AFTERWORD

Thanks for your patience. Volume 8 is finally here.

I think at least some of you have already read the web-series version of this content—it’s actually part of the Demon Capital Opens arc. Why did the title of this volume change? Well, there’s a good story behind that…

“Don’t worry! I promise I’ll keep it nice and compact this time!”

“I’ve heard that one before. I don’t bother worrying much about the length by this point.”

That’s how I kicked off this volume, and then when the deadline drew closer…

“Um, we need to talk.”

“Yeah, yeah, what is it?”

“Well, it’s starting to get a little long, actually…”

“It is, huh? I figured as much.”

My editor, Mr. I, was wholly unmoved. But my turn wasn’t over yet!

“Could we make this a two-volume story arc?”

“Huhhh?!”

“Because I could write a hundred more pages, and it’ll still end in kind of a half-assed position. How about we shake things up and go with a two-parter?”

“No! Why’d it come down to this?!”

It was a very heartwarming conversation, one that ended with Mr. I’s eyes rolling all the way back inside his head.

So yeah. I have some regrets.

Not even I am entirely sure why it turned out like this, but lately I’ve started to think it’s a little impossible to condense this story. Thus, I’m working hard to finish up the Demon Capital Opens arc in Volume 9. I’m trying to make sure this doesn’t turn into a trilogy, so I hope you’ll come along for the ride.

See you in the next volume!