will acknowledge their efforts.

Jin and the others have grown stronger.

And there were several parts where I didn’t know what they were doing.

It is something that can be solved after asking them later though.

In terms of one talent, they are probably already not at student level anymore.

But more than that, I thought of something scary.

That series, could it be that a number of them have been leaked to this world?

Do they have Crane or Shovel?

If that’s the case, a scary contamination might occur.

I have to retrieve them at any cost.

I have to retrieve them all.

“Uhm, Waka-sama.” (Shiki)

“Shiki?” (Makoto)

“It seems like we have received a contact from Limia Kingdom. Please return to the company. I will do the reflection and discussion.” (Shiki)

“Limia... Limia huh. Honestly, I don’t feel like it is the time for that, but... understood.” (Makoto)

The spectating students that had stopped cheering at the middle of the mock battle and had only been looking in silence, noticed me and opened up a path.

Could it be that in Limia Kingdom as well... no way.

It should be okay, right?

While I was returning to the company, this uneasiness was attacking me.

# Chapter 198

## Gossip – Hibiki and Lime

‘What am I doing?’

Lime Latte was at a slightly further away place from the camp as he said this monologue.

(Seriously, something is wrong with me. Like this, it really is as if I am in a party.)  
(Lime)

Since the time he saved the priestess Chiya in Lorel Union with hero Hibiki, Lime has been moving together with them.

At first, it was obviously for the sake of gathering information by the order of his superior, Tomoe.

And yet, for some reason, Lime had meshed in with their party, and currently, he has ended up accompanying hero Hibiki because he was asked formally to a mission.

It is an infamous forest, but there were no signs of demonic beasts or beasts coming close to him who was smoking tobacco.

The creatures that live in this forest have recognized that this man that looks defenseless while smoking a tobacco, is actually a strong one.

And so, the natural instincts of the beasts are providing him with safety.

(...Frankly speaking, it is comfortable. As if I am with comrades I have been adventuring together for several decades.) (Lime)

There was a reason why he felt like he is together with comrades he has been along with for a long time.

It isn’t to the point of decades, but in the past, Hibiki’s party had one swordswoman.

A woman by the name of Naval.

Lime knew this from the information he had.

And the fact that he is in the spot she should be.

It is also the reason why at times it felt like he had a set place for him when in battle.

Not only that, Lime actually knew the woman named Naval in more detail than Hibiki herself.

(To think that that Naval was a companion of the hero. She was in Tsige for a temporal time, but... the Vengeance Oni has become quite a kind one. To die for the sake of her comrades is a way of dying that she definitely wouldn't have done in the past. Well, I can't talk about others though.) (Lime)

The Naval that Lime knows was an embodiment of revenge that pointed its fangs of hatred towards the demon race.

It is not only once or twice that he has seen people bleach with the blood of the demons.

Their power and gold is all used for the sake of killing as many demons as possible.

That's the kind of woman she was.

But the Naval that Hibiki and Chiya tell him about, were all stories of a charming woman with hyuman kindness.

Thinking that Naval was changed by Hibiki, Lime thought that maybe Naval was happier than in the time he knew her.

He felt something similar to gratitude towards Hibiki.

(You didn't die in loneliness and with a maddened smile. That's great. Moreover, that dancing blade technique is still living within Hibiki.) (Lime)

He blows out a big smoke.

A thick smoke that looked as if it could take the whole head. And after he felt that he let out enough, he once again inhales heavily.

(Hibiki is truly a heroic existence. To the point that it is easy to see. That is also because

she is purposely acting in that way, and it is also because the people wish that from her. Acting to become the vessel of hopes is not something that a person would be able to do with a normal spirit. I can tell why Boss sings praises of her.) (Lime)

In the time that Lime was keeping an eye on Hibiki, he noticed that she was putting on an image of a 'hero' as she acted.

At first, he thought that it was an action of deceiving the general public, but...

(She is doing exactly what's wished for in a hero. What part of that is bad and who would suffer losses from it? She is quite the person.) (Lime)

It is certainly true that Hibiki is highly calculative.

To the point that at times, he rolled his tongue as he watched her.

But Hibiki wasn't showing contempt or planning something.

Without denying the image that the populace holds of heroes, she instead accepted it and showed them actions that fit their wishes.

As a result, she has much more support, and people that don't falter in cooperating with the country for the sake of Hibiki, are born.

And Hibiki will have a stronger authority within those people, obtaining the root of support.

No one is losing.

Lime doesn't think of idealistic thoughts like 'it is bad because she is deceiving'.

He is being affected by the charisma of Hibiki and it increases that view of his, but just like Makoto, Lime was starting to approve of Hibiki.

Also...

(I have been ignoring the calls of Sis Tomoe a few number of times already. I do think that something's wrong with me, but... is there an option of following Hibiki like this? No, my life was changed by Boss and Sis Tomoe. To change jobs to Hibiki wouldn't be cool.) (Lime)

Lime's worries were that.

The tobacco ashes were falling to the ground three time faster than normal.

It was indicating the distress he was having at this moment.

It seems like Hibiki's way of acting was something that made Lime want to see and continue seeing it from now on as well.

Lately, she has not been asking him to participate permanently in her party.

To take away an employee of Kuzunoha Company without permission is as expected, not something good, is what Hibiki said.

But if in that time Lime has a change of heart, she did say that she would really request it from them.

An invitation that's not forced.

If it's solved peacefully, it would be great, is what Lime said.

And so, Lime was wavering.

Because it was awkward, he was unable to make contact with the Kuzunoha Company, and at the same time, it signified that Lime was leaning towards Hibiki's side.

(Hm? Hibiki huh. How unusual for her to come alone.) (Lime)

The face of Lime that was facing up and down, was now faced towards the side.

Because in that direction, he felt the presence of Hibiki.

"Even though I thought I had properly erased my presence. I can't win against Lime."  
(Hibiki)

"Anything you need?" (Lime)

"You said that you would be eating your meal separately, right? I do have to take care of our helper here after all." (Hibiki)



With an accustomed smile, Hibiki gives Lime the plate she had.

When Lime's gaze went to the plate, Hibiki took out the cloth that was on the plate as if she was in a play.

The scent of vegetables and meat spread to the surroundings.

"When the person herself says that she will take care of me... it is just..." (Lime)

"It is because it is Lime that there's no need to decorate my words so much, so it makes it more comfortable. I told you before, right? If there's no evil in it, then acting is not something bad." (Hibiki)

"...I am an outsider though." (Lime)

"But you are helping us. Even though there's no need to cooperate with the request of Lorel Union. This is not necessary in the preliminary inspection of the company after all." (Hibiki)

"...Is that steamed food? How? There's no kitchen. I don't know how you made it, but it is well made. I will take it." (Lime)

"Ara, you are correct. Even if it's steamed, it isn't anything complicated. I also have some convenient cooking methods." (Hibiki)

While giving the food to Lime, Hibiki begins explaining.

While being slightly grateful at Hibiki for understanding that he wanted to change the topic, he took the food.

"Delicious. Even if you stop being a hero, you would be fine. Today was made by Hibiki and Chiya, right?" (Lime)

"Thanks. That's exactly right." (Hibiki)

"The affinity between the vegetable and meat was well thought out, and there's the seasoning as well. Even though you are a hero, you are able to do housework. That's like undermining the whole women out there." (Lime)

"It isn't something that would trouble me for being able to do it. You as well, for

someone that smokes tobacco, your sense of taste is pretty good. Isn't that also undermining?" (Hibiki)

"Ah, you got me there." (Lime)

After that, Lime gobbles up his food.

Hibiki didn't hate the silence, and at times, she would make conversation as she stays there.

"Thanks for the food." (Lime)

"Eating all the food makes me feel good. It was worth making it and bringing it here." (Hibiki)

"And? You didn't come here just because you were in the mood, right?" (Lime)

"It is true that I came to conquer your stomach, you know?" (Hibiki)

"Those kind of things, do them for brother Bredda. At my place, there are many people that like cooking, like Sis Mio. Something of this level won't conquer me." (Lime)

"Too bad. It is about tomorrow." (Hibiki)

"The purple cloud huh. It seems like it is withering the forest and approaching at quite the fast pace." (Lime)

Matching the change of mood from Hibiki, Lime also responds seriously.

"Yeah. It possesses strong toxicity, without doubt. It isn't on a lukewarm level like acidic rain. The fact that there's few living beings escaping, it should be safe to say that there's something even more dangerous." (Hibiki)

"Something that's making the animals late to run, huh. This is big." (Lime)

"The only ones in our group that can deploy wind to our surroundings while fighting are Wudi and I. Thinking about the danger of the cloud, we have no choice but to place Chiya-chan and Bredda as backup." (Hibiki)

"It was an emergency, so everyone came after all. But I am able to fight while deploying

wind, you know?" (Lime)

"...If you weren't part of it, I wouldn't be here in the first place." (Hibiki)

"I see. In other words, you are asking me to join in the attacking role." (Lime)

"Yeah, please." (Hibiki)

"How straight." (Lime)

"..."

It was different from how he felt with Makoto. Lime felt a sensation as if wanting to stretch out his hand.

And from that, the answer was already decided.

If it turns bad, they can just retreat; is what Lime delineated as he nods.

"Understood, I will help you. Seriously, just how much I have lend Hibiki already. You are properly remembering it, right?" (Lime)

"You are really a big help." (Hibiki)

With a wide smile, Hibiki expresses her gratitude to Lime.

She nods once and continued her words.

"If I am to your liking, how about I marry you and return this debt for the rest of my life?" (Hibiki)

"What an ill mannered joke. I don't want to be the man of a hero, what a pain." (Lime)

"Instantly rejected?!" (Hibiki)

"I like all women, but I have never wished for marriage even once." (Lime)

"...You will be stabbed in time, seriously." (Hibiki)

"I am already tired of hearing that warning." (Lime)

"Aah, I have been rejected. I am bad at giving up, so I will be tackling it again some other time, okay?" (Hibiki)

"You won't go down huh, as expected of a hero." (Lime)

"Well then, I am counting on you tomorrow." (Hibiki)

"Leave it to me." (Lime)

Hibiki returns.

With just those words said, Lime stayed in place.

(Boss...)

The night was still long.

Lime was troubled once again.



Range.

That's probably the biggest weakness the hero Hibiki holds.

The fighting power of Hibiki increases every day.

But in regards to long-ranged attacks, it always ends up weaker than those of close combat ones.

This time's opponent is a cloud.

It is high in the sky.

If you want to attack it, it is obvious that there's the need of a method to have your attack reach it, or a way to reach all the way there.

For Hibiki, her only option was the latter.

And the magician Wudi and Lime who were accompanying her, will approach as much

as possible to the cloud, and while avoiding the poison that is being poured down along with a wind akin to a storm, and the colored rain that would definitely produce damage to the body if made contact with.

They were releasing the attacks that they have thought of and trying to disperse the cloud.

The actual attackers are Wudi and Hibiki.

Lime was acting as a support.

As long as their opponent is a giant cloud and they are unable to get close to it, it was natural that it would come to this.

Hibiki was currently in the sky.

"This was my trump card though. So even perforating it isn't showing any effects huh. What should we do? No other choice but to get... closer?" (Hibiki)

Hibiki's tone still had leeway in it, but her expression was quite stiff.

"You can't joke around. We can't get closer than this. In the first place, to change your sword pressure in such a way and send it flying is already at plenty of a monstrous level. You can be proud of it." (Lime)

Lime returns a honest opinion to Hibiki.

What Hibiki thought of for a long distance attack, was using the sword pressure as a bullet, an out of norms technique.

But she was able to do that.

She was finally able to do it by borrowing the power of the sacred treasure.

And to release it in full power, there's also the need for the support of Lime, but she will probably be able to achieve it alone in time.

Her abnormal ideas and her growth that makes it possible.

Lime was looking at Hibiki, and has personally felt the reason why Makoto praised her,

but even so, this time's trump card was a surprise for him.

"If it's about attack power in one point, you are higher than me, aren't you? Seriously, to think that I would be slapped in the butt to aim for higher heights at this age. Being a member of a hero party is not gentle sometimes." (Wudi)

Wudi mixes a sigh as he laughs.

He also hasn't been able to produce an effective attack against the cloud.

Frankly speaking, they were at a stalemate.

"This looks like... it will be impossible. Let's return once and make a plan. That's the best option we can choose right now." (Lime)

"...If we return, there will be several damages incurred. Definitely." (Hibiki)

"People can be evacuated. Villages can be made again. Well, in a different place, that is." (Lime)

"Wudi, is there a way?" (Hibiki)

While Hibiki and Wudi were doing thought transmission with the members on the ground and making a plan to break through this, Lime had one idea.

(If I contact Sis, it will probably work out somehow. This cloud is probably something from the wasteland. Looking at the direction it came from, there's no doubt. Sis and Boss might know something about it.) (Lime)

But he thinks, that for someone like him that has been attracted by Hibiki and neglected his contacts a number of times, it would be asking for too much.

His pride has already been completely destroyed by Makoto and the others, but he still hesitated.

The reason he wants to be helped is for personal reasons, and there's also the feeling of wanting to help the hero mixed in it as well.

(No, there's no time to be hesitating. This is the last. In terms of time, it is already about time I have to return anyways. If this will save a number of people and children

from the villages, there's no need to hesitate. It will result in helping Hibiki. It is just because of that.) (Lime)

Lime hesitated and hesitated, and then, he decided.

He sends a thought transmission to his superior, Tomoe.

Tomoe soon responded.

(Sis, it is Lime.) (Lime)

(...It's been a while. Is that side comfortable?) (Tomoe)

The words of Tomoe were as if she had seen through him.

(...I am sorry. I... to the hero...) (Lime)

Lime soon gave up the idea of smoothing it over, and told everything to Tomoe.

(No, I don't mind. I have done something slightly ill-mannered. Sorry for that. Even so, you contacted us. That's fine. What's your situation?) (Tomoe)

But Tomoe controls this and urges him for an explanation.

(Right now there's a purple cloud that is causing damage to the Lorel Union. From my guess, it is probably something that came from the wasteland.) (Lime)

(It is close to it-ja na. There's no mistake in that guess.) (Tomoe)

(And so, I was wondering if you have any sort of plan to take care of it.) (Lime)

(...Fuh~, you have really been taken in-ja na.) (Tomoe)

(Sis, the number one essence of Hibiki is coexistence and mutual prosperity. I think that she would be able to get along well with Boss and us.) (Lime)

(That's only if she doesn't throw away that number one essence of hers, that is.) (Tomoe)

(Eh?) (Lime)

(This is only an assumption, but if Hibiki's way of thinking reverses, she can also become the existence that would hurt Waka the most. You do know the way to deal with people that hurt Waka... right?) (Tomoe)

(...So caution is necessary no matter what huh.) (Lime)

(Is how I think. I haven't told this to Waka. You are the only one I have told this-ja zo? The only thing I told Waka was to be careful of the politician after all.) (Tomoe)

(...)

Lime was troubled by how to answer.

Hibiki and Makoto can help each other out.

Even though he proposed this, Tomoe was looking at a further future from that.

"Then what can I say?", he was at a loss of words.

(Also, Lime, you still don't understand that our master is Waka.) (Tomoe)

(Hah?)

(I will show you a performance with that cloud. Don't move from there. And don't let anyone else move.) (Tomoe)

Tomoe cuts off the thought transmission.

"Hibiki, Wudi." (Lime)

Lime simply felt that something was going to happen, and calls for the two that were with him.

"What?" (Hibiki)

"Is something the matter?" (Wudi)

"Don't move from here. Also, tell the two below the same thing, please." (Lime)

While saying this, he uses his perception at his surroundings with all his power.

There was something that... caught his attention.

(A gate has opened! The ones that came out are... winged-kin? Two of them.) (Lime)

Lime felt that an Asora gate opened at the very edge of his perception range.

It wasn't a coincidence.

It was certain that Tomoe did this on purpose so that he would be able to feel it.

People that have white wings and black wings went high up into the sky.

Winged-kin.

Residents of Asora.

They are at a position that's a lot higher than Hibiki and Lime.

They are higher than the purple cloud.

The winged-kin were going up.

(What? What's going to happen?) (Lime)

"Lime, did you think of a way? Can you tell us, please?" (Hibiki)

"I have... played the card already." (Lime)

"Eh?" (Hibiki)

"That's why, don't move. Don't do anything and just watch, please. If you wish for the best, that is." (Lime)

Lime himself doesn't know what's going to happen.

That's why, there was practically nothing he could say.

This time, the winged-kin stopped close to the end of where Lime was able to perceive.

(If I remember correctly... the black winged-kin are able to link information with

another person, but... with *who?*) (Lime)

The altitude that the black winged-kin can fly is lower than that of white winged ones.

That's why they are holding each other in that way, is what Lime could tell.

In other words, the one that's necessary is the black winged one.

Noticing the special trait of them, Lime tried to infer what was happening, but... the answer soon came out.

“!!! What?!”

“No good, we won't make it in time for defense!!”

It was a bit faster than the words of Hibiki and Wudi, but well, there was no meaning in the difference in speed though.

From far in the distance, a thick heavy thread of light was aimed at the purple cloud, and Hibiki's group.

...

(Does that mean I am already not needed? Sis?) (Lime)

With a feeling emptiness, Lime thought this.

But that was only because Lime still didn't understand him, his master.

The words of Tomoe were correct in a variety of meanings.

(Boss... Well, if I am to be killed by Boss... in the first place, this life was picked up by him. He is a person that would make a person like me believe that he will be able to pull it off even if I am not around anymore.) (Lime)

Lime uprightly accepted his death, and then, he closes his eyes.

He can't tell where that attack was shot from.

But Lime was able to understand that the one that the winged-kin was linked with was

Makoto.

In other words, this is an attack from Makoto.

The light drew near until it was at the very eyes of Hibiki's group.

In an instant, it spread into several threads and skilfully passed by them, and the fine threads of light pierced the purple cloud.

"..."

There were no words.

Not from Hibiki, Wudi, or Lime.

And from that group, Lime's silence held a different meaning.

(Ah... seriously.) (Lime)

The cloud that was forcefully cut into a thousand pieces, began to scatter.

If he had to compare Hibiki and Makoto, Hibiki would be higher, only if he were to take out one point.

And that hasn't changed at all, even now.

But the meaning of that one point, he probably underestimated it, is what he thought.

No, he noticed that he had forgotten about it.

(This power, this power that is able to hold down anything no questions asked; I was shown this. Right, I... want to see the destination of Boss that is even able to own the land of Asora.) (Lime)

Lime still holds good will towards Hibiki.

But he vividly remembered the memories he had in Tsige.

(...To drop in the middle of it would be a waste. I am a member of Kuzunoha Company, Lime Latte.) (Lime)

“Now then, let’s return. We are done now, after all.” (Lime)

Looking at the blue sky that didn’t have a single sign of the purple cloud, Lime spoke to Hibiki and Wudi who are still in silence.

The surroundings still had the remnants of Makoto’s magic power.

Making a spell of that level, Makoto was able to accomplish a stunt like leaving the three unscathed when they were in the area.

Lime was proud of it, shocked, and had a strange smile.

“...Is this Lime’s trump card?” (Hibiki)

With a slightly trembling voice, Hibiki finally opened her mouth.

“...Yeah. Of course, there’s no problem in taking the all the credit like the time in the temple.” (Lime)

“You won’t tell us what you did?” (Hibiki)

“I don’t know.” (Lime)

“Eh?” (Hibiki)

“I don’t know. I just consulted. To a person that might have known of that cloud, and if that person had some sort of plan.” (Lime)

With a refreshed face as if an evil spirit had left his shoulders, Lime answers Hibiki.

“What in the world...” (Wudi)

“Seriously. It is shocking right? I can only laugh at it.” (Lime)

Those were words that were said as if affirming the Wudi.

“Kuzunoha Company...” (Hibiki)

Hibiki probably already inferred a certain amount of truth.

But right now, she limited herself to only muttering these words.

To avoid saying anything imprudent and have Lime hear it.

She could also tell the change of heart in Lime instinctively.

“I have to return soon. I have a mountain of work over there.” (Lime)

“I see... It was fun, but too bad. When Raidou-dono comes to Limia, I would like you to come as well. It would be sad if this were the end after all.” (Hibiki)

“If Boss asks me to, I will. I also had fun, Hibiki.” (Lime)

After that, they returned to the ground, and regrouped with Chiya and Bredda.

The hero that was requested by Lorel Union, was able to splendidly defeat the purple cloud and save the people of Lorel.

The reputation of Hibiki has increased once again.

It's a result that can be considered a success.

But a bit before regrouping, Hibiki bit her lips.

Strong.

(Lime... I...) (Hibiki)

The first person that Hibiki wished for the most, had slipped from her hands.

She understood this.

And Hibiki was trying not to show her emotions in her face, but this time she was unable to.

She was mortified, and those feelings welled up to her throat.

That she didn't say anything was maybe because of her obstinacy.

Whatever the case may be, the assistance of Lime and the competition with Makoto,

had ended in the victory of Makoto without his knowledge.

# Chapter 199

## The Sea and Makoto are doing well

“I have been nailed down...”

The contact of Limia was as expected.

They unreservedly called me regarding the schedule.

Come as fast as possible(in the time that Senpai is at Lorel), and my thoughts were splendidly shot down.

They probably have a lot of things to prepare, so the date and times that were proposed were all reasonable.

The fastest one will probably have Senpai in Limia already.

In that case, I feel like I will have Mio stay.

Luckily, we have the sea, so she probably won't get bored. That part is a saving.

“Well, it is good that a day has been decided. It will clear one pain after all.” (Makoto)

Deliberately voicing it out, I make myself think that something good has happened.

With this, the troublesome country visits will be over.

It seems like Rembrandt-san is doing his moves, so the Aion Kingdom isn't calling me.

I have interest in Lorel Union, so I actually want to visit it once.

Maybe because the Goddess is being docile, the Church seems to be docile as well.

I just have to endure a bit more.

Even so, the talk finished faster than anticipated.

The reason was because I compromised fast though.

I am slightly interested in the details of the growth of Jin's group, but returning to the Academy is just...

Yeah, let's confirm the work in Asora.

I take out the documents I wanted from the desk.

Shiki puts together the documents that I should be seeing, so it is a great help.

"For now, it seems like the races that will be going to the sea have been decided."  
(Makoto)

I turn over the documents.

This time, before having an interview with me, I had Tomoe and the others do a trial and have them do a survival for a set period of time.

It may sound excessive when calling it survival, but the point is, it is just to try living there.

Even if I say sea, the environment is varied, and we will test if the various races are actually able to live in the sea of Asora.

Tomoe is the one in charge of this trial and she is also the advisor.

So long as there's no excessive actions in the period of time she is in charge, she doesn't need to show herself.

"It would be ideal if there are races that can accommodate in land as well though."  
(Makoto)

As expected, things won't go so smoothly.

The large sized aquatic demonic beasts are far from being able to relate to land.

And the mermaids are fish at their lower half.

Even if they are hyuman-like, it is obvious at a glance that even trying to walk would

be a difficulty.

In terms of race, the Lorelei that seem to be a variety of demons have hyuman shaped bodies, so instead of in the sea, they live close to the sea, which makes them able to adapt easily to land.

The reversed race that has hyuman limbs and fish body are able to run in land as well.

Because of that, the name of the race is Neptune Sea Lord. I feel like their very existence is a joke already.

There's also a race called Sahuagin that is half hyuman-like, and even when it is not their specialty, they are able to move in land.

About them, what left the most impression was actually the plate that was shining at their head.

I thought they were kappa. Sea kappas.

And so, While having the races that can go in both land and water at the port, it would be ideal if they were to interact with the other races that are only able to live in the sea.

I thought that it would be nice if that port and my house were to interact with a certain town.

And so, I left the detailed parts to Tomoe and the others.

“Mermaids, Lorelei, Sahuagin, and Neptunes. Sea horses, Kelpie, Sea Serpents, Blue Moons...” (Makoto)

When I confirm them in order, I could tell that there were quite a lot.

There are more than 10 races.

It is not like they are competing for a spot in the migration, so as long as they are able to adapt to the sea of Asora, I don't mind having them all migrate.

And as long as there's no clear hostility between the races.

The sea is vast, so they are able to find a place to live anywhere.

If they are preyed upon, or are about to become prey by the living beings that were originally in that sea, I can just have them retire.

Will I have to do an interview with all the races, or are all the races going to retire?

...No, the latter would be problematic, so I want them to do their best.



A pleasant report came in.

Almost all the races that are trying to live in the sea are able to adapt to the lifestyle of Asora.

There were about two races that retired because they felt danger towards the sharks and giant octopuses that were originally there, but it seems like most of the races are able to safely live.

At this rate, we will be able to obtain residents for both the cold sea and the warm sea.

Asora has a lot of land compared to the population.

This also applies to the sea, so if they live in a lot of places and gather information, there's nothing I would be more grateful for.

It would be incredibly troublesome if we were to investigate every nook and cranny by ourselves after all.

"And well, it seems like all in all, there's no problem. There's also people that are beginning to communicate with the pre-existing living beings there. The fear we had about quarrels between races has not occurred."

With no real problem, Tomoe finishes her report.

"That's great. It is regrettable for the races that retired, but tell them that if there's a time when they need the Kuzunoha Company, we will cooperate." (Makoto)

"I have already told them. If a problem were to occur at hyuman territory, we will hear

them out." (Tomoe)

"As expected. Is Sari doing well?" (Makoto)

"Because it is her first job, she is full of vigor. There's no strange movements." (Tomoe)

"I see." (Makoto)

A few days have passed since my lecture at the Academy.

The migration test in Asora has been progressing smoothly.

It is peaceful like the calm of the sea.

"By the way Waka, I heard from Shiki that the students of Rotsgard have grown quite a lot." (Tomoe)

"Hm, ah yeah. It is impressive. Every single one of them have become great. It feels like it would be overdoing it if we were to train them as we first planned, so... I think that it would be okay to let them be on the teaching side." (Makoto)

"The teaching side, is it? They will probably come pestering that they want to become even stronger though." (Tomoe)

"There's growth in teaching as well. Also, even if they want to become stronger, they are already the strongest in the Academy, you know? If we are talking about the same year, they are easily the strongest. There's no need to train them more than this and increase the difference, right? I think that they will be able to contribute plenty enough in a war between hyumans, or against most of any fight against other races." (Makoto)

"...I see. I am slightly interested, so do you mind if I have Shiki show me the information later?" (Tomoe)

"Of course it is fine. Just don't go doing any weird interference with the students, okay? Because you trained Misura, he has learned some weird power after all." (Makoto)

"I will be careful." (Tomoe)

Seriously.

Tomoe training Misura became the trigger, and Jin and the others have grown an incredible lot.

Every one of them learned a special ability fit for them, and made their own trait more prominent, and the result was that they have gotten stronger.

When they were in Rotsgard Academy, they were originally kids with talent.

When someone aims high, in a sense, it is normal for them to grow.

When thinking that way, Shiki and I only helped out in it.

I will only have the new students increase their levels to where Jin's group is, and after, I will just let them grow up on their own and they will most likely become plenty strong.

As a teacher, I have found a standard of how strong I will train my students and am doing well.

Truly good.

"Then Tomoe, do you have time now?" (Makoto)

"Again? I have to look after the races that want to migrate, so I think that it would be hard to accompany you today." (Tomoe)

"...I see." (Makoto)

Too bad.

"Reproducing the environment of Waka's world tired me a lot after all. The next time I am available would be the day before Waka leaves for Limia. Sorry." (Tomoe)

"Understood. I know that I am asking for too much when you are busy after all. It is fine." (Makoto)

"...Ah, Waka, do you have time?" (Tomoe)

Tomoe?

Tomoe suddenly makes a bitter face as she asks me.

Ah, thought transmission huh.

I want to learn how to skillfully utilize thought transmission while speaking as well.

It is hard to concentrate in both of them.

If I am able to do something about it by practicing, I should try.

“What? Is it thought transmission?” (Makoto)

“Yes, it was from Lime.” (Tomoe)

“Heh~, he was together with Senpai and her group, right? What did he say?” (Makoto)

“...Yeah, it wasn’t anything big. It seems like that purple cloud didn’t disappear completely with what we did the other day.” (Tomoe)

“...As I thought. I felt like the resistance was way too thin. It hasn’t been that long since then. Is it already doing evil?” (Makoto)

“Yes. And it seems that Lime and Hibiki are currently dealing with it, but it seems like it is not going well.” (Tomoe)

“Even Hibiki-senpai?” (Makoto)

“Seems so.” (Tomoe)

I can’t believe it.

Even though it is Hibiki-senpai.

Even though she should be able to do something about an opponent of that level.

Is it because her methods of long ranged attacks are low?

She does use a sword after all.

“I said that I would be helping Lorel, and yet, it was so half-baked. That’s not cool.

Troubling Senpai would be bad, so I will do something about it." (Makoto)

"...Can I leave it to you?" (Tomoe)

"Yeah. Just that, I think it will be useless to deal with that group with the previous method. The response was thin after all. I do have something in mind, but I have to get relatively close or I feel like it won't work." (Makoto)

I would like to at least get an approximate location of it.

"Then how about using the strategy that the winged-kin utilized in last time's mock battle with Waka? The one about sharing information with a third party from a faraway location." (Tomoe)

"Ah, I see. It will definitely be useful. Let's go with that. Then I will have to move to a location where I can aim." (Makoto)

"There's a mountain with good view. It has a bit of distance from the location, but if it's Waka, there shouldn't be any problems, right?" (Tomoe)

"I do have Azusa and magic after all. I actually don't have to worry about range." (Makoto)

"Well then, go ahead. I will send the winged-kin there, so while confirming with the information share, try to tackle it." (Tomoe)

"Understood." (Makoto)

"Waka." (Tomoe)

"What?" (Makoto)

"Lime and the hero are floating close to that area, so I don't mind if you gift them a few shots, you know? Especially to Lime." (Tomoe)

"Why do I have to do something like that to Lime?" (Makoto)

Calling me to a stop when I was about to enter the created gate with Azusa in one hand, she said something strange.

“...That’s because he has slacking slightly you see, so I thought that it would help for discipline.” (Tomoe)

“You say some scary things.” (Makoto)

“It could serve as good motivation to Hibiki, you know?” (Tomoe)

“I don’t want to. If it gets discovered later, just how do you think we would be able to apologize? Seriously.” (Makoto)

“...Have a safe trip.” (Tomoe)

“Yeah, I will return soon.” (Makoto)

The other side of the gate was as stated, the summit of a mountain.

Truly a panorama of 360° degrees.

What a superb view.

And in the faraway sky, there’s one clearly visible thing.

I could tell that that purple stain was the problematic cloud.

“It has become quite big. It is not as big as before though.” (Makoto)

I prepare my bow.

I set an arrow.

The target cloud is quite a distance away, but maybe because I am using magic simultaneously since coming to this world, I don’t feel like I will miss.

I have stopped worrying about whether it will reach or not.

If I can see it, I can hit it.

I am beginning to naturally think in this way.

Just that, in the case of that cloud, it is a united form of many individuals, so I feel like

I can't consider it as just a single enemy.

It is something that I felt after reflecting on last time though.

"Now then, the link with the winged-kin..." (Makoto)

While I wait for the arrival of the winged-kin, I could tell that they appeared at a place a bit further away from the purple cloud.

Two huh.

A thought transmission soon came from them, and asked for confirmation if it's okay to send information.

Of course, I said okay.

After finishing a short thought transmission and waiting for a bit, a strange scenery as if looking at the purple cloud from a closer place appeared in my mind.

What was in my eyes was the cloud far in the distance, and the gap between distances made me feel slightly nauseated.

It was as if looking at it from afar, and at the same time, looking at it from a monitor.

But if I get used to it, it might be convenient.

Thanks to it, I was able to clearly tell where Hibiki-senpai, her comrade magician, and Lime were floating.

'I will give you the coordinates' is the follow-up report that came from the winged-kin.

The scenery of where the cloud and Senpai's group were, was shown to me like a grid, and several numbers appeared.

Hmph~.

So this is how the winged-kin exchange information with each other and getting their aim huh.

It is certainly easy to understand.

It is not that necessary for me who snipes by relying on my senses, but I think that it is an advantage to erase the measurement errors in the attack.

I give my thanks to the winged-kin and tell them to be in standby.

"I will pierce that purple cloud in my sight. At that scenery that's in my mind, I only pierce the cloud." (Makoto)

It was a mysterious feeling.

It was the same sensation as aiming straight.

But at the same time, it was as if I was placing my aim at the scenery in the monitor.

In my time at Japan, this would be an incredible stunt, and yet, I was able to lock the target.

No, not yet.

It is no good to just avoid Senpai's group.

And it is also no good to just pierce through the part that seems to be the cloud's core.

More, more, more, more...

Concentrating in each live that comprises the cloud, I target everything of it, all the links.

Not shooting vaguely.

And for that sake...

"..."

While maintaining my concentrated state, I lower the arrow I set up.

This time, I won't use this one.

What I need right now is not an arrow, but a catalyst for my spell.

To pierce through several targets at once, I need both archery and magic.

From the variety of arrows that I had the Eldwas make, I choose an arrow that has the most ability to inject magic power in, and once again, I set it up.

An amber colored arrow.

"Avoiding Senpai's group, I will pierce the core, and kill all the clouds in a chain."  
(Makoto)

The cloud that appears in my mind is being filled with countless numbers of aims.

I can do it.

I silently release my arrow.

For a while, the arrow continued on as a normal arrow, but the amber arrow soon broke, and in exchange, it turned into a big mass of light that could take up the whole field of vision, and flew towards the purple cloud.

And then, after a while, the mass of light bursts.

Okay, I did it!

Avoiding Senpai's group, it pierces through the core of the cloud, and at the same time, it pierced through the scattered portions that I placed my aim on. I could tell that it was effective.

I have killed it.

Different from last time, this time I actually felt it.

"Fuh~, I have defeated it." (Makoto)

It seems like the winged-kin have witnessed it as well.

They face this way and are flying here.

Even though one is carrying the other, they are incredibly fast.

Thanks to their help, my possibilities with the arrow increased more.

I am happy.

I felt like I once again confirmed that the bow is something irreplaceable for me.

# Chapter 200

## A Makoto-like Asora diplomacy

At a place not that far away from the land of Asora, an extensive forest spreads.

I ordered them not to claim the territory.

And I also ordered them that they shouldn't enter it recklessly.

This is not the only forest.

If you want to receive the grace of a forest, it is fine to just step into a different forest. There wasn't any objection to that and was accepted.

Why did I do that?

It is because of the animals that use that forest as their territory.

Wolves.

Animals that are said to already be extinct in Japan.

The way they are viewed is different depending on the country, but in Japan, wolves are seen as prideful and intelligent animals, and were treated as the guardians of the forest.

Or at least that's how I think.

For me, the Japanese wolves were animals that made me feel holiness in them.

And to think that I would be able to see them in a parallel world, or more like a parallel world of that parallel world. I was happy.

That's why, by complete whim, I accepted their existence.

I didn't want to take a measure like hunting them down just because they are an

hindrance.

And, I am currently in that forest.

In both of my hands I have things like fruits, grains, and all sorts of big plates.

“I am here.” (Makoto)

After a while of walking through a path that would be fitting to call the path of the beast, a simple altar made of stones was in sight.

Leaving the big plates at the altar, I sit at a side of it and look up.

“So thick. The green is thick. The salty wind is not bad, but this calms me down more.”  
(Makoto)

Breathing deeply was really comfortable.

“It is rare for you to come on your own.”

“It is fine from time to time.” (Makoto)

A breathing reached my ears, and yet, his words were clearly relayed to me.

I have already gotten used to it, but it is an interesting sensation.

“Friendship huh. Well, that’s fine, Misumi. I have smelled an unusual scent from afar. Do you know something about that?”

“A God acquaintance did something a bit unreasonable you see. So a sea was made.”  
(Makoto)

“Sea?”

It seems like it was the first time the wolf heard of that word, he tilted his head.

I can feel the presence of several wolves in the area.

Looks like they are distancing themselves from the boss, and are at a set distance without getting closer than that.

“It is like a salt water lake that’s a lot bigger than this forest.” (Makoto)

“...Fumu. It is hard to believe, but if Misumi says so, that must be the case. Is it okay to think that it won’t affect our living?”

“Yeah. It is quite far after all. Actually, just what kind of nose you have there? Being able to smell it from here.” (Makoto)

“I was able to smell it from the plates and fruits that you are carrying there as well, you know? People are truly unhandy living beings huh.”

“Ahahaha, for a wolf, that might be the case. And so, about that proof of friendship, there’s a slightly different meaning to it as well.” (Makoto)

“...Are you talking about those weird flying insects?”

“...Right. Sorry, it seems like they caused you trouble.” (Makoto)

I don’t know what kind of fight the wolves had with the Al-Elemera, but there’s no doubt that they suddenly came barging in.

20% was to apologize, and the other 80% was because I wanted to meet the wolves after a while, and that’s why I came with cuts of fruits.

“No need to apologize. If it’s something of that level, we don’t mind. It is like having wasps getting slightly stronger.”

When hearing about wasps, I instinctively feel fear.

Its name is a representation of fear.

When looking at the Al-Elemera like that, they feel scarier.

“Is there anyone that got hurt?” (Makoto)

“None. But it is true that a slight problem has occurred.”

“I’m listening.” (Makoto)

“Before that, let me confirm this. Those guys won’t be coming here anymore?”

"They won't. They have faced quite the scary experience, so they are completely scared of this forest." (Makoto)

To the point that they are truly pitiful.

"I see. Actually..."

"Yeah?" (Makoto)

"Those guys, taste good."

Hm?

"..."

"Like concentrated honey. A dense sweetness. It is quite... a delicacy."

"..."

"In the past, we said that we won't cause any harm to Misumi's people. If those flying insects are the same as well, it is regrettable. That's the problem."

"They taste good?" (Makoto)

"Yeah. It is a lot more appealing than attacking a beehive."

The wolf says this with a straight face.

I don't think he is being serious, but the saliva that's dripping from his mouth is real.

"Sorry, I want you to endure." (Makoto)

"Can't be helped. Misumi should be able to slaughter us all, and yet, asked to coexist. That debt is big. We will obey."

"Thanks. I will be bringing the same that's on the plate there, so eat it with everyone. I hope there's something you like there." (Makoto)

"We have plenty of grace from the forest. There's no reason for Misumi to treat us well. I said this in the beginning but, there's no need for you to give us anything, you know?"

“...Isn’t it fine? Let’s just leave it as coexisting by mingling from time to time like this.”  
(Makoto)

I am happy by the simple fact that they are here, is something I can’t say.

I feel like they would treat me like a weirdo.

...Maybe I am already being treated that way.

“What a strange man. Well, it is not as big as a thanks, but our side will tell the bears not to eat the flying insects.”

“...Bears. It is certainly true that they have the image of liking sweet things more than you guys.” (Makoto)

Or more like, it is their total favorite.

Honey Bear-san.

The combination is scarily fitting.

“They haven’t eaten the flying insects, so there shouldn’t be any problem. But if it’s after eating them, they probably would have gone on a rampage. But Misumi, we are living without involving ourselves with the people in the sky. That part of the talk, you will have to say it yourself.”

“Ah~, yeah, I understand. Thanks.” (Makoto)

I see.

There’s the chance that the Al-Elemeras might be eaten by bird of prey huh.

I feel like it won’t work if I just tell them not to go to the mountains.

It won’t be such a pain if I just teleport there, so let’s finish it now.

Even if I say that I will be going to talk with them, we are in Asora, so it should be fine to take it easy.



A precipitous mountain.

At the ridges that are rising perpendicularly, there's gorges that have green spreading.

It is a place that would be impossible to reach without having wings.

Or a body power like that of a serow.

Well, if I teleport there, it isn't that much of a pain.

Different from walking in the forest, it would be tiresome to suddenly climb mountains.

"Ah, there he is." (Makoto)

At a part of the hill, he was there.

A blue mass that one would have to look up like the Buddha-sama statue in Nara.

He looks like that even when he has his wings folded.

Crazy big would be exactly this.

As I get closer, I can tell that that lump is actually a bird with its wings folded.

He is the King of the birds in Asora.

It is not a falcon or an eagle.

It seems like it is a bird called Roc.

He is rarer than wolves, or more like, I feel like it is a mythical beast though. Its existence has such a sense of unrealism that it makes me feel like the wolves are amazing.

Because you know, at this point, it is already a mamono.

"The King huh, it's been a while."

“Long time no see. I am not used to that way of calling me though.” (Makoto)

He calls me King.

But I just don’t feel it.

I feel like calling me landlord-san or something like that fits more.

“I am surprised you have come here from such a long distance. It seems like you are doing well with the winged-kins but, is it a different business?”

He cleanly ignores it.

“Kinda. I have a request regarding the new race living here.” (Makoto)

“Ah, the one about a lot of races making a racket in the lake of crazy size, is it about that?”

“No, that’s another matter. About the sea, if there’s birds that can live there, it is fine to let them.” (Makoto)

“Hoh~, that lake is called sea huh. It is truly big. I could feel a diverse amount of lives as well.”

“You must have. Right now the people that want to live there are in the middle of a test. They will be living at the beach or in the sea, so I don’t think they will clash with the living beings in the sky.” (Makoto)

It seems like the Roc bird has gone to see the sea as well.

I am surprised that he and the wolves are able to sense the happenings of something so far away.

“I will tell the others about it.”

“And so, today’s request is about a fairy race called Al-Elemera.” (Makoto)

“...It is a name I don’t know of. If it’s people that live in the sky, I will look after them though.”

"No, I think they are closer to insects that live in the mountains or the rivers. I am not that well informed in that aspect either though." (Makoto)

"...Is it fine to just tell them not to eat those guys?"

"You get it fast. They have wings and fly in the sky, but their looks are like that of small people, so it would be a big help not to eat them." (Makoto)

"Understood. If it's people of the King, I will have them be careful of not hunting them."

"I am sorry for bothering you while you were resting. Then, later." (Makoto)

"If you have any errand, you can tell us. I don't mind if you call me."

"Yeah, I won't hesitate in coming here." (Makoto)

"Say my regards to the new people of the King."

With this, the matter of the Al-Elemera should be okay.

Now then, after looking at the situation at the sea, I will show my face at the store.



Heh~ the Lorelei are building the port town and living at the seashore huh.

It did say in the documents that they originally lived at the reefs, but maybe Sari suggested it, or it might be because they wanted a better environment and are building the town.

The beach is wide, and from what I have seen, the waves are calm.

It is like the sea in a resort.

I think it is a good place.

"Waka-sama."

Ah, it is Sari.

“It looks like you are doing your best in the job.” (Makoto)

“It is the first job Waka-sama has given me after all.” (Sari)

“Right now you are working as the advisor of the Lorelei?” (Makoto)

“Yes. But even if I say this, I feel like there won’t be any problems occurring and the test time will end just like this though.” (Sari)

“Isn’t that good? And so, after the Lorelei tried living here, did they think about staying?” (Makoto)

This is a part that I am interested in.

“Of course. It seems like a relationship with the other races is beginning to form, so it looks good.” (Sari)

“With the other races? That’s pretty progressive. Can you tell me the details?” (Makoto)

I heard a \*dadada\* sound of something running at fast speed.

I reflexively look at the direction of the sound.

Tunaman was running.

At a full sprint reminiscent of athletes.

It looked like it had a really thin box, but its contents are unknown.

“The interaction with the Neptune Sea Lord is prosperous.” (Sari)

“Ah, I see.” (Makoto)

I heard that tunas are incredibly fast in the sea, but it seems like they are fast in land too.

They are not using their fins, but their two strong pair of feet that I don’t know where they grew from though.

Ah, it jumped into the sea just like that.

What a terrific ability in both land and water.

"They are a race that doesn't lose to that exaggerated name. The hikyaku tuna-san that was running just now is counted as well, but it seems like the herculean strength Red King Crab-san -of the same race- is able to break giant rocks and adjust the currents, you know? I also didn't know of that race. The world is really wide." (Sari)

A hikyaku tuna-san, and a herculean strength Red King Crab-san?

A courier of ancient Japan huh.

I can understand that couriers are powerful.

...

Like hell that's the case.

First of all, it is strange that a tuna that feels like it would be able to participate in the triathlon and a Red King Crab that probably looks like a crab, are of the same race.

It is strange, right?

Isn't it strange?

"I feel like putting it as 'the world is wide' isn't enough of an explanation." (Makoto)

"It seems like they are mingling with other races aside from the Lorelei. I think they will become the key race of the sea." (Sari)

Sari was evaluating them with feelings of respect.

I don't know if she is just pure or deviated.

In my case, how to say it... I am interested in the Neptunes in a different sense.

That they are social is pleasant, or how to say it, mysterious.

Even if I didn't have plans on meeting her, I was able to see the state of Sari.

I would be happy if she were to find a way of life here in Asora.

Whether it is the forest, mountains, or the sea.

In the end, this was a tour through the Asora nature, but this way of passing time is not bad.

I returned to my house, and while preparing for my trip to Rotsgard, I felt somewhat refreshed.

# Chapter 201

## Makoto, Shiki, and the silver tea

“Haaah!! I can’t anymore, I can’t move, I won’t move.”

With rough breathing, I fall onto the meadows.

A nostalgic exhaustion that envelops my whole body.

This sensation that I always tasted in my time at Japan.

This is it.

As I thought, I can’t live without this.

“Waka, is it okay already?”

“...Thanks, Tomoe.” (Makoto)

“Then... Fuh~~” (Tomoe)

Tomoe changes her posture of being cross-legged to falling face forward onto the ground.

At the same time, I felt like the burden in my body disappeared, and my body turned light.

...I know I am asking for something unreasonable, but I just can’t go without this.

It is a pain to even speak. Tomoe and I spend a while silent within this dusk.

My previous world, Japan; reproducing that environment.

In the past, the reproduction time was short and it wasn’t fit to be used as training, but with the expertise of Tomoe, the time has been steadily increasing, and I am now able to maintain it for around 6 hours.

Since then, I have been having her accompany me in my bow training at the times when she is able to, and so, that brings us to our current state.

By the way, today was around 10 hours.

The reason why it was longer than the limit time of Tomoe was because I did the transference of magic power that I did at the demon race country with Mio and Shiki, on Tomoe.

Now that I think about it, when I tried transferring more than that time, Tomoe showed a change in her outward appearance like with the two.

Specifically speaking, her hair color changed to silver.

When I tried doing it, she was happy that she would finally be able to have black hair like how Mio and Shiki told, but... when she looked at her own face with the mirror she had prepared, her expression was kinda... worth watching.

Well you see, she was grieving grandly, asking why she was the only one that was getting further away from being Japanese.

At that night, it was the first time I saw the bad alcoholic Tomoe.

"As I thought, this is it. It is hard to breathe, and my body can't move, as if it isn't mine anymore. My whole body is numb in pain and going crazy" (Makoto)

The peak of exhaustion had passed and I was now able to manage some surplus.

As the environment returned, my recovery seems to fasten as well.

I wanted to taste it for a bit more though.

I really like training until the limit of my body, and falling to the side in my tired state.

Since coming to this parallel world, no matter how much time I trained, I couldn't taste this sensation.

Inside of me, I was incredibly uneasy.

I was thinking that maybe my body and techniques were slowly declining.

For someone that had grown used to bullying my body, I felt like I was slowly doing steps back every day, and was scared beyond belief.

I am normally not able to act in this way though.

Looking at Jin's group who usually end up that way in their lectures, I was actually jealous.

"My body is incredibly heavy in a different meaning though. I intended to leave this type of job to Shiki, seriously..." (Tomoe)

Tomoe who had used quite the amount of magic power, turned her face towards me without wiping her sweat and muttered.

For Tomoe, it is just extremely tiring, and she isn't accompanying me because she likes it.

I held back and said that at least once a week, and yet, she was taken aback by the amount.

At the numerous amount.

Even though I would like it to be daily.

In the end, we reached a compromise and had it changed to once every ten days.

Other times it would depend on the convenience of Tomoe.

"I can only ask Tomoe of this. I am counting on you from now on as well." (Makoto)

"This training... for how long are you planning on continuing it?" (Tomoe)

"For how long?" (Makoto)

I don't understand what Tomoe meant with that and ask back.

"I will repeat what I said. Increasing physical strength, repeating concentration, and shooting the bow earnestly. What technique are you aiming to obtain, and at what time do you estimate that you will be getting it? I was seriously thinking of this." (Tomoe)

"I don't have something like that, you know?" (Makoto)

Training my muscles, repetitions of my posture, shooting at the target; it is something I do to be more in tune with my bow anyways, so there's no end to it.

I will continue it for the rest of my life.

"...There's none?" (Tomoe)

"None." (Makoto)

"Then, you are telling me that what you are doing to the point of exhaustion is simply a repetition?" (Tomoe)

"It is not simple repetition you know. I am slowly moving forward. Probably." (Makoto)

"Probably?!" (Tomoe)

"Yup." (Makoto)

Tomoe's face stiffens.

I see. Tomoe is continuously training in the basics, but that's with the aim of learning techniques and improving herself.

Then she probably won't understand.

But I think that Tomoe will someday definitely understand it.

If she truly loves the sword.

Just like how I am doing this because of my love for the bow.

"A-Are you saying that you are self-aware that you are moving forward, and yet, you don't have an objective?" (Tomoe)

"Because you know, even in my predecessors, I think no one has seen that summit. I probably won't be able to see it myself either. But that's not a problem." (Makoto)

"I think I kind of understand how I was blown away by Waka in just a few days after

you came to this world. Kinda." (Tomoe)

"Is that so." (Makoto)

I move my body that still has exhaustion remaining and stand up.

Yeah.

With only bow and training, it hasn't changed that this is my core in Japan and here as well.

I really have to be grateful of Tomoe.

"If you are going to return, please go ahead first. I don't think I will be able to move for a while." (Tomoe)

Tomoe who had her blue hair back, caught on my movements.

"No, I will wait, so let's return together. I will be putting the arrows in order and doing maintenance to the tools." (Makoto)

"..."

By the time I finish tidying up, Tomoe had recovered to the point that she could stand up herself.

It seems like the person herself used a magic of some sort though.

I told her that it wouldn't even amount to trouble in nursing her, but it seems like that part has something to do with Tomoe's pride.

Well, it is good that she is reliable.

When we return to our house, the meal that Mio did her best to make will be waiting for us.

I am probably quite blessed.

I am blessed with my surroundings, and I am being fulfilled by it after all.



Finishing dinner, I return to the workroom with Shiki.

What's dangling even from the chairs, are the documents about the students.

Not about the new kids that want to attend the lectures, but about Jin's group.

“Go ahead.”

“Thanks, Shiki.” (Makoto)

Shiki brought tea.



Hm? This is tea, right?

It is milk tea huh.

Just in case, I lightly stir the spoon and see.

Good, it mixes.

It seems like it is not something like fresh cream blended with black tea.

It gave out quite the sweet smell, so I was a bit wary.

“Don’t mind it. Today I tried making something by imitating Waka-sama’s world.”  
(Shiki)

“My world? Heh~.” (Makoto)

There’s actual milk tea in this world.

Even if you don’t imitate it, I think that it’s the same.

I am on the side that won’t mind as long as the tea is drinkable, so the most difference I can tell is if it’s mixed with milk, or if the milk is simply placed in the tea.

So I will be able to tell once I drink it huh.

It doesn’t seem to be such an extreme drink, so I am relieved.

“...”

Seriously?

This is incredibly sweet.

This sweetness... honey?

...Don’t tell me, it is not the Al-Elemera, right?

Also, this... instead of saying that there’s milk in it, the taste of the milk is way too strong.

Instead of milk tea, it is more like, tea au lait.

Hmm, it is a mysterious drink.

There's probably gonna be days I am tired like today where it will feel like it tastes good, but it might be a bit too sweet for me.

"It has the right amount of sweetness, so I think it will help you warm up your body." (Shiki)

"The right amount? By the way Shiki, what's this? Milk tea?" (Makoto)

"If I remember correctly, it is silver tea. Don't you know of it?" (Shiki)

"I don't remember drinking it, and I don't know the name either. Just when did I learn of something like that?" (Makoto)

It is black tea, so it shouldn't be from Japan.

In that case... maybe it came from some travelling program that I saw at who knows what day.

If that's the case, it would be hard to remember.

Silver tea huh.

"Silver tea is a black tea that's made from slight amounts of black tea, milk, and honey." (Shiki)

He said slight amount of black tea.

In terms of classification, this is black tea?

I didn't think that a day would come when Shiki would teach me of food from my own world.

"I see. I will drink it slowly." (Makoto)

Actually, will I be able to drink it all?

One cup of tea is looking like a towering mountain.

A Montblanc class one.

"There's a lot more, so please tell me without any reservation." (Shiki)

Shiki, who was already in his second serve, smilingly told me this.

I probably won't be taking seconds.

"Hm, and so, about the abilities of Jin's group..." (Makoto)

"After seeing them, what did you think?" (Shiki)

"...They were impressive. How to say it, they grew up too much. I feel like they have exceeded the growth we anticipated by way too much." (Makoto)

"They do. If they grow one step higher, even if it is impossible one vs one, if they were to fight all at once, they would be able to pull a good fight against Lime." (Shiki)

"That's way too much." (Makoto)

"..."

"Seriously. I have underestimated the talent and eliteness of those kids. I want to properly convince them and have them maintain their roles of teaching." (Makoto)

"...Waka-sama, about that, how about we have them join Kuzunoha Company?" (Shiki)

Shiki returned my words with a proposal.

Is he talking about hiring them?

Even now, Jin and Amelia are doing part-time jobs, and their work is not that bad, so it shouldn't be impossible.

We say that we don't discriminate towards demi-humans, and yet, we haven't hired any hyumans, which feels like discrimination to hyumans.

Yeah...

"You mean hiring them, right?" (Makoto)

"Yes." (Shiki)

"Before the lecture, you were in favor of taking distance from them little by little though. Why now?" (Makoto)

"It is also in those documents; their growth and abilities. Honestly speaking, they are incredibly appealing test subjects. It might be hard to have them in Asora, but I have begun thinking that I want to have them work in the company and observe their growth from a close distance." (Shiki)

So his interest as a researcher has appeared.

Instead of awakening as a teacher, this is more Lich-like.

Fuh~this huh.

I once again look at the documents.

The abilities of Jin's group is written here.

It is certainly impressive.

There's no doubt that they are showing an irregular growth.

First of all, Yuno. Without needing to say it, it is that suit.

She properly confessed that she received it from Mio.

It seems like she has gotten accustomed to it so much, that she insisted strongly in having her use it.

I do think that it suits the fighting style of Yuno.

If she doesn't know the meaning of the name she has to shout, there's no real embarrassment in it, and after having her show us its specs, it was quite different from the one I used and its power was also lowered.

It is a troubling issue.

For some reason, there's also the signature and petition of Rembrandt-san in the corner of the documents.

Seriously, what an aggressive one.

The next one is Sif and Amelia.

They are not fusing several spells by themselves; they have learned to utilize it with other people and reduce the burden in it.

In the future, no matter what country they go to, this technique will be able to increase the magic of the country.

Those two are accurately heading to a direction in magic, and growing.

But in terms of the bow of Amelia, it hasn't changed much.

It seems like she hasn't showed any result aside from increasing her own physical strength.

And so, the boys.

Izumo was arranging the arias.

Let's call it an irregular reutilization.

He was originally able to divide several arias and combine them to activate it, but at the lecture, he was able to use the arias that were already utilized and were supposed to have disappeared, into the aria of the next spell, something that I find hard to understand.

Shiki said that it is a personal talent of his.

There's no doubt that he has an interest in it.

Daena had an ultimate technique-like trump card of increasing his physical strength explosively from the very beginning.

He called it Second Stage.

The effective time is not that long, but it is also incredibly useful for short battles.

His growth was an enhancement that goes beyond it.

In the middle of the Second Stage, he is able to push it to one stage further.

The origin of that idea seems to be the instant enhancement of Jin.

It seems like it burdens the body quite a lot, but from what I see of his body build, he probably knew that from the very beginning. I could tell that he is properly training his body.

The main dish is those two.

The first is Misura.

Before the Academy festival, he had a trump card of numbing his own sense of pain to aim for a simultaneous strike.

Thinking about his own safety, I obviously had it sealed away though.

While he was being played by Tomoe, Misura had pleasantly evolved that power of his.

Shiki named it 'Damage Delay'.

Just like its name states, it delays the damage.

It seems that as long as it is not instant death, he is able to utilize it.

I say 'it seems', because since learning this skill, he hasn't received an attack that would bring instant death yet.

Well, that's obvious huh.

He would suffer the damage later, so at a glance, it looks like there's no point in it.

But the incredible part of this skill is yet to come.

For around 30 minutes, the damage can come, but at that time, he is able to receive healing magic.

He is able to heal the stacked damage with magic.

If the healing makes it in time, obviously, nothing will happen after the 30 minutes.

It is an abnormal power.

In terms of talent, that's all.

Without a doubt, it is a skill that not even ten thousand of people would be able to replicate.

Shiki had a similar opinion to mine.

Of course, Shiki was quite interested in Misura's ability as well.

And so, the last one is Jin.

It seems like that guy has noticed a part of my [Sakai].

And he has reproduced it.

Of course, there's no way he would be able to replicate a power that he doesn't even know properly, so it was truly an imitation, but it had a different power.

What he used in the mock battle with Ema was exactly that.

He is able to affect his surroundings and create several effects.

He has to properly understand the effects himself, and it seems like there's several limitations to it, but it is a spell that is incredibly similar to [Sakai].

Moreover, the deployment itself doesn't utilize much magic power.

At the time of adding effects, there's a fitting price for it though.

...What a scary boy.

He said that currently he is only able to increase the range of it and adjust the gravity.

It seems like he is able to increase or decrease the gravity of himself.

I wanted to ask why in the hell he is able to do something like that when he is only at the basics.

“I think they will grow into a stronger fighting force.” (Makoto)

“I feel the same.” (Shiki)

“As they continue to grow, they will gather more attention. If we employ them, aren’t the other countries going to come lure them away without any cares?” (Makoto)

“No doubt that will happen.” (Shiki)

“The two heroes are able to charm them or pull them in, they have that kind of power. Maybe there’s going to be a situation like that.” (Makoto)

“The chances of it are not low, and there’s also the chance other powers will come as well.” (Shiki)

“Even so, you want to keep an eye on them?” (Makoto)

“...Yes. If something were to happen, I will deal with it. So if I can get your permission...” (Shiki)

“Fuh~. Jin and the others have their own right to decide their future. They went through the trouble of coming to the Academy and aim for that much power, so they probably have some objective as they climb up. Kuzunoha Company is not the place that will be able to answer those desires, you know?” (Makoto)

“Aren’t you belittling Jin and the others a bit too much, Waka-sama? Within them, there’s already people that wish to be employed in Kuzunoha Company, you know?” (Shiki)

“Is that true?” (Makoto)

I will provide them stability, but promotions and aims for higher heights, I don’t think I will be able to provide it.

And currently, more than half of our business constitutes of trades with other races aside from the hyumans.

"It seems like when Sif and Yuno graduate, they plan on entering Rembrandt Company and transferring to our side." (Shiki)

When they come via Rembrandt-san, it is kinda... hard to refuse.

"If we employ Jin and Amelia, it seems like they don't mind leaving the Academy." (Shiki)

That's heavy.

"About Izumo, Misura, and Daena; they haven't made clear their will to be employed, but it seems like they 'definitely don't want to be enemies of Kuzunoha Company'" (Shiki)

...What an incredibly realistic opinion.

Employment of hyumans huh.

It is certainly true that if there's a chance, it would be good to employ some since there's also the eyes of the public.

Even if I won't have them touch much of our secrets, if they were to do something...

For now, let's just think about it positively.

"...About the employment, I will think about it. Shiki wants to employ them, right?" (Makoto)

"Yes. Even if it's to make them grow, if we are hiring them, I will set it up so that we can erase them whenever needed. Please don't worry about that part." (Shiki)

I don't know if he actually has emotions for his students or not.

I spoke with Shiki about work for a while, and we spoke about things regarding Limia as well as we pass the time.

After a pause, I bring the cup to my mouth.

It has gotten cold.

I didn't know that when it gets cold, the sweetness does a grade-up.

The exam at the sea is close to over.

The interview is also close huh.

...Sweet.

Even when I try to deviate my thoughts, as I thought, it was no good.

It will probably be impossible to share drinks with Shiki who is able to empty a pot of it.

# Chapter 202

## I do think it is a bit hasty though

Rotsgard, Kuzunoha Company's office room.

Today I am being at ease in this room.

But well, it is not like I am not doing work.

Right now I am in the middle of work related to the documents of the highly praised students.

Shiki said he wants to make Jin an apprentice of his as a researcher.

Jin was able to guess out my [Sakai] by instinct, and the power that he deployed - putting it in layman terms- he is able to make his opponent heavier or make himself lighter; it can be considered adjustment of gravity.

He is unable to make himself lighter and the opponent heavier at the same time, but if he is just making himself lighter, it is possible to reduce the range of the spell.

Jin is able to center the activation of the spell in a person other than himself, and opposite of being able to lighten himself, he is able to make the opponent heavier and reduce the range as well.

Excluding the activation point and the consumption of magic power, the utilization of it is truly similar to that of Sakai.

When I asked Shiki why he makes things heavier or lighter, he said that it is probably the easiest to picture in the interference with his space.

From Jin's cognisance, the power will take effect at the direction where a mass is existing and trying to move, so the power actually takes effect when the target is actually moving, so it reduces the burden and losses, is what Shiki explained to me, and I understood the outline of it while ignoring the fine details.

Shiki seemed to be having fun in a different sense from me.

It might be the difference between a normal person and a researcher.

In other words, Jin's new spell is a power that needs movement in order to increment its power.

Impressive.

I felt like I was hearing a physics lesson.

In this world that hasn't developed that study properly, just how was Jin able to reach to that idea?

Now that I think about it, he is also a member of the elites that attend the Rotsgard Academy.

And a scholarship student at that.

He must be a prodigy or a genius.

It seems like Shiki was surprised in the same point as me. He took my physics book and it seems like he understood it by instinct, he opened it in the section regarding vectors.

I... don't hate physics, but I honestly didn't like it either.

In terms of tests, it was one of the subjects that I was able to increase the grades satisfactorily.

"Jin as a researcher huh. It differs a lot from the image of a dual-wielding warrior cutting through the vanguard." (Makoto)

"At that point, Jin will probably become first rate and reach a stop there. In terms of being a researcher, he will probably be able to discover one or two groundbreaking ideas. There's plenty chance he can become more than first rate." (Shiki)

But only as a researcher.

How complicated.

"He will probably be bewildered. Not as a clerk or as a warrior, but a disciple to become a researcher. By the way, aren't there other kids Shiki has an eye on?" (Makoto)

Like Amelia maybe.

It would be interesting if he were to say that he wants to have her dress in a wedding dress.

If it is someone like that, I wouldn't mind that person entering Asora.

Currently, the only ones that have the chance for that are Shiki and Lime after all.

"Right. I think that even without my judgment, Sif and Yuno would have been hired as employees in given time. In terms of our relationship with Rembrandt-shi." (Shiki)

"...Well, that's how it is." (Makoto)

"In terms of ability, there's nothing that especially interests me, but it seems like they have quite the good will towards us, so I think that there won't be any problems in using them as employees of the company. They also declared that they will be passing the merchant guild exam by the time they graduate, so it will be easier by the time we have a branch store." (Shiki)

"So they have enough motivation huh. It seems like Rembrandt-san is also in approval of this. And, how about the others?" (Makoto)

"Others... Regarding Izumo, it seems like his true feelings are that he wants to return to his homeland Lorel, but in terms of his course, he hasn't consulted me. It seems like there's some circumstances, but he doesn't say it, so he probably has enough confidence that he can resolve it. The discord between head family and branch family is troublesome, so it would save us the pain. I think it would be better to leave it alone, and if Izumo contacts us, it would be good to take distance by limiting it to only listening to what he has to say. A magician that has no good or bad, there's no real appealing point that would make me want to hire him." (Shiki)

He isn't saying it, but hey, he is talking as if he already knew everything.

Head and branch family.

It is a talk that could happen in Japan as well.

It is true that it is not something that I would want to get involved in.

“What about Daena?” (Makoto)

“He is married, so the person himself said that he would want to be employed in the Academy. ‘If you are going to fight with the Academy, tell me first, I will run away’, is what he said as he laughed while being drunk. His eyes were serious though. The same as Izumo; he isn’t a talent that I would want to invite at all costs, so if he has a different path in mind, I wouldn’t mind ignoring it.” (Shiki)

“His wife is pregnant, right?” (Makoto)

If I remember correctly, there were those kind of rumors.

The person himself hasn’t said anything though.

If she has morning sickness, you can just be absent for the class and be by her side, is something I would want to tell him.

“Yeah. If Waka-sama were to hear that, you might tell him to take absence for the lectures and be together with her, so until she is stable, he wanted to have it stay as a secret at all costs, is what he requested me.” (Shiki)

“...He readily said that huh.” (Makoto)

“The morning sickness has calmed down quite a bit already. He has come to buy medicine a few times, but lately, he hasn’t done that.” (Shiki)

“Hmph~, are you telling me that he has been going to the Academy normally and taking classes while his wife was suffering with morning sickness?” (Makoto)

Is that fine with you, husband?

And the medicine as well, if you were to say it, we could have send it to your room.

Since you are buying it at our place, we can provide at least that much service you know.

"Daena is also a special student, so I think that diligently doing his best as a special student of the Academy is actually something good though." (Shiki)

"...Is that how it works? Then what about Misura and Amelia?" (Makoto)

"The damage delay of Misura interests me a lot. By the time he graduates, I want to have it completely clarified. He is a favorite of Tomoe-dono, so she will probably train him until she is bored of it... If the person himself wishes it, it is possible to hire him as well." (Shiki)

"Saying it like that. Is there some sort of problem?" (Makoto)

I was bothered by the slight time he took to say it.

"It seems like his parents are ardent believers of the Goddess and want Misura to serve in the Church, or more like, they want him to be employed there. The person himself is troubled and holding his head because of it, but I think that the chances that he is pushed just like that and enters the Church are high." (Shiki)

"Ardent believers of the Goddess... What withering words." (Makoto)

"His fighting style and his personality are passive, so if he has already accepted being pushed by the flow, he can just do whatever he wants." (Shiki)

"I see." (Makoto)

"Just in case, I did tell him that there's the chance that the Church and Kuzunoha Company will confront, so he will probably groan about this until his graduation." (Shiki)

"He would obviously be troubled." (Makoto)

"Thinking about a future where Waka-sama is laughing loudly and pointing a finger at him, even the passive Misura that goes with the flow, will probably desperately swim against that current. His parents or Waka-sama, I think we will be able to see an interesting decision." (Shiki)

"...You are dark, Shiki." (Makoto)

"Thanks for the compliment." (Shiki)

“Then, what about Amelia?” (Makoto)

Since he is placing her at the end, maybe he is considering it pretty important?

Or the contrary?

“Amelia is a jack of all trades and master of none, so there’s no real appealing skill. There has been a scout coming from Gritonia Empire, and she already has the choice of entering their knight corps. She wants to be employed in our place, but there’s no merit in it, so there’s no need to.” (Shiki)

A scout from Gritonia huh.

Quite the tall talk.

It seems like Limia hasn’t spoken to any specific student, so is there no candidate for Limia in the students?

If I had to choose between Gritonia or Limia, I would without a doubt choose Limia though.

Even so, that’s cold.

Amelia has been approaching Kuzunoha Company that aggressively, or more like, approaching Shiki, and yet...

“So there’s no one thinking about going to Limia?” (Makoto)

“The king has spoken to a few, but there’s no approach from Limia Kingdom, so they probably haven’t placed it in their options. Leaving aside Jin, Sif, and Yuno; I think that the other four have a chance of being invited by Limia.” (Shiki)

“Daena and Misura as well?” (Makoto)

Daena’s wife is in this town, and Misura’s parents are Church lovers, right?

“If Daena were to be invited with his whole family, there’s plenty choice to go. I think that he will decide by the trouble of the moving and the treatment. About Misura, there’s the hero chosen by the Goddess in Limia, so there’s enough chance for his parents to accept.” (Shiki)

Senpai huh.

It is true that if they are ardent believers of the Goddess, cooperating with the hero can enter in the choices.

It might become a fulfilling job.

I don't understand it at all though.

"I see." (Makoto)

Amelia, it doesn't seem like it is working.

If I were asked if I wanted to hire her, I actually don't care whichever it is.

"Waka-sama, are you bothered by Amelia? Is there a part in her that you are interested in?" (Shiki)

So he took it in that way huh.

"Hm, no. It seems like she is um... quite attached to Shiki, and that's why she is working part-time at our place, right? And so, I was a bit bothered by it." (Makoto)

"If it's only that, there's plenty other girls like that at the Academy, so in terms of wanting to embrace her, it isn't to that degree. She is the only one that's taking the lectures within those girls though." (Shiki)

...Maybe I should have Shiki go to the Academy alone once and tail him for that one day.

Just how popular are you?

Be it Lime or Shiki; learn a bit from Rembrandt-san who is single mindedly in love with his wife.

And so, sorry Amelia.

I don't intend to get in the way of someone else's love, but I don't have any intentions of touching it either.

“But Amelia... if I remember correctly...” (Shiki)

“Yeah?” (Makoto)

Could it be, a revival route?

“She is appealing as a base for a chimera, like the ones at the hyuman base. With her compatibility to elements and her abilities, she is great all around, so... I was thinking about fulfilling the subjects I have few data about.” (Shiki)

“Uwaa~.” (Makoto)

It probably would have been better if I didn’t ask.

“I received an interesting document from Tomoe-dono, but as expected, raw experiments are important.” (Shiki)

“That’s... too much. It would be safer to have Amelia leave to a different country as an elite huh.” (Makoto)

At worst, she would go to Gritonia and fall victim to Tomoki, but... it should be better than being a guinea pig for Shiki.

“I see. Well, it is still future talk anyways. They are currently gaining a higher salary than some adults, so they probably won’t choose the paths they have compromised to.” (Shiki)

Right.

Jin and the others are receiving quite the high salary every month from the Academy.

If they were to become my employees, the salary they get would probably be lower.

Ah, Jin.

Shiki said that it would be good to hire Jin, but is the person himself intending to come to our place?

“Jin... intends to come to our place?” (Makoto)

“The person himself hasn’t thought of any other path aside from that, is what he said.”  
(Shiki)

He is serious huh.

“His salary will decrease though.” (Makoto)

“...Jin strongly aims for higher heights, but lately, he has been showing a slight change.”  
(Shiki)

“Hm?” (Makoto)

“Since the moment we met him, he has been dry about his sensation for loss and gains, and he had a tendency to decide in that way. And that hasn’t changed at all since now.”  
(Shiki)

“Then why?” (Makoto)

Would he want to be employed in Kuzunoha Company?

He will definitely suffer a loss.

“Jin understands it. That there’s a lot of value in the experience that he can obtain in Kuzunoha Company. And that he won’t be able to obtain it in any other place.” (Shiki)

Experience is worth.

Ah, so the loss and gain sense of his also counts that.

Then I can understand.

Something that only in that place you can do.

Things that he can learn only in that place.

...Fufu, if his loss and gain sensation are dry because of that, I am also like that.

For the first time, I felt familiarity with Jin.

“Merit huh. Leaving aside Asora, I am doing outside work as an owner of Kuzunoha

Company and playing as a make-believe adventurer after all. It is not like I don't understand him." (Makoto)

"Jin still has a lot to go before being able to reach Akua and Eris by himself, but that kid probably wants to become stronger in Kuzunoha Company." (Shiki)

"Stronger..." (Makoto)

"I don't know why he wants to be stronger though." (Shiki)

"Shiki, that's fine. Even if you know, don't tell me. If Jin wants to tell me, he will do so." (Makoto)

"...Understood." (Shiki)

I felt like he knew, like in the case of Izumo, so I stopped him.

...I see.

The students are thinking a lot.

And so, Amelia is in a pretty precarious position.

She is not totally out, so there's a chance... probably.

No matter how it rolls, I don't think I will be showing them Asora, so they are people that I don't think there's the need to be counted as a danger.

And so, about my opinion of Jin and the others, as a teacher involved with them in lectures, I think that it is fine if they just go to the paths that they have worked hard to head to.

Ah, maybe that's why I was bothered by Amelia who wanted to be hired in Kuzunoha Company.

It is sad that there's no choice but to use the state power there, but that makes me, me after all.

"Well then, Waka-sama. Before heading to Limia, let's do a little selection within these student candidates." (Shiki)

“We are doing it right now? Isn’t it okay to do it in Limia?” (Makoto)

There’s an incredible pile after all.

And it looks like the chances of reaching the summit in their level is pretty low.

“Of course, the final check will be done while heading to Limia, but there’s this amount after all. We have to advance even if for a bit.” (Shiki)

“...Right.” (Makoto)

It is not an amount that we can take, and actually, it is a bit impossible to leave in Asora.

“And so, here.” (Shiki)

Shiki gave me a bundle of documents with the thickness of a tissue box.

I could feel a pressure surpassing its weight.

First, I should check these ones out huh.

Can I finish checking them all?

“And about that pile over there...” (Shiki)

“Hm?!” (Makoto)

The mountain of documents that Shiki pointed with his finger, burned in an instant.

A fire!

It will turn into a fire!

“Wa?!” (Makoto)

“The fire won’t spread, so don’t worry.” (Shiki)

“Ah, I see.” (Makoto)

“About that mountain, they are all failures. I have dealt with it with a small performance.”

(Shiki)

Don't do it with such a pleasant smile.

Don't do it so suddenly.

It will normally surprise me.

This is a closed room.

The second floor of the store.

"Then that means, from all of that, only this much is left?" (Makoto)

"Yes. There's still a relative amount of it, but after seeing that mountain, I feel like this amount is something possible." (Shiki)

"True." (Makoto)

I do feel that way.

Shiki magic huh.

"Seriously, just looking at that made me feel like my brain would be contaminated. It felt like a dangerous substance, and the amount was a lot as well. I don't know what would have happened if Waka were to see it." (Shiki)

...

Aren't those documents about the application for my lecture?

"The documents here are not all good either, but are on an acceptable level that giving it to Waka-sama can turn into experience, so..." (Shiki)

"I am already scared of even looking at it." (Makoto)

What experience?

What's this about acceptable level?

What's that about dangerous substance that can contaminate the brain?

"I did an all nighter death march and got kinda high, so there's probably interesting components still remaining within those documents. Please do take them with you to Limia." (Shiki)

"T-Thank you for your hard work." (Makoto)

So having continuous all nighters can make Shiki dangerous as well huh.

I can't imagine it, but I should at least be prepared.

Anyways, Limia huh.

I have not decided which follower I should be taking with me.

Shiki would be fine, but he has a lot of things he has to do.

It is also a bottleneck that he is acquainted with Hibiki-senpai and her group.

"Well then, I will be checking the state of the sea." (Shiki)

"Ah, Shiki, regarding Limia." (Makoto)

"? What is it?" (Shiki)

"Tomoe or Mio, who do you think would be better to bring?" (Makoto)

"Mio-dono." (Shiki)

Instant answer.

Or more like...

"Shiki, why are you averting your gaze?" (Makoto)

Not only that, his eyes are swimming.

Why is he showing such obvious suspicious behavior?

“As for me, I think that Mio-dono is a good choice.” (Shiki)

“Shiki...” (Makoto)

Did something happen in the shadows?

He has made a complete change from before and is not looking my way at all.

“T-The sun is still high up in the sky of Asora, so I will be using a bikini and bath in the seawater that I haven’t tasted for several hundred of years!!” (Shiki)

“Bikini?!” (Makoto)

Isn’t that the part where you say trunks?!

No wait.

“Please tell Mio-dono that Shiki has given his support in having her go alone with you! I will be going now!!” (Shiki)

“Shiki?!!” (Makoto)

Please tell her?!

That girl... Mio.

There’s also the matter with the suit, but it feels like she is plotting something.

It is surely not something that would bring me harm though.

I know that.

I know that but...

I-It makes me uneasy.

I am suddenly anxious about going to Limia.



PtFF by: traktorA7EN