

Epilogue: Sister and Brother

After eating Velgrynd, I calmed down.

Now that there was room to focus on the surroundings, he made his rounds of the battlefield.

The forest was badly damaged, but the capital city of Rimuru appeared to be safe and sound, and the area around the city had been somewhat damaged, though most of it seemed to be guarded by the Geldites.

I’m relieved for the time being.

"So, what are you doing here?”

"Isn't this fine, Lord Rimuru? In fact, I was trying to keep someone from getting in the way of Lord Rimuru…”

During the fight with Velgrynd, I sensed that there was someone watching the whole fight all the time, and to be honest the situation was quite annoying, but I didn't have any spare energy to pay attention to such things at the time.

And then it's on to the present.

Of course I'm not.

"Come on, everyone else is working hard. You go to work too.”

“??…I do, I do…”

After glancing at me with a sad look, Diablo left.

This guy alone, I really can't figure out what he's thinking.

<<In order that no one may come to obstruct the master, he planned stay here as an escort—watching the battle with such a plan, honestly, not at all.>> Ciel seemed to find Diablo annoying as well.

Pungent tones that wouldn't normally be used came out.

All in all, it's time to quiet down and deal with Velgrynd.

Although the work of persuasion and illustration has been handed over to Veldora…

I tried to inquire and found that Veldora had put all the blame on me.

Oi oi oi, how come all the problem children are on my side!? It’s making people madder and madder.

This guy seems to be trying to portray me as evil so he can deflect Velgrynd's anger.

"Anyway, I wanted to tell my sister that I was safe, but I couldn't get permission from Rimuru. Now that you're in the same situation, can you understand what I mean by that?”

 —That’s how Veldora's words feel.

It's like he’s a bad child who puts all the blame on his friends for fear of being reprimanded.

The task of convincing Velgrynd was a failure.

But, indeed.

It would be very embarrassing for my sister to appear out of nowhere in the mistaken belief that she had died.

Understanding is understanding, but what the hell is it to blame me for all this?

Isn't this just a simple way of putting all your troubles on me?

He was supposed to help mediate, but now it feels like the anger directed at me has intensified—ah ah, it's not working at all!

I can't leave this to Veldora anymore.

It was necessary to explain well to her that Velgrynd and Veldora were now in the same situation.

<<Before that, there's something to report.>>

What is it?

<<The parsing of Velgrynd identifies that she appears to be under the domination of someone…most likely Rudra's power. What do you think?>> Hey, hey, hey, that’s a hell of a statement!

I'm a little troubled by how you're going to respond when you report it to me so calmly.

I had thought that the Ciel would 'analyze' Velgrynd, and I wasn't too surprised about that, but Velgrynd was being dominated, and I couldn't keep quiet about it.

By the way, is the prisoner sure it's Rudra?

<<Basically Certain. In addition, while watching the battle between Carrera and Tatsuya Kondo through the "Soul Corridor", it appears that Kondo is also dominated by Rudra. Presumably, they are in the same state.>> After inquiring about the situation in detail, Graneet who was Benimaru's opponent, said everything as if he was a bamboo tube pouring out beans.

It's a silly feeling for him to be the enemy.

This guy's behavior must be taken as a counter example and thoroughly memorized by all.

However, these are topics to be discussed when you return safely.

The immediate question is what exactly to do with Velgrynd.

 It was obviously impossible to rely on Veldora, so it was up to me to explain, but because of the influence of Veldora's spiritual domination, Velgrynd would probably not listen to my explanation at all.

Well, what can be done about this…?

<<How about putting Velgrynd in the same position as Veldora, since it is rare to absorb it?>> Huh?

That is to say, like Veldora, a "Soul Corridor" can be created between me and Velgrynd, making her my ultimate skill?

Can it be done?

<<There is no question that the current Lord Rimuru is equal to or even above the Dragon Race, and that the amount of mana is abundant. It's entirely possible to absorb Velgrynd.>> But to do so would not take away Velgrynd's free will…or would it?

Like Veldora, I couldn't force him to do anything, and even when I asked him to do something, it was only implemented after he agreed.

Veldora is more than enough to do as he pleases.

And now, I've sold out without hesitation to save myself.

Although I would have sentenced him to confiscation of snacks at such a time, but when I think about it, I was really tormented by him.

Assuming that Veldora actually does something against me, I can't undo his liberated state either, though I can stop providing energy, but I can't make Veldora disappear.

Besides, the True Dragon Race is so large that it is not an easy existence to disappear. Unless Veldora himself accepts the return, he will always be free to move about.

That is, I don't have any coercive power over Veldora, basically I can't force him to do anything as long as I liberate him.

Thinking about it, I realized that Velgrynd was only going to turn out to be in the same situation.

Putting Velgrynd in the same position as Veldora and then 'liberating' her was the quickest way to prove my innocence.

Then they will not continue to be misunderstood and suffer.

Sibling quarrel?

Don't know don't know.

This kind of thing is not under my supervision.

Anyway, that's it, so hurry up and get Velgrynd in the same state as Veldora.

<<If you feel uneasy, should you add restraints to Velgrynd?>>

 Hmm?

Combined with the constraints, can even such a thing be done…?

Adding the condition that Velgrynd can't resist me is probably still necessary considering what's to come.

But…that approach goes against my principles.

If Velgrynd just couldn't take it, I might as well continue to isolate her in ‘infinite space'.

Put a mandatory condition on her, and I'd be on the same page as Rudra.

Even if she doesn't want to assist me, it doesn't matter.

As long as she vowed to stay out of the way, she had no problem going anywhere she wanted to live her life.

<<Understood. I think it's only fitting for Lord Rimuru.>> The direction has been decided.

Then let the execution begin.

Start by saying hello.

"Ah, Miss Velgrynd, are you all right—”

"You're Rimuru, righ!t? You gotta be kidding me! Get me out of here now!”

I turned my consciousness to the infinite space, and Velgrynd was in the thick of it.

The scene feels like it looks like a suspicious Slime is coercing the beautiful woman.

Just what you would call a criminal.

That Slime is me—er, in human form and back again.

The atmosphere is rather eerie, but it can't be helped.

Everything was done to prove my innocence.

By imagination, I covered Velgrynd with my hands.

And then ate Rudra's power and 'unlocked' it, and then created a "Soul Corridor" with Velgrynd. The door is a two-way thing, and it's set up in such a way that Velgrynd doesn't open up, and I can't communicate with her.

But I can still hitch a ride unilaterally, hoping that doing so won't be pointless.

The above homework was done without any problems.

 The rambunctious Velgrynd came down honestly, and the change was a little surprising to me so suddenly.

"Ahh, Rimuru? You, couldn't have done something unruly to sister, could you…?”

"You idiot! How could I do something like that!? After all, if you could convince her properly, I wouldn't have to work so hard!”

It was like the two of us were going to fight…

"Shut up, all of you!”

"Ah, yes.”

“Sorry!"

There was a sudden loud cry that made both Veldora and I lower our heads at the same time.

Honestly, it's scary.

No wonder Veldora found her difficult to deal with.

"What the hell's going on, Rimuru?"

"Just, even if you ask me what's going on…”

What the hell is being said is completely unintelligible.

"I can hear the 'other body' voice over there, but my voice doesn't go there? What the hell have you done?”

My heart couldn't help but skip a beat as I was glued to the face by the super gorgeous beauty.

Her breath came to her face and it felt ticklish.

It smells so good.

I was supposed to not need to breathe, but Velgrynd's scent was very sweet.

<<Now is not the time to care about those things. The answer to Velgrynd's query should be due to her liberation from Rudra's domination.>> You seem a little upset?

<<It's an Illusion.>>

Yes, is that so?

Never mind, it's better not to delve into this and listen to Ciel's instructions first.

It's actually quite simple to say.

 The Velgrynd before me is no longer under the spiritual domination of Rudra, but the other 'other body'

is still under the domination of Rudra. In order to prevent the leak of information, I used the "Infinite Prison" to block it off.

Our intelligence is not leaked and can be obtained unilaterally from the opposite side.

In this way, Velgrynd over there was driven to desperation, and combined with Rudra's domination, she became completely unable to read my mind.

It's a one-way street.

I know Ciel has done something awesome, but I wouldn't be surprised anymore.

"That is to say, analyzing this difference in consciousness will prove whether you are being dominated or not.”

"Well, that's Rimuru for you. Sister, here's what I believe about Rimuru…"

"You shut up!”

“Yes!!”

It was a secret that Veldora, who had interjected, was being disciplined again, and I felt a little happy to see him being disciplined.

After scolding Veldora, Velgrynd seemed to have fallen into a deep contemplation, probably looking for any difference between himself and the 'other body' over there, as I said.

I also grasped the situation on the Emperor's flagship through the eyes of my companions.

The battle has entered a final situation.

A state of affairs that would dispel Velgrynd's doubts happened just at the moment.

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 Velgrynd was surrounded by my companions.

The scene seems a bit despicable, but that's a sentiment that only the uninformed can feel.

In fact, even if Velgrynd was in this weakened state that she was in now, it would be difficult for everyone to mount a challenge together to overcome her.

Putting that aside for a moment, the alien space that Velgrynd had created had fallen apart and looked like it was going to collapse soon. Just as I was thinking that, the space was really easily destroyed by the arrival of Diablo.

"The primordial black…”

"It's Diablo. That guy, if I don't see him, I'll become very powerful.”

"Kufufufufu! That guy will give me his snacks, and I like him.”

You're being bought off.

 Even if Veldora complimented Diablo, I still only half believed his words.

The side thought about these haves and have-nots and continued to follow the developments, and just then Velgrynd over there took a step forward to guard Rudra.

The situation had all come to this, yet Rudra remained leisurely in his chair.

Was it guts, or rather, confidence?

Seeing Rudra like this, one man made the first move.

It's Carrera.

Without hesitation, Carrera fired at Rudra with the golden pistol in her hand.

And the bullets she shot…

"Wasn't that the move that weakened me?”

"Kondo can only shoot one bullet a day, why can yellow primodial…?”

Ciel has already told me, so I know the details.

“Not the primordial yellow, but Carrera. It looks like Kondo entrusted her with Rudra's affairs after his defeat.”

Hearing this clarification, Velgrynd muttered, "I didn't expect even Kondo…”

Unrelated to Velgrynd's confusion, the situation has changed again.

“Rudra!"

Over there, Velgrynd cried out, spreading her arms to shield Rudra from her.

I can't believe I can catch up with the godspeed bullets and make moves, I'm sure you have the physical ability of a monster. However, the power of the Divine Extermination Bomb was not simple either, not only did it strike Velgrynd's entire right arm, but it also struck Rudra without decreasing in power.

However.

Surprisingly, Rudra was unharmed.

The emperor's expression was always at ease, giving the impression that he knew from the beginning that Carrera's attacks were ineffective against him.

"What's that? Why could the Emperor invalidate that attack?"

"Not clear. It's hard to believe that you can see something like the 'Barrier', but it's hard to believe that it can be completely invalidated by that alone.”

Veldora and I were both shocked by the light.

 As if Velgrynd couldn't believe it either, she muttered a 'why' and collapsed to the ground, having to support herself on both hands.

"What's wrong, sister?”

Velgrynd whispered in reply to the panicked Veldora.

"Your friend is right. I really was dominated by Rudra…”

Presumably finally figuring it out, Velgrynd told us about Rudra.

Rudra was safe because of the iron-walled protection he possessed.

That protection is absolute and impossible for anyone to break, no matter what.

But there are conditions.

The loyalty of the vassals or ministers to the emperor is a source of energy for protection, and cannot be unleashed without someone loyal to the emperor.

Then, there are drawbacks.

This shield, although it can be activated normally, one cannot do anything else when activated.

This power is the power of the “Justice King Michael", the “Castle Guard", which is the pride of the

"King of Justice", the ultimate skill.

Even Carrera's "Divine Extermination Bomb" it can defend against it, and it's not too much to say that it's nearly invincible.

Although the attack could not be carried out when launched, it was just a matter of handing it over to the minions.

"Since you have that power, you don't have to come out and shelter him, do you?"

Well, I feel the same way.

Velgrynd answered that query.

"Right. I should have known better than to pretend to be sheltered and then wait for an opportunity to attack. But she acted like that, which is to say…”

Forcing herself to to shelter Rudra, this incident made Velgrynd finally understand that she had actually been 'thought induced' by Rudra as well.

Rudra, on the other hand, maintains the absolute realm of the “Castle Guard" without any movement.

That's how it's supposed to be…

“What?"

Velgrynd let out another yelp of consternation.

Even Veldora and I were speechless.

 Velgrynd rushes to Rudra's side even though she has lost her right arm, but is pierced through the chest by Rudra, who instantly lifts the “Castle Guard".

It's almost as if Velgrynd was deliberately…

"So, it is so…that man, the Rudra I loved, is gone…”

Tears welled up in Velgrynd's eyes.

As if to justify what Velgrynd had lamented, Rudra snorted loudly.

"Ha ha ha ha ha! Oh Velgrynd, feel honored to be of use to me. Your power will be used effectively.”

Hearing Rudra say so, Velgrynd over there crouched down in pain.

"That's Yuuki's 'Death Grabbing Palm'. Rudra—No, the 'King of Justice' has the power to freely use the power of the creatures at his disposal.

What's that? Too foul.

Velgrynd's instructions made Veldora and I look at each other face to face.

"When Rudra is against us, it's up to you!”

"Don't say anything stupid! I'm the strongest on this matter though it's indisputable, but it’s a troublesome opponent, so forgive me for refusing!”

"I'll make a sundae for you.”

“That's really charming…”

Velgrynd looked breathlessly at us who were pushing each other off.

It seemed that because of this, she had stopped crying.

Needless to say, this is certainly a good thing.

So.

Regarding the Rudra who had just seized the power of Velgrynd…

"Rudra is the King of Justice. What does that mean?”

Although I had an idea in my mind, I wanted to hear about it from Velgrynd, so I asked.

"Rudra was already at the end of his rope, and his soul was consumed by repeated reincarnations, so it seems that he has been replaced by the King of Justice, since he is neither Rudra nor Rudra, sitting there.”

Velgrynd replied sounding lonely.

"No, no, no. A skill born of the master's desire cannot be dangerous to the master himself.”

 "No, it's not. Rudra's 'King of Justice' was given to him by Veldanava. Rudra, by his own will, is the 'King of Covenant', and while our brother Veldanava remains unresurrected, the whereabouts of this ultimate skill is unknown.

“………”

The King of Covenant" is here with me though?

It's not the atmosphere to say this, so I'll just keep quiet.

Velgrynd's instructions continued, and her words summed up that Rudra had become unable to control the 'King of Justice' due to the weakening of the soul's power due to repeated reincarnations.

Hearing that, rather than the skill betraying the host, I felt there was another way to interpret it.

<<Indeed. If I'm in the same position as the King of Justice, even if I'm temporarily dominated by the host, I'll definitely aim to resurrect my true master, Lord Rimuru.>> That's how it feels.

Becoming Ciel, the Theosophy Core, no matter how unlikely it was, would definitely be a challenge, and definitely not one to give up halfway through.

So, it's not like I can't understand the idea of the 'King of Justice'.

However, this does not mean that…

"This can't be left unattended. I'm afraid the King of Justice has evolved into a free-willed theosophy core, so his purpose should be completely different from Rudra’s."

"The theosophy core? What the hell is that……? Say, wait a minute! Rimuru, do you know what the purpose of the King of Justice is?”

Since you want to know, I'll answer you.

"Isn't it the resurrection of Veldanava? I think, as long as it's for this, he'll do whatever it takes.”

That's why it can't be left alone, I said so.

Velgrynd's face turned green.

Just then, a new figure emerged and launched an attack towards Velgrynd, who was confronting Rudra.

"It was the Phantom King Feldway, and Diablo, feeling unable to defeat him, let him go, and it appeared that he had left his companion behind and returned.

Even Diablo couldn't defeat him, that should be quite a powerful man. Still, it always felt like Diablo was just being lazy, or was it just me?

Never mind.

Feldway was no less powerful and used the 'Space Domination' attack against Velgrynd, which even an awakened demon lord would have difficulty resisting.

 Wounded and weakened, Velgrynd seemed to have no strength left that could resist this move.

"Hahahahaha! Velgrynd is about to disappear from this world due to a time warp! It's a lucky start, Rudra—No, Lord Michael."

Feldway changed his name from Rudra to Michael.

It's like it’s trying to justify Velgrynd's speculation.

It happened suddenly, but both Benimaru and Diablo reacted immediately and wanted to start acting, and I stopped them in a panic with 'Thought Communication'.

There's a reason why Phantom King Feldway’s strength goes deep underground, but more importantly I wanted to see how Rudra, known as Michael, would react.

What's more—I see it.

Some incredible substance, flew out of Rudra's body, and those things wrapped around Velgrynd as if to guard her.

Immediately after, all those incredible substances that had flown out of Rudra's body disappeared.

This reaction, exactly, is…

"Hmm, it doesn't feel bad. Velgrynd's power had become the stuff of me, and Rudra was gone. Next, by absorbing the power of Veldora and Velzado, we will be able to fulfill the wish of the one who resurrected the lord.”

Rudra took very much for granted the fact of being called Michael.

That's for sure.

My enemy is not Rudra, but Michael.

And the goal of the other side is to bring the Star Dragon, Veldanava, back to life.

"This is a good thing, Lord Michael.”

"Hmmm. There's always a way for Velzado. It's Veldora who's in trouble.”

The conversation continues.

Completely leaving Benimaru the the others out of it.

However, this is par for the course.

I did not stop the attacks of the Shion and Testarossa, but those attacks were all completely blocked by the Castle Guard.

Of course, Feldway was also guarded, unharmed.

It's really tricky.

But there are more important things now.

 "Rudra, that's Rudra, right!? The shards—the pieces of the soul are still there—!!!”

I thought I was the only one who could see it, but it seemed that Velgrynd sensed it too. Not sure if Velgrynd saw it or felt it, all in all she seemed to want to go after the remnants of Rudra.

“Calm down…”

"You shut up! If we don't get over there soon, aren't the pieces going to disappear!?"

Velgrynd had completely turned into a messed up child, with an angry but crying face and yelling at me.

I activated 'Thinking Acceleration' to extend the time.

Then, created a world where only the duo of Velgrynd and I exist.

"I told you to calm down. If you get out now, you'll just be dominated by Rudra again.”

“But—!”

Where the debris flies can actually be grasped.

However, there is no way out of it.

In the end, there is no guarantee that he will ever return to this world, and it is even more of a dream to save Rudra.

<<If You Go Straight Out, There's No Future.>>

"Shut up! So……what do I do? Just give up on Rudra!? I can't do it…!”

These are the heartfelt words of Velgrynd.

The warning just now had been spoken by Ciel, but Velgrynd’s agitation was no longer perceptible to such things.

<<The Possibility is Still There.>>

"What the…?"

"If you will accept my power to change.”

Sweet seduction.

It was no longer even necessary to listen to Velgrynd's direct answer.

“I accept, as long as I get my wish."

Even I thought Velgrynd would surely answer that.

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The moment Velgrynd agreed, the voice rang out.

<<The Will of Velgrynd Has Been Affirmed. The first step is to cut off interference with the King of Charity.>>

Hearing this, Velgrynd's emotions calmed down.

After examining her own body with precision and guided by the voice, she did find the presence of

"that".

There are traces of some kind of interference engraved in the 'king of charity' deep in the core of one's heart. Although the interference is now veiled, it is undoubtedly dangerous to continue to keep the thing.

And here's why—

Velgrynd grasped that.

At the same time, she remembered.

The ultimate skill, the 'King of Charity', has a power that is paired with the power of the king.

In a distant memory she seems to have heard it.

Among the powers created by Veldanava, the more pure in effect is called the Angelic Skill Series, and none of these skills can resist the absolute domination of the 'King of Justice'.

That power is—“the dominion of the archangel".

Velgrynd's 'King of Charity' is no exception, and the 'King of Charity' and 'King of Justice' are linked together in extremely subtle corridors that cannot escape the influence of this power.

 Yeah, why did I forget about that? Holders of the Angelic System's Ultimate Skills are unable to resist their elder brother. He hated it more than anyone else, so he traded the King of Charity for the King of Covenant in Rudra.

It also makes sense why one would be dominated.

Since it is the mechanism constructed by the elder brother, Veldanava, it is basically impossible to resist.

 Indeed, I have no future yet…

Rimuru was right, and it made Velgrynd want to cry again.

Right now.

In the moment that Velgrynd wanted to give up, she heard an incredible voice.

<<The pre-processing of the King of Charity is complete, uniting it with the King of Covenant, which is no longer needed.>>  Huh!?

Velgrynd almost cried out.

It was only natural that she would react this way, for the 'King of Covenant' that Rudra had been looking for to be found in such a place.

That said, Velgrynd was only now realizing it.

The sound just heard was not from Rimuru.

It is not a hallucination, but a voice that is clear and strong-willed, sounding like the "voice of the world,” but softer and more refined, and even more tender.

While there are many things to ask, what is most important right now is the meaning of the phrase to be expressed.

"Wait, wait, wait! To give me the King of Covenant? Also, what does unification mean!?”

<<If the ability remains as it is, it will be ruled by the King of Justice, in that case, just change the ability. I found a domination loop in the "King of Covenant,” so I used it to create new abilities for you while discarding it.>> It's overblown.

It's really an answer that people everywhere want to spit-take on.

However, what Velgrynd cared about now was only one problem.

"Do that, and I'll go to Rudra?”

<<It is possible, it is certain.>>

Since it's possible, there's no need to be confused.

Velgrynd promised to come down with hope in her heart.

No, actually, it's been promised.

<<Velgrynd, the will to you has long since been confirmed and no second commitment is required.

Now, The Ability to Change.>>

The voice, Ciel, had no intention of withdrawing at first.

The moment Ciel unleashed the 'ability to change', an otherwise impossible force fluctuated through Velgrynd's body.

Then, gently wrapped her whole body.

<<Uniting the "King of Charity" and the "King of Covenant" of Velgrynd, the "Scorch Dragon", and evolving into the “Flame God Cthugu”…a success…>> Ciel declared aloud in a solemn voice full of fantasy.

 In this moment, Velgrynd was freed from all bondage.

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Just as I nodded my head repeatedly at Ciel's words, my 'King of Covenant' was also transferred out.

Although I gave my permission, it's normal that I can't help but feel at a loss at times like this.

After all, it was the equivalent of the 'King of Covenant' that combined the ties of his companions…

<<There is no question. What is united into the King of Charity is nothing more than the dregs of the King of Covenant. The essence of the power will be inherited by the new 'King of Harvest'.>> —Huh?

The questions are endless.

There's always a hunch that Ciel-sensei has done all sorts of super awesome work when I didn't know of it.

I'm afraid to ask in detail, so I'm just going to focus on Velgrynd.

Unification can work better than anything.

"Congratulations, Miss Velgrynd. Now, it's okay to take you outside."

I was hitching a ride with a smile on my face, but somehow Velgrynd glared at me with a very scary expression.

It's not that I didn't have a clue why she reacted this way, so I unconsciously averted my gaze.

"I really, really want to question you about all sorts of things, but I'll let it go for now. So, this is going to free me now, huh?”

It seems to be okay already, I nod.

According to the Ciel, because it gave the Covenant King Uriel to Velgrynd, Rudra's "spirit" seems to be reacting to her.

So it's no longer impossible to find the pieces and recycle them, in a nutshell.

Hearing that made me think.

The remnants of what Ciel calls the Heart of Rudra's form, and the "core" of the King of Covenant, are actually the same.

That being the case, it's now the equivalent of Rudra and Velgrynd being together a lot.

While it is unsettling to find the "soul" of Rudra scattered throughout the world, there is a feeling that Velgrynd will be able to do so.

 "Then first, liberate yourself!”

Just like that, the three of us returned from the spirit world to the present world.

The feeling of time being prolonged lingered, so we said goodbye to each other.

"Thanks, Rimuru, for the trouble.”

It really was.

I actually have a lot to complain about!

However, pissing off Velgrynd would be horrible, so I'll just shut up.

"Now, your 'parallel existence' is also connected to me, so don't worry about getting lost and not coming back. I think it's going to be tough though, go for it!"

A little bit of solidarity.

But that's when it happened.

"Sister, even if it's not possible, I'm still here! Don't worry, just relax and go for it!”

Veldora said with a bright smile.

It doesn't matter what the atmosphere is capable of, it can only be said that it really lives up to Veldora.

Velgrynd also seemed troubled as to what response to make, and her final response was—

"You really are an idiot, a stupid, stupid, cute little brother. I'm glad you're safe."

Velgrynd finished coyly and smiled.

Then for some reason, she stared at me again.

Being seen super close by beautiful women made me nervous to move a muscle.

Seeing the look of a small deer in my heart, Velgrynd somehow shook her head breathlessly.

"So, goodbye.”

With these words, Velgrynd departed with a valiant 'shift'.

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 There you go.

The next thing is to go back up Benimaru and the others.

"Do you want to come too?”

"Of course.”

 Time wise, it's actually been less than a minute, and the onslaught against Michael is still going on right now.

Although it did not work for the “Castle Guard", it was the right thing to do.

Because the moment the attack stops, the enemy's attack will begin.

So whether it was Benimaru or Diablo, neither of them stopped Shion and the rest, but chose to watch from the sidelines.

There are only two enemies.

I really want to take them all down right here, but unfortunately that's not going to happen. As long as there is a “Castle Guard,” the attacks will be useless against Michael.

Only, the conditions are the same for everyone—

"Ha ha ha ha ha! What a pity, your attacks are completely ineffective against Lord Michael.”

Feldway laughed loudly, aiming for the gap between our attacks and preparing to launch the power.

The demon lord’s name doesn't seem to be called in vain, and he seems intent on exiling all of my companions present to the otherworld.

"Goodbye, everyone. Though there should be no more—what!?”

He wasn't the only one targeting the attack gap, and neither was I. In order to stop Feldway, I appeared on the battlefield.

"The Demon Lord Rimuru…”

“It’s our first meeting, Mr. Phantom King Feldway.”

Hearing my deliberately mocking tone, the Phantom King’s smile disappeared.

"The hick with no manners.”

"Ahn? I don't want to be told that by an aggressive race that has always had visions of the city.”

After further provocation, the other party's expression became like that of an evil spirit.

The type that doesn't get excited and calmly build up anger.

And the most troublesome opponent.



 Just then, Michael, who had been silent, interjected with an air of ease.

"So, you're not hiding to watch me anymore? I thought that you were trying to use the sacrifices of your companions to find a way to get around me.”

I didn't think of sacrificing my companions at all, but he was half right, but it didn't matter.

"What do you think is your freedom, and compared to that, why don't we just end it here?”

"Hmph, you're very proud. Do you think you've beaten me?

"Who knows? But let me just give you a word of advice up front. I know all about your power, whether it's the absolute domination of the angelic skill series, or the fact that it will never be broken as long as there are people who believe in you, such as the "Castle Guard.” After this there will be no need to say any more. Won’t turning the Empire into scorched earth and destroying everything that lives take away your advantage?”

This is total bluffing.

I don't have any idea in my head that I'm going to do it all.

But if the possibility of companionship sacrifice is weighed on the scales against this practice, I should have practiced it without hesitation.

That kind of awareness, I would have done it a long time ago.

“…it seems that I have underestimated you too. Shouldn't he be hostile to you?”

"Exactly. Whether you are aspirational or have a noble calling has nothing to do with me. There are actually parts of your purpose that resonate with me, so I won't interfere with anything you want to do as long as it doesn't get me in trouble.”

However, it was too late.

Michael, who has already begun to lose control, will no doubt bring us calamity.

For the time being, I can predict that Michael will have a conflict of interest with us in any case in the future. That being the case, I'll just have to act on it with conviction.

“……”

Michael seemed to ponder something and lapsed into silence.

That being the case, let's get my thoughts across clearly to him.

"If anyone dares to strike at me and my companions, I will crush them so completely that they will never be able to do such stupid things again.”

To inject terror into their hearts.

Indeed, I have no means of breaking the “castle guard" at the moment.

However, I have a reliable partner, “Ciel."

 Ciel must be able to figure out how to crack this trick.

What's more…

I will show no mercy if you dare to strike at my important companions.

No matter what means are used to defeat Michael—I swear in my heart.

"So it is, huh. Then, I will retreat first.”

"Uh! Is it really possible, Lord Michael?”

Hearing Feldway's surprised question, Michael raised his head to indicate his retreat.

"To say that the time has not come, and so shall we be. If we fight here, I don't think either side will be satisfied in the end.”

I feel the same way.

With the means I just mentioned, it is indeed possible to win.

But to do so violates my purpose.

I don't deny that the current approach is just to put off the issue, but now just buy time, and that's really what I mean.

"Well, let's break up for today, shall we?”

"All right. Having said that…on a day that was supposed to celebrate my complete resurrection, there was actually such an unexpected trial. I thought Guy Crimson was the biggest obstacle, but I didn't realize that the one holding me back was an insignificant Slime…”

Leaving these words, Michael and Feldway departed.

Where they go back, it's not the Empire.

Because my surveillance magic, "Argos", didn't catch any reaction.

The report from Moss is also only three words without exception.

"What a shame. Where the hell did they go? Can't even figure that out now?”

Hearing my uncontrollable grumbling, Benimaru laughed.

"But, Lord Rimuru. We're all safe and sound, so we should go home and celebrate."

So to speak.

"Well, let’s go back! I’m already tired today and feeling as if I'm hungry too. Let's ask Shuna to prepare some delicious meals!”

"It's a party, isn't it?”

That's not so bad.

 I nodded to Veldora.

"Go back and celebrate!”

Hearing my words, everyone's expressions turned to smiles.

Although there are still problems to be solved, I would like to congratulate you all on your safety and thank you for that.

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 Velgrynd continued to travel.

Yesterday, today, and tomorrow too.

The footsteps never stopped, and Velgrynd kept moving forward.

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At that time, the place where Velgrynd and Rimuru had flown to was an otherworld that had transcended even time, and after she had successfully merged with the 'parallel existence' that had been knocked out by Feldway, she found herself in the middle of an otherworld with no direction at all.

One without atmosphere and two without earth, without even a sense of time, Velgrynd had to keep drifting.

If Velgrynd hadn't been a Dragon Race, I'm afraid she'd be in the wild, but she has Space Domination and unlimited life.

Velgrynd had plenty of time to think before arriving at a place where she could settle herself. Those unbelievable things that had happened to themselves had already given Velgrynd's mind over.

The amount of intelligence exceeds the amount of processing.

Such an extraordinary state of affairs as drifting through otherworldly space had instead restored Velgrynd's composure.

Velgrynd began to think.

The intelligence was so large and unusual that Velgrynd gave up trying to figure it out thoroughly, only to think about it when time allowed.

Then, more than anything else, she thought of one thing.

The fundamental question is why Velgrynd was able to regain her freedom against the system constructed by her own brother.

The man who made this phenomenon possible, Velgrynd could only think of one.

 That Slime with the fluttering attitude.

The demon lord, Rimuru, her brother's ally…

 Does it—does it mean!? That Slime…

Even an Ultimate Skill can be freely rewritten, granting Velgrynd freedom and making the Powers more powerful—evolving to a higher realm.

It's definitely, not something that regular people can do.

 Such a ridiculous thing, only my elder brother could do. If, indeed, there is someone who can imitate this behavior…

The unbelievable imagery made Velgrynd shudder.

When she tried to turn her consciousness inward, the ultimate skill of the 'King of Flame' immediately reacted, and with a strength that the 'King of Charity' could not match.

And most importantly…

It was as if a connection had been constructed with Rudra's heartbeat, and the fragments that were absorbed would give a reaction.

 Heck, it doesn't even matter what that slime’s true colors are. He is Rimuru, an ally of Veldora, and my benefactor.

This is what Velgrynd concludes.

Finally getting rid of the thinking-back-circle Velgrynd and turning consciousness to reality.

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Across countless worlds and ages, Velgrynd continues to collect fragments of the Soul.

 I love you, I love you—Rudra!

The thought of single-mindedly wanting to see Rudra had allowed Velgrynd to cross countless difficulties.

And then, finally…

In the midst of a metropolis lined with tall buildings, she spotted the teenager.

Rejoice, resolve.

The teenager, in possession of all the other pieces.

Next, adding the fragments held by Velgrynd…

 However, was it really good to do so? Velgrynd became bitter about it.

If this was done, the teenager's fate would surely change dramatically.

Velgrynd had an infinite lifespan, and she was perfectly capable of guarding the teenager until the end of his life.

 That's right, there's nothing to be anxious about. I'd like to meet you as soon as possible, but you can't be too anxious.

With that thought in mind, Velgrynd turned her back on the teenager and prepared to stride away.

However, at this very moment—

The shards of lightning flew towards the teenager according to their will.

The fragments of the "soul", which no one could see, merged with the teenager as if absorbed, and the impact of this process caused the teenager to disappear directly from the world.

Now in Velgrynd's hands, only the beginning piece remains.

"Do you mean, you too? Do you want to see me as soon as possible, too?"

If only that were the case—Velgrynd thought to herself as she leaned towards the shards with a question.

And then…

In order to catch up with the boy, she unleashed the 'King of the Flame’.

