

Mode: Differences

File:

1		<>	1	nan
6		<>	6	nan
7			7	nan
8			8	nan
9			9	nan
17		<>	17	nan
18			18	nan
19			19	nan
21	The eldest son of the royal family, » Clotho Kuronomiya, was instructed by » his parents at the age of ten to » propose to the first princess of » Hinoo, Isaiah Shiranomiya. He was » told, "I don't love you, but I need » to marry you to become a king". » Consequently, he was stripped of his » royal status and sought refuge in the » United States of Gameria.	<>	21	The eldest son of the royal family, » Clotho Kurono, was instructed by his » parents at the age of ten to propose » to the first princess of Hinoo, » Isaiah Shiranomiya. He openly told » her that this marriage would not be » one of love, but ambition. » Consequently, he was stripped of his » royal status and sought refuge in the » United States of Gameria.
22	In Gameria, Clotho exhibited his » talents and became prosperous as an » investor. However, he fell from grace » due to the betrayal of his close » friend, Kyle McVille. Enraged by » Kyle's declaration to become the » president of the United States of » Gameria with the intention of » claiming Isaiah as his own, Clotho » returned to Hinoo and enlisted as a » military officer. He was reunited » with Isaiah, who was now the captain » of the heavy cruiser "Ibuki".		22	In Gameria, Clotho exhibited his » talents and became prosperous as an » investor. However, he fell from grace » due to the betrayal of his close » friend, Kyle McVille. Enraged by » Kyle's declaration to become the » president of the United States of » Gameria with the intention of » claiming Isaiah as his own, Clotho » returned to Hinoo and enlisted as a » military officer. He was reunited » with Isaiah, who was now the captain » of the heavy cruiser Ibuki.
23	Hinoo, having decided to wage war » against Gameria, initiated the » decisive battle of flying » battleships, known as "The Naval Air » Battle of Manila Bay", at the start » of the war. Despite being in a » precarious situation where their » battleship fleet was obliterated, » they managed to secure a narrow » victory thanks to the efforts of the » "Ibuki". Consequently, Isaiah, who » was a national icon, gained even more » popularity and was appointed as the		23	Hinoo, having decided to wage war » against Gameria, initiated the » decisive battle of flying » battleships, known as "The Naval Air » Battle of Manila Bay", at the start » of the war. Despite being in a » precarious situation where their » battleship fleet was obliterated, » they managed to secure a narrow » victory thanks to the efforts of the » Ibuki. Consequently, Isaiah, who was » a national icon, gained even more » popularity and was appointed as the

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	» commander in charge of the "Second » Aerial Cruiser Fleet".		» commander in charge of the "Second » Aerial Cruiser Fleet".
24	At present, the Allied fleet, having » seized The Philippines, is aiming to » push further south, facing off » against the Far East Fleet of the » Ringland Empire, anchored at the » fortress of Singapore. The military » of Hinoo is strategizing the "Marie » Peninsula Invasion Operation". The » plan is to expel the Ringland Army » from East Asia with the support of » the Navy...	24	At present, the Allied fleet, having » seized The Philiphines, was aiming to » push further south, facing off » against the Far East Fleet of the » Ringland Empire, anchored at the » fortress of Singapore. The military » of Hinoo is strategizing the "Marie » Peninsula Invasion Operation". The » plan is to expel the Ringland Army » from East Asia with the support of » the Navy...
33	"She's so petite!!" "Indeed, incredibly » petite!" "As expected of the princess » , Tensho Plain is green with envy! "	<>	33 "She's so petite!" "Indeed, incredibly » petite!" "And so pale—that's our » princess! "
34	With their arms draped over each » other's shoulders and pinching each » other's cheeks, the less than » appealing men in swim trunks focused » their eager eyes on a spot three » thousand meters away.		34 With their arms draped over each » other's shoulders and pinching each » other's cheeks, the less than » appealing men in swim trunks focused » their eager eyes on a spot three » thousand yards away.
35	This scene was near Manila, The Philipp » ines.		35 The beach was near Manila, The Philiphi » nes.
36	Against the backdrop of a deep blue » sky, at the end of the gently curving » coastline stretching southwards, an » area of sandy beach the size of a » pinky fingernail blurred in the » distance. Princess Isaiah » Shiranomiya, Princess Rio Kazenomiya, » and their guardian, Mew Togakushi, » were currently frolicking in » swimsuits at the women's beach, which » was more than three thousand meters » away in a straight line from the » public beach where the men were. With » normal vision, it was almost » impossible to make out any human » figures.		36 Against the backdrop of a deep blue » sky, at the end of the gently curving » coastline stretching southwards, an » area of sandy beach the size of a » pinky fingernail blurred in the » distance. Princess Isaiah » Shiranomiya, Princess Rio Kazenomiya, » and their guardian, Mew Togakushi, » were currently frolicking in » swimsuits at the women's beach, which » was more than three thousand yards » away in a straight line from the » public beach where the men were. With » normal vision, it was almost » impossible to make out any human » figures.
37	However, the abilities of the Hinoo » Navy and Air Force lookouts, who had » achieved a state of deep » concentration, could even measure the » dimensions of the human figures' » details with the naked eye.		37 However, the abilities of the Hinoo » Navy and Air Force lookouts, who had » achieved a state of deep » concentration, could even measure the » dimensions of a human figure with the » naked eye.
38	"Nothing is confirmed yet!! Don't let » personal desires influence the figure » s, we must strive for accuracy, next! » !"		38 "Nothing is confirmed yet! Don't let » personal desires influence the result » s, we must strive for accuracy, next! » "
40	The distance from Shinjuku to Shibuya » is three thousand meters , and from th » is distance, people would appear as	<>	40 The beaches were three thousand yards a » part , from which distance people » would appear as small as pepper

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	» small as pepper grains. However, » their vision, sharpened by the » constant task of scanning the night » sky for foreign objects ten thousand » meters away, was so keen they could e » ven discern the irregularities on the » surface of a pepper grain.			» grains to an untrained eye. However, » their vision, sharpened by the » constant task of scanning the night » sky for foreign objects ten thousand » yards away, was so keen they could » not only see, but even discern any » irregularities on the surface of a » pepper grain.
41	"Her Highness, Kazenomiya's » measurements are ninety-eight, » fifty-six, eighty-eight!!"	41		"Her Highness, Kazenomiya's » measurements are ninety-eight, » fifty-six, eighty-eight!"
44	"Her Highness, Shiranomiya's » measurements are seventy, fifty-two, » eighty-five!!"	<>	44	"Her Highness, Shiranomiya's » measurements are seventy, fifty-two, » eighty-five!"
45	The crowd of over a hundred men in » swimsuits was once again agitated. » The stark contrast between Rio and » Isaiah was clear, even from three » thousand meters away. However, this » only highlighted the ephemeral and » poignant beauty of Isaiah's presence, » giving rise to an unconventional » appreciation that "small is better" a » nd "the smaller, the better".		45	The crowd of over a hundred men in » swimsuits was once again agitated. » The stark contrast between Rio and » Isaiah was clear, even from three » thousand yards away. However, this » only highlighted the ephemeral and » poignant beauty of Isaiah's presence, » giving rise to an unconventional » appreciation in some of the crew that » smaller was better.
48	"Exactly, there's no way the princess » is seventy! Don't let your fantasies » inflate the numbers! She absolutely » has to be in the sixties!", "No, we » can't rule out the possibility that » she's even smaller!!"	<>	48	"Exactly, there's no way the princess » is seventy! Don't let your fantasies » inflate the numbers! She absolutely » has to be in the sixties!", "No, we » can't rule out the possibility that » she's actually even smaller!"
49	If Isaiah had been there, she would » have drawn her sword and charged at » them amidst their heated argument. » However, the men continued to » estimate the distance to the women's » beach on the other side, without any » sign of boredom.		49	If Isaiah had been there, she would » have drawn her weapon and charged at » them amidst their heated argument. » However, the men continued to » estimate what they could see at the » women's beach on the other side, » without any sign of boredom.
52	In terms of size, it was simply not » enough.	<>	52	Looking from this far away was simply » not enough.
53	"What about... snapping a picture?"		53	"What about... Snapping a picture?"
55	"If we could get near the women's » officer beach, there might be a » chance to snap some shots."	<>	55	"If we could get near the women's » beach, there might be a chance to » snap some shots."
56	"But Lieutenant Togakushi is guarding » the beach. Against that formidable » woman, close-up shots are » impossible..."		56	"But Lieutenant Togakushi is guarding » the beach. Against such a formidable » woman, getting close-up shots would b » e impossible..."
59	The soldiers who had lived with Mew » aboard the destroyer "Ibuki" knew all » too well how terrifying her perceptio » n ability was. She hailed from the » Togakushi family, who had been	<>	59	The soldiers who had lived with Mew » aboard the destroyer Ibuki knew all » too well how terrifying her perceptiv » e abilities were. She hailed from the » Togakushi family, who had been

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	» protectors of the royal family for » generations. She would suddenly » appear behind any sailor who ventured » too close to the princess, asking » "What do you need?", step on a » sailor's head if he pretended to fall » to touch her, and even took down » Onitsuka, who tried to peek into the » bath, by wrestling him naked from » behind.		» protectors of the royal family for » generations. She would suddenly » appear behind any sailor who ventured » too close to the princess, asking » "What do you need?", step on a » sailor's head if he pretended to fall » to touch her, and even took down » Onitsuka, who tried to peek into the » bath, by wrestling him naked from » behind.
62	"...He's here..."	<>	62 "...Yes there is!"
64	Standing alone in the scene was-	<>	64 There he was, alone.
65	A young boy lounging on a hammock with » a coconut in one hand and a straw in » his mouth, concealed behind » sunglasses.	<>	65 A young man lounging on a hammock with » a coconut in one hand and a straw in » his mouth, eyes concealed by his » sunglasses.
68	If anyone could do it – perhaps, it » would be him.	<>	68 If anyone could do it–perhaps, it would » be him.
76	The boy remained still, unmoved. » Despite being surrounded by a large » number of half-naked men, his » expression did not change. He kept » his sunglasses on, idly swinging a » coconut in his hand as if it were a » wine glass.	<>	76 The boy remained still, unmoved. » Despite being surrounded by a large » number of half-naked men, his » expression did not change. He kept » his sunglasses on, idly swaying a » coconut in his hand as if it were a » wine glass.
78	"Lord Kuronomiya, if you would please."	<>	78 "Lord Kurono, if you would please."
80	His sharp, rebellious ice-blue eyes cut » through the relaxed tropical air, » reflecting Onitsuka.	<>	80 His sharp, rebellious ice-blue eyes cut » through the relaxed tropical air, » reflecting Onitsuka's face back at » him.
81	The boy, Clotho Kuronomiya, who » reminded them of a worn-out crystal, » spoke in a calm voice.	<>	81 The boy, Clotho Kurono, who reminded » them of a worn-out crystal, spoke in » a calm voice.
82	"No need to say it all. I'll guess what » you're here for."	<>	82 "No need to tell me. I'll guess what » you're here for."
89	"So, you're worried about the » prediction I made the other day? The » idea that the dispatch of a flying » battleship from Gamera's Grand Ocean » Fleet to join the Grand Duke's fleet » could be a game-changer. Are you » unable to fully enjoy your vacation » due to the fear of confronting a new » flying battleship?"	<>	89 "So, you're worried about the » prediction I made the other day? The » idea that the dispatch of a flying » battleship from Gamera's Grand Ocean » Fleet to join the Grand Duchy Fleet » could be a game-changer. Are you » unable to fully enjoy your vacation » due to the fear of confronting a new » flying battleship?"
95	Immediately after being denied, Clotho » clicked his tongue in irritation and » fell silent to think again. Onitsuka » was growing impatient with Clotho's » continued speculation.	<>	95 Immediately after his guess was denied, » Clotho clicked his tongue in » irritation and fell silent to think » again. Onitsuka was growing impatient » with Clotho's continued speculation.
96	"May I speak my mind?"	<>	96 "May I just tell you?"
101	Hibiki clicked his heels together,	<>	101 Onitsuka clicked his heels together,

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	» puffed out his chest, and conveyed » his request with confidence.		» puffed out his chest, and conveyed » his request with confidence.
105	"Ha. If we got those, we'd have no » regrets left in this world."	<>	105 "Yep. If we got those, we'd have no » regrets left in this world."
107	"There's no way you're getting those!!"	<>	107 "There's no way I'm getting you those!"
108	"No, I didn't say you should try to get » them,"		108 "I didn't even actually ask you to get » them."
109	"Your obscene thoughts are beyond » comprehension! Amidst the greatest » battle in our empire's history, on » which our survival hinges, you » frontline soldiers want swimsuit » photos of those two ?!"		109 "Your obscene thoughts are beyond » comprehension! Amidst the greatest » battle in our empire's history, on » which our survival hinges, you » frontline soldiers want swimsuit » photos of that boring pair ?!"
110	"What do you mean by ' those two '!?"		110 "What do you mean by ' boring '!?"
111	The incensed sailor raised his voice » unintentionally, only to be » restrained by Hibiki . Yet, the other » soldiers, offended by Clotho's words, » also involuntarily raised their » voices.		111 An incensed sailor had raised his voice » unintentionally, only to be » restrained by Onitsuka . Yet, the » other soldiers, offended by Clotho's » words, also involuntarily raised » their voices.
112	"Just because they're childhood » friends, does that justify talking » about them like that!? If the » princess and your highness are » boring, then who in the world is » interesting?!"		112 "Just because you're childhood friends, » that doesn't mean you get to talk » about them like that! If the princess » es are boring, then who in the world » is interesting?!"
113	"Please swap places with me! No » offense, but do you even comprehend » how fortunate you are!? If I were » childhood friends with Rio, by now we » would've certainly done this and that » !!"		113 "Please swap places with me! No » offense, but do you even comprehend » how fortunate you are!? If I were » childhood friends with Rio, by now we » would've certainly done all kinds of » things !"
114	"If I were childhood friends with » Princess Isaiah, we could've done thi » s and that !!"		114 "If I were childhood friends with » Princess Isaiah, we could've done thi » ngs as well !"
115	The thrilled sailors swarmed around » Clotho, gesturing wildly.		115 The overexcited sailors swarmed around » Clotho, gesturing wildly.
117	"...Settle down and listen closely. Let » me assure you, as someone who has » frolicked by the river with those two » since our childhood, they're not as » exciting as you think. One of them » just lets her chubby, raccoon-like » body sway in the wind, while the » other is no different from any of » you. Instead of risking your lives to » snap pictures of them, you should be » taking pictures of me. From a » biological rarity standpoint, I'm » worth dozens of times more than they » are."	<>	117 "Settle down and listen closely. Let me » assure you, as someone who has » frolicked by the river with those two » since our childhood, they're not as » exciting as you think. One of them » just lets her chubby, raccoon-like » body sway in the wind, while the » other is built no different from any » of you. Instead of risking your lives » to snap pictures of them, you should » be taking pictures of me. From a » biological rarity standpoint, I'm » worth dozens of times more than they » are."
118	"What on earth are you saying, sir!? » Have you lost your senses!? Do you		118 "What on earth are you saying, sir!? » Have you lost your senses!? Do you

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	» honestly think that we would enjoy » snapping pictures of you?!"		» honestly think that we would enjoy » snapping pictures of you?"
121	»...Right now, three thousand meters » away, the princess and the royal heir » are enjoying themselves in their » swimsuits. This is a » once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for » us. If we could secure even a single » photo, we would all pledge our » lifelong loyalty to you, Lord Kuronom » iya. "	<>	121 "...Right now, three thousand yards » away, the princesses are enjoying » themselves in their swimsuits. This » is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity » for us. If we could secure even a » single photo, we would all pledge our » lifelong loyalty to you, Lord Kurono. » "
124	Such utter fools.	<>	—Such utter fools.
125	Yet...		However...
126	It wouldn't be a bad idea to have them » on my side.	<>	—It wouldn't be a bad idea to have » them on my side.
127	In the military, where real battle » experience is more valuable than » hundreds of training sessions, these » fools, who survived the intense naval » and aerial battle of Manila two » months ago , possess top-level combat » skills worldwide . They might have » brains clouded by lust, but there is » no doubt about their usefulness in » battle.	<>	In the military, where real battle » experience is more valuable than » hundreds of training sessions, these » fools, who survived the intense naval » and aerial battle of Manila two » months prior , possessed world-class » combat skills. Their brains might be » clouded by lust, but there was no » doubt about their usefulness in » battle.
128	Perhaps it wouldn't be such a bad idea » to seize this chance and bring these » fools under my control...	<>	—Perhaps it wouldn't be such a bad » idea to seize this chance and bring » these fools under my control...
129	Completing this calculation in his mind » in less than a second , Clotho » leisurely rose from the hammock. » Clutching a coconut in his right » hand, he shot a stern gaze at Hibiki » and the sailors.	<>	Quickly completing this calculation in » his mind, Clotho leisurely rose from » the hammock. Clutching a coconut in » his right hand, he shot a stern gaze » at Hibiki and the sailors.
131	He stated solemnly, then took a sip » from his straw.	<>	He asked solemnly, then took a sip from » his straw.
132	After a quick glance back at the » sailors behind him, Onitsuka heavily » nodded and faced Clotho again.	<>	After a quick glance back at the » sailors behind him, Onitsuka shook » his head and faced Clotho again.
133	" Yes , sir. If we can obtain a swimsuit » photo of both their Highnesses, we'd » gladly give our lives for your cause, » Lord Kuronomiya."	<>	" No , sir. If we can obtain a swimsuit » photo of both their Highnesses, we'd » gladly give our lives for your cause, » Lord Kurono."
135	Clotho drained his coconut drink, » swirled the shell in his hand like a » wine glass, and then declared » nonchalantly.	<>	Clotho drained his coconut drink, » swirled the shell in his hand like a » wine glass, and then declared » nonchalantly,
138	Certainly, Clotho had his flaws, but » the sailors who had fought alongside » him in the Battle of Manila Bay on » the "Ibuki" knew him to be a genius » tactician. If Clotho devised a	<>	Certainly, Clotho had his flaws, but » the sailors who had fought alongside » him in the Battle of Manila Bay on » the Ibuki knew him to be a genius » tactician. If Clotho devised a

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	» strategy, even the most impossible » mission would start to seem feasible. 139 Clotho gazed at the women's beach, hazy » in the distance three thousand meters » away, and said,		139	» strategy, even the most impossible » mission would start to seem feasible. Clotho gazed at the women's beach, hazy » in the distance three thousand yards » away, and said,
142	With a primitive forest to the rear and » a stream flowing down from the » mountain to the left, there were no » obstructions in the line of sight » between the main beach and the female » officers' beach. If they had Mew's » vision, their movements would be » completely exposed.	<>	142	With a primitive forest to the rear and » a stream flowing down from the » mountain to the left, there were no » obstructions in the line of sight » between the main beach and the female » officers' beach. against Mew's » vision, their movements would be » completely exposed.
143	Clotho, scowling at the map, evaluated » the remaining time .		143	Clotho, scowling at the map, evaluated » the situation .
144	"They plan to set up camp on that beach » tonight. They'll likely be in » swimsuits until sunset. We have about » two or three hours left. ...How many » cameras do we have?"		144	"They plan to set up camp on that beach » tonight. They'll likely be in » swimsuits until sunset. We have about » two or three hours left. How many » cameras do we have?"
147	"I spent half my salary last night in » town to buy this, knowing the prince » and princess would be in swimsuits!"	<>	147	"I spent half my salary last night in » town to buy this, knowing the princes » ses would be in swimsuits!"
148	"...I see. No telephoto lens, then? "		148	"...I see. No telephoto lens, though? "
149	" Yes, sir! It was out of my budget! But » if I make it through another year, » I'll buy one!"		149	"It was out of my budget! But if I make » it through another year, I'll buy » one!"
150	"I don't understand. ...Is it worth all » this effort just to see them in » swimsuits?"		150	"I don't understand. Is it worth all » this effort just to see them in » swimsuits?"
151	"It's more than worth it! If I can » capture the prince and princess in » their swimsuits, I wouldn't have any » regrets left in this world. I could » die at any instant without a hint » of..."		151	"It's more than worth it! If I could » just capture one image of the » princesses in their swimsuits, I » wouldn't have any regrets left in » this world. I could die at any moment » without a hint of..."
152	Unable to contain the surge of » passionate emotions within him, Hayao » broke down into tears right then and » there.		152	Unable to contain the surge of » passionate emotions within him, » Yamada broke down into tears right » then and there.
154	"...Yes! Thank you! I will, I will... I'll » make sure to capture the prince and » princess in their swimsuits, no » matter what it takes!"	<>	154	"...Yes! Thank you! I will, I will... I'll » make sure to capture the princesses » in their swimsuits, no matter what it » takes!"
155	As a tear and snot-soaked Hayao » mustered his voice, the soldiers all » responded in unison with their usual » battle cries, "Uwoh!" "Prince!" "Prin » cess!"		155	As a tear and snot-soaked Yamada » mustered his voice, the soldiers all » responded in unison with their usual » battle cries, "Yeah!" "Your » Highnesses!" " princesses! "
158	"Um, Lord Kuronomiya, I've recently » made some local friends. Their » village isn't far from here. If you'd » like, we could seek their help."	<>	158	"Um, Lord Kurono, I've recently made » some local friends. Their village » isn't far from here. If you'd like, » we could seek their help."

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159	Heisuke had become a devoted follower » of Clotho, serving him with utmost » dedication, ever since he had sunk an » enemy battleship by adjusting the » sonar according to Clotho's » instructions in the prior Manila air » and sea battle . He was like a loyal » retainer to Clotho.	<>	159	Heisuke had become a devoted follower » of Clotho, serving him with utmost » dedication, ever since he had sunk an » enemy airship by adjusting the sonar » according to Clotho's instructions in » the prior Battle of Manila . He was » like a loyal retainer to Clotho.
167	Upon hearing his declaration, everyone » responded while standing at » attention.	<>	167	Upon hearing his declaration, everyone » responded, standing at attention.
168	"We're all ready to act as your hands » and feet, Lord Kuronomiya!"		168	"We're ready to act as your hands and » feet, Lord Kurono!"
174	"But, my lord, the princess and the » prince are already on the beach. » There's neither a place to hide nor » time to do so on the open beach..."	<>	174	"But, my lord, the princesses are on » the beach. There's neither a place to » hide nor time to do so on the open » beach..."
180	"Lord Kuronomiya's strategy is » impeccable! We are merely to execute » his orders! Let's get moving, lads. » First , we must catch an » extraordinarily large lobster, gooo! ! » "	<>	180	"Lord Kurono's strategy is impeccable! » We are merely to execute his orders! » Let's get moving, lads. Time to catch » an extraordinarily large lobster, go! » "
181	Immediately, a battle cry erupted, with » the men diving into the sea with a » resolve akin to that shown in battle, » their eyes aflame with the desire to » capture a large lobster.	<>	181	Immediately, a battle cry erupted, with » the men diving into the sea with a » resolve akin to that shown in battle, » their eyes aflame with the desire to » capture a lobster.
185	Rio Kazenomiya, who was lying face down » on the beach, casually confirmed the » goosebumps on Isaiah's arm and spoke » in her usual nonchalant tone,	<>	185	Rio Kazenomiya, who was lying face down » on the beach, noticed the goosebumps » on Isaiah's arm and spoke in her » usual nonchalant tone,
190	All that lay before them was the blue » sky, the tranquil afternoon sea, the » white sandy beach, and the virgin » forest in the background. It was a » serene South Sea view that seemed to » cast the notion of "war" far away.	<>	190	All that lay before them was the blue » sky, the tranquil afternoon sea, the » white sandy beach, and the virgin » forest in the background. It was a » serene South Sea view that seemed to » cast the notion of war far away.
192	At the moment, the crew of the " Ibuki " » were frolicking in the water there. » From such a distance, they wouldn't » be able to discern the details of » this side with the naked eye, and it » was unlikely the sailors possessed » expensive items like binoculars. » There seemed to be no cause for » alarm, yet an unsettling premonition » lingered.	<>	192	At the moment, the crew of the Ibuki » were frolicking in the water there. » From such a distance, they would not » be able to discern the details of » this side with the naked eye, and it » was unlikely the sailors possessed » expensive items like binoculars. » There seemed to be no cause for » alarm, yet an unsettling premonition » lingered.
195	This is the first time I've dared to » wear such a daring swimsuit. I was » hesitant at first when Rio suggested » it to me , but she assured me it would	<>	195	This is the first time she had dared to » wear such a daring swimsuit. She was » hesitant at first when Rio suggested » it, but she had assured her it would

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	» be fine since we're on the beach » designated for female officers, and I » finally relented. When I first dove » into the waves in this outfit, I was » scared because the top felt like it » was about to slip off.		» be fine since they were on a beach » designated for female officers, and » Isaiah finally relented. When she » first dove into the waves in this » outfit, she was scared because the » top felt like it was about to slip » off.
197	Isaiah cast a glance at the general » beach slowly fading into the distance » before calling out to a figure » standing alone in a slightly remote » location.	<>	197 Isaiah cast a glance at the other beach » slowly fading into the distance » before calling out to a figure » standing alone in a slightly remote » location.
200	...On the general beach, Major Kuronom » iya is delivering a speech to the » troops."	<>	200 "...On the general beach, Major Kurono » is delivering a speech to the » troops."
203	"Yes. More than a hundred sailors are » gathered around Major Kuronomiya, » their eyes trained on the sandy » beach. It appears something is being » sketched in the sand, but the » specifics are unclear."	<>	203 "Yes. More than a hundred sailors are » gathered around Major Kurono, their » eyes trained on the sandy beach. It » appears something is being sketched » in the sand, but the specifics are » unclear."
204	Mew relayed the situation on the » general beach to Isaiah. Isaiah also » attempted to look in the same » direction. She could vaguely see the » figures, but didn't have the » extraordinary vision necessary to » discern such minute details.	<>	204 Mew relayed the situation on the » general beach to Isaiah. Isaiah also » attempted to look in the same » direction. She could vaguely see the » figures, but did not have the » extraordinary vision necessary to » discern such minute details.
205	"We're simply deciding what to prepare » for dinner."	<>	205 "They're just deciding what to prepare » for dinner."
206	Rio mentioned casually, while still » lying on her stomach.	<>	206 Rio casually dismissed their concerns, » still lying on her stomach.
209	After letting out some sort of war cry, » all the crew members dove into the » sea. They appeared to be diving for » lobster.	<>	209 "After letting out some sort of war » cry, all the crew members just dove » into the sea. They appear to be » diving for lobster."
211	...are they planning something?"	<>	211 "...Are they up to something?"
214	Mew couldn't discern the details of » their plan. They wouldn't harm Isaiah » and Rio, but it wasn't possible to » completely rule out a sinister plot. » Mew continued to watch their » movements from three thousand meters » away without letting her guard » down...	<>	214 Mew could not discern the details of » their plan. They would not harm » Isaiah and Rio, but it was not » possible to completely rule out a » sinister plot. Mew continued to watch » their movements from three thousand » yards away without letting her guard » down...
217	A light sleep was disturbed by such a » voice coming from somewhere.	<>	217 Isaiah's light sleep was disturbed by » such a voice coming from somewhere.
220	Before I knew it, a small wooden boat, » used by the locals for diving, was » bobbing in the waves.	<>	220 Before she knew it, a small wooden » boat, used by the locals for diving, » was bobbing in the waves.
223	From about thirty meters offshore,	<>	223 From about thirty yards offshore,

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	» Clotho was loudly calling out to » Isaiah and Rio in a theatrical » manner.		» Clotho was loudly calling out to » Isaiah and Rio in a theatrical » manner.
226	"Don't come over here!!"	<>	226 "Don't come over here!"
228	Yet, Clotho, sporting a devious smile, » was blatantly asking for an » invitation onto the women's beach.	<>	228 Clotho, sporting a devious smile, was » blatantly asking for an invitation » onto the women's beach.
229	"What are you up to?! Don't come over! » Don't look!"		229 "What are you up to?! Don't come over! » Don't look!"
235	"Wow, it's huge! Sure, let's eat it » together."	<>	235 "Wow, it's huge! Sure, let's cook it up » ."
243	"Don't tell me you're embarrassed » because you're in a swimsuit? It's ok » ay, Clo. We used to play in the river » naked when we were kids."	<>	243 "Don't tell me you're embarrassed » because you're in a swimsuit? It's on » ly Clotho. We used to play in the » river naked when we were kids."
245	"It's fine. You haven't changed much » since then. Come on, Clo, let's all » join in the fun~"	<>	245 "It's fine. You haven't changed much » since then. Come on, Clo, let's all » join in the fun."
256	"What's with that smirk?! What are you » plotting?!"	<>	256 "What's with that smirk? What are you » plotting?!"
259	"Are you serious?! You look like » nothing less than a malevolent » spirit!"	<>	259 "Are you serious? You look like nothing » less than a malevolent spirit!"
270	Spinning this unexpected line, he » allowed Rio to guide him by the hand, » plunging into the incoming waves.	<>	270 Spinning his web of lies, he allowed » Rio to guide him by the hand, » plunging into the incoming waves.
271	"It's been ages since I last played » with Clotho-chan."		271 "It's been ages since I last played » with you, Clotho."
275	"Look, a big wave! Let's go, Clotho-cha » n!"	<>	275 "Look, a big wave! Let's go, Clotho!"
280	"Hah!"	<>	280 "Aah!"
290	"Eh? Oh, no!"	<>	290 "Huh? Oh, no!"
294	"Looks like raccoon balls."	<>	294 "Looks like a tanuki's balls."
295	"Eh, what does 'balls' mean?!"		295 "Huh, what d'you mean by that?"
300	Laughing freely, Rio quickly regained » her spirits and began to frolic with » the waves. If the sailors had been » present, they would have been crying » out, "Switch with me!" "What kind of » reaction is that?!" "Are you even a » living creature?!" as they throttled » Clotho. However, Clotho, utterly » imperturbable, instantly forgot » everything he had witnessed and began » to swim elegantly on the sea's » surface.	<>	300 Laughing freely, Rio quickly regained » her spirits and began to frolic with » the waves. If the sailors had been » present, they would have been crying » out, "Switch with me!" "What kind of » reaction is that?!" "Are you even a » living creature?!" as they throttled » Clotho. However, Clotho, utterly » imperturbable, instantly forgot » everything he had witnessed and began » to swim elegantly on the sea's » surface.
303	Our first phase of the operation was a » success. They fell for our ruse quite » easily.	<>	303 —Phase one of the operation was a » success. They fell for our ruse quite » easily.
304	Things are looking promising. Proceed		304 —Things are looking promising. Proceed

File: (continued)

	» with the second phase of the » operation, Onitsuka!			» with the second phase of the » operation, Onitsuka!
306	The fire's ready. It's time to grill » the lobster!	<>	306	"The fire's ready. It's time to grill » the lobster!"
308	Hm? It seems we have some company.	<>	308	"Hm? It seems we have some company."
309	Without warning, Clotho gestured » towards the primeval forest behind » them.		309	Clotho gestured towards the primeval » forest behind them.
310	About fifty meters away, a group of » local people emerged onto the beach, » each carrying large baskets filled » with vibrant vegetables, fruits, and » seafood, their faces beaming with » cheerful smiles.		310	About fifty yards away, a group of » local people emerged onto the beach, » each carrying large baskets filled » with vibrant vegetables, fruits, and » seafood, their faces beaming with » cheerful smiles.
311	Huh?		311	"Huh?"
312	Oh, so the locals are allowed here.		312	"Oh, so the locals are allowed here."
315	Just as Mew was about to step forward.	<>	315	Just as Mew was about to step forward,
325	From a distance of about fifty meters , » Clotho watched Mew negotiate with the » locals, his features slipping into a » grim smile.	<>	325	From a distance of about fifty yards , » Clotho watched Mew negotiate with the » locals, his features slipping into a » grim smile.
326	"You've walked right into my trap, » beast."		326	—You've walked right into my trap, » beast.
327	"I've got you now."		327	—I've got you now.
330	The two groups of locals that had » appeared from behind us were serving » as a distraction for the monster.	<>	330	—The two groups of locals that had » appeared from behind us were serving » as a distraction for the monster.
331	I had given them something beforehand » and instructed them to stay put no » matter what they were told .		331	—I had given them something beforehand » and instructed them to stay firm no » matter what Mew said .
332	Unable to communicate with them and » unable to scare them away, the » monster was caught in a dilemma.		332	—Unable to communicate with them and » unable to scare them away, the » monster was caught in a dilemma.
333	Now, while the monster is distracted... » Go, Yamada!		333	—Now, while the monster is » distracted... Go, Yamada!
334	As I turned my gaze towards the small » boat, a loud bird-like cry echoed » from the depths of the primeval » forest.		334	As Clotho turned his gaze towards the » small boat, a loud bird-like cry » echoed from the depths of the » primeval forest.
337	Standing in a spot where I had a clear » view of the small boat, I called out » to her in an exaggerated manner,	<>	337	Standing in a spot where he had a clear » view of the small boat, Clotho called » out to her in an exaggerated manner,
338	"Rio, come here. There's an interesting » bird you can see from here."		338	"Rio, come here. You can see the bird » from here.."
348	With a smile that she believed to be » refreshing , yet terrifying , she » beckoned.	<>	348	With a terrifying smile that Clotho » believed looked sweet and innocent , » he beckoned.
349	"That's way too suspicious?!"		349	"That's way too suspicious!"
350	Having observed a series of movements, » Isaiah bared her teeth and yelled.		350	Having observed the series of » movements, Isaiah bared her teeth and » yelled.

File: (continued)

352	"Eh? Why do you say that?"	<>	352	"Hmm? Why do you say that?"
353	"I'm not doing anything suspicious. » Isaiah, you should take off your bath » towel and come over here~"		353	"I'm not doing anything suspicious. » Isaiah, you should take off your bath » towel and come over here!"
355	"Who do you think you're fooling?! » There's no way you'd say something » like that!!"	<>	355	"Who do you think you're fooling? You » never act like this"
370	"Finally, you've arrived."	<>	370	"Finally, you came."
371	At last, seeing Rio and Isaiah standing » together in their swimsuits, I heaved » a sigh of relief. I was certain that » Yamada was also capturing this scene » with his camera, tears streaming down » his face.		371	At last, seeing Rio and Isaiah standing » together in their swimsuits, Clotho » heaved a sigh of relief. He was » certain that Yamada was also » capturing this scene with his camera, » tears streaming down his face.
373	Ignoring Clotho's ulterior motives, » Isaiah asked Rio to do so.	<>	373	Ignoring Clotho's ulterior motives, » Isaiah addressed Rio.
378	Isaiah faced Rio, linked both her hands » with hers, and closed her eyes.	<>	378	Isaiah faced Rio, took her hand, and » closed her eyes.
379	Only Isaiah's viewpoint left her body » and soared into the blue sky.		379	Her viewpoint left her body and soared » into the blue sky.
380	It descended directly above a small » boat floating offshore, about ten » meters away from where Isaiah was.		380	It descended directly above a small » boat floating offshore, about ten yar » ds away from where Isaiah was.
382	"---What is this?!"	<>	382	"What is this?"
386	Beneath the waves, a pair of sailors » tread water out of sight from the » sandy beach, adjusting their boat to » always face Isaiah and Rio.	<>	386	Beneath the waves, a pair of sailors » were treading water out of sight from » the sandy beach, adjusting the boat » to always face Isaiah and Rio.
387	The gathering of locals was merely a » distraction for Mew. The real aim was » this small boat. Isaiah and the » others had been distracted by Clotho » and the locals, leaving them » oblivious to the seemingly abandoned » boat. If Isaiah hadn't detached her » viewpoint, the boat would have been » discreetly towed to the public beach » by the submerged sailors after the » photoshoot, and the stolen swimsuit » photos would have been circulated.		387	The gathering of locals was merely a » distraction for Mew. The real aim was » this small boat. Isaiah and the » others had been distracted by Clotho » and the locals, leaving them » oblivious to the seemingly abandoned » boat. If Isaiah had not detached her » viewpoint, the boat would have been » discreetly towed to the public beach » by the submerged sailors after the » photoshoot, and the stolen swimsuit » photos would have been circulated.
388	"Clotho, you're the worst...!!"		388	"Clotho, you're the worst..."
389	With her eyes still closed and turned » towards Rio, Isaiah directs her anger » at Clotho.		389	With her eyes still closed and turned » towards Rio, Isaiah directed her » anger at Clotho.
390	Clotho realizes his plan has failed.		390	Clotho realized his plan had failed.
391	He must flee, or his life will be at » risk.		391	He must flee, or his life would be at » risk.
392	As he attempts to make his escape, » Isaiah, who had returned her » viewpoint to her body, calls out to » Mew who was far away.		392	As he attempted to make his escape, » Isaiah, who had returned her » viewpoint to her body, called out to » Mew.
394	As soon as she shouts, Mew, who has	<>	394	As soon as she shouted, Mew, who had

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	» turned around, cuts through the waves » like the wind, boards the small boat, » snatches the camera from Private » Yamada who was trying to keep a low » profile, and orders the two surprised » sailors.		» turned around, cut through the waves » like the wind and boarded the small » boat. She snatched the camera from » Private Yamada who was trying to keep » a low profile, and ordered the two » surprised sailors.
396	The sailors, fully aware of Mew's » fearsome nature, acknowledge the » failure of their plan with despairing » expressions, but they obediently » climb into the small boat without » resistance.	<>	396 The sailors, fully aware of Mew's » fearsome nature, acknowledged the » failure of their plan with despairing » expressions, but they obediently » climbed into the small boat without » resistance.
407	"Exactly where was my acting poor?!"	<>	407 "Exactly which part of my acting was 'p » oor'?"
408	He defended himself over such a trivial » matter.		408 He felt the need to defend himself over » such a trivial matter.
410	"...Hmm. I didn't plan to argue... but » you should practice smiling in front » of a mirror. Although I can't » overlook this, it seems you were » influenced by the sailors. I'll keep » this quiet from the command » headquarters. However, after being » assigned to the Hiren, Clotho, you » are to clean all the ship's toilets. » The involved sailors will go without » snacks for a week starting tomorrow. » All films that Yamada took will be » confiscated. That's all."	<>	410 "...Hmm. I didn't plan to argue... but » you should practice smiling in front » of a mirror. Although I can't » overlook this, it seems you were » influenced by the sailors. I'll keep » this quiet from the command » headquarters. However, after being » assigned to the Hiren, Clotho, you » are to clean all the ship's toilets. » The involved sailors will go without » snacks for a week starting tomorrow. » All photos that Yamada took will be » confiscated. That's all."
412	"We appreciate your leniency! But... » but please, allow us to clarify » something on behalf of Lord Kuronomiy » a!"	<>	412 "We appreciate your leniency! But... » but please, allow us to clarify » something on behalf of Lord Kurono!"
414	"Lord Kuronomiya tried to stop us at » first! But we, out of our deep » respect and love for the prince and » princess, forcibly involved him...! » He reluctantly contributed to our » cause for our sake!"	<>	414 "Lord Kurono tried to stop us at first! » But we, out of our deep love for the » you, forcibly involved him...! He was » reluctant to contribute to our cause! » "
418	"Did you catch that, you idiot?! I'm » not the puppet master here. I only » concocted this scheme because these » guys pleaded until they cried! Unlike » you, I always take the sailors' » feelings into consideration!"	<>	418 "Did you catch that, you idiot? I'm not » the puppet master here. I only » concocted this scheme because these » guys pleaded until they cried! Unlike » you, I always take the sailors' » feelings into consideration!"
419	He sneered, tossing his head back in a » fit of laughter. Isaiah's countenance » darkened further, and she shared a » glance with Rio.		419 He sneered at her, tossing his head » back in a fit of laughter. Isaiah's » countenance darkened further, and she » shared a glance with Rio.
423	"Isaiah, you wouldn't mind just one » picture, would you?"	<>	423 "Isaiah, you'd be fine with just one » picture, wouldn't you?"

426	"Absolutely not!!"	<>	426	"Absolutely not!"
429	Despite her sympathetic smile toward » Isaiah,	<>	429	Despite Rio's sympathetic smile, Isaiah » was resolute.
430	"No way!! I will not!!"		430	"No way. I refuse!"
432	"But the sailors are working so hard » despite their struggles. They have » jobs where they don't know what will » happen tomorrow. If something like » this can cheer them up, I don't think » it's a big deal, you know..."	<>	432	"But the sailors are working so hard » despite their struggles. They have » dangerous jobs and they don't know » what will happen tomorrow. If » something like this can cheer them » up, I don't think it's a big deal, » you know..."
434	"Princess... could it be...?!"	<>	434	"Princess... could it be...?!"
436	"On one condition, though. You have to » discard all the secret photos. If the » re's just one, it's okay."	<>	436	"On one condition, though. You have to » discard all the secret photos. I'm fi » ne with just one."
438	"Ha...! As per the princess's » order...?!"	<>	438	"Yes! Anything you ask, princess."
439	Struck by Rio's kindness, he let out » his third sob of the day into the » sand.		439	struck by Rio's kindness, he sobbed int » o the sand for the third time that » day.
441	"Rio is an exceptional officer, willing » to sacrifice herself to boost her » subordinates' morale. In contrast, » you are so cold-hearted. You can't » even strip down a bit for the sake of » your subordinates who die because of » your decisions."	<>	441	"Rio is an exceptional officer, willing » to sacrifice herself to boost her » subordinates' morale. In contrast, » you are so cold-hearted. You can't » even strip down a bit for the sake of » your subordinates who're willing to » die because of your decisions."
444	"Are you like this? Don't you want to » encourage the sailors who live in » harsh battlefields? Is your pride » more important than the wishes of » more than a hundred sailors? » Trampling on the feelings of your » subordinates just to protect your » thin-skinned body... You're a truly » despicable woman."	<>	444	"Are you really that way? Don't you » want to encourage the sailors who » live in harsh battlefields? Is your » pride more important than the wishes » of more than a hundred sailors? » Trampling on the feelings of your » subordinates just to protect your » thin-skinned body... You're a truly » despicable woman."
455	"Haha! Thank you so much!!"	<>	455	"Yes! Thank you so much!"
457	Standing still, Rio carelessly formed a » peace sign with both her hands. Her » pose lacked any sex appeal, yet,	<>	457	Standing still, Rio carelessly formed a » peace sign with both her hands. Her » pose lacked any sex appeal, but Yamad » a was pleased.
458	"It's more than enough!!"		458	"It's more than enough!"
461	He managed to squeeze out this promise.	<>	461	He managed to squeeze out this promise » between sobs.
474	The state-of-the-art light cruiser, the » "Hiren," directed its bow towards the » Mariveles Fortress, continuing to » soar through the sky at an altitude » of 1,200 meters and a speed of 25 » knots.	<>	474	The state-of-the-art light cruiser, the » Hiren, directed its bow towards Fort » Mariveles, continuing to soar through » the sky at an altitude of 3900 feet » and a speed of 25 knots.
475	With a total length of 190 meters and a		475	With a total length of 620 feet and a

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	<p>» full load weight of 10,000 tons, it » was equipped with four 15 cm » triple-mounted main turrets and three » quadruple anti-aircraft torpedo » launchers. Despite its typical » armament for a cruiser, its unique » feature was the ship's bow section, » which boasted an old-fashioned "ram" » styled as a figurehead of a siren.</p>		<p>» full load weight of 10,000 tons, it » was equipped with four six-inch » triple-mounted main turrets and three » quadruple anti-aircraft torpedo » launchers. Despite its typical » armament for a cruiser, its unique » feature was the ship's bow section, » which boasted an old-fashioned ram » styled as a figurehead of a siren.</p>
477	<p>This "ram" was a product of the whimsy » of the genius shipbuilder Dr. Izuru » Yamaga, who had designed the heavy » torpedo destroyer "Ibuki." This was a » crystallization of the doctor's » obsession to execute a "ram attack" » -- a warfare tactic once used by » sailing and steam ships, where a » steel protrusion called a "ram" » located at the lower part of the bow » was slammed into the side of an enemy » vessel, sinking it with the inflowing » seawater -- in modern warships.</p>	<>	<p>This ram was a product of the whimsy of » the genius shipbuilder Dr. Izuru » Yamaga, who had designed the heavy » torpedo destroyer Ibuki. This was a » crystallization of the doctor's » obsession to execute a 'ram attack'—a » warfare tactic once used by sailing » and steam ships, where a steel » protrusion called a 'ram' located at » the lower part of the bow was slammed » into the side of an enemy vessel, » sinking it with the inflowing » seawater—in modern warships.</p>
478	<p>However, since there was no seawater in » the sky, ramming attacks by airships » provided little advantage compared to » the risk. Strictly speaking, this » tactic of the Hiren was not a ramming » attack, but a "lasso" to drag the » enemy ship along.</p>		<p>However, since there was no seawater in » the sky, ramming attacks by airships » provided little advantage compared to » the risk. Strictly speaking, this » tactic of the Hiren was not a ramming » attack, but a lasso to drag the enemy » ship along.</p>
479	<p>In battle, the Hiren would charge at » the enemy warship, colliding with its » side and deploying its "ram", hooking » its protrusion under the enemy's » upper deck. This caused the Hiren, » filled with all its bombs, to explode » while straddled on the enemy ship. » This unconventional warship, packed » to the hilt with the mad ideas of Dr. » Yamaga, should never have been built » under normal circumstances. However, » the then Navy Minister, for some » reason, praised it as "wonderful!" » and stamped his seal of approval, » leading to the creation of this » unprecedented "suicide ship designed » for ramming" that was now flying » above Rio and the others.</p>		<p>In battle, the Hiren would charge at » the enemy warship, colliding with its » side and deploying its ram, hooking » its protrusion under the enemy's » upper deck. This caused the Hiren, » filled with all its bombs, to explode » while straddled on the enemy ship. » This unconventional warship, packed » to the hilt with the mad ideas of Dr. » Yamaga, should never have been built » under normal circumstances. However, » the then Navy Minister, for some » reason, praised it as "wonderful!" » and stamped his seal of approval, » leading to the creation of this » unprecedented "suicide ship designed » for ramming" that was now flying » above Rio and the others.</p>
486	<p>"I might be a rookie captain, but let's » all work hard together."</p>	<>	<p>"I might be a rookie captain, but I'm » looking forward to doing some good » work with you all." "Yessir!"</p>
487	<p>"Ha ha!"</p>		<p>"Starting from tomorrow, Isaiah would » undertake a larger responsibility</p>
488			<p>"Starting from tomorrow, Isaiah would » undertake a larger responsibility</p>

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	<p>» than ever before as the commander of » the fleet of six airships. With the » 'Ibuki', her responsibility was merely » to the ship she was stationed on. » Now, she would be responsible for an » entire fleet. Essentially, this meant » that the fate of not only the onboard » soldiers, but also the nation, hinged » on her decisions. Similarly, as a » captain, Rio was responsible for the » lives of all the officers, » non-commissioned officers, and » sailors.</p>		<p>» than ever before as the commander of » the fleet of six airships. With the » 'Ibuki', her responsibility was merely » to the ship she was stationed on. » Now, she would be responsible for an » entire fleet. Essentially, this meant » that the fate of not only the onboard » soldiers, but also the nation, hinged » on her decisions. Similarly, as a » captain, Rio was responsible for the » lives of all the officers, » non-commissioned officers, and » sailors.</p>
492	<p>Military life was full of hardships, » irrationalities, and pain. Therefore, » at the very least, keeping their » spirits high, cheerful, and energetic » was crucial. Not just the 'Hiren', » but the personnel on other ships as » well, should never lose their smiles. » They should all unite and do their » best to face the impending day of » battle.</p>	<>	<p>Military life was full of hardships, » irrationalities, and pain. Therefore, » at the very least, keeping their » spirits high, cheerful, and energetic » was crucial. Not just the Hiren, but » the personnel on other ships as well, » should never lose their smiles. They » should all unite and do their best to » face the impending day of battle.</p>
493	Just like how the 'Ibuki' saved Hinoo » in the past.		493 Just like how the Ibuki saved Hinoo in » the past.
494	I hope that the six vessels of the » Second Aerial Fleet can become a » tight-knit family and someday make a » significant impact on the » battlefield.		494 She hoped that the six vessels of the » Second Aerial Fleet could become a » tight-knit family and someday make a » significant impact on the » battlefield.
497	Finally, the day I'd been eagerly » waiting for had arrived.	<>	497 Finally, the day he had been eagerly » waiting for had arrived.
498	The scene I'd dreamt of countless times » was becoming a reality today. I was » so nervous that my hands and feet » were trembling and my heartbeat was » deafening.		498 The scene he had dreamt of countless » times was becoming a reality today. » He was so nervous that his hands and » feet were trembling and his heartbeat » was deafening.
499	Calm down, me.		499 —Calm down, me.
500	Hayao Aiai, a member of the aerial » torpedo unit on the light aerial » cruiser, the Hiren, took a deep » breath of the air at an altitude of » 1,200 meters, trying to suppress his » racing pulse.		500 Hayao Aiai, a member of the aerial » torpedo unit on the light aerial » cruiser, the Hiren, took a deep » breath of the air at an altitude of » 3900 feet, trying to suppress his » racing pulse.
501	Compose yourself. Take this seriously, » very seriously.		501 —Compose yourself. Take this » seriously, very seriously.
505	After being assigned to the first squad » of the aerial torpedo unit, » undergoing rigorous training in » harbors and on the high seas, he had » left the Asokusa Senri base three » days prior. Now, in the skies above t » he Mariveles Fortress in the Philippin	<>	505 After being assigned to the first squad » of the aerial torpedo unit, » undergoing rigorous training in » harbors and on the high seas, he had » left the Asokusa Senri base three » days prior. Now, in the skies above » Fort Mariveles in the Philippines, he

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	» nes, he was finally about to meet the » two illustrious royal princesses.		» was finally about to meet the two » illustrious royal princesses.
506	I'm trying to stay calm, but my heart » just won't stop pounding.	506	He was trying to stay calm, but his » heart just would not stop pounding.
507	I'm about to meet the national idols, » Princess Isaiah and Princess Rio, who » I've only seen in newspapers and » magazines, up close and personal.	507	He was about to meet the national » idols, Princess Isaiah and Princess » Rio, who he had previously only seen » in newspapers and magazines, up close » and personal.
508	When we were told we'd be boarding the » "Hiren", all the new recruits, » including myself, let out triumphant » cheers, hugged each other, gave » thanks to our ancestors, and some » even broke down crying. To be on the » same battleship as Isaiah and Rio, » who are royal family members yet » fight on the front lines, is the » greatest privilege and highest honor » for any soldier in the combined » fleet.	508	When they were told they would be » boarding the Hiren, all the new » recruits, including Hayao, let out » triumphant cheers, hugged each other, » gave thanks to their ancestors, and » some even broke down crying. To be on » the same battleship as Isaiah and » Rio, who are royal family members yet » fight on the front lines, is the » greatest privilege and highest honor » for any soldier in the combined » fleet.
509	Feeling my palms dampen with sweat from » extreme nervousness, I wait for that » moment.	509	Feeling his palms dampen with sweat » from extreme nervousness, Hayao waits » for the moment to come.

513	"Good morning!!"	<>	513	"Good morning!"
516	"I am Lieutenant General Isaiah » Shiranomiya, commander of the Second » Air Raid Fleet! As of today, I will » be living on this ship alongside all » of you! I'm looking forward to » working together!"	<>	516	"I am Lieutenant General Isaiah » Shiranomiya, commander of the Second » Air Raid Fleet. As of today, I will » be living on this ship alongside all » of you. I'm looking forward to » working together!"
517	"Hah!!" The recruits responded in » unison.		517	"Yessir!" The recruits responded in » unison.
521	Isaiah had her long silver hair tied » back and was dressed in a » short-sleeved shirt, navy blue » shorts, and white sneakers. Her » determined expression was filled with » grace and dignity, as if her » silhouette was outlined by a blue » phosphorescent glow. The contrast » between her boyish, fiery red eyes, » the feminine curves of her body, and » her exposed, lush thighs was » imprinted in Hayao's mind, making him » wish it could stay that way forever.	<>	521	Isaiah had her long silver hair tied » back and was dressed in a » short-sleeved shirt, navy blue » shorts, and white sneakers. Her » determined expression was filled with » grace and dignity, as if her » silhouette was outlined by a blue » phosphorescent glow. The contrast » between her boyish, fiery red eyes, » the feminine curves of her body, and » her exposed, lush thighs was » imprinted in Hayao's mind, making him » wish he could have this view forever.
522	Beside him, Rio Kazenomiya, dressed in » gym clothes, had a radiant presence » as if she hosted the sun within her.		522	Beside her, Rio Kazenomiya, dressed in » gym clothes, had a radiant presence » as if she hosted the sun itself » within her.
525	"Orders! First, iron fist punishment is » forbidden on board. Second, all crew » members, act cheerfully and with a	<>	525	"Orders! First, iron fist punishment is » forbidden on board. Second, all crew » members must act cheerfully and with a

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	» smile. Third, do not forget to show » compassion to others. That's all!"			» a smile. Third, do not forget to show » compassion to others. That's all!"
527	Responding with smiles to Isaiah's » concise instructions, the hundred or » so veteran soldiers who had been with » her since the "Ibuki" era, and the » 240 new recruits who were seeing » Isaiah for the first time, echoed her » commands with loud voices, albeit » with slightly bewildered expressions.	<>	527	Responding with smiles to Isaiah's » concise instructions, the hundred or » so veteran soldiers who had been with » her since the Ibuki era, and the 240 » new recruits who were seeing Isaiah » for the first time, echoed her » commands with loud voices, albeit » with slightly bewildered expressions.
529	"I've assumed the position of Captain » of the 'Hiren', I am Lieutenant » Colonel Rio Kazenomiya. To those who » know me and to those who don't, I'm » looking forward to working with you » all."	<>	529	"I've assumed the position of Captain » of the Hiren, I am Lieutenant Colonel » Rio Kazenomiya. To those who know me » and to those who don't, I'm looking » forward to working with you all."
531	"Ha ha!","Princess!","Princess!"	<>	531	"Yes!","Princess!","Your Highness!"
539	"Um... Instead of lectures, let's do » some exercises! A lively day starts » with a good workout! Everyone, are » you ready?!"	<>	539	"Um... Instead of lectures, let's do » some exercises! A lively day starts » with a good workout! Everyone, are » you ready?"
540	As she raised her hand and called out, » the veteran soldiers also pumped » their fists into the air.		540	As she raised her hand and called out, » the veteran sailors also pumped their » fists into the air.
541	"Yeah!" "Your Highness—" "Princess—"		541	"Yeah!" "Your Highness!" "Princess!"
543	When they found out they were assigned » to the "Hiren", the recruits were » simultaneously thrilled and terrified » by the enormous responsibility.	<>	543	When they found out they were assigned » to the Hiren, the recruits were » simultaneously thrilled and terrified » by the enormous responsibility.
544	Every citizen of Hinoo was aware of the » incredible feats of the heavy torpedo » destroyer "Ibuki", commanded by » Isaiah in the naval and aerial battle » off Manila, where they defeated the » Gameria's Grand Duchy Fleet, hailed » as the world's most formidable. The » legendary achievement of a single » destroyer sinking five battleships » and three heavy cruisers was bound to » be recorded in the annals of naval » warfare. The prospect of serving on » the same ship as Isaiah and Rio, who » are virtually worshipped within » Hinoo, sharing quarters with the » veterans who survived that battle, » and eventually participating in a » decisive aerial battle for the » nation's fate, filled all 240 new » recruits with excitement and immense » pressure.	<>	544	Every citizen of Hinoo was aware of the » incredible feats of the heavy torpedo » destroyer Ibuki, commanded by Isaiah » in the naval and aerial battle off » Manila, where they defeated Gameria's » Grand Duchy Fleet, hailed as the » world's most formidable. The » legendary achievement of a single » destroyer sinking five battleships » and three heavy cruisers was bound to » be recorded in the annals of naval » warfare. The prospect of serving on » the same ship as Isaiah and Rio, who » were virtually worshipped within » Hinoo, sharing quarters with the » veterans who survived that battle, » and eventually participating in a » decisive aerial battle for the » nation's fate, filled all 240 new » recruits with excitement and immense » pressure.
547	"Let's begin the Naval Aerial Gymnastic » s routine! First up, the jumping	<>	547	"Let's begin the aeronaval gymnastics » routine! First up, the jumping

File: (continued)

	» exercise!" 548 The new recruits snapped to attention, » launching into the movements of the N » aval Aerial Gymnastics routine they'd » been rigorously trained in at the » marine corps. The routine, designed » to develop a resilient and balanced » body capable of withstanding the » rigors of combat, was so intense that » even the most hardened soldiers would » be panting by the end, with movements » that demanded the flexibility of a » gymnast, like spreading the legs 180 » degrees or touching the toes to the » back of the head.		548 » exercise!" The new recruits snapped to attention, » launching into the movements of the » aeronaval gymnastics routine they'd » been rigorously trained in at the » marine corps. The routine, designed » to develop a resilient and balanced » body capable of withstanding the » rigors of combat, was so intense that » even the most hardened soldiers would » be panting by the end, with movements » that demanded the flexibility of a » gymnast, like spreading the legs 180 » degrees or touching the toes to the » back of the head.
551	Naturally, the sight of what was hidden » beneath the white gym clothes, » dancing wildly, caught the eyes of » the new recruits. ".....What?!"	<>	551 Naturally, the sight of what was hidden » beneath her white gym clothes, » dancing wildly, caught the eyes of » the new recruits. ".....What?!"
552		552	
554	"What on earth... is that movement?!"	<>	554 "What on earth... is that movement?"
555	The next moment, a reaction sprouted » from the seventeen-year-old boy.		555 The next moment, a physical reaction st » irred within the seventeen-year-old » boy.
556	"Ugh."		556 "Ah..."
557	Hayao involuntarily groaned, trying to » muster his willpower to suppress his » reaction. If a third-class sailor » were to recklessly arouse his » subordinates in front of the two » innocent princesses, he wouldn't be » able to complain even if he were shot » .		557 Hayao involuntarily groaned, trying to » muster his willpower to suppress his » reaction. If a third-class sailor » were to become aroused in front of » the two innocent princesses, he would » deserve to be shot for his crime .
558	Grandma's dentures...!!		558 —Grandma's dentures!
559	He tried to calm his emotions by » thinking of such things.		559 He tried to calm his emotions by » thinking of unappealing things.
562	"Ugh...!"	<>	562 "Ah...!"
563	While bending his body backwards, Hayao » tried to suppress his natural » reaction.		563 While bending his body backwards, Hayao » tried to suppress his body's natural » reaction.
564	To avoid being shot.		564 He did not want to get shot.
565	Poop...!!		565 —Poop...!
566	He forcefully imagined such a thing, » trying to suppress his natural » reactions .		566 He forcefully imagined the most » disgusting things, trying to suppress » his arousal .
567	But .		567 However...
568	"Twisting exercise!!" "Body twisting » exercise!!" "Y-Balance exercise!!"		568 "Twisting exercise!!" "Contortion » exercise!!" "Y-Balance exercise!!"
570	With tears nearly in his eyes, Hayao » endured this torment, which was » unlike the rigorous training he had » undergone during his time in the Mari » nes.	<>	570 With tears nearly in his eyes, Hayao » endured this torment, which was » unlike the rigorous training he had » undergone during his time in the mari » nes.

File: (continued)

571	I mustn't look. I can't let myself » look.	<>	571	—I mustn't look. I can't let myself » look.
573	However.	<>	573	However...
574	"Exercises to improve upper body » flexibility!"		574	"Now for some exercises to improve » upper body flexibility!"
576	"Whoa-", "Gah-", "I can't take it » anymore—"	<>	576	"Whoa", "Aaah", "I can't take it » anymore..."
577	Heart-wrenching screams rose from the » veteran soldiers. Some started to » nosebleed, others spurred their » subordinates on, and some, reaching » their limit, leapt towards the exit.		577	Heart-wrenching screams rose from the » veteran soldiers. Some started to » have nosebleeds, others were » noticeably aroused, and some, » reaching their limit, leapt towards » the exit.
578	Close your eyes. Don't look at » anything.		578	—Close your eyes. Don't look at » anything.
580	Please let it be over soon... quickly.. » .?!	<>	580	—Please let it be over soon... Quickly » ...
585	"That was a rejuvenating exercise! From » today onward, let us all live » brightly, energetically, and strive » together as the crew of the "Hiren"! » Dismissed!"	<>	585	"That was a rejuvenating exercise! From » today onward, let us all live » brightly, energetically, and strive » together as the crew of the Hiren! » Dismissed!"
587	"....."	<>	587	"..."
589	What on earth was that?	<>	589	—What on earth was that?
590	Is this kind of ordeal part of the » regular morning routine here?!		590	—Is this kind of ordeal part of the » regular morning routine here!?
593	That was an order from the chief petty » officer, Onitsuka Hibiki. The new » recruits, who had been silently » staring at each other, snapped back » to reality and started cleaning in » haste, splashing seawater on the deck » and scrubbing it with a tool called a » "soaf."	<>	593	That was an order from the chief petty » officer, Onitsuka Hibiki. The new » recruits, who had been silently » staring at each other, snapped back » to reality and started cleaning in » haste, splashing seawater on the deck » and scrubbing it with a tool called a » 'soaf.'
594	"This is the deck where the Prince and » Princess walk! Don't leave any trace » of your filthy nosebleeds! Scrub it » as if your life depends on it!!"		594	"The princesses walk on this deck! » Don't leave any trace of your filthy » nosebleeds! Scrub it as if your life » depends on it!"
596	"To boost our energy for tomorrow's » exercise, we must dedicate our body » and soul to the Prince and Princess!"	<>	596	"To boost our energy for tomorrow's » exercise, we must dedicate our body » and soul to the princesses!"
598	"For our training! For our Princess! » Work until your last breath! Continue » working even beyond that!"	<>	598	"For our training! For our Princesses! » Work until your last breath! Continue » working even beyond that!"
601	What in the world is this ship...?	<>	601	—What in the world is this ship...?
604	The telegraph officer and communication » officer were stationed on the first » floor of the bridge, while the » gunnery officer and anti-aircraft » officer occupied the second floor. » They exchanged courteous greetings.	<>	604	The telegraph officer and communication » officer were stationed on the first » floor of the bridge, while the » gunnery officer and anti-aircraft » officer occupied the second floor. » They exchanged courteous greetings.

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	» It appeared that the navy's personnel » officer was thoughtful of young » Isaiah and had specifically assigned » more reserved officers to their team. » Ascending the ladder at the entrance, » they finally reached the third floor » of the bridge, the "command tower", » where Isaiah and Rio usually » stationed themselves.		» It appeared that the navy's personnel » officer was thoughtful of young » Isaiah and had specifically assigned » more reserved officers to their team. » Ascending the ladder at the entrance, » they finally reached the third floor » of the bridge, the command tower, » where Isaiah and Rio usually » stationed themselves.
605	On the "Ibuki", the compass bridge and » the steering room were separate. » However, on the "Hiren", the helm was » situated inside the command tower, » allowing the captain to steer » directly. Clotho, already donned in » his second type of military uniform, » stood waiting. He greeted the newly » arrived Isaiah and Rio with a snort.	605	On the Ibuki, the compass bridge and » the steering room were separate. » However, on the Hiren, the helm was » situated inside the command tower, » allowing the captain to steer » directly. Clotho, already donned in » his military uniform, stood waiting. » He greeted the newly arrived Isaiah » and Rio with a snort.
610	Morning light streamed in through the » row of bulletproof glass windows, » casting a glow on the brand new » suspended 12 cm binocular telescope, » magnetic compass, and chart table, as » well as the floor-mounted 18 cm » binoculars. Exposed structural » materials on ceilings and walls were » crammed with pipes, ducts, and » various instruments, and voice tubes » leading to different parts of the » ship had trumpet-like openings here » and there.	<>	610 Morning light streamed in through the » row of bulletproof glass windows, » casting a glow on the brand new » suspended five-inch binocular » telescope, magnetic compass, and » chart table, as well as the » floor-mounted seven-inch binoculars. » Exposed structural materials on » ceilings and walls were crammed with » pipes, ducts, and various » instruments, and comms tubes leading » to different parts of the ship had » trumpet-like openings here and there.
611	As Clotho studied the instruments in » the command tower with a hint of » sarcasm,	611	As Clotho studied the instruments in » the command tower with a hint of » sarcasm, he said,
617	"Sure, if we're going to die, we'll die » together, Clotho."	<>	617 "Nope! If we're going to die, we'll die » together, Clotho."
619	"I've been called by the Navy » Department."	<>	619 "I've been summoned by the Navy » Department."
621	"I need to attend a social event after » a strategic meeting in a week."	<>	621 "I have to attend a social event after » a strategic meeting in a week."
622	Clotho handed a document to Isaiah. It » was an invitation to a high-profile » social gathering at a top-tier hotel, » hosted by a Navy Department officer » named Captain Jiro Kumura. The day » was planned for senior officers from » the Combined Fleet to hold a » strategic meeting on the battleship » Nagato in the morning, with Isaiah » and Clotho also expected to attend. » After reading the document, Isaiah » eyed it with suspicion.	622	Clotho handed a document to Isaiah. It » was an invitation to a high-profile » social gathering at a prestigious » hotel, hosted by a Navy Department » officer named Captain Jiro Kumura. » The day was planned for senior » officers from the Combined Fleet to » hold a strategic meeting on the » battleship Nagato in the morning, » with Isaiah and Clotho also expected » to attend. After reading the » document, Isaiah eyed it with » suspicion.

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623	"I'm expected at this. It's a gathering » for the influential figures of Hinoo » and the Philippines to mingle. Why » are you invited?"	623	"I'm expected at this. It's a gathering » for influential figures of Hinoo and » the Philip h ines to mingle. Why are » you invited?"
627	Isaiah eyed Clotho suspiciously. His » demeanor was somewhat suspicious. » Typically, he would at least express » some sarcasm towards a colleague who » unexpectedly invited him without » stating the reason, but this time he » accepted it quite readily.	<>	627 Isaiah eyed Clotho suspiciously. His » demeanor was somewhat suspicious. » Typically, he would at least express » some sarcasm towards a colleague who » unexpectedly invited him to an event » without stating the reason, but this » time he accepted it quite readily.
628	As it turns out, Clotho had spent about » half a year in the Navy's Special » Operations Agency before he boarded » the warship...	628	—I know that Clotho spent about half a » year in the Navy's Special Operations » Agency before he boarded the » warship...
630	"What are you up to behind the scenes?"	<>	630 "Are you up to something behind the » scenes?"
633	His evasion made him appear even more » suspicious. The idea of this man » having the emotional capacity to "cat » ch up with colleagues" was » implausible. It would be more » believable if he had said he was "bus » y with undercover operations with the » officials he had bribed."	<>	633 His evasion made him appear even more » suspicious. The idea of this man » having the emotional capacity to 'cat » ch up with colleagues' was » implausible. It would be more » believable if he had said he was 'bus » y bribing officials for undercover » operations'.
634	He was certainly up to something.	634	—He's definitely up to something.
638	"The social gathering is an event for » the upper classes. We have to wear » our uniforms. Iron yours when you get » a chance."	<>	638 "It's an event for the upper classes. » We have to wear our uniforms. Iron » yours when you get a chance."
640	"Damn, I forgot... You're surprisingly » poker-faced..."	<>	640 "Damn, I forgot... You're surprisingly » meticulous..."
641	As she watched their usual banter, Rio » glanced at her pocket watch, » confirming it was eight in the » morning, and announced the start of » their duties over the ship's » intercom. Their life aboard the "Hire » n" was starting today...	641	As she watched their usual banter, Rio » glanced at her pocket watch, » confirming it was eight in the » morning, and announced the start of » their duties over the ship's » intercom. Their life aboard the Hiren » was starting today...
642	Every warship is governed by one set of » military regulations, but each ship » develops its own 'dialect' – unique » processes and terminologies that only » make sense to those on board. This » often reflects the personalities of » the senior non-commissioned officers, » and newly assigned soldiers » invariably struggle to reconcile what » they learned in the Naval Corps with » these 'dialects', slowly picking up » the way things worked on the ship.	642	Every warship is governed by one set of » military regulations, but each ship » develops its own 'dialect'–unique » processes and terminologies that only » make sense to those on board. This » often reflects the personalities of » the senior non-commissioned officers, » and newly assigned soldiers » invariably struggle to reconcile what » they learned in the Naval Corps with » these 'dialects', slowly picking up » the way things worked on the ship.
643	While anchored in the harbor, the "Hire	643	While anchored in the harbor, the Hiren

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	» n" continuously carried out training » exercises, from artillery, torpedo » and bomb attacks, to anti-aircraft » and night combat, and even ramming » attacks. Through the gruelling » training programs that stretched from » early morning to late at night, the » new soldiers gradually integrated » into the "Hiren", toughened by the » seasoned soldiers and frequently » shouted at.		» continuously carried out training » exercises, from artillery, torpedo » and bomb attacks, to anti-aircraft » and night combat, and even ramming » attacks. Through the gruelling » training programs that stretched from » early morning to late at night, the » new soldiers gradually integrated » into the Hiren, toughened by the » seasoned soldiers and frequently » shouted at.
645	I'm now in charge not only of the "Hire » n", but also the five flying » destroyers – "Kawayodo", "Sugurono", » "Yasose", "Sakashio", and "Unami" – » that belong to the Second Aerial » Torpedo Squadron. I experienced » first-hand in the naval battle off » Manila how a single decision by the » commander could mean the difference » between victory and destruction. No » one understands the burden of an » admiral's decision better than I do » now.	<>	Isaiah was now in charge not only of » the Hiren, but also the five flying » destroyers-Kawayodo, "Sugurono", » Yasose, Sakashio, and Unami—that » belonged to the Second Aerial Torpedo » Squadron. She had experienced » first-hand in the naval battle off » Manila how a single decision by the » commander could mean the difference » between victory and destruction. No » one understood the burden of an » admiral's decision better than she di » d now.
646	It's easy to say in hindsight, "if only » we had taken precautions, if only we » had avoided a full-scale » confrontation then..." But making a » decision that affects the lives of » eighty million citizens and the » destiny of the nation for the next » thousand years carries a » soul-crushing weight. Once a decision » is made, there's no going back, no » second chances for mistakes. At this » time, Isaiah was painstakingly » sharpening each skill necessary for » fleet command to make that heavy » decision.	646	It was easy to say in hindsight, "if » only we had taken precautions, if » only we had avoided a full-scale » confrontation, then..." But making a » decision that affects the lives of » eighty million citizens and the » destiny of the nation for the next » thousand years inevitably carries a » soul-crushing weight. Once a decision » is made, there's no going back, no » second chances for mistakes. At this » time, Isaiah was painstakingly » sharpening each skill necessary for » fleet command to make that heavy » decision.
647	Yesterday, she had convened a meeting » with the captains on the Hiren, along » with the skippers of five other » ships. They synchronized the » propellers' rotation, the rudders' » angles, and the compasses of the » Hiren and the other ships to » guarantee flawless fleet maneuvers. » They also arranged the schedule and » content of the night drills, settling » on a formation distance of three » hundred meters. Although it was a » tight formation, their experience » from the naval air battle off Manila	647	Yesterday, she had convened a meeting » with the captains on the Hiren, along » with the skippers of five other » ships. They synchronized the » propellers' rotation, the rudders' » angles, and the compasses of the » Hiren and the other ships to » guarantee flawless fleet manoeuvres. » They also arranged the schedule and » content of the night drills, settling » on a formation distance of three » hundred yards. Although it was a » tight formation, their experience » from the naval air battle off Manila

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	» led them to decide that this was the » optimal distance for creating a » sure-hit air torpedo dispersal zone.			» led them to decide that this was the » optimal distance for creating a » sure-hit air torpedo dispersal zone.
650	When we're at anchor, I spend my time » in the staff office at the back of » the ship, drafting reports and » opinion papers. I send these to the » Combined Fleet Command Headquarters » to demonstrate my capabilities. » During navigation, I either analyze » fleet movements with Isaiah and Rio » in the command tower, or work on » information organization and enemy » situation assessment in the » operations room behind the bridge. I » also monitor the overall supply » status of fuel and food for the » entire second fleet, manage ship » repairs, and even oversee prevention » of endemic diseases. This keeps me so » occupied that I barely have time to » sleep.	<>	650	When they were at anchor, he spent his » time in the staff office at the back » of the ship, drafting reports and » opinion papers. He then sent these to » the Combined Fleet Command » Headquarters to demonstrate his » capabilities. During navigation, he » either analyzed fleet movements with » Isaiah and Rio in the command tower, » or worked on information organization » and enemy situation assessment in the » operations room behind the bridge. He » also monitored the overall supply » status of fuel and food for the » entire second fleet, manage ship » repairs, and even oversee prevention » of endemic diseases. This kept me so » occupied that he barely had time to » sleep.
651	Just like that, a week flew by since » they had boarded the "Hiren"...		651	Just like that, a week flew by since » they had boarded the Hiren...
652	"Well, I'm off now. I'm leaving » everything in your hands while I'm » gone."		652	"Well, I'm off now. I'll be leaving » everything in your hands while I'm » gone."
653	Leaving Rio in charge of their duties, » Isaiah and Clotho, both decked out in » military uniforms, boarded a small » seaplane together. They flew at a » leisurely pace of seven kilometers » per hour at an altitude of 1,200 meters » rs, before landing at the pier of the » Mariveles Fortress, located on the » mountainside at the same height.		653	Leaving Rio in charge of their duties, » Isaiah and Clotho, both decked out in » military uniforms, boarded a small » seaplane together. They flew at a » leisurely pace of four miles per hour » at an altitude of 3900 feet, before » landing at the pier of the Fort » Mariveles, located on the » mountainside at the same height.
656	Patrol boats created white waves as » they searched for submarines, heavy » cruisers refueled accompanying » destroyers, and escort carriers » performed takeoff and landing drills. » Unlike the aerial fleet which had » been nearly annihilated in the » previous Manila Bay Air and Sea » Battle, the naval fleet retained its » confidence.	<>	656	Patrol boats created white waves as » they searched for submarines, heavy » cruisers refueled accompanying » destroyers, and escort carriers » performed takeoff and landing drills. » Unlike the aerial fleet which had » been nearly annihilated in the » previous Battle of Manila, the naval » fleet retained its confidence.
661	"A case against the aerial fleet, huh? » We'd like to refute it, but given the » outcome of the Manila Sea Battle, » it's challenging."	<>	661	"A case against the aerial fleet, huh? » We'd like to refute it, but given the » outcome of the Battle of Manila, » it'll be a hard sell."
664	All the battleships had been sunk in » the Manila Sea-Air Battle, leaving » only those on the sea for Hinoo.	<>	664	All the flying battleships had been » sunk in the Battle of Manila, leaving » only Hinoo's naval ships.

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665 At that time, new aerial ships were » being constructed around the clock in » Hinoo's shipyards, but it would take » time until they were complete. There » was a debate about how to operate the » combined fleet until the forces were » ready, and the "Aerial Fleet Is Unnec » essary" argument was gaining momentum » among the senior officers.	665	At that time, new aerial ships were » being constructed around the clock in » Hinoo's shipyards, but it would take » time until they were complete. There » was a debate about how to operate the » combined fleet until the forces were » ready, and the argument that the aeri » al fleet was unnecessary was gaining » momentum among the senior officers.
670 Isaiah preempted what Clotho wanted to » say, issuing a warning in advance.	<>	670 Isaiah had preempted what Clotho wanted » to say, and warned him in advance.
672 Society in Hinoo tends to punish those » who stand out. No one at the » headquarters is pleased about Clotho » and Isaiah's rapid ascent. Therefore, » it was best to stay quiet during » their first strategy meeting and just » silently agree with Chief Babahara's » opinions, like a bobbing drinking bir » d.	<>	672 Society in Hinoo tended to punish those » who stand out. No one at the » headquarters was pleased about Clotho » and Isaiah's rapid ascent. Therefore, » it was best to stay quiet during » their first strategy meeting and just » silently agree with Chief Babahara's » opinions, seen and not heard.
673 But Clotho...	673	But Clotho had other ideas...
675 You're speaking like a Gamerian. I » understand that mindset because I » studied in Gameria, but...	<>	675 He was speaking like a Gamerian. Isaiah » understand such a mindset due to » having studied in Gameria, but still. » ..
677 Whether he understood or not, Clotho » only snorted and didn't reply. I » understand that this is a logic he » might struggle with, but if he can't » grasp this, he'll never be able to » ascend the ranks at the headquarters.	<>	677 Whether he understood or not, Clotho » only snorted in reply. Isaiah underst » ood that this was something he might » struggle with, but if he could not » grasp this, he would never be able to » ascend the ranks at the headquarters.
678 Before they knew it, a significantly » massive steel fortress was floating » on the sea.	678	Before they knew it, a massive steel » fortress was floating on the sea near » by.
679 Its total length stretched to two » hundred and twenty-five meters, its » width reached thirty-five meters, » with a displacement of roughly forty » thousand tons.	679	Its total length stretched to 740 feet, » its width reached 115 feet, with a » displacement of roughly forty » thousand tons.
680 The flagship of the Combined Fleet, the » Nagato, was facing the sea with its » forty-one-centimeter main gun group, » bobbing in the white waves. The » headquarters of the Hinoo Combined » Fleet, which was previously on the » bridge of the flying battleship » Shishimaru, had been moved to the » bridge of the Nagato. The fact that » the main force of the Combined Fleet » was now the Naval Fleet, not the » Aerial Fleet, was evident from the » location of the headquarters.	680	The flagship of the Combined Fleet, the » Nagato, was facing the sea with its » 16-inch main gun group, bobbing in » the white waves. The headquarters of » the Hinoo Combined Fleet, which was » previously on the bridge of the » flying battleship Shishimaru, had » been moved to the bridge of the » Nagato. The fact that the main force » of the Combined Fleet was now the » Naval Fleet, not the Aerial Fleet, » was evident from the location of the » headquarters.

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			<>	682	The Nagato's bridge, a tower of » assembled iron blocks, stood forty me » ters high.
682	The Nagato's bridge, a tower of » assembled iron blocks, stood forty me » ters high.		<>	682	The Nagato's bridge, a tower of » assembled iron blocks, stood 130 feet » high.
683	The height is necessary for naval ships » to peer as far below the horizon as » possible.			683	Such height was necessary for naval » ships to peer as far along the » horizon as possible.
684	Flying ships, which soar at an altitude » of twelve hundred meters from the » start , don't need such high bridges. » So, to Clotho, who's accustomed to » flying ships, the structure appears » excessively towering. The Nagato, » especially, as the flagship of the » Combined Fleet, houses luxurious » facilities such as private rooms for » senior officers, bathrooms, and » executive offices. These amenities ar » e not common in regular warships, and » they're scattered around the bridge » and inside the hull.		684	Flying ships, which soar at an altitude » of 3900 feet , did not need such high » bridges. So, to Clotho, who was » accustomed to flying ships, the » structure appeared excessively » towering. The Nagato, especially, as » the flagship of the Combined Fleet, » housed luxurious facilities such as » private rooms for senior officers, » bathrooms, and executive offices. » These amenities were not common in » regular warships, but nonetheless » could be found here scattered around » the bridge and inside the hull.	
690	His slender, nearly frail body, the » anxious look in his eyes, the thin » skin on his face, and his pale lips » made him appear more like a scholar » than a military man. He was » sixty-eight years old. He was known » as a prodigy who had never once lost » his place at the top of his class at » the officer academy or the naval air » force university.		<>	690	His slender, nearly frail body, the » anxious look in his eyes, the thin » skin on his face, and his pale lips » made him appear more like a scholar » than a military man. He was » sixty-eight years old, and known as a » prodigy who had never once lost his » place at the top of his class at the » officer academy or the naval air » force university.
691	" This is Babahara. I appreciate your » efforts. Today, I've called this » meeting to hear your views on the » upcoming operational procedures. Feel » free to share your thoughts."			691	" My name is Babahara. I appreciate your » efforts. Today, I've called this » meeting to hear your views on the » upcoming operational procedures. Feel » free to share your thoughts."
696	With regards to the impending invasion » of the Marie Peninsula, the Hinoo » army had adopted a plan to land » troops simultaneously in Shingora and » Kotabaru. Assistance from the » Combined Fleet was requested to » escort the landing convoy. The Fourth » Fleet, stationed in Mako, would » undertake the escort mission while » the Third Fleet would guard against » the probable emergence of the » Ringland Far East Fleet as the » operation commenced. Despite being » based in Singapore, the outnumbered » Ringland army was expected to » surrender within a month of the » operation's start...		<>	696	With regards to the impending invasion » of the Marie Peninsula, the Hinoo » army had adopted a plan to land » troops simultaneously in Shingora and » Kota Bharu. Assistance from the » Combined Fleet was requested to » escort the landing convoy. The Fourth » Fleet, stationed in Mako, would » undertake the escort mission while » the Third Fleet would guard against » the probable emergence of the » Ringland Far East Fleet as the » operation commenced. Despite being » based in Singapore, the outnumbered » Ringland army was expected to » surrender within a month of the » operation's start...
699	However,		<>	699	However...

702	Having witnessed that battle from » beginning to end, I find it hard to » agree with Oiyama's claims.	<>	702	Having witnessed that battle from » beginning to end, Clotho found it » hard to agree with Oiyama's claims.
703	That victory cost us too much, and it » came with a great many needless » losses. It merits a thorough review » by those officers who did not » participate, down to the minutest » detail.		703	That victory had cost too much—it came » with a great many needless losses. » Clotho thought it merited a more » thorough review by those officers who » did not participate, down to the » minutest detail so that they could » better understand.
707	This doesn't sit well with me.	<>	707	—I don't like this one bit.
709	Having experienced the naval and aerial » battle off Manila, I knew it was a » hard-fought victory that relied » heavily on luck.	<>	709	Having experienced the naval and aerial » battle off Manila, he knew it was a » hard-fought victory that relied » heavily on luck.
710	We won thanks to my own strategies and » the sailors who never gave up the » fight. They risked their lives to » launch saturation torpedo attacks » from extremely close range on both » sides of the enemy line. It was that » kind of battle that we won. The way » they talk about it, as if it were » their own achievement, completely » disregarding the dedication and » efforts of the people on the ground, » I found it extremely distasteful.		710	They had won thanks to Clotho's own » strategies and the sailors who never » gave up the fight. They risked their » lives to launch saturation torpedo » attacks from extremely close range on » both sides of the enemy line. That » was the true nature of the battle. » The way these people talked about it, » as if it were their own achievement; » they were completely disregarding the » dedication and efforts of the people » on the ground. Clotho found it » extremely distasteful. —Should I take my shot?
711	Should we take the shot?		711	
712	That resolve also sprouted within me . » Isaiah would probably scold me later, » but there was a matter that had been » bothering me lately, and I wanted to » question the Commander-in-Chief about » it. Depending on his response, it » would reveal the extent of » Commander-in-chief Babahara's » capabilities.		712	A strong resolve sprouted within him . » He knew Isaiah would probably scold » him later, but there was a matter » that had been bothering him of late, » and he wanted to question the » Commander-in-Chief about it. » Depending on his response, it would » reveal the extent of » Commander-in-chief Babahara's » capabilities.
713	With this firm resolve, I threw a » question at Staff Officer Oiyama.		713	With this firm resolve, Clotho threw a » question at Staff Officer Oiyama.
718	"Isn't it unusual that the fleet's » current whereabouts haven't been » revealed, considering the war started » five months ago? Isn't this the » position before the war started?"	<>	718	"Isn't it unusual that the fleet's » current whereabouts haven't been » revealed, considering the war started » five months ago? Isn't this their » position from before the war » started?"
728	Clotho suggested they consider the » strategic position of Sumatra Island, » which is separated from the Marie » Peninsula by the Malacca Strait. The » west coast of Sumatra is dominated by » the 1,700-meter -high Barisan Mountain	<>	728	Clotho suggested they consider the » strategic position of Sumatra Island, » which is separated from the Marie » Peninsula by the Malacca Strait. The » west coast of Sumatra is dominated by » the 5600-foot -high Barisan Mountain

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	<p>» Range, making it difficult to detect » any enemy air fleet concealed on the » western side of the range.</p> <p>729 The Malacca Strait, dividing the Marie » Peninsula and Sumatra, is just over a » hundred kilometers wide.</p>		<p>» Range, making it difficult to detect » any enemy air fleet concealed on the » western side of the range.</p> <p>729 The Malacca Strait, dividing the Marie » Peninsula and Sumatra, was just over » 62 miles wide.</p>
733	The opinion was sound.	<>	733 The logic was sound.
734	<p>After all, if an airship and its crew » were to drift in the sky for several » months without docking, it would push » them to their limits. Unlike sea » vessels that can distill seawater, » airships lack this resource. Sailors, » unable to bathe properly and reeking » of strong body odor, coupled with » malnutrition leading to an outbreak » of diseases, would be unbearable. » Daily disputes among sailors, » aggravated by monotonous meals, stale » water, and the never-ending life on » board, could easily escalate into » full-blown riots. The question was » whether the decrepit old ships, » barely functional as they were, could » pose any threat even if they did » participate in the operation. That's » why the staff officers here » overlooked the enemy's aerial fleet.</p>		<p>After all, if an airship and its crew » were to drift in the sky for several » months without docking, it would push » them to their limits. Unlike sea » vessels that can distill seawater, » airships lacked this resource. » Sailors, unable to bathe properly and » reeking of strong body odor, coupled » with malnutrition leading to an » outbreak of diseases, would be » unbearable. Daily disputes among » sailors, aggravated by monotonous » meals, stale water, and the » never-ending life on board, could » easily escalate into full-blown » riots. The question was whether the » decrepit old ships, barely functional » as they were, could pose any threat » even if they did participate in the » operation. For this reason the staff » officers here overlooked the enemy's » aerial fleet.</p>
736	"Even in a run-down old ship, as long » as we can make it to the inland area » of the Marie Peninsula, we have the » upper hand. Army mountain guns can't » strike at an air fleet, and the » navy's guns don't reach inland. The » enemy air fleet can only drop » paratroopers behind our lines. Even a » ship on the verge of collapse can » manage that."	<>	736 "Even in a run-down old ship, as long » as we can make it to the inland area » of the Marie Peninsula, we have the » upper hand. Army mountain guns can't » strike at an air fleet, and the » navy's guns don't reach inland. The » enemy air fleet only need drop » paratroopers behind our lines. Even a » ship on the verge of collapse can » manage that."
741	In fact, it wasn't even about » countering. If the enemy air fleet » was indeed hiding on the west coast » of Sumatra Island, they posed a » significant threat. Given that » airplanes can't fly above an altitude » of 1200 meters , the Barisan Mountain » Range obstructed our view of the » island's western side from Hinoo's » current sphere of influence.	<>	741 In fact, it wasn't even about » countering. If the enemy air fleet » was indeed hiding on the west coast » of Sumatra Island, they posed a » significant threat. Given that » airplanes can't fly above an altitude » of 3900 feet , the Barisan Mountain » Range obstructed the view of the » island's western side from Hinoo's » current sphere of influence.
747	"So, we're supposed to fly directly » above the army? That's not feasible. » As you're well aware, our Sea-Air » Force and the Army lack a direct line	<>	747 "So, we're supposed to fly directly » above the army? That's not feasible. » As you're well aware, our Aeronaval » Force and the Army lack a direct line

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	» of communication during battle. How » can we protect them when we're in the » dark about their situation?"			» of communication during battle. How » can we protect them when we're in the » dark about their situation?"
749	"The Army relies on the Navy for » support up until they land, but they » believe their own air units can take » care of aerial support after that. » They can't stomach the idea of the Se » a-Air Force stealing their limelight. » We should stay out of their affairs » and let them handle things as they » deem fit."	<>	749	"The Army relies on the Navy for » support up until they land, but they » believe their own air units can take » care of aerial support after that. » They can't stomach the idea of the » Aeronaval Force stealing their » limelight. We should stay out of » their affairs and let them handle » things as they deem fit."
750	The commanders and staff officers » present nodded in agreement. For a » long time, the Hinoo Sea-Air Force » and the Army have been at odds, and, » incredibly, they lack means of » communication in the heat of battle. » The Sea-Air Force has no way of » knowing where the Army needs their » fire. These officers found joint » operations with the Army to be » nothing but a hassle and their true » feelings were to steer clear of » involvement if at all possible.		750	The commanders and staff officers » present nodded in agreement. For a » long time, the Hinoo Aeronaval Force » and the Army had been at odds, and, » incredibly, they lacked any means of » communication in the heat of battle. » The Aeronaval Force had absolutely no » way of knowing where the Army needed » their fire. These officers found » joint operations with the Army to be » nothing but a hassle and their true » feelings were to steer clear of » involvement if at all possible.
751	"What the hell is that ? Are they idiots » ?"		751	—What the hell? Are they stupid ?
752	"If they seriously want to win the war, » they should put their pride aside and » collaborate."		752	—If they seriously want to win the » war, the only way is to put their » pride aside and collaborate.
753	Clotho swallowed such harsh criticism » and barely managed to maintain his » composure.		753	Clotho swallowed his harsh criticism » and barely managed to maintain his » composure.
755	The army's air force didn't have any » airships, just fighters, bombers, » torpedo bombers, and 'anti-air » torpedo carriers', known as 'air » torpedo carriers', equipped with air » torpedoes on top. However, unlike » torpedoes, air torpedoes could be » targeted by anti-aircraft guns, » drastically reducing their hit rate » during daylight bombing. There were » almost no instances where they had » been successful in actual combat. The » hit rate would probably increase if » an air torpedo carrier for night » bombing was developed, but the » performance of airborne radar was » still poor, and no naval air force in » the world had successfully developed » a combat-ready aircraft for night » operations.	<>	755	The army's air force did not have any » airships, just fighters, bombers, » torpedo bombers, and 'air torpedo » carriers', equipped with air » torpedoes on top. However, unlike » torpedoes, air torpedoes could be » targeted by anti-aircraft guns, » drastically reducing their hit rate » during daylight bombing. There were » almost no instances where they had » been successful in actual combat. The » hit rate would probably increase if » an air torpedo carrier for night » bombing was developed, but the » performance of airborne radar was » still poor, and no Aeronaval force in » the world had successfully developed » a combat-ready aircraft for night » operations.

757	Oiyama agreed reluctantly, clearly » lacking enthusiasm for the idea.	<>	757	Oiyama agreed reluctantly to Clotho's » suggestion, clearly lacking » enthusiasm for the idea.
758	At least give it some thought.		758	—At least give it some thought.
759	It's the ground troops who get killed » because of your careless command.		759	—It's the ground troops who get killed » because of your careless command.
762	"I've been told that a significant » portion of the Ibuki's success is » attributable to your strategies, » Lieutenant Colonel Kuronomiya."	<>	762	"I've been told that a significant » portion of the Ibuki's success is » attributable to your strategies, » Lieutenant Colonel Kurono."
764	"Your reports are of outstanding » quality. The chronological and » detailed account of the naval and » aerial battle off Manila is depicted » accurately. However..."	<>	764	"Your reports are of outstanding » quality. The chronological and » detailed account of the battle off » Manila was extremely accurate. » However..."
768	"I concur, especially with the point » about being an easy target for the » enemy. Unlike naval fleets that can » take cover below the horizon, » airships can't evade radar due to » their massive size and airborne » status, and they're slow to boot. » They're susceptible to surprise » attacks. That's why Riku is so averse » to them."	<>	768	"I concur, especially with the point » about being an easy target for the » enemy. Unlike naval fleets that can » take cover below the horizon, » airships can't evade radar due to » their massive size and airborne » status, and they're slow to boot. » They're susceptible to surprise » attacks. That's why many are so » averse to them."
772	"While airships will eventually become » obsolete, they currently provide » unmatched large-scale transportation » capabilities to the inland. If I were » the enemy commander, I would hide my » airship fleet on Sumatra Island at » the onset of the war and keep it on » standby for months until Operation » Marie launches. Once the operation » begins, I'd secretly navigate to the » rear of Kotabaru and the Jitra Line, » and then perform an airborne drop. » This strategy maximizes the airship's » capabilities."	<>	772	"While airships will eventually become » obsolete, they currently provide » unmatched large-scale transportation » capabilities to the inland. If I were » the enemy commander, I would hide my » airship fleet on Sumatra Island at » the onset of the war and keep it on » standby for months until Operation » Marie launches. Once the operation » begins, I'd secretly navigate to the » rear of Kota Bharu and the Jitra » Line, and then perform an airborne » drop. This strategy maximizes the » airship's capabilities."
773	Clotho pointed to the root of Marie » Peninsula, the landing point of the » army at Kota Bharu, and the defense » line of the Ringland Army known as » the "Jitra Line," predicting the » location of the first intense battle.		773	Clotho pointed to the root of Marie » Peninsula, the landing point of the » army at Kota Bharu, and the defense » line of the Ringland Army known as » the 'Jitra Line,' predicting the » location of the first intense battle.
775	Chiezo Babahara, who was observing » Clotho, had a cold, clear gaze.	<>	775	Chiezo Babahara, who was observing » Clotho, maintained a cold, clear » gaze.
778	The silence in the strategy room » deepened after Clotho's further » proposition.	<>	778	The silence in the strategy room » deepened after Clotho's proposition.
779	If the Hinoo naval fleet tried to		779	If the Hinoo naval fleet tried to

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	» circle around the western part of » Sumatra, they'd face the fierce » artillery fire from the Singapore » Fortress. Moreover, due to the » multitude of enemy submarines and » mines in the Malacca Strait, they » would have to anticipate significant » losses just to get there.		» circle around the western part of » Sumatra, they would face the fierce » artillery fire from the Fort of » Singapore. Moreover, due to the » multitude of enemy submarines and » mines in the Malacca Strait, they » would have to anticipate significant » losses just to get there.
780	However, air fleets are barely affected » by geographical constraints. Only » mountainous areas over 1,200 meters » in altitude can obstruct an airship's » course. There's no need to fear » mines, submarines, or torpedo boats » in narrow straits. If they were to » pass over Jakarta from Brunei, they » could scout the western part of » Sumatra using almost a direct route. » If there were no enemy air fleets » there, it wouldn't be a problem ; if » there were, they could destroy them » on the spot.	780	However, air fleets were barely » affected by geographical constraints. » Only mountainous areas over 3900 feet » in altitude could obstruct an » airship's course. There was no need » to fear mines, submarines, or torpedo » boats in narrow straits. If they were » to pass over Jakarta from Brunei, » they could scout the western part of » Sumatra using a near -direct route. If » there were no enemy air fleets there, » it would be a nonissue ; if there » were, they could destroy them on the » spot.
790	With that, the discussion shifted to » the Combined Fleet's operational » policy during the Marie operation. » Some faces visibly relaxed, while » others, including Chief of Staff » Furuyanagi and senior staff officer » Oiyama, continued to glare at Clotho.	<>	790 With that, the discussion shifted to » the Combined Fleet's operational » policy during the Operation Marie . » Some faces visibly relaxed, while » others, including Chief of Staff » Furuyanagi and senior staff officer » Oiyama, continued to glare at Clotho.
799	With that, Clotho arches his back » towards the sea and laughs in a » self-satisfied manner, " Fuhahaha. "	<>	799 With that, Clotho arched his back » towards the sea and laughed in a » self-satisfied manner, " Hahahaha. "
800	Exasperation clearly appeared on » Isaiah's face,		800 The exasperation was clear on Isaiah's » face,
805	"You're too headstrong. Please, be open » to the opinions of others, you fool.. » ."	<>	805 "You're too headstrong. Please, be open » to the opinions of others, dummy... "
807	"He's extremely competent, yet entirely » oblivious to the feelings of » others..."	<>	807 —He's extremely competent, yet » entirely oblivious to the feelings of » others...
808	Those were my thoughts as I looked at » the boy who had been my friend since » childhood, standing beside me .		808 Those were her thoughts as she looked » at the boy who had been her friend » since childhood, standing beside her .
809	Clotho often touts his own intellectual » prowess, fit for a hero who could » save the nation.		809 Clotho often touted his own » intellectual prowess, said it was fit » for a hero who could save the nation.
810	However, his interactions with his » superiors are so troublesome that he' » s likely to become universally » disliked. History is filled with » military officials who, despite their » capabilities, were demoted due to » unnecessary conflicts within their		810 However, his interactions with his » superiors were so troublesome that he » was likely to become universally » disliked. History was filled with » military officials who, despite their » capabilities, were demoted due to » unnecessary conflicts within their

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	» ranks. If this continues, Clotho will » join their ranks. This would be a » tragedy for Hinoo.		» ranks. If this continued, Clotho would » join their ranks. This would be a » tragedy for Hinoo.
811	In this war where victory appears » distant, there will undoubtedly come » a time when we'll need Clotho's power » to minimize the sacrifices and guide » us towards a brighter future. I don't » want him to trip over petty matters. » I hope he can mature into an » individual worthy of significant » authority.	811	In this war where victory appeared » distant, there would undoubtedly come » a time when they would need Clotho's » power to minimize the sacrifices and » guide them towards a brighter future. » Isaiah did not want him to trip over » petty matters, and hoped he could » mature into an individual worthy of » significant authority.
812	"It seems I have no choice but to » discipline this man myself..."	812	—It seems I have no choice but to » discipline this man myself...
813	Harboring such a mission in her heart, » Isaiah looked out over the low-rising » cityscape of Manila slowly » approaching. Most importantly, during » the social gathering tonight, I must » ensure that Clotho doesn't offend any » government officials...	813	Harboring such a mission in her heart, » Isaiah looked out over the low-rising » cityscape of Manila slowly » approaching. Most importantly, during » the social gathering tonight, she had » to ensure that Clotho doesn't offend » any government officials...
814	That night, after changing into his » first-class military uniform in his » room at the Duffle Manila Bay Hotel, » Clotho ascended to the second floor » alone, without making arrangements to » meet Isaiah who was also staying in » the same hotel. He presented his » invitation from the Navy Ministry at » the reception and entered the large » hall, spacious enough to accommodate » a soccer game. More than five hundred » influential figures, politicians, » military officials, and business » leaders from Hinoo and the Philippine » s had already congregated, forming » circles of conversation.	814	That night, after changing into his » first-class military uniform in his » room at the Duffle Manila Bay Hotel, » Clotho ascended to the second floor » alone, without making arrangements to » meet Isaiah who was also staying in » the same hotel. He presented his » invitation from the Navy Ministry at » the reception and entered the large » hall, spacious enough to accommodate » a soccer game. More than five hundred » influential figures, politicians, » military officials, and business » leaders from Hinoo and the Philiphine » s had already congregated, forming » circles of conversation.
815	In essence, the chatter of Hinoo » citizens primarily consisted of » derision towards Gumeria, the former » rulers of this land, and self-praise » for Hinoo, the new rulers. It was » essential to reassure the prominent » figures among the Filipinos, who were » feeling anxious due to the change in » rule, that Hinoo was a safe power to » align with, ensuring they wouldn't » mistakenly rebel or incite riots.	815	In essence, the chatter of Hinoo » citizens primarily consisted of » derision towards Gumeria, the former » rulers of this land, and self-praise » for Hinoo, the new rulers. It was » essential to reassure the prominent » figures among the Filipinos, who » were feeling anxious due to the » change in rule, that Hinoo was a safe » power to align with, ensuring they » would not mistakenly rebel or incite » riots.
816	However, the expressions on the faces » of the Filipino audience clearly » reflected their prevailing sense of » distrust.	816	However, the expressions on the faces » of the Filiphino audience clearly » reflected their prevailing sense of » distrust.
817	No one wishes to be oppressed by	817	No one wishes to be oppressed by

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	» another. It's natural that the people » of the Philippines would desire to be » independent of both Gameria and Hinoo » and to live peacefully without being » subjugated by anyone. From their » viewpoint, both Gameria and Hinoo are » equal invaders. Regardless of how » eloquent the rhetoric, they can't » possibly trust anyone who employs » force to control other nations.		» another. It was natural that the » people of the Philipines would » desire to be independent of both » Gameria and Hinoo and to live » peacefully without being subjugated » by anyone. From their viewpoint, both » Gameria and Hinoo were equal » invaders. Regardless of how eloquent » the rhetoric, they couldn't possibly » trust anyone who employed force to » control other nations.	
818	They continued to vigilantly watch over » Hinoo, waiting for a misstep.	818	—They continue to vigilantly watch » over Hinoo, waiting for a misstep.	
820	When the war ends, the world's » landscape will change drastically.	<>	820	—When the war ends, the world's » landscape will change drastically.
821	Whether it will lead to everlasting » peace or further chaos, is uncertain.		821	—Whether it will lead to everlasting » peace or further chaos, I'm not sure.
824	"Lieutenant Colonel Kuronomiya. I'm » glad you could make it."	<>	824	"Lieutenant Colonel Kurono. I'm glad » you could make it."
826	He belonged to the inaugural class of » the Ohno School.	<>	826	—He belonged to the inaugural class of » the Ohno Academy.
827	The Ohno School, a training institution » specialized in covert operations.		827	The Ohno Academy was a training » institution specialized in covert » operations.
840	"I'm Lieutenant Yuri Hartfield from the » Personnel Division of the Naval » Department. It's an honor to meet » you, Major Kuronomiya."	<>	840	"I'm Lieutenant Yuri Hartfield from the » Personnel Division of the Naval » Department. It's an honor to meet » you, Major Kurono."
841	She didn't salute him, being a special » officer, and simply introduced » herself in a composed manner.		841	She did not salute him, being a special » officer, and simply introduced » herself in a composed manner.
847	It was surprising that this » expressionless, extravagant young » girl had abilities that surpassed » Kumura's.	<>	847	It was surprising that this » expressionless, extravagant young » girl apparently had abilities that » surpassed Kumura's.
848	To surpass Kumura meant that she was my » equal.		848	To surpass Kumura meant that she was » Clotho's equal.
850	With that, Kumura excused himself, » disappearing into the crowd. His » approach might've seemed casual, but » after spending a night exchanging » stories with him, Clotho knew that » the man before him was more sincere, » honest, loving, crafty, and concerned » about the future of the nation than » anyone he'd ever met. He also » realized that this man was capable of » killing others with cold-blooded » ruthlessness.	<>	850	With that, Kumura excused himself, » disappearing into the crowd. His » approach might've seemed casual, but » after spending nights exchanging » stories with him, Clotho knew that » the man was more sincere, honest, » loving, crafty, and concerned about » the future of the nation than anyone » he'd ever met. He also realized that » this man was capable of killing » others with cold-blooded » ruthlessness.
851	Now then.		851	In which case...
875	As Clotho concludes the conversation, » Yuri shoots him a glare.	<>	875	As Clotho concluded the conversation, » Yuri shot him a glare.

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876	"You truly are heartless, Major Kuronom » <i>iya.</i> "		876	"You truly are heartless, Major Kurono. » "
878	".... Here I am, a beautiful girl, » leaving my homeland to carry out » dangerous undercover operations in an » enemy country, all to satisfy your » selfish demands. And what's with your » attitude? Shouldn't you be » encouraging, appreciative, or even » <i>looking at my past</i> with a lustful » <i>gaze</i> ? Yet all you see is a woman who » looks like a Gamerian? Is that it? » Don't you have anything more to say?"	<>	878	".... Here I am, a <i>stunningly</i> beautiful » girl, leaving my homeland to carry » out dangerous undercover operations » in an enemy country, all to satisfy » your selfish demands. And what's with » your attitude? Shouldn't you be » encouraging, appreciative, or even » <i>gazing upon</i> me with lust? Yet all you » see is a woman who looks like a » Gamerian? Is that it? Don't you have » anything more to say?"
882	"Kumura, <i>let's trade places.</i> "	<>	882	"Kumura, <i>I want someone else.</i> "
883	"Sadly, the Captain isn't available. Al » <i>so</i> , what <i>did</i> you mean by ' <i>trade</i> '? Do » you believe there is someone more » suitable for this mission than me?"	<>	883	"Sadly, the Captain isn't available. An » <i>yway</i> , what <i>d'you</i> mean? Do you believe » there is someone more suitable for » this mission than me?"
885	"Are you <i>some sort of weirdo?</i> "	<>	885	"Are you <i>usually this weird?</i> "
886	"No, just a simple beauty."		886	"No, <i>I'm just a simple beauty.</i> "
890	"Where did <i>Isaiah</i> come from, <i>anyway?</i> "	<>	890	" <i>Isaiah?</i> Where did <i>that</i> come from?"
891	"Despite renouncing your royal status » to become a commoner, Major, you » still address Princess Shiranomiya as » ' <i>Isaiah</i> '. This speaks volumes about » your <i>unique</i> feelings."	<>	891	"Despite renouncing your royal status » to become a commoner, Major, you » still address Princess Shiranomiya as » ' <i>Isaiah</i> '. This speaks volumes about » your feelings."
893	"Kumura, <i>let's switch places.</i> "	<>	893	"Kumura, <i>someone else, please!</i> "
894	"It won't work. We were told to talk » privately."		894	" <i>That</i> won't work. We were told to talk » privately."
900	"My apologies. <i>My true feelings were</i> » <i>displayed</i> on my face."	<>	900	"My apologies. <i>I didn't mean to express</i> » <i>my</i> feelings on my face."
904	"I am the ace in the hole in the » counter-intelligence operation » against Gameria, orchestrated by » Major Kuronomiya. Put differently, » I'm a pitifully beautiful girl who » would have been living a peaceful » life in Hinoo if not for the Major's » scheme. As someone who will soon be » the commander-in-chief of the » Combined Fleet, a national hero, and » a great emperor, wouldn't it be » rather unrefined of you not to offer » a word of encouragement to such a » brave soul?"	<>	904	"I am the ace in the hole in the » counter-intelligence operation » against Gameria, orchestrated by » Major Kurono. Put differently, I'm a » pitifully beautiful girl who would » have been living a peaceful life in » Hinoo if not for the Major's scheme. » As someone who will soon be the » commander-in-chief of the Combined » Fleet, a national hero, and a great » emperor, wouldn't it be rather » unrefined of you not to offer a word » of encouragement to such a brave » soul?"
907	" <i>I can't tolerate others</i> » self-proclaiming as beautiful girls, » but when <i>I declare myself</i> a genius, » it's perfectly reasonable." With an » air of satisfaction, Clotho turned to » Yuri, addressing her in Gamerian	<>	907	" <i>He could not tolerate others</i> » self-proclaiming as beautiful girls, » but when <i>he declared himself</i> a » genius, <i>he saw</i> it as perfectly » reasonable. With an air of » satisfaction, Clotho turned to <i>Yuri</i> ,

	» unexpectedly.			» addressing her in Gamerian » unexpectedly.
910	"My father is a Gamerian who works for » a trading company. He married my » Hinooan mother in Yokosuka and I was » born there. Despite the war, he » refused to return to his home country » and was sent to an internment camp. » Because of my appearance, I was sent » to the Ono School four years ago." 911 Clotho nodded, acknowledging her fluent » response in native pronunciation.	<>	910 911	"My father is a Gamerian who works for » a trading company. He married my » Hinooan mother in Yokosuka and I was » born there. Despite the war, he » refused to return to his home country » and was sent to an internment camp. » Because of my appearance, I was sent » to the Ohno Academy four years ago." Clotho nodded, acknowledging her fluent » response and native pronunciation.
913	"Not exactly. Due to the influence of » the Kazenomiya director , my father is » now living freely in a villa in » Karuizawa, which is nominally an » internment camp. He is under » surveillance, but he is providing » information about the Gamerian » affluent to the special forces."	<>	913	"Not exactly. Due to the influence of » Kazenomiya, my father is now living » freely in a villa in Karuizawa, which » is nominally an internment camp. He » is under surveillance, but he is » providing information about the » Gamerian affluent to the special » forces."
915	At the outbreak of the war, Gamerians » were forcibly sent back, but there » were a few unusual ones who chose to » stay in Hinoo, knowing they would be » sent to internment camps. Most likely » they were enemy sleeper agents, but » the fact that the Kazenomiya director » granted special treatment implies » that Yuri's father is a "tacitly » accepted double spy" serving as a » liaison with the enemy country. It's » a risky situation, but if Kumura » selected Yuri for this mission » knowing all this, he must have a » certain level of trust in her.	<>	915	At the outbreak of the war, Gamerians » were forcibly sent back, but there » were a few unusual ones who chose to » stay in Hinoo, knowing they would be » sent to internment camps. Most likely » they were enemy sleeper agents, but » the fact that Kazenomiya granted » special treatment implies that Yuri's » father was a tacitly accepted double » spy serving as a liaison with the » enemy country. It was a risky » situation, but if Kumura selected » Yuri for this mission knowing all » this, he must have had a certain » level of trust in her.
923 924	"Major Kuronomiya, your expression in » the photo... it's rather grim for a » group shot with colleagues ." "I didn't originate a society like 'Kro » nos'. That was Kyle McVille's doing. » I wasn't thrilled when he suddenly » proposed a group photo and positioned » me in the center. It gives off the » impression that I'm the leader."	<>	923 924	"Major Kurono, your expression in the » photo... It's rather grim for a group » shot with your team members ." "I didn't originate Kronos. That was » Kyle McVille's doing. I wasn't » thrilled when he suddenly proposed a » group photo and positioned me in the » center. It gives off the impression » that I'm the leader."
926	"Kyle handpicked talented young » investors, inducted them into the » ranks, allowed them to make a » fortune, and ultimately betrayed » them, seizing all their assets for » himself. At best, most members ended » up penniless, at worst, they were » saddled with tens of millions of	<>	926	"Kyle handpicked talented young » investors, inducted them into the » ranks, allowed them to make a » fortune, and ultimately betrayed » them, seizing all their assets for » himself. At best, most members ended » up penniless, at worst, they were » saddled with tens of millions of

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	» dollars in debt. Kronos vanished, » becoming the biggest losers on Wall » Street. This incident catapulted Kyle » into rapid power expansion, and now » he reigns over the world of finance » as the 'King of Wall Street.'"		» dollars in debt. Kronos vanished, » becoming the biggest losers on Fall » Street. This incident catapulted Kyle » into rapid power expansion, and now » he reigns over the world of finance » as the 'King of Fall Street.'"
928	"Could you run through their names? And » any distinguishing features, if » possible."	<>	928 "Could you run me through their names? » And any distinguishing features, if » possible."
931	"Once I infiltrate Gameria, I plan to » establish contact with one of them. » From your perspective, Major Kuronomi » ya, who would you recommend I » approach?"	<>	931 "Once I infiltrate Gameria, I plan to » establish contact with one of them. » From your perspective, Major Kurono, » who would you recommend I approach?"
933	"The person Clotho immediately pointed » out was a somewhat somber-looking » young man, sporting glasses and a » side-parted hairstyle," Yuri quickly » recollected the name she had just » memorized.	<>	933 The person Clotho immediately pointed » out was a somewhat somber-looking » young man, sporting glasses and a » side-parted hairstyle. Yuri quickly » recollected the name she had just » memorized.
935	"Indeed. He frequently voices his » opinion that Gameria should be the » world's conscience and criticizes the » Wimbert administration's foreign » policy. He's been skeptical of Kyle » for some time, and even the losses » from the Soondark Bonds didn't » devastate him. As long as you're » tactful in your approach, you should » be able to gain his trust."	<>	935 "Indeed. He frequently voices his » opinion that Gameria should be the » world's conscience and criticizes the » Wimbert administration's foreign » policy. He's been skeptical of Kyle » for some time, and even the losses » from the Thorndark Bonds didn't » devastate him. As long as you're » tactful in your approach, you should » be able to gain his trust."
940	The plan was to infiltrate New York » with covert agents, connect with the » pacifist faction within Gameria, » supply them with funds, and » essentially, begin peacekeeping » activities. Concurrently, they » intended to reach out to the remnants » of Kronos, fund them, and ignite a » hostile takeover against "The King of » Fall Street," Kyle McVille, to » dethrone him... For Yuri, the first » half of the espionage activities was » comprehensible, but the latter half » involving the hostile takeover was a » mission she found entirely » unacceptable.	<>	940 The plan was to infiltrate New York » with covert agents, connect with the » pacifist faction within Gameria, » supply them with funds, and » essentially, begin peacekeeping » activities. Concurrently, they » intended to reach out to the remnants » of Kronos, fund them, and ignite a » hostile takeover against 'The King of » Fall Street,' Kyle McVille, to » dethrone him... For Yuri, the first » half of the espionage activities was » comprehensible, but the latter half » involving the hostile takeover was a » mission she found entirely » unacceptable.
945	"Despite his significant influence over » global finance, Mr. Kyle is merely an » investor. Are we risking our » infiltration operation just because » of Major Kuro's personal feelings » towards him? I'm all for maintaining	<>	945 "Despite his significant influence over » global finance, Mr. Kyle is merely an » investor. Are we risking our » infiltration operation just because » of your personal feelings towards » him? I'm all for maintaining peace,

	» peace, but this Wall Street hostile takeover is not my forte, and the risk is just too high."		» but this Fall Street hostile takeover is not my forte, and the risk is just too high."
948	Yet still...	<>	948 But still...
953	"There's a significant delay from receiving instructions, passing them on, and executing them. I understand that immediate tactical maneuvering is crucial in a stock market coup, won't a remotely led operation inevitably face delays?"	<>	953 "There's a significant delay from receiving instructions, passing them on, and executing them. I understand that immediate tactical manoeuvring is crucial in a stock market coup, won't a remotely led operation inevitably face delays?"
959	Upon hearing his unexpected declaration , Yuri's eyes lit up.	<>	959 Upon hearing his unexpected offer, Yuri's eyes lit up.
960	"Will you respond honestly to anything?"		960 "Will you really respond honestly to anything?"
968	"...The primary reason Wimbert instigated war with Hinoo was to establish maritime dominance over the Grand Duchy Ocean, and secondarily, to distract from his own policy failures. The evidence lies in the fact that Hinoo's leadership had no intention of engaging Gameria in conflict - they were simply trying to ensure their own safety from the Lukiya Union's southward expansion. Additionally, Hinoo's leaders exhausted every diplomatic avenue to avoid the Grand Duchy War, but Wimbert disregarded their efforts and forced the Gull Note, which was essentially a declaration of war, upon them... For the Wimbert administration, initiating a war was a guaranteed win. The difference in national power was too significant, with the certainty of victory after three years. The plan was to defeat Hinoo so severely that it wouldn't be able to recover, and then bury their true intentions in the annals of history. Following the war, they would establish an occupation government and spread the narrative among Hinoo's citizens that "Gameria isn't the villain, it's Hinoo's leaders." During this process, the occupation government would undoubtedly recognize the invaluable influence of the royal family in ensuring the compliance of Hinoo's populace. Even if Wimbert demanded "Obey Gameria," the people of Hinoo	<>	968 "...The primary reason Wimbert instigated war with Hinoo was to establish maritime dominance over the Grand Duchy Ocean, and secondarily, to distract from his own policy failures. The evidence lies in the fact that Hinoo's leadership had no intention of engaging Gameria in conflict - they were simply trying to ensure their own safety from the Lukiya Union's southward expansion. Additionally, Hinoo's leaders exhausted every diplomatic avenue to avoid the Grand Duchy War, but Wimbert disregarded their efforts and forced the Gull Note, which was essentially a declaration of war, upon them... For the Wimbert administration, initiating a war was a guaranteed win. The difference in national power was too significant, with the certainty of victory after three years. The plan was to defeat Hinoo so severely that it wouldn't be able to recover, and then bury their true intentions in the annals of history. Following the war, they would establish an occupation government and spread the narrative among Hinoo's citizens that "Gameria isn't the villain, it's Hinoo's leaders." During this process, the occupation government would undoubtedly recognize the invaluable influence of the royal family in ensuring the compliance of Hinoo's populace. Even if Wimbert demanded "Obey Gameria," the people of Hinoo

	» would resist, but if the Emperor of » Hinoo implored for "Let's obey » Gameria," the people would grudgingly » comply. It would be impossible not to » exploit the authority of the royal » family to get the Hinoo populace to » accept Gameria's rule... Under » Wimbert's administration, the royal » family would survive even after » defeat and would be utilized for » governance. It's a bitter pill to » swallow, but the people of Hinoo » won't face extinction... However, if » Kyle were to replace Wimbert and » become president, he will certainly » dismantle the royal family after the » war. If that happens, the people of » Hinoo will be eradicated."		» would resist, but if the Emperor of » Hinoo said "Let's obey Gameria," the » people would grudgingly comply. It » would be impossible not to exploit » the authority of the royal family to » get the Hinoo populace to accept » Gameria's rule... Under Wimbert's » administration, the royal family » would survive even after defeat and » would be utilized for governance. » It's a bitter pill to swallow, but » the people of Hinoo won't face » extinction... However, if Kyle were to » replace Wimbert and become president, » he will certainly dismantle the royal » family after the war. If that » happens, the people of Hinoo will be » eradicated."
970	However, if Kyle were to ascend to » presidency, he would unquestionably » dismantle the royal family. His war » aim isn't concerned with domination » or political success.	<>	970 However, if Kyle were to ascend to » presidency, he would unquestionably » dismantle the royal family. His war » aim wasn't concerned with domination » or political success.
976	That's why she's been trying to direct » the conversation towards Isaiah , he » realized .	<>	976 —That's why she's been trying to » direct the conversation towards Isaiah » h .
978	"This woman... she's finding amusement » in our relationship."	<>	978 —This woman... She's finding amusement » in our relationship.
985	"Is this woman... could she really » be... that dreadful?!"	<>	985 —Is this woman... Could she really » be... That dreadful?
989	"What? Is that it? So the rumors were » true after all... Oh my! Oh my! Ahh!! » This guy!! This guy!!"	<>	989 "What? Is that it? So the rumors were » true after all... Oh my! Ahh! This » guy! This guy!"
990	"Don't refer to the Major as 'this » guy'. Stop nudging me with your » elbow. What's with that face? Why are » you blushing?"		990 "Don't refer to a Major as 'this guy'. » Stop nudging me with your elbow. » What's with that face? Why are you » blushing?"
991	"But... But... Ahh!!"		991 "But... But... Ahh!"
993	"So irritating...!!"	<>	993 — She's so irritating...!
996	"Mr. Kyle is planning to become the » president just to claim Princess » Isaiah as his own, isn't he?! He's so » infatuated with Princess Isaiah that » he's planning to dismantle the royal » family!! And you, Major Kuronomiya, » are trying to protect her from him by » sending me to eliminate Mr. Kyle?! Oh » my! Oh my! This man ! This maaan ! It's » so chivalrous! So pure! Confronting » the harsh world for the girl he » loves, this man , ah-!!"	<>	996 "Mr. Kyle is planning to become the » president just to claim Princess » Isaiah as his own, isn't he?! He's so » infatuated with Princess Isaiah that » he's planning to dismantle the royal » family!! And you, Major Kurono, are » trying to protect her from him by » sending me to eliminate Mr. Kyle?! Oh » my! Oh my! This guy ! This guuuy ! It's » so chivalrous! So pure! Confronting » the harsh world for the girl he » loves, this guy , ah-!"

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999	"That's not the case!! Isaiah is not » involved, I'm doing this for the sake » of the nation..."	<>	999	"That's not the case! Isaiah is not » involved, I'm doing this for the sake » of the nation..."
1001	"Kumura! Substitute!!"	<>	1001	"Kumura! Someone else, please!"
1004	"..... »?!"	<>	1004	"..."
1005	"..... »!!"		1005	"..."
1028	"Even so, it's absurd. To become » president with such a petty goal and » dismantle the royal family...."	<>	1028	"Even so, it's absurd. To become » president and dismantle the royal » family for such a petty reason...."
1030	She must be terrified and anxious, » being targeted by an unknown person. » I should be able to comfort her with » the right words, but having never » encouraged anyone in my life, I'm » unsure of what to say.	<>	1030	She must be terrified and anxious, » being targeted by an unknown person. » Clotho wanted to comfort her with the » right words, but having never » encouraged anyone in his life, he was » unsure of what to say.
1031	What slipped from my lips was a » question, devoid of any trace of » optimism.		1031	What slipped from his lips was a » question, devoid of any trace of » optimism.
1033	As I spoke, I realized my mistake. Even » I didn't understand why I needed to » ask Isaiah such a question. Yet, » without much thought, I had done so.	<>	1033	As he spoke, he realized his mistake. » Even Clotho did not understand why he » felt the need to ask Isaiah such a » question. Yet, without much thought, » he had done so.
1035	(Well done, Lieutenant Colonel Kuronomi » ya.)	<>	1035	"Well done, Lieutenant Colonel Kurono."
1036	Yuri whispered her praise to Clotho, » matching the whispering of the old » gossip next to them. Her direct » question to Isaiah was excessively » harsh.		1036	Yuri whispered mock-praise to Clotho, like » an old gossipy aunt yet again. His » direct question to Isaiah had been » excessively harsh.
1038	"...That's absurd. Such a thing happening » is impossible."	<>	1038	"...That's absurd. Such a thing would » never happen."
1043	This woman...?!	<>	1043	—This woman...
1048	How terrifying...!	<>	1048	—She's scaring her!
1051	"Pardon me, but did you get that from a » special investigation?"	<>	1051	"Pardon me, but did you get that info » from a special investigation?"
1058	"But... even if there's an off » chance..."	<>	1058	"But... Even if there's an off » chance..."
1061	"If he were to become president and » unofficially propose such a deal, » he'd only make a fool of himself on a » global scale. The Gameria's Grand » Ocean War is a national strategy that » took over thirty years to implement. » It's a gargantuan project involving » three times the GDP. There's no way » he can trade it for a single woman."	<>	1061	"If he were to become president and » unofficially propose such a deal, » he'd only make a fool of himself on a » global scale. The Gameria Grand Ocean » War is a national strategy that took » over thirty years to implement. It's » a gargantuan project involving three » times the GDP. There's no way he can » trade it for a single woman."
1064	Feeling a pang of regret for	<>	1064	Feeling a pang of regret for

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	» unintentionally reassuring Isaiah, » Clotho found himself adding » unnecessary words . 1065 "After all, if you lose the war, there » won't be a need for negotiations. » You'll belong to Kyle by force. You » never had a choice from the start. "			» unintentionally reassuring Isaiah, » Clotho found himself going too far . 1065 "After all, if you lose the war, there » won't be a need for negotiations. » You'll belong to Kyle by force. You » wouldn't have a choice anyway. "
1066	After uttering these words, Clotho » wondered why he would say such a » thing. His rhythm had been thrown off » since Yuri arrived, and he kept » tossing unnecessary words at Isaiah. 1067 (Major Clotho, you're the best.) 1068 Yuri's praise, sharp as a laser beam, » came from the side, causing Clotho to » dislike himself even more.		1066 1067 1068	After uttering these words, Clotho » wondered why he would say such a » thing. His rhythm had been thrown off » since Yuri arrived, and he just kept » tossing unnecessary words at Isaiah. "Major Clotho, you're the best." Yuri's mock -praise, sharp as a laser » beam, came from the side, making » Clotho hate himself even more.
1070	"I'd rather die. I'd drink poison and » die quickly than become that."	<>	1070	"I'd rather die. I'd drink poison and » die sooner than let that happen ."
1074	"So Major Kuronomiya returned to Hinoo » to protect Princess Shiranomiya from » Mr. Kyle."	<>	1074	"So Major Kurono, you returned to Hinoo » to protect Princess Shiranomiya from » Mr. Kyle, right? "
1083	"...Have you stirred up something » again?"	<>	1083	"...Have you been stirring up trouble » again?"
1084	Yuri, with a poker face,		1084	Yuri, with a poker face, said ,
1091	"Ah, right... In that case, Major » Kuronomiya, Rear Admiral Shiranomiya, » please take your time."	<>	1091	"Ah, right... In that case, Major » Kurono, Rear Admiral Shiranomiya, » please take your time."
1092	As if urged by Yuri, Kumura left the » balcony.		1092	As if supernaturally urged by Yuri, » Kumura left the balcony.
1097	"....." "....."	<>	1097	"..."
1098	"....." "....."		1098	"..."
1099	One blushed so profusely it seemed her » face was boiling, the other so pale » it appeared her fingertips might » freeze to the touch. There they » stood, side by side, in an » uncomfortable silence.		1099	One blushed so profusely it seemed her » face was boiling, the other so pale » it appeared his fingertips might » freeze to the touch. There they » stood, side by side, in an » uncomfortable silence.
1101	"I fight for my country."	<>	1101	"I'm fighting for the sake of my » country."
1105	"I am a steadfast patriot. That's why I » became a soldier."	<>	1105	"I'm a steadfast patriot. That's why I » became a soldier."
1107	His hesitant words and Isaiah's oddly » large response dissipated into the » night sky.	<>	1107	His hesitant words and Isaiah's bewilde » red response dissipated into the » night sky.
1108	"We're fighting for our country."		1108	"We're just fighting for our country."
1111	"See you."	<>	1111	"See you!"
1114	"I need to track down Yuri and give her » a piece of my mind."	<>	1114	—I need to track down Yuri and give » her a piece of my mind.
1115	With this thought echoing in the back		1115	With this thought echoing in the back

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	» of my mind, I navigated through the » throng of well-dressed patrons, » swaying slightly as if drunk.		» of his mind, he navigated through the » throng of well-dressed patrons, » swaying slightly as if drunk.
1116	As I did so, the words I once boldly » declared to Kyle reverberated loudly » within me.	1116	As he did so, the words he once boldly » declared to Kyle reverberated loudly » within him.
1117	"As long as I'm here, you won't lay a » finger on Isaiah."	1117	"As long as I'm here, you won't lay a » single finger on Isaiah."
1118	My heart pounded at my own » proclamation.	1118	His heart pounded at the thought of his » proclamation.
1119	That's right, when Kyle stated his » intention to claim Isaiah, something » akin to a volcanic eruption surged » from deep within me, prompting me to » challenge him. That confrontation led » to me abandoning my career as an » investor and returning to Hinoo as a » soldier.	1119	He realized that when Kyle stated his » intention to claim Isaiah, something » akin to a volcanic eruption surged » from deep within Clotho, prompting him » to challenge Kyle. That » confrontation led to him abandoning » his career as an investor and » returning to Hinoo as a soldier.
1120	Could it be... am I fighting for » Isaiah?	1120	—Could it be... Am I fighting for » Isaiah?
1121	I can't even fully comprehend my own » motivations.	1121	He couldn't even fully comprehend his » own motivations.
1122	No, no, that can't be it. I would never » accept such a trivial reason.	1122	—No, no, that can't be it. I would » never fight for such a trivial » reason.
1123	The reason why I fight is...	1123	—The reason why I fight is...
1124	My purpose in battling is...	1124	—My purpose in battling Gameria is...

	What am I, really? He couldn't comprehend the internal » turmoil that one sentence from Yuri » had created. Although he was lauded » as a genius and even considered » himself one, understanding his own » feelings made him feel as ignorant as » a child. Why do I fight... Despite my self-questioning, I'm » terrified to acknowledge the answer » within me. I lack the courage to » confront it, fearing that doing so » might cause me to lose my sense of » self. At least, that's how it feels. Unconsciously, my gaze diverts from the » depths of my own psyche. This isn't the time for » self-reflection. At the moment, Hinoo » is embroiled in a life-or-death war, » and I'm at the heart of it. I stand » at a pivotal crossroads that will » impact the lives and future of eighty » million Hinoo citizens. That's right, the fate of the nation » rests on my shoulders.	<>	1126	—What am I doing here, really? He couldn't comprehend the internal » turmoil that Yuri had stirred with » just one sentence. Although he was » lauded as a genius and even » considered himself one, understanding » his own feelings made him feel as » ignorant as a child. —Why do I fight...? Despite his self-questioning, he was » terrified to acknowledge the answer » within him. He lacked the courage to » confront it, fearing that doing so » might cause him to lose his sense of » self. At least, that was how it felt. Unconsciously, his gaze diverted from » the depths of his own psyche. This wasn't the time for » self-reflection. At the moment, Hinoo » was embroiled in a life-or-death war, » and Clotho was at the heart of it. He » stood at a pivotal crossroads that would » impact the lives and futures of » eighty million Hinooan citizens. —That's right, the fate of the nation » rests on my shoulders.
1127		1127	He couldn't comprehend the internal » turmoil that Yuri had stirred with » just one sentence. Although he was » lauded as a genius and even » considered himself one, understanding » his own feelings made him feel as » ignorant as a child. —Why do I fight...? Despite his self-questioning, he was » terrified to acknowledge the answer » within him. He lacked the courage to » confront it, fearing that doing so » might cause him to lose his sense of » self. At least, that was how it felt. Unconsciously, his gaze diverted from » the depths of his own psyche. This wasn't the time for » self-reflection. At the moment, Hinoo » was embroiled in a life-or-death war, » and Clotho was at the heart of it. He » stood at a pivotal crossroads that would » impact the lives and futures of » eighty million Hinooan citizens. —That's right, the fate of the nation » rests on my shoulders.	

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1133	There's no time for idle thoughts. I'm » here for the greater good...		1133	—There's no time for idle thoughts. » I'm here for the greater good...
1135	Meanwhile, Isaiah, left alone on the » balcony, basked in the night breeze, » her face turning as red as a boiled » lobster.	<>	1135	Meanwhile, Isaiah, left alone on the » balcony, basked in the evening » breeze, her face turning as red as a » boiled lobster.
1137	Why am I so flustered?		1137	—Why am I so flustered?
1138	I'm the fleet commander. What can I » gain by letting my emotions run wild » like this?		1138	—I'm the fleet commander. What can I » gain by letting my emotions run wild » like this?
1139	"Don't forget that you're standing here » , burdened with a great responsibility » y."		1139	—Come on Isaiah, don't forget the great » responsibility you're burdened to carry.
1140	"I keep reminding myself of this, but » my inner feelings refuse to heed it. » Every time I try to control them, » Yuri's words from earlier echo within » me."		1140	She kept reminding herself of this, but » her inner feelings refused to heed » it. Every time she tried to control » them, Yuri's words from earlier echoed » within her.
1141	"Did Clotho return to Hinoo and become » a soldier for my sake...?"		1141	—Did Clotho return to Hinoo and become » a soldier just for my sake?
1142	"To protect me from Mr. Kyle...?"		1142	—To protect me from Kyle...?
1143	"Just thinking about it makes my face » turn bright red. I try to deny such » thoughts, but the more I attempt to » erase Yuri's words, the louder they » echo."		1143	Just thinking about it made her face » turn bright red. She tried to deny » such thoughts, but the more she » attempted to erase Yuri's words, the » louder they echoed
1144	"Why am I so flustered? I don't » understand."		1144	Why was she so flustered? She could not » understand.
1145	"No, actually, I do understand, but I'm » pretending not to."		1145	No, actually, she did understand, but » she was pretending not to.
1146	"Could it be... am I happy about this?"		1146	—Could it be... Am I happy about this?
1147	"Feeling this, my face turns even » redder, as if I'm on fire, and I » instinctively clutch my head."		1147	At this thought, he face turned even » redder, as if she were on fire, and » she instinctively clutched her head.
1149	"Finally, I voice my thoughts, » reprimanding myself."	<>	1149	Finally she left her thoughts and spoke » out loud, reprimanding herself.
1150	"This is not the time to be distracted » by such trivialities. Cast aside » these petty thoughts. Do you even » comprehend the situation we're in, » you fool?"		1150	"This is not the time to be distracted » by such trivialities. Cast aside » these petty thoughts, Isaiah. Do you » even comprehend the situation we're » in, you fool?"
1151	She voiced her thoughts aloud, letting » her flushed cheeks feel the cool » night air, hoping they would cool » down faster. Feeling annoyed by the » heat that refused to fade, Isaiah was » battling to manage her own turmoil.		1151	As she scolded herself aloud, she let » her flushed cheeks feel the cool » night air, hoping they would cool » down faster. Feeling annoyed by the » heat that refused to fade, Isaiah was » battling to manage her own turmoil.
1153	For a new recruit, there's no moment » more comforting than when the ship » sets sail.	<>	1153	For a new recruit, there was no moment » more comforting than when the ship » set sail.
1154	As he gazed down at the slowly » shrinking silhouette of the Philippin » e Islands, Hayao Aiai, a third-class		1154	As he gazed down at the slowly » shrinking silhouette of the Philippine » e Islands, Hayao Aiai, a third-class

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » sailor in the Hiren's torpedo » department and a new recruit himself, » quietly exhaled a sigh of relief, » just like the other new recruits, » relishing the joy of finally heading » out to the open sea. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » sailor in the Hiren's torpedo » department and a new recruit himself, » quietly exhaled a sigh of relief, » just like the other new recruits, » relishing the joy of finally heading » out to the open sea.
1156	<p>This included not only onboard drills,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » but also fleet exercises for » synchronization with other vessels, » along with frequent mock sea-air » battles, dividing the fleet into » white and red teams. These » simulations were as demanding as » actual combat, with the only » difference being the use of dummy » ammunition. Night drills were so » intense that even collisions were not » an uncommon occurrence. Green » recruits, under the stern oversight » of seasoned veterans, were tasked » with executing various duties. These » included setting the air torpedoes as » directed by the fire control center, » hauling heavy air torpedoes from » storage using cranes for reloading, » and devising new methods for » launching torpedoes when essential » equipment was damaged or personnel » were incapacitated. These tasks were » performed relentlessly, sometimes » over several days without a break. 	<>	<p>1156 This included not only onboard drills,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » but also fleet exercises for » synchronization with other vessels, » along with frequent mock Aeronaval » battles, dividing the fleet into » white and red teams. These » simulations were as demanding as » actual combat, with the only » difference being the use of dummy » ammunition. Night drills were so » intense that even collisions were not » an uncommon occurrence. Green » recruits, under the stern oversight » of seasoned veterans, were tasked » with executing various duties. These » included setting the air torpedoes as » directed by the fire control center, » hauling heavy air torpedoes from » storage using cranes for reloading, » and devising new methods for » launching torpedoes when essential » equipment was damaged or personnel » were incapacitated. These tasks were » performed relentlessly, sometimes » over several days without a break.
1157	<p>The veterans of the "Hiren" were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » especially formidable, having » firsthand experience in large-scale » fleet battles. They drove the new » recruits relentlessly, their approach » reflecting their own lessons learned » from previous aerial combat. They » pushed the rookies, intimidated them, » and scoffed at their lack of » experience. After enduring such » grueling training nearly every day » for about three weeks, the novices' » expressions started to harden, and » they gradually became more proficient » at tackling challenging tasks such as » reloading in situations where » personnel and equipment were scarce. 		<p>1157 The veterans of the Hiren were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » especially formidable, having » firsthand experience in large-scale » fleet battles. They drove the new » recruits relentlessly, their approach » reflecting their own lessons learned » from previous aerial combat. They » pushed the rookies, intimidated them, » and scoffed at their lack of » experience. After enduring such » grueling training nearly every day » for about three weeks, the novices' » expressions started to harden, and » they gradually became more proficient » at tackling challenging tasks such as » reloading in situations where » personnel and equipment were scarce.
1158	<p>At last, today we set sail from the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » daunting anchorage of Manila, » embarking on our new journey. 		<p>1158 At last, today they would set sail from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » the daunting anchorage of Manila, » embarking on a new journey.
1159	<p>Our destination remains undisclosed.</p>		<p>1159 The destination remained undisclosed.</p>
1160	<p>Among the non-commissioned officers,</p>		<p>1160 Among the non-commissioned officers,</p>

File: (continued)

	» rumors circulate that we're likely » heading out to support the invasion » of Marie. Given the sun's position, » there's no doubt the fleet is veering » west, so it's likely true .		» rumors circulated that they were » likely heading out to support the » invasion of Marie. Given the sun's » position, there was no doubt the » fleet was veering west, so it seemed » to be likely.
1161	Once at sea, the new recruits' duties a » re confined to cleaning, deployment » training, and standing guard. We » rotate every four hours for guard » duty, and the remaining eight hours a » re spent sleeping, offering a » significant relief. As he gazes out » at the sea and sky, Hayao can't help » but wish for this peaceful voyage to » extend indefinitely.	1161	Once at sea, the new recruits' duties » were confined to cleaning, deployment » training, and standing guard. They » rotated every four hours for guard » duty, and the remaining eight hours » were spent sleeping, offering » significant relief. As he gazed out » at the sea and sky, Hayao couldn't » help but wish for this peaceful » voyage to extend indefinitely.
1162	December 10, 1938, South China Sea...	1162	December 10, 1938, South Xina Sea...
1163	Hayao currently mans the 8th lookout » post, mounted on the upper rear part » of the Hiren's hull, keeping watch. » Behind the "Hiren", five flying » destroyers from the second » air-torpedo fleet trail in a single » column formation. Looking down, one c » an see the combined fleet, led by the » flagship "Nagato", forming an » arrowhead anti-submarine formation » and stirring up white waves.	1163	Hayao was manning the eighth lookout » post, mounted on the upper rear part » of the Hiren's hull, keeping watch. » Behind the Hiren, five flying » destroyers from the second » air-torpedo fleet trailed in a single » column formation. Looking down, one c » ould see the combined fleet, led by » the flagship Nagato, forming an » arrowhead anti-submarine formation » and stirring up white waves.
1164	In comparison to the Hinoo Flying » Fleet, which sustained catastrophic » damage in the Battle of Manila Bay » and now only has one light cruiser » and five destroyers remaining, the » robustness of the naval fleet is » enviable, even to a foot soldier like » myself .	1164	In comparison to the Hinoo Flying » Fleet, which sustained catastrophic » damage in the Battle of Manila Bay » and now only had one light cruiser » and five destroyers remaining, the » robustness of the naval fleet was » enviable, even to a foot soldier like » Hayao .
1165	Our Third Fleet is divided into four » squadrons: a battleship squadron, a » heavy cruiser squadron, a torpedo » squadron, and a mobile squadron. It » consists of six battleships - the "Na » gato," "Mutsu," "Ise," "Hiyuga," "Fus » o," "Yamashiro," four heavy cruisers » - "Aoba," "Kako," "Kinugasa," "Furuta » ka," two regular aircraft carriers - » "Zuikaku," "Shiyokaku," one light » cruiser, and sixteen destroyers. We » have not been informed of the purpose » of our sortie, but the scale of our » fleet suggests that a significant » operation is imminent.	1165	The Third Fleet is divided into four » squadrons: a battleship squadron, a » heavy cruiser squadron, a torpedo » squadron, and a mobile squadron. It » consists of six battleships - the » Nagato, Mutsu, Ise, Hiyuga, Fuso, » Yamashiro; four heavy cruisers: Aoba, » Kako, Kinugasa, Furutaka; two regular » aircraft carriers: Zuikaku, Shiyokaku » ; one light cruiser; and sixteen » destroyers. They had not been » informed of the purpose of their » sortie, but the scale of the fleet » suggested that a significant » operation was imminent.
1166	About thirty minutes passed since we » left the anchorage.	1166	About thirty minutes had passed since » they left the anchorage.

	1168 "Attention. This is Shiranomiya, » Commander of the Second Fleet. On » December 8, our forces landed » simultaneously in Singora and Kota » Bharu, supported by the Fourth Fleet, » initiating the Marie Peninsula » Conquest Operation. The role of our » Second Air Torpedo Fleet is to detect » and annihilate the Ringland Far East » Fleet that is likely to sortie into » the waters off Malaya. I expect » everyone to demonstrate the full » extent of your training and defeat » the enemy successfully. That's all."	<>	1168 "Attention. This is Shiranomiya, » Commander of the Second Fleet. On » December 8, our forces landed » simultaneously in Singora and Kota » Bharu, supported by the Fourth Fleet, » initiating the Marie Peninsula » Conquest Operation. The role of our » Second Air Torpedo Fleet is to detect » and annihilate the Ringland Far East » Fleet that is likely to sortie into » the waters off Marie. I expect » everyone to demonstrate the full » extent of your training and defeat » the enemy successfully. That's all."
1170	I'm going to give it my all. Just like » Heisuke, I want to make a name for » myself and earn the princess's » recognition.	<>	1170 —I'm gonna give it my all. Just like » Heisuke, I want to make a name for » myself and earn the princess' » recognition.
1171	While he muttered this to himself, the » voice pipe buzzed.		1171 While he muttered this to himself, the » comms pipe buzzed.
1175	"Could you come down here? We're » sending a replacement watchman. There » 's an urgent matter..."	<>	1175 "Could you come down here? We're » sending a replacement watchman. It's » urgent..."
1182	"Me, an attendant for the commander!?"	<>	1182 "Me, an attendant for the commander!?"
1183	Heisuke cheerfully announced to the » flabbergasted Hayao, his direct » superior.		1183 » asked Hayao, bewildered after hearing » the situation. Heisuke cheerfully addressed the » flabbergasted Hayao.
1185	I...I'm honored, but... why me?"	<>	1185 "I...I'm honored, but... Why me?"
1186	Captain Kazenomiya asked for a » recommendation and I suggested you. » You're diligent, you have good » conduct, and just like your name » suggests, you're quick. You could » serve as a liaison with the bridge in » emergencies."		1186 "Captain Kazenomiya asked for a » recommendation and I suggested you. » You're diligent, you have good » conduct, and just like your name's » etymology suggests, you're quick. You » could serve as a liaison with the » bridge in emergencies."
1188	But... but I'm the third son of a poor » farmer! I only joined the Navy » because we were poor. I didn't even » graduate from high school. I'm sure » I'll mess things up if I serve the » princess..."	<>	1188 "But... I'm the third son of a poor » farmer! I only joined the Navy » because we were poor. I didn't even » graduate from high school. I'm sure » I'll mess things up if I serve the » princesses..."
1189	Don't worry, the princess doesn't » discriminate based on birth. I've » been observing you for the past three » weeks and I believe your conduct is » exemplary. This isn't a job that » someone vulgar could do."		1189 "Don't worry, the princesses don't » discriminate based on birth. I've » been observing you for the past three » weeks and I believe your conduct is » exemplary. This isn't a job that » someone vulgar could do."
1191	What's the matter? You're not going to » take the job?! Well then, I guess » I'll have to protect the princess	<>	1191 "What's the matter? You're not going to » take the job?! Well then, I guess » I'll have to do it!"

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	» directly!"		
1193	"If Chief Petty Officer Onitsuka isn't » at the launcher, we won't be able to » fire the Sky Thunder..."	<>	1193 "Onitsuka, if you aren't at the » launcher, we won't be able to fire » our missiles..."
1195	"I don't mind!"	<>	1195 "Fine by me!"
1196	"You should mind. What do you think we » train for every day? You, as a Sergeant » nt, should be hitting the target and » protecting the princess."		1196 "It shouldn't be. What do you think we » train for every day? You, as a Chief, » should be hitting the target and » protecting the princesses."
1197	"No! I want to protect the princess » directly too!"		1197 "No! I want to protect the princesses » directly too!"
1198	Saying that, Onitsuka slowly embraced a » nearby electricity pole, and while » glaring at Hayao, he started to rub » his cheek against it.		1198 Exclaiming this, Onitsuka slowly » embraced a nearby electricity pole, » and while glaring at Hayao, he » started to rub his cheek against it.
1199	"Like this! I'll protect her like » this!"		1199 "Like this! I'll protect them like » this!"
1201	"I'll do it like this!" "I'll protect » her like this!" "Then, I'll do it » like this!"	<>	1201 "I'll do it like this!" "I'll protect t » hem like this!" "Then, I'll do it » like this!"
1202	Saying that, they began to protect the » pole, pretending it was Isaiah, in » various positions. Some of the » soldiers were not protecting the pole » but were instead attacking it. Hayao » was so stunned that he couldn't even » speak.		1202 They began to 'protect' the pole, » pretending it was Isaiah or Rio, in » various positions. Some of the » soldiers were not protecting the pole » but instead seemed to be accosting » it. Hayao was so stunned that he » couldn't even speak.
1207	"Now, head to the command tower and » introduce yourself as the new » transfer. Both princesses are kind, » but the Kuronomiya Staff Officer » tends to be quite strict, so brace » yourself."	<>	1207 "Now, head to the command tower and » introduce yourself as the new » transfer. Both princesses are kind, » but Staff Officer Kurono tends to be » quite strict, so brace yourself."
1210	Even though the media and citizens didn » t know yet, the veterans who had » been with him since the "Ibuki" era » unanimously declared that Clotho » Kuronomiya was the key player in the » great victory of the Manilla Sea Air » Battle. It seemed that the » unprecedented military achievement, » where a single aircraft destroyer » sank five enemy battleships and three » heavy cruisers, was almost entirely » due to Clotho's strategies and » calculations. Hayao wondered if he » could truly work in such a cramped » command tower alongside such a » godlike staff officer.	<>	1210 Even though the media and citizens did » not know yet, the veterans who had » been with him since the Ibuki era » unanimously declared that Clotho » Kurono was the key player in the » great victory of the Battle of Manila » . It seemed that the unprecedented » military achievement, where a single » aircraft destroyer sank five enemy » battleships and three heavy cruisers, » was almost entirely due to Clotho's » strategies and calculations. Hayao » wondered if he could truly work in » such a cramped command tower » alongside such a godlike staff » officer.
1211	"He may always seem grumpy, but he's » not a bad person. Initially, he might » come off as intimidating and aloof,		1211 "He may always seem grumpy, but he's » not a bad person. Initially, he might » come off as intimidating and aloof,

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	» but I believe you'll find him » surprisingly approachable over time. » He enjoys being praised directly, so » do not hesitate to compliment him » when you think he's doing well. He'll » be thrilled. And remember to address » him as 'Lord Kuronomiya' when you call » I him."		» but I believe you'll find him » surprisingly approachable over time. » He enjoys being praised directly, so » do not hesitate to compliment him » when you think he's doing well. He'll » be thrilled. And remember to address » him as 'Lord Kurono' when you speak » to him."	
1212	Heisuke, who said this cheerfully, had » somewhat of a reputation back home » for remaining on the sinking "Ibuki" » with Clotho until the end, even » daring to torpedo the enemy flying » battleships that were firing from » beyond the clouds. The story of his » two torpedoes, named after his twin » sister who he had been separated from » since childhood, hitting the target » was propagated by the media as a » beautiful anecdote. Currently, people » who empathize with his situation are » reportedly searching for his sister.	1212	Heisuke, who said this cheerfully, had » somewhat of a reputation back home » for remaining on the sinking Ibuki » with Clotho until the end, even » daring to torpedo the enemy flying » battleships that were firing from » beyond the clouds. The story of his » two torpedoes, named after his twin » sister who he had been separated from » since childhood, hitting the target » was propagated by the media as a » beautiful anecdote. Currently, people » who empathize with his situation are » reportedly searching for his sister.	
1215	Despite his nerves, Hayao quickly » scaled the steep staircase and » entered the 'Command Tower' located » on the third floor of the first » bridge.	<>	1215	Despite his nerves, Hayao quickly » scaled the steep staircase and » entered the command tower located on » the third floor of the first bridge.
1216	The command tower, when viewed from » above, is shaped like a doughnut. The » central part of the floor, which » corresponds to the hole, houses a » cylindrical command device called the » 'fire control panel'. Should an enemy » ship appear, the panel itself rotates » 360 degrees to aim the rangefinder at » the top of the cylinder towards the » target.		1216	The command tower, when viewed from » above, was shaped like a doughnut. » The central part of the floor, which » corresponded to the hole, housed a » cylindrical command device called the » 'firing control panel'. Should an » enemy ship appear, the panel itself » rotated 360 degrees to aim the » rangefinder at the top of the » cylinder towards the target.
1217	In the narrow, doughnut-shaped space » around the edge of the firing panel, » Commander Isaiah Shiranomiya, Captain » Rio Kazenomiya, and Major Clotho » Kuronomiya stood upright, gazing into » the forward airspace.		1217	In the narrow, doughnut-shaped space » around the edge of the firing panel, » Commander Isaiah Shiranomiya, Captain » Rio Kazenomiya, and Major Clotho » Kurono stood upright, gazing into the » forward airspace.
1218	"So close...!"		1218	—It's a bit of a squeeze!
1219	Hayao gasped involuntarily at the » unexpected proximity within the » command tower.		1219	Hayao gasped involuntarily at the » unexpected smallness of the command » tower.
1221	"So dazzling...!"	<>	1221	—So dazzling...!
1232	He was at a loss for words, flustered » and embarrassed that Princess Rio, » whom he had always admired, had » noticed him closing his eyes during » exercises to avoid having	<>	1232	He was at a loss for words, flustered » and embarrassed that Princess Rio, » whom he had always admired, had » noticed him closing his eyes during » exercises to avoid having

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	» inappropriate thoughts. He certainly » couldn't tell the princess it was "to » suppress his instincts". As he » scrambled for an answer and his gaze » wandered, it met Clotho's piercing » stare.		» inappropriate thoughts. He certainly » couldn't tell the princess it was to » suppress his instincts. As he » scrambled for an answer and his gaze » wandered, it met Clotho's piercing » stare.	
1233	In an instant, Clotho's genius » analytical ability – known to predict » the future by interpreting all » elements on the battlefield – was » turned on Hayao's inner turmoil. My thoughts... he's reading them!	1233	In an instant, Clotho's genius » analytical ability—known to predict » the future by interpreting all » elements on the battlefield—was » turned on Hayao's inner turmoil. —He's reading my mind!	1234
1236	" You'd rather have me say that I have » no interest in your mediocre » performances and that I'd prefer to » perform in complete darkness than » acknowledge such mediocrity, isn't » that right? Quite a spirited group of » soldiers we have here."	<>	1236 "It's just that you have no interest in » the princesses' mediocre performances » and that you'd prefer to perform in » complete darkness than acknowledge » such mediocrity, isn't that right? » Quite a spirited group of soldiers we » have here."	1236
1239	If I were to honestly tell Rio, who had » thrown me a lifeline, that the cause » was the object she had casually » tilted her head towards, it would » lead to disaster. I quickly think on » my feet and concoct an excuse.	<>	1239 If he were to honestly tell Rio, who » had thrown him a lifeline, that the » cause was the object she had casually » tilted her head towards, it would » lead to disaster. He quickly thought » on his feet to concoct an excuse.	1239
1240	"I'm practicing my routines with my » eyes closed to be able to function ev » en in the dark!"		1240 "I'm practicing my routines with my » eyes closed to be able to function » better in the dark!"	1240
1244	When I confidently proclaim this lie » loudly , Rio murmurs, "Is that so?" » and smiles nonchalantly.	<>	1244 When he confidently and loudly proclaim » ed this lie, Rio murmured, "Is that » so?" and smiled nonchalantly.	1244
1249	They're both so incredibly kind...	<>	1249 —They're both so incredibly kind...	1249
1250	He became a fan of the two princesses » in an instant. He now fully » understood why the veteran soldiers » were so smitten with them. If these » were the princesses who would speak » to him in such a way, he wouldn't » hesitate to lay down his life for » them.	<>	1250 He became a fan of the two princesses » in an instant. He now fully » understood why the veteran soldiers » were so smitten with them. If these » were the princesses who would speak » to him in such a way, he would not » hesitate to lay down his life for » them.	1250
1251	"That's the watch post over there. Go » relieve Mew."		1251 "That's the watch post over there. » Could you go relieve Mew?."	1251
1254	Hayao promptly moved to cross in front » of the three of them. The passageway » was so narrow that he could » accidentally touch them if he didn't » watch out. He tried to lean as much » as possible towards the outer wall as » he passed by, ending up in an awkward » posture.	<>	1254 Hayao promptly moved to cross in front » of the three of them. The passageway » was so narrow that he could » accidentally touch them if he did not » watch out. He tried to lean as much » as possible towards the outer wall as » he passed by, ending up in an awkward » posture.	1254
1255	Rio chuckled,		1255 Rio chuckled.	1255
1257	"No, that's unthinkable! I managed to	<>	1257 "No, we don't have to! I can manage to	1257

File: (continued)

» get by...!"		» get by..."	
1259	<p>Lieutenant Junior Grade Mew Togakushi</p> <p>» stood starkly against the backdrop of</p> <p>» a clear blue sky at an altitude of</p> <p>» 1,200 meters, merely a stone's throw</p> <p>» away.</p>	<>	<p>Lieutenant Junior Grade Mew Togakushi</p> <p>» stood starkly against the backdrop of</p> <p>» a clear blue sky at an altitude of 39</p> <p>» 00 feet, merely a stone's throw away.</p>
1261	"....."	<>	1261 "..."
1263	<p>As always, her eyes remained shut. It</p> <p>» was a mystery how she managed to keep</p> <p>» watch in this manner, but the</p> <p>» veterans hailed Mew's surveillance</p> <p>» skills as 'supernatural'. The night</p> <p>» vision of average lookouts was 4,000</p> <p>» meters, and the lookouts of the Hinoo</p> <p>» navy, renowned as the world's best,</p> <p>» could see up to 8,000 meters.</p> <p>» However, Mew was able to spot enemy</p> <p>» ships 15,000 meters away in the</p> <p>» night, accurately determining their</p> <p>» course, speed, and distance. If these</p> <p>» stories were true, there was no</p> <p>» denying her supernatural abilities.</p>	<>	<p>As always, her eyes remained shut. It</p> <p>» was a mystery how she managed to keep</p> <p>» watch in this manner, but the</p> <p>» veterans hailed Mew's surveillance</p> <p>» skills as 'supernatural'. The night</p> <p>» vision of average lookouts was 4,000</p> <p>» yards, and the lookouts of the Hinoo</p> <p>» navy, renowned as the world's best,</p> <p>» could see up to 8,000 yards. However,</p> <p>» Mew was able to spot enemy ships</p> <p>» 15,000 yards away in the night,</p> <p>» accurately determining their course,</p> <p>» speed, and distance. If these stories</p> <p>» were true, there was no denying her</p> <p>» supernatural abilities.</p>
1265	<p>.....I alone am sufficient as a</p> <p>» soldier."</p>	+-	
		-+	1266 <p>...I alone am sufficient as a</p> <p>» soldier."</p>
1272	But as they crossed paths...	<>	1272 <p>But as they crossed paths, she</p>
1273	<p>If you dare to touch their Highnesses,</p> <p>» I'll throw you off from here."</p>		1273 <p>whispered to Hayao,</p>
1274"		1274 <p>If you dare to touch their Highnesses,</p> <p>» I'll throw you overboard."</p>
1274			1274 <p>..."</p>
1279	Lieutenant Togakushi is terrifying...	<>	1279 <p>—Lieutenant Togakushi is terrifying...</p>
1281	<p>I thought Chief Petty Officer Onitsuka</p> <p>» was the scariest person on board, but</p> <p>» Mew trumps him in that regard. I</p> <p>» heard a rumor that Mew once choked</p> <p>» Onitsuka with a naked stranglehold</p> <p>» when he tried to peek at the bathing</p> <p>» princesses. Despite her delicate and</p> <p>» petite stature, she's stronger than</p> <p>» Onitsuka. She must truly be a</p> <p>» real-life monster.</p>	<>	<p>Hayao had thought Chief Petty Officer</p> <p>» Onitsuka was the scariest person on</p> <p>» board, but Mew trumped him in that</p> <p>» regard. He had heard a rumor that Mew</p> <p>» once choked Onitsuka with a naked</p> <p>» stranglehold when he tried to peek at</p> <p>» the princesses bathing. Despite her</p> <p>» delicate and petite stature, she was</p> <p>» stronger than Onitsuka. She must</p> <p>» truly be a real-life monster.</p>
1282	This job is a matter of life and		1282 <p>—This job is a matter of life and</p>
	» death...		» death...
1284	The low roar of the engine reverberated	<>	1284 <p>The low roar of the engine reverberated</p>
	» as the "Hiren" cleaved through the		» as the Hiren cleaved through the
	» clouds, heading westward.		» clouds, heading westward.
1286	On the sea, the Third Naval Fleet was	<>	1286 <p>On the sea, the Third Naval Fleet was</p>
	» about 10,000 meters behind, leaving		» about 10,000 yards behind, leaving
	» dozens of trails on the ocean surface		» dozens of trails on the ocean surface
	» as they continued their assault.		» as they continued their assault.

	1289	During the voyage, I shared watch duty » with Mew, alternating every four to » six hours. My job was to relay » Isaiah's instructions to the officers » in the compass bridge below, or carry » orders to the telegraph room to be » sent to the trailing ships. There » were a ton of liaison tasks. At » first, I was on edge working so » closely with the royal family, but as » time passed, I grew accustomed to » this space, and my feelings mellowed.	<>	1289	During the voyage, he shared watch duty » with Mew, alternating every four to » six hours. His job was to relay » Isaiah's instructions to the officers » in the compass bridge below, or carry » orders to the telegraph room to be » sent to the trailing ships. There » were a ton of liaison tasks. At » first, he was on edge working so » closely with the royal family, but as » time passed, he grew accustomed to » this space, and his feelings » mellowed.
	1291	During breaks, the sailors typically » kicked back in the crew's quarters or » in the shade of the ship's deck. But » each time I'd make my way to the » barracks, instantly a group of » seasoned sailors would swarm me. They » 'd bombard me with questions, their » curiosity barely hidden: "What's the » princess like?" "Have you spoken to » her?" "What did you talk about, and » how?" Some even dared to propose » outrageous ideas like "Snatch a quick » glance" or "Swipe her underwear". The » re were even oddballs suggesting such » nonsense, so I learned my lesson and » quit going to the crew's quarters. Sp » eaking of which, the walls of the » crew's quarters were decked out with » mass-produced posters and bromides of » both princesses. Most notably, the » bikini photo of Rio taken last month » was prominently displayed on most of » the sailors' bunks, providing them » with some comfort.	<>	1291	During breaks, the sailors typically » kicked back in the crew's quarters or » in the shade of the ship's deck. But » each time Hayao would make his way to » the barracks, instantly a group of » seasoned sailors would swarm him. They » would bombard him with » questions, their curiosity barely » hidden: "What're the princesses » like?" "Have you spoken to them?" » "What did you talk about?" Some even » dared to propose outrageous ideas » like "Snatch a quick glance" or » "Swipe their underwear". Hayao got » fed up of them suggesting such » nonsense, so he learned his lesson » and quit going to the crew's » quarters. He had also noticed that » the walls of the crew's quarters were » decked out with mass-produced posters » and memorabilia of both princesses. » Most notably, the bikini photo of Rio » taken last month was prominently » displayed on most of the sailors' » bunks, providing them with some » comfort.
	1292	I found the deck too busy for rest, as » the veterans would always seek me » out, bombarding me with a flurry of » pointless questions. So, I obtained » permission from the captain to spend » my breaks at the anti-aircraft » observation post directly above the » command tower, effectively at the » peak of the bridge structure, instead » of wandering down to the hull.	<>	1292	He found the deck too busy for rest, as » the veterans would always seek him » out, bombarding him yet again with a » flurry of pointless questions. So, he » obtained permission from the captain » to spend his breaks at the » anti-aircraft observation post » directly above the command tower, » effectively at the peak of the bridge » structure, instead of wandering down » to the hull.
	1294	I dined during my break, then snuggled » into a blanket at the anti-aircraft » observation post and drifted to	<>	1294	Hayao dined during his break, then » snuggled into a blanket at the » anti-aircraft observation post and

	» sleep. Six hours later, I awoke to » the star-filled sky of the South » Seas. 1295 I descended to the command tower and » notified Mew, who was on watch, of » the shift change. 1296 "....." 1297 Mew shot me an annoyed glance, but » returned quietly to the women's » officer's quarters adjacent to the » senior officer's room in the hull. 1298 The command tower was cloaked in » darkness, save for the faint glow of » radium light. On a quick peek inside, » I saw Isaiah was still awake, » gripping the helm in Rio's absence » during her break, her gaze fixed on » the starry sky beyond the glass. 1299 Suddenly, a thought crossed my mind. 1300 When does Commander Isaiah ever find » time to rest? 1301 For the entirety of today , Isaiah had » been standing watch in the command » tower. I understand that it's » advantageous for the commander to be » in the command tower since we never » know when a telegram from another » ship might arrive, but she never seem » s to rest despite having a dedicated » commander's room available for » breaks. 1302 The same could be said for Clotho » standing beside her. Throughout the » day, he was constantly receiving » communications, and with each new » piece of information, he updated the » operation map spread out on the chart » table, detailing the positions of our » forces and the enemy's. He added what » we knew about the enemy based on the » reports from the reconnaissance » aircraft to the map, but our vision » beyond the Malacca Strait remained » obstructed due to enemy interference.		» drifted to sleep. Six hours later, he » awoke to the star-filled sky of the » South Seas. 1295 He descended to the command tower and » notified Mew, who was on watch, of » the shift change. 1296 "..." 1297 Mew shot him an annoyed glance, but » returned quietly to the female » officer's quarters adjacent to the » senior officer's room in the hull. 1298 The command tower was cloaked in » darkness, save for the faint glow of » radium light. On a quick peek inside, » he saw Isaiah was still awake, » gripping the helm in Rio's absence » during her break, her gaze fixed on » the starry sky beyond the glass. 1299 Suddenly, a thought crossed his mind. 1300 —When does Commander Isaiah ever find » time to rest? 1301 For the entirety of that day, Isaiah » had been standing watch in the » command tower. Hayao understood that » it was advantageous for the commander » to be in the command tower since they » could never know when a telegram from » another ship might arrive, but she » never seemed to rest despite having a » dedicated commander's room available » for breaks. 1302 The same could be said for Clotho » standing beside her. Throughout the » day, he was constantly receiving » communications, and with each new » piece of information, he updated the » operation map spread out on the chart » table, detailing the positions of » Hinoo's forces and the enemy's. He » added what they knew about the enemy » based on the reports from the » reconnaissance aircraft to the map, » but vision beyond the Malacca Strait » remained obstructed due to enemy » interference.
1306	"Avoid speculation. Aiai, please do not » repeat this."	<>	1306 "Avoid speculation. Aiai, please do not » repeat this to anyone ." 1307 Although Hayao was positioned outside, » there were no partitions between the » command tower and the watch post, and » the two of them were just about a » meter and a half away from him. » Therefore, even if he didn't mean to

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	» eavesdrop, their conversation was » still audible to him.		» eavesdrop, their conversation was » still audible to him.
1313	" You will surely regret not » investigating the island of Surabaya. » The commander disregards the advice » of a novice like me. He pretends to » listen but doesn't actually hear what » anyone else says."	<>	1313 "They will surely regret not » investigating the island of Surabaya. » The commander disregards the advice » of a novice like me. He pretends to » listen but doesn't actually hear what » anyone else says."
1320	"Do you honestly believe air torpedos » can take down airships in broad » daylight? There's no historical » record of such a victory. If the » enemy airship fleet shows up, it's » game over for Hinoo. McLoughlin, » without a doubt, would send his » airship fleet to our most vulnerable » spot at the worst possible time. Our » Commander-in-Chief Babahara, with his » by-the-book strategy, won't be able » to outmaneuver the unpredictable » McLoughlin. If you're truly committed » to winning this war, you'll heed my » advice."	<>	1320 "Do you honestly believe air torpedos » can take down airships in broad » daylight? There's no historical » record of such a victory. If the » enemy airship fleet shows up, it's » game over for Hinoo. McLoughlin, » without a doubt, would send his » airship fleet to our most vulnerable » spot at the worst possible time. Our » Commander-in-Chief Babahara, with his » by-the-book strategy, won't be able » to outmanoeuvre the unpredictable » McLoughlin. If you're truly committed » to winning this war, you'll heed my » advice."
1321	The common belief that air torpedos are » ineffective during the day stems from » their visibility as they soar through » the air, making them easy targets for » anti-aircraft guns. Consequently, » there isn't a single documented case » of an airship being brought down by » an airplane in the annals of military » history.		1321 The common belief that air torpedos were » e ineffective during the day stemmed » from their visibility as they soared » through the air, making them easy » targets for anti-aircraft guns. » Consequently, there wasn't a single » documented case of an airship being » brought down this way in the annals » of military history.
1322	"The recent strategic meeting » determined that commanders can act » independently based on the situation » on the battlefield. This is the » moment to exercise that right. If you » want to save this country, follow me. » "		1322 "The recent strategic meeting » determined that commanders can act » independently based on the situation » on the battlefield. This is the » moment to exercise that right. If you » want to save this country, follow my » advice ."
1337	Respectfully accepting the memo with » both hands, I darted towards the » exit.	<>	1337 Respectfully accepting the memo with » both hands, Hayao darted towards the » exit.
1338	I glanced at the contents of the memo » as I handed it over to the signalman » in the telegraph room below deck.		1338 He glanced at the contents of the memo » as he handed it over to the signalman » in the telegraph room below deck.
1341	"Sender: Commander of the Second Fleet. » Recipient: Second Air Raid Fleet 'Kaw » ayodo', 'Sugurono', 'Yasose', 'Sakash » io', 'Unami'.	<>	1341 "Sender: Commander of the Second Fleet. » Recipient: Second Air Raid Fleet » Kawayodo, Sugurono, Yasose, Sakashio, » Unami.
1342	The Hiren is assigned to independently » monitor the Malacca Strait. The » Kawayodo will act as the flagship, » following the lead of the Combined		1342 Message: The Hiren is assigned to » independently monitor the Malacca » Strait. The Kawayodo will act as the » flagship, following the lead of the

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	» Fleet Headquarters." 1343 I was taken aback, left with nothing to » do but gasp sharply.		1343	» Combined Fleet Headquarters." He was taken aback, left with nothing » to do but gasp sharply.
1345	If this strategy backfires, it could » potentially lead to a future demotion » for Isaiah, who made this decision » single-handedly.	<>	1345	If this strategy backfired, it could » potentially lead to a future demotion » for Isaiah, who made this decision » single-handedly.
1346	However, this path also takes full » advantage of our air fleet's » capabilities.		1346	However, this path also took full » advantage of the air fleet's » capabilities.
1347	Due to the presence of numerous small » islands, each filled with battery » groups, scattered around the entrance » to the Malacca Strait, the combined » fleet of Hinoo cannot enter. It is » only after the army has taken over » the Singapore Fortress and the » battery group has surrendered that » the maritime fleet can venture into » the Malacca Strait.		1347	Due to the presence of numerous small » islands, each filled with battery » groups, scattered around the entrance » to the Malacca Strait, the combined » fleet of Hinoo cannot enter. It was » only after the army had taken over » the Fort of Singapore and the battery » group had surrendered that the » maritime fleet could venture into the » Malacca Strait.
1348	However, the air fleet can ignore these » geographical restrictions. By » crossing over the Marie Peninsula, » the fleet can reach the Malacca » Strait and get ready for an enemy air » fleet. Under the current » circumstances, it is more » advantageous for the air fleet to » operate independently rather than » cooperate with the maritime fleet.		1348	However, the air fleet could ignore » these geographical restrictions. By » crossing over the Marie Peninsula, » the fleet could reach the Malacca » Strait and get ready for an enemy air » fleet. Under the current » circumstances, it was more » advantageous for the air fleet to » operate independently rather than » cooperate with the maritime fleet.
1355	Despite her complaints, Isaiah grabbed » the voice pipe that led to the engine » control room.	<>	1355	Despite her complaints, Isaiah grabbed » the comms pipe that led to the engine » control room.
1361	"'Kawayodo' will follow the flagship. ' » Sugurono' will take command." "'Sugur » ono' will follow 'Hiren'. 'Yasose' » will take command." "'Yasose' will » follow 'Hiren'. Is 'Hiren' okay to be » the command ship?"	<>	1361	"Kawayodo will follow the flagship. » Sugurono will take command." "Suguron » o will follow Hiren. Yasose will take » command." "Yasose will follow Hiren. » Is Hiren okay to be the command » ship?"
1362	The captains under my command relayed » their decision to pass on the fleet » command to the remaining ships and » proceed towards the Strait of Malacca » with Isaiah.		1362	The captains under Isaiah's command » relayed their decision to pass on the » fleet command to the remaining ships » and proceed towards the Strait of » Malacca with Isaiah.
1366	"Involving the aerial fleet in a naval » battle is a poor strategy. What's the » point if we don't utilize their » ability to bypass coastlines? Let » those who wish to follow do so. The » ones who will be punished later are » just you and the captains."	<>	1366	"Involving the aerial fleet in a naval » battle is a poor strategy. What's the » point if we don't utilize their » ability to bypass coastlines? Let » those who wish to follow do so. The » ones who will be punished later are » you and the captains."
1368	"This is 'Sakashio', we stand with Her	<>	1368	"This is Sakashio, we stand with Her

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	» Highness Shiranomiya." "The 'Unami', » we pledge our lives to Her Highness » Shiranomiya."		» Highness Shiranomiya." " This is Unami » , we pledge our lives to Her Highness » Shiranomiya."
1371	"Aiai Sanzui , send the telegram..."	<>	1371 "Aiai, send the telegram..."
1377	The current staff at the Combined Fleet » headquarters were all favorites of » Commander-in-Chief Babahara, and the » atmosphere was more bureaucratic than » military. There were some who were » more intent on preserving their » current ranks than protecting the » nation. It wouldn't be surprising if » they suppressed a troublesome » telegram.	<>	1377 The current staff at the Combined Fleet » headquarters were all favorites of » Commander-in-Chief Babahara, and the » atmosphere was more bureaucratic than » military. There were some who were » more intent on preserving their » current ranks than protecting the » nation. It would not be surprising if » they suppressed a troublesome » telegram.
1378	"If headquarters ignores us, it's » actually convenient. We can do as we » please. If they send us a barrage of » curses, we'll have the last laugh » once we succeed."	<>	1378 "If headquarters ignores us, it's » actually quite convenient. We can do » as we please. If they send us a » barrage of curses, we'll have the » last laugh once we succeed."
1381	The hum of the engine changed, and from » the prow of the Hiren, the shimmering » effect of the Seras phenomenon began » to billow upwards.	<>	1381 The hum of the engine changed, and from » the prow of the Hiren, the shimmering » of the Seras Effect began to billow » upwards.
1384	"They'll follow us, ignoring your call . » This is an unprecedeted act of » recklessness - all five ships acting » independently. This hasn't been done » since the establishment of the » Combined Fleet."	<>	1384 "They'll follow us, even if you tell » them not to . This is an unprecedeted » act of recklessness-all five ships » acting independently. This hasn't » been done since the establishment of » the Combined Fleet."
1387	She grumbled, not requesting the » following ships to hold back, leaving » it to each captain's discretion. As » Clotho had mentioned before, a » captain's discretionary actions are » allowed during combat. If they were » to face criticism later on, they » could argue that 'approaching the » battlefield is generally considered » combat'. With this thought, Isaiah » decided to focus on the approaching » battle.	<>	1387 She grumbled, not requesting the » following ships to hold back, leaving » it to each captain's discretion. As » Clotho had mentioned before, a » captain's discretionary actions are » allowed during combat. If they were » to face criticism later on, they » could argue that approaching the » battlefield is generally considered ' » combat'. With this thought, Isaiah » decided to focus on the approaching » battle.
1391	Isaiah studied the tactical map, » estimating that given their ship's » course and speed, they would likely » encounter the enemy aircraft about » 150 nautical miles off the coast of » Marie Peninsula. Given the current » technology, airplanes aren't » well-suited for night combat, so...	<>	1391 Isaiah studied the tactical map, » estimating that given their ship's » course and speed, they would likely » encounter the enemy aircraft about » 150 nautical miles off the coast of » Marie Peninsula. Given the current » technology, airplanes were not » well-suited for night combat, so...
1402	Engaging in playful banter, Isaiah and » Clotho continued to occupy the » command tower.	<>	1402 Engaging in playful banter, Isaiah and » Clotho both continued to occupy the » command tower.

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1403	"They're incredibly close..."	<>	1403	—They're incredibly close...
1406	"If an idiotic woman like you works » tirelessly, it only amplifies your » foolishness and leads to more damage. » Accept your incompetence and step » back."	<>	1406	"If a dumb woman like you works » tirelessly, it only amplifies your » foolishness and leads to more damage. » Accept your incompetence and take a » step back."
1408	"What an odd bunch..."	<>	1408	—What an odd bunch...
1409	He pondered, all the while surveying » the star-studded sky over the South » Sea.	<>	1409	He pondered on this while surveying the » star-studded sky over the South Sea.
1415	No sooner had she finished speaking » than cheers erupted from the seasoned » sailors aboard. Spirited shouts » echoed from the other end of the » voice pipe.	<>	1415	No sooner had she finished speaking » than cheers erupted from the seasoned » sailors aboard. Spirited shouts » echoed from the other end of the » comms pipe.
1417	Beside Isaiah, a recently awakened Rio » cheerfully called out into the voice » pipe in a practiced tone.	<>	1417	Beside Isaiah, a recently awakened Rio » cheerfully called out into the comms » pipe in a practiced tone.
1420	"I love you all!! When this is all » over, let's celebrate together!"	<>	1420	"I love you all! When this is all over, » let's celebrate together!"
1421	"Woah..." "Yeah..." "Our... lady ...!"		1421	"Woah..." "Yeah..." "Our... Lady ...!"
1422	The excitement within the ship reached » a crescendo, the veterans' shouts » echoing so loudly within the hull » that the voice pipe seemed redundant.		1422	The excitement within the ship reached » a crescendo, the veterans' shouts » echoing so loudly within the hull » that the comms pipe seemed redundant.
1423	What a remarkable battleship this is...		1423	—What a remarkable battleship this » is...
1424	As the adrenaline buzzes in one ear, » Hayao is overwhelmed again. This » atmosphere is drastically different » from his training in the Marine » Corps. It's clear that the veteran » soldiers are fighting more for Isaiah » and Rio than for their nation.		1424	As the adrenaline buzzed in one ear, » Hayao was overwhelmed again. This » atmosphere was drastically different » from his training in the Marine » Corps. It was clear that the veteran » soldiers were fighting more for » Isaiah and Rio than for their nation.
1425	Yet Isaiah doesn't criticize this » sentiment. Instead, she stands tall, » commanding with an authoritative » demeanor.		1425	Yet Isaiah did not criticize this » sentiment. Instead, she stood tall, » commanding with an authoritative » demeanor.
1427	Cheers reverberate from the sailors » through the sound tubes again, while » messengers stationed throughout the » ship start shouting "Prepare for » anti-aircraft combat!" and scramble » about.	<>	1427	Cheers reverberated from the sailors » through the comms tubes again, while » messengers stationed throughout the » ship started shouting "Prepare for » anti-aircraft combat!" and scramble » about.
1428	Gunners man the Hiren's four » triple-mounted 15-centimeter main » guns on both sides, beginning to load » the fragmentation shells, which are » adjusted to explode at a horizontal » distance of 3,000 meters . In the » ammunition depot, even the normally » kitchen-bound commissary personnel,		1428	Gunners manned the Hiren's four » triple-mounted six-inch main guns on » both sides, beginning to load the » fragmentation shells, which were » adjusted to explode at a horizontal » distance of 3,000 yards . In the » ammunition depot, even the normally » kitchen-bound commissary personnel,

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	» who usually spend their time chopping » vegetables, are tasked with lifting » the heavy shells to the guns. The » free-handed engine crew members then » assist the four 25mm machine gun » emplacements hanging from the hull » bottom.		» who usually spent their time chopping » vegetables, were tasked with lifting » the heavy shells to the guns. The » free-handed engine crew members then » assisted the four one-inch machine » gun emplacements hanging from the » hull bottom.
1429	In the command tower, the sudden flurry » of activity inside the ship is » conveyed through the open sound » tubes.	1429	In the command tower, the sudden flurry » of activity inside the ship was » conveyed through the open comms » tubes.
1433	May I carry out my duties without fail. » ..	<> 1433	—May I carry out my duties without » incident...
1440	"No way," Hayao muttered under his » breath. Regardless of the time of » day, he couldn't believe a human » could visually confirm an enemy plane » 36,000 meters away.	<> 1440	"No way," Hayao muttered under his » breath. Regardless of the time of » day, he couldn't believe a human » could visually confirm an enemy plane » 36,000 yards away.
1441	Despite his doubts, Isaiah lifted the » lid of the voice tube connecting to » various parts of the ship and relayed » Mew's report.	<> 1441	Despite Hayao's doubts, Isaiah lifted » the lid of the comms tube connecting » to various parts of the ship and » relayed Mew's report.
1444	Doubts began to gnaw at Hayao. Was this » really okay? Mew was the only one who » could see the enemy plane. It could » be a mistake, and if there was no » enemy plane, Isaiah would end up emba » rrassed.	<> 1444	Doubts began to gnaw at Hayao. Was this » really okay? Mew was the only one who » could see the enemy plane. It could » be a mistake, and if there was no » enemy plane, Isaiah would end up » humiliated.
1449	Two minutes passed. Suddenly, an » intense voice from the front lookout » came through the speaking tube.	<> 1449	Two minutes passed. Suddenly, an » intense voice from the front lookout » came through the comms tube.
1455	Around two minutes and thirty seconds » later, the reports of enemy aircraft » suddenly increased.	<> 1455	Around two and a half minutes later, » reports of enemy aircraft suddenly » increased.
1459	Isaiah announced. Hayao still couldn't » see anything. But right next to him, » Mew alone,	<> 1459	Isaiah announced. Hayao still couldn't » see anything. But right next to him, » Mew reeled off vital information,
1461	She even relayed the enemy's movements. » Mew could truly see the tiny enemy » aircraft moving even sixteen thousand » meters away...!	<> 1461	She even relayed the enemy's movements. » Mew could truly see the tiny enemy » aircraft moving even sixteen thousand » yards away!
1462	She's a monster!	<> 1462	—She's a monster!
1466	The voices of the lookouts were » transmitted one after another through » the voice pipes.	<> 1466	The voices of the lookouts were » transmitted one after another through » the comms pipes.
1473	Clutching the voice pipe to the gunnery » control, she spoke her thoughts out » loud.	<> 1473	Clutching the comms pipe to the gunnery » control, she spoke her thoughts out » loud.
1475	From the other end of the voice pipe » came the firm voice of Major Totoro, » the artillery staff officer, quickly	<> 1475	From the other end of the comms pipe » came the firm voice of Major Totoro, » the artillery staff officer, quickly

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	» followed by the eager voices of the » gunnery crew assembled around him.		» followed by the eager voices of the » gunnery crew assembled around him.
1477	The fate of the Hiren hung in the » balance, reliant on its four fifteen- » centimeter main guns and its four » twenty-five-millimeter anti-aircraft » machine gun seats. The soldiers in » position eyed the approaching enemy » aircraft with tense expressions.	<>	1477 The fate of the Hiren hung in the » balance, reliant on its four six-inch » main guns and its four one-inch » anti-aircraft machine gun seats. The » soldiers in position eyed the » approaching enemy aircraft with tense » expressions.
1479	The relaxed and teasing voices echoed » from the air defense crew, who had no » role to play against the aircraft. » They all lined up along the deck » railing, treating the air battle as a » spectacle.	<>	1479 The relaxed and teasing voices echoed » from the air defense crew, who had no » role to play against the aircraft. » They all lined up along the deck » railing, treating the air battle as a » spectacle to behold .
1481	"I'm leaving the steering to you. If » you think you can maneuver the ship » into the path of a downed air » torpedo, give it a try."	<>	1481 "I'm leaving the steering to you. If » you think you can manoeuvre the ship » into the path of a downed air » torpedo, give it a try."
1485	The aerodynamically shaped nose of the » aircraft was heading straight for the » Hiren, flying at a mere twenty meters » above the ground.	<>	1485 The aerodynamically shaped nose of the » aircraft was heading straight for the » Hiren, flying at a mere twenty yards » above the ground.
1490	"It's difficult for fighter jets to » attack airborne vessels . It's » practically impossible."	<>	1490 "It's difficult for fighter jets to » attack airships . It's practically » impossible."
1493	At the same moment that Clotho » responded, the enemy fighter squadron » entered the shooting range of three » thousand horizontal meters in an » instant.	<>	1493 At the same moment that Clotho » responded, the enemy fighter squadron » entered the shooting range of three » thousand horizontal yards in an » instant.
1495	The artillery sergeant's order echoed » through the voice pipe.	<>	1495 The artillery sergeant's order echoed » through the comms pipe.
1496	The 25-millimeter anti-aircraft gun » turret roared to life, delivering a » scorching barrage towards the swiftly » approaching enemy squadron.		1496 The one-inch anti-aircraft gun turret » roared to life, delivering a » scorching barrage towards the swiftly » approaching enemy squadron.
1497	The enemy aircraft didn't retreat. They » dove headlong into the turbulent » flames, rather than avoiding them.		1497 The enemy aircraft did not retreat. » They dove headlong into the turbulent » flames, rather than avoiding them.
1498	The river of fire spewed out by the "Hi » ren" was pierced by the machine gun » bullets fired from the wings of the » enemy aircraft.		1498 The river of fire spewed out by the » Hiren was pierced by the machine gun » bullets fired from the wings of the » enemy aircraft.
1499	The sound of the "Hiren's" armor » deflecting the bullets echoed - » clink, clink, clink. The armor of a » light cruiser could deflect the » gunfire from a fighter plane. » However, the watchmen in the lower » part of the hull and the gunners in » the hanging turrets were at risk of		1499 The sound of the Hiren's armor » deflecting the bullets echoed-clink, » clink, clink. The armor of a light » cruiser could deflect the gunfire » from a fighter plane. However, the » watchmen in the lower part of the » hull and the gunners in the hanging » turrets were at risk of damage.

	» damage. 1500 Accompanied by the terrifying roar of » their propellers, twelve Notorious » aircraft sped past the edges of the " » Hiren's" port and starboard sides. It » was as if they were trying to trap » the "Hiren", and then, they fired at » the trailing air destroyer from the » same altitude.		1500 Accompanied by the terrifying roar of » their propellers, twelve Notorious » aircraft sped past the edges of the " » Hiren's port and starboard sides. It » was as if they were trying to trap » the Hiren, and then, they fired at » the trailing air destroyer from the » same altitude.
1504	Until now, research had suggested that » while it wasn't impossible for a » fighter plane to shoot an airship, it » was extremely difficult and the risks » usually outweighed the benefits. » Hence, it wasn't encouraged in the » Hinoo air squadrons. Just above the » hull lay the lower layer of the » floatation zone. If a wing touched » it, the plane would lose lift and » plummet. With an altitude of 1,200 me » ters, the risk of a pilot falling to » his death was high, so no country's » fighters had exhibited this type of » behavior until now.	<>	1504 Until now, research had suggested that » while it wasn't impossible for a » fighter plane to shoot an airship, it » was extremely difficult and the risks » usually outweighed the benefits. » Hence, it wasn't encouraged in the » Hinoo air squadrons. Just above the » hull lay the lower layer of the » floatation zone. If a wing touched » it, the plane would lose lift and » plummet. With an altitude of 3900 fee » t, the risk of a pilot falling to his » death was high, so no country's » fighters had exhibited this type of » behavior until now.
1505	"The Ringland air and naval forces are » the masters of the Hinoo navy. » They're the ones who instilled in us » the spirit of naval warfare. Even » though we didn't suffer much damage, » they've showcased their military » spirit."		1505 "The Ringland Aeronaval forces are » masters at what they do. They're the » ones who instilled in us the spirit » of aeronaval warfare. Even though we » didn't suffer much damage, they've » showcased their military spirit. "
1508	Saying this , Isaiah cast a glance back » over her shoulder.	<>	1508 As she spoke , Isaiah cast a glance back » over her shoulder.
1509	The Notorious, unafraid of stalling, » daringly fired at the six enemy air cr » aft as they soared by. Now, the four » groups split into the four cardinal » directions, commencing a turn 4,500 » meters apart.		1509 The Notorious, unafraid of stalling, » daringly fired at the six enemy air sh » ips as they soared by. Now, the four » groups split into the four cardinal » directions, commencing a turn 4,500 » yards apart.
1513	"Exactly. I don't intend to be the » first aerial vessel taken down by an » aircraft."	<>	1513 "Exactly. I don't intend for us to be » the first airship taken down by an » aircraft."
1514	As she muttered this, Isaiah grabbed » the voice pipe connected to the » firing control room.		1514 As she muttered this, Isaiah grabbed » the comms pipe connected to the » firing control room.
1519	The Garfield bombers of the Ringland » army. Usually, torpedo bombers » attacking naval vessels had torpedoes » hanging from their undercarriage, but » these bombers were structured » distinctively to 'launch' torpedoes » at the floating sphere. The cockpit » was a spherical structure, its front	<>	1519 She was referring to the Garfield » bombers of the Ringland army. » Usually, torpedo bombers attacking » naval vessels had torpedoes hanging » from their undercarriage, but these » bombers were structured distinctively » to 'launch' torpedoes at the floating » sphere. The cockpit was a spherical

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	» covered by organic glass stretched over beams. The tail was designed as a double vertical stabilizer. Where a regular aircraft would have a cockpit and a vertical stabilizer, there was a massive air torpedo, six meters long, installed along the central line of the aircraft's upper section.		» structure, its front covered by organic glass stretched over beams. The tail was designed as a double vertical stabilizer. Where a regular aircraft would have a cockpit and a vertical stabilizer, there was a massive air torpedo, six yards long, installed along the central line of the aircraft's upper section.
1520	The enemy fleet was approximately 7000 » meters away.	1520	The enemy fleet was approximately 7000 » yards away.
1521	At an altitude of around 1150 meters , » just under the floating zone, the » enemy fleet was circling and » preparing for a torpedo attack.	1521	At an altitude of around 3800 feet , » just below the floating zone, the » enemy fleet was circling and » preparing for a torpedo attack.
1523	The tension in Captain Totoro's voice » echoed through the voice pipes.	<>	1523 The tension in Captain Totoro's voice » echoed through the comms pipes.
1531	"Enemy fleet, attack!!"	<>	1531 "Enemy fleet, attack!"
1535	The murmurs of the gunners traveled » through the voice pipes.	<>	1535 The murmurs of the gunners traveled » through the comms pipes.
1536	The vanguard was made up of Notorious » fighter planes. Rather than attacking » from the lightly defended front, they » dive directly towards the side of the » ship, knowingly stepping into a » barrage of gunfire. They were likely » acting as decoys to draw the main » guns, thereby protecting the aerial » torpedo bombers.	<>	1536 The vanguard was made up of Notorious » fighter planes. Rather than attacking » from the lightly defended front, they » dove directly towards the side of the » ship, knowingly stepping into a » barrage of gunfire. They were likely » acting as decoys to draw the main » guns, thereby protecting the aerial » torpedo bombers.
1539	The response from the six was silence. » It was as though the silent voices of » the sailors were declaring they would » n't fall for such a ploy. The only » real threat to the airships were the » aerial torpedo bombers; the fighter » planes could be disregarded.	<>	1539 The response from the six was silence. » It was as though the silent voices of » the sailors were declaring they would » not fall for such a ploy. The only » real threat to the airships were the » aerial torpedo bombers; the fighter » planes could be disregarded.
1540	The horizontal distance was four » thousand five hundred meters .	<>	1540 The horizontal distance was 4500 yards .
1543	From the enemy's formation, Clotho » predicted the near future. The » thirty-six launched linear torpedoes » completely sealed off the path of the » single-line formation that stretched » over two thousand two hundred meters .	<>	1543 From the enemy's formation, Clotho » predicted the near future. The » thirty-six launched linear torpedoes » completely sealed off the path of the » single-line formation that stretched » over 2200 yards .
1545	"Yes, we have no other option but to » shoot them down to survive ."	<>	1545 "Yes, we have no other option but to » shoot them down."
1560	It was a helm turn designed to cut the » hull into the line of the dead sky » thunders. But the rudder didn't » respond immediately.	<>	1560 It was a helm turn designed to cut the » hull into the line of the dead sky » thunders. But the rudder did not » respond immediately.
1561	Evading the enemy plane, which had » launched a torpedo attack from as	<>	1561 Evading the enemy plane, which had » launched a torpedo attack from as

File: (continued)

	» close as three thousand meters , » proved to be a challenge.			» close as 3000 yards , proved to be a challenge.
1563	The twenty-five millimeter machine gun » bullets cast an orange glow, creating » an iron curtain to intercept the » incoming aerial torpedoes.	<>	1563	The one-inch machine gun bullets cast » an orange glow, creating an iron » curtain to intercept the incoming » aerial torpedoes.
1567	The tense voice of the measurer echoed. » The aerial torpedoes rapidly » approached the fleet from fifteen » hundred meters away.	<>	1567	The tense voice of the measurer echoed. » The aerial torpedoes rapidly » approached the fleet from 1500 yards » away.
1568	The 'Hiren's' fifteen-centimeter side » cannons fired simultaneously from » both sides, the time-delayed fuse set » to one thousand meters activated, » spreading thousands of burnt petals.	<>	1568	The Hiren's six-inch side cannons fired » simultaneously from both sides, the » time-delayed fuse set to 1000 yards » activated, spreading thousands of » burnt petals.
1570	Eight remained. The machine gunners in » the descending turret gritted their » teeth, aiming at the aerial torpedoes » approaching at approximately fifty » knots, nearly ninety kilometers per » hour.	<>	1570	Eight remained. The machine gunners in » the descending turret gritted their » teeth, aiming at the aerial torpedoes » approaching at approximately fifty » knots, nearly 55 miles per hour.
1571	"What the hell are you doing, shoot » them down now!!" "Don't put the » princess in danger!!"	<>	1571	"What the hell are you doing, shoot » them down now!!" "Don't put the prince » sses in danger!"
1575	However, the noise of the propellers » didn't cease.	<>	1575	However, the noise of the propellers » did not cease.
1577	Five managed to penetrate the smoke » screen. The main guns were no longer » effective, and they had to rely on » the 25mm machine guns in the » descending turret. A hit from even » one could sink the aerial destroyer.	<>	1577	Five managed to penetrate the smoke » screen. The main guns were no longer » effective, and they had to rely on » the one-inch machine guns in the » descending turret. A hit from even » one could sink the aerial destroyer.
1579	"What are the gunners doing? Shoot them » down! Protect the Princess!"	<>	1579	"What are the gunners doing? Shoot them » down! Protect the princesses !"
1581	The last anti-aircraft missile exploded » just 200 meters in front of the 'Hire » n' airship.	<>	1581	The last anti-aircraft missile exploded » just 200 yards in front of the Hiren.
1582	Witnessing the shattered shell drifting » in the floating sphere, all crew » members aboard the 'Hiren' heaved a » sigh of relief.	<>	1582	Witnessing the shattered shell drifting » in the floating sphere, all crew » members aboard the Hiren heaved a » sigh of relief.
1587	"Yes, Sir! "	<>	1587	"Yes sir! "
1588	The response she received from the » voice tube seemed slightly less » spirited than before. Turning off the » microphone, Isaiah sighed and looked » to Clotho standing beside her.	<>	1588	The response she received from the » comms tube seemed slightly less » spirited than before. Turning off the » microphone, Isaiah sighed and looked » to Clotho standing beside her.
1592	As she scanned the strategic map on the » navigation table, Rio swiftly » calculated the flight route with a » ruler and compass, like any former	<>	1592	As she scanned the strategic map on the » navigation table, Rio swiftly » calculated the flight route with a » ruler and compass, showing her

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	» navigating officer would , then » delivered her report.			» prowess as a former navigating » officer, then delivered her report.
1617	"The more we take actions we believe ar » e best, the further we stray from the » headquarters' policy. It's nothing » but a stomachache ."	<>	1617	"The more we take the actions we » believe to be best, the further we » stray from the headquarters' policy. » It's nothing but a headache ."
1622	It wasn't that he was seething with » anger. Holding up the message for » Commander-in-Chief Babahara, which » read, "Bombardment insufficient. » Proceeding to bombard Kuala Lumpur » airfield," he said, "So, it's come to » this."	<>	1622	He would not have said he was seething » with anger, but... Holding up the » message for Commander-in-Chief » Babahara, which read, "Bombardment » insufficient. Proceeding to bombard » Kuala Lumpur airfield," he said, "So, » it's come to this."
1625	Chief Babahara simply stated this, his » scholarly expression remaining » unaltered.	<>	1625	Chief Babahara stated this simply , his » scholarly expression remaining » unaltered.
1627	"According to reports, the enemy » possesses a construction machine » called a bulldozer. The Army Air » Corps managed to dig holes in the » airfield runway, but the enemy could » have filled those holes with the » bulldozer and launched an air attack » quicker than we anticipated."	<>	1627	"According to reports, the enemy » possesses a construction machine » called a 'bulldozer'. The Army Air » Corps managed to dig holes in the » airfield runway, but the enemy could » have filled those holes with the » bulldozer and launched an air attack » quicker than we anticipated."
1637	"Given the enemy's strength, the Second » Fleet won't be obliterated. The » Highnesses can have their fun. After » the Mary operation, complaints are » likely to come from the Army . They » should bear the brunt of it then... » The existence or non-existence of the » Second Fleet is irrelevant to the war » situation."	<>	1637	"Given the enemy's strength, the Second » Fleet won't be obliterated. The » Highnesses can have their fun. After » Operation Marie , complaints are » likely to come from the army . They » should bear the brunt of it then... » The existence or non-existence of the » Second Fleet is irrelevant to the war » situation."
1642	- It was nothing more than dodging » responsibility.	<>	1642	- He's just trying to avoid taking » responsibility.
1644	This isn't a military tactic. It's a » bureaucratic maneuver.	<>	1644	- This isn't a military tactic. It's a » bureaucratic manoeuvre.
1646	With their approach, there's no way we » can win the war.	<>	1646	- With that approach, there's no way we » can win the war.
1647	Kagase was deeply concerned. Oiyama and » Chief of Staff Furuyanagi should have » been actively advising » Commander-in-Chief Babahara and » implementing the best strategies, but » they were just nodding along with his » policies. To Kagase, they seemed like » mindless drinking birds.	<>	1647	Kagase was deeply concerned. Oiyama and » Chief of Staff Furuyanagi should have » been actively advising » Commander-in-Chief Babahara and » implementing the best strategies, but » they were just nodding along with his » policies. To Kagase, they seemed like » mindless birds.
1648	Wasn't it true that Princess » Shiranomiya was the one genuinely » fighting to protect the citizens?	<>	1648	- Isn't it true that Princess » Shiranomiya has been the one » genuinely fighting to protect the » citizens?

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	1650	<p>It might be inevitable in military</p> <p>» organizations for those who excel in</p> <p>» politics to hold higher positions</p> <p>» rather than those who are proficient</p> <p>» in practical affairs. Many officers</p> <p>» who disagreed with Babahara were</p> <p>» exiled, and Furuyanagi and Oiyama</p> <p>» were promoted because they continued</p> <p>» to agree with him. But I will fight</p> <p>» for the safety of the citizens, not</p> <p>» for my rank. I will suggest the best</p> <p>» strategies I believe in and will not</p> <p>» fear confronting Babahara. If I get</p> <p>» demoted for that, then it's my fate.</p>	<>	1650	<p>It seemed inevitable in military</p> <p>» organizations for those who excel in</p> <p>» politics to hold higher positions</p> <p>» rather than those who are proficient</p> <p>» in practical affairs. Many officers</p> <p>» who disagreed with Babahara were</p> <p>» exiled, and Furuyanagi and Oiyama</p> <p>» were promoted because they continued</p> <p>» to agree with him. But Kagase planned</p> <p>» to fight for the safety of the</p> <p>» citizens, not for his rank. He wanted</p> <p>» to suggest the best strategies he</p> <p>» believed in and had no fear of</p> <p>» confronting Babahara. If he were to</p> <p>» get demoted for that, then such would</p> <p>» be his fate.</p>
	1662	<p>He managed to ask, but he knew such</p> <p>» details wouldn't be in the telegram.</p> <p>» More so, Babahara knew the answer</p> <p>» even as he asked the question.</p>	<>	1662	<p>He managed to ask, but he knew such</p> <p>» details would not be in the telegram.</p> <p>» More so, Babahara knew the answer</p> <p>» even as he asked the question.</p>
	1667	<p>"The enemy air fleet is currently</p> <p>» moving towards Kotabaru. The Army Air</p> <p>» Force is handling it..."</p>	<>	1667	<p>"The enemy air fleet is currently</p> <p>» moving towards Kota Bharu. The Army</p> <p>» Air Force is handling it..."</p>
	1670	<p>Babahara only realized his irreversible</p> <p>» mistake too late. The gravity of the</p> <p>» situation hit him when Clotho's</p> <p>» warnings, which he had previously</p> <p>» laughed off, became a reality. If the</p> <p>» Third Fleet was to rush to Kotabaru</p> <p>» now, it would be pointless if the</p> <p>» enemy air fleet was flying more than</p> <p>» 30 kilometers inland from the</p> <p>» coastline, beyond their artillery</p> <p>» range. The Army's mountain guns would</p> <p>» hardly reach the enemy flying at an</p> <p>» altitude of 1,200 meters, and the</p> <p>» Army Air Force was incapable of night</p> <p>» combat.</p>	<>	1670	<p>Babahara only realized his irreversible</p> <p>» mistake too late. The gravity of the</p> <p>» situation hit him when Clotho's</p> <p>» warnings, which he had previously</p> <p>» laughed off, became a reality. If the</p> <p>» Third Fleet was to rush to Kota Bharu</p> <p>» now, it would be pointless if the</p> <p>» enemy air fleet was flying more than</p> <p>» 18 miles inland from the coastline,</p> <p>» beyond their artillery range. The</p> <p>» Army's mountain guns would hardly</p> <p>» reach the enemy flying at an altitude</p> <p>» of 3900 feet, and the Army Air Force</p> <p>» was incapable of night combat.</p>
	1671	<p>If paratrooper attacks also took place</p> <p>» behind Kotabaru, the invading Hinoo</p> <p>» Army would be forced to battle the</p> <p>» formidable defensive line in front</p> <p>» while simultaneously handling the</p> <p>» paratrooper brigade that had landed</p> <p>» behind them. On top of that, the</p> <p>» enemy air fleet would be overhead.</p> <p>» Inevitably, the battle would drag on,</p> <p>» their supplies would dwindle, and the</p> <p>» army would suffer severe losses. If</p> <p>» that were to happen, it was certain</p> <p>» that some of the blame would fall on</p> <p>» me...</p>	<>	1671	<p>If paratrooper attacks also took place</p> <p>» behind Kota Bharu, the invading Hinoo</p> <p>» Army would be forced to battle the</p> <p>» formidable defensive line in front</p> <p>» while simultaneously handling the</p> <p>» paratrooper brigade that had landed</p> <p>» behind them. On top of that, the</p> <p>» enemy air fleet would be overhead.</p> <p>» Inevitably, the battle would drag on,</p> <p>» their supplies would dwindle, and the</p> <p>» army would suffer severe losses. If</p> <p>» that were to happen, it was certain</p> <p>» that some of the blame would fall on</p> <p>» me...</p>
	1679	As she spotted the runway and the	<>	1679	As she spotted the runway and the

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	<p>» facilities of Kuala Lumpur Airport » emerging from dusk, Isaiah gave the » order. According to what she could » make out through her twelve-centimetre » r binoculars, the airfield, carved » out of the dense tropical rainforest, » was still smoldering with smoke. » Command buildings and watchtowers » were crumbled here and there, likely » due to the army air force's bombing.</p>		<p>» facilities of Kuala Lumpur Airport » emerging from dusk, Isaiah gave the » order. According to what she could » make out through her five-inch » binoculars, the airfield, carved out » of the dense tropical rainforest, was » still smoldering with smoke. Command » buildings and watchtowers were » crumbled here and there, likely due » to the army air force's bombing.</p>
1681	Without hesitation, Isaiah executes » Clotho's ruthless strategy.	<>	1681 Without hesitation, Isaiah executed » Clotho's ruthless strategy.
1682	The 15 cm main guns of the Hiren, as » well as the 12 cm main guns of the » five pursuing destroyers, begin their » bombardment, sending up countless » pillars of crimson flame into the » red-tinged dusk.		1682 The six-inch main guns of the Hiren, as » well as the five-inch main guns of » the five pursuing destroyers, began » their bombardment, sending up » countless pillars of crimson flame » into the red-tinged dusk.
1683	The ground shakes . Incendiary bombs, » one out of every four, set the » tropical forest on fire. Each time a » shell explodes, hundreds of fiery » arrows fly into the forest, setting » hidden airplanes and bulldozers » ablaze, and soldiers engulfed in » flames tumble out.		1683 The ground shook . Incendiary bombs, one » out of every four, set the tropical » forest on fire. Each time a shell » exploded, hundreds of fiery arrows » fly into the forest, setting hidden » airplanes and bulldozers ablaze, and » soldiers engulfed in flames tumbled » out.
1684	However, simply setting fire isn't » enough. We must scatter a myriad of » shrapnel into the forest with » explosive shells, obliterating anyone » or anything in there.		1684 However, simply setting fire was not » enough. The plan was to scatter a » myriad of shrapnel into the forest » with explosive shells, obliterating » anyone or anything in there.
1685	Midst the exploding rockets, we can't » see what is being destroyed. And that » 's why.		1685 Amidst the exploding rockets, they coul » d not see what is being destroyed. » Isaiah felt unsettled.
1686	"This... is cruel."		1686 "This... Is cruel."
1687	Isaiah murmurs, stating the obvious.		1687 Isaiah murmured, stating the obvious.
1692	"Discard unnecessary sentimentality. » Exhaust all means to win. Discuss » humanity once the war is over."	<>	1692 "Discard unnecessary sentimentality. » Exhaust all means to win. We can disc » uss our humanity once the war is » over."
1694	"...I understand. If we don't go all » out, not just our sailors, but our » ground soldiers will die too. If it's » to save our allies, I can even become » a devil. "	<>	1694 "...I understand. If we don't go all » out, not just our sailors, but our » ground soldiers will die too. If it's » to save our allies, I can become a » monster. "
1696	At that moment-	<>	1696 At that moment...
1698	A tense-faced communication officer » rushes forward, handing a decrypted » telegraph note to Isaiah.	<>	1698 A tense-faced communication officer » rushed forward, handing a decrypted » telegraph note to Isaiah.
1699	As Isaiah reads the note, her » expression gradually shifts to shock » and surprise.		1699 As Isaiah read the note, her expression » gradually shifted to shock and » surprise.

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1700	She turns her wide-open eyes towards » Clotho and says,	<>	1700	She turned her wide-open eyes towards » Clotho and said,
1704	Upon hearing the contents, Clotho laugh » s out loud and says,	<>	1704	Upon hearing the contents, Clotho laugh » ed out loud.
1706	She leans back contentedly and murmurs,	<>	1706	He leaned back contentedly, as Isaiah » murmur ^{ed} ,
1708	Snapping back to reality, Rio returns » her gaze to the tactical map, » measuring out the route with a ruler » and compass.	<>	1708	Snapping back to reality, Rio returned » her gaze to the tactical map, » measuring out the route with a ruler » and compass.
1710	"The enemy ships are outdated, so they » won't be that fast. The Army Air » Corps will keep them occupied, so » there's a good chance we'll make it » in time... We're setting course for » Kotabaru."	<>	1710	"The enemy ships are outdated, so they » won't be that fast. The Army Air » Corps will keep them occupied, so » there's a good chance we'll make it » in time... We're setting course for » Kota Bharu."
1712	"Send a message to the Signal Room. » From: The Commander of the Second » Fleet. To: All ships of the Second » Fleet. Message: Enemy airship fleet » spotted, heading towards Kotabaru. » Begin radio surveillance. Follow my » lead."	<>	1712	"Send a message to the Signal Room. » From: The Commander of the Second » Fleet. To: All ships of the Second » Fleet. Message: Enemy airship fleet » spotted, heading towards Kota Bharu. » Begin radio surveillance. Follow my » lead."
1714	"Yes, ma'am! From: The Commander of the » Second Fleet. To: All ships of the » Second Fleet. Message: Enemy airship » fleet spotted, heading towards Kotaba » ru. Begin radio surveillance. Follow » my lead."	<>	1714	"Yes, ma'am! From: The Commander of the » Second Fleet. To: All ships of the » Second Fleet. Message: Enemy airship » fleet spotted, heading towards Kota B » haru. Begin radio surveillance. » Follow my lead."
1715	Repeating the orders, Hayao hurried to » the signal room. Normally, orders » would be given through a voice tube » or a note, but Isaiah trusted Hayao. » He was reliable and quick.	<>	1715	Repeating the orders, Hayao hurried to » the signal room. Normally, orders » would be given through a comms tube » or a note, but Isaiah trusted Hayao. » He was reliable and quick.
1716	Next, Isaiah picked up the voice tube » leading to the stern mast and relayed » her orders to the signalman.	<>	1716	Next, Isaiah picked up the comms tube » leading to the stern mast and relayed » her orders to the signalman.
1721	"Attention, this is Shiranomiya » speaking. An enemy air fleet has » emerged behind the Jitra Line and » launched an airborne assault. We are » now setting course for Kotabalu. It's » a journey that will take four and a » half hours at maximum battle speed. » Our aim is to intercept the enemy » fleet before they have a chance to » launch a second airborne assault. » This is a race against time. Engine » room crew, our future hinges on your » efforts. I'm relying on you."	<>	1721	"Attention, this is Shiranomiya » speaking. An enemy air fleet has » emerged behind the Jitra Line and » launched an airborne assault. We are » now setting course for Kota Bharu. » It's a journey that will take four » and a half hours at maximum battle » speed. Our aim is to intercept the » enemy fleet before they have a chance » to launch a second airborne assault. » This is a race against time. Engine » room crew, our future hinges on your » efforts. I'm relying on you."
1722	As she concluded, a resounding response » returned through the voice tube	<>	1722	As she concluded, a resounding response » returned through the comms tube

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	» connecting to the engine command » center.			» connecting to the engine command » center.
1725	"Full speed ahead! Let's go, show them » what the engine crew is made of!!!" » "Uwoahhh!" "Oryahhh!" "Your » Highness!" "Princess!"	<>	1725	"Full speed ahead! Let's go, show them » what the engine crew is made of!" » "Uwoahhh!" "Oryahhh!" "Your » Highness!" "Princess!"
1726	A loud cry echoed from the speaking » tube just as a rumbling noise » signaled the turbine engine was » starting to misfire, progressively » increasing the ship's speed.		1726	A loud cry echoed from the comms tube » just as a rumbling noise signaled the » turbine engine was starting to » misfire, progressively increasing the » ship's speed.
1729	The multicolored effects of the Ceraus » phenomenon soared from the bow of the » Hiren. The five following flight » destroyers also projected their » rainbow-colored bow waves into the » sunset sky.	<>	1729	The multicolored Seras Effect soared » from the bow of the Hiren. The five » following flight destroyers also » projected their rainbow-hued bow » waves into the sunset sky.
1735	The usual dinner consisted only of » white rice and pickles, so the joy » among the soldiers was palpable. » While the crew of a seagoing ship » could catch fish during their free » time, it was an impossibility on an » aircraft ship, making fish a valuable » commodity. Isaiah, hearing the cheers » via the speaking tube, smiled and » remained tirelessly in the command » tower, her gaze fixed on the » north-northeast night sky.	<>	1735	The usual dinner consisted only of » white rice and pickles, so the joy » among the soldiers was palpable. » While the crew of a seagoing ship » could catch fish during their free » time, it was an impossibility on an » aircraft ship, making fish a valuable » commodity. Isaiah, hearing the cheers » via the comms tube, smiled and » remained tirelessly in the command » tower, her gaze fixed on the » north-northeast night sky.
1737	She periodically checked in with the » engine room through the speaking » tube.	<>	1737	She periodically checked in with the » engine room through the comms tube.
1744	Upon hearing the chief engineer's » jovial voice, Isaiah gave a deep nod. » She always admired the dedicated work » of the engine crew. In a windowless, » dark room, they endured temperatures » over forty degrees Celsius to keep » the engine operational and provide » power to the entire ship. Their work » was humble, grueling, unrecognized, » and perpetually fraught with danger. » But it was their support that allowed » the gunners and anti-aircraft crew to » concentrate on battling enemy ships.	<>	1744	Upon hearing the chief engineer's » jovial voice, Isaiah gave a deep nod. » She always admired the dedicated work » of the engine crew. In a windowless, » dark room, they endured temperatures » over 104 degrees to keep the engine » operational and provide power to the » entire ship. Their work was humble, » grueling, unrecognized, and » perpetually fraught with danger. But » it was their support that allowed the » gunners and anti-aircraft crew to » concentrate on battling enemy ships.
1745	Everyone in the engine room, I'm » counting on you.		1745	—Everyone in the engine room, I'm » counting on you.
1746	Get us to enemy territory.		1746	—Get us to enemy territory.
1750	The boiler, resembling a metallic, » double-handed shape, generated a » total of 90,000 horsepower of » high-pressure steam. Naturally, the	<>	1750	The boiler, resembling a metallic, » double-handed shape, generated a » total of 90,000 horsepower of » high-pressure steam. Naturally, the

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	<p>» heat it produced was immense, » maintaining the boiler room's » temperature consistently above forty » degrees Celsius.</p> <p>1751 Typically, the engineers would only » have to put in two shifts of four » hours each per day. However, during » extended high-speed operations, all » ninety-two members of the Hiren's » engine department were on duty. They » frequently rotated based on each » member's fatigue levels, ensuring » that the engine didn't overheat, and » that instruments, valves, vents, and » pipes remained intact. They had to » maintain the optimal pressure » required to keep the ship's speed » steady. A single minor mistake, like » a damaged pipe, could slow them down, » affecting the ships behind them and » delaying their arrival at the » battlefield.</p> <p>1752 Likely, the engineers of the enemy » airship fleet were also pushing their » boilers to the limit, striving to » reach Kota Bharu as quickly as they » could.</p>		<p>» heat it produced was immense, » maintaining the boiler room's » temperature consistently above 104 » degrees.</p> <p>1751 Typically, the engineers would only » have to put in two shifts of four » hours each per day. However, during » extended high-speed operations, all » ninety-two members of the Hiren's » engine department were on duty. They » frequently rotated based on each » member's fatigue levels, ensuring » that the engine did not overheat, and » that instruments, valves, vents, and » pipes remained intact. They had to » maintain the optimal pressure » required to keep the ship's speed » steady. A single minor mistake, like » a damaged pipe, could slow them down, » affecting the ships behind them and » delaying their arrival at the » battlefield.</p> <p>1752 The engineers of the enemy airship » fleet were likely also pushing their » boilers to the limit, striving to » reach Kota Bharu as quickly as they » could.</p>
1760	<p>The engine crew responded to the junior » officer's encouragement with silent » dedication. The heat was so intense » that even speaking could feel like it » was igniting their insides. To » protect themselves from the scorching » heat, they wore thick clothing, » secured tightly around their wrists, » ankles, and waist, with towels » wrapped around their necks. In a » sealed room exceeding 104 degrees Fah renheit, maintaining focus for » delicate tasks for more than four » hours would normally cause a person » to faint or suffer mental stress. » However, the 92 members of the engine » crew persevered, bearing the » blistering heat as they continued to » operate at a high speed.</p>	<>	<p>1760 The engine crew responded to the junior » officer's encouragement with silent » dedication. The heat was so intense » that even speaking could feel like it » was igniting their insides. To » protect themselves from the scorching » heat, they wore thick clothing, » secured tightly around their wrists, » ankles, and waist, with towels » wrapped around their necks. In a » sealed room at such a high temperatur e, maintaining focus for delicate » tasks for more than four hours would » normally cause a person to faint or » suffer mental stress. However, the 92 » members of the engine crew » persevered, bearing the blistering » heat as they continued to operate at » a high speed.</p>
1763	"For the Prince! For the Princess! Give » it your all, men! We can't afford to » lose!"	<>	1763 "For the princesses ! For the princesses » ! Give it your all, men! We can't » afford to lose!"
1764	The engineering crew didn't respond » verbally to the officer's order but » merely continued their work in » silence.	<>	1764 The engineering crew did not respond » verbally to the officer's order but » merely continued their work in » silence.

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	1766	The atmosphere onboard a warship could » greatly vary depending on the » captain's personality. There were » ships where the engineering crew, due » to their humble role, faced » discrimination. Their work was » grueling, hot, dirty, and confined to » windowless spaces. They were kept in » the dark about the ship's combat » status. Even when the ship was » teetering on the brink of sinking and » an "All hands abandon ship" order was » given, the engineers deep within the » ship were always the last to » evacuate, leading to a higher » mortality rate. Such thankless roles » led the engineering crew, often » referred to as "The Moles", to be » ridiculed by the soldiers.	<>	1766	The atmosphere onboard a warship could » greatly vary depending on the » captain's personality. There were » ships where the engineering crew, due » to their humble role, faced » discrimination. Their work was » grueling, hot, dirty, and confined to » windowless spaces. They were kept in » the dark about the ship's combat » status. Even when the ship was » teetering on the brink of sinking and » an 'all hands abandon ship' order was » given, the engineers deep within the » ship were always the last to » evacuate, leading to a higher » mortality rate. Such thankless roles » led the engineering crew, often » referred to as 'The Moles', to be » ridiculed by the soldiers.
1767	However, Isaiah always made sure to » grab the broadcast microphone » whenever there was a significant » development. She informed those who » couldn't see outside what was » happening. Understanding their » plight, she would encourage them » directly through the voice pipe, just » as she did now. Once the battle was » over, she would praise the » engineering crew, acknowledging that » their efforts had enabled them to » fight until the end. On the other » hand, Captain Rio always ensured that » the soldiers and engineers got along. » She remembered every engineer's face » and name, and greeted them whenever » she came across them on the ship. » Their support alone was enough to » make the engineers determined to » maintain the 90,000 horsepower, even » in the face of intense heat that » could evaporate their sweat » instantly. Each of their small » resolutions accumulated, culminating » in the victory of the Hiren, a fact » that everyone on board firmly » believed in.	<>	1767	However, Isaiah always made sure to » grab the broadcast microphone » whenever there was a significant » development. She informed those who » couldn't see outside what was » happening. Understanding their » plight, she would encourage them » directly through the comms pipe, just » as she did now. Once the battle was » over, she would praise the » engineering crew, acknowledging that » their efforts had enabled them to » fight until the end. On the other » hand, Captain Rio always ensured that » the soldiers and engineers got along. » She remembered every engineer's face » and name, and greeted them whenever » she came across them on the ship. » Their support alone was enough to » make the engineers determined to » maintain the 90,000 horsepower, even » in the face of intense heat that » could evaporate their sweat » instantly. Each of their small » resolutions accumulated, culminating » in the victory of the Hiren, a fact » that everyone on board firmly » believed in.	
1768	"Let's live up to the prince's » expectations!" "This will make the » princess happy!" "Hang in there, » everyone, we're almost there. This is » our victory!"	<>	1768	"Let's live up to the princesses' » expectations!" "This will make the » princesses happy!" "Hang in there, » everyone, we're almost there. This is » our victory!"	
1771	"We'll reach Kotabaru in thirty	<>	1771	"We'll reach Kota Bharu in thirty	

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» minutes."		» minutes."	
1774	The low hum of the engine was palpable » through the soles of their shoes - it » was the only sound audible. Despite » the silence of the ship, the tension » of the soldiers was palpable through » the open voice tube.	<>	1774 The low hum of the engine was palpable » through the soles of their shoes-it » was the only sound audible. Despite » the silence of the ship, the tension » of the soldiers was palpable through » the open comms tube.
1775	Suddenly, the voice tube connected to » the rear mast bridge buzzed.	1775	Suddenly, the comms tube connected to » the rear mast bridge buzzed.
1776	"Signal from the 'Sakashio'! Our » engine's damaged, proceed without » us!"	1776	"Signal from the Sakashio! Our engine's » damaged, proceed without us!"
1780	"It's a precaution for towing on our » return after defeating the enemy. It » must be frightening for the 'Sakashio' » ' to hover over enemy territory, but » it's unavoidable under these » circumstances. We aim to resolve this » before sunrise and tow the damaged » ships out of the battlefield while » it's still dark."	<>	1780 "It's a precaution for towing on our » return after defeating the enemy. It » must be frightening for the Sakashio » to hover over enemy territory, but » it's unavoidable under these » circumstances. We aim to resolve this » before sunrise and tow the damaged » ships out of the battlefield while » it's still dark."
1781	"The only ones left are the 'Hiren', 'K » awayodo', and 'Sugurono'."	1781	"The only ones left are the Hiren, » Kawayodo, and Sugurono."
1782	Rio murmured as she looked back. The 'U » nami' was the first to go down, » followed by the 'Yasose', and finally » the 'Sakashio'. The rainbow wave from » the ship's bow, which had been » trailing all along, has significantly » weakened compared to when we first » set out.	1782	Rio murmured as she looked back. The » Unami was the first to go down, » followed by the Yasose, and finally » the Sakashio. The rainbow wave from » the ship's bow, which had been » trailing all along, had significantly » weakened compared to when they first » set out.
1796	The signalman repeated the message and » flashed ' Tong, Tsu ' on the aft mast » signal lamp to relay the message to » the following ships. In the dark of » night, the signal lamp was the only » means of communication with other » ships, as transmitting via telegraph » would reveal their location to the » enemy.	<>	1796 The signalman repeated the message and » flashed on the aft mast signal lamp » to relay the message to the following » ships. In the dark of night, the » signal lamp was the only means of » communication with other ships, as » transmitting via telegraph would » reveal their location to the enemy.
1802	Without uttering a word, Clotho » acknowledged the report.	<>	1802 Clotho quietly acknowledged the report.
1806	"In this darkness, we can sneak up to » within 5000 meters without them » noticing. The enemy's ship is a rusty » tin can with weak armor. Let's attack » them with fragmentation rounds and » blow them to pieces, along with their » airborne troops still on board."	<>	1806 "In this darkness, we can sneak up to » within 5000 yards without them » noticing. The enemy's ship is a rusty » tin can with weak armor. Let's attack » them with fragmentation rounds and » blow them to pieces, along with their » airborne troops still on board."
1812	They were at war.	<>	1812 They were, indeed , at war.
1813	Therefore, they had to put their » humanity on hold.	1813	They had to put their humanity on hold.

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1814	If they didn't, they wouldn't be able » to protect the people they cared » about.	<>	1814	If they were unable to do so, they » would not be able to protect the » people they cared about.
1816	Isaiah seized the voice tube leading to » the fire control station.	<>	1816	Isaiah seized the comms tube leading to » the fire control station.
1821	Isaiah then seized the voice tube » linked to the engine command room.	<>	1821	Isaiah then seized the comms tube » linked to the engine command room.
1823	Engaging in artillery combat required a » slightly slower speed than maximum to » ensure easier aiming. The Ceras effec » t diminished the luminosity and the " » Hiren" reduced its speed from its top » combat speed of forty knots to the » second combat speed of twenty-four » knots. This gave the engine room » staff a brief respite.	<>	1823	Engaging in artillery combat required a » slightly slower speed than maximum to » ensure easier aiming. The Seras Effec » t diminished in luminosity and the " » Hiren" reduced its speed from its top » combat speed of forty knots to the » second combat speed of twenty-four » knots. This gave the engine room » staff a brief respite.
1830	"There appears to be a quick-firing gun » on the hull side. The caliber seems » to be less than ten centimeters ."	<>	1830	"There appears to be a quick-firing gun » on the hull side. The caliber seems » to be less than four inches ."
1833	"Light it up. Their bullets won't » penetrate our armor even if they hit » us. If we maintain a five-thousand- me » ter distance, we have the upper » hand."	<>	1833	"Light it up. Their bullets won't » penetrate our armor even if they hit » us. If we maintain a five-thousand- ya » rd distance, we have the upper hand."
1845	On that day, the entire staff who heard » Commander McLoughlin's plan for a » secret surprise operation instantly » opposed it.	<>	1845	On that day, the entire staff who had h » eard Commander McLoughlin's plan for » a secret surprise operation instantly » opposed it.
1846	The idea of leaving their home port for » months on end, waiting for the » enemy's arrival, seemed unreasonable. » Furthermore, they were expected to » cram four thousand airborne brigade » members, who were not sailors, into » four decrepit flying ships. Even with » just the sailors, it would be cramped » - adding additional soldiers would » leave no room for sleep. If they » waited for Operation Marie, the start » date of which was unknown, there was » a likelihood of a rebellion within a » month.	<>	1846	The idea of leaving their home port for » months on end, waiting for the » enemy's arrival, seemed unreasonable. » Furthermore, they were expected to » cram four thousand airborne brigade » members, who were not sailors, into » four decrepit flying ships. Even with » just the sailors, it would be cramped » -adding additional soldiers would » leave no room for sleep. If they » waited for Operation Marie, the start » date of which was unknown, there was » a likelihood of a rebellion within a » month.
1852	The enemy was "boredom". Back at their » home port, they had access to finer » cuisine and could enjoy dates with » city girls during their time off. But » here, in this remote region, their » world was limited to the » mountainside, a small village, and » the familiar faces of their » colleagues. The uncertainty of » deployment and the monotony of daily	<>	1852	Their main enemy was boredom. Back at » their home port, they had access to » finer cuisine and could enjoy dates » with city girls during their time » off. But here, in this remote region, » their world was limited to the » mountainside, a small village, and » the familiar faces of their » colleagues. The uncertainty of » deployment and the monotony of daily

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	» drills bred discontent among the » soldiers. To quell their » dissatisfaction, McLoughlin extolled » the traditional seaman spirit of the » Ringland Navy.			» drills bred discontent among the » soldiers. To quell their » dissatisfaction, McLoughlin extolled » the traditional seaman spirit of the » Ringland Navy.
1854	It was the epoch when sailors aimed for » uncharted islands and unmarked seas, » venturing beyond the horizon.	<>	1854	It was an epoch when sailors aimed for » uncharted islands and unmarked seas, » venturing beyond the horizon.
1855	The founders of the Ringland Navy, who » braved countless hardships to conquer » the seven seas, prized "patience" in » their sailors more than navigational » skills. Whether amidst storms, calms, » water shortages, or when vegetables » rotted and scurvy spread, it was » patience that determined the success » or failure of a voyage. As » long-distance sailing expertise » accumulated, patience became the » highest virtue for a sailor.		1855	The founders of the Ringland Navy, who » braved countless hardships to conquer » the seven seas, prized patience in » their sailors more than navigational » skills. Whether amidst storms, calms, » water shortages, or when vegetables » rotted and scurvy spread, it was » patience that determined the success » or failure of a voyage. As » long-distance sailing expertise » accumulated, patience became the » highest virtue for a sailor.
1861	They still had 82 kilometers to cover » to the targeted drop zone near Kota » Bharu.	<>	1861	They still had 51 miles to cover to the » targeted drop zone near Kota Bharu.
1865	The only source of unease was the » existence of Hinoo's Second Aerial » Lightning Fleet .	<>	1865	The only source of unease was the » existence of Hinoo's Second Aerial » Fleet.
1867	Just like how an obsolete ship of forty » years had managed to perform a » miracle this time, a flying fleet » could be a decisive factor in the » war, depending on how it was used. If » the Hinoo Combined Fleet Command had » understood the characteristics of the » flying fleet and taken » countermeasures, McLoughlin's plan » wouldn't have worked.	<>	1867	Just like how an obsolete ship of forty » years had managed to perform a » miracle this time, a flying fleet » could be a decisive factor in the » war, depending on how it was used. If » the Hinoo Combined Fleet Command had » understood the characteristics of the » flying fleet and taken » countermeasures, McLoughlin's plan » would never have worked.
1871	Seeking guidance on modern naval » techniques, the people of Hinoo » turned to Ringland. McLoughlin's » predecessors generously shared their » naval operation expertise with the » emerging Far East nation. The » Ringland ethos of chivalry, which » emphasized dignity, courage, and » sacrifice, resonated with the warrior » spirit of the Hinoo people. » Consequently, the Hinoo people were » enthralled by the "Naval Spirit" » promoted by the Ringlanders and » eagerly adopted it. Thus, when the » Hinoo Fleet triumphed over the Lucia » Fleet in the Russo- Japanese War,	<>	1871	Seeking guidance on modern naval » techniques, the people of Hinoo » turned to Ringland. McLoughlin's » predecessors generously shared their » naval operation expertise with the » emerging Far East nation. The » Ringland ethos of chivalry, which » emphasized dignity, courage, and » sacrifice, resonated with the warrior » spirit of the Hinoo people. » Consequently, the Hinoo people were » enthralled by the "Naval Spirit" » promoted by the Ringlanders and » eagerly adopted it. Thus, when the » Hinoo Fleet triumphed over the Lucia » Fleet in the Russo- Hinoaan War,

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	» Ringland did not hesitate to praise » their star pupils. They even sent » warships to the victory celebration » held in Yokosuka.			» Ringland did not hesitate to praise » their star pupils. They even sent » warships to the victory celebration » held in Yokosuka.
1874	The starry sky disappeared, replaced by » a world of gold. "?!"	<>	1874 1875	The starry sky disappeared, replaced by » a bright flash of gold. " What!? "
1880	"Searchlights!!"	<>	1880	"Searchlights!"
1882	"Enemy air fleet!! They're using » searchlights!!"	<>	1882	"Enemy air fleet! They're using » searchlights!"
1884	The thick beam of light that had » directly hit the compass deck began » to slowly trace the hull of the » fleet's flagship, the "St. Elmo".	<>	1884	The thick beam of light that had » directly hit the compass deck began » to slowly trace the hull of the » fleet's flagship, the St. Elmo.
1886	Not only the "St. Elmo", but also the » three trailing aircraft destroyers » were drawn out from the cover of » darkness into the glaring spotlight » of new searchlights. The three beams » of light, emanating from the » south-southwest sky, sliced » horizontally through the night sky, » revealing the entirety of Ringland's » First Flying Fleet against the starry » night.	<>	1886 1887	Not only the St. Elmo, but also the » three trailing aircraft destroyers » were drawn out from the cover of » darkness into the glaring spotlight » of new searchlights. The three beams » of light, emanating from the » south-southwest sky, sliced » horizontally through the night sky, » revealing the entirety of Ringland's » First Flying Fleet against the starry » night. "Can you see the enemy?!"
1891	But they fell short. Before the orange » bullets could reach the searchlights, » they dropped. The effective range of » the rapid-fire guns was about 4,000 » meters . The enemy was flying outside » of our shooting range, having » determined our range.	<>	1891	But they fell short. Before the orange » bullets could reach the searchlights, » they dropped. The effective range of » the rapid-fire guns was about 4,000 » yards . The enemy was flying outside » of our shooting range, having » determined our range.
1893	McLoughlin instantly understood the » situation and seized the voice tube » that led to the ship's hold.	<>	1893	McLoughlin instantly understood the » situation and seized the comms tube » that led to the ship's hold.
1894	"Descend immediately! Right here, » hurry!!"		1894	"Descend immediately! Right here, » hurry!"
1895	The Airborne Brigade Commander gasped » and responded through the voice tube. » The brigade members, who had been » relaxed due to a planned descent in » two hours, sprang into frantic » action. The Commander's voice echoed » from the voice tube, confirming their » current position.		1895	The Airborne Brigade Commander gasped » and responded through the comms tube. » The brigade members, who had been » relaxed due to a planned descent in » two hours, sprang into frantic » action. The Commander's voice echoed » from the comms tube, confirming their » current position.
1897	There's an enemy ship at the end of » that beam. I have to deploy my » brigade before their guns start » firing, no matter what.	<>	1897	There was an enemy ship at the end of » that beam. He had to deploy his » brigade before their guns started » firing, no matter what.
1898	At the moment, we were directly above a		1898	At the moment, they were directly above

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	» dense forest. Descending here at » night was fraught with risk. Even if » they managed to land, assembling in a » tropical rainforest at night would » prove challenging. Coordinated combat » action would be impossible and the » brigade members would be left to fend » for themselves on the ground.		» a dense forest. Descending here at » night was fraught with risk. Even if » they managed to land, assembling in a » tropical rainforest at night would » prove challenging. Coordinated combat » action would be impossible and the » brigade members would be left to fend » for themselves on the ground.
1904	The hoisting cables strained, the ship » jerked violently, and Commander » McLoughlin and his staff were flung » to the floor. Soldier's screams from » inside the ship reached them via the » voice pipe, followed by the piercing » noise of high-pressure steam » escaping.	<>	1904 The hoisting cables strained, the ship » jerked violently, and Commander » McLoughlin and his staff were flung » to the floor. Soldier's screams from » inside the ship reached them via the » comms pipe, followed by the piercing » noise of high-pressure steam » escaping.
1908	If they'd just fire piercing shells, » the damage would be minimal because » they'd go straight through us . But » against shrapnel, we're vulnerable. » The Ringland airship's armor is as » thin as a bucket, so it ends up being » continuously shredded by the » thousands of nearby exploding » shrapnel.	<>	1908 If they had just fired piercing shells, » the damage would be minimal because » they'd go straight through. But » against shrapnel, the crew were » vulnerable. The Ringland airships' » armor was paper thin, and so was » continuously shredded by the explosio » n of shrapnel.
1912	The nearby ships hit by the barrage of » shrapnel suddenly ballooned, and in » the next instant, turned into fiery » orbs and disintegrated into the » starry sky. The fire must have » reached their ammunition or fuel » storage. If they continue to be » bombarded like this, the "St. Elmo" w » ill eventually meet the same fate.	<>	1912 The nearby ships hit by the barrage of » shrapnel suddenly ballooned, and in » the next instant, turned into fiery » orbs and disintegrated into the » starry sky. The fire must have » reached their ammunition or fuel » storage. If they continued to be » bombarded like this, the St. Elmo wou » ld eventually meet the same fate.
1913	There was no way to retaliate. The » caliber of our main guns was too » different, our shells didn't reach th » em, and their shells kept tearing us » apart.	<>	1913 There was no way to retaliate. The » caliber of their main guns was too » different, shells did not reach the » enemy , and the ships were being torn » apart.
1915	Overwhelmed with regret, he opened all » the voice pipes and issued an order.	<>	1915 Overwhelmed with regret, he opened all » the comms pipes and issued an order.
1919	"All hands abandon ship! All hands » abandon ship! Attach your parachutes! » Those who are injured , those who are » able-bodied, carry them and jump! Try » to pair up if you can, after landing, » help each other to survive!"	<>	1919 "All hands abandon ship! All hands » abandon ship! Attach your parachutes! » Those who are able-bodied, carry » anyone injured with you and jump! Try » to pair up if you can, after landing, » help each other to survive!"
1925	The five staff officers strapped on » their harnesses, each slinging a » parachute over their shoulder. » Noticing that McLoughlin hadn't so » much as put on a harness, let alone a	<>	1925 The five staff officers strapped on » their harnesses, each slinging a » parachute over their shoulder. » Noticing that McLoughlin had not so » much as put on a harness, let alone a

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	» parachute, one officer tried to help » him into a spare harness.		» parachute, one officer tried to help » him into a spare harness.
1936	The name I read in the newspaper was » indeed... Commander Isaiah » Shiranomiya.	<>	1936 The name McLoughlin had read in the » newspaper was indeed... Commander » Isaiah Shiranomiya.
1937	The Gumerian Navy reportedly refers to » her as "Isaiah the Leviathan" out of » fear.		1937 The Gumerian Navy reportedly referred » to her as "Isaiah the Leviathan" out » of fear.
1938	I've heard she is a noble and beautiful » princess, but it's hard to imagine » that a girl so young could crack my » strategy.		1938 He had heard she was a noble, and » beautiful princess, but it was hard » to imagine that a girl so young could » crack his strategy.
1939	Likely, a brilliant strategist is » backing Isaiah. A strategist capable » of deducing McLoughlin's position and » plan, predicting that he would show » up here today.		1939 Likely, a brilliant strategist was » backing Isaiah. A strategist capable » of deducing McLoughlin's position and » plan, predicting that he would show » up here today.
1944	The unknown foreign strategist had » acknowledged McLoughlin as a great » general, thus he had studied » McLoughlin's naval command, read his » thoughts, and was able to take » countermeasures. If he had » underestimated McLoughlin and failed » to take proper measures, the Hinoo » forces would likely have suffered a » crushing defeat at the hands of the » ramshackle aerial fleet.	<>	1944 The unknown foreign strategist had » acknowledged McLoughlin as a great » general, thus he must have studied » McLoughlin's naval command, read his » thoughts, and was able to take » countermeasures. If he had » underestimated McLoughlin and failed » to take proper measures, the Hinoo » forces would likely have suffered a » crushing defeat at the hands of the » ramshackle aerial fleet.
1945	"The key to victory was not being » underestimated by some unknown » foreign strategist. As the general of » a defeated army, that's a small » consolation."		1945 The key to victory was not being » underestimated by some unknown » foreign strategist. As the general of » a defeated army, that was a small » consolation.
1946	"Right now, I feel invigorated. I turn » my relaxed face towards the enemy » students in the spotlight."		1946 In that moment, McLoughlin felt » invigorated. He turned his relaxed » face towards the enemy spotlights."
1948	The chain of explosions echoed, causing » the suspension cables to snap and the » deck to tilt. Flames swallowed the » compass bridge. Overwhelmed by the » toxic smoke, I could feel the looming » presence of death.	<>	1948 The chain of explosions echoed, causing » the suspension cables to snap and the » deck to tilt. Flames swallowed the » compass bridge. Overwhelmed by the » toxic smoke, he could feel the » looming presence of death.
1949	"Glory to the Empire of Ringland."		1949 "Glory to the Ringland Empire."
1950	With these words, the compass bridge » vanished amidst the flames and soot. » Soon, all the suspension cables » snapped, and the "St. Elmo" trailed a » long tail of fire as it plummeted to » the ground.		1950 With these words, the compass bridge » vanished amidst the flames and soot. » Soon, all the suspension cables » snapped, and the St. Elmo trailed a » long tail of fire as it plummeted to » the ground.
1952	Isaiah removed her gaze from the 12 cm » binoculars and observed the burning » enemy airship fleet in the distant » sky with her bare eyes.	<>	1952 Isaiah removed her gaze from the » binoculars and observed the burning » enemy airship fleet in the distant » sky with her bare eyes.

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1956	There was no joy in Isaiah's voice. Her » expression was shadowed , tinged with » deep sadness.	<>	1956	There was no joy in Isaiah's voice. Her » expression was dark , tinged with deep » sadness.
1961	Rio echoed this sentiment .	<>	1961	Rio clearly felt the same as Isaiah .
1963	"What's the point in feeling sorry for » the enemy on a battlefield? This is a » fight to the death. If you want to » remain virtuous, stay in the temple ."	<>	1963	"What's the point in feeling sorry for » the enemy on a battlefield? This is a » fight to the death. If you want to » remain virtuous, go hide out in a temple instead ."
1973	"The way he managed to push the Hinoo » Army to the brink of defeat with a » fleet of vessels that are forty years » old is nothing short of brilliant. I » hope Admiral McLoughlin is still » alive. If we ever cross paths, I'd » love to hear his story."	<>	1973	"The way he managed to push the Hinoo » Army to the brink of defeat with a » fleet of 40-year-old vessels is » nothing short of brilliant. I hope » Admiral McLoughlin is still alive. If » we ever cross paths, I'd love to hear » his story."
1974	Before Operation Marie, Clotho had » spent days and nights studying » McLoughlin's naval command and » predicting his moves. He had » suggested this strategy, but he kept » it a secret from Isaiah. To flaunt » one's efforts would only tarnish the » myth of genius.	<>	1974	Before Operation Marie, Clotho had » spent days and nights studying » McLoughlin's naval command and » predicting his moves. He had » suggested this strategy, but he kept » these studies a secret from Isaiah. » To flaunt one's efforts would only » tarnish the myth of genius.
1976	With that said, Isaiah turned her » attention to the four floating » objects drifting in the sky. She knew » she'd have to tow them later and » bring them back to their home port. » Of course, this included the three » friendly airships whose engines had » stopped on the way here.	<>	1976	With that said, Isaiah turned her » attention to the four floating » objects drifting in the sky. She knew » she'd have to tow them later and » bring them back to their home port. » Of course, this included the three » friendly airships whose engines had » stopped on the way there .
1983	A loud cheer echoed back from the voice » pipe leading to the engine control » room. There was no insincerity in » Isaiah's words. She was genuinely » grateful for today's victory, » attributing it entirely to the engine » department.	<>	1983	A loud cheer echoed back from the comms » pipe leading to the engine control » room. There was no insincerity in » Isaiah's words. She was genuinely » grateful for today's victory, » attributing it entirely to the engine » department.
1985	The loudest cheer of the day resonated » within the command tower. The » innocent joy of the 340 members of » the 'Hiren' seemed to spill over into » the airspace.	<>	1985	The loudest cheer of the day resonated » within the command tower. The » innocent joy of the 340 members of » the Hiren seemed to spill over into » the airspace.
1989	As the 'Hiren' reverberated with joyous » shouts, it left the battlefield » behind and sailed east.	<>	1989	As the Hiren reverberated with joyous » shouts, it left the battlefield » behind and sailed east.
1996	Rio gave a sad smile and nodded at » Isaiah's guess. It seemed Clotho didn » 't exactly appreciate it .	<>	1996	Rio gave a sad smile and nodded at » Isaiah's guess. It seemed Clotho did » not appreciate such a gesture .
2003	The hibiscus flower, in its red color,	<>	2003	The hibiscus flower, in its red color,

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	» symbolizes "courage". In the Ringland style, Rio pressed her hands together in front of her forehead, praying for everlasting peace for the noble and brave soldiers of a distant land.		» symbolized courage. In the Ringland style, Rio pressed her hands together in front of her forehead, praying for everlasting peace for the noble and brave soldiers of a distant land.
2010	After Isaiah had gone to the commander's office and Clotho to the officers' room, only Rio and I were left in the command tower.	<>	After Isaiah had gone to the commander's office and Clotho to the officers' room, only Rio and Hayao were left in the command tower.
2011	I stood a little distance away from Rio, maintaining my silence at the back of the command tower.		He stood a little distance away from Rio, maintaining his silence at the back of the command tower.
2012	Without saying a word, Rio, her hands on the large steering wheel, gazed at the starry sky. From where I stood, the stars framed a silhouette of Rio.		Without saying a word, Rio, her hands on the large steering wheel, gazed at the starry sky. From where Hayao stood, the stars framed her silhouette.
2013	There's... something... heartbreaking about it...		—There's something... Heartbreaking about it...
2014	That's the feeling that overcame me. It seemed presumptuous for a mere sailor like me to worry about a princess, but after spending a whole day working closely with her, I realized that Rio seemed out of place on the battlefield. She was simply a kind-hearted girl, ill-suited for the role of a soldier spilling blood for her country.		That feeling overcame Hayao. It seemed presumptuous for a mere sailor like him to worry about a princess, but after spending a whole day working closely with her, he realized that Rio seemed out of place on the battlefield. She was simply a kind-hearted girl, ill-suited for the role of a soldier spilling blood for her country.
2015	Bringing her onto a warship... it's cruel...		—Bringing her onto a warship... It's cruel...
2016	Unsolicited, thoughts beyond my station began to well up. Everyone aboard the Hiren understood why Rio and Isaiah were on the warship: it was to inspire the nation. The message was clear: if two beloved princesses were willing to fight on the front lines, then the citizens should also give their all. That's why Isaiah and Rio were here.		Unsolicited, thoughts beyond his station began to well up. Everyone aboard the Hiren understood why Rio and Isaiah were on the warship: it was to inspire the nation. The message was clear: if two beloved princesses were willing to fight on the front lines, then the citizens should also give their all. For that reason Isaiah and Rio were here.
2017	To Hinoo's leaders, it must have seemed like a necessary strategy. We were living in a harsh era where, if we didn't fight with everything we had, we risked becoming slaves to foreign powers, stripped of our rights and possessions. As symbols for the eighty million citizens of Hinoo to look up to, the value of having Isaiah and Rio seen in this light must have been immeasurable.		To Hinoo's leaders, it must have seemed like a necessary strategy. They were living in a harsh era where, if they did not fight with everything they had, they risked becoming slaves to foreign powers, stripped of all rights and possessions. As symbols for the eighty million citizens of Hinoo to look up to, the value of having Isaiah and Rio seen in this light must have been immeasurable.
2018	There was something bothering me, an		There was something bothering Hayao, an

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	» elusive thought I couldn't quite » pinpoint. 2019 This unsettling sensation, it was like » an itch at the back of my mind that » refused to be ignored. 2020 What exactly am I trying to » remember...?		2019 » elusive thought he could not quite » pinpoint. This unsettling sensation, it was like » an itch at the back of his mind that » refused to be ignored. 2020 —What exactly am I trying to » remember...?
2023	And then—	<>	2023 And then...
2024	Facing the descent of the Ringland » First Airborne Brigade, the Hinoo » Army resolved the crisis by simply » charging ahead. They continued their » onslaught until it was no longer » possible, sourcing most of their food » locally rather than relying on supply » lines. The Ringland airborne brigade, » attempting to outflank them, was » unable to match the terrifying » momentum of the Hinoo Army. The » airborne brigade's situation was » further complicated by Merisha 's » anti-Ringland sentiment, a result of » years of oppressive rule. Incidents » of their location being revealed to » the Hinoo Army or members being » captured by local volunteer soldiers » were frequent, effectively stifling » their operations.	2024 Facing the descent of the Ringland » First Airborne Brigade, the Hinoo » Army resolved the crisis by simply » charging ahead. They continued their » onslaught until it was no longer » possible, sourcing most of their food » locally rather than relying on supply » lines. The Ringland airborne brigade, » attempting to outflank them, was » unable to match the terrifying » momentum of the Hinoo Army. The » airborne brigade's situation was » further complicated by Marieshire 's » anti-Ringland sentiment, a result of » years of oppressive rule. Incidents » of their location being revealed to » the Hinoo Army or members being » captured by local volunteer soldiers » were frequent, effectively stifling » their operations.	
2026	The locals of Merisha didn't greet the » Hinoo army's arrival with cheers.	<>	2026 The locals of Marieshire did not greet » the Hinoo army's arrival with cheers.
2031	Now, at fifty-six, Commander Verner W. » Noduk of the Grand Duchy Fleet could » confidently correct his younger self, » "It's not like that."	<>	2031 Now, at fifty-six, Commander Verner W. » Noduk of the Grand Duchy Fleet could » confidently correct his younger self; » It was not like that at all .
2032	Neither the masses nor the unseen » 'great something' are the ones » shaping history.	2032	Neither the masses nor the unseen » 'great something' were the ones » shaping history.
2033	Maybe there was a time when that was » true, but now, the one dictating » world history according to his own » whims, disregarding public sentiment, » is an individual named President » Wimbert of the Gameria Republic.	2033	Maybe there was a time when that was » true, but now, the one dictating » world history according to his own » whims, disregarding public sentiment, » was an individual named President » Wimbert of the Gameria Republic.
2038	Noduk, while sympathizing with » Primrose's old-fashioned views, had » remained in Hawaii for better or » worse since his appointment, leaving » command on the ground to the » frontline commanders. He recognized » that modern times, with their » expanded operational sea areas due to » advancements in airplanes and ships, » had made the concept of a	<>	2038 Noduk, while sympathizing with » Primrose's old-fashioned views, had » remained in Hawaii for better or » worse since his appointment, leaving » command on the ground to the » frontline commanders. He recognized » that modern times, with their » expanded operational airsea areas due » to advancements in airplanes and » ships, had made the concept of a

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	» commander-in-chief directing » operations from the frontlines » obsolete. His role was strictly as a » liaison between the front line and » the White House. While he did suggest » policy adjustments for coordination, » reflecting Killing's will on the » battlefield was his primary duty.		» commander-in-chief directing » operations from the frontlines » obsolete. His role was strictly as a » liaison between the front line and » the White House. While he did suggest » policy adjustments for coordination, » reflecting Killing's will on the » battlefield was his primary duty.
2042	It was June of 1939, according to the » Sacred Calendar...	<>	2042 It was June of 1939.
2044	Through the window, a group of » bored-looking battleships could be » seen anchored in Pearl Harbor, » basking under the island's eternal » summer sun. A mere ten months ago, » the sky above them was dominated by » seven majestic flying battleships, » their flight trails spreading the » rainbow hues of the Seras effect. » Now, no trace of them remained.	<>	2044 Through the window, a group of » bored-looking battleships could be » seen anchored in Pearl Harbor, » basking under the island's eternal » summer sun. A mere ten months ago, » the sky above them was dominated by » seven majestic flying battleships, » their flight trails spreading the » rainbow hues of the Seras Effect. » Now, no trace of them remained.
2050	If a substantial enemy base were » established on Guadalcanal, the » communication line between Hawaii and » Coastdaria would have been severed. » Should this have happened, Coastdaria » might have fallen under Hinoo's » control. To save the isolated Coastda » ria, the Grand Duchy Fleet had to put » forth all their strength to reclaim » Guadalcanal—.	<>	2050 If a substantial enemy base were » established on Guadalcanal, the » communication line between Hawaii and » Coast Daria would have been severed. » Should this have happened, Coast Dari » a might have fallen under Hinoo's » control. To save the isolated Coast D » aria, the Grand Duchy Fleet had to » put forth all their strength to » reclaim Guadalcanal.
2052	"There's no way Hinoo has the capacity » to occupy Coastdaria."	<>	2052 "There's no way Hinoo has the capacity » to occupy Coast Daria."
2053	Noduk grumbled to himself. Controlling » and maintaining the vast expanse of » Coastdaria would require at least » twelve divisions and a million tons » of transport ships. Hinoo, already » strained with maintaining their » occupied territories on the Zen » continent, couldn't possibly have » that kind of capability.	<>	2053 Noduk grumbled to himself. Controlling » and maintaining the vast expanse of » Coast Daria would require at least » twelve divisions and a million tons » of transport ships. Hinoo, already » strained with maintaining their » occupied territories on the Zen » continent, couldn't possibly have » that kind of capability.
2055	His lament was never-ending. If they » could just wait one more year, the » warships currently being built in the » shipyards of their homeland would be » operational, and they could overwhelm » the Combined Fleet with sheer » numbers. If they attacked Guadalcanal » now, while both armies' strength were » evenly matched, it would result in a » bloody standoff. Noduk simply » couldn't understand why they had to	<>	2055 His lament was never-ending. If they » could just wait one more year, the » warships currently being built in the » shipyards of their homeland would be » operational, and they could overwhelm » the Combined Fleet with sheer » numbers. If they attacked Guadalcanal » now, while both armies' strength were » evenly matched, it would result in a » bloody standoff. Noduk simply » couldn't understand why they had to

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	<p>» rush into a battle with the Combined » Fleet "now".</p> <p>2056 No, in reality, I understand.</p> <p>2057 President Wimbert is simply concerned » about his dwindling approval ratings...</p> <p>2058 A year has passed since the war began, » and Gameria has yet to claim any » significant victories. The failure of » the large-scale public works project, » which initially started with great » enthusiasm, has now become apparent, » and the voters can no longer hide » their disappointment in Wimbert. If » he doesn't declare a significant » victory soon, he risks facing an » impeachment resolution in parliament.</p> <p>2059 And Admiral Killing, the executor of » the president's military policies, ha » s also reached his endurance limit.</p> <p>2060 Killing has always despised the people » of Hinoo. Ever since his wallet was » stolen by a pickpocket in Yokohama » during a visit, he has viewed the » people of Hinoo as his bitter » enemies. Over the past year, » continuously bested by those same » people of Hinoo, his mood has been » far from good. Noduk has been » summoned to San Francisco three times » in the past nine months and subjected » to the tedious, detailed inquiries of » that grim and tenacious old man.</p> <p>2061 Admiral Killing is desperate to break » out of the current stalemate...</p> <p>2062 Noduk can sense this keenly. Stubborn » and eccentric Killing, who never » listens to others, has many enemies » within the military, and he fears a » potential stab in the back.</p> <p>2063 Thus, an unnecessary operation commence » d...</p>		<p>» rush into a battle with the Combined » Fleet *now*.</p> <p>2056 No, in reality, he understood.</p> <p>2057 —President Wimbert is simply concerned » about his dwindling approval ratings...</p> <p>2058 A year had passed since the war began, » and Gameria had yet to claim any » significant victories. The failure of » the large-scale public works project, » which initially started with great » enthusiasm, had now become apparent, » and the voters could no longer hide » their disappointment in Wimbert. If » he did not declare a significant » victory soon, he risked facing an » impeachment resolution in parliament.</p> <p>2059 And Admiral Killing, the executor of » the president's military policies, ha » d also reached his endurance limit.</p> <p>2060 Killing had always despised the people » of Hinoo. Ever since his wallet was » stolen by a pickpocket in Yokohama » during a visit, he had viewed the » people of Hinoo as his bitter » enemies. Over the past year, » continuously bested by those same » people of Hinoo, his mood had been » far from good. Noduk had been » summoned to San Francisco three times » in the past nine months and subjected » to the tedious, detailed inquiries of » that grim and tenacious old man.</p> <p>2061 —Admiral Killing is desperate to break » out of the current stalemate...</p> <p>2062 Noduk could sense this keenly. Stubborn » and eccentric Killing, who never » listened to others, had made many » enemies within the military, and he » feared a potential stab in the back.</p> <p>2063 —Thus, an unnecessary operation » commences...</p>
2065	<p>Logically, we should simply let Hinoo » do as they please for now. The first » year of the war is akin to the first » round in boxing. We should be on the » defensive and studying the enemy's » maneuvers. The second year, or round, » should be spent wearing down the » enemy with jabs and footwork, before » launching a full-scale attack in the » third and fourth rounds when our » superior strength becomes apparent. W » e'll knock them out and keep them</p>	<>	<p>2065 Logically, they should simply let Hinoo » do as they please for now. Noduk » considered the first year of a war » akin to the first round of a boxing » match. They should be on the » defensive and studying the enemy's » manoeuvres. The second year, or » round, should be spent wearing down » the enemy with jabs and footwork, » before launching a full-scale attack » in the third and fourth rounds when » their superior strength becomes</p>

	» down. After all, this is a mismatched » bout between a heavyweight and a » flyweight fighter. No matter how » powerful a punch a person weighing » fifty kilograms may deliver, a man » over ninety kilograms may get hurt bu » t won't fall . Given time, Gameria, » with more than ten times the national » power, is destined to win.		» apparent. That way they could knock » Hinoo out and keep them down. After » all, this was a mismatched bout » between a heavyweight and a flyweight » fighter. No matter how powerful a » punch a person weighing fifty » kilograms may deliver, a man over » ninety kilograms will not fall; at » most, it would just hurt a little . » Given time, Gameria, with more than » ten times the national power, was » destined to win.
2066	So, why then are we launching a » large-scale attack in this still ener » getic second round?	2066	—So, why then are we launching a » large-scale attack in the second » round, when they're not worn out yet?
2067	Doing so would only result in » unnecessary damage to us .	2067	Doing so would only result in » unnecessary damage to Gameria .
2068	The ones to be pitied are the Gamerian » soldiers who will fall on the » battlefield...	2068	—I pity the Gamerian soldiers who will » fall on the battlefield...
2069	Young men, fueled by patriotism, are » marching to war. Their blood will be » spilled for the whims of old men » driven by wealth and power. The » absurdity of it all weighs heavily on » Noduk. But as a middle manager, all » he can do is use his wits to execute » orders with the least amount of » sacrifice.	2069	Young men, fueled by patriotism, were » marching to war. Their blood would be » spilled for the whims of old men » driven by wealth and power. The » absurdity of it all weighed heavily » on Noduk. But as a middle manager, » all he could do was use his wits to » execute orders with the least amount » of sacrifice.
2071	He knew Killing probably wouldn't be » pleased and he might just receive a » telegram with the usual big 'X'. » However, if he was able to craft the » wording to tap into Killing's » deep-seated hatred for the Hinoo » people and his wish to annihilate » them, this seemingly impossible » proposal might be implemented in a » single stroke. It would necessitate » massive paperwork involving over a » hundred related departments, but the » Grand Duchy Fleet would surely » overwhelm the Combined Fleet at » Solomon.	<>	2071 He knew Killing probably would not be » pleased, and he might just receive a » telegram response with the usual big » 'X'. However, if he was able to craft » the wording to tap into Killing's » deep-seated hatred for the Hinoo » people and his wish to annihilate » them, this seemingly impossible » proposal might be implemented in a » single stroke. It would necessitate » massive paperwork involving over a » hundred related departments, but the » Grand Duchy Fleet would surely » overwhelm the Combined Fleet at » Solomon.
2072	Admiral Killing might be a stubborn old » man, but he wasn't a fool. Within his » ruthless intelligence, Noduk saw a » glimmer of hope.	2072	Admiral Killing might be a stubborn old » man, but he was no fool. Within his » ruthless intelligence, Noduk saw a » glimmer of hope.
2078	The two, known for their usual » conflicting opinions and their » tendency to bicker behind each » other's backs, surprisingly showed » agreement. This indicated that the	<>	2078 It was surprising that the two, known » for their usual conflicting opinions » and their tendency to bicker behind » each other's backs, were in » agreement. This indicated that the

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	» proposal was ready to proceed.			» proposal was ready to proceed.
2084	Each ship, with a length of about two » to five meters , offered no space for » anyone to board. Each one featured a » flagpole pointing directly downwards, » under the hull, with aluminum sails » attached.	<>	2084	Each ship, with a length of about two » to five yards , offered no space for » anyone to board. Each one featured a » flagpole pointing directly downwards, » under the hull, with aluminum sails » attached.
2086	The scene was reminiscent of a fairy » tale.	<>	2086	The scene was reminiscent of a fairytal » e.
2087	Floating stones, similar to pumice » stones, hovered on an invisible » surface known as the floating sphere. » The small flying sailboats caught the » night wind on their silver sails » pointing towards the ground, painting » the starry sky with their colorful » trails as they drifted through the » sea of Seras particles.	<>	2087	Floatstones, similar to pumice stones, » hovered on an invisible surface known » as the floatsphere. The small flying » sailboats caught the night wind on » their silver sails pointing towards » the ground, painting the starry sky » with their colorful trails as they » drifted through the sea of Seras » particles.
2088	"The floating stones used in the » sailboats' hull are fragments of the » enemy's floating body, destroyed by » the 'Ibuki's' air torpedoes during » the naval air battle off Manila ten » months ago," Clotho Kuronomiya » murmured as he watched the twenty-six » small flying sailboats drifting in » the starry sky, allowing the wind to » dictate their course.	<>	2088	The floatstones used in the sailboats' » hulls were fragments of the enemy's » floating body, destroyed by the » Ibuki's air torpedoes during the aero » naval battle off Manila ten months » ago. Clotho Kurono murmured quietly » as he watched the twenty-six small » flying sailboats drifting in the » starry sky, allowing the wind to » dictate their course.
		-+	2095	Standing to Clotho's right, Chief Petty » Officer Onitsuka grumbled,
2096	Standing to Clotho's right, Chief Petty » Officer Onitsuka grumbled.	+-		
2100	With these words, Onitsuka skillfully » furled the sails of the small » sailboat, his agile movements starkly » contrasting his large build.	<>	2100	Hearing this, Onitsuka skillfully » furled the sails of the small » sailboat, his agile movements starkly » contrasting his large build.
2103	"Your desires seem to know no bounds, » don't they?"	<>	2103	"Your desires really know no bounds, » don't they?"
2104	"During our beach outing in Manila, » Lord Kuronomiya, you promised us » bikini photos of both princesses in » return for our loyalty. So far, we » have only received one from Princess » Kazenomiya. Seeing as you've » fulfilled only half your promise, our » loyalty also stands at half."	<>	2104	"During our beach outing in Manila, » Lord Kurono, you promised us bikini » photos of both princesses in return » for our loyalty. So far, we have only » received one from Princess » Kazenomiya. Seeing as you've » fulfilled only half your promise, our » loyalty also stands at half."
2109	"Are you threatening me?!"	<>	2109	"Are you threatening me!?"
2113	Feeling the affirmative responses of » the sailors lined up on the floating » object, "Yes!" "For the sake of » bikinis!", Clotho descended to the	<>	2113	Feeling the affirmative responses of » the sailors lined up on the floating » object—"Yes!" "For the sake of the » bikini!"—Clotho descended to the

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	» upper deck using the diagonally » stretched rope ladder. Holy Year of 1939, June 10, Wilhelm » Base on the island of New Guinea—		2114	» upper deck using the diagonally » stretched rope ladder. June 10, 1939, Wilhelm Base on the » island of New Guinea
2116	In the following months, the Hinoo » military had successfully taken over » the islands of Sumatra and Java, » landed on New Guinea two months ago, » and promptly occupied the Rae » airfield on the east coast. Now, they » were facing the Coast Dalia Army in » Port Moresby, separated by the Owen » Stanley mountain range in the middle » of New Guinea.	<>	2116	Soon after, the Hinoo military had » successfully taken over the islands » of Sumatra and Java, landed on New » Guinea two months ago, and promptly » occupied the Rae airfield on the east » coast. Now, they were facing the » Coast Daria Army in Port Moresby, » separated by the Owen Stanley » mountain range in the middle of New » Guinea.
2117	The Combined Fleet had set up its naval » base on Truk Island, keeping an eye » on the enemy's actions. The Second » Aerial Lightning Fleet, under » Isaiah's leadership, had been » stationed for about two weeks at the » temporary base for the airborne » fleet, nestled on the mid-slope of » Mount Wilhelm. Despite being » makeshift, the base was fully » equipped for unloading and loading » cargo via a crane by docking the » ship's hull at the pier. » Additionally, it was conveniently » located near Rae, where the airbase » was. Local merchants frequented the » area, ensuring there was no » disruption in daily life. The only » issue was the monotony.		2117	The Combined Fleet had set up its naval » base on Truk Island, keeping an eye » on the enemy's actions. The Second » Aerial Lightning Fleet, under » Isaiah's leadership, had been » stationed for about two weeks at the » temporary base for the airborne » fleet, nestled on the mid-slope of » Mount Wilhelm. Despite being » makeshift, the base was fully » equipped for unloading and loading » cargo via a crane by docking the » ship's hull at the pier. » Additionally, it was conveniently » located near Rae, where the airbase » was. Local merchants frequented the » area, ensuring there was no » disruption in daily life. The only » issue was the monotony.
2118	The "Hiren" hadn't participated in any » major naval battles since the Marie o » peration. It had spent all its time » on escort missions for transport » ships. The ship hadn't taken part in » any landing operations that had » occurred, nor had it joined naval » battles with the Ringland Navy or the » Coast Dalia Navy. The only orders it » received were for mundane tasks such » as patrol and escort. This is why » Clotho was independently developing » new weapons, trying to prove his » competence to the command » headquarters.		2118	The Hiren had not participated in any » major naval battles since Operation » Marie. It had spent all its time on » escort missions for transport ships. » The ship hadn't taken part in any » landing operations that had occurred, » nor had it joined naval battles with » the Ringland Navy or the Coast Daria » Navy. The only orders it received » were for mundane tasks such as patrol » and escort. This is why Clotho was » independently developing new weapons, » trying to prove his competence to the » command headquarters.
2122	"It's thoroughly detestable. They're » all just petty officials, caring only » about self-preservation and dodging » responsibility. We can't possibly » hold up if Gameria decides to	<>	2122	"It's thoroughly detestable. They're » all just petty officials, they care » only about self-preservation and » dodging responsibility. We can't » possibly hold up if Gameria decides

	» attack."		» to attack."
2125	This was six months after the » conclusion of the Marie Operation.	<>	2125 This was six months after the » conclusion of Operation Marie.
2132	As if to bolster herself, she said that » and glanced to the side for Rio's » input.	<>	2132 As if to bolster herself, Isaiah » glanced to the side for Rio's input » as she said this.
2134	On reflection,	<>	2134 Suddenly she remembered,
2141	It had been half a year since I had » been alone with Clotho, as I was » always in the control tower with » either Rio, Mew, or Hayao always by » my side.	<>	2141 It had been half a year since she had » been alone with Clotho, as she was » always in the control tower with » either Rio, Mew, or Hayao always by » her side.
2142	Now, standing alone with Clotho for the » first time in ages, the words uttered » by Lieutenant Yuri Hartfield at the » social gathering in Manila came » flooding back to me.		2142 Now, standing alone with Clotho for the » first time in ages, the words uttered » by Lieutenant Yuri Hartfield at the » social gathering in Manila came » flooding back to her.
2143	"Lieutenant Colonel Kuronomiya came » back to Hinoo to protect Princess » Shiranomiya from Mr. Kyle, didn't he? » "		2143 "So Major Kurono, you returned to Hinoo » to protect Princess Shiranomiya from » Mr. Kyle, right?"
2144	The mere recollection accelerates » Isaiah's heartbeat.		2144 The mere recollection accelerated » Isaiah's heartbeat.
2145	She denies it, but considering the » circumstances, she can't completely » disregard the thought.		2145 He denied it at the time, but » considering the circumstances, she co » uld not completely disregard the » thought.
2146	Why did he leave a life of luxury in » Gameria to return to Hinoo and become » a soldier?		2146 —Why did he leave a life of luxury in » Gameria to return to Hinoo and become » a soldier?
2147	I can't understand why Clotho chooses » to fight...		2147 —I can't understand why Clotho chooses » to fight...
2153	"I discovered in Gameria that there are » races in this world that defy my » common sense. I came back to Hinoo to » fight against that man."	<>	2153 "I learned in Gameria that there are pe » ople beyond my understanding. I » returned to Hinoo to fight one such » man."
2154	"There's a monster in Gameria who can p » lunge nations into war with a single » decision, unfazed by the death of » millions of soldiers on both sides, a » nd relentlessly pursuing absurd wishe » s... I vowed to stop this monster wit » h all my might. That's the only » reason I'm here. I don't have any » other purpose."		2154 "...In Gameria, there exists a monster » driven by a singular will, capable of » instigating wars among nations. The » deaths of millions of soldiers on » both sides mean nothing to him. He's » chasing some ridiculous ambition. I b » elieve this monster played a part in » igniting the war between Hinoo and » Gameria. If we lose this war, » everything—our royal family, our » government, our people—will fall into » this monster's hands. I've sworn to » do everything within my power to stop » him. That's why I'm here. I have no » other intention."
2156	At that time, Clotho hadn't spoken	<>	2156 At that time, Clotho had not spoken

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	» about the content of the "absurd wish » , " but according to Yuri's story at » the recent social gathering, Kyle is » seeking the presidency to claim » Isaiah as his own. 2157 Could it be that...?		» about the content of the 'ridiculous » ambition' but according to Yuri's » story at the recent social gathering, » Kyle was seeking the presidency to » claim Isaiah as his own. —Could it be that he...
2159	When you piece all the stories » together, doesn't that seem to be the » conclusion? 2160 —Should I verify this? 2161 If that's the case, I must deter » Clotho. 2162 Even if Kyle is really after me, I can » protect myself. 2163 I don't want anyone to shield me. 2164 Above all, I wish for Clotho to live a » life full of meaning. 2165 I want him to experience freedom, not » to perish on a battlefield. 2166 If he's here just to guard me, then I » must make him leave. 2167 But how can I ask this of him... 2168 If I were to bring it up, it might » fracture the bond we share. It's also » somewhat inappropriate, perhaps even » unjust, to let our personal feelings » interfere with our professional roles » as Fleet Commander and strategic advi » sor.	<>	2159 When she pieced all the stories » together, she couldn't escape that » conclusion. 2160 —I should probe into this further... 2161 If this was the case, she felt that she » must deter Clotho. 2162 Even if Kyle was really after her, she » could protect herself. She did not want anyone to shield her. 2164 Above all, she wished for Clotho to » live a life full of meaning. 2165 —I want him to experience freedom, not » to perish on a battlefield. 2166 —If he's here just to guard me, then I » must make him leave. 2167 —But how can I ask that of him... 2168 If she were to bring it up, it might » fracture their bond. It was also » somewhat inappropriate, perhaps even » unjust, to let personal feelings » interfere with their professional » roles as Fleet Commander and Strategi » c Advisor.
2170	Clotho's unexpected voice startled me, » causing me to jerk my head up. 2171 I gazed blankly at his profile for a » moment before snapping back to » reality.	<>	2170 Clotho's unexpected voice startled her, » causing her to jerk her head up. 2171 She gazed blankly at his profile for a » moment before snapping back to » reality.
2173	I hadn't realized.	<>	2173 she had not realized.
2174	"You were going on about rotten water » and self-protection. Nonsense."	<>	2174 "You were going on about freedom and » self-protection. Nonsense."
2176	A cold sweat trickled down my back. It » seemed I had a habit of whispering my » thoughts out loud. A terrible habit, » one I need to correct before it leads » to embarrassment. 2177 I faced forward and spoke in a resolute » tone,	<>	2176 A cold sweat trickled down her back. It » seemed she had a habit of whispering » her thoughts out loud. She resolved » to correct this terrible habit before » it led to some great embarrassment. 2177 She faced forward and spoke in a » resolute tone,
2187	So... it would be beneficial to confirm » why Clotho went out of his way to » return home and become a soldier. If, » perchance, he did it due to personal » feelings, it would be best to push » him away for his own good.	<>	2187 It would be beneficial to confirm why » Clotho went out of his way to return » home and become a soldier. If, » perchance, he did it due to personal » feelings, it would be best to push » him away for his own good.
2189	But no matter how much I probe or » question him, Clotho won't easily	<>	2189 But no matter how much she probed or » questioned him, Clotho would be

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	» disclose his true intentions. The » best strategy in this case would be » to carefully consider how to ask, and » indirectly uncover Clotho's real » objective.		» unlikely to disclose his true » intentions. The best strategy in this » case would be to carefully consider » how to ask, and indirectly uncover » Clotho's real objective.
2190	Isaiah donned her usual mask of » indifference and glanced to the side, » attempting to appear casual as she » said,	2190	Isaiah donned her usual mask of » indifference and glanced to the side, » attempting to appear casual,
2193	"What's going on, a fit or something?"	<>	2193 "Are you having a fit or something?"
2195	She made an attempt to ask about Yuri's » current situation.	<>	2195 She tried to bring up the subject with » an attempt to ask about Yuri's » current situation.
2199	"Infiltrating successfully is one » thing. The real challenge is what » happens next. I just hope that unpre » dictable woman will follow the plan."	<>	2199 "Infiltrating successfully is one » thing. The real challenge is what » happens next. I just hope she'll actu » ally follow the plan."
2200	Remembering his previous interaction » with Yuri, Clotho voiced his words » with a hint of distaste.		2200 Remembering his previous interaction » with Yuri, Clotho tinged his words » with a hint of distaste.
2205	An embedded spy is one who continues » espionage activities in enemy » territory, even after all allied » support has vanished. It's a role » requiring immense patriotism, and one » that runs a high risk of exposure and » turning into a double agent.	<>	2205 An embedded spy was one who continued » espionage activities in enemy » territory, even after all allied » support had vanished. It was a role » requiring immense patriotism, and one » that ran a high risk of exposure and » turning into a double agent.
2209	" I will infiltrate New York and with my » own life, I will cast the despicable » Kyle McVille into the abyss of hell. » All for the sake of your futures."	<>	2209 " Now, I'll infiltrate New York and risk » my life to take down the detestable » Kyle McVille. All for your future."
2210	The motivation is too tainted. I » honestly can't understand it. If she' » s truly confronting Kyle McVille for » that reason, I don't think she needs » to fight. Wouldn't gathering » information be sufficient?	<>	2210 The motivation was too tainted. Isaiah » honestly could not understand it. If » she was truly confronting Kyle » McVille for that reason, she did not » need to fight. Would gathering » information not be sufficient?
2216	To thwart Mr. Kyle?	<>	2216 ...To thwart Kyle?
2217	Isaiah wanted to finish her sentence, » but the words wouldn't come.		2217 Isaiah wanted to finish her sentence, » but the words would not come.
2218	She felt a strange reluctance to ask. » She didn't understand why.		2218 She felt a strange reluctance to ask. » She did not understand why.
2222	This isn't good.	<>	2222 —This isn't good.
2223	It's not right. Yes, it's not right.		2223 —It's not right. Yes, it's not right.
2224	What's the point if the fleet commander » and the strategic officer can't » communicate effectively over such » trivial matters?		2224 —What's the point if the fleet » commander and the strategic officer » can't communicate effectively over » such trivial matters?
2225	"We're doing this for our country. » We're fighting for our nation. That's » all that matters, isn't it?"		2225 —We're doing this for our country. » We're fighting for our nation. That's » all that matters, isn't it?

2228	Cutting the conversation short, Clotho » turned his face away, as he usually » did when he was displeased.	<>	2228	Clotho turned his face away, as he » usually did when he was displeased.
2232	I had never felt so free in my entire » life.	<>	2232	Yuri Hartfield had never felt so free » in her entire life.
2233	The exhilaration was so intense, I » could have abandoned all my worries » and become a New Yorker on the spot.	<>	2233	The exhilaration was so intense, she » could have abandoned all of her » worries and become a New Yorker on » the spot.
2234	Striding confidently and smiling » brightly, Yuri Hartfield made her way » down Broadway.	<>	2234	Striding confidently and smiling » brightly, she made her way down » Broadway.
2236	Yuri wasn't bothered by the city's smog » -tainted blue sky.	<>	2236	Yuri wasn't at all bothered by the smog » tainting the summer air.
2241	Back in Hinoo, I used to draw curious » glances as I strolled down the » street. Shopkeepers even labeled me a » "foreign spy" merely for speaking the » Hinoo language. However, since I infi » ltrated Gameria two months ago, my » presence has gone unquestioned. On » the contrary, I get hit on four or » five times a day. Now, I take such » pleasure in wandering around New York » City that I eagerly step out of my » apartment every day, enjoying the » shopping spree using my discretionary » funds.	<>	2241	Back in Hinoo, she used to draw curious » glances as she strolled down the » street. Shopkeepers even labeled her » a 'foreign spy' merely for speaking » the Hinoo language. However, since in » filtrating Gameria two months ago, » her presence had gone unquestioned. » On the contrary, she was getting hit » on four or five times a day. Now, she » took such pleasure in wandering » around New York City that she eagerly » stepped out of my apartment every » day, enjoying the shopping spree » using her discretionary funds.
2242	Her entry into the country had been a » significant ordeal. To minimize any » suspicion, she undertook a » three-month-long journey that took » her from Shanghai to Kabul, then » Istanbul and Rome, and finally » Madrid. From Madrid, she was » transported to Lexio Bay via a » submarine, met with a waiting » operation ship, and crossed the » border from Lexio into Gameria in » May.	<>	2242	Yuri's entry into the country had been » a significant ordeal. To minimize any » suspicion, she undertook a » three-month-long journey that took » her from Shanghai to Kabul, then » Istanbul and Rome, and finally » Madrid. From Madrid, she was » transported to Lexio Bay via a » submarine, met with a waiting » operation ship, and crossed the » border from Lexio into Gameria in » May.
2244	I wish I could indulge in this carefree » lifestyle forever, but without any » tangible results, I risk losing my » discretionary budget. That would » indeed pose a problem, so I need to » put in some effort. That's why I'm » currently en route to the Lower East » Side to lay my first trap for my » target.	<>	2244	She wished she could indulge in this » carefree lifestyle forever, but » without any tangible results, she » risked losing her discretionary » budget. That would indeed pose a » problem, so she resolved to put in » some effort. For that reason she was » currently en route to the Lower East » Side to lay the first trap for her » target.
2245	Soon, I found myself standing in front » of a certain tenement building.	<>	2245	Soon, she found herself standing in » front of a certain tenement building.
2246	Typical to this district inhabited by		2246	Typical to this district inhabited by

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	» dock workers, the building was long » and narrow, wedged tightly between » its neighbors, with a staircase » jutting out front. Three years ago, » this entire building served as the » workspace for the young investor, » Clotho Kuronomiya. Now, only the » third floor was used as an office by » two ex-members of the investor group » "Kronos". There was a scheduled » lecture by them in today's agenda.		» dock workers, the building was long » and narrow, wedged tightly between » its neighbors, with a staircase » jutting out front. Three years ago, » this entire building served as the » workspace for the young investor, » Clotho Kurono. Now, only the third » floor was used as an office by two » ex-members of the investor group » Kronos. There was a scheduled lecture » by them on today's agenda.
2249	About a dozen early birds were already » there, lounging on chairs, leaning » against walls, or sitting directly on » the floor. Each of them waited in » their own way for the lecture to » start. They all seemed to be » investors. From their appearances, » they weren't rolling in wealth, but » they seemed to be here in search of » some clue, eager to hear the legend » of the "Oriental Magician", Clotho » Kuronomiya.	<>	2249 About a dozen early birds were already » there, lounging on chairs, leaning » against walls, or sitting directly on » the floor. Each of them waited in » their own way for the lecture to » start. They all seemed to be » investors. From their appearances, » they weren't rolling in wealth, but » they seemed to be here in search of » some clue, eager to hear the legend » of the 'Oriental Magician', Clotho » Kurono.
2251	There stood a young man in a slightly » disheveled suit. He introduced » himself as J.J., revealing himself as » the inaugural member of the legendary » investment group, "Kronos."	<>	2251 There stood a young man in a slightly » disheveled suit. He introduced » himself as J.J., revealing himself as » the inaugural member of the legendary » investment group, Kronos.
2252	"Nearly three years have passed since » the Thorn Dark incident shook Fall » Street and led to the disbandment of » Kronos. Today, we aim to recount the » rise and fall of Kronos, hoping it » may serve as a guide for your future » investment decisions."	<>	2252 "Nearly three years have passed since » the Thorndark incident shook Fall » Street and led to the disbandment of » Kronos. Today, we aim to recount the » rise and fall of Kronos, hoping it » may serve as a guide for your future » investment decisions."
2254	"I am Thompson Caliban, the seventh » member of Kronos. Thank you all for » being here. We host this lecture » monthly to ensure the incident stays » alive in memory and, if I'm being » honest, to raise funds for us."	<>	2254 "I am Thompson Caliban, the seventh » member of Kronos. Thank you all for » being here. We host this lecture » monthly to ensure the incident stays » alive in memory and, if I'm being » honest, to raise funds."
2258	He began by recounting the story of how » Clotho, who embarked on his investor » career at the tender age of eleven, » ascended to almost the zenith of Fall » Street in a mere five years. He then » transitioned into discussing the » extraordinary strategies of » stockbroker Kyle McVille, once » Clotho's partner, and the Thorndark » incident that resulted in the » downfall of Kronos due to Kyle's » betrayal. Thompson delivered his	<>	2258 He began by recounting the story of how » Clotho, who embarked on his investor » career at the tender age of eleven, » ascended to almost the zenith of Fall » Street in a mere five years. He then » transitioned into discussing the » extraordinary strategies of » stockbroker Kyle McVille, once » Clotho's partner, and the Thorndark » incident that resulted in the » downfall of Kronos due to Kyle's » betrayal. Thompson delivered his

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	» narrative as objectively as possible, » devoid of any emotional bias. Instead » of condemning Kyle's character, he » simply offered an impartial » examination of the contrasting » approaches adopted by Kyle and » Clotho.		» narrative as objectively as possible, » devoid of any emotional bias. Instead » of condemning Kyle's character, he » simply offered an impartial » examination of the contrasting » approaches adopted by Kyle and » Clotho.
2260	Most participants were eager to know » more about the now legendary tale of » 'Clotho Kuronomiya's Alchemy' that » had become folklore on Fall Street. » J.J., in an exaggerated fashion, spun » fantastical stories of dubious truth, » such as Clotho "formulating and » applying a physics equation to » optimize option prices". All the » while, Thompson maintained a closed » countenance, merely nodding in » response to J.J.'s narrative.	<>	2260 Most participants were eager to know » more about the now legendary tale of » 'Clotho Kurono's Alchemy' that had » become folklore on Fall Street. J.J., » in an exaggerated fashion, spun » fantastical stories of dubious truth, » such as Clotho "formulating and » applying a physics equation to » optimize option prices". All the » while, Thompson maintained a closed » countenance, merely nodding in » response to J.J.'s narrative.
2262	They're turning Clotho into a legend to » make a quick profit.	<>	2262 —They're turning Clotho into a legend » to make a quick profit.
2263	Their desperation is such that they can » 't survive as investors without » latching onto the names of Clotho and » Kronos. They're probably burdened » with debts from the Thorndark » incident. They could declare » bankruptcy and evade, but that would » bar them from their investment » activities on Fall Street. Despite » their debt, they're still trying to » scrape together a small income from » these pathetic lectures, clinging to » their fleeting dream of one day » challenging Kyle.	<>	2263 Their desperation was such that they co » uld not survive as investors without » latching onto the names of Clotho and » Kronos. They were probably burdened » with debts from the Thorndark » incident. They could declare » bankruptcy and evade, but that would » bar them from their investment » activities on Fall Street. Despite » their debt, they were still trying to » scrape together a small income from » these pathetic lectures, clinging to » their fleeting dream of one day » challenging Kyle.
2265	I find your vulnerability in these » feelings quite appealing.	<>	2265 —I find that vulnerability quite » appealing.
2266	With these thoughts occupying her mind, » Yuri listened attentively to » Thompson's story, taking notes » without posing a single question. She » felt his gaze meet hers several » times, but she didn't smile, simply » continuing her note-taking.	<>	2266 With these thoughts occupying her mind, » Yuri listened attentively to » Thompson's story, taking notes » without posing a single question. She » felt his gaze meet hers several » times, but she did not smile, simply » continuing her note-taking.
2270	I've got him hooked.	<>	2270 —I've got him hooked.
2272	The lecture is given once a month. She » just needs to attend it the same way » next month, and the month after that, » and so on. If she patiently continues » to show up, Thompson will eventually » approach her. That's when she 'll » infiltrate his inner circle. The	<>	2272 The lecture was given once a month. She » just needed to attend it the same way » next month, and the month after that, » and so on. If she patiently continued » to show up, Thompson would eventually » approach her. That would be when she » would infiltrate his inner circle.

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	» fundamental principle of human » intelligence is to allow the other » party to make the first move.			» The fundamental principle of human » intelligence was to allow the other » party to make the first move.
2274	She had never really wanted to be a » spy. But with no other options » available, she reluctantly enrolled » in the Ono Academy to become a spy at » her father's insistence. Initially, » she lacked motivation.	<>	2274	She had never really wanted to be a » spy. But with no other options » available, she reluctantly enrolled » in the Ohno Academy to become a spy » at her father's insistence. » Initially, she lacked motivation.
2275	This job might actually be fun.		2275	—This job might actually be fun.
2276	There are no annoying bosses here; what » I do or don't do is up to me . And » best of all, I get a generous » allowance for confidential expenses » and can spend it freely without » providing receipts. Ah, being a spy i » s the best.		2276	There were no annoying bosses here; » what Yuri did or did not do was up to » her . And best of all, she got a » generous allowance for confidential » expenses, which she could spend » freely without providing receipts. » Ah, being a spy was the best.
2277	Plus, meddling in the global-scale love » triangle involving Isaiah, Kyle, and » Clotho - a princess at war, a » prospective president of Gameria, and » a genius strategist of former royal » lineage - is quite entertaining. Just » imagining myself defeating Kyle, with » Isaiah and Clotho unitedly thanking » me tearfully, makes me grin from ear » to ear.		2277	Plus, meddling in the global-scale love » triangle involving Isaiah, Kyle, and » Clotho—a princess at war, a » prospective president of Gameria, and » a genius strategist of former royal » lineage— was quite entertaining. Just » imagining herself defeating Kyle, » with Isaiah and Clotho both thanking » her tearfully, made Yuri grin from » ear to ear.
2278	Just wait, Isaiah. Clotho. I'm going to » defeat Kyle, all by myself.		2278	—Just wait, Isaiah. Clotho. I'm going » to defeat Kyle, all by myself.
2285	"A flying battleship!" "It's massive, » what's it called?" "Isn't it the ' Ven » omena '? The new flagship of the » Oceanic Fleet!"	<>	2285	"A flying battleship!" "It's massive, » what's it called?" "Isn't it the » Venomena ? The new flagship of the » Oceanic Fleet!"
2287	All six flying battleships of the Grand » Oceanic Fleet were wiped out in the » sea-air battle off Manila. However, » the Grand Oceanic Fleet, reassigned » to the European front, still had some » flying battleships in good condition. » One of them, the flying battleship ' V » enomena ', was soaring west, passing » over New York.	<>	2287	All six flying battleships of the Grand » Oceanic Fleet were wiped out in the » Aeronaval battle off Manila. However, » the Grand Oceanic Fleet, reassigned » to the European front, still had some » flying battleships in good condition. » One of them, the flying battleship » Venomena , was soaring west, passing » over New York.
2288	"Why the ' Venomena '...?"		2288	"Why is it here ...?"
2289	Yuri muttered quietly, then it dawned » on her that today was the fourth of » July, Gameria's Independence Day. » Maybe it was a sightseeing flight » over New York in celebration of the » birth of the great United States of » Gameria.		2289	Yuri muttered quietly to herself , then » it dawned on her that today was the » fourth of July, Gameria's » Independence Day. Maybe it was a » sightseeing flight over New York to » celebrate the birth of the great » United States of Gameria.
2290	As this thought crossed her mind, the ' Venomena ' faded into the distance. » Even after the battleship was out of		2290	As this thought crossed her mind, the ' Venomena ' faded into the distance. » Even after the battleship was out of

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	» view, the citizens continued to cheer » in its wake, wishing each other a » happy Independence Day.		» view, the citizens continued to cheer » in its wake, wishing each other a » happy Independence Day.
2294	Is the destination the Atlantic ...?	<>	2294 —Is their destination the Grand Duchy ?
2295	That's my guess. I never imagined there » would be a Hinooan spy infiltrating » Gameria's heartland. Perhaps they » decided to celebrate Independence Day » on a whim and flew over New York » while en route from the Pacific to » the Atlantic .		2295 That was her guess. Of course they had » never imagined there would be a » Hinooan spy infiltrating Gameria's » heartland. Perhaps they decided to » celebrate Independence Day on a whim » and flew over New York while en route » from the Pacific to the Grand Duchy .
2296	If it were a warship, it would need to » navigate the Panama Canal to move » from the Pacific to the Atlantic , and » due to the canal's width, the ship's » width would be limited to 32 meters » or less. The Nagato-class battleship » has a width of 35 meters , so any ship » of that class would need to detour » around Cape Horn at the southernmost » tip of South America, which would » mean a significant detour.		2296 If it were a warship, it would need to » navigate the Panama Canal to move » from the Pacific to the Grand Duchy , » and due to the canal's width, the » ship's width would be limited to 32 » yards or less. The Nagato-class » battleship had a width of 35 yards , » so any ship of that class would need » to detour around Cape Horn at the » southernmost tip of South America, » which would mean a significant » detour.
2297	However, an airship could traverse the » Atlantic from the Pacific by crossing » over Gameria's mainland, bypassing » the Panama Canal, and exiting through » the southern end of the Rocky » Mountains. Even the Nagato-class » battleship, the Venomena, could » easily move between the two oceans.		2297 However, an airship could traverse the » Grand Duchy from the Pacific by » crossing over Gameria's mainland, » bypassing the Panama Canal, and » exiting through the southern end of » the Rocky Mountains. Even the » Nagato-class battleship, the » Venomena, could easily move between » the two oceans.
2299	At present, neither Hinoo nor Gameria » commanded airships on the Atlantic » front. In fact, the sole operational » airship fleet was the Hinoo's Second » Aerial Thunder Fleet under Isaiah's » command. This gave Hinoo the upper » hand in air superiority, but the » appearance of the flying battleship » Venomena could instantly tilt the » scales. After all, airships » represented the most formidable » weapons of the day, and it would take » another airship to bring one down.	<>	2299 At present, neither Hinoo nor Gameria » commanded airships on the Grand Duchy » front. In fact, the sole operational » airship fleet was the Hinoo's Second » Aerial Thunder Fleet under Isaiah's » command. This gave Hinoo the upper » hand in air superiority, but the » appearance of the flying battleship » Venomena could instantly tilt the » scales. After all, airships » represented the most formidable » weapons of the day, and it would take » another airship to bring one down.
2300	In other words... if the Venomena was » bound for the Taikou Ocean, Hinoo » could find itself in deep water.		2300 In other words... If the Venomena was » bound for the Grand Duchy Ocean, » Hinoo could find itself in deep » water.
2301	I need to contact headquarters...		—I need to contact headquarters...
2303	However, making contact with Hinoo was » no easy task. If I were to send a » telegram from New York, Gameria's	<>	2303 However, making contact with Hinoo was » no easy task. If Yuri were to send a » telegram from New York, Gameria's

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	<p>» counterintelligence agency would » intercept it in a heartbeat, blowing » the cover of our undercover agents. » To send a message securely, I would » need to reach the Lexio border, » breach the barbed-wire barrier, get » picked up by a spy ship anchored in » Lexio Bay, and then send an encrypted » telegram to the contact point in » Madrid. It's an expensive, » time-consuming, and above all, » dangerous process.</p>		<p>» counterintelligence agency would » intercept it in a heartbeat, blowing » the cover of our undercover agents. » To send a message securely, she would » need to reach the Lexio border, » breach the barbed-wire barrier, get » picked up by a spy ship anchored in » Lexio Bay, and then send an encrypted » telegram to the contact point in » Madrid. It was an expensive, » time-consuming, and above all, » dangerous process.</p>
2304	Perhaps I should just pretend I didn't » see anything...	2304	—Perhaps I should just pretend I » didn't see anything...
2306	There's no concrete evidence that the » Venomena is heading to the Taikou » Ocean.	<>	2306 —There's no concrete evidence that the » Venomena is heading to the Grand » Duchy Ocean.
2307	And even if I were to report it, there' » s no guarantee that headquarters » would take it seriously.	2307	—And even if I were to report it, I » can't be sure that headquarters would » take it seriously.
2308	I doubt the Combined Fleet Command » would take a mere field agent's » report seriously, or that they would » devise an effective countermeasure. » It seems rather unlikely. Traveling » all the way to Lexio to deliver a » report that might not even be taken » seriously feels like a wasted effort. » The risks seem higher, and it doesn't » make sense to embark on such an » adventure.	2308	—I doubt the Combined Fleet Command » would take a mere field agent's » report seriously, or that they would » devise an effective countermeasure. » It seems rather unlikely. Traveling » all the way to Lexio to deliver a » report that might not even be taken » seriously feels like a wasted effort. » The risks seem higher, and it doesn't » make sense to embark on such an » adventure.
2309	We don't really need to do this , do we . » ...?	2309	—I don't really need to do all that, » do I ...?
2311	If the Venomena appeared on the Grand » Duke Ocean Front and launched a » fierce aerial bombardment on the » Combined Fleet, no one could emerge » victorious. The fate of the Combined » Fleet would be sealed then and there, » and the Grand Duke Ocean Fleet would » move to the waters near Hinoo and » rain bombs down upon innocent women, » children, and the elderly.	<>	2311 If the Venomena appeared on the Grand » Duchy Ocean Front and launched a » fierce aerial bombardment on the » Combined Fleet, no one could emerge » victorious. The fate of the Combined » Fleet would be sealed then and there, » and the Grand Duchy Fleet would move » to the waters near Hinoo and rain » bombs down upon innocent women, » children, and the elderly.
2312	Even if the worst-case scenario were to » occur.	2312	Even if the worst-case scenario were to » occur...
2317	Yuri, who considers both places her » homeland, holds affection for them » both. She wishes that everyone could » live freely, unbound by nationality. » However, the harsh reality of the » world, where the strong trample the » weak in the name of justice, does not » accommodate such carefree wishes. It	<>	2317 Yuri, who considered both places her » homeland, held affection for them » both. She wished that everyone could » live freely, unbound by nationality. » However, the harsh reality of the » world, where the strong trampled the » weak in the name of justice, did not » accommodate such carefree wishes. It

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	» imposes burdensome, annoying , and » life-threatening problems. "Why can't they just get along? It's so » bothersome , honestly..."	2318		» imposed burdensome, bothersome , and » life-threatening problems. "Why can't they just get along? It's so » annoying , honestly..."	2318
2321	July 24, 1939, Sacred Era , New Guinea » Island, Wilhelm Base—	<>	2321	July 24, 1939, New Guinea Island, » Wilhelm Base.	
2322	Five days ago, Clotho received a » telegraph message saying "I want to » meet on the Hiren." Puzzled by the » request, he nonetheless agreed and » was currently welcoming an unexpected » guest to the officer's room on the » Hiren's bridge.		2322	Five days ago, Clotho received a » telegraph message saying "I want to » meet with you on the Hiren." Puzzled » by the request, he nonetheless agreed » and was currently welcoming an » unexpected guest to the officer's » room on the Hiren's bridge.	
2323	"I apologize for my sudden visit. I » believed it crucial that Rear Admiral » Shiranomiya and Lieutenant Colonel » Kuronomiya receive this news » firsthand, so I came."		2323	"I apologize for my sudden visit. I » believed it crucial that Rear Admiral » Shiranomiya and Lieutenant Colonel » Kurono receive this news firsthand, » so I came."	
2328	The much-anticipated super battleships » of the Combined Fleet were finally » finished last month, and their rumors » had become the base's hot topic. » Supposedly, they proceeded to Truk » for training, but it seems they won't » be deployed to the front lines for » some time yet.	<>	2328	The much-anticipated super battleships » of the Combined Fleet were finally » finished the month prior , and their » rumors had become the base's hot » topic. Supposedly, they proceeded to » Truk for training, but it seems they » would not be deployed to the front » lines for some time yet.	
2331	"Let's cut to the chase. On July 11th, » an encrypted telegram from the Lexio » operation ship arrived at the Hinoo » embassy in Madrid. The sender was me , » Yuri Hartfield. The message read: 'On » July 4th, the flying battleship "Veno » mena" passed over New York heading » west.'"	<>	2331	"Let's cut to the chase. On July 11th, » an encrypted telegram from the Lexio » operation ship arrived at the Hinoo » embassy in Madrid. The sender was » Yuri Hartfield. The message read: 'On » July 4th, the flying battleship » Venomena passed over New York heading » west.'"	
2347	Holding back a wildly laughing Clotho » with one hand, Isaiah turns to Kumura » for confirmation.	<>	2347	Holding back a wildly laughing Clotho » with one hand, Isaiah turned to » Kumura for confirmation.	
2350	A bitter expression surfaced on » Kumura's face. There was a tendency » in the Hinoo military to look down on » espionage, and there were quite a few » officers who claimed they could win » with their own strength, without » needing such tactics. It was unjust » that Yuri's life-threatening » information wasn't taken seriously » and was suppressed. This was Kumura's » belief, which is why he made the » effort to tell Isaiah and Clotho, who » seemed likely to understand.	<>	2350	A bitter expression surfaced on » Kumura's face. There was a tendency » in the Hinoo military to look down on » espionage, and there were quite a few » officers who claimed they could win » with their own strength, without » needing such tactics. It was unjust » that Yuri's life-threatening » information was was suppressed , » rather than taken seriously. This was » Kumura's belief, which is why he made » the effort to tell Isaiah and Clotho, » who seemed likely to understand.	
2351	Clotho began speaking to Kumura.		2351	Clotho addressed Kumura,	
2352	"The credibility of the information is		2352	"The credibility of the information is	

	<p>» high. The flying battleship 'Venomena » ' was spotted passing over New York » from east to west. That's the only » detail Yuri reported. She has no » reason to lie about this. » Furthermore, she risked her life » crossing the desolate Lexio border » and boarding a spy ship just to » deliver this information. This » journey was far from easy. Yuri » herself understands the gravity of » this news."</p>		<p>» high. The flying battleship Venomena » was spotted passing over New York » from east to west. That's the only » detail Yuri reported. She has no » reason to lie about this. » Furthermore, she risked her life » crossing the desolate Lexio border » and boarding a spy ship just to » deliver this information. This » journey was far from easy. Yuri » herself understands the gravity of » this news."</p>
2354	<p>"Kumura, the talent you found is indeed » impressive. I initially saw her as a » crude woman, yet her skills prove to » be quite substantial. Even if the 'Ve » nomena' isn't in the Grand Ocean, the » mere possibility gives us a reason to » prepare. If there's a chance that the » flying battleship is dispatched from » the Grand Ocean Fleet, we can plan » and intercept accordingly."</p>	<>	<p>"Kumura, the talent you found is indeed » impressive. I initially saw her as » quite a crude woman, yet her skills » prove to be substantial. Even if the » Venomena isn't in the Grand Ocean, » the mere possibility gives us a » reason to prepare. If there's a » chance that the flying battleship is » dispatched from the Grand Ocean » Fleet, we can plan and intercept » accordingly."</p>
2368	<p>Predicting something ominous, Clotho » quickly returned to the command » tower. He scrutinized the strategic » map of the Solomon Islands region, » his gaze settling on the airfield » under construction on Guadalcanal.</p>	<>	<p>With this ominous prediction, Clotho » quickly returned to the command » tower. He scrutinized the strategic » map of the Solomon Islands region, » his gaze settling on the airfield » under construction on Guadalcanal.</p>
2370	<p>Clotho could roughly surmise what » Admiral Killing would individually » think. But, predicting how the » intentions of President Wimbert, » Killing's superior, and Grand Duke » Noduk, the commander of his direct » subordinate fleet, would influence » Killing's decisions proved » challenging. Furthermore, it was » uncertain to what extent the moderate » and reliable thought process of Noduk » would be adopted by the sharp-minded, » quick-tempered Killing.</p>	<>	<p>Clotho could roughly surmise what » Admiral Killing would think individua » lly. But, predicting how the » intentions of President Wimbert, » Killing's superior, and Grand Duchy » Noduk, the commander of his direct » subordinate fleet, would influence » Killing's decisions proved » challenging. Furthermore, it was » uncertain to what extent the moderate » and reliable thought process of Noduk » would be adopted by the sharp-minded, » quick-tempered Killing.</p>
2371	<p>Despite Killing's arrogance, cunning, » and white supremacist beliefs, he's » no fool.</p>	<>	<p>—Despite Killing's arrogance, cunning, » and white supremacist beliefs, he's » no fool.</p>
2372	<p>That's why it's concerning when he team » s up with Noduk...</p>	<>	<p>—That's why it's so concerning for him » to be teamed up with Noduk...</p>
2373	<p>Admiral Noduk, the commander of the » Grand Duchy's fleet, in sharp » contrast to Killing, is renowned as a » gentlemanly admiral who is constantly » calm and excels at long-term » strategic planning. He shows no</p>	<>	<p>Admiral Noduk, the commander of the » Grand Duchy's fleet, in sharp » contrast to Killing, was renowned as » a gentlemanly admiral who was always » calm, and excelled at long-term » strategic planning. He showed no</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » discriminatory views towards the Hinoo people, admires Admiral Higashihara who won the Battle of Hinoo thirty years ago, and frequently instructs his fleet not to underestimate the enemy, pointing out the high level of training of the Combined Fleet. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » discriminatory views towards the Hinoo people; he even admired Admiral Higashihara who won the Battle of Hinoo thirty years prior, and frequently instructed his fleet not to underestimate the enemy, pointing out the high level of training of the Combined Fleet.
2375	<p>Acknowledging and commanding the enemy's strength means that he will not hesitate to make any effort to defeat a formidable enemy. When such an admiral leads the Gameria military, which already has superior military strength, there's no loophole for us to exploit.</p>	<>	<p>Acknowledging and commanding the enemy's strength meant that he would not hesitate to make any effort to defeat a formidable enemy. When such an admiral led the Gameria military, which already had superior military strength, they could not rely on exploiting Gameria's underestimations.</p> <p>—On the other hand, there's Babahara...</p>
2376	On the other hand, there's Babahara...	2376	
2377	<p>He sighed deeply once again. Babahara is disregarding the information that Yuri risked her life to obtain, assuming that "the enemy will appear next year," and indulging in a lavish dinner on the bridge of the Nagato with a full orchestra. Can we win the battle like this?</p>	2377	<p>He sighed deeply once again. Babahara was disregarding the information that Yuri risked her life to obtain, assuming that the enemy would appear next year, and indulging in a lavish dinner on the bridge of the Nagato with a full orchestra. Could they win the battle like this?</p>
2378	But there's no use in drowning in regret.	2378	But there was no use drowning in regret.
2381	<p>The decisive battle will likely occur near the Solomon Sea area, around Guadalcanal Island. In a narrow sea area dotted with large and small islands, what would happen if a naval fleet, centered around large ships, initiated a gun and torpedo war? Furthermore, how should the Second Aerial Torpedo Fleet respond if an enemy airborne battleship arrives?</p>	<>	<p>The decisive battle would likely occur near the Solomon Sea area, around Guadalcanal Island. In a narrow sea area dotted with large and small islands, what would happen if a naval fleet, centered around large ships, initiated a gun and torpedo war? Furthermore, how should the Second Aerial Torpedo Fleet respond if an enemy airborne battleship arrived?</p>
2384	<p>Isaiah's expression stiffened slightly at that suggestion. After all, the Hiren was originally a warship designed for ramming attacks and it doesn't have a dedicated self-destruct mechanism.</p>	<>	<p>Isaiah's expression stiffened slightly at that suggestion. After all, the Hiren was originally a warship designed for ramming attacks and it doesn't indeed have a dedicated self-destruct mechanism.</p>
2386	<p>"During the era of sailboats, they used a tactic of attaching a protrusion, or a ram, to the ship's bow to destroy enemy vessels. However, this strategy lost its effectiveness with the advent of firearms. It's been about thirty years since a successful ramming attack. Yet Clotho is now</p>	<>	<p>During the era of sailboats, they used a tactic of attaching a protrusion, or a ram, to the ship's bow to destroy enemy vessels. However, this strategy lost its effectiveness with the advent of firearms. It had been about thirty years since a successful ramming attack. Yet Clotho was now</p>

File: (continued)

» seriously suggesting it."		» seriously suggesting it.	
2388	<p>Clotho, maintaining a serious</p> <p>» expression, detailed the expected</p> <p>» weather and battle conditions in the</p> <p>» Solomon Sea area, outlining how the "Hiren" and the Second Air Torpedo</p> <p>» Squadron would fit into this</p> <p>» scenario.</p>	<>	<p>Clotho, maintaining a serious</p> <p>» expression, detailed the expected</p> <p>» weather and battle conditions in the</p> <p>» Solomon Sea area, outlining how the "Hiren" and the Second Air Torpedo</p> <p>» Squadron would fit into this</p> <p>» scenario.</p>
2390	"Let's incorporate it into our	<>	"Let's incorporate it into our
	» training. But under the assumption		» training. But under the strict condit
	» that no one dies from the ramming		» ion that no one should die from the
	» attack."		» ramming attack."
2400	Isaiah's gaze drifted to the window.	<>	Isaiah's gaze drifted to the window.
	» The New Guinea sky, darkening like		» The New Guinea sky, deepening with
	» her own apprehension, showed signs of		» her own apprehension, showed signs of
	» an upcoming storm.		» an upcoming storm.
2404	If that's the case, it's even more	<>	If that was the case, they were even
	» dangerous than we thought.		» more dangerous than he thought.
2408	Five hours earlier, an emergency	<>	Five hours earlier, an emergency
	» telegram had reached the Allied Fleet		» telegram had reached the Allied Fleet
	» Command Headquarters, anchored at Tru		» Command Headquarters, anchored at Tru
	» ck Island.		» ck Island.
2409	Now, the third main fleet, led by the "Nagato"	<>	Now, the third main fleet, led by the
	» and consisting of 29 vessels,		» Nagato and consisting of 29 vessels,
	» was heading towards the Solomon Sea		» was heading towards the Solomon Sea
	» at a high speed of 28 knots.		» at a high speed of 28 knots.
2410	It was 11 PM on August 7th, 1939,	<>	It was 11PM on August 7th, 1939.
	» according to the Holy Calendar.		
2413	On the other hand, the Allied Fleet's	<>	On the other hand, the Allied Fleet's
	» third fleet consisted of six		» third fleet consisted of six
	» battleships, two aircraft carriers,		» battleships, two aircraft carriers,
	» four heavy cruisers, one light		» four heavy cruisers, one light
	» cruiser, and twelve destroyers. In		» cruiser, and twelve destroyers. In
	» addition, the super-battleships "Yama		» addition, the super-battleships
	» to" and "Musashi" were sailing from		» Yamato and Musashi were sailing from
	» the rear, escorted by four		» the rear, escorted by four
	» destroyers. However, since the crew		» destroyers. However, since the crew
	» was not yet accustomed to these		» was not yet accustomed to these
	» ships, they were strictly considered		» ships, they were strictly considered
	» backup - or in other words,		» backup—or in other words, "reserves."
	» "reserves."		
2414	The faces of the staff officers were	<>	The faces of the staff officers were
	» flushed with confidence and		» flushed with confidence and
	» excitement at the prospect of this		» excitement at the prospect of this
	» decisive sea battle. They hadn't		» decisive sea battle. They had not
	» anticipated a fleet battle in the		» anticipated a fleet battle in the
	» Solomon Sea before the start of the		» Solomon Sea before the start of the
	» war, so they were now frantically		» war, so they were now frantically
	» brainstorming tactics.		» brainstorming tactics.
2415	The estimated time of arrival at the	<>	The estimated time of arrival at the
	» planned battle area was around 6 AM		» planned battle area was around 6AM on
	» on August 9th, roughly 35 hours from		» August 9th, roughly 35 hours from

File: (continued)

	» now.		» now.
2417	Kagase didn't join the heated debate. » He simply bided his time, calculating » the perfect moment to present his » opinion to Commander-in-Chief » Babahara.	<>	2417 Kagase did not join the heated debate. » He simply bided his time, calculating » the perfect moment to present his » opinion to Commander-in-Chief » Babahara.
2418	Meticulous tactics are meaningless when » drawn up on a desk. In a narrow sea » like the Solomon Sea, when large and » small vessels start fighting in a » chaotic mix, the battle inevitably » becomes a free-for-all. Ultimately, » each captain must act according to » their discretion, rendering the » debate pointless.	<>	2418 Meticulous tactics are meaningless when » drawn up on a desk. In a narrow sea » like the Solomon Sea, when large and » small vessels started fighting in a » chaotic mix, the battle inevitably » would become a free-for-all. » Ultimately, each captain must act » according to their discretion, » rendering the debate pointless.
2420	Eventually, the discussion settled on a » textbook plan: at the start of the » battle, the torpedo squadron would » launch long-range torpedoes and close » in, while the battleship squadron » would fire at maximum range, » gradually closing the distance and » whittling down the enemy's firepower. » That's when Commander-in-Chief » Babahara spoke up, a smile on his » face.	<>	2420 Eventually, the discussion settled on a » textbook plan: at the start of the » battle, the torpedo squadron would » launch long-range torpedoes and close » in, while the battleship squadron » would fire at maximum range, » gradually closing the distance and » whittling down the enemy's firepower. » That was when Commander-in-Chief » Babahara spoke up, a smile on his » face.
2423	"It was a wise decision to modify our » machinery. If the 'Nagato' and 'Mutsu' » can reach twenty-eight knots, we » won't have a problem. As long as we » reach the battlefield, we'll win. Our » training exceeds that of the » laid-back enemy."	<>	2423 "It was a wise decision to modify our » machinery. If the Nagato and Mutsu » can reach twenty-eight knots, we » won't have a problem. As long as we » reach the battlefield, we'll win. Our » training exceeds that of the » laid-back enemy."
2428	"Are we delaying our attack based on » the dubious claims of a female spy? » If the Venomena is there, we simply » shoot it down. It's really that » simple."	<>	2428 "Are we really delaying our attack » based on the dubious claims of that » female spy? If the Venomena is there, » we simply shoot it down. It's really » that simple."
2432	"Are we truly that fearful of a single » flying battleship? The Venomena's » main gun is 40 centimeters , the » Nagato and Mutsu also have 40 centime » ters . They're the same caliber, but » our training is far superior. If it » comes down to a gunfight, we have two » against their one. We are at an » advantage in terms of numbers."	<>	2432 "Are we truly that fearful of a single » flying battleship? The Venomena's » main gun is 16 inches , the Nagato and » Mutsu also have 16 inches . They're » the same caliber, but our training is » far superior. If it comes down to a » gunfight, we have two against their » one. We are at an advantage in terms » of numbers."
2434	"However," Kagase interjected.	<>	2434 "However," Kagase interjected,
2437	"What's the use of discussing our » disadvantageous conditions now? We » may lack radar, but we have a lookout » with vision superior to any radar!"	<>	2437 "What's the use of discussing our » disadvantageous conditions now? We » may lack radar, but we have a lookout » with vision superior to any radar!"

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	<p>» There's no way we will be outmaneuvered by the enemy!"</p> <p>Indeed, Hinoo's lookouts had demonstrated their miraculous ability to detect enemy shadows faster than enemy radar on several occasions. But even that wouldn't matter if the clouds were in the way. Despite his frustration, Kagase carried on.</p>		<p>» There's no way we will be outmanoeuvred by the enemy!"</p> <p>Indeed, Hinoo's lookouts had demonstrated their miraculous ability to detect enemy shadows faster than enemy radar on several occasions. But even that would not matter if the clouds were in the way. Despite his frustration, Kagase carried on.</p>
2438	<p>Upon hearing the phrase 'Second Aerial Torpedo Fleet', Babahara, Oiyama, and Furuyanagi all expressed their distaste simultaneously. They were still harboring resentment from the autonomous actions taken during the Marie operation. Moreover, all three had been lobbying the military command and navy ministry to replace Isaiah, Clotho, and Rio. If they were to include Isaiah and the others in this decisive battle and they ended up earning merits, all their behind-the-scenes efforts would be wasted.</p>	<>	<p>Upon hearing the phrase 'Second Aerial Torpedo Fleet', Babahara, Oiyama, and Furuyanagi all expressed their distaste simultaneously. They were still harboring resentment from the autonomous actions taken during Operation Marie. Moreover, all three had been lobbying the military command and navy ministry to replace Isaiah, Clotho, and Rio. If they were to include Isaiah and the others in this decisive battle and they ended up earning merits, all their behind-the-scenes efforts would be wasted.</p>
2440	<p>"If we involve them, they'll just cause more complications and disrupt the strategy. The Solomon Islands aren't a playground for the princess. It's a battlefield where the fate of the nation for a thousand years hangs in the balance. Besides, they are tasked with the crucial responsibility of escorting the ground troops. The naval battle is important, but the landing support is equally vital. Therefore, there's no need to involve them in the decisive battle."</p>		<p>"If we involve them, they'll just cause more complications and disrupt the strategy. The Solomon Islands aren't a playground for the princesses. It's a battlefield where the fate of the nation for a thousand years hangs in the balance. Besides, they are tasked with the crucial responsibility of escorting the ground troops. The naval battle is important, but the landing support is equally vital. Therefore, there's no need to involve them in the decisive battle."</p>
2441		2441	
2443	<p>The Second Air Torpedo Squadron's assigned role in this operation was to penetrate the Solomon Sea and support the ground forces' landing on Ga Island, once the Combined Fleet had achieved victory in the fleet battle. While undoubtedly vital, this role precluded the valuable airborne forces from participating in the decisive fleet battle.</p>	<>	<p>The Second Air Torpedo Squadron's assigned role in this operation was to penetrate the Solomon Sea and support the ground forces' landing on Garr Island, once the Combined Fleet had achieved victory in the fleet battle. While undoubtedly vital, this role precluded the valuable airborne forces from participating in the decisive fleet battle.</p>
2446	<p>Even though she had saved them twice...</p>	<>	<p>—Even though she's saved them twice...</p>
2447	<p>Both at the Manila Bay Aerial Battle and during the Marie Invasion Operation, Isaiah's wisdom and bravery pulled them back from the brink of failure. Yet, the staff</p>	2447	<p>Both at the Manila Bay Aerial Battle and during the Marie Invasion Operation, Isaiah's wisdom and bravery pulled them back from the brink of failure. Yet, the staff</p>

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	<p>» officers present didn't appreciate » her contribution. They were scared » that the young royal would take all » the credit. That's why, regardless of » her merits, Isaiah was relegated to » the backlines.</p> <p>2448 With such attitudes, winning the war » seemed impossible...</p>		<p>» officers present did not appreciate » her contribution. They were scared » that the young royal would take all » the credit. That was why, regardless » of her merits, Isaiah was relegated » to the backlines.</p> <p>2448 —With these attitudes, winning the war » seems impossible...</p>
2450	<p>As he suffered from internal bleeding, » Kagase had no other option but to » choke down his words. The colder the » gazes of the staff officers became, » the more he found himself uttering » words he knew would fall on deaf » ears. For Kagase, his enemy wasn't » the Gamera fleet, but the staff » officers gathered before him.</p>	<>	<p>As he suffered from this emotional » internal bleeding, Kagase had no » other option but to choke down his » words. The colder the gazes of the » staff officers became, the more he » found himself uttering words he knew » would fall on deaf ears. For Kagase, » his enemy wasn't the Gamera fleet, » but the staff officers gathered » before him.</p>
2452	- Ignore these men's words, Princess » Shiranomiya, Lieutenant Kuronomiya.	<>	2452 —Ignore these men's words, Princess » Shiranomiya, Lieutenant Kurono.
2453	- I trust that you both will surely » choose the right path, no matter the » difficulties you face.		2453 —I trust that you both will surely » choose the right path, no matter the » difficulties you face.
2454	- The path to victory in this war and » survival...		2454 —The path to victory in this war and » survival...
2467	Changing the subject, Isaiah surveyed » the surrounding airspace.	<>	2467 Isaiah then changed the subject, survey » ing the surrounding airspace.
2469	The sun was obscured. A vast stratus » cloud lingered at an altitude of two » thousand meters , about eight hundred » meters above the Hiren, impairing » visibility due to the rainfall.	<>	2469 The sun was obscured. A vast stratus » cloud lingered at an altitude of 6500 » feet , about 2600 feet above the » Hiren, impairing visibility due to » the rainfall.
2470	Directly under the six ships of the » second aerial torpedo fleet flying at » an altitude of twelve hundred meters , » four transport ships and six escort » ships followed a zigzag trail known » as a "Z-movement" over the open sea » at roughly twenty knots. The aerial » fleet was directly protecting the » transport convoy carrying two » thousand Marines and supplies, a » strategy referred to as "direct » cover".	<>	2470 Directly under the six ships of the » second aerial torpedo fleet flying at » an altitude of 3900 feet , four » transport ships and six escort ships » followed a zigzag trail known as a » "Z-movement" over the open sea at » roughly twenty knots. The aerial » fleet was directly protecting the » transport convoy carrying two » thousand Marines and supplies, a » strategy referred to as "direct » cover".
2476	"Your bad attitude is creating » unnecessary friction. Learn to be » more cooperative in the future. I do » agree with you about not calling the » airship fleet during bad weather » though..."	<>	2476 "Your bad attitude is creating » unnecessary friction. Learn to be » more cooperative in the future. I do » agree with you about them not calling » the airship fleet during bad weather » though..."
2481	"But you do intervene when necessary, » right?"	<>	2481 "But you will intervene when necessary, » right?"

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2482	As Rio teased him with that remark, » Clotho responded with a defiant smile » and a nod, while Isaiah let out a » light sigh.	<>	2482	As Rio teased him with her remark, » Clotho responded with a defiant smile » and a nod, while Isaiah let out a » light sigh.
2484	By that time, the Second Air-Strike » Fleet should have been west of Gar » Island, about 430 kilometers away at » sea.	<>	2484	By that time, the Second Air-Strike » Fleet should have been west of Garr » Island, about 270 miles away at sea.
2485	Considering the speed of the transport » convoy, Isaiah's group was expected » to arrive at Gar Island about twelve » hours after the start of the decisive » battle, roughly around six in the » evening. Depending on the battle » situation, if the Allied Fleet » managed to annihilate the Grand Ocean » Fleet, they would proceed with the » landing, otherwise, they would have » no choice but to retreat. Either way, » it was certain they wouldn't make it » in time for the decisive battle.	<>	2485	Considering the speed of the transport » convoy, Isaiah's group was expected » to arrive at Garr Island about twelve » hours after the start of the decisive » battle, roughly around six in the » evening. Depending on the battle » situation, if the Allied Fleet » managed to annihilate the Grand Ocean » Fleet, they would proceed with the » landing, otherwise, they would have » no choice but to retreat. Either way, » it was certain they wouldn't make it » in time for the decisive battle.
2489	"Huhu."	<>	2489	"Hmph!"
2502	They were currently positioned near the » entrance of the Indispensable Strait, » approximately 35 kilometers wide, » with the Florida Islands to the north » and Guadalcanal Island to the south. » The long strait was named after the » ship that discovered it during the » Age of Exploration, translating to » " Unavoidable Strait ". Babahara » reflected on how fitting the name was » as the stage for the decisive battle » between Japan and Gameria.	<>	2502	They were currently positioned near the » entrance of the Indispensable Strait, » approximately 21 miles wide, with the » Florida Islands to the north and » Guadalcanal Island to the south. The » long strait was named after the ship » that discovered it during the Age of » Exploration. Babahara reflected on » how fitting the name was as the stage » for the decisive battle between Japan » and Gameria.
2507	Commander-in-chief Babahara muttered as » he felt the tension onboard » escalating through the voice pipe. He » was on the brink of achieving a » victory comparable, if not superior, » to the one they had claimed in the » Hinoo Sea Battle 33 years prior. The » idea of being at the center of this » turning point in history, which would » undoubtedly be documented in » textbooks and repeatedly depicted in » plays and movies, filled him with a » sense of satisfaction.	<>	2507	Commander-in-chief Babahara muttered as » he felt the tension onboard » escalating through the comms pipe. He » was on the brink of achieving a » victory comparable, if not superior, » to the one they had claimed in the » Hinoo Sea Battle 33 years prior. The » idea of being at the center of this » turning point in history, which would » undoubtedly be documented in » textbooks and repeatedly depicted in » plays and movies, filled him with a » sense of satisfaction.
2513	The lookout's exhilarated voice echoed » through the voice pipe. Hinoo Navy's » secret weapon, the "Type 93 Oxygen » Torpedo," was launched from a » staggering distance of 28,000 meters ,	<>	2513	The lookout's exhilarated voice echoed » through the comms pipe. Hinoo Navy's » secret weapon, the "Type 93 Oxygen » Torpedo," was launched from a » staggering distance of 28,000 yards ,

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	» racing towards the enemy ship without » leaving a trace.		» racing towards the enemy ship without » leaving a trace.
2515	Babahara grinned, confident. The » effective range of Gamerian torpedoes » was a mere 4,000 meters at a speed of » 50 knots, while theirs could cover » 20,000 meters at the same speed. » Reducing the speed to 36 knots » extended the range to 40,000 meters . » Plus, they had a second loading » device, enabling two torpedo attacks » in a single sortie. Under these » circumstances, losing a torpedo » battle was unthinkable.	<>	2515 Babahara grinned, confident. The » effective range of Gamerian torpedoes » was a mere 4,000 yards at a speed of » 50 knots, while theirs could cover » 20,000 yards at the same speed. » Reducing the speed to 36 knots » extended the range to 40,000 yards . » Plus, they had a second loading » device, enabling two torpedo attacks » in a single sortie. Under these » circumstances, losing a torpedo » battle was unthinkable.
2519	Colonel Shinoda, the Captain of the "Na » gato," bellowed into the voice pipe » leading to the fire control center. » The countless artillery training » exercises they had repeated hundreds, » even thousands of times over the » years, whether for short-term or » long-term, were all for this single » pivotal battle. A grand response » echoed back from the voice pipe, and » the chief purser in the ammunition » storage sent the Type 6 » Armor-piercing shells to the cannons.	<>	2519 Colonel Shinoda, the Captain of the » Nagato, bellowed into the comms pipe » leading to the fire control center. » The countless artillery training » exercises they had repeated hundreds, » even thousands of times over the » years, whether for short-term or » long-term, were all for this single » pivotal battle. A grand response » echoed back from the comms pipe, and » the chief purser in the ammunition » storage sent the Type 6 » Armor-piercing shells to the cannons.
2520	As they pass each other, the westward » Grand Ocean Fleet and the eastward » Combined Fleet are likely to engage » in a gun battle. The narrowness of » the " Inevitable Strait " ensures a » close-range shootout.		2520 As they pass each other, the westward » Grand Ocean Fleet and the eastward » Combined Fleet are likely to engage » in a gun battle. The narrowness of » the Indispensable Strait ensures a » close-range shootout.
2523	Major Shinoda continued to roar at the » helmsman. The helm of a large ship is » slow to react. After the command is » given, the "Nagato" takes about two » minutes to veer slightly to the left. » This maneuver causes radar waves from » the enemy ship to reflect off the » island's shadow and fail to capture » the "Nagato's" silhouette. The » strait's narrowness lures the » Combined Fleet into a favorable » position.	<>	2523 Major Shinoda continued to roar at the » helmsman. The helm of a large ship is » slow to react. After the command is » given, the Nagato takes about two » minutes to veer slightly to the left. » This manoeuvre causes radar waves » from the enemy ship to reflect off » the island's shadow and fail to » capture the Nagato's silhouette. The » strait's narrowness lures the » Combined Fleet into a favorable » position.
2524	"Fifteen minutes until the torpedoes » hit!!"		2524 "Fifteen minutes until the torpedoes » hit!"
2525	As they tracked the torpedoes that the » torpedo squadron had just released, » the measurer yelled out. The torpedo » squadron, led by the "Abukuma", had » already finished loading the next » round thanks to the desperate efforts		2525 As they tracked the torpedoes that the » torpedo squadron had just released, » the measurer yelled out. The torpedo » squadron, led by the Abukuma, had » already finished loading the next » round thanks to the desperate efforts

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	» of the torpedo crew, and was slowly » aiming its bow towards the Grand » Duchy Fleet once again. "Torpedo squadron, charge!!"		» of the torpedo crew, and was slowly » aiming its bow towards the Grand » Duchy Fleet once again. "Torpedo squadron, charge!"
2526	The gunnery officer's voice triggered a » long, piercing buzzer throughout the » "Nagato". This harsh, ear-splitting » alarm signaled the imminent onset of » shelling. All main gun turrets had » completed their rotation, their » barrels aimed diagonally forward to » the right at a steady elevation of 27 » degrees. The firing parameters, sent » from the main gun command post, had » been fully set. To avoid being blown » to smithereens by the blast, the crew » members on the deck hurriedly dove » into the ascending and descending » ports as soon as the buzzer sounded » and quickly shut the hatch.	<>	2529 The gunnery officer's voice triggered a » long, piercing buzzer throughout the » Nagato. This harsh, ear-splitting » alarm signaled the imminent onset of » shelling. All main gun turrets had » completed their rotation, their » barrels aimed diagonally forward to » the right at a steady elevation of 27 » degrees. The firing parameters, sent » from the main gun command post, had » been fully set. To avoid being blown » to smithereens by the blast, the crew » members on the deck hurriedly dove » into the ascending and descending » ports as soon as the buzzer sounded » and quickly shut the hatch.
2529	Babahara squinted through the drop-down » fourteen-centimeter binoculars.		2530 Babahara squinted through the drop-down » 5.5 inch binoculars.
2530	Directly ahead and slightly to the » right, about twenty-four thousand » meters away, the silhouettes of the » enemy torpedo squadron were visible. » The trailing battleships were still » out of sight. Given these » circumstances, they could obliterate » the smaller vessels with the » battleship's formidable guns.		2531 Directly ahead and slightly to the » right, about twenty-four thousand yar » ds away, the silhouettes of the enemy » torpedo squadron were visible. The » trailing battleships were still out » of sight. Given these circumstances, » they could obliterate the smaller » vessels with the battleship's » formidable guns.
2531	At the gunner officer's command, the In » evitable Strait was set ablaze.	<>	2536 At the gunner officer's command, the In » dispensable Strait was set ablaze.
2536	The colossal body of the "Nagato", » followed by the "Mutsu", and the » trailing battleships "Ise", "Hiyuga", » "Fuso", and "Yamashiro", recoiled » from the impact of their own gunfire, » causing the sea surface to surge.	<>	2538 The colossal body of the Nagato, » followed by the Mutsu, and the » trailing battleships Ise, Hiyuga, » Fuso, and Yamashiro, recoiled from » the impact of their own gunfire, » causing the sea surface to surge.
2538	The staff on the compass deck watched » the firing lines intently, as if in » prayer— Twenty seconds passed, then thirty—	<>	2542 The staff on the compass deck watched » the firing lines intently, as if in » prayer. Twenty seconds passed, then thirty.
2542	Each column, eighty meters in diameter » and one hundred and fifty meters in » height, swallowed up the enemy ships, » showcasing the power of the sailors' » rigorous training.	<>	2547 Each column, eighty yards in diameter » and one hundred and fifty yards in » height, swallowed up the enemy ships, » showcasing the power of the sailors' » rigorous training.
2547	The lookout's impassioned shout » reverberated through the voice pipes, » eliciting cheers from the military » and engineering officers within the	<>	2549 The lookout's impassioned shout » reverberated through the comms pipes, » eliciting cheers from the military » and engineering officers within the
2549			

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» ship.		» ship.	
2551	A little after the water columns had » fallen—	<>	2551 A little after the water columns had » fallen...
2553	The ship's silhouette was engulfed by a » water column larger than the hull » itself. Amid the intense spray of » water, two black shadows snapping » apart could be seen. The enemy ship » probably had no idea what was » happening. The shells fired by the "N » agato" fell about sixty meters ahead, » creating a water column, and then a » few seconds later, the enemy ship was » suddenly destroyed below the » waterline—	<>	2553 The ship's silhouette was engulfed by a » water column larger than the hull » itself. Amid the intense spray of » water, two black shadows snapping » apart could be seen. The enemy ship » probably had no idea what was » happening. The shells fired by the » Nagato fell about sixty yards ahead, » creating a water column, and then a » few seconds later, the enemy ship was » suddenly destroyed below the » waterline.
2559	If the angle between the shell's » trajectory and the sea surface » exceeded four degrees, the shell » would plunge about 80 meters » underwater upon impact, damaging the » waterline of the enemy ship, and » after a slow fuse activation in 0.8 » seconds, explode from within the » vessel.	<>	2559 If the angle between the shell's » trajectory and the sea surface » exceeded four degrees, the shell » would plunge about 260 feet » underwater upon impact, damaging the » waterline of the enemy ship, and » after a slow fuse activation in 0.8 » seconds, explode from within the » vessel.
2562	"We've got this, gunnery department! » Keep firing! The enemy's panicking, » bring them down before they make a » run for it!!"	<>	2562 "We've got this, gunnery department! » Keep firing! The enemy's panicking, » bring them down before they make a » run for it!"
2568	The proficient gunners of the "Nagato" » loaded the new Type 6 Armor Piercing » Shells in a mere thirty-nine seconds, » launching a rapid-fire assault on the » enemy torpedo squadron.	<>	2568 The proficient gunners of the Nagato » loaded the new Type 6 Armor Piercing » Shells in a mere thirty-nine seconds, » launching a rapid-fire assault on the » enemy torpedo squadron.
2575	With each vigorous report that » reverberated through the voice pipe, » the confidence in the faces of the » staff on the compass bridge only » augmented.	<>	2575 With each vigorous report that » reverberated through the comms pipe, » the confidence in the faces of the » staff on the compass bridge only » augmented.
2578	However, the strait was increasingly » filled with steam and sooty smoke due » to the artillery fire, making » visibility extremely poor. Even from » the compass bridge, situated 35 meter » s above sea level, it was challenging » to see far.	<>	2578 However, the strait was increasingly » filled with steam and sooty smoke due » to the artillery fire, making » visibility extremely poor. Even from » the compass bridge, situated 115 feet » above sea level, it was challenging » to see far.
2581	The battleship was the king of the sea. » Only a battleship could defeat » another battleship. That's why they » were so desperate to find the enemy » battleship, which was expected to be » one out of ten.	<>	2581 The battleship was the king of the sea. » Only a battleship could defeat » another battleship. That was why they » were so desperate to find the enemy » battleship, which was expected to be » one out of ten.

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2585	The relative distance was approximately » 28,000 meters.	<>	2585	The relative distance was approximately » 28,000 yards.
2586	The flag fluttering atop their mast was » unmistakably that of the Grand Duchy » of Gameria's battleship.		2586	The flag fluttering atop their mast was » unmistakably that of the Grand Duchy » Fleet's battleship.
2590	The unavoidable sea-strait decisive bat » tle, on the other hand, was a » full-scale war between the main » fleets of both sides.	<>	2590	The decisive battle here on the » Indispensable Strait, on the other » hand, was a full-scale war between » the main fleets of both sides.
2596	The captain and gunnery chief tightly » held the voice pipe, rapidly issuing » instructions to their respective » sections. Just a moment ago, the » compass pointed at the enemy's » torpedo squadron, but now, along with » the overhead rangefinder, it directed » towards the enemy's battleship » squadron.	<>	2596	The captain and gunnery chief tightly » held the comms pipe, rapidly issuing » instructions to their respective » sections. Just a moment ago, the » compass pointed at the enemy's » torpedo squadron, but now, along with » the overhead rangefinder, it directed » towards the enemy's battleship » squadron.
2597	Senior Staff Officer Oiyama, who was » intently observing the enemy line » with his 18cm binoculars, muttered » after noticing the rotation of the » enemy battleship's turret and the » elevation of the gun barrel.		2597	Senior Staff Officer Oiyama, who was » intently observing the enemy line » with his seven-inch binoculars, » muttered after noticing the rotation » of the enemy battleship's turret and » the elevation of the gun barrel.
2605	A sound reminiscent of a heavenly » pillar breaking engulfed the "Nagato" » .	<>	2605	A sound reminiscent of a heavenly » pillar breaking engulfed the Nagato.
2606	A towering water column, about four » times the height of the "Nagato's" » bridge and measuring 150 meters high » and 80 meters in diameter, enveloped » the area surrounding the battleship » squadron in a single column » formation.		2606	A towering water column, about four » times the height of the Nagato's » bridge and measuring 150 yards high » and 80 yards in diameter, enveloped » the area surrounding the battleship » squadron in a single column » formation.
2608	A cluster of boiling seawater towers » instantly rose tall around the "Nagat » o", and the next moment, they » collapsed.	<>	2608	A cluster of boiling seawater towers » instantly rose tall around the Nagato » , and the next moment, they » collapsed.
2610	The lookout's cry echoed out, filled » with despair. Suddenly, we found ours » elves straddled.	<>	2610	The lookout's cry echoed out, filled » with despair. Suddenly, them found » themselves straddled.
2611	"How can their aim be so accurate?!" » "Why did the first shell straddle us? » !" "They shouldn't have radar » capabilities...?!"		2611	"How can their aim be so accurate!?" » "Why did the first shell straddle us! » ?" "They shouldn't have radar » capabilities...!?"
2630	Even from his vantage point atop the "N » agato" bridge, forty meters high, » Babahara was unable to discern the » situation.	<>	2630	Even from his vantage point atop the » Nagato bridge, forty yards high, » Babahara was unable to discern the » situation.
2634	"We should call in the Second Aerial » Torpedo Fleet. They can monitor the » imminent strait from an altitude of	<>	2634	"We should call in the Second Aerial » Torpedo Fleet. They can monitor the » imminent strait from an altitude of

File: (continued)

	» 1,200 meters."		» 3900 feet."
2642	"Direct hit!!"	<>	2642 "Direct hit!"
2648	Captain Shinoda hastily picked up the » voice pipe to rally the gunnery crew » and maintain the bombardment.	<>	2648 The captain hastily picked up the comms » pipe to rally the gunnery crew and » maintain the bombardment.
2649	If this goes on, we're looking at near » total destruction on both sides.		2649 —If this goes on, we're looking at » near total destruction on both sides.
2651	If only our airship fleet were here... » we could have turned the tables.	<>	2651 —If only our airship fleet were » here... We could have turned the » tables.
2652	Kagase gritted his teeth in » frustration. The only silver lining » in this dire situation was that the » enemy didn't have an airship fleet » either.		2652 Kagase gritted his teeth in » frustration. The only silver lining » in this dire situation was that the » enemy did not have an airship fleet » either.
2657	The direction where the enemy » battleships should have been was » right above it.	<>	2657 He looked in the direction where the » enemy battleships should have been, » right above them.
2658	About 20,000 meters away in the sky.		2658 About 20,000 yards away in the sky.
2660	At an altitude of about 1,200 meters. A » layer of stormy gray clouds, like an » inverted stormy sea surface, hung » over the floating area.	<>	2660 At an altitude of about 3900 feet. A » layer of stormy gray clouds, like an » inverted stormy sea surface, hung » over the floating area.
2665	In an instant—	<>	2665 In an instant,
2667	"What?!"	<>	2667 "What!?"
2669	The clouds enveloped them, making it » impossible to visually trace the » rockets. But surely, that couldn't » have been—	<>	2669 The clouds enveloped them, making it » impossible to visually trace the » rockets. But surely, that couldn't » have been...
2672	"Tracer shells incoming?!"	<>	2672 "Tracer shells incoming!?"
2674	At the end of Takahito Kagase's » startled gaze, the clouds suddenly » parted, revealing four fiery spears » launched in unison, aiming directly » for the "Nagato".	<>	2674 At the end of Takahito Kagase's » startled gaze, the clouds suddenly » parted, revealing four fiery spears » launched in unison, aiming directly » for the Nagato.
2676	The fiery column of boiling water, four » times the height of the Nagato's » bridge, then collapsed straight » towards the center of the "Nagato".	<>	2676 The fiery column of boiling water, four » times the height of the Nagato's » bridge, then collapsed straight » towards the center of the Nagato.
2677	"Direct hit?!"		2677 "It's coming for a direct hit!"
2681	The lookout in the aft mast relayed » this through the voice pipe to the » bridge, pointing to the sky.	<>	2681 The lookout in the aft mast relayed » this through the comms pipe to the » bridge, pointing to the sky.
2685	Its trajectory was invisible, hidden by » the dense cloud cover at an altitude » of 1,200 meters.	<>	2685 Its trajectory was invisible, hidden by » the dense cloud cover at an altitude » of 3900 feet.
2686	At that moment, the armor-piercing » shell launched from the clouds was » likely drawing an intensely heated » parabolic path towards us. However, w		2686 At that moment, the armor-piercing » shell launched from the clouds was » likely drawing an intensely heated » parabolic path towards them. However,

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	» e couldn't see its trajectory.		» they couldn't see its trajectory.
2688	The cloud burst open with a scream, and » suddenly four thick spears once again » descended towards the 'Nagato'. Just » after the expressions of the staff » officers collectively fell into » despair, one of the spears lodged » into the rear of the 'Nagato's' hull.	<>	2688 The cloud burst open with a scream, and » suddenly four thick spears once again » descended towards the Nagato. Just » after the expressions of the staff » officers collectively fell into » despair, one of the spears lodged » into the rear of the Nagato's hull.
2690	A tremendous crash, the screams of the » crew, a chain of explosions. The » voice pipe, as if connected to hell, » brought an array of sounds linked to » despair, engulfing the compass » bridge.	<>	2690 A tremendous crash, the screams of the » crew, a chain of explosions. The » comms pipe, as if connected to hell, » brought an array of sounds linked to » despair, engulfing the compass » bridge.
2695	Babahara aimed his 18-centimeter large » twin telescope towards the spot where » the flash had occurred.	<>	2695 Babahara aimed his twin telescope » towards the spot where the flash had » occurred.
2696	Amidst the parting clouds, "the worst" » was materializing.		2696 Amidst the parting clouds, the worst » possible thing was materializing.
2697	"The Venomena...?!"		2697 "The Venomena...?!"
2698	An unprecedently large cocoon-like » floating object was taking shape. The » ship's body, held aloft by hundreds » of ropes, spanned 250 meters in » length, weighing over 45,000 tons. » From the side of the ship, 18 40-cent » imeter main gun turrets protruded, » six on each side.	<>	2698 An unprecedently large cocoon-like » floating object was taking shape. The » ship's body, held aloft by hundreds » of ropes, spanned 250 yards in » length, weighing over 45,000 tons. » From the side of the ship, eighteen » 16-inch main gun turrets protruded, » six on each side.
2701	Extracting a battleship and reassigning » it to another fleet is far from a » simple task. It triggers bureaucratic » procedures, the commander of the » fleet from which the ship was » extracted will surely harbor » long-lasting resentment, and the » paperwork to be processed is likely » to exceed 300 documents. That's why » Babahara had dismissed this » possibility.	<>	2701 Extracting a battleship and reassigning » it to another fleet was far from a » simple task. It triggered » bureaucratic procedures, the » commander of the fleet from which the » ship was extracted would surely » harbor long-lasting resentment, and » the paperwork to be processed was » likely to exceed 300 documents. For t » hat reason Babahara had dismissed » this possibility.
2709	The enemy fleet seemed to be energized » by the appearance of the "Venomena", » launching an even more intense » barrage.	<>	2709 The enemy fleet seemed to be energized » by the appearance of the Venomena, » launching an even more intense » barrage.
2711	The "Nagato", having already endured » two direct hits, kept charging » forward, leaving a trail of flames in » its wake.	<>	2711 The Nagato, having already endured two » direct hits, kept charging forward, » leaving a trail of flames in its » wake.
2712	"Aim at the 'Venomena', fire!"		2712 "Aim at the Venomena, fire!"
2713	Finally, after adjusting the firing » parameters, all six battleships » targeted the "Venomena" and released » tracer rounds on the gunnery		2713 Finally, after adjusting the firing » parameters, all six battleships » targeted the Venomena and released » tracer rounds on the gunnery

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	» officer's command.		» officer's command.
2716	Even the target, "Venomena", was barely » visible, appearing and disappearing » intermittently in the thick clouds.	<>	2716 Even the target, Venomena, was barely » visible, appearing and disappearing » intermittently in the thick clouds.
2720	"Three! Two! ...Shell hit!!"	<>	2720 "Three! Two! ...Shell hit!"
2721	Simultaneous to the voice, the airspace » twenty thousand meters away tore open » irregularly.	<>	2721 Simultaneous to the voice, the airspace » twenty thousand yards away tore open » irregularly.
2724	If the opponent were a ship at sea, the » water pillars from the shell hits » would make judging the distance » easier. However, when dealing with » flying warships, the missed shells » simply pass through space, making » distance determination more » difficult. This is made even more » challenging over such a long » distance, especially in rainy » weather. On top of that, our trump » card, the Type 6 Armor-Piercing » Shell, is ineffective against flying » warships.	<>	2724 If the opponent were a ship at sea, the » water pillars from the shell hits » would make judging the distance » easier. However, when dealing with » flying warships, the missed shells » simply passed through space, making » distance determination more » difficult. This was made even more » challenging over such a long » distance, especially in rainy » weather. On top of that, their trump » card, the Type 6 Armor-Piercing » Shell, was ineffective against flying » warships.
2727	The unseen trajectories of the shells » drew parabolas from above the clouds » towards us ...	<>	2727 The unseen trajectories of the shells » drew parabolas from above the clouds » towards them ...
2729	With the lookout's cry, the » surroundings of the "Nagato" were » enveloped in a boiling pillar of » water.	<>	2729 With the lookout's cry, the » surroundings of the Nagato were » enveloped in a boiling pillar of » water.
2730	The scatter was definitely narrowing. » The enemy continued to adjust their » firing parameters based on the sight » of these water columns, making the » situation increasingly » disadvantageous for us as time » passed.	<>	2730 The scatter was definitely narrowing. » The enemy continued to adjust their » firing parameters based on the sight » of these water columns, making the » situation increasingly » disadvantageous as time passed.
2732	One of the staff officers finally » voiced his concern. It seemed he just » realized the folly of engaging in a » gun battle with a flying battleship » in weather conditions with poor » visibility due to rain .	<>	2732 One of the staff officers finally » voiced his concern. It seemed he had » just realized the folly of engaging » in a gun battle with a flying » battleship in such weather conditions » , with poor visibility from the rain .
2733	Mix one explosive shell for every » four, to confirm where the shells » land. Hurry up!!"	<>	2733 Shoot one explosive shell for every » four, to confirm where the shells » land. Hurry up!"
2735	Do they genuinely plan to turn the tide » ?	<>	2735 —Do they genuinely think we can turn » the tide alone ?
2740	"Regardless, we should call them. They » pulled off miracles off the coast of » Manila. Don't we have no other option » but to rely on them again?"	<>	2740 "Regardless, we should call them. They » pulled off miracles off the coast of » Manila. Do we have any other option » but to rely on them again?"

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2741	"....."		2741	"..."
2742	"I will send them a telegram to halt » the landing and head towards the inev » itable strait. Is that alright?"		2742	"I will send them a telegram to halt » the landing and head towards the Indi » spensible strait. Is that alright?"
2746	"....."	<>	2746	"..."
2747	Babahara replied to Kagase's somewhat » bold words with a slight twitch of » his lips. Seeing his silence as an » approval, Kagase seized the voice » pipe connected to the telegraph room.		2747	Babahara replied to Kagase's somewhat » bold words with a slight twitch of » his lips. Seeing his silence as an » approval, Kagase seized the comms » pipe connected to the telegraph room.
2750	"Direct hit!!" "Second turret took a » direct hit!!" "Central deck damaged, » fire outbreak!"	<>	2750	"Direct hit!" "Second turret took a » direct hit!" "Central deck damaged, » fire outbreak!"
2751	Unable to respond to the desperate » cries , everyone on the compass bridge » was incapacitated. Some were bleeding » from their heads, others lay » motionless on the floor, while smoke » enveloped the pile of bodies.		2751	Everyone on the compass bridge was » incapacitated , and unable to respond » to the desperate cries . Some were » bleeding from their heads, others lay » motionless on the floor, while smoke » enveloped the pile of bodies.
2752	The "Nagato" charged through the rain, » spewing flames like blood.		2752	The Nagato charged through the rain, » spewing flames like blood.
2758	"What happened to the Second Air » Thunder Fleet that performed so well » off the Manila coast? Where is the st » ink of 'Sea God Isaiah'?"	<>	2758	"What happened to the Second Air » Thunder Fleet that performed so well » off the Manila coast? Where is that s » o-called 'Sea Goddess Isaiah'?"
2762	"...So they didn't muster the airship » fleet for the crucial battle... why » not?"	<>	2762	"...So they didn't muster the airship » fleet for the crucial battle... Why » not?"
2764	"There must have been a problem. Or... m » aybe they underestimated us."	<>	2764	"There must have been a problem. Or... » Maybe they underestimated us."
2765	"Why would a nation with inferior power » underestimate us, when we are more » than ten times their size?"		2765	"Why would a nation with such inferior » power underestimate us, when we are » more than ten times their size?"
2769	He spat out abruptly, repeating the » infamous phrase he had drilled into » the sailors of the Grand Duchy Fleet.	<>	2769	He spat out abruptly, repeating the » infamous phrase drilled into the » sailors of the Grand Duchy Fleet.
2771	Enter Zoe Durga, Commander of the Third » Fleet of the Grand Duchy of Gameria.	<>	2771	Then entered Zoe Durga, Commander of » the Third Fleet of the Grand Duchy of » Gameria.
2772	As Admiral Killing once noted, Admiral » Durga's defining feature, akin to the » Bulldog she resembles, is her » "remarkable simplicity." Her » vocabulary is limited, her » temperament volatile, and she tends » to repeat the same phrases ad » nauseam. Despite this, no one can » match her unwavering determination to » obliterate the enemy, particularly he » r intense hatred for the Hinoo » people, which is striking even among » the military personnel of Gameria.		2772	As Admiral Killing once noted, Admiral » Durga's defining feature, akin to the » Bulldog he resembles, was his » "remarkable simplicity." His » vocabulary was limited, his » temperament volatile, and he tended » to repeat the same phrases ad » nauseam. Despite this, no one could » match his unwavering determination to » obliterate the enemy, particularly hi » s intense hatred for the Hinoo » people, which was striking even among » the military personnel of Gameria.

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	2773 From the lower navigation bridge of the » flying battleship "Venomena", » Commander Durga, surveying the entire » Inevitable Strait region, watched the » wake of the two fleets as they » approached the effective firing » range.		2773 From the lower navigation bridge of the » flying battleship Venomena, Commander » Durga, surveying the entire Indispensible » Strait region, watched the wake » of the two fleets as they approached » the effective firing range.
2774	The rain clouds, hovering roughly 1200 » meters high, seemed to favor Durga, » obscuring her fleet from enemy view » while allowing them a clear sight of » the sea surface.	2774	The rain clouds, hovering roughly 3900 » feet high, seemed to favor Durga, » obscuring her fleet from enemy view » while allowing them a clear sight of » the sea surface.
2775	"The goddess of the battlefield is » opening her doors for me."	2775	"The goddess of the battlefield is » opening her legs for me."
2776	The staff had grown used to her coarse » language. Durga, notorious for her » crude phrases, is respected for her » tactical prowess. She leaves no stone » unturned in her meticulous » preparations and careful planning to » annihilate the enemy and fearlessly » engages the enemy on the battlefield. » This is why this short, blunt, and » unattractive man with a limited » vocabulary commands such respect in » this position.	2776	The staff had grown used to his coarse » language. Durga, notorious for his » crude phrases, was respected for his » tactical prowess. He left no stone » unturned in his meticulous » preparations and careful planning to » annihilate the enemy and fearlessly » engaged the enemy on the battlefield. » This was why this short, blunt, and » unattractive man with a limited » vocabulary commanded such respect in » this position.
2779	With a forty-centimeter gun, ten » thousand meters is a distance where » one can fire effective shots » reliably.	<>	2779 With a 16-inch gun, ten thousand yards » was a distance over which one could » fire effective shots reliably.
2781	The shells fired by the flying » battleship "Venomena" maintained » their course even at a range of » eighteen thousand meters. The "Nagato" » had already been directly hit three » times. Since it was estimated that it » would take twenty hits to the » superstructure to sink a Nagato-class » battleship, it would probably need to » be hit a few more times.	<>	2781 The shells fired by the flying » battleship Venomena maintained their » course even at a range of eighteen » thousand yards. The Nagato had » already been directly hit three » times. Since it was estimated that it » would take twenty hits to the » superstructure to sink a Nagato-class » battleship, it would probably need to » be hit a few more times.
2786	Durga quickly arrived at the answer and » informed her staff.	<>	2786 Durga quickly arrived at the answer and » informed his staff.
2788	When it came to the obsession of » annihilating the Hinoo people, Durga » was unmatched. For the past twenty » years, she had studied the history, » battle records, and principles of the » Allied Fleet in preparation for the » decisive battle against Hinoo, fully » understanding their aggressive » nature. In this grand conflict, they » would surely turn at a close range to » destroy the last ship of the Grand	<>	2788 When it came to the obsession of » annihilating the Hinoo people, Durga » was unmatched. For the past twenty » years, he had studied the history, » battle records, and principles of the » Allied Fleet in preparation for the » decisive battle against Hinoo, fully » understanding their aggressive » nature. In this grand conflict, they » would surely turn at a close range to » destroy the last ship of the Grand

	<p>» Duchy Fleet. Durga, who had studied the Allied Fleet more than anyone else, knew this.</p> <p>2789 Durga verbally instructed her communication officer to relay a message to the flagship of the marine battleship squadron, the "South Dakota".</p> <p>2790 "The battleship squadron should make a ninety-degree turn to the left at a distance of ten thousand, and gradually turn around. They should run parallel with the Combined Fleet. The "Venomena" will provide support from the rear."</p> <p>2791 The communication officer promptly responded with a salute, sent the message using the Wireless Communication System (TBS), and received confirmation from the commander of the "South Dakota".</p> <p>2792 Durga then addressed the captain of the "Venomena",</p>		<p>» Duchy Fleet. Durga, who had studied the Allied Fleet more than anyone else, knew this.</p> <p>2789 Durga verbally instructed his communication officer to relay a message to the flagship of the marine battleship squadron, the South Dakota .</p> <p>2790 "The battleship squadron should make a ninety-degree turn to the left at a distance of ten thousand, and gradually turn around. They should run parallel with the Combined Fleet. The Venomena will provide support from the rear."</p> <p>2791 The communication officer promptly responded with a salute, sent the message using the Wireless Communication System, and received confirmation from the commander of the South Dakota.</p> <p>2792 Durga then addressed the captain of the Venomena,</p>
2795	<p>With continued bombardment, the "Venome na" steered right, aiming to be directly above the island. The Combined Fleet had carried this island on its back as a radar distraction, all while remaining concealed in dense rain clouds and overlooking the inescapable strait.</p> <p>2796 The Hinoo torpedo squadron continued its independent operation, engaging in an intense artillery duel with the Gamera heavy cruiser squadron. Displaying a great deal of bravery, they managed to heavily damage several Gamera heavy cruisers. The enemy and our cruisers and destroyers began to engage in a somewhat chaotic melee. However, the respective battleship squadrons were nearing a distance of ten thousand meters. From this point, once both fleets turned and started sailing in the same direction, the decisive artillery duel to determine the dominant battleship squadron would commence.</p>	<>	<p>With continued bombardment, the Venomena steered right, aiming to be directly above the island. The Combined Fleet had carried this island on its back as a radar distraction, all while remaining concealed in dense rain clouds and overlooking the inescapable strait.</p> <p>2796 The Hinoo torpedo squadron continued its independent operation, engaging in an intense artillery duel with the Gamera heavy cruiser squadron. Displaying a great deal of bravery, they managed to heavily damage several Gamera heavy cruisers. The enemy and allied cruisers and destroyers began to engage in a somewhat chaotic melee. However, the respective battleship squadrons were nearing a distance of ten thousand ya rds. From this point, once both fleets turned and started sailing in the same direction, the decisive artillery duel to determine the dominant battleship squadron would commence.</p>
2798	<p>As she positioned herself above Tsuragi Island, wrinkles on Durga's face intensified. Initially, her staff couldn't decipher this expression,</p>	<>	<p>As he positioned himself above Tsuragi Island, wrinkles on Durga's face intensified. Initially, his staff couldn't decipher this expression,</p>

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	» but now they understood. Beneath » those intensified wrinkles, Durga was » smirking.			» but now they understood. Beneath » those intensified wrinkles, Durga was » smirking.
2802	It seemed a bit far, but if they aimed » at a single point, it wouldn't pose a » problem.	<>	2802	It seemed a bit far, but if they aimed » at a single point, it would not pose » a problem.
2806	Uttering these words with satisfaction, » Durga silently thanked Noduk, the » commander of the Grand Duchy Fleet, » who had suggested the daring maneuver » of pulling the 'Venomena' from the » Grand Ocean Fleet and incorporating » it into his own. The decisive factor » in this naval battle was that » Gumeria, despite supposedly not » having any aircraft carriers, had » made extraordinary efforts to deploy » one here, while Hinoo, for reasons » unknown, had kept its existing » aircraft carrier fleet far from this » location.	<>	2806	Uttering these words with satisfaction, » Durga silently thanked Noduk, the » commander of the Grand Duchy Fleet, » who had suggested the daring manoeuvr » e of pulling the Venomena from the » Grand Ocean Fleet and incorporating » it into his own. The decisive factor » in this naval battle was that » Gumeria, despite supposedly not » having any aircraft carriers, had » made extraordinary efforts to deploy » one here, while Hinoo, for reasons » unknown, had kept its existing » aircraft carrier fleet far from this » location.
2809	Future military scholars studying this » battle will unanimously wonder, "Why » didn't Commander Babahara summon the » Second Aerial Torpedo Fleet?" The » answer likely boils down to personal » sentiment. The outcome of a naval » battle often depends on the whims of » an inept commander.	<>	2809	Future military scholars studying this » battle would unanimously wonder, "Why » didn't Commander Babahara summon the » Second Aerial Torpedo Fleet?" The » answer likely boiled down to personal » sentiment. The outcome of a naval » battle often depended on the whims of » an inept commander.
2810	Consequently—		2810	Consequently...
2812	Under Durga's command, the flying » battleship 'Venomena' took aim at the » axis of the combined fleet and primed » its forty-centimeter main guns.	<>	2812	Under Durga's command, the flying » battleship Venomena took aim at the » axis of the combined fleet and primed » its 16-inch main guns.
2815	A horrifying scream echoed through the » voice pipe.	<>	2815	A horrifying scream echoed through the » comms pipe.
2816	But there was no reply. Whether the » voice pipe had been cut off midway, » or the helmsman who should have heard » the report was dead, remained » unclear.	<>	2816	But there was no reply. Whether the » comms pipe had been cut off midway, » or the helmsman who should have heard » the report was dead, remained » unclear.
2818	The desperate plea of the navigation » staff officer fell on deaf ears, with » no response arriving from the aft » mast. The 'Nagato', having already » suffered eight direct hits, was still » sailing while shrouded in flames.	<>	2818	The desperate plea of the navigation » staff officer fell on deaf ears, with » no response arriving from the aft » mast. The Nagato, having already » suffered eight direct hits, was still » sailing while shrouded in flames.
2825	Despite a bleeding head wound, Kagase » was barely able to assess the » situation.	<>	2825	Despite a bleeding head wound, Kagase » was just about able to assess the » situation.
2826	The distance between the enemy battle » squadron and us had reached 10,000,	<>	2826	The distance between them and enemy » battle squadron had reached 10,000,

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	» and we had come under a brutal » assault from above Florida Island as » we steered right.		» and they had come under a brutal » assault from above Florida as they » steered right.
2827	The Venomena, concealed in the clouds, » had somehow maneuvered above the » island. Unfazed by the strait's » narrowness, the air-battleship could » operate. From an unusual position, » beyond the navy's common » understanding, the Nagato was » bombarded with armor-piercing shells » focused on one point on the rotation » axis.	2827	The Venomena, concealed in the clouds, » had somehow manoeuvred above the » island. Unfazed by the strait's » narrowness, the air-battleship could » operate. From an unusual position, » beyond the navy's common » understanding, the Nagato was » bombarded with armor-piercing shells » focused on one point on the rotation » axis.
2828	Despite enduring eight direct hits, we » barely managed to complete our turn, » aligning ourselves parallel to the » enemy's grand fleet and ready to » retaliate. However, the number of » shells we had received during the » turn was overwhelming, rendering » controlled gunfire impossible. Even » if we were to confront the enemy » battleships in a gunfight at this » point, the firepower we could muster » would be less than a quarter of what » it usually was. What had begun as a » clash between heavyweights had » devolved into a mismatch between a » heavyweight and a flyweight.	2828	Despite enduring eight direct hits, » they barely managed to complete the » turn, aligning themselves parallel to » the enemy fleet and ready to » retaliate. However, the number of » shells they had received during the » turn was overwhelming, rendering » controlled gunfire impossible. Even » if they were to confront the enemy » battleships in a gunfight at this » point, the firepower we could muster » would be less than a quarter of what » it usually was. What had begun as a » clash between heavyweights had » devolved into a mismatch between a » heavyweight and a flyweight.
2830	The Nagato was now under relentless » one-sided bombardment from ten enemy » battleships sailing side by side. The new » ship couldn't retaliate. The new » battleships, the South Dakota and the » Washington, were particularly precise » with their gunfire. The Nagato » resembled a punching bag, helpless » against attack. Despite Kagase's » frantic attempts to communicate with » the ships following them, using flag » signals, cipher telegraphs, signal » lights, and all other available » communication methods, his intentions » were yet to be understood. The 'Mutsu' » and the 'Ise', one after the other, » were diving headlong into the heavy » bombardment from the flying » battleship 'Venomena', being » continuously shot until their hulls » were completely destroyed.	<>	2830 The Nagato was now under relentless » one-sided bombardment from ten enemy » battleships sailing side by side. The new » ship couldn't retaliate. The new » battleships, the South Dakota and the » Washington, were particularly precise » with their gunfire. The Nagato » resembled a punching bag, helpless » against the relentless attack. » Despite Kagase's frantic attempts to » communicate with the ships following » them, using flag signals, cipher » telegraphs, signal lights, and all » other available communication » methods, his intentions were yet to » be understood. The Mutsu and the Ise, » one after the other, were diving » headlong into the heavy bombardment » from the flying battleship Venomena, » being continuously shot until their » hulls were completely destroyed.
2833	If only the Second Anti-Air Fleet were » here...	<>	2833 —If only the Second Anti-Air Fleet » were here...
2834	They're the only ones who can bring		2834 They were the only ones who could bring

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	» down the 'Venomena'. 2835 Did the earlier communication get trans » mitted? 2836 As Kagase pondered, his recent » communication to the Second Aerial » Torpedo Fleet was abruptly cut off by » a direct hit that severed the voice » pipe. He had no way of knowing if his » message had reached the Second Fleet. 2837 Please, let them have received it. 2838 Otherwise, Hinoo will fall... 2839 The ninth and tenth direct hits from » the enemy battleship squadron » flagship 'South Dakota' answered » Kagase's prayers.		2835 » down the Venomena. —Did our earlier communication get to » them? 2836 As Kagase pondered, his recent » communication to the Second Aerial » Torpedo Fleet was abruptly cut off by » a direct hit that severed the comms » pipe. He had no way of knowing if his » message had reached the Second Fleet. —Please, let them have received it. 2838 —Otherwise, Hinoo is going to fall... 2839 The ninth and tenth direct hits from » the enemy battleship squadron » flagship South Dakota were all that » came to answer Kagase's prayers.
2841	The sound of a voice announcing a fire. » The screams of engineers reporting » flooding echoed through the voice » pipe leading to the engine room. The » starboard turbine shaft, which had » taken a direct hit, was broken and » unusable. The 'Nagato' could barely » maintain a straight course, tilting » and continuing to return fire based » on independent decisions of the gun » side. 2842 If the battle continues like this, the » Third Fleet will be annihilated here » in Solomon. 2843 But both Babahara and Furuyanagi, who » should give the order to retreat, » were seriously injured, and Oiyama, » the third in command, was out of it » and couldn't take proper command. 2844 I must order the retreat.	<>	2841 The sound of a voice announcing a fire. » The screams of engineers reporting » flooding echoed through the comms » pipe leading to the engine room. The » starboard turbine shaft, which had » taken a direct hit, was broken and » unusable. The Nagato could barely » maintain a straight course, tilting » and continuing to return fire based » on independent decisions of the gun » side. 2842 If the battle continued like this, the » Third Fleet would be annihilated here » in Solomon. 2843 But both Babahara and Furuyanagi, who » should give the order to retreat, » were seriously injured, and Oiyama, » the third in command, was completely » out of it and unable to take proper » command. 2844 —I must order the retreat.
2847	The order was for a landing operation! » We can't afford to act independently!	<>	2847 "The order was for a landing operation! » We can't afford to act independently! » "
2849	All it says is that an airborne » battleship has appeared! Where is the » request for our support? This » telegram says nothing about » abandoning the landing operation and » rushing over immediately!	<>	2849 "All it says is that an airborne » battleship has appeared! Where is the » request for our support? This » telegram says nothing about » abandoning the landing operation and » rushing over immediately!"
2852	An airborne battleship has appeared. » Isn't that enough? The combined fleet » is on the verge of defeat. The » weather is rainy, the altitude of the » rain cloud is 1200 meters. It's ideal » for the airborne battleship. Above » all, this is an unprecedented » telegram from an unknown sender.	<>	2852 "An airborne battleship has appeared. » Isn't that enough? The combined fleet » is on the verge of defeat. The » weather is rainy, the altitude of the » rain cloud is 3900 feet. Those are » ideal conditions for the airborne » battleship. Above all, this is an » unprecedented telegram from an

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	» Doesn't that prove how urgent the » situation is?		» unknown sender. Doesn't that prove » how urgent the situation is?"
2856	"Can you assure us that the » Commander-in-chief is still safe ? As » you are aware, we can't confirm this » from our location. By now, the » combined fleet is likely under heavy » attack by the airborne battleship. » The lack of news since this initial » report supports this."	<>	2856 "Can you assure us that the » Commander-in-chief is still alive and » well ? As you are aware, we can't » confirm this from our location. By » now, the combined fleet is likely » under heavy attack by the airborne » battleship. The lack of news since » this initial report supports this."
2861	He then added,	<>	2861 Then he started to speak again,
2873	He had to keep winning.	<>	2873 —I have to continue winning.
2874	If they didn't keep winning, she would » suffer.		2874 —If I don't, she's going to suffer.
2875	Just as he was about to continue,		2875 Just as he was about to continue, Rio » piped up ,
2877	Captain Rio, gripping the steering » wheel, addressed Isaiah.	<>	2877 She turned to Isaiah, still gripping » the steering wheel.
2878	"Even if it means breaking the rules, » we'll just take the responsibility, » right? So, let's take it. If we don't » go, no one else can defeat them. » Let's go so we won't regret it » later."		2878 "Even if it means breaking the rules, » we'll just have to take » responsibility for that , right? So, » let's take it. If we don't go, no one » else can defeat them. Let's go so we » won't regret it later."
2890	If my demotion saves the country...	<>	2890 —If my demotion is what could save the » country...
2891	Then I should do it. I am fighting for » the nation's protection.		2891 —Then I should do it. I am fighting » for the nation's protection, after » all.
2892	I'm not fighting to maintain my rank...		2892 —I'm not fighting to maintain my » rank...
2895	"Quit nitpicking."	<>	2895 "Don't be so argumentative."
2902	"I'll take responsibility. Let's go. To » the Inevitable Strait."	<>	2902 "Fine. I'll take responsibility. Let's » go then, to the Indispensable » Strait."
2906	"Raise the signal flag. Text: Landing » support operation cancelled. We will » head for the Inevitable Strait at » maximum battle speed. Second Air » Lightning Fleet, follow us."	<>	2906 "Raise the signal flag. Text: Landing » support operation cancelled. We will » head for the Indispensable Strait at » maximum battle speed. Second Air » Lightning Fleet, follow us."
2908	The signal officer at the aft mast » happily accepted Isaiah's sudden » command. Every time Isaiah did » something reckless, the crew of the » Hiren had developed a habit of being » delighted.	<>	2908 The signal officer at the aft mast » happily accepted Isaiah's sudden » command. Every time Isaiah did » something reckless, the crew of the » Hiren seeme to be delighted about it.
2910	"This is Isaiah Shiranomiya. We've » received a report of an enemy flying » battleship appearing in the Inevitabl » e Strait. Due to the emergency, our » fleet is aborting the landing	<>	2910 "This is Isaiah Shiranomiya. We've » received a report of an enemy flying » battleship appearing in the Indispens » ible Strait. Due to the emergency, » our fleet is aborting the landing

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	» operation, returning the transport » convoy to the home port, and we are » heading for the battlefield." 2911 As was customary, cheers echoed » throughout the ship via the voice » tubes.		» operation, returning the transport » convoy to the home port, and we are » heading for the battlefield." 2911 As was customary, cheers echoed » throughout the ship via the comms » tubes.
2913	The cheerful and bright cheers always » filled the ship, providing Isaiah » with true comfort.	<>	2913 The cheerful and bright cheers filled » the ship as they always did , » providing Isaiah with a true sense of » comfort.
2914	"Engineers, it's your turn again. Get » us to the enemy as quickly as » possible. Every minute, every second » we reach the battlefield sooner, we » can save the lives of many soldiers."		2914 "Engineers, it's your time to shine » again. Get us to the enemy as quickly » as possible. Every minute, every » second we reach the battlefield » sooner, we can save the lives of many » soldiers."
2915	Instantly, a lively cheer erupted from » the voice tube connected to the » engine control room.		2915 Instantly, a lively cheer erupted from » the comms tube connected to the » engine control room.
2917	The engine room crew, always working in » the depths of the ship, covered in » soot and heavy oil, denied fresh air » and enduring temperatures above 40 » degrees, never forgot the kindness of » Isaiah and Rio. To repay them, they » willingly faced the grueling and » painful task of continuous high-speed » operation.	<>	2917 The engine room crew, always working in » the depths of the ship, covered in » soot and heavy oil, denied fresh air » and enduring temperatures above 104 » degrees, never forgot the kindness of » Isaiah and Rio. To repay them, they » willingly faced the grueling and » painful task of continuous high-speed » operation.
2920	"Please, may this journey prove futile. » "	<>	2920 —Please, let this journey prove » futile.
2922	" I command us to set a course to one » hundred degrees, maximum battle » speed. We head towards the unavoidabl » e strait to destroy the enemy's » flying battleship."	<>	2922 "Set a course to one hundred degrees, » maximum battle speed. We head towards » the Indispensible Strait to destroy » the enemy's flying battleship."
2926	The rainbow effect of the selas was sha » ttered at the bow of the Hiren. A rai » nbow -colored trail wafted above the » coral sea.	<>	2926 The rainbow Seras Effect scattered at » the bow of the Hiren. A multicolored » trail wafted above the coral sea.
2929 2930	May victory be with you, Third Fleet. If they had abandoned the landing » operation to rush to the battlefield, » only to find their allies victorious, » Isaiah would have been destabilized. » But that was acceptable. She couldn't » bear the thought of the Combined » Fleet being attacked single-handedly » by the Grand Duke's Fleet. Such a » scene would not only shake the » soldiers present, but also the » citizens of Hinoo, who had endured » over thirty years of oppression and	<>	2929 —May victory be with you, Third Fleet. 2930 If they had abandoned the landing » operation to rush to the battlefield, » only to find their allies victorious, » Isaiah would have been destabilized. » But that was acceptable to her . She » could not bear the thought of the » Combined Fleet being attacked » single-handedly by the Grand Duchy » Fleet. Such a scene would not only » shake the soldiers present, but also » the citizens of Hinoo, who had » endured over thirty years of

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	» hardship to foster the Combined » Fleet. 2931 Please remain safe, Nagato... 2932 The sky before them was still under a » blanket of rain clouds, forming a » ceiling at around 1,200 meters » altitude.		» oppression and hardship to foster the » Combined Fleet. —Please remain safe, Nagato... 2931 The sky before them was still under a » blanket of rain clouds, forming a » ceiling at an altitude of around 3900 » feet.
2935	For four-fifths of my life, I was » ridiculed everywhere I went. From my » childhood until my late forties, I » was nothing more than a target of » contempt, isolation, and hatred for » others.	<>	2935 For four-fifths of his life, he was » ridiculed everywhere he went. From » childhood until his late forties, he » was nothing more than a target of » contempt, isolation, and hatred for » others.
2936	I was not a man of attractive » appearance or eloquent speech. My exp » ressions were repetitive and my » grades at the military academy were » so dismal that it was easier to count » from the bottom. With a constant, » grumpy scowl, I lacked the knack for » flattering my superiors, instead » being prone to arguments. I had no » allies in the military, only foes, » and no matter my accomplishments, I » was always overlooked and relegated » to mundane duties.		2936 He was not a man of attractive » appearance or eloquent speech. His » speech patterns were repetitive and » his grades at the military academy » were so dismal that they were closer » to the end of the alphabet than the » start. With a constant, grumpy scowl, » he lacked the knack for flattering » his superiors, instead being prone to » arguments. He had no allies in the » military, only foes, and no matter » his accomplishments, he was always » overlooked and relegated to mundane » duties.
2937	It was only five years ago, when I was » forty-nine, that I was noticed by » General Noduk, the present commander » of the Grand Duchy Fleet. He » acknowledged my fierce desire for » combat, my obsession with enemy » annihilation, and my deep-rooted » hatred for the people of Hinoo, and I » was assigned the role of commander of » the Third Fleet of the Grand Duchy.		2937 It was only five years ago, when he was » forty-nine, that he was noticed by » General Noduk, the present commander » of the Grand Duchy Fleet. Noduk » acknowledged his fierce desire for » combat, obsession with annihilating » the enemy, and deep-rooted hatred for » the people of Hinoo. And so, he was » assigned the role of commander of the » Third Fleet of the Grand Duchy.
2938	"All of that was a test for today."		2938 "All of that has led up to this."
2939	Reflecting on her fifty years of » degradation, Major General Zoe Durga » looked over the inevitable strait » below with a sense of satisfaction.		2939 Reflecting on his fifty years of » degradation, Major General Zoe Durga » looked over the Indispensable Strait » below with a sense of satisfaction.
2940	Why was I the only one to endure such » hardship? Why did God persistently » hurl these trials at me? It felt as » if all the world's misery was » targeting me and me alone.		2940 Why was he the only one to endure such » hardship? Why did God persistently » hurl these trials at him, » specifically? It felt as if all the » world's misery was targeting him and » him alone.
2941	This had been the sensation for the » past fifty years.		2941 He had felt this way for the past fifty » years.
2942	"I've been saving my luck. All for » today."		2942 "I've been saving up my luck. All for » today."
2943	Overlooking the sight below, an		2943 Overlooking the sight below, an

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	<p>» overwhelming sense of happiness wells » up within me. It feels as if all the » joy experienced in life has been » compressed into this single moment. » The euphoria is so immense that I » worry my body might not be able to » contain it and could burst.</p> <p>2944 "Kill the monkeys (Kill Yatsup), kill » the monkeys (Kill Yatsup), kill more » and more monkeys (Kill More Yatsup)."</p>		<p>» overwhelming sense of happiness welle » d up within him. It felt as if all of » life's joy had been compressed into » this single moment. The euphoria was » so immense that he worried his body » might not be able to contain it; that » he might suddenly burst.</p> <p>2944 "Kill the monkeys (kill the japs!) Kill » the monkeys (Kill the japs!) Kill » more and more monkeys (kill more » japs!)"</p>
2946	The sound of the firing 40 cm side » cannon and the accompanying shock had » become quite familiar to my body.	<>	2946 his body had become quite accustomed to » the sound of the firing 16-inch side » cannon and the accompanying shock.
2947	The sea surface of the unavoidable stra » it, where the cannonballs were » headed, was a mess of the trails left » by the allied fleet vessels fleeing » in confusion, resembling a poorly » drawn abstract painting.	<>	2947 The sea surface of the Indispensable St » rait, where the cannonballs were » headed, was a mess of the trails left » by the allied fleet vessels fleeing » in confusion, resembling a poorly » drawn abstract painting.
2949	"Don't sink yet. Struggle, writhe in » agony. Your role is to entertain me » with your pathetic attempts to » escape."	<>	2949 "Don't sink yet. Struggle, writhe in » agony. I want you to entertain me » with your pathetic attempts to » escape."
2953	About fifteen meters of its bow had » already submerged, reducing the » ship's speed to fifteen knots. In an » effort to escape, it steered » northwest towards Truk Island, but » the Washington and South Dakota » unyieldingly continued their assault. » The shattered gun barrels hung » impotently, and with thin smoke » billowing from the bridge, the ship » endured a ceaseless barrage of direct » hits.	<>	2953 About fifteen yards of its bow had » already submerged, reducing the » ship's speed to fifteen knots. In an » effort to escape, it steered » northwest towards Truk Island, but » the Washington and South Dakota » unyieldingly continued their assault. » The shattered gun barrels hung » impotently, and with thin smoke » billowing from the bridge, the ship » endured a ceaseless barrage of direct » hits.
2957	The remaining allied fleet abandoned » their advance, turning their bows 180 » degrees in an attempt to retreat back » to their home port at Truk Island. » The Grand Ducal Fleet pursued them » relentlessly, their vigor suggesting » they might even proceed to capture » Truk Island itself.	<>	2957 The remaining allied fleet abandoned » their advance, turning their bows 180 » degrees in an attempt to retreat back » to their home port at Truk Island. » The Grand Duchy Fleet pursued them » relentlessly, their vigor suggesting » they might even proceed to capture » Truk Island itself.
2958	"We're going to annihilate them. Kill, » kill, and keep killing."	<>	2958 "We're going to annihilate them. Kill, » kill, kill! Just keep killing!"
2959	As Durga cruised at 27 knots and enjoye » d a cigar amidst the barrage of fire » upon the fleeing allied fleet, she » issued this order to the maritime » fleet via the ship-to-ship » communication system. It was the best » smoke of her life. Nothing was more	<>	2959 As Durga cruised at 27 knots, enjoying » a cigar amidst the barrage of fire » upon the fleeing allied fleet, he » issued orders to the maritime fleet » via the ship-to-ship communication » system. It was the best smoke of his » life. Nothing was more gratifying

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	» gratifying than winning a battle, » especially when single-handedly » chasing down a fleeing enemy. All the » Grand Ducal Fleet had to do was kick » the retreating allied fleet's rear » while whistling a tune.		» than winning a battle, especially » when single-handedly chasing down a » fleeing enemy. All the Grand Duchy » Fleet had to do was kick the » retreating allied fleet's rear while » whistling a tune.
2961	Durga, with a keen eye, detected the » remaining threats on the battlefield.	<>	2961 Durga, with a keen eye, assessed the » remaining threats on the battlefield.
2963	After sending this reminder to the » radar plotting room, she took another » puff from her cigar. Admiral » Primrose's humiliation in the sea off » Manila occurred because he » underestimated the enemy's air raid » fleet after annihilating their » airborne battleship fleet. His » mistake was engaging with the air » raid fleet at night. Engaging in » battle on enemy terms was utter nonsense » nse . Battleships are designed for » daytime combat.	<>	2963 After sending this reminder to the » radar plotting room, he took another » puff from his cigar. Admiral » Primrose's humiliation in the sea off » Manila occurred because he » underestimated the enemy's air raid » fleet after annihilating their » airborne battleship fleet. His » mistake was engaging with the air » raid fleet at night. Engaging in » battle on enemy terms was a fool's » game . Battleships were designed for » daytime combat.
2965	"Grovel and plead for mercy as you » flee. Your role now is to entertain » me a bit longer."	<>	2965 "Grovel and plead for mercy as you » flee. You just have to to entertain » me a bit longer."
2966	Durga exhaled a plume of purple smoke » leisurely, looking satisfied as she » surveyed the chaotic trails left by » the retreating allied fleet.	<>	2966 Durga exhaled a plume of purple smoke » leisurely, looking satisfied as he » surveyed the chaotic trails left by » the retreating allied fleet.
2969	This marked the demise of the allied » fleet.	<>	2969 Such was the demise of the allied » fleet.
2971	We were outmatched in every way.	<>	2971 —We were outmatched in every way.
2976	Once more, the bundles of » armor-piercing shells descended with » a whistle-like noise, " furururu ". » With each absurd sound, it felt like » the enemy soldiers were mocking him. » Unable to even shield his head with » his hands, Kagase simply awaited the » inevitable hit.	<>	2976 Once more, the bundles of » armor-piercing shells descended with » a whistle-like noise. With each » absurd sound, it felt like the enemy » soldiers were mocking him. Unable to » even shield his head with his hands, » Kagase simply awaited the inevitable » hit.
2978	My body momentarily floated in midair. » A muffled explosion echoed within the » ship as the enemy shell's » delayed-action fuse activated, » ripping through the Nagato from the » inside. The armor plates swelled and » burst, releasing a thick pillar of » fire into the sky. Amid the explosion » were the shattered bodies of the » crew, plummeting into the sea with a » thud.	<>	2978 Kagase's body momentarily floated in » midair. A muffled explosion echoed » within the ship as the enemy shell's » delayed-action fuse activated, » ripping through the Nagato from the » inside. The armor plates swelled and » burst, releasing a thick pillar of » fire into the sky. Amid the explosion » were the shattered bodies of the » crew, plummeting into the sea with a » thud.
2979	Miraculously, I was unscathed. But I » knew if I remained here, my time	<>	2979 Miraculously, he was unscathed. But he » knew that if he remained here, his

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	<p>» would come soon. In a desperate bid » for release from the agony, I quietly » sat down.</p> <p>2980 This... this is frustrating...</p> <p>2981 In a daze, I found myself thinking that » .</p> <p>2982 To protect ourselves from the white » invaders of Asia, Hinoo had gritted » its teeth and devoted itself to » nation-building and military » strengthening, amassing a combined » fleet with a total displacement of » one million tons, third largest in » the world. We had struggled to reach » this point, to prove that people of » color were not subservient to whites, » that we too were human.</p> <p>2983 But now, the long-held prayers of our » ancestors are on the brink of being » shattered here, in this sea.</p> <p>2984 We were undeniably too overconfident. W » e failed to examine our enemy » thoroughly, overlooked the need to » call up the fleet we should have, and » arrived here on a whim. That simple » mistake has turned seventy years of » the people's dedication into ashes, » and blocked the path to a future » where people of color can live » freely.</p> <p>2985 This is the harsh reality of losing a » war...</p>		<p>» time would soon come. In a desperate » bid for release from the agony, he » quietly sat down.</p> <p>2980 —This... This is frustrating...</p> <p>2981 In a daze, he found himself thinking » about the injustice of the situation.</p> <p>2982 To protect them selves from the white » invaders of Asia, Hinoo had gritted » its teeth and devoted itself to » nation-building and military » strengthening, amassing a combined » fleet with a total displacement of » one million tons, third largest in » the world. They had struggled to » reach this point to prove that people » of color were not subservient to white » e people; that they too were human.</p> <p>2983 But now, the long-held prayers of their » ancestors were on the brink of being » shattered here, in this sea.</p> <p>2984 They were undeniably overconfident. » They had failed to examine the enemy » thoroughly, overlooked the need to » call up the fleet when they should » have, and arrived here on a whim. » That simple mistake had turned » seventy years of the people's » dedication into ashes, and blocked » the path to a future where people of » color could live freely.</p> <p>2985 —So this is the harsh reality of » losing a war...</p>
2987	<p>Only after stepping on the path of no » return, do the belated regrets of "I » should have done this or that" begin » to surface. Do the Gumerians look » down on us because we, the people of » Hinoo, are indeed barbaric, reckless, » and impulsive, akin to an inferior » race of apes?</p> <p>2988 No...</p>	<>	<p>2987 Only after stepping on the path of no » return do the belated regrets of » things that could have been begin to » surface. Did the Gumerians look down » on them because they, the people of » Hinoo, were indeed barbaric, » reckless, and impulsive, akin to an » inferior race of apes?</p> <p>2988 —No...</p>
2990	It's not over yet...	<>	2990 —It's not over yet...
2991	While still in a daze, Kagase lifts his » gaze to the strait's sky.		2991 Still in a daze, Kagase lifted his gaze » to the sky above the strait.
2992	The sky is clouded with the dust and » soot spewed by the Combined Fleet.		2992 The sky was clouded with the dust and » soot spewed by the Combined Fleet.
2993	Amidst the curtain of ongoing rain, he » notices something glittering in the » distant airspace.		2993 Amidst the curtain of ongoing rain, he » noticed something glittering in the » distant airspace.
2995	Beneath the belly of the light » ink-colored stratocumulus , something » was twinkling.	<>	2995 Beneath the belly of the light » ink-colored clouds , something was » twinkling.
2997	Five, six, nine—	<>	2997 Five, six... Nine.

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3006	Moreover, the pesky clouds that had » lingered around 1200 meters since the » naval battle began, shrouding the » flying battleship 'Venomena', were » likely concealing the peculiar » sailboat from the enemy's view. » Kagase, looking upward from the sea, » could see the sail of the airborne » sailboat; but from the 'Venomena', it » would be difficult to spot due to the » obstructive clouds on the horizon.	<>	3006	Moreover, the pesky clouds that had » lingered around 3900 feet since the » naval battle began, shrouding the » flying battleship Venomena, were » likely concealing the peculiar » sailboat from the enemy's view. » Kagase, looking upward from the sea, » could see the sail of the airborne » sailboat; but from the Venomena, it » would be difficult to spot due to the » obstructive clouds on the horizon.
3009	"Have they arrived?"	<>	3009	—Have they come?
3012	I already know who the commander » capable of such a perfect imitation i » s, and who the strategist is who can » meticulously prepare and bide time » for the optimal moment.	<>	3012	He already knew who the commander » capable of such a perfect imitation » was, and which strategist could » meticulously prepare and bide time » for the optimal moment.
3013	The Hiren...!"		3013	The Hiren...!"
3017	There was even a hint of tears in » Isaiah's voice as she made the » announcement over the ship's » intercom. It was her sincere » sentiment. She truly believed that » she was fortunate to have the best » crew in the world.	<>	3017	There was even a hint of tearfulness in » Isaiah's voice as she made the » announcement over the ship's » intercom. Her sentiment was entirely » sincere. She truly believed that she » was fortunate to have the best crew » in the world.
3018	"Your Highness—" "Your Highness——!!" » "This is not a problem!! We can keep » the furnace burning for another day!! » "		3018	"Your Highness—" "Your Highness——!" » "This is not a problem! We can keep » the furnace burning for another day!"
3019	The engineers, who should have been » exhausted, put on a brave face and » responded in such a manner.		3019	The engineers were exhausted, but put » on a brave face and responded as they » always did.
3025	"Indeed. A thin layer of cloud is in » the floating zone. It's ideal for » airships, but the worst for naval » vessels. Mew, can you see the 'Venome » na' from there?"	<>	3025	"Indeed. A thin layer of cloud is » obscuring the floatsphere. It's ideal » for airships, but the worst for naval » vessels. Mew, can you see the » Venomena from there?"
3030	"The enemy must be confused by the » decoy ships I launched, which they've » detected on radar. We need to get as » close as possible before they see » through our ruse."	<>	3030	"The enemy must be confused by the » decoy ships we launched, which they'l » l have detected on radar. We need to » get as close as possible before they » see through our ruse."
3034	At Clotho's command, Mew twisted her » mouth in slight displeasure. The » forward lookout was at the tip of the » "foremast," a structure jutting out » diagonally from the bottom front of » the Hiren's hull toward the ground. » As Clotho pointed out, the absence of » clouds there offered a clear view in » all directions, including directly » below.	<>	3034	At Clotho's command, Mew twisted her » mouth in slight displeasure. The » forward lookout was at the tip of the » foremast, a structure jutting out » diagonally from the bottom front of » the Hiren's hull toward the ground. » As Clotho pointed out, the absence of » clouds there offered a clear view in » all directions, including directly » below.

3041	"Y-Yes, sir!"	<>	3041	"Y-Yessir!"
3042	After casting a glance at Hayao that » lacked confidence, Mew darted off » through the hatch. Left in the bridge » were Isaiah, Rio, Clotho, and Hayao.	<>	3042	After casting a glance at Hayao, who » clearly lacked confidence, Mew darted » off through the hatch. Left in the » bridge were Isaiah, Rio, Clotho, and » Hayao.
3050	Because the clouds covered the » stratosphere, the state of both » friend and foe's airships remained » unseen. If they sent a signal to » confirm their location, the enemy » could intercept the radio waves and » their hiding place would be revealed. » They had no choice but to believe » that all ships were still intact, » hovering above the unavoidable strait » .	<>	3050	Because the clouds covered the » stratosphere, the state of both » friend and foe's airships remained » unseen. If they sent a signal to » confirm their location, the enemy » could intercept the radio waves and » their hiding place would be revealed. » They had no choice but to believe » that all ships were still intact, » hovering above the Indispensible Stra » it.
3051	Regardless, they had no choice but to » proceed, even if they were a single » ship. With these clouds, a daytime » torpedo attack might be successful. » The optimal scenario would be to » stealthily approach the "Venomena" as » closely as possible and take it down » using aerial torpedoes without being » detected.	<>	3051	Regardless, they had no choice but to » proceed, even if they were a single » ship. With these clouds, a daytime » torpedo attack might be successful. » The optimal scenario would be to » stealthily approach the Venomena as » closely as possible and take it down » using aerial torpedoes without being » detected.
3053	At that moment, the "Hiren" spotted the » Grand Duchy Fleet about 8,000 meters » ahead and was closing in on them. The » lower belly and the fore and aft » masts of the "Hiren" were jutting out » of the clouds, so it wouldn't be » surprising if they were detected with » the naked eye at any moment. As if » praying, "Don't notice us," the "Hire » n" began to cross the strait from » south to north...	<>	3053	At that moment, the Hiren spotted the » Grand Duchy Fleet about 8,000 yards » ahead and was closing in on them. The » lower belly and the fore and aft » masts of the Hiren were jutting out » of the clouds, so it would not be » surprising if they were detected with » the naked eye at any moment. As if » praying, "Don't notice us," the Hiren » began to cross the strait from south » to north...
3055	"Enemy aerial fleet spotted, thirty-two » ships!!"	<>	3055	"Enemy aerial fleet spotted, thirty-two » ships!"
3059	As instructed , Durga scanned the » airspace at an altitude of 1,200 mete » rs in the horizontal direction, but h » er view was obstructed by the rain » clouds. Only the radar was capturing » the silhouettes of thirty-two ships » concealed in the clouds.	<>	3059	Durga scanned the airspace at an » altitude of 3900 feet in the » horizontal direction, but his view » was obstructed by the rain clouds. » Only the radar was capturing the » silhouettes of thirty-two ships » concealed in the clouds.
3060	"There's no way Hinoo, given its » national power, could spontaneously » amass a fleet of thirty-two airships. » Only the six ships of the Second » Aerial Torpedo Fleet are actually » present, the rest must be an illusion » of some sort."	<>	3060	There was no way Hinoo, given its » national power, could spontaneously » amass a fleet of thirty-two airships. » Only the six ships of the Second » Aerial Torpedo Fleet were actually » present, the rest must be an illusion » of some sort.

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3061	"However, that illusion is hidden by » the clouds, making it impossible to » decipher. The rain clouds that have » been my ally since the battle began a » re now a nuisance. If only they would » disperse, we wouldn't be deceived by » the enemy's tricks."	<>	3061	However, their illusion was hidden by » the clouds, making it impossible to » decipher. The rain clouds that had » been Durga's ally since the battle » began were now a nuisance. If only » they would disperse, the enemy's » deceitful tricks would fail.
3063	"For fifty years, the goddess has given » me nothing but insult and bitterness. » Today, just for once, let her smile » favor me. That alone would wash away » the resentment and bitterness of » fifty years."	<>	3063	For his entire life, the goddess had » given him nothing but insult and » bitterness. Today, just for once, he » wanted her to smile upon him. That » alone would wash away the resentment » and bitterness of the past fifty » years.
3064	Durga prays.		3064	Durga prayed.
3065	She repeats a crude prayer to the » goddess of the battlefield, stringing » together the most unsavory words she » can conjure.		3065	He repeated a crude prayer to the » goddess of the battlefield, stringing » together the most unsavory words he c » ould conjure.
3066	Before long—a wind swept through the » area.		3066	Before long, a strong wind swept » through the area.
3067	The clouds that had been looming over » the unseen strait, concealing the » form of the flying battleship "Venome » na", were pushed away by that wind.		3067	The clouds that had been looming over » the unseen strait, concealing the » form of the flying battleship » Venomena, were pushed away.
3069	The stratocumulus clouds split apart, » transforming into a herd of » fragmented clouds, allowing the » sunlight to angle down to the sea » surface through the gaps.	<>	3069	The clouds split apart, transforming » into a herd of fragmented clouds, » allowing the sunlight to angle down » to the sea surface through the gaps.
3070	Everything hidden by the rain clouds leapt » into Durga's sight.		3070	Everything hidden by the rain clouds » suddenly leapt into Durga's field of » vision.
3071	Deep wrinkles were etched into Durga's » cheeks, the base of her eyebrows, and » the corners of her eyes.		3071	Deep wrinkles were etched into Durga's » cheeks, the base of his eyebrows, and » the corners of his eyes.
3072	"It seems the goddess favors me."		3072	"It seems the goddess has favored me."
3073	Clouds appear when I desire them, and » vanish when I don't need them. » Indeed, all the trials of fifty years » seem to have accumulated for the good » fortune of this single day.		3073	Clouds appeared when he desired them, » and vanished when he did not. Indeed, » all the trials of fifty years seemed » to have accumulated for the good » fortune of this single day.
3075	One of her staff pointed out a small » sailboat drifting through a gap in » the clouds. As he had said, the » majority of the thirty-two vessels » that had suddenly appeared were decoy » ships, designed to deceive the radar. » It was a simple trick indeed.	<>	3075	One of the staff pointed out a small » sailboat drifting through a gap in » the clouds. As he had said, the » majority of the thirty-two vessels » that had suddenly appeared were decoy » ships, designed to deceive the radar. » It was a simple trick indeed.
3078	Durga immediately peered through her » binoculars. The cloud cover over the » strait was at level seven. Cloud » clusters were forming between	<>	3078	Durga immediately peered through his » binoculars. The cloud cover over the » strait was at level seven. Cloud » clusters were forming between

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	» altitudes of a thousand to fifteen » hundred meters, with gaps through » which the silhouettes of the enemy » airships could barely be seen. The » scattered clouds made it difficult to » identify the type of ship. However, » the battle flag of Hinoo fluttered » from the aft mast.		» altitudes of 3300 to 4900 feet, with » gaps through which the silhouettes of » the enemy airships could barely be » seen. The scattered clouds made it » difficult to identify the type of » ship. However, the battle flag of » Hinoo fluttered from the aft mast.
3083	The only option was to give the » regrettable response. The scope » displayed flying objects within a » thirty-kilometer radius centered on » the Venomena as glowing points. » Currently, thirty-two glowing points » were displayed, but it was impossible » to distinguish between enemy ships » and decoy ships due to their number.	<>	3083 The only option was to give the » regrettable response. The scope » displayed flying objects within a 19- » mile radius centered on the Venomena » as glowing points. Currently, » thirty-two glowing points were » displayed, but it was impossible to » distinguish between enemy ships and » decoy ships due to their number.
3084	Durga growled under her breath. "Grrr.. » ." Scientific weaponry was » convenient, yet it had its » limitations. A human could » immediately discern a destroyer from » a sailing ship, but a radar couldn't. » With the current level of technology, » the only option was to use a blend of » old-fashioned methods according to » the situation.	<>	3084 Durga growled under his breath. High-te » ch weaponry was convenient, yet it » had its limitations. A human could » immediately discern a destroyer from » a sailing ship, but a radar couldn't. » With the current level of technology, » the only option was to use a blend of » old-fashioned methods according to » the situation.
3089	The lookout's voice echoed through the » voice pipe.	<>	3089 The lookout's voice echoed through the » comms pipe.
3094	Those audacious chimps, firing » torpedoes before her artillery could » respond. She was resolved to » annihilate them.	<>	3094 Those audacious chimps, firing » torpedoes before her artillery could » respond. He was resolved to » annihilate them.
3096	Just then, another report arrived from » the lookout at the rear mast. » Muttering a curse under her breath, » Durga swung her binoculars in the » indicated direction.	<>	3096 Just then, another report arrived from » the lookout at the rear mast. » Muttering a curse under his breath, » Durga swung the binoculars in the » indicated direction.
3097	Two distinct airships from the opposite » direction turned their broadsides » towards the 'Venomena'. Then, from » their top deck, a burst of vibrant » contrails erupted once again.	<>	3097 Two distinct airships from the opposite » direction turned their broadsides » towards the Venomena. Then, from » their top deck, a burst of vibrant » contrails erupted once again.
3099	Six more torpedoes from a different » direction than the previous eight » aimed towards the 'Venomena'. With a » bold coordination of attack and » retreat, they launched their » torpedoes from the most challenging » direction to evade. The training of » the Hinoo fleet was indeed » exceptional. However...	<>	3099 Six more torpedoes from a different » direction than the previous eight » aimed towards the Venomena. With a » bold coordination of attack and » retreat, they launched their » torpedoes from the most challenging » direction to evade. The training of » the Hinoo fleet was indeed » exceptional. However...

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3102	The area surrounding the 'Venomena' » airship was scorched in a » hemispherical shape.	<>	3102	The area surrounding the Venomena » airship was scorched in a » hemispherical shape.
3104	The eight aerial torpedoes that had » been approaching from the starboard » side were swiftly penetrated by the » fire lines, exploding one after » another in mid-air. The six aerial » torpedoes that had attacked the port » side also scattered their broken » shells into the air. Unlike regular » torpedoes that slowly move through » the air, aerial torpedoes can be » easily destroyed with anti-aircraft » machine guns.	<>	3104	The eight aerial torpedoes that had » been approaching from the starboard » side were swiftly penetrated by the » fire lines, exploding one after » another in mid-air. The six aerial » torpedoes that had attacked the port » side also scattered their broken » shells into the air. Unlike regular » torpedoes that slowly move through » the air, aerial torpedoes could be » easily destroyed with anti-aircraft » machine guns.
3106	Yet a distance of seventeen thousand » was well within the range of the 'Venomena's' forty-centimeter main guns.	<>	3106	Yet a distance of seventeen thousand » was well within the range of the » Venomena's 16-inch main guns.
3109	"Fire the artillery!!"	<>	3109	"Fire the artillery!"
3110	In sync with the artillery officer's » command, the forty-centimeter main » cannon erupted.	<>	3110	In sync with the artillery officer's » command, the 16-inch main cannon » erupted.
3111	The path of the tracer bullet reached » into the distant airspace—	<>	3111	The path of the tracer bullet reached » into the distant airspace.
3113	Durga gritted her teeth and let out a » low growl. "Observational bombardment » against an aircraft carrier is tough . » They're not used to it because they » rely on radar-aimed shooting. If it » weren't for that accursed decoy ship, » we could easily obliterate them."	<>	3113	Durga gritted his teeth and let out ano » ther low growl. Observational » bombardment against an aircraft » carrier required great skill . The » crew were not used to it because they » relied so much on radar-aimed » shooting. If it were not for that » accursed decoy ship, they could » easily obliterate the Hinooan fleet .
3114	Then, a message arrived via » Ship-to-Ship Communication from the » flagship of the naval fleet, the "Sou » th Dakota".	<>	3114	Then, a message arrived via » Ship-to-Ship Communication from the » flagship of the naval fleet, the » South Dakota.
3118	After receiving the acknowledgement, » Durga turned her full attention to » taking down the four escaping ships. » "The bombardment is difficult to » land, but they also lack a way to » counter us . In daylight, a fight » between an aircraft carrier and a » destroyer is like a lion against a » mouse. Unless it's night, the lion » always prevails."	<>	3118	After receiving the acknowledgement, » Durga turned his full attention to » taking down the four escaping ships. » The bombardments were difficult to » land, but the enemy also lacked a way » to counter. In daylight, a fight » between an aircraft carrier and a » destroyer was like a lion against a » deer. Unless the deer could abuse the » dark of night-time , the lion would » always prevail.
3120	As she spoke, she carefully scanned the » surrounding airspace.	<>	3120	As he spoke, he carefully scanned the » surrounding airspace.
3123	Having lost their natural cover as the » clouds dispersed, the enemy seemed to	<>	3123	Having lost their natural cover as the » clouds dispersed, the enemy seemed to

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	» be coordinating an attack within » their airship fleet. Audacious » indeed.			» be coordinating an attack within » their airship fleet. They were audaci ous indeed.
3126	Is there no place left to hide? Could » they be in the gaps of the broken » clouds? Or perhaps inside the rain » clouds still looming over Florida » Island?	<>	3126	Was there no place left to hide? Could » they be in the gaps between the » broken clouds? Or perhaps inside the » rain clouds still looming over » Florida Island?
3127	There were plenty of places to hide » behind the clouds in the airspace...		3127	There were plenty of clouds still left » to hide behind in the airspace.
3129	"Do the enemy have control over the » wind? The clouds have been favoring » Gameria for a while now. They can see » us clearly, but we struggle to locate » them..."	<>	3129	"Do the enemy have control over the » wind? The clouds have been favoring » Gameria for a while now. They can see » us clearly, and yet we struggle to » locate them..."
3130	With a mutter, Clotho glanced sideways » at Isaiah.		3130	Muttering, Clotho glanced sideways at » Isaiah.
3131	"Our air torpedoes are getting shot » down midway. That anti-aircraft fire » is like a volcanic eruption. The » Hiren's firepower can't penetrate the » battleship's armor. It seems we have » no choice but to use that."		3131	"Our air torpedoes are getting shot » down midway. That anti-aircraft fire » is like a volcanic eruption. The » Hiren's firepower can't penetrate the » battleship's armor. It seems we have » no choice but to use... That."
3134	"It's broad daylight. If we attempt a » ram attack, they'll spot us and fire » their forty-centimeter main guns. One » hit and the Hiren will sink. How do » you plan on sneaking up on them under » these weather conditions?"	<>	3134	"It's broad daylight. If we attempt a » ram attack, they'll spot us and fire » their 16-inch main guns. One hit and » the Hiren's sunk. How do you plan on » sneaking up on them under these » weather conditions?"
3136	The reason why ramming attacks are » challenging with modern ships is » because the range and destructive » power of cannons are vastly superior » compared to the age of sail. It's » obvious that if you get close enough » to ram an enemy ship, you'll be hit » by the ship's main guns and sink. If » the clouds were as thick as before, » they could approach undetected, but » the wind had dispersed the thick » clouds, leaving only scattered ones.	<>	3136	The reason why ramming attacks were » challenging with modern ships was » because the range and destructive » power of cannons were vastly superior » compared to the age of sail. It was » commonly accepted that if you got » close enough to ram an enemy ship, yo » u would be hit by the ship's main » guns and sink. If the clouds were as » thick as before, they could approach » undetected, but the wind had » dispersed the thick clouds, leaving » only scattered ones.
3137	Their radar jamming strategy using the » decoy ship wouldn't last long.		3137	—Our radar jamming strategy using the » decoy ships won't last long.
3138	The clouds they had relied on were now » working against them.		3138	—The clouds we had relied on are now » working against us.
3139	What could they do to avoid being » spotted under these conditions?		3139	—What can we do to avoid being spotted » under these conditions?
3140	Taking all the battlefield conditions » into account, Clotho began to deduce » a strategy to lead them to a ram » attack.		3140	Taking all the battlefield conditions » into account, Clotho began to deduce » a strategy that could facilitate a » ram attack.
3141	To achieve our goal, we must first be		3141	To achieve such a goal, he reminded him

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	» logical and put sentiment aside." 3142 "Even if the method is ruthless, if it » ensures our victory, we must choose » it without hesitation."	<>	3142	» self to first be logical and put » sentiment aside. No matter how ruthless the method, if » it ensured victory, he knew he must d » o it without hesitation.
3146	She couldn't make a decision easily.	<>	3146	She could not easily make such a » decision.
3150	She knew she couldn't turn the tide » with half-hearted measures. However, » Clotho's strategy was too » cold-blooded.	<>	3150	She knew she could not turn the tide » with half-hearted measures. However, » Clotho's strategy felt far too » cold-blooded.
3151	"These are the comrades we've trained » with all this time. They followed us » during the Marie operation, even » though we disobeyed orders. Are you » suggesting we should use them as » sacrificial lambs?"	<>	3151	"These are the comrades we've trained » with all this time. They stood with » us during Operation Marie, even » though we disobeyed orders. Are you » suggesting we should use them as » sacrificial lambs?"
3154	"Cast aside your sentimentality. Become » a devil. Let the historians of the » future condemn your actions today as » inhumane. That's your role." 3155 At this moment, Clotho wasn't » displaying his usual fearless smirk.	<>	3154 3155	"Cast aside your sentimentality. Become » a monster for now. Let the historians » of the future condemn your actions » today as inhumane. That's your role." At this moment, Clotho was not » displaying his usual fearless smirk.
3163	"Your job is to order your comrades to » 'die'. To protect the women, » children, and elderly in Hinoo, you m » ust let your comrades die here and » now."	<>	3163	"Your job is to order your comrades to » die. To protect the women, children, » and elderly in Hinoo, you have no » choice but to let your comrades die » here and now."
3165	So tightly that blood was drawn.	<>	3165	She clenched them so tightly that her » nails drew blood.
3171	Entrusted with an important command, » Hayao's legs trembled. Isaiah had » given the message directly to Hayao » rather than via the voice pipe, » likely trusting that it would be more » reliable. Turning around, Hayao » sprinted towards the command tower's » rear elevator.	<>	3171	Entrusted with such an important » command, Hayao's legs trembled. » Isaiah had given the message directly » to Hayao rather than via the comms » pipe, likely trusting that it would » be more reliable. Turning around, » Hayao sprinted towards the command » tower's rear elevator.
3181	"There's a lot of excitement aboard. » We'll do our best for Princess » Shiranomiya." "We'll take on the role » of decoys for a lifetime." "Is that » all you expect from us?" "If we make » it back alive, please go on a date » with us." "If necessary, we'll also » perform a body blow."	<>	3181	"There's a lot of excitement aboard. » We'll do our best for Princess » Shiranomiya." "We'll take on the role » of a lifetime for you." "Is that all » you expect from us?" "If we make it » back alive, please go on a date with » us." "If necessary, we can ram too."
3191	For nearly a month, we've engaged in » daily ramming attack drills. Nobody » on this ship understands the peril of » this attack more than the 340 of us a » board. Yet, everyone responds to	<>	3191	For nearly a month, the Hiren had » engaged in daily ramming attack » drills. Nobody on this ship understoo » d the peril of this attack more than » the 340 on board. Yet, everyone

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	» Isaiah's words with vibrant, » enthusiastic voices.			» responded to Isaiah's words with » vibrant, enthusiastic voices.
3196	"I have something to say as well."	<>	3196	"I have something to say as well." Rio » gestured towards Isaiah.
3199	" We are the Kazenomiyas! We can » absolutely do this, just like always! » There's nothing we can't handle!"	<>	3199	"Kazenomiya here! We can absolutely get » through this, just like we always do! » There's nothing we can't handle!"
3201	"Princess..." "Princess!" » "Prin...cess....!"	<>	3201	"Princess..." "Princess!" » "Prin...cess...!"
3202	"I truly adore you all! Let's celebrate » with a party when this is all over!!"		3202	"I truly do adore you all! Let's » celebrate with a party when this is » all over!"
3203	Responding to her usual carefree call, » even amidst this nightmarish » battlefield, the crew members reply » as they always do .		3203	Responding to her usual carefree call, » even amidst this nightmarish » battlefield, the crew members replied » as they always did .
3204	"Yea...h!!" "Yeah...!!" "Prin...cess... » !!"		3204	"Yeah!" " Yes, please! " "Princess!"
3205	Listening to the cheers that shake the » ship, Isaiah takes the microphone » from Rio and quietly adds in a » whisper.		3205	Listening to the cheers that were shaki » ng the ship, Isaiah took the » microphone from Rio and quietly added » in a whisper ,
3207	For a moment, a silence envelops the » ship.	<>	3207	For a moment, a silence enveloped the » ship.
3208	After a split second, an intense clamor » that could incinerate the airspace » spreads like high-pressure steam » throughout the Hiren.		3208	After a split second, an intense clamor » that could incinerate the airspace » spread like high-pressure steam » throughout the Hiren.
3209	The command tower fills with cheers » loud enough to shatter the intercom. » The noise level is so high that it's » hard to decipher what they're saying . » Mixed in with the usual shouts of » 'your highness' and 'princess', a » multitude of voices encourage the two » princesses, pledging to stay with » them until the end.		3209	The command tower filled with cheers » loud enough to shatter the intercom. » The noise level was so high that it » became hard to decipher what the crew » were even shouting . Mixed in with the » usual shouts of 'your highness' and » 'princess', a multitude of voices » encouraged the two princesses, » pledging to stay with them until the » end.
3211	The words were so jumbled it was hard » to decipher what each individual was » saying. But the unity among the 'Hire » n' crew was palpable.	<>	3211	The words were so jumbled it was » impossible to decipher what each » individual was saying. But the unity » among the Hiren crew was palpable.
3212	"For the Prince! For the Princess! » Let's fight until our last breath!"		3212	"For Princess Rio! For Princess Isaiah! » Let's fight until our last breath!"
3214	"Ughhh!" "Ahhh!" " Damn it! " » "Princess!"	<>	3214	"Ughhh!" "Ahhh!" " Yes! " "Princess!"
3216	Her mother had told her to 'die on the » battlefield' when she embarked on » this ship. Separated from her father, » the Emperor, at a young age, she held » no memories of a warm family » environment. For Isaiah, the 'Hiren'	<>	3216	Her mother had told her to die on the » battlefield when she embarked on this » ship. Separated from her father, the » Emperor, at a young age, she held no » memories of a warm family » environment. For Isaiah, the Hiren

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	» was her home and its crew, her » family.			» was her home and its crew, her » family.
3218	The 'Hiren' was soon to disappear, but » their special place, much like the 'I » buki', would remain with them. She » would never forget the memories of » being together in this moment.	<>	3218	The Hiren was soon to disappear, but » their special place, much like the » Ibuki, would remain with them. She » would never forget the memories of » being together in this moment.
3220	Beyond the overlapping rifts in the » clouds, a flash of light sparked on » the surface of the thick rainclouds » about eight thousand meters away with » each gunshot.	<>	3220	Beyond the overlapping rifts in the » clouds, a flash of light sparked on » the surface of the thick rainclouds » about eight thousand yards away with » each gunshot.
3221	Each time, tracer rounds tore through » the clouds, burning as they streaked » across the sky, attacking our ships » and decoy vessels. The enemy could » see us , but we were blind to them.		3221	Each time, tracer rounds tore through » the clouds, burning as they streaked » across the sky, attacking the ships » and decoy vessels. The enemy could » see the Hinooans , but the Hinooans » were blind to them.
3222	We couldn't visually confirm its » location, but I knew the "Venomena" » was out there somewhere.		3222	Even though they could not visually » confirm its location, they knew the » Venomena was out there somewhere.
3223	Now, the "Kawayodo," "Sugurono," "Yasos » e," "Sakashio," and "Unami," five » flying destroyer ships, were deployed » to serve as decoys, diverting the » enemy's attention.		3223	Now, the Kawayodo, Sugurono, Yasose, » Sakashio, and Unami, five flying » destroyer ships, were deployed to » serve as decoys, diverting the » enemy's attention.
3224	If we could break through this » eight-thousand-meter blanket of » invisibility undetected and reach the » "Venomena" hidden in the clouds, » victory would be ours .		3224	If they could break through this 8700-y » ard blanket of invisibility » undetected and reach the Venomena » hidden in the clouds, victory would » be certain .
3225	We knew it was a reckless gamble.		3225	They all knew it was a reckless gamble.
3226	But if we failed, the entire allied » fleet would be annihilated right here » and now.		3226	But if they failed to do anything , the » entire allied fleet would be » annihilated right here and now.
3228	I won't let that happen.	<>	3228	—I won't let that happen.
3229	Resolved , she declared.		3229	Resolute in her plan , Isaiah began to » give orders.
3231	The combat formation, repeated during » daily training over the past month, » was ordered. Voices confirming » readiness quickly reached from » various parts of the ship via the » voice tubes.	<>	3231	The combat formation, repeated during » daily training over the past month, » was ordered. Voices confirming » readiness quickly reached from » various parts of the ship via the » comms tubes.
3238	In response to Rio's concern, who was » holding the ship's wheel , Isaiah » nodded.	<>	3238	In response to Rio's concern, Isaiah » nodded.
3241	"Wait, are you actually going to do it? » "	<>	3241	"Wait, are you actually going to..."
3243	" Hmm ," Clotho agreed with a nod.	<>	3243	" Mhmm ," Clotho agreed with a nod.
3244	It's uncommon for members of the royal » family to possess supernatural		3244	It was common for members of the royal » family to possess supernatural

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	» abilities. Clotho's extraordinary » deductive skills could nearly be » classified as supernatural, but » Isaiah has an incredibly unique » ability to detach her viewpoint from » her body and survey the battlefield » from above at will.		» abilities. Clotho's extraordinary » deductive skills could nearly be » classified as supernatural, but » Isaiah had an incredibly unique » ability to detach her viewpoint from » her body and survey the battlefield » from above at will.
3245	However, the condition is that a » trusted person must always be by her » side, holding her hand. The only ones » capable of this are Clotho and Rio.	3245	However, the one condition was that a » trusted person must always be by her » side, holding her hand. The only ones » capable of this were Clotho and Rio.
3247	"Hmm," Clotho grunted as he subtly » moved his right hand towards Isaiah's » left hand and held it.	<>	3247 "Mhmm," Clotho grunted as he subtly » moved his right hand towards Isaiah's » left hand and held it.
3250	"It's different from the usual... This » time, the location will have to move » while my viewpoint is detached. That » makes me uneasy."	<>	3250 "It's different from usual... This » time, the location of my body will » have to move while my viewpoint is » detached. That makes me uneasy."
3251	"Indeed, we once had a rather rough » experience."		3251 "Indeed, we once had a rather rough » experience with that."
3253	It happened when they were about eight » years old.	<>	3253 It had happened when they were about » eight years old.
3255	Unknowingly, while still holding » Isaiah's hand, Clotho had led her out » of the school building. Isaiah's » detached viewpoint lost its place to » return to, rendering her unable to re » turn to her body. She fell into a » comatose state for nearly a week, her » body temperature dropping alarmingly » low. This was when they discovered » that if Isaiah moved too far from her » initial detached viewpoint, she could » n't return to her body. Clotho held » the comatose Isaiah's hand, » apologizing repeatedly. He pleaded, » 'I'm sorry, I'll do anything, please » come back', rubbing her hand against » his forehead. When Isaiah regained » consciousness, Clotho cried tears of » relief. He believed that was the last » time he ever cried.	<>	3255 Unwittingly, while still holding » Isaiah's hand, Clotho had moved her » out of the school building. Isaiah's » detached viewpoint had lost its place » to return to, rendering her unable to » get back to her body. She fell into a » comatose state for nearly a week, her » body temperature dropping alarmingly » low. This was when they discovered » that if Isaiah's body moved too far » from her initial location while using » her ability, she could not easily » return to her body. Clotho had held » the comatose Isaiah's hand, » apologizing repeatedly. He pleaded, » 'I'm sorry, I'll do anything, please » come back', rubbing his hand against » her forehead. When Isaiah regained » consciousness, Clotho cried tears of » relief. He believed that was the last » time he ever cried.
3256	About a year ago, during the aerial and » naval battle off the coast of Manila » when Isaiah detached her viewpoint, » the ship 'Ibuki' was in a state of » engine shutdown and therefore hadn't » moved from its position. That's why » Isaiah was able to return accurately » to where Clotho was.		3256 About a year ago, during the aerial and » naval battle off the coast of Manila » when Isaiah detached her viewpoint, » the ship Ibuki was in a state of » engine shutdown and therefore had not » moved from its position. That was why » Isaiah was able to return accurately » to where Clotho was.
3259	"My guide back to my body will be	<>	3259 "My guide back to my body will be

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	» warmth, pulse , and words. If I can't » return, I want you to... um..." "			» warmth, heartbeat , and words. If I » can't return, I want you to... Um..."
3261	"So you're implying it's warmth, » heartbeat, and words? I see. That » means if I provide you with my » warmth, heartbeat, and taunts , you » can use that as a guide to return."	<>	3261	"So it's warmth, heartbeat, and words? » I see. That means if I provide you » with my warmth, heartbeat, and make f » un of you a little , you can use that » as a guide to return."
3264	"Never mind... Just make sure you call » me with all your might. You're going » to call for me as if your life » depends on it, understood?"	<>	3264	"Never mind... Just make sure you call » out to me with all your might. You're » going to have to call for me as if » your life depends on it, understood?"
3265	"Understood. I will call you with all » my might, and curse you with every » word I know you detest. So you can de » part in peace. "	<>	3265	"Understood. I will call you with all » my might, and curse you with every » word I know you detest. So come on , » stop worrying and go. "
3269	"Honest feelings... are easier to » hear. "	<>	3269	"Honest feelings... Are easier for me » to hear. "
3271	" Lies are harder to hear, even when » they are spoken. I don't know why. » But if someone speaks their true » feelings, they reach me more easily. » When I was eight and couldn't return » after detaching my viewpoint, I was » wandering in the dark. Your voice, » crying and apologizing, reached me » clearly. It was how I was able to » return."	<>	3271	" Jokes and falsities are harder to » hear, no matter how loud. I don't » know why. But if someone speaks their » true feelings, they reach me more » easily. When I was eight and couldn't » return after detaching my viewpoint, » I was wandering in the dark. Your » voice, when you were crying and » apologizing, reached me clearly. It » was how I was able to return."
3273	"So, on the off chance that I don't » come back. If you truly want me to, y » ell at me. If that's your genuine » feeling , it'll reach me. Your voice » will serve as a guide for me to » return."	<>	3273	"So, on the off chance that I don't » come back. If you truly want me to, » then shout your true feelings at me. » If it's genuine , it'll reach me. Your » voice will serve as a guide for me to » return."
3276	Isaiah's gaze returned to the airspace. » She couldn't afford to waste time. » The five ships following the Hiren » had already begun independent » operations to serve as decoys.	<>	3276	Isaiah's gaze returned to the airspace. » She could not afford to waste time. » The five ships following the Hiren » had already begun independent » operations to serve as decoys.
3279	Leaving her physical body behind, only » Isaiah's perspective detached from » her body, soaring towards the skies...	<>	3279	Leaving her physical body behind, only » Isaiah's perspective detached from » her body, soaring towards the skies.
3284	"Those infuriating pests, scurrying » everywhere! It's so exasperating..."	<>	3284	"Those infuriating pests, scurrying » everywhere! It's so exasperating!"
3285	Unable to conceal her irritation, » Durga's eyes, nestled beneath her » white eyebrows, flared with rage as s » he rasped out her words into the » radar plot room.	<>	3285	Unable to conceal his irritation, » Durga's eyes, nestled beneath white » eyebrows, flared with rage as he » rasped out his words into the radar » plot room.
3287	"We still have about a dozen drifting » in the airspace...!"	<>	3287	"We still have about a dozen drifting » in the airspace!"
3289	After slamming the phone down, she	<>	3289	After slamming the phone down, he

File: (continued)

	» ground her half-smoked cigar into the » floor and once again surveyed the » battlefield.		» ground his half-smoked cigar into the » floor and once again surveyed the » battlefield.
3290	She had identified four or five enemy » aircraft destroyers, but they seemed » to be trying to confuse her . Each » ship was maneuvering independently, » not forming any sort of formation. » Like hyenas, they lurked in the » clouds, prowling around the Venomena.	3290	He had identified four or five enemy » aircraft destroyers, but they seemed » to be trying to confuse him . Each » ship was moving independently, not » forming any sort of formation. Like » hyenas, they lurked in the clouds, » prowling around the Venomena.
3293	Responding to Durga's question, the » tactical officer at her side spoke.	<>	3293 Responding to Durga's question, the » tactical officer at his side spoke.
3295	" Blast them..."	<>	3295 " Damn them..."
3298	The target Durga pointed out was an » aircraft destroyer about 7,500 meters » away. The gunnery officer » acknowledged and relayed to the main » gun command, "Left thirty degrees, » enemy destroyer, codename Alpha."	<>	3298 The target Durga pointed out was an » aircraft destroyer about 7,500 yards » away. The gunnery officer » acknowledged and relayed to the main » gun command, "Left thirty degrees, » enemy destroyer, codename Alpha."
3301	The shells, flying at six hundred and » thirty meters per second, thundered » and ripped through the clouds, » scattering them. Twelve seconds » later —	<>	3301 The shells, flying at six hundred and » thirty yards per second, thundered » and ripped through the clouds, » scattering them.
3302	Around the enemy destroyer , nine black » roses exploded wildly.		3302 Twelve seconds later , nine black roses » exploded wildly around the enemy » destroyer .
3303	"We did it!!"		3303 "We did it!"
3305	The armor of a destroyer is as thin as » a tin bucket. Even the shrapnel from » an exploding shell can penetrate it » and cause casualties among the crew. » Although the ammunition depot is » protected by thick armor to prevent » it from exploding, a mere graze can » cause severe damage to the ship's » personnel, piping, and equipment.	<>	3305 The armor of a destroyer was as thin as » a tin bucket. Even the shrapnel from » an exploding shell could penetrate it » and cause casualties among the crew. » Although the ammunition depot was » protected by thick armor to prevent » it from exploding, a mere graze could » cause severe damage to the ship's » personnel, piping, and equipment.
3309	Despite being in agony and leaving a » trail of black smoke akin to blood, » 'Alpha' curiously does not attempt to » flee.	<>	3309 Despite being in agony and leaving a » trail of black smoke akin to blood, » 'Alpha' curiously did not attempt to » flee.
3310	Instead, it directs its bow towards us » and charges.		3310 Instead, it directed its bow towards » Durga's ship and charged.
3312	Durga lets out a chuckle.	<>	3312 Durga let out a chuckle.
3314	The three 27cm secondary guns and four » 76mm rapid-fire guns positioned on » the upper deck and the bottom of the » hull of the flying battleship 'Venome' » na' all simultaneously lock onto the » charging destroyer ' Alpha '.	<>	3314 The three ten-inch secondary guns and » four three-inch rapid-fire guns » positioned on the upper deck and the » bottom of the hull of the flying » battleship Venomena all » simultaneously lock onto the charging » destroyer.

3319	Crew members were being flung out. Yet, » the enemy ship continued to return » fire. I couldn't comprehend why they » refused to cease fire.	<>	3319	Crew members were being flung out. Yet, » the enemy ship continued to return » fire. Durga could not comprehend why » they refused to cease fire.
3320	"They want to die. Kill, kill, kill."		3320	"They want to die. Kill, kill, kill!"
3322	"What?!"	<>	3322	"What?!"
3323	Hidden by the barrier of the fractured » clouds, the enemy destroyer had » somehow drawn in to a horizontal » distance of three thousand meters. » Anyone observing the scene would » notice that the heavy barrage from » the Venomena had scattered the » clouds, revealing our ship to the » open skies.		3323	Hidden by the barrier of the fractured » clouds, the enemy destroyer had » somehow drawn in to a horizontal » distance of three thousand yards. » Anyone observing the scene would » notice that the heavy barrage from » the Venomena had scattered the » clouds, revealing the ship to the » open skies.
3324	A lookout cried out through the speakin » g tube.		3324	A lookout cried out through the comms » tube.
3327	So they used Alpha as a decoy to get » closer.	<>	3327	—So they used Alpha as a decoy to get » closer.
3328	That's a strategy I wouldn't have » expected from the Gameria army. Their » audacity deserves acknowledgment. » However.		3328	That was a strategy he never would have » expected; the Gamerian army would » never do such a thing. Their audacity » deserved acknowledgment.
3330	The eighteen twenty-millimeter » anti-aircraft guns positioned around » the ship immediately formed a fiery » barrier around the Venomena.	<>	3330	The eighteen half-inch anti-aircraft » guns positioned around the ship » immediately formed a fiery barrier » around the Venomena.
3336	With Durga's grating voice, the black » rose of destruction engulfs the enemy » destroyer once again.	<>	3336	At the command of Durga's grating » voice, the black rose of destruction » engulfed the enemy destroyer once » again.
3338	The armor was instantly crushed, » thousands upon thousands of holes » opened, and flames erupted. Despite » this, Beta did not retreat. Shrouded » in smoke, it unbelievably turned its » twelve-centimeter main gun turret » towards us and retaliated.	<>	3338	The armor was instantly crushed, » thousands upon thousands of holes » opened, and flames erupted. Despite » this, Beta did not retreat. Shrouded » in smoke, it unbelievably turned its » main gun turret towards the Venomena » and retaliated.
3339	The destroyer's main gun surely wouldn't » t be able to penetrate the » battleship's armor.		3339	That destroyer's main gun surely would » never be able to penetrate the » battleship's armor.
3340	"Why, then, do they persist in the » fight?"		3340	Why, then, did they insist on continuing » g to fight?
3342	Durga couldn't help but blurt out. She » knew they were mad, but she hadn't » imagined it would be to this extent.	<>	3342	Durga couldn't help but blurt this out. » He knew they were mad, but he had not » imagined it would be to this extent.
3349	Amidst the stunned and bewildered » reactions, Durga raised her voice.	<>	3349	Amidst the stunned and bewildered » reactions, Durga raised his voice.
3357	After ending the call, Durga took a » deep breath to steady herself and » once more surveyed the airspace.	<>	3357	After ending this communication, Durga » took a deep breath to steady himself » and once more surveyed the airspace.

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	3358 There's nothing to fear. As long as we » remain alert to torpedo attacks, they » 're without countermeasures. I should » actually be grateful they opted for a » daytime confrontation, as spotting » aerial torpedoes in the dark would be » considerably more challenging. Even » the 'Venomena' would be in danger the » n.		3358 There was nothing to fear. As long as he » e remained alert to torpedo attacks, » the enemy were without » countermeasures. Durga pondered that » he should actually feel grateful they » opted for a daytime confrontation, as » spotting aerial torpedoes in the dark » would be considerably more » challenging. Even the Venomena would » be in danger if that were the case.
3363	Even as dark red flames billowed » through the gaps in its ruptured » armor, the destroyer Gamma didn't » halt its advance. Its damaged, » bristling flank aimed at the 'Venomena' » a', it positioned its aerial torpedo » tube towards us from within the » flames.	<>	3363 Even as dark red flames billowed » through the gaps in its ruptured » armor, the destroyer Gamma never halt » ed its advance. As its damaged, » bristling flank aimed at the Venomena » , it positioned its aerial torpedo » tube towards them from within the » flames. 3364 "What the...?!"
3365	Eight rainbow-colored trails are » extending. How can they still fire » after enduring so much damage? They » must know they're on the brink of » being shot down. Why aren't they » retreating?		3364 "What the...?" 3365 Eight rainbow-colored trails were » extending from the ship. How could » they still fire after enduring so » much damage? Durga was perplexed. » They must have known they were on the » brink of being shot down, so why were » they not retreating?
3368	The forty-centimeter main gun roared. » Two, then three direct hits struck » the Destroyer Gamma.	<>	3368 The 16-inch main gun roared. Two, then » three direct hits struck the » Destroyer Gamma.
3372	Then the clouds burst and scattered. A » fierce wind swept through. The » looming clouds were blown away, » revealing the "Venomena" to the open » sky.	<>	3372 Then the clouds burst and scattered. A » fierce wind swept through. The » looming clouds were blown away, » revealing the Venomena to the open » sky.
3373	It seemed that in exchange for their » own lives, Gamma's last act was to » clear the clouds that had been » shielding the "Venomena". Even the » Gameria soldiers involuntarily held » their breath, struck by terror.	<>	3373 It seemed that in exchange for their » own lives, Gamma's last act was to » clear the clouds that had been » shielding the Venomena. Even the » Gamerian soldiers involuntarily held » their breath, struck by terror.
3375	Durga recognized her own agitation. She » couldn't understand the enemy's » intentions. Why were they charging in » knowing they were going to die? They » must have known they couldn't win. » Why were they still flying, risking » their lives?	<>	3375 Durga recognized his own agitation. He » could not understand the enemy's » intentions. Why were they charging in » knowing they were going to die? They » must have known they could never win » like that. Why were they still » flying, risking their lives?
3376	"Look, to the right, one hundred and » ten degrees, another enemy ship...!!"		3376 "Look, to the right, one hundred and » ten degrees, another enemy ship...!?"
3378	"Stop it. Who the hell are you guys?"	<>	3378 "Stop it. Who the hell are you people?"
3379	Unbeknownst to her, Durga's legs had » started to shake.		3379 Unbeknownst to him, Durga's legs had » started to shake.

File: (continued)

3380	<p>She had never encountered a battlefield like this before. Typically, any enemy faced with such overwhelming odds would flee.</p>		3380	<p>He had never encountered a battlefield like this before. Typically, any enemy faced with such overwhelming odds would flee.</p>
3388	"Kill them! Kill them all!!"	<>	3388	"Kill them! Kill them all!"
3389	Durga's frenzied scream echoed across the skies, summoning even more flames and smoke to fill the horizon. The "Venomena" was gradually obscuring its own sight with the flames and soot it was spewing.	<>	3389	Durga's frenzied scream echoed across the skies, summoning even more flames and smoke to fill the horizon. The Venomena was gradually obscuring its own sight with the flames and soot it was spewing.
3390	Perhaps the soot and clouds had merged, forming a storm cloud. A massive cloud, its surface flickering with flashes of lightning, had stealthily crept up behind the "Venomena" unnoticed...	<>	3390	Perhaps the soot and clouds had merged, forming a storm cloud. A massive cloud, its surface flickering with flashes of lightning, had stealthily crept up behind the Venomena unnoticed...
3392	As if guided by some sort of intent, that cloud had stealthily come incredibly close to the "Venomena's" back –	<>	3392	As if guided by some sort of intent, that cloud had stealthily come incredibly close to the Venomena's back.
3393	"180 degrees!!!!"	<>	3393	"180 degrees!!"
3394	At the lookout's shout, Durga swung her bloodshot eyes directly behind her.	<>	3394	At the lookout's shout, Durga swung his bloodshot eyes to look directly behind him.
3395	Instantly, a massive, pitch-black cumulus cloud dominated her field of vision.	<>	3395	Instantly, a massive, pitch-black cloud dominated his field of vision.
3396	A colossal cloud, its surface flickering with flashes of lightning, loomed over the "Venomena" like a deity of the battlefield.	<>	3396	A colossal cloud, its surface flickering with flashes of lightning, loomed over the Venomena like a deity of the battlefield.
3400	I've finally made it."	<>	3400	"We've finally arrived."
3411	Like the ram of an ancient sailboat.	<>	3411	It was like the ram of an ancient sailboat.
3412	The distance between them was a hundred and fifty meters .	<>	3412	The distance between them was a hundred and fifty yards .
3414	"Hiren, let's go---"	<>	3414	"Hiren, let's go!"
3415	"Destroy it----!"	<>	3415	"Destroy it!"
3418	The real aim was---a ramming attack.	<>	3418	The real aim was to carry out a ramming attack.
3419	"Evacuate! !"	<>	3419	"Evacuate! !"
3423	"Don't cry, you idiot."	<>	3423	—Don't cry, you idiot.
3424	"This is not the time to cry."	<>	3424	—This is not the time to cry.
3425	"In order to honor the feelings of those who have passed... Fly, Hiren!"	<>	3425	—In order to honor those who have passed... Fly, Hiren!
3426	Isaiah, having become the viewpoint, was looking down at the battlefield from an altitude of 3000 meters , encouraging herself with these words while crying.	<>	3426	Isaiah, having detached her viewpoint, was looking down at the battlefield from an altitude of 10,000 feet , encouraging herself through her tears .
3427	Even though she had no physical body,	<>	3427	Even though she currently had no

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	» only a viewpoint, her invisible tears » wouldn't stop. 3428 The feelings of her comrades, who were » shattering right before her eyes on » the battlefield, reached her.		3428	» physical body, her invisible tears » would not stop. The feelings of her comrades, who were » shattering right before her eyes on » the battlefield, moved her.
3432	Some were flying for their own pride, » some for their comrades-in-arms, and » some for the families waiting for » them back home. Each one had » something they wanted to protect, » even if it meant sacrificing their » lives. That's why they kept soaring » in the sky until their last breath.	<>	3432	Some were flying for their own pride, » some for their comrades-in-arms, and » some for the families waiting for » them back home. Each one had » something they wanted to protect, » even if it meant sacrificing their » lives. They kept soaring in the sky » until their last breath.
3433	Their nobility, their emotions, they » resonate in me, making my soul » shudder. Unshed tears that simply » won't stop.		3433	Their nobility, their emotions, » resonated in Isaiah, making her very » soul shudder. She shed a neverending » cascade of all their unshed tears.
3434	I can't afford to cry!		3434	—I can't afford to cry.
3435	I must fulfill their wishes...!		3435	—I must fulfill their wishes!
3436	Everyone perished as decoys for the » Hiren.		3436	Everyone had perished as decoys for the » Hiren.
3439	"...Five degrees to starboard... Adjust » it. Keep it steady... steady... five » degrees to port..."	<>	3439	"...Five degrees to starboard... Adjust » it. Keep it steady... Steady... Five » degrees to port..."
3440	At that moment on the Hiren's bridge, » Isaiah's physical body, hand in hand » with Clotho, was likely verbally » relaying the course to Rio. As Rio » adjusted the course as instructed, » she steered the Hiren to the optimal » position for a ramming attack.		3440	At that moment on the Hiren's bridge, » Isaiah's physical body, hand in hand » with Clotho, was verbally relaying » the course to Rio. While Rio adjusted » the course as instructed, she steered » the Hiren into the optimal position » for a ramming attack.
3442	It's almost time, everyone.	<>	3442	—It's almost time, everyone.
3443	All I can do right now, as their viewpoint » int, is to guide them, burn the » images of my dying comrades into my » retinas, and vow never to forget » them.		3443	All she could do right now, without access » to her physical body, was guide » them, burn the images of her dying » comrades into her retinas, and vow » never to forget them.
3445	There's no time for tears.	<>	3445	There was no time for tears.
3446	But, I swear.		3446	But she swore to herself.
3447	We will win, no matter what.		3447	—We will win, no matter what.
3448	The ship "Yasose", which Isaiah had » said a prayer for, transformed into a » ball of fire.		3448	The ship Yasose, which Isaiah had said » a prayer for, transformed into a ball » of fire.
3449	The world was bathed in a flash of » light as the explosion blew away the » cloud around the "Venomena".		3449	The world was bathed in a flash of » light as the explosion blew away the » cloud around the Venomena.
3450	Sunlight streamed in. The gray sky was » exposed to the golden light and the " » Venomena" was revealed.		3450	Sunlight streamed in. The gray sky was » exposed to the golden light and the » Venomena was revealed.
3451	Yet, the cloud hiding the "Hiren" still » lingered. It was as if the » battlefield's goddess, who was solely » focused on the enemy, had suddenly		3451	Yet, the cloud hiding the Hiren still » lingered. It was as if the » battlefield's goddess, who was solely » focused on the enemy, had suddenly

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	» turned towards Hinoo. The "Yasose" had managed to turn the » goddess around... Such a thought crossed her mind, and » fresh tears threatened to spill.		3452	» turned her favor towards Hinoo. —The Yasose managed to turn the » goddess around... As this thought crossed her mind, fresh » tears threatened to spill.	3453
3455	There's no time for tears! Respond to everyone's feelings!	<>	3455	—There's no time for tears. —We have to make sure it wasn't in vain » n.	3456
3457	We must win for everyone!		3457	—We must win for everyone!	3458
3458	Isaiah guided the "Hiren" alone.		3458	Isaiah continued guiding the Hiren » alone.	
3459	Cutting through the gun smoke and » breaking through the cloud mass, the » "Hiren" charged straight at the "Veno » mena".		3459	Cutting through the gun smoke and » breaking through the cloud mass, the » Hiren charged straight at the » Venomena.	
3460	The prayers of the warriors tore » through the wind, transforming into » the wings of the "Hiren".		3460	The prayers of the warriors tore » through the wind, transforming into » the wings of the Hiren.	
3461	On course.		3461	—Straight on course.	3462
3462	Keep charging forward.		3462	—Keep charging forward.	3463
				Isaiah gave her final command.	
3464	Isaiah gave her final command.	<>	3465	Her guidance was over.	3465
3465	The guidance was over.		3466	Isaiah plunged through the air, leaping » out in front of the "Venomena's" » compass bridge.	3466
3466	Isaiah plunged through the air, leaping » out in front of the "Venomena's" » compass bridge.		3467	The Hiren, charging from behind her, » was in her control.	3467
3467	The "Hiren", charging from behind her, » was in her control.				
3471	"We've arrived."	<>	3471	"We've finally arrived."	
3474	I will not forget.	<>	3474	She vowed never to forget.	3475
3475	"You all are the ones who gifted me this » victory."		3475	"This victory is thanks to you."	
3477	As she spoke these words, the Hiren's » ram pierced through Isaiah's body, » charging into the hull of the » Venomena at full battle speed.	<>	3477	As she spoke these words, the Hiren's » ram pierced through Isaiah's » intangible body, charging into the » hull of the Venomena at full battle » speed.	
3479	Isaiah heard Bulldog's desperate cry.	<>	3479	Isaiah heard the bulldog's desperate » cry.	
3483	Standing still, eyes closed and » clutching Clotho's hand, Isaiah ordered » ed this.	<>	3483	Standing still, eyes closed and » clutching Clotho's hand, Isaiah's » final order was spoken.	3484
3484	Rio seized the voice pipe with one » hand, ordering the engine control » room to push to maximum speed.		3484	Rio seized the comms pipe with one » hand, ordering the engine control » room to push to maximum speed.	
3485	And then—		3485	Then...	3486
3486	Suddenly, their vision, which had been » completely obscured, cleared, revealing » ng a steel floating fortress right » before them.		3486	Suddenly, their vision, which had been » completely obscured, cleared and » revealed a steel floating fortress » right before them.	
3487	"!!"		3487	"Oh!"	3488
3488	It was much closer than they had		3488	It was much closer than they had	

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	» anticipated. The relative distance » was less than 150 meters .			» anticipated. The relative distance » was less than 150 yards .
3494	"Stay calm, we have five minutes until » the explosion post-collision!!" » "Evacuate in an orderly manner and » avoid mid-air collisions!"	<>	3494	"Stay calm, we have five minutes until » the explosion post-collision!" » "Evacuate in an orderly manner and » avoid mid-air collisions!"
3498	"For the Hiren, let's go!!" "This is » for the Yasose, make them pay!!"	<>	3498	"For the Hiren, let's go!" "This is for » the Yasose, make them pay!"
3500	With its engines bellowing, the Hiren » bore down on the Venomena, which was » frantically trying to evade, at a » speed of forty knots-- "Shatter them to bits!!"	<>	3500	With its engines bellowing, the Hiren » bore down on the Venomena, which was » frantically trying to evade, at a » speed of forty knots. "Shatter them to bits!"
3501			3501	
3510	In addition, the anchor shot from the » ram entwined itself around the » surrounding suspension cables. Like a » samurai striking his foe, the "Hiren" » choked the life out of the "Venomena" » .	<>	3510	In addition, the anchor shot from the » ram entwined itself around the » surrounding suspension cables. Like a » samurai striking his foe, the Hiren » choked the life out of the Venomena.
3511	The self-destruct mechanism installed » in the ram of the "Hiren" was » triggered.		3511	The self-destruct mechanism installed » in the ram of the Hiren was » triggered.
3513	The self-destruct device, a "Rotating » Magazine" devised by Doctor Yamaga, » began its slow rotation.	<>	3513	The self-destruct device, a 'Rotating » Magazine' devised by Doctor Yamaga, » began its slow rotation.
3514	In five minutes, this ammunition depot » would be completely inverted. The » armor-piercing shells stored within » would collide with the floor of the » depot, igniting hundreds of tons of » explosives that would annihilate the » enemy ship along with the "Hiren". » These five minutes were the » evacuation window for the crew.		3514	In five minutes, this ammunition depot » would be completely inverted. The » armor-piercing shells stored within » would collide with the floor of the » depot, igniting hundreds of tons of » explosives that would annihilate the » enemy ship along with the Hiren. » These five minutes were the » evacuation window for the crew.
3516	With the ship's bow still lodged on the » upper deck of the "Venomena", the » crew of the "Hiren", equipped with » parachutes, launched themselves into » the open air.	<>	3516	With the ship's bow still lodged on the » upper deck of the Venomena, the crew » of the Hiren, equipped with » parachutes, launched themselves into » the open air.
3517	On the upper deck of the "Venomena", » the Gumerian sailors stood aghast and » helpless, simply gazing up at the » front part of the "Hiren", which had » been brutally crushed by the bow. » They had never experienced such an » assault and didn't know how to » respond...		3517	On the upper deck of the Venomena, the » Gumerian sailors stood aghast and » helpless, simply gazing up at the » front part of the Hiren, which had » been brutally crushed by the bow. » They had never experienced such an » assault and did not know how to » respond...
3518	The "Hiren's" command tower had been » ruthlessly obliterated, the ceiling » colliding with the floating hull of » the "Venomena".		3518	The Hiren's command tower had been » ruthlessly obliterated, the ceiling » colliding with the floating hull of » the Venomena.
3523	"Uh... Major Kuronomiya... are you	<>	3523	Umm... Major Kurono... Are you

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	» okay...?" "Ugh...g..."		3524	» okay...?" "Ah..."
3526	"Uh...where's...Rio?"	<>	3526	Where's... Rio?"
3527	"Ah, um, ...she, she's here!"		3527	"Ah, um, she, she's here!"
3531	"Ye, yes sir!"	<>	3531	"Y-yes, sir!"
3533	"Excuse me, where are the harnesses...?" » "	<>	3533	"Excuse me, but aren't you putting on » your harness...?"
3534	"Right. Put them on us. Due to » circumstances, we can't let go of » each other's hand."		3534	"Right. You'll have to put them on us. » Due to our circumstances, we can't » let go of each other's hands."
3535	Hayao didn't quite understand, but it » seemed that Isaiah and Clotho couldn' » t let go of each other's hands. » Without questioning further, he » hesitantly equipped Clotho and Isaiah » with harnesses, and made Clotho wear » a parachute. He connected Clotho's » chest hook to Isaiah's, since Clotho » was holding Isaiah in a protective » embrace, their chests pressed » together was the only way to link » them.		3535	Hayao did not quite understand, but it » seemed that Isaiah and Clotho must st » ay together. Without questioning » further, he hesitantly equipped » Clotho and Isaiah with harnesses, and » Clotho with a parachute. He connected » Clotho's chest hook to Isaiah's. Sinc » e Clotho was holding Isaiah in a » protective embrace, their chests » pressed together was the only way to » link them.
3538	"Lieutenant Colonel Kuronomiya, hurry!"	<>	3538	"Lieutenant Colonel Kurono, hurry!"
3539	"Damn... Isaiah's perspective hasn't » returned yet. I'll wait here a little » longer."		3539	"Damn... Isaiah hasn't returned yet. » I'll wait here a little longer."
3540	Clotho's words were difficult to » understand, but they seemed to make » sense. Hayao had started to » understand the unique bond between » the two ever since he became a » soldier.		3540	Clotho's words were difficult to » understand, but they seemed to make » sense somehow. Hayao had started to » understand the unique bond between » the two ever since he became a » soldier.
3544	The railing had been blown away, » leaving nothing of its original form. » Below him was the sea, and when he » looked back, the hull of the "Venomen » a" was right there. If he jumped » forward from here, he could deploy » his parachute.	<>	3544	The railing had been blown away, » leaving nothing of its original form. » Below him was the sea, and when he » looked back, the hull of the Venomena » was right there. If he jumped forward » from here, he could deploy his » parachute.
3545	"I'll go ahead, Lieutenant Colonel » Kuronomiya!"		3545	"I'll go ahead, Lieutenant Colonel » Kurono!"
3550	"There are only five minutes from the » collision to the explosion. If you » parachute from a height of 1,200 mete » rs, it takes just under two minutes » to hit the water." As he watched the » "Venomena" and "Hiren" recede » upwards, Hayao prayed.	<>	3550	There were only five minutes from the » collision to the explosion. If one » were to parachute from a height of 39 » 00 feet, it would take just under two » minutes to hit the water. As he » watched the Venomena and Hiren recede » upwards, Hayao prayed.
3552	His voice was swept away by the gusting » wind. They had to hurry, or the ship » would explode while they were still » parachuting. If that happened, Clotho	<>	3552	His voice was swept away by the gusting » wind. They had to hurry, or the ship » would explode while they were still » parachuting. If that happened, Clotho

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	» and Isaiah wouldn't be unscathed... Clotho, with a stoic expression, held » the motionless Isaiah in his arms » like a princess. They stood at the » lookout that jutted out from the » command tower.		3553	» and Isaiah would not be unscathed... Clotho, with a stoic expression, held » the motionless Isaiah in his arms » like the princess she was. They stood » at the lookout that jutted out from » the command tower.
3556	On the deck of the Venomena, sailors » were shouting in Gamerian, crossing » paths, and those armed with rifles » rained bullets on the Hiren's sailors » about to jump off. There was a risk » of being targeted if they stayed » there, but Clotho didn't want to jump » until Isaiah's viewpoint returned.	<>	3556	On the deck of the Venomena, sailors » were shouting in Gamerian, crossing » paths, and those armed with rifles » rained bullets on the Hiren's sailors » about to jump off. There was a risk » of being targeted if they stayed » there, but Clotho did not want to » jump until Isaiah's viewpoint » returned.
3558	"You can see, so you know. I'm right » here."	<>	3558	"You can see us, I'm sure, So you know, » I'm right here."
3559	Annoyed, Clotho said something like tha » t.		3559	Annoyed, Clotho muttered at her.
3560	However, Isaiah remained still with her » eyes firmly closed. She didn't react » at all. Was she affected by the » impact of the ramming attack? She had » a pulse, but she didn't respond.		3560	However, Isaiah remained still with her » eyes firmly closed. She did not react » at all. Was she affected by the » impact of the ramming attack? She had » a pulse, but she didn't respond.
3563	"Stop wasting time, you foolish woman! » I told you to retreat, so do it now!"	<>	3563	"Stop wasting time, you fool! I told » you to return!"
3565	At the moment, the Hiren's bow was » embedded in the upper deck of the » Venomena. Clotho stood frozen, » holding Isaiah in his arms in the » lookout extending from the third » floor of the bridge. Among the » Gameria sailors on the upper deck who » were busy putting out fires and » checking and repairing damaged areas, » some started to notice Clotho and his » group.	<>	3565	At the moment, the Hiren's bow was » embedded in the upper deck of the » Venomena. Clotho stood frozen, » holding Isaiah in his arms in the » lookout extending from the third » floor of the bridge. Among the » Gamerian sailors on the upper deck » who were busy putting out fires and » checking and repairing damaged areas, » some started to notice Clotho and his » group.
3566	"Hey, there's a Yapp officer still » alive!"		3566	"Hey, there's a jap officer still » alive!"
3569	"Hurry up, plywood! Kegon Falls! Tokach » i Plains!"	<>	3569	"Hurry up, you flat-chested plank! You » shapeless loser! You barren plateau!"
3574	"Alright, we have no choice but to » jump, you foolish woman! You better » make sure to come back!"	<>	3574	"Alright, well now we have no choice » but to jump, stupid! You better make » sure to come back!"
3575	Just as Hayao had done earlier, I » decided to leap as far from the ship » as I could.		3575	Just as Hayao had done earlier, he » decided to leap as far from the ship » as he could.
3576	The sound of the air ripping past my » ears filled the silence.		3576	The sound of the air ripping past his » ears filled the silence.
3577	Ahead, a cloud of steam was visible » against the backdrop of the clear » blue sea, twelve hundred meters		3577	Ahead, a cloud of steam was visible » against the backdrop of the clear » blue sea, 3900 feet below.

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	» below.			
3578	Nearly at the same time as I hurled my elf off, I deployed my parachute.	3578	Right after Clotho hurled himself off, he deployed the parachute.	
3579	A strong jolt hit my shoulders, causing my body to swing wildly left to right, the horizon bobbing in and out of my sight.	3579	A strong jolt hit his shoulders, causing his body to swing wildly left to right, the horizon bobbing in and out of sight.	
3580	I needed to put as much distance between myself and the ship as quickly as possible to avoid getting caught in the explosion.	3580	He needed to put as much distance between himself and the ship as quickly as possible to avoid getting caught in the explosion.	
3581	Once I had stabilized, I looked back to check the state of the "Hiren".	3581	Once he had stabilized, he looked back to check the state of the Hiren.	
3582	The "Hiren" was lodged between the hull and the buoyant body of the "Venomena", biding its time.	3582	The Hiren was lodged between the hull and the buoyant body of the Venomena, biding its time.	
3583	Below, I could see the silhouette of the Florida Islands. Isaiah was unconscious, and I didn't want her to fall into the open sea. Given that we were in officer uniforms, there was a risk of being discovered and captured by enemy vessels.	3583	Below, Clotho could see the silhouette of the Florida Islands. Isaiah was unconscious, and he did not want her to fall into the open sea. Given that they were both in officer uniforms, there was a risk of being discovered and captured by enemy vessels.	
3584	As I descended, I identified the varying sizes of the islands and spotted a small one with a sandy beach. Holding Isaiah in both arms, I twisted my body to adjust the direction of our descent, aiming for the deserted beach.	3584	As he descended, he identified the varying sizes of the islands and spotted a small one with a sandy beach. Holding Isaiah in both arms, he twisted his body to adjust the direction of their descent, aiming for the deserted beach.	
3585	That's when it occurred—	3585	That was when it happened.	
3586	Behind us, the "Hiren" started to expand from the center.	3586	Behind Clotho and Isaiah, the Hiren started to expand from its center.	
3587	Suddenly, a massive fireball, resembling a new sun, appeared in the sky over the strait.	3587	Suddenly, a massive fireball, like a second sun, appeared in the sky over the strait.	
3588	In a split second, I noticed my elongated shadow reflected on the clouds.	3588	For a split second, Clotho noticed his elongated shadow reflected on the clouds.	
3589	A shockwave that crumpled the vast sky within microseconds.	3589	A shockwave tore through the vast sky within microseconds.	
3592	Their parachutes were blown away mid-air due to the shock.	<>	3592	Their parachute was blown away mid-air due to the shock.
3594	Hold on...!	<>	3594	—Hold on tight...!
3596	"Guh!"	<>	3596	He winced upon impact.
3597	Clotho, cradling Isaiah in his arms, rolled over the sandy beach two, three times to absorb the impact of the landing. After a significant bounce on the fourth turn, he landed on his back on the beach, finally coming to a halt.	<>	3597	Cradling Isaiah in his arms, Clotho rolled over the sandy beach two, three times to absorb the impact of the landing. After a significant bounce on the fourth turn, he landed on his back on the beach, finally coming to a halt.
3598	"Guh...ugh..."		3598	He groaned and spluttered.

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3600	Despite such a significant impact, » Isaiah remains immobile, her eyes » tightly shut.	<>	3600	Despite such a significant impact, » Isaiah remained immobile, her eyes » tightly shut.
3601	Clotho, scrambling to his feet, casts » his gaze towards the distant » Venomena, left speechless by the » spectacle.		3601	Clotho, scrambling to his feet, cast » his gaze towards the distant » Venomena, left speechless by the » spectacle.
3602	It wasn't just the Hiren's body that » had exploded; the Venomena was still » ominously hovering in the sky.		3602	It was just the Hiren's body that had » exploded; the Venomena was still » ominously hovering in the sky.
3606	And then—	<>	3606	And then...
3608	The Venomena, leaving its floating body » behind, descended silently into the » 1,200 meters deep sea below, stern » first.	<>	3608	The Venomena, leaving its floating body » behind, descended silently into the » 3900 feet deep sea below, stern » first.
3609	A column of water, akin to a towering » mountain range, erupted, standing » over 1,000 meters tall and 200 meters » wide.		3609	A column of water, akin to a towering » mountain range, erupted, standing » over 1,000 yards tall and 200 yards » wide.
3614	Numerous Gamerian soldiers, who had » managed to escape the "Venomena," » were scattered across the sea. They » were the fortunate ones who had » evaded the water column and whirlpool » precipitated by the sinking ship. » Parachutes and life vests typically » provided buoyancy, allowing them to » float on the sea for several hours. » Soldiers from both sides were » aimlessly adrift in the sea, but even » those who had lost their ships made » no attempt to resume the fight. They » simply bobbed on the waves, feigning » ignorance of each other's presence.	<>	3614	Numerous Gamerian soldiers, who had » managed to escape the Venomena, were » scattered across the sea. They were » the fortunate ones who had evaded the » water column and whirlpool » precipitated by the sinking ship. » Parachutes and life vests typically » provided buoyancy, allowing them to » float on the sea for several hours. » Soldiers from both sides were » aimlessly adrift in the sea, but even » those who had lost their ships made » no attempt to resume the fight. They » simply bobbed on the waves, feigning » ignorance of each other's presence.
3617	"Wake up already, will you...! Where » have you drifted off to...?"	<>	3617	"Wake up already, will you! Where have » you drifted off to...?"
3618	There was no answer to Clotho's harsh » words. Perhaps only her point of view » had drifted off into the sky and could » dn't return. If that was the case, » her life might well be in danger.		3618	There was no answer to Clotho's harsh » words. Perhaps her viewpoint had » drifted off into the sky and was unab » le to return. If that was the case, » her life might well be in danger.
3620	Carrying Isaiah on his shoulder, Clotho » ventured deeper into the primal » forest that blanketed the island...	<>	3620	Carrying Isaiah on his shoulder, Clotho » ventured deeper into the primal » forest that blanketed the island.
3623	The distant echo of gunfire was a » constant reminder of the strait. They » were clueless as to what was » transpiring with the battle. All they » knew was that they had managed to » take down the "Venomena". The rest » was up to the fleets at sea. They » could only hope that the Combined	<>	3623	The distant echo of gunfire was a » constant reminder of the strait. They » were clueless as to what was » transpiring with the battle. All they » knew was that they had managed to » take down the Venomena. The rest was » up to the fleets at sea. They could » only hope that the Combined Fleet had

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	» Fleet had successfully retreated to » Truk Island.			» successfully retreated to Truk » Island.
3627	The sound of cannon fire had quieted » down about an hour ago. If the naval » battle had concluded, the small » vessels of the victorious side should » be heading to the inevitable strait » to rescue their drifting allies. If » Hinoo could launch a counterattack, t » hat would be ideal, but if not, » Isaiah and Clotho would have to » survive on this island for the time » being.	<>	3627	The sound of cannon fire had quieted » down about an hour ago. If the naval » battle had concluded, the small » vessels of the victorious side should » be heading to the Indispensable Strai » t to rescue their drifting allies. It » would have been ideal if Hinoo could » now launch a counterattack, but as th » ey could not, Isaiah and Clotho would » just have to survive on this island » for the time being.
3628	"The 'Yamato' and 'Musashi' were » supposed to be coming as » reinforcements. Without the 'Venomena » ', we could have launched a » counterattack."		3628	"The Yamato and Musashi were supposed » to be coming as reinforcements. If » the Venomena hadn't been there , we » could have launched a counterattack."
3630	The hand he had been holding for severa » 1 hours now felt lifeless.	<>	3630	The hand he had been holding for the » past few hours now felt lifeless.
3631	He checked her pulse at her wrist, » fearing she might be dead. She was » either unconscious or struggling to » return her viewpoint . He couldn't » distinguish between the two just by » observing her.		3631	He checked her pulse at her wrist, » fearing she might be dead. She was » either unconscious or struggling to » return to her body . He couldn't » distinguish between the two just by » observing her.
3633	He snapped at her, but she still didn't » respond.	<>	3633	He snapped at her, but she still did no » t respond.
3634	"What's with your ability? It's » bizarre. Get back here quickly. I » can't bear the thought of living on a » deserted island with you."		3634	"What's with your ability? It's so » bizarre. Get back here quickly. I » can't bear the thought of being » stranded on a deserted island with » you."
3635	I spat it out and gazed at the stars.		3635	He spat out his words and gazed at the » stars.
3637	The Southern Cross, Centaurus, Lupus... » These lights, only visible in the » southern hemisphere, held a boundless » brilliance. Gunfire, artillery, » bombings, countless deaths... The » stars of the southern hemisphere, » reflected in Clotho's eyes that had » seen it all , glowed with an innocent » light, like a divine necklace.	<>	3637	The Southern Cross, Centaurus, Lupus... » These lights, only visible in the » southern hemisphere, held a boundless » brilliance. Gunfire, artillery, » bombings, countless deaths... The » stars of the southern hemisphere, » reflected in Clotho's eyes that had » seen so much , glowed with an innocent » light, like a divine necklace.
3639	I found myself uttering those words.	<>	3639	He found himself speaking earnestly for » once.
3640	I felt it was out of character for me » to say something like that, but since » no one was around to hear it, I » decided it was okay .		3640	He felt it was out of character for him » to say something like that, but as no » one was around to hear it, he decided » it was fine .
3641	A mild wind blew by. The air was warm, » so we wouldn't freeze even without a		3641	A mild wind blew by. The air was warm, » so they would not freeze even without

	» fire.		» a fire.
3643	<p>» My body was completely exhausted, and » as I lay there, a powerful wave of » sleepiness washed over me. But I was » scared that if I fell asleep, our » clasped hands might unintentionally » separate. So, Clotho forced his eyes » open, continuing to throw wakeful » jabs at the girl beside him.</p>	<>	<p>3643 Clotho's body was completely exhausted, » and as he lay there, a powerful wave » of sleepiness washed over him. But he » was scared that if he fell asleep, » their clasped hands might » unintentionally separate. So, Clotho » forced his eyes open, continuing to » throw jabs at the girl beside him.</p>
3644	"Hurry back, flat-chested girl . How » much longer are you planning to keep » me worried?"		3644 "Hurry back, flat-chest. How much » longer are you planning to keep me » worried?"
3645	The energy in my insults is fading. I'm » growing increasingly worried about » Isaiah's well-being.		3645 The energy in his insults was waning . » He was growing increasingly worried » about Isaiah's well-being.
3647	"Body heat, heartbeat, and words guide » me back."	<>	3647 "My guide back to my body will be » warmth, heartbeat, and words."
3648	"True feelings are easier to hear. Fals » e feelings are harder to discern, eve » n when articulated."		3648 "Honest feelings... Are easier for me » to hear. Jokes and falsities are » harder to hear, no matter how loud."
3651	The descending moonlight bathed the two » of them, lying closely entwined, in » hues of blue-purple.	<>	3651 The descending moonlight bathed the two » of them, lying closely entwined, in » hues of blue and purple.
3652	"How is it? Just as you wished, we're » sharing body heat and heartbeat. I » listened to you despite my reluctance » , so hurry back, you Kegon waterfall. » "		3652 "How is it? Just as you wished, we're » sharing body heat and heartbeat. I've » heeded your request even though I'm » reluctant, so hurry back, you plank ."
3654	"You damn plywood. Your figure hasn't » changed at all since childhood."	<>	3654 "You damn plywood board . Your figure » hasn't changed at all since » childhood."
3655	He had sent such an insult to hide his » embarrassment, but for the time » being, Isaiah did not complain. She » just quietly closed her eyes with her » ear against Clotho's chest.		3655 He was insulting her to hide his » embarrassment, but for the time » being, Isaiah did not complain. She » just lay quietly, eyes closed with » her ear against Clotho's chest.
3656	"How long do you plan on sleeping? I'm » busy. Wake up already, Tokachi Plain. » "		3656 "How long do you plan on sleeping? I'm » busy. Wake up already, you shapeless » plateau ."
3658	I was afraid that Isaiah might never » wake up.	<>	3658 He was afraid that Isaiah might never » wake up.
3659	Suddenly, this anxiety brushed against » my mind, sending chills down my » spine.		3659 Suddenly, waves of anxiety brushed » against his mind, sending chills down » his spine.
3662	"I'm seriously getting angry now. » You're just pretending to be asleep, » aren't you? I understand, now wake » up."	<>	3662 "I'm getting really annoyed now. You're » just pretending to be asleep, aren't » you? Come on, wake up."
3663	Despite my harsh words and shaking her » body vigorously, she didn't stir.		3663 Despite his harsh words, and him » shaking her body vigorously, she did » not stir.
3665	I tried poking her forehead hard. But	<>	3665 He tried poking her forehead hard. But

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	» even when her forehead turned red and » swollen, she remained unresponsive.		» even after her forehead had turned » red and swollen, she remained » unresponsive.
3666	Now that I think about it, there was a » time in our childhood when she was » like this for about a week.	3666	—Now that I think about it, when this » happened in our childhood, she was » like this for about a week.
3667	Remembering how Isaiah had regained » consciousness back then, a blush » spread across my face.	3667	Remembering how Isaiah had regained » consciousness back then, a blush » spread across his face.
3668	Yes , Isaiah came back when I held her » hand, crying and apologizing.	3668	He recalled how Isaiah had come back » when he held her hand, crying and » apologizing.
3669	That's right, to bring Isaiah back... I » just needed to express my true » feelings.	3669	—That's right, to bring Isaiah back... » I just needed to express my true » feelings.
3671	I muttered to myself , lost in deep » thought.	<>	3671 He muttered to himself , lost in deep » thought.
3672	I stayed there for about two hours, » contemplating and exploring my » innermost self... It was with » reluctance that I came to acknowledge » my true feelings.	3672	He stayed there for about two hours, » contemplating and exploring his » innermost self... It was with » reluctance that he came to » acknowledge my true feelings.
3673	— You were my only friend, ever since » we were children.	3673	— You were my only friend, ever since » we were children.
3674	— You were the only one who consistentl » y spent time with me.	3674	— You were the only one who ever really » spent time with me.
3675	My parents took pride in the unique » ability I was born with, exploiting » it to elevate the status of the » Kuronomiya family among the seventeen » collateral families. They rarely » showed me affection. As soon as I was » capable of comprehending , they kept » pushing me to court and marry Isaiah.	3675	His parents had taken pride in the » unique ability he was born with, » exploiting it to elevate the status » of the Kurono family among the » seventeen collateral families. » However , they rarely showed him » affection. As soon as he was capable » of doing so , they kept pushing him to » court and marry Isaiah.
3676	So, as a child, I spent time with » Isaiah as my parents instructed. » Isaiah and I were both outcasts, so » we didn't blend in with the other » children. Strangely enough, we » connected well, and despite our » quarrels, we always found ourselves » together, either playing pranks or » escaping the attendants to explore » the city.	3676	And so, as a child, he spent time with » Isaiah as his parents instructed. » Isaiah and Clotho were both outcasts, » and did not blend in with the other » children. Strangely enough, they » connected well, and despite their » quarrels, they always found themselves » together, either playing pranks or » escaping the attendants to explore » the city.
3677	When the Kuronomiya family relinquished » their royal status and I was deserted » by my father in Gameria, I spent my » nights alone in an immigrant village » in Los Angeles. Each night, I found » solace in reminiscing about my times » with Isaiah. Even in the face of » cold, poverty, and racial	3677	When the Kurono family relinquished » their royal status and Clotho was » deserted by his father in Gameria, he » spent his nights alone in an » immigrant village in Los Angeles. » Each night, he found solace in » reminiscing about those times with » Isaiah. Even in the face of cold,

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	» discrimination, remembering Isaiah's » smile somehow provided me the » strength to carry on.		» poverty, and racial discrimination, » remembering Isaiah's smile somehow » provided him with the strength to » carry on.
3678	At the age of sixteen, I walked the » streets of New York with Isaiah, who » was gaining prominence on Fall Street » while studying abroad. It was » delightful. Isaiah was mature, » dignified, charming, and » sophisticated. How I wished for more » time to enjoy this moment, just the » two of us.	3678	At the age of sixteen, he walked the » streets of New York with Isaiah. He » was gaining prominence on Fall Street » while she was studying abroad. It was » delightful. Isaiah was mature, » dignified, charming, and » sophisticated. How Clotho had wished » for more time to enjoy that moment, » just the two of them.
3679	It was Isaiah who prompted me to return » to Hinoo and enlist in the military.	3679	It was Isaiah who prompted him to » return to Hinoo and enlist in the » military.
3680	When Kyle declared his intention to » become president to claim Isaiah as » his own, I was incensed. I retorted » without thinking, "I'll take control » of Hinoo's military and crush you » along with Gameria". As a result, I » went back to Hinoo, joined the » military, and after a series of » events, here I am, waiting for » Isaiah's return on this deserted » island.	3680	When Kyle had declared his intention to » become president to claim Isaiah as » his own, Clotho was incensed. He » retorted without thinking: "I'll take » control of Hinoo's military and crush » you along with Gameria". As a result, » he went back to Hinoo, joined the » military, and after a series of » events, here he was, waiting for » Isaiah's return on this deserted » island.
3682	As I gently rubbed Isaiah's immobile » back, I spoke softly,	<>	3682 As he gently rubbed Isaiah's immobile » back, he spoke softly,
3684	If I hadn't met Isaiah, my life would » have surely taken a different course. » I might have become an investor, a » CEO, or even a simple billionaire, » living a life filled with leisure, » freedom, and luxury. There was no » inherent need for me to become a » soldier, to engage in life-and-death » combat.	<>	3684 If he had never met Isaiah, his life » would have surely taken a different » course. He might have become an » investor, a CEO, or even a » billionaire, living a life filled » with leisure, freedom, and luxury. » There was no inherent need for him to » become a soldier, to engage in » life-and-death combat.
3685	So, why did I choose to become a » soldier?	3685	So, why did he choose to become a » soldier?
3686	I know the answer to that question.	3686	He already knew the answer to that » question.
3687	The only reason I'm stuck with an » idiotic boss and confounding » subordinates, barely getting any » sleep, and fighting life-and-death » battles - is because I believe that » if I didn't, Isaiah would be unhappy.	3687	The only reason he was stuck with an » idiotic boss and confounding » subordinates, barely getting any » sleep, and fighting life-and-death » battles... It was because he believed » that if he did not, Isaiah would » suffer.
3688	Now, I understood why I was so » infuriated when Kyle declared he » would "make Isaiah his own."	3688	Now, he understood why he was so » infuriated when Kyle declared that he » would make Isaiah his own.
3689	I simply couldn't forgive this man who	3689	He simply could not forgive this man

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	» sought to bring misery to Isaiah. 3690 Isaiah deserves happiness.		3690 » who sought to bring misery to Isaiah. Isaiah deserved happiness.
3691	I want to create a world where Isaiah c » an always live with a joyful smile, » not just now, but forever, even after » the war is over. For that, I'll » continue to fight. I'll keep winning » until this war ends, and I'll never » let anyone else claim Isaiah.		3691 He wanted to create a world where » Isaiah could always live with a » joyful smile, not just now, but » forever, even after the war was over. » For that, he would continue to fight. » He would keep winning until this war » ended, and never let anyone else » claim Isaiah.
3692	Recognizing what I had been » continuously denying about myself, I » affirmed inwardly.	3692	Recognizing what he had been » continuously denying about himself, » he affirmed inwardly,
3695	"As long as you stay pompous and arroga » nt, that's all that matters."	<>	3695 "As long as you're content, that's all » that matters to me."
3696	Even he knew this was a sentiment he » would never usually express. The » relief of the battle finally being » over, the dreamy starry sky, the » silence, and Isaiah's absence all » combined to transform his feelings » into words that he hadn't even » realized.		3696 Even he knew this was a sentiment he » would never usually express. The » relief of the battle finally being » over, the dreamy starry sky, the » silence, and Isaiah's absence all » combined to transform his feelings » into words that he had not even » realized.
3697	"I don't need anything else."		3697 "I don't need anything beyond that."
3699	Perhaps Isaiah and I are deceased.	<>	3699 —Maybe we actually died, and this is » the afterlife.
3700	Surrounded by a scene far removed from » the battlefield they'd seen during » the day, one that was eerily similar » to a fairy tale, Clotho couldn't help » but question their reality.		3700 Surrounded by a scene far removed from » the battlefield they had seen during » the day, one that was eerily similar » to a fairy tale, Clotho could not » help but question their reality.
3701	Right, this isn't the real world, it's » a fairy tale. In that case, it wouldn » t be unusual to say things I » normally wouldn't.		3701 He imagined this was not the real » world, but a fairy tale. In that » case, it would not be unusual to say » things he normally would never say.
3702	"I'm battling so you can lead a normal » life."		3702 "I'm fighting so you can lead a normal » life."
3704	Before he knew it, Clotho had drifted » off to sleep.	<>	3704 Before he knew it, he had drifted off » to sleep.
3706	Red, blue, yellow - thousands of stars » of all colors rained down on the two » of them, nestled together like little » balls on the sandy beach.	<>	3706 Red, blue, yellow; thousands of stars » of all colors rained down on the two » of them, nestled together on the » sandy beach.
3707	Ensuring that Clotho's sleep was deep » enough, Isaiah slowly opened her » eyes.		3707 Making sure that Clotho's sleep was » deep enough, Isaiah slowly opened her » eyes.
3711	"Clotho."	<>	3711 —Clotho.
3712	Of course, the only response she receiv » ed was the sound of his steady » breathing in sleep.		3712 Of course, all she heard from him was » the sound of his steady breathing as » he slept.
3719	She caught brief glimpses of the Hiren » self-destructing, molten steel	<>	3719 She caught brief glimpses of the Hiren » self-destructing, molten steel

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	» flowing into the Venomena. From a » distance of about ten thousand meters » , she watched as the Venomena, its » tethering lines severed, crashed into » the sea, sending up a massive column » of water.		» flowing into the Venomena. From a » distance of about ten thousand yards , » she watched as the Venomena, its » tethering lines severed, crashed into » the sea, sending up a massive column » of water.
3721	As night descended, she was taken by » surprise by Clotho's voice whispering » in her ear.	<>	3721 As night descended, she had been taken » by surprise by Clotho's voice » whispering in her ear.
3722	"As long as you're content, that's all » that really matters."	3722	"As long as you're content, that's all » that really matters to me ."
3723	" You don't need anything beyond that."	3723	" I don't need anything beyond that."
3726	Despite the option to spring up hurling » expletives, Isaiah chose instead to » feign unconsciousness.	<>	3726 Despite the option to spring up hurling » expletives, Isaiah had chosen instead » to feign unconsciousness.
3727	"I'm fighting for you to have a worry-f » ree life."	3727	"I'm fighting so you can lead a normal » life."
3733	Her forehead still resting against » Clotho's chest, Isaiah dared to ask. » The only reply was the sound of his » steady, sleeping breath. She hadn't » anticipated any answer to begin with.	<>	3733 Her forehead still resting against » Clotho's chest, Isaiah dared to ask. » The only reply was the sound of his » steady, sleeping breath. She had not » anticipated any answer to begin with.
3737	So this is what happiness feels like. » It's quite wonderful. Just being here » like this, I truly feel I don't need » anything else.	<>	3737 So this was what happiness felt like. » It was quite wonderful. Just being » together like this, she truly felt » that she did not need anything else.
3739	She said softly, uttering just one » phrase.	<>	3739 She spoke softly, uttering short phrase » s.
3741	As she looked at Clotho's sleeping » face, she spoke words that he would » never hear.	<>	3741 As she looked at Clotho's sleeping » face, she spoke those words that he » would never hear.
3742	I am precious to Clotho.	3742	She was precious to Clotho.
3743	Just knowing that fills me with immense » happiness. If we could stay this way » forever, sleeping on this sandy » beach, perhaps this bliss could » continue indefinitely. That would » undoubtedly be wonderful.	3743	Just knowing that filled her with » immense happiness. If they could stay » this way forever, sleeping on this » sandy beach, perhaps this bliss could » continue indefinitely. That would » undoubtedly be wonderful.
3744	But,	3744	But...
3745	Now is not the time to indulge in » personal feelings.	3745	Now was not the time to indulge in » personal feelings.
3746	My duty is to fight until my last » breath, not only for myself but also » for the sailors of the Second Air » Fleet who were used as decoys and » lost their lives in today's decisive » battle. I've already caused hundreds, » perhaps thousands of sailors from » both sides to be killed or wounded » under my command. I won't escape from » that responsibility. Until I breathe » my last, my duty as a princess is to	3746	Isaiah's duty was to fight until my » last breath, not only for herself but » also for the sailors of the Second » Air Fleet who were used as decoys and » lost their lives in today's decisive » battle. She had already caused » hundreds, perhaps thousands of » sailors from both sides to be killed » or wounded under my command. She woul » d never escape from that » responsibility. Until she breathed

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	» fight for Hinoo.		» her last, her duty as a princess was » to fight for Hinoo.
3747	But at the least,	3747	But at the very least,
3749	I want you to know that.	<>	3749 She wanted him to know that.
3751	My role is to valiantly die on the » front lines, to be revered as a war » deity, and to become a symbol of » morale. From the start, my position » has involved an assumption of death. » But you, Clotho, you don't have to go » along with that.	<>	3751 Her role was to valiantly die on the » front lines, to be revered as a war » deity, and to become a symbol of » morale. From the start, her position » had involved an assumption of death. » But she knew it was not the same for » Clotho, he did not have to follow her » to the grave.
3753	Even if Hinoo falls after this war, » even if we are defeated, we will rise » powerfully from the ashes and walk on » our own feet. For that, we absolutely » need people like Clotho. For the » future of this country, it would be a » problem if Clotho doesn't survive.	<>	3753 Even if Hinoo fell after this war, even » if they were defeated, they would » rise powerfully from the ashes and » walk on their own feet. For that, » they absolutely needed people like » Clotho. For the future of their » country, it would be a problem if » Clotho did not survive.
3755	I wonder what kind of face Clotho will » make when morning comes. He'll » probably be flustered, making » excuses, and our pointless bickering » will begin again.	<>	3755 She wondered what kind of face Clotho » will make when morning came. He would » probably be flustered, making » excuses, and the pair's pointless » bickering would begin again.
3756	That's okay. Let's pretend tonight's » conversation didn't happen.		3756 That was okay. Isaiah decided to » pretend tonight's conversation never » happened.
3757	We can't possibly have a happy ending. » But at least for now, I want to sleep » in his arms. This opportunity may » never come around again, so just for » tonight.		3757 They could not possibly have a happy » ending. But at least for now, she » wanted to sleep in his arms. This » opportunity might never come around » again, so just for one night, she » took it.
3758	Isaiah closed her eyes. The warmth » inside her body lingered, and a » clear, fresh feeling permeated every » cell. This must be what happiness fee » ls like, she realized profoundly.		3758 Isaiah closed her eyes. The warmth » inside her body lingered, and a » clear, fresh feeling permeated every » cell. She realized that she enjoyed » the sensation of happiness.
3759	Ultimately--		3759 Ultimately...
3760	The naval battle continued until the » afternoon of August 9th. The Gameraia » Grand Duchy Fleet relentlessly » pursued the fleeing Hinoo Combined » Fleet. However, the tide shifted when » the "Yamato" and "Musashi" entered » the fray. Despite enduring a » considerable number of hits due to » lack of training, the impact of their » 46 cm main guns was immense when they » hit. The Gameraia battleship squadron » flagship "South Dakota", at the » forefront of the assault, received		3760 The naval battle continued until the » afternoon of August 9th. The Gameraia » Grand Duchy Fleet relentlessly » pursued the fleeing Hinoo Combined » Fleet. However, the tide shifted when » the Yamato and Musashi entered the » fray. Despite enduring a considerable » number of hits due to lack of » training, the impact of their 18-inch » main guns was immense when they hit. » The Gameraia battleship squadron » flagship South Dakota, at the » forefront of the assault, received

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	<p>» three direct hits and sank, followed by the "Arizona", which sank after two direct hits. The "Washington" also suffered a direct hit that demolished the bridge. Suddenly without their flagship, the Grand Duchy Fleet descended into chaos.</p> <p>» With the Hinoo torpedo squadron becoming increasingly active at night, the Grand Duchy Fleet abandoned the chase and returned to Ga Island, thus ending the naval battle later known as the "Indispensable Sea-Air Battle".</p>		<p>» three direct hits and sank, followed by the Arizona, which sank after two direct hits. The Washington also suffered a direct hit that demolished the bridge. Suddenly without their flagship, the Grand Duchy Fleet descended into chaos. With the Hinoo torpedo squadron becoming increasingly active at night, the Grand Duchy Fleet abandoned the chase and returned to Garr Island, thus ending the naval battle later known as the "Indispensable Aeronaval Battle".</p>
3762	<p>Isaiah and Clotho awoke on the sandy beach, their arms entwined. They playfully traded teasing barbs in lieu of a traditional morning greeting. They waved at a passing destroyer from the Combined Fleet and were rescued just in the nick of time. The Inevitable Strait was filled with sailors from both sides, adrift. Small ships from both nations were present in the same waters, engaged in a disorganized rescue operation. Yet, there were no discourteous acts that interfered with each other's efforts. Displaying true seamanship, they only picked up their respective sailors and both sides retreated.</p>	<>	<p>Isaiah and Clotho awoke on the sandy beach, their arms entwined. They playfully traded teasing barbs in lieu of a traditional morning greeting. They waved at a passing destroyer from the Combined Fleet and were rescued just in the nick of time. The Indispensable Strait was filled with sailors from both sides, adrift. Small ships from both nations were present in the same waters, engaged in a disorganized rescue operation. Yet, there were no discourteous acts that interfered with each other's efforts. Displaying true seamanship, they only picked up their respective sailors and both sides retreated.</p>
3763	The outcome---		3763 The outcome...
3766	<p>From Hinoo's naval fleet, the battleships "Nagato", "Mutsu", and "Ise" were sunk. "Hiyuga" and "Fuso" sustained heavy damage. "Yamashiro" and "Musashi" were moderately damaged, while "Yamato" was lightly damaged. One heavy cruiser also sank, and two were moderately damaged. Two destroyers sank, one was heavily damaged, and one was moderately damaged.</p>	<>	<p>From Hinoo's naval fleet, the battleships Nagato, Mutsu, and Ise were sunk. Hiyuga and Fuso sustained heavy damage. Yamashiro and Musashi were moderately damaged, while Yamato was lightly damaged. One heavy cruiser also sank, and two were moderately damaged. Two destroyers sank, one was heavily damaged, and one was moderately damaged.</p>
3767	<p>From Gamera's side, the battleships "South Dakota" and "Arizona" sank. "Washington" and two others were heavily damaged, while one was moderately damaged. Two other heavy cruisers and two destroyers also sank, while two destroyers were moderately damaged.</p>		<p>From Gamera's side, the battleships South Dakota and Arizona sank. Washington and two others were heavily damaged, while one was moderately damaged. Two other heavy cruisers and two destroyers also sank, while two destroyers were moderately damaged.</p>

3770	I wanted to show you Central Park	<>	3770	He wanted to show her Central Park
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	» during this time of year.		» during this time of year.
3773	The year was 1939 in the holy calendar, » in New York, the United States of » Gameria—	<>	3773 The year was 1939 and they were walking » in New York, the United States of » Gameria
3775	When asked, Yuri responded with a proud » smile.	<>	3775 When asked, Yuri responded with a coy » smile.
3776	"Do you think we wouldn't? The four » seasons are not exclusive to Gamerian » s."		3776 "Why do you think we wouldn't? The four » seasons are not exclusive to Gameria. » "
3786	"But if victories in the Grand Duke Sea » remain elusive, won't President » Wimbert's approval ratings plummet? » Could Kyle potentially clinch the » Democratic Party's representative » seat in the upcoming elections?"	<>	3786 "But if victories in the Grand Duchy » Sea remain elusive, won't President » Wimbert's approval ratings plummet? » Could Kyle potentially clinch the » Democratic Party's representative » seat in the upcoming elections?"
3788	"...Indeed. I can't dismiss that » possibility. Ironically, the fiercer » the Hinoo army battles on the Grand » Duke Sea front, the more the » situation seems to benefit Kyle..."	<>	3788 "...Indeed. I can't dismiss that » possibility. Ironically, the fiercer » the Hinoo army battles on the Grand » Duchy Sea front, the more the » situation seems to benefit Kyle..."
3789	Having once been a member of Kronos and » having supported Kyle, only to be » betrayed and stripped of most of his » wealth, Thompson saw Kyle as a » nemesis he was determined to defeat. » Now, Kyle had ascended to become the » world's richest man, leveraging his » boundless resources to establish a » solid foothold in the political » landscape. The prevailing prediction » was that if things continued in this » vein, the Democratic Party's » representative nominee in half a » year's time wouldn't be Wimbert, but » Kyle.		3789 Having once been a member of Kronos and » having supported Kyle, only to be » betrayed and stripped of most of his » wealth, Thompson saw Kyle as a » nemesis he was determined to defeat. » Now, Kyle had ascended to become the » world's richest man, leveraging his » boundless resources to establish a » solid foothold in the political » landscape. The prevailing prediction » was that if things continued in this » vein, the Democratic Party's » representative nominee in half a » year's time would not be Wimbert, but » Kyle.
3791	As he spoke, passion seemed to fog up » Thompson's glasses. Yuri had come to » understand over the past two months » of their association that this thin, » poor young investor was a gentleman, » honest, and overly serious. She didn't » t dislike his character, and above » all...	<>	3791 As he spoke, passion seemed to fog up » Thompson's glasses. Yuri had come to » understand over the past two months » of their association that this thin, » poor young investor was a gentleman, » very honest, and overly serious. She » did not dislike his character, and » above all...
3792	Being in opposition to Kyle is » fantastic.		3792 —Him being in opposition to Kyle is » fantastic.
3793	If I maintain my relationship with » Thompson, I can tap into his network. » A gathering of people who harbor » animosity towards Kyle could » potentially evolve into a resistance » against the forthcoming Gameria » Democratic Party government.		3793 If she maintained her relationship with » Thompson, she could tap into his » network. A gathering of people who » harbored animosity towards Kyle could » potentially evolve into a resistance » against the forthcoming Gameria » Democratic Party government.

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	3794 My role is to amplify the anti-war » sentiment within Gameria and build » momentum for an early end to the war. » If I can connect with the resistance » against the current government in » just half a year since my » infiltration, it's all thanks to » Thompson. Clotho really did choose a » great target.		3794 her role was to amplify the anti-war » sentiment within Gameria and build » momentum for an early end to the war. » If she could connect with the » resistance against the current » government in just half a year since » her infiltration, it would be all » thanks to Thompson. Clotho really did » choose a great target.
3795	I'd also like to get in touch with Kyle » if possible.	3795	She also wanted to get in touch with » Kyle if possible.
3796	After all, he's the final adversary I » must overcome. Acquainting myself » with him could be a stepping stone » towards his defeat.	3796	After all, he was the final adversary » she must overcome. Acquainting herself » with him could be a stepping stone » towards his defeat.
3797	"I wonder what Mr. Kyle is like. If » given the chance, I'd like to meet » him."	3797	"I wonder what Kyle is like. If given » the chance, I'd like to meet him."
3803	Everything's going smoothly, Isaiah, » Clotho. Just wait and see my victory.	<>	3803 —Everything's going smoothly, Isaiah, » Clotho. Just wait and see my victory.
3804	I'll utterly defeat Kyle and deliver the » e best happy ending...	3804	—I'll defeat Kyle and bring you two a » happy ending.
3805	Then you two can tearfully embrace each » other, and I'll be there clapping the » loudest...	3805	—Then you two can tearfully embrace » each other, and I'll be there » clapping the loudest...
3806	This inner monologue, which if heard » would certainly infuriate them with » accusations of 'so this is your true » intention', flowed within Yuri's » heart as she gave a sweet, charming » smile.	3806	This inner monologue, which if heard by » Clotho and Isaiah would certainly » infuriate them with accusations about » her nosiness, flowed within Yuri's » heart as she gave a sweet, charming » smile.
3811	The breathtaking sight, rivalling the » mountainous regions of Gameria, » stretched out to the horizon. Mount » Aso, once an active volcano, had been » dormant for hundreds of years. With a » vast plain known as the 'Grass » Thousandleague' sitting at » approximately 1,200 meters above sea » level, it served as one of the » country's largest airship bases.	<>	3811 The breathtaking sight, rivalling the » mountainous regions of Gameria, » stretched out to the horizon. Mount » Aso, once an active volcano, had been » dormant for hundreds of years. With a » vast plain known as the 'Grass » Thousandleague' sitting at » approximately 3900 feet above sea » level, it served as one of the » country's largest airship bases.
3812	The vehicle soon reached the bridge » near the midpoint of Mount Aso, at an » altitude of roughly 1,200 meters.	3812	The vehicle soon reached the bridge » near the midpoint of Mount Aso, at an » altitude of roughly 3900 feet.
3814	"Lord Kuronomiya! It's been a while, » we've been eagerly awaiting your » arrival!"	<>	3814 "Lord Kurono! It's been a while, we've » been eagerly awaiting your arrival!"
3815	With his eyes sparkling in admiration, » Heisuke greeted him. He had once » torpedoed enemy battleships alongside » Clotho aboard the Ibuki. This act had » finally allowed him to reunite with » his twin sister from whom he had been	3815	With his eyes sparkling in admiration, » Heisuke greeted him. He had once » torpedoed enemy battleships alongside » Clotho aboard the Ibuki. This act had » finally allowed him to reunite with » his twin sisters from whom he had

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	» separated. 3816 "Both of them seem to be well and have » found a place to call home, so I have » no worries about their future! I will » continue to work hard under Lord Kuro » nomiya's command!"		3816 » been separated. "Both of them seem to be well and have » found a place to call home, so I have » no worries about their future! I will » continue to work hard under your » command!"
3821	"I've been assigned to serve again as a » staff officer under your command! » Lord Kuronomiya, I look forward to » your guidance in the future!"	<>	3821 "I've been assigned to serve again as a » staff officer under your command! » Lord Kurono, I look forward to your » guidance in the future!"
3822	Clotho gave him a brief, displeased » glance, and said,		3822 Clotho also gave him a brief, » displeased glance, and said,
3827	Hayao pointed towards the other side of » Mount Aso's ridgeline. From their » position, it wasn't visible yet . The » sailors, who had just dismounted from » the truck's cargo bed, stretched » their bodies, fully inhaling the » atmosphere of Mount Aso.	<>	3827 Hayao pointed towards the other side of » Mount Aso's ridgeline. From their » position, it was not yet visible. The » sailors, who had just dismounted from » the truck's cargo bed, stretched » their bodies, fully inhaling the » atmosphere of Mount Aso.
3828	They were the new ship's petty » officers. The majority of them had » been together since the 'Ibuki' era, » having participated in the Manila » Offshore Sea and Air Battle, the » Marie Invasion Operation, and the » Indispensable Sea and Air Battle. » These were seasoned warriors. Over » the past three months, they had been » responsible for training new recruits » at marine corps across the country, » but they had been summoned to board » the warship being completed that day.		3828 They were the new ship's petty » officers. The majority of them had » been together since the Ibuki era, » having participated in the Manila » Offshore Sea and Air Battle, the » Marie Invasion Operation, and the » Indispensable Sea and Air Battle. » These were seasoned warriors. Over » the past three months, they had been » responsible for training new recruits » at marine corps across the country, » but they had been summoned to board » the warship being completed that day.
3830	"Mr. Kuronomiya. This man, it seems, » was drifting while holding Princess » Rio."	<>	3830 "Mr. Kurono. This man, it seems, was » drifting through the sea while » holding Princess Rio."
3835	Clotho agreed that it was the only way » to hold Rio, who had passed out, whil » e drifting.	<>	3835 Clotho agreed with Hayao that this was » the only way to hold Rio, who had » passed out, while they were parachuti » ng.
3837	"What is ?"	<>	3837 "What do you mean ?"
3838	"Isn't it obviously sensual, no matter » how you look at it ?"		3838 "It's obviously sensual, are you blind ? » "
3839	Furious, Onitsuka began to shake Hayao » up and down, who he was holding from » behind.		3839 Furious, Onitsuka began to shake Hayao » up and down from behind.
3840	"All night long!? Holding Princess » Kazenomiya in this position all night » long!! You must have, in this » manner... in that posture, like » this... ohh! "		3840 "All night long! He was holding » Princess Kazenomiya in this position » all night long! You must have... In » this manner... In that posture, like » this... Ohh! "
3841	Onitsuka, looking terrifying , began to » squeeze Hayao's thin waist, which he		3841 Onitsuka began to squeeze Hayao's thin » waist, which he had hoisted into the

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	» had hoisted into the air. Hayao's » face quickly turned purple, and he » struggled, kicking his legs.		» air. Hayao's face quickly turned » purple, and he struggled, kicking his » legs.
3843	"Ugh!"	<>	3843 "Aaaaah!"
3846	The aftermath of the battle decimated » the second aerial torpedo fleet. » Three of our ships were sunk, and the » remaining three were seriously » damaged. The crew of the "Hiren", » including the officers, who lost » their ship, all returned to our » homeland, Hinoo. They were reassigned » to land duty until a new aircraft was » ready.	<>	3846 The aftermath of the battle decimated » the second aerial torpedo fleet. » Three of our ships were sunk, and the » remaining three were seriously » damaged. The crew of the Hiren, » including the officers, who lost » their ship, all returned to their » homeland, Hinoo. They were reassigned » to land duty until a new aircraft was » ready.
3847	With the approval of the Chief of the » General Staff, Genzaburo Kazenomiya, » I proposed the use of decoy ships to » the Naval Air Force Weaponry » Technical Factory, persuading the » executives. Since then, I've » practically been living at the tech » factory, meddling with the » development of new weapons. At first, » my interference was not well » received, but gradually my scientific » insights gained recognition. Some » weapons even reached the drafting » proposal documents stage. It's » uncertain whether they'll pass the » naval ministry's review, but these » past three months have been » meaningful nonetheless.	<>	3847 With the approval of the Chief of the » General Staff, Genzaburo Kazenomiya, » Clotho had proposed the use of decoy » ships to the Naval Air Force Weaponry » Technical Factory, persuading the » executives. Since then, he had » practically been living at the tech » factory, meddling with the » development of new weapons. At first, » his interference was not well » received, but gradually his » scientific insights gained » recognition. Some weapons even » reached the drafting proposal » documents stage. It was uncertain » whether they would pass the naval » ministry's review, but these past » three months had been meaningful » nonetheless.
3848	I haven't seen Isaiah since we got back » to Hinoo.	<>	3848 He had not seen Isaiah since they got » back to Hinoo.
3849	I had been banking on us bumping into » each other, so I hadn't reached out » to her. However, a week ago, I got a » personnel notice from the Naval » Ministry. I was assigned as the » Operations Officer for Isaiah's new » air fleet. That's why I'm now here, » halfway up Mount Aso.	<>	3849 He had been banking on them bumping » into each other, so he had not » reached out to her. However, a week » ago, he got a personnel notice from » the Naval Ministry. He was assigned » as the Operations Officer for » Isaiah's new air fleet. That had led » him here, halfway up Mount Aso.
3850	What expression should I wear when I » see her?	<>	3850 —What type of expression should I wear » when I see her?
3852	I try to tell myself it doesn't matter. » Yet a voice deep inside keeps » whispering that it will be awkward. » It's frustrating, but I can't seem to » quiet that voice.	<>	3852 He tried to convince himself it did not » matter. Yet a voice deep inside kept » whispering that it was going to be » awkward. It frustrated him that he co » uld not seem to quiet that voice.
3853	Shortly after---	<>	3853 Shortly after...
3856	"Your Highness---!!" "Princess---!!"	<>	3856 "Your Highness---!!" "Princess---!!"

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3861	"I will protect both their Highnesses."	<>	3861	"I will protect both their Highnesses » from you. "
3865	Hearing from the two of them after » three months, some jumped in place, » others clutched their chests and » rolled around, and some fell to their » knees, crying.	<>	3865	Finally see ing the two of them after » three months, some jumped in place, » others clutched their chests and » rolled around, and some fell to their » knees, crying.
3876	She nonchalantly beckons Isaiah .	<>	3876	She nonchalantly beckoned Isaiah .
3877	Isaiah strides up to Clotho, puts on a » spirited expression, and greets him » cheerfully.	<>	3877	Isaiah strode up to Clotho, puts on a » spirited expression, and greeted him » cheerfully.
3878	"Hey! How are you, Clotho? As we start » our new life, why such a gloomy face? » Show some spirit, let the joy of » living shine on your face!"	<>	3878	"Hey! How are you, Clotho? We're starti » ng our new life, so why such a gloomy » face? Show some spirit, let the joy » of living shine on your face!"
3879	Clotho feels a twinge of defeat. » Isaiah's demeanor hasn't changed at » all.	<>	3879	Clotho felt a twinge of defeat. » Isaiah's demeanor had not changed at » all.
3880	Was I the only one bothered by what » happened that night? That makes me se » em foolish. Actually , I don't care » about you at all .	<>	3880	Was he the only one bothered by what » happened that night? That made him fe » el foolish. He decided he would stop » caring about it too .
3881	"You're noisy, silly girl . I always » look like this. You, on the other » hand, were all over the news with » that goofy face, looking utterly » ridiculous."	<>	3881	"You're so loud . I always look like » this. You, on the other hand, were » all over the news with that goofy » face, looking utterly ridiculous."
3883	Isaiah smiles triumphantly and looks » straight into Clotho's face. The » smile that he sees for the first time » in three months is still so noble, so » dignified, and so irresistibly » charming.	<>	3883	Isaiah smiled triumphantly and looked » straight into Clotho's face. The » smile that he saw for the first time » in three months was still so noble, » so dignified, and so irresistibly » charming.
3884	But without showing any such feelings, » Clotho continues to make sarcastic » remarks.	<>	3884	But without showing any such feelings, » Clotho continued to make sarcastic » remarks.
3887	"You're not very straightforward , are » you?"	<>	3887	"You're not very upfront about things , » are you?"
3889	"What are you talking about? I'm always » straightforward , you fool. For your » information, I didn't go to the » cinema just to see your stupid face. » There was other important news , and I » just happened to watch yours because » it was there. Don't misunderstand."	<>	3889	"What are you talking about? I'm always » upfront , you fool. For your » information, I didn't go to the » cinema just to see your stupid face. » There was other important things to » watch , and I just happened to watch » yours because it was there. Don't » misunderstand."
3892	"It's true! I wouldn't go out of my way » to see you! What's so funny?! Quit » grinning, get serious!"	<>	3892	"It's true! I wouldn't go out of my way » to see you! What's so funny?! Quit » grinning, get serious!"
3901	Its size was no surprise. The aircraft » that hoisted this airborne ship was » the same one that had carried the	<>	3901	Its size was no surprise. The aircraft » that hoisted this airborne ship was » the same one that had carried the

File: (continued)

	» enemy's flying battleship, the "Gorgo » ros," during the Manila Sea and Air » Battle. With Hinoo's largest volume » currently capable of lifting a » 50,000-ton hull, it was a sight that » demanded awe.		» enemy's flying battleship, the » Gorgoroth, during the Manila Sea and » Air Battle. With Hinoo's largest » volume currently capable of lifting a » 50,000-ton hull, it was a sight that » demanded awe.	
3902	What emerged was the largest flying » battleship in the history of the » Hinoo Combined Fleet, packed to the » brim with weaponry that the floating » body could bear—	3902	What emerged was the largest flying » battleship in the history of the » Hinoo Combined Fleet, packed to the » brim with all the weaponry that the » floating body could bear.	
3903	"Nice to meet you, 'Murasame.'"	3903	"Nice to meet you, Murasame."	
3904	As Rio said her greeting, the "Murasame » " showcased its enormous hull to the » sky before us.	3904	As Rio said her greeting, the Murasame » showcased its enormous hull to the » sky before them.	
3907	The soldiers cast somewhat overwhelmed » impressions towards the giant » battleship that was hovering at a » close distance of about 500 meters.	<>	3907	The soldiers cast somewhat overwhelmed » impressions towards the giant » battleship that was hovering at a » close distance of about 500 yards » away.
3910	The next warship that Clotho was about » to board, after the "Ibuki" and "Hire » n", was another product of the » explosive imagination of the genius » shipbuilding doctor, Dr. Yamaga.	<>	3910	The next warship that Clotho was about » to board, after the Ibuki and Hiren, » was another product of the explosive » imagination of the genius » shipbuilding doctor, Dr. Yamaga.
			3911	Isaiah, who had been inspecting the » Murasame's equipment nearby, also » interjected.
3912	Isaiah, who had been inspecting the "Mu » rasame's" equipment nearby, also inte » rjected.	<>	3913	Rio, however, was surveying her new hom » e with contentment.
3914	Rio, standing next to Isaiah, was » surveying her new home with » contentment.	<>	3915	Clotho took another glance at the » Murasame's hull.
3915	Clotho took another glance at the "Mura » same's" hull.	3916	Equipped with a robust ironclad armor » fitting for a flying battleship. It » weighed fifty thousand tons, and » measured two hundred and twenty meter » s in length, and thirty-seven meters » in width. The ship bore twenty-seven » centimeter secondary guns with two » turrets and eight guns on the sides. » It was also armed with eight 40mm » machine guns, eighteen 20mm » anti-aircraft guns, and housed five » hundred one-ton bombs in the bomb » bay.	Equipped with a robust ironclad armor » fitting for a flying battleship. It » weighed fifty thousand tons, and » measured two hundred and twenty yards » in length, and thirty-seven yards in » width. The ship bore twenty-seven » centimeter secondary guns with two » turrets and eight guns on the sides. » It was also armed with eight 1.5-inch » machine guns, eighteen half-inch » anti-aircraft guns, and housed five » hundred one-ton bombs in the bomb » bay.
3916	Everything seemed ordinary, but the "Mu » rasame" was a unique example » worldwide of an aircraft carrier » outfitted with two 41-centimeter	3917	Everything seemed ordinary, but the » Murasame was a unique example » worldwide of an aircraft carrier » outfitted with two 16-inch rotating	

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	<p>» rotating main turrets and eight guns</p> <p>» on the top deck. It's common</p> <p>» knowledge that the blast from such</p> <p>» guns can damage the suspension</p> <p>» cables, making it impractical to</p> <p>» place them on an aircraft carrier's</p> <p>» upper deck. However, the technical</p> <p>» team developed a special</p> <p>» heat-resistant mat to wrap around the</p> <p>» suspension cables and mitigate the</p> <p>» blast problem. This innovative</p> <p>» solution allowed the installation of</p> <p>» main guns on an aircraft carrier's</p> <p>» upper deck.</p>		<p>» main turrets and eight guns on the</p> <p>» top deck. It was common knowledge</p> <p>» that the blast from such guns could</p> <p>» damage the suspension cables, making</p> <p>» it impractical to place them on an</p> <p>» aircraft carrier's upper deck.</p> <p>» However, the technical team had</p> <p>» developed a special heat-resistant</p> <p>» mat to wrap around the suspension</p> <p>» cables and mitigate the blast</p> <p>» problem. This innovative solution</p> <p>» allowed the installation of main guns</p> <p>» on an aircraft carrier's upper deck.</p>
3918	<p>Besides this unusual feature, the "Mura</p> <p>» same" astonishingly housed ten</p> <p>» quadruple-barreled anti-aircraft</p> <p>» rocket launchers, five on each side</p> <p>» of the ship.</p>	3918	<p>Besides this unusual feature, the</p> <p>» Murasame astonishingly housed ten</p> <p>» quadruple-barreled anti-aircraft</p> <p>» rocket launchers, five on each side</p> <p>» of the ship.</p>
3919	<p>This meant that the "Murasame" was a</p> <p>» flying battleship with unparalleled</p> <p>» capabilities: able to fire artillery</p> <p>» from its 41 cm rotating main cannons,</p> <p>» launch long-range torpedo attacks</p> <p>» using aerial torpedoes, and even</p> <p>» carry out bombing operations when its</p> <p>» bomb bay doors were open.</p>	3919	<p>This meant that the Murasame was a</p> <p>» flying battleship with unparalleled</p> <p>» capabilities: able to fire artillery</p> <p>» from its 16-inch rotating main</p> <p>» cannons, launch long-range torpedo</p> <p>» attacks using aerial torpedoes, and</p> <p>» even carry out bombing operations</p> <p>» when its bomb bay doors were open.</p>
3920	<p>A disbelieving comment slipped from</p> <p>» Clotho's mouth.</p>	3920	<p>A comment slipped from Clotho's mouth</p> <p>» in disbelief,</p>
3927	<p>As they exchanged these words, they</p> <p>» watched the imposing figure of the "M</p> <p>» urasame", being towed to the</p> <p>» Kusasenri base, which was about two k</p> <p>» ilometers away from the dock.</p>	<>	<p>3927 As they exchanged these words, they</p> <p>» watched the imposing figure of the</p> <p>» Murasame, being towed to the</p> <p>» Kusasenri base, which was about two m</p> <p>» iles away from the dock.</p>
3928	Furthermore...	3928	Furthermore,
3929	"Look over there too, a new flying ship	3929	"Look over there too, more new airships
3931	<p>Indeed, as he had pointed out, two</p> <p>» airships were cruising in the</p> <p>» distance, approximately three</p> <p>» thousand meters away, arranged in a</p> <p>» vertical line. These were the newly</p> <p>» completed heavy cruisers, the 'Dodome</p> <p>» ki' and the 'Suiko'. Even further</p> <p>» away, at about three thousand five</p> <p>» hundred meters, there were</p> <p>» silhouettes of what looked like five</p> <p>» flying destroyer ships.</p>	<>	<p>3931 Indeed, as he had pointed out, two</p> <p>» airships were cruising in the</p> <p>» distance, approximately three</p> <p>» thousand yards away, arranged in a</p> <p>» vertical line. These were the newly</p> <p>» completed heavy cruisers, the</p> <p>» Dodomeki and the Suiko. Even further</p> <p>» away, at about three thousand five</p> <p>» hundred yards, there were silhouettes</p> <p>» of what looked like five flying</p> <p>» destroyer ships.</p>
3935	<p>"Indeed. But Gamera is also suffering</p> <p>» heavy sailor losses. We can't afford</p> <p>» to let our guard down. Starting</p> <p>» tomorrow, it's back to the daily</p> <p>» routine of training."</p>	<>	<p>3935 "Indeed. But Gamera is also suffering</p> <p>» heavy sailor losses. Still, we can't</p> <p>» afford to let our guard down.</p> <p>» Starting tomorrow, it's back to the</p> <p>» daily routine of training."</p>

3937	The flying warships, with their » silver-colored hulls bathed in a » golden glow, flew serenely at an » altitude of 1,200 meters, casting » long shadows on the ground.	<>	3937	The flying warships, with their » silver-colored hulls bathed in a » golden glow, flew serenely at an » altitude of 3900 feet, casting long » shadows on the ground.
3940	What we, the survivors, can do is to » never forget the days we've lived. We » remember and are grateful. After » shedding tears, expressing our » thanks, and promising never to » forget, let's cheer each other on as » we sprint into our new days. Deep » within our hearts, we'll hold onto » those who are no longer with us.	<>	3940	What she, and the other survivors, could » do was to never forget the days » they had lived. They remembered » gratefully. After shedding tears, » expressing thanks, and promising » never to forget, they would cheer » each other on as they sprinted into » new days. Deep within their hearts, » they would hold onto those who were » no longer with them. —You'll be in my prayers, everyone.
3941	"Keep us in your prayers, everyone."		3941	
3942	"I promise, I'll reunite with all of » you one day."		3942	—I promise, I'll reunite with all of » you one day.
3943	Isaiah gazed at the hull of the "Murasa » me," which was now anchored in the » sky above the Kusasenri Base.		3943	Isaiah gazed at the hull of the » Murasame, which was now anchored in » the sky above the Kusasenri Base.
3947	"I cherish these people, but » uncertainty clouds when we will have » to say goodbye."	<>	3947	She cherished these people, but » uncertainty clouded when she would » have to say goodbye to them.
3948	"But that's exactly why I want to » embrace this moment we have together, » to fill it with laughter."		3948	But that was exactly why she wanted to » embrace these moments they had » together, to fill them with laughter.
3949	"Even if it seems impossible, we will » encourage each other and live our lives » to the fullest aboard this flying » ship, in the place where we're » destined to be. We'll soar through » the skies, taking down our » not-so-hated enemies, until the day we » might fall. Believing that beyond » this, there is a future of perpetual » peace where children will never have » to experience this again. A wonderful » future where everyone living in this » world, transcending language, race, » and borders, can hold hands and » exchange smiles."		3949	Even if it seemed impossible, they would » encourage each other to live life » to the fullest aboard this flying » ship, in the place where they were » all destined to be. They would soar » through the skies, taking down their » not-so-hated enemies, until the day » they might fall. They went on believing » that beyond this, there was a » future of perpetual peace where » children would never have to » experience this again. A wonderful » future where everyone living in this » world, transcending language, race, » and borders, could hold hands and » exchange smiles.
3951	Isaiah declared with a smile.	<>	3951	Isaiah declared this with a smile.
3952	» />(はつ)瀬(らつ)とした応答が阿(あ)蘇(そ)の草 » 原に高く響き、消えていった。スキの穂先から散つ » た黄金の粒子が、全員の背中へ舞い散ってきらきら » 光った。		3952	The immediate response reverberated » across the Aso grasslands before slowly » fading. Golden particles scattered » from the tips of the grass, sparkling » as they drifted down onto everyone.
3953	The airship carrying Isaiah and the » others returned to the 'Murasame', » and the crew boarded the ramp amid		3953	The airship carrying Isaiah and the » others returned to the Murasame, and » the crew boarded the ramp amid

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	» cheerful chatter. Eventually, with a high-pitched steam » whistle, the 'Murasame', now filled » with sailors, began to move at a slow » pace.		3954	» cheerful chatter. Eventually, with a high-pitched steam » whistle, the Murasame, now filled » with sailors, began to move at a slow » pace.
3979	 	<>	3979	nan
3980			3980	nan
3981			3981	nan
3982			3982	nan
3983			3983	nan
3984			3984	nan
3985			3985	nan
3986			3986	nan
3987			3987	nan
3988			3988	nan
3989			3989	nan