The Attack on the Sarimu Manor (5)

The time is midnight. With his superhuman strength, Geon no Nagie slashes at the gate, making it tumble down into rubble. He has only one goal in mind: avenging his lord, Ishupuritto no Nagie (1). It was only a year ago when Geon no Nagie had mourned the death and became a ronin. His master, Ishupuritto, had been wrongfully accused by the Sarimu clan of the death of one of the clan’s eldest members, which was the previous lord of the clan and Ken no Sarimu’s father, Jamusu no Sarimu. The crime was pinned on Ishupuritto, as the Nagie and Sarimu clans were bitter rivals after an annual festival competition gone horribly wrong. The sentence, death. After killing Ishupuritto, the Sarimu Clan paraded around the capital with the head on a pike. Thus, sparking the fiery vengeance of Geon no Nagie, the vassal of Ishupuritto. He tried to take the blame for the crime to pardon his master, to no avail as the Sarimu clan wanted one person’s head: the head of the next Nagie clan leader (2).

After Geon no Nagie enters the Sarimu Manor, his domineering stature attracts the attention of Tanuyiya. Tanuyiya was on night patrol, protecting their master. After the incident, the Sarimu Manor had been on high alert, as this incident sparked outrage from other clans. Even though the Sarimu clan is one the largest clans in the northern prefectures, they feared for the worst, as if the other clans banded together, they would be taken down. As Tanuyiya eyed Geon, they both drew their blades. If one was to die, it was to die for the honour of their lord and clan (2). Tanuyiya is known as the toe goblin, as any opponent they fought, they would cut off the big toe as a memento. As their blades clashed, their blades echoed their resolve to honour their lord. One was trying to cut down the clan that dishonoured his clan, his honour, his lord while the other was trying to protect their lord (2)(1). The Toe Goblin stepped up and cut off Geon no Nagie’s left hand, which did not deter him and Geon no Nagie thrust his katana into Tanuyiya. Tanuyiya fell to the ground. With blood dripping from his arm, Geon proceeded to slice off the toe of Tanuyiya, making the Toe Goblin toeless.

After slewing Tanuyiya and wrapping the remnants of his left arm, Geon no Nagie jumped into the manor, slewing any of the passing maids and servants of the house on sight. Blood spewed in all directions as Geon sprinted down the halls, looking for the clan leader. Upon finding his room, Geon stepped in and sliced Ken no Sarimu down. Upon doing so, he leapt out as he burned the Sarimu manor down.

1. In the era, avenging and being devoted to one’s lord is paramount for these samurai. This can be attributed to bushido, which is the way of the samurai. This can include avenging one’s lord and fighting to the death rather than getting killed dishonorably. (Varley, 268)
2. Self-sacrifice for one’s lord. (Varley, 268)
3. Exaggerated strength or superhuman abilities such as Tametomo being born over 7 feet and his warrior prowess at a young age (Varley, 269)
4. A lot of the vignettes contain a lot of bloodshed and battles, which I referenced (Varley, 274).
5. The title was a reference to: “The Night Attack on the Shirakawa Palace” (Varley, 272).

Note: I referenced a lot from 47 Ronin because I already knew of the story. However, the plot differs in a few ways such as the clans involved and the reason for the master’s death.

Works Cited

Varley. *The Way of the Warrior.*