

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 101 – Hero Conference (Start)

“Now then, it’s about time to head to the meeting.” (Naofumi)

After eating at the inn, I proceed to the conference hall.

I go there following Shadow’s instructions.

“Well, I’m off.” (Naofumi)

“Good luck.” (Raphtalia)

“Luck~!” (Firo)

After a quick word, Raphtalia and Firo take their leaves.

I went outside of the large inn and go up a long spiral staircase.

The view of the island through the windows on the staircase is breathtaking.

…?

What is that? There seems to be a bridge of red light descending on the adjacent island.

It isn’t my imagination… right?

Was that there yesterday?

“It’s here-gojaru” (Shadow)

We had climbed a tower-like structure and reached the top floor of it.

I enter the room. In the center is a table with documents distributed in intervals around the edge.

Ren and Itsuki are already seated.

“Thank you for earlier” (Itsuki)

“Do you enjoy spying on others?” (Naofumi)

“You jest, do you think that we are actually having fun?” (Itsuki)

He seems to be making a bored face now, but just a few moments ago he seemed to be having the time of his life.

What convenient Justice.

“You were also there, so you are an accomplice.” (Naofumi)

“…fuun. It seems that an unnecessary charge has been placed on me.”
(Ren)

“Then you should have just gotten out quickly.” (Naofumi)

I am accusing him because he stayed in the bath for a pointlessly long amount of time.

These perverts.

“So, where is the ever-so-important head pervert?” (Naofumi)

“Ah! Sorry. I’m late.” (Motoyasu)

As we were talking, Motoyasu enters the room while laughing.

For now, we all sit in the seats prepared. The arrangement of the room gives off the feeling of knights sitting around a round table.

“From here on, the Four Heroes will begin their Information Exchange Meeting. I, Shadow, will serve as Moderator and Guide for this meeting.”
(Shadow)

Shadow gives a short introduction.

“From tomorrow onwards, Cal Mira Island will truly awaken, so we have called the heroes together to share information on greater methods of training to prepare for the next wave-gojaru. Please keep that in mind as you discuss-gojaru.” (Shadow)

“Wait a second!” (Naofumi and Itsuki)

Me and Itsuki chime in at the same time

Wait wait wait... what do you mean by ‘truly awaken’?

What does that mean we have been doing until now?

“What is it, Heroes of the Shield and Bow-jaru?” (Shadow)

“Are you saying the Island hasn’t awakened yet?” (Itsuki)

“It has started-gojaru. But the greatest awakening effects come starting tomorrow-gojaru.” (Shadow)

...?

I still don't understand.

"What are you so confused about? It's obvious isn't it?" (Motoyasu)

"I agree." (Ren)

Ren and Motoyasu act as if this sort of thing is common sense.

"Of course, the awakening comes in stages and the greatest prizes come at the end." (Motoyasu)

"Yes, yes." (Ren)

"How should I have known that! Please explain from the beginning."
(Naofumi)

"The Earl should have already explained it-gojaru" (Shadow)

?

Now that I think about it... he did say something about powerful monsters appearing at the center of the islands once they were awakened... something about how those monsters held the greatest EXP or something...

I thought he meant the monsters we had been dealing with every day.

Was the red glow a sign that the islands were awakening?

"I didn't hear anything about this!" (Itsuki)

Itsuki responds with a shout.

Ah, right. Itsuki's sense of this world comes from computer games.

Did his games not have events that raised gained exp in stages?

He may have ignored tht Count's speech because he assumed he knew everything already.

"Anyways, from tomorrow onwards, stronger boss-like monsters will begin to appear?" (Naofumi)

"Correct, It's the perfect place for raising levels." (Motoyasu)

"I can't wait" (Ren)

"And that's why the Hero Information Exchange is happening today-gojaru."
(Shadow)

Instead of heading forward without any information, I guess sharing info now would be best.

Fumu... I guess there's no choice.

It should be fine

...?

You people... what is that" (Naofumi)

I point to the strap that the other three heroes have attached to their weapons.

“Oh, this? It’s an item famous on this island that speeds up leveling.”
(Motoyasu)

“Yes, if you have this equipped, it increases the EXP gained.”(Itsuki)

“You didn’t know?” (Ren)

…I’ll check it just in case.

Miracle Strap

Quality Very Poor

There are no exp increasing abilities. That man is doing well.

“Does it really have that ability?” (Naofumi)

“You really have never heard of it? It’s quite famous.” (Itsuki)

“You need to improve your information gathering skills.” (Ren)

“Yes, Yes, It really works!” (Motoyasu)

… The one who is the origin of the accessory and the rumor is me, but…

Crap. I feel happy.

These people are being tricked.

“Why are you smiling creepily right now?” (Itsuki)

“It’s nothing.” (Naofumi)

“Since you didn’t have this, you might have fallen behind.” (Ren)

“Do you even have any motivation?” (Motoyasu)

“I’ll buy one later.” (Naofumi)

The ones who received them seem happy and they do technically have the genuine goods.

“Maa… *laugh sound* let’s get back on topic.” (Naofumi)

This is bad. My sides are hurting.

Is it possible that… the trust spawned from the lie created a realistic effect.

There is a chance that the games Ren and Motoyasu played had event items like this.

Well, they’re not losing anything by wearing it.

“Well then, Heroes, please begin talking about what you learned about the other heroes’ comrades-gojaru.” (Shadow)

Comrades… huh…

And all of a sudden, my high spirits subside.

“Naofumi, you should train your party properly.” (Ren)

“Right. To just leave the party, what the hell are you teaching them. Firo-san’s inquisition was excruciating.” (Itsuki)

It's time. They all suddenly turn on me.

Don't stay silent, Motoyasu. Well I guess Motoyasu can at least understand why he made Raphtalia mad. And he won't complain about a girl.

"That is my line. Raphtalia isn't very picky. It seems she couldn't accept or understand the actions of the other heroes." (Naofumi)

"What you say?" (Ren)

"I also understand why she was mad. In Ren's case, it was a lack of direction, and in Itsuki's case it was lies." (Naofumi)

"And I'm saying I didn't tell any lies." (Itsuki)

He's still saying that.

He's been cornered this far and he still doesn't give in.

Well, as long as he's next to Ren and Motoyasu, I guess he can act like he is correct and I am deluded.

"Falcon Strike, was it. It was a big skill that used half your SP and had a cool-down of 15 minutes, right?" (Naofumi)

"Really? I don't remember it being that sort of skill." (Ren)

"u....."(Itsuki)

"You said something like? That's a blatant lie, isn't it?" (Motoyasu)

As I thought.

If he had an amazing skill like that, he would have used it on the pope.

Well if you want to pace yourself in a battle, you wouldn't use your strongest skills.

"She looks up to all the heroes. She got mad because that very hero turned out to be a snob." (Naofumi)

"Aren't you one as well?" (Itsuki)

"Yes, Raphtalia gets mad at me quite often." (Naofumi)

I don't plan on helping these people, but I have talked to Raphtalia and convinced her that Heroes are people too.

I guess that's also an effect of the personnel exchange.

"I have already warned Raphtalia. I believe she acted based on strong emotions. Your Party members left my party as well. Should I point out your party's shortcomings?" (Naofumi)

"T-try it if you can." (Itsuki)

Itsuki seems to have no intention of giving up.

Well, I finally get a chance to tell him off.

"Then, Itsuki. What do you think a party is? There is a hierarchy, and they believe themselves to represent absolute justice. Do you plan to start a religion? Those people did nothing but talk of you." (Naofumi)

“Yeah, I felt that as well. They were polite, but they only talked of you. I was sick of it by the end.” (Motoyasu)

“Yes, they spoke as if you were some sort of Messiah. That is dangerous business. Their hunting etiquette was also terrible.”

Ren and Motoyasu also felt it. They side with me.

So those people acted the same with all the other heroes.

“T-there’s no choice if I want to represent justice. I’m a hero, you know. They all just respect me. There is no Hierarchy.” (Itsuki)

These are harsh accusations.

Ren and Motoyasu also seem to understand this. Itsuki is avoiding the main points

It seems he is afraid of rebuttals.

“They kept on spouting nonsense that sounded like the teachings of the Three hero Church.” (Ren)

“They did not!” (Itsuki)

Is what Itsuki said, but, as the other heroes, including me, said as much so he cannot really refute anything.

“On to Ren. I sensed a large disconnection in your comrades. When they introduced themselves, they asked, ‘So where do you want us to go train’.” (Naofumi)

“That’s right. At first I did not know what they were talking about. Can you really call those comrades?” (Itsuki)

Itsuki, should *You* really be saying that?

“I got the feeling that they were like the younger members of a guild. You choose what hunting ground they go to, but don’t get involved any further… It’s difficult to call those people comrades. You can pair up with whoever you want, but those people could have paired up with any other hero and nothing would have changed. ” (Naofumi)

I don’t know if I should say anymore, but from here on collaboration is important.

We also need to share information regarding our levels. It will be good information when fighting stronger enemies.

“Those people seem like they could operate even if you didn’t exist.”
(Itsuki)

“What are you saying? Isn’t it better if they learn to fight even if I’m not there?” (Ren)

He’s trying to approach this rationally, but I think he shouldn’t deny his own existence.

“Your party seems like a group of adventures from a guild that could break off at any time and form their own guild. If left alone, they might grow without your knowledge” (Naofumi)

Wait, that’s brilliant

That level party. If it grew, we might have an effective army to combat the wave.

It was a random idea, but it might actually be effective.

Now that I think about it, there is no real need for us to do anything. This world's adventurers can work something out.

"Shadow, that was a brilliant idea. Please report it to the queen." (Naofumi)

"Don't go deciding things by yourself!" (Ren)

Ren is quite nervous.

? Shadow whispers something into my ear.

"That will be troublesome-gojaru." (Shadow)

"Why?" (Naofumi)

"Actually, it is only the summoned heroes that get to hunt freely in this world. If the force gets too big, the environment will..." (Shadow) (TL: Monster Hunter)

I see, so it's a problem with the amount of available monsters...

Well, it doesn't happen in games but I guess that here, monster populations can decrease.

"Your comrades, you know. You should get closer to each other. If they get stronger, then they'll become like Itsuki's comrades." (Naofumi)

(TL: He's implying that if he will become more of a legend than a person if he doesn't interact more.)

"And I'm telling you you're wrong." (Itsuki)

"They Won't!" (Ren)

"When you're gone they'll say... Ren-sama is a wonderful person. Would you like to hear some wonderful stories of his exploits?" (Naofumi)

"Gu..." (Ren)

Ren can't say any more, so he stays quiet.

Well, there shouldn't be any more problems with him and my party. I warned Raphtalia, it should be fine.

"What about your places Raphtalia?"(Ren)

"I won't brag about her. Raphtalia gets mad at me for my behavior as well."
(Naofumi)

I want to believe I'm respected, but I don't really know.

"What do you want to tell me about Raphtalia?" (Naofumi)

"She... She left my party." (Itsuki)

"I could say the same." (Naofumi)

"Then this argument won't get anywhere." (Ren)

Understanding that chastising my comrades won't get anywhere, Ren turns to Motoyasu.

"Motoyasu, do you have anything to say about Naofumi's comrades?" (Ren)

"None. Raphtalia is very diligent, and I was also at fault." (Motoyasu)

Now then on to Motoyasu...

I didn't really learn anything new from Raphtalia about Motoyasu.

I can berate his party as well, but it seems Bitch acts differently around the other Heroes, so I don't think I will get consensus.

If I go about this wrong, I might end up taking damage myself.

"Motoyasu's party is... does anyone have anything to say about it?"
(Naofumi)

"They just cheered me on. I was speechless, is that supposed to be a cheering squad?" (Ren)

"That's not a party. While I was out fighting, they had returned to the inn"
(Itsuki)

Ren and Itsuki say these statements with a bitter face.

So they behaved like that with everyone else as well...

"We're heroes aren't we? Shouldn't we be the ones on the front lines?"
(Motoyasu)

“Being the vanguard is fine, but this is completely different. Those people only fought when there was no other option.” (Itsuki)

“To be honest, I think you would be better off without those people. In my case, they said they wanted to watch me fight, and eventually returned to the inn without slaying a single monster.” (Ren)

Even as I stay silent, Ren and Itsuki pile on complaints.

But I am of the same opinion.

It seems those women were at least trying to act supportive in these cases, but I won't say anything.

“Naofumi, what about you?” (Ren)

“If I say anything, a fight will break out.” (Naofumi)

“I-I see.” (Ren)

Bitch and friends were acting differently with the other heroes. There is a possibility people will rise to their defenses.

There are many things I want to say, but I wanted to hear the others first.

I will let this opportunity slide.

“Now then, let's end the discussion of comrades at this-gojaru. Please keep these complaints in your heart as we continue the meeting.” (Shadow.)

“Understood.” (Ren)

"...I'm not satisfied, but I'll leave it here." (Itsuki)

"Okay." (Naofumi)

"Yes, Yes." (Motoyasu)

None of these people are repenting, are they.

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Chapter 102 - Hero Conference (Middle)

Shadow: "Next, please inform each hero-dono of the problems pointed out from each other's comrades degojaru."

Naofumi: "Raphtalia did that at my place. Motoyasu is a skirt chaser, Ren has co-ordination problems and focuses on training his juniors, Itsuki likes to stir up trouble and then solve it himself, he is also a liar."

(TInote: Itsuki was described as a マッチポンプ (Match-Pump) and through googlefu I found it meant it means the person who strikes a match to burn something (in a fun more often than not) and tries to extinguish a fire when it flames up)

What can I say, I put myself in an unnecessary position, the companions of the heroes should have pointed all these out.

Motoyasu: "Now from my place."

Motayasu raises his hand and declares.

Motoyasu: "The opinions from my companions are as follows, Ren is cold, Itsuki is holding back, and Naofumi is out of the question."

That's so simple.....

Motoyasu: "Ren, you being cool is a good thing, but it would be better if you think about getting to know more people and befriending them. Itsuki, you should step it up as hero more. Naofumi.....As for you--"

Naofumi:"That's the opinion of someone firing an attack magic at me from behind you know."

Shadow:"I will act as confirmation of that degojaru. Since former princess Bitch has designated Hero of the Shield-dono as her sworn enemy, her remarks have no meaning degojaru."

Motoyasu:".....Understood."

With a light-hearted feeling, the complaints Motoyasu's companions have ended.

Rem:"Next is me."

Ren raises his hand and says.

Ren:"Motoyasu, my companions opinion on you is, for what reason are you fighting? I heard that you were a serious skirt chaser. Next is Itsuki, you are holding back. Naofumi seems to have no problems."

Itsuki:"Why is there nothing on Naofumi-san!?"

What do you mean by that. You're saying it as if I will cause problems wherever I go.

.....I did cause some though.

Ren:"No, those guys watched Naofumi fight and said:"Hero of the Shield-sama is very reliable." It's not my opinion."

Motoyasu:"Rather. Holding backhuh.....you are cutting way too many corners."

Motoyasu and Ren brought to light the issue of Itsuki cutting corners on a daily basis.

Itsuki:"That's not it! I'm just concerned about not standing out--"

Naofumi:"Concerned about waiting for your companions to be in a pinch? That was one of the reason's Raphtalia got angry."

Motoyasu:"That's terrible. I can agree with Raphtalia-chan about getting angry when you produce drama."

Motoyasu takes advantage of the situation and calls out Itsuki.

You did something similar too.

Itsuki:"That's why I said that wasn't it."

Naofumi:"However, you are still a liar."

Motoyasu:"Yeah.....looks like it."

Itsuki:"Please quit over it already!"

Itsuki interrupts with a half crazed feeling.

But I told him It is the consequences of his own actions.

Motoyasu:"Now then, It's your turn last Itsuki."

Itsuki:"My turn. What does Motoyasu fight for? You even tried to pick up women from my side. Ren-san. What about you? You left and went to fight alone..... Furthermore, I heard that Naofumi-san was selfish and cruel."

Naofumi:"They were a group of people who could only think about justice. Their manners on the hunting grounds were also bad. Shadow, have you already investigated?"

Shadow:"Yes I have degojaru. Hero of the Bow-dono's companions were extremely self-assertive degojaru. They blackmailed other adventurers and monopolized demons, there was also a bunch of other problematic behaviours degojaru."

Ren:"Speaking of which, in internet terminology, you were mobbing demons by attacking first. I'm warning you."

Ren takes advantage of the situation and warns him.

Right, this time it's Ren huh.

Itsuki:"What is that?"

Motoyasu:"It is impolite in net games to intercept a demon that someone else is trying to fight."

Explains Motoyasu.

Naofumi:"You shouldn't be relying on that kind of thing. That was already explained in the beginning during our island tour..... Since it would cause an uproar that we don't need. To be frank, your legitimacy as a hero is damaged."

I supplement with my input.

When pointed out by all the heroes, Itsuki had no choice but to withdraw.

Itsuki:"Gu.....I understand."

Naofumi:"Those hero companions saw Itsuki's conduct, and learned from that."

Itsuki:"Well, I'll keep Naofumi-san's selfish advice in mind.....You're the worst."

Though it's Itsuki's turn he bad mouths me.

Well, I had it coming.

Itsuki:"I-I say, Motoyasu-san. What is up with you!? Did you not pick anyone up!?"

Naofumi:"I thought so too. Don't you already have a woman? Yet you guys are peeping at the ladies bath like it's a manga!"

Though I resent Itsuki, Ren, and Motoyasu..... Didn't you guys think it would be bad and stop while peeping?

Motoyasu:"Oh man. Isn't it a man's duty to chase after girls? I do not regret it."

Naofumi:".....When you say it like that it feels like you're praising yourself."

In a sense he's great.

There is a sense of defeat when he just comes out and seriously declares he wants to make a harem.

Motoyasu:".....This is unproductive. Let's stop it."

While looking at our cold expressions, Motoyasu decides to stop it with a refreshing smile.

Since you understand and say that it's useless.

Shadow:"Now then, the main subject of the information exchange between heroes will start now degojaruyo."

When Shadow decided to move on.....Everyone fell silent.
Perhaps their habits of concealing themselves will be dealt with here.

Itsuki:".....Naofumi-san. Why don't you start speaking first?"

Naofumi:"Why me..... I came to this world without any of your background knowledge you know?"

Itsuki:"Nevertheless, your companions are unnaturally strong for their levels. This could also be related to that abominable shield you possess."

Ren:"That's right, I would also like to hear that story first. From the beginning that child Raphtalia, and that demon named Firo are unnaturally strong."

Motoyasu:"Right.The strengths of Raphtalia-chan and Firo chan are so remarkably dependable."

.....Is this their purpose?

That means, Raphtalia and Firo didn't let these guys know about their growth and the curse series.

If I simply speak about it that should be it.

Naofumi:"If I speak about it, can you guys compensate me with information?"

Itsuki:"What?"

In such a situation with this much recognition and materials, I can negotiate plenty with my opponents.

Do you guys assume that I'll just give up all my information just because you caught on I'm hiding it?

Naofumi:"How about it? You guys called the shield a weak job, and cut me off without teaching me anything. Even if I tell you guys the secret of my strength, there is no guarantee that you guys will tell me. This is necessary.....Do you understand?"

Itsuki:"There was nothing in particular to teach....."

Ren:"Look at the Help section."

Motoyasu:"Well.....I certainly didn't talk in detail."

Each one of them answers awkwardly.

Naofumi:"In any case, didn't you guys say nothing? The self-proclaimed cool one just told me to look at the Help section. Are there efficient hunting grounds in the Help section too?"

Your expressions all look like they want to draw information out of me.

However, with those attitudes you won't be hearing any stories.

It is a fact that during negotiations both parties are equals, and it is also a rule of negotiating to be able dominate to the atmosphere.

Right now, the atmosphere in the room is that if they want to hear information from me, then they must also speak.

Will you guys still push forwards even after I added this one element?

Naofumi:"Oh right, by the way, it is impossible for Shadows to grasp any secrets of your power."

Shadow:"That's Right degojaru. It is impossible for us to fully grasp how strong each respective hero-dono will become degojaru."

Naofumi:"Just like you guys have a habit of hiding yourselves, I do too. The time has come for us to speak unreservedly."

Ren:"Tch!"

Ren clicks his tongue in vexation.

Naofumi:"Before, During the last wave.....You guys already lost once. If that was handled poorly you guys would have died."

Itsuki:"What are you saying? That was a battle event. We were meant to lose."

Naofumi:"Ha?"

Ren:"No, if us Heroes or our companions are defeated, we are carried off to the hospital. We will not die. There is divine protection."

Motoyasu:"That surprise fight against the Pope was evidence, as we were carried to the hospital."

What the hell are you saying?

Are their head okay?

Shadow:"You were rescued by us degojaruga..... What are you saying degojaru? Sometimes Hero of the Shield-dono says words that I cannot understand degojaruga, What kind of thing is it degojaruka?"

Shadow speaks in an unusally perplexed voice.

I have the same opinion.

These guys, right now they are declaring "We are immortal. We won't die no matter what." opening.

Naofumi:"Tentatively, I defeated the one who you guys weren't able to beat."

All Three:"""We can defeat you(Naofumi-san), who has a weak job easily. """

.....What are these guys saying?

Revival at the hospital after defeat? Does this feel like a game? Did you guys seriously call that a battle event?"

So, even though they lost, they didn't count it.

Though my job was mocked as weak, I feel no anger at all.

Th-This is.....

Itsuki:"Since it doesn't matter,continue talking."

It doesn't matter.....Whether or not these guys treat this as a game.

Oh shit. Something is very dangerous. They need to rethink their consciousness immediately.

Naofumi:"You guys know this isn't a game right? There is no way to return if you die!"

Itsuki:"That's why we have divine protection."

Ren:"Indeed."

Motoyasu:"That's right."

This isn't working..... It's useless to continue talking.....

Right now, this sense of impending crisis can compete for the top or second worst problem ever since coming to this world.

Although, I can see why they aren't cautious, I can't do anything but adjust the conversation accordingly.

Naofumi:"Haah.....Let's scratch what we have and start the review from the beginning, let's start by discussing things you can get from the help section."

Itsuki:".....Can't be helped."

Ren:"Yes, there's no point for us heroes to work against each other."

Motoyasu:"Well, the results won't change."

The answers these guys give sound like they already given up halfway.

Anyway, let's inquire about their methods of powering up.

Let's reassure my pace that was ruined by their ambiguous answers.

Naofumi:"Right, there is someone who lies, so let's pool our information together first. So if a lie is told, it can be spotted. Surely a hero of justice that will save the world and keep the balance, won't just lie, am I right Itsuki?"

Itsuki:"I-I did not tell any lies!"

Naofumi:"I wonder about that. Lying feels awkward, am I right Ren?"

Ren:"Ah, Yeah."

Naofumi:"Liars are hated by women, am I right Motoyasu?"

Motoyasu:"Th-That's right."

Something like this? By building a premise of sealing off lies, we can start our discussion.

Off the top of my head I know that Ren dislikes anything uncool. Motoyasu always takes a good look at women. Itsuki is Rightous, well that justice is also for self-satisfaction, in this situation where lying would equal being evil, it would be difficult to lie.

If that is pointed out, it would be unlikely for false information to appear.

Naofumi: "Then Itsuki, you speaking about the most basics of basics is good enough."

Itsuki: "Wh-Why did the talk progress like this Naofumi-san?"

Though Itsuki arches his eyebrows unpleasantly, turns his face to us and starts talking.

Itsuki: "The Hero's weapons will unseal new skill trees."

Naofumi: "That's right."

Itsuki: "There was a game I played called Dimension Wave that had a skill tree resembled the one in the system, but the selections changed and it got bigger."

Naofumi: "Hm? It wasn't exactly the same?"

Itsuki: "Yes, it was almost the same, but there are many weapons that I don't know of."

Then that means he doesn't know all the information of the weapon.

Certainly if I know what the unsealed ability would do, I would know the effect of the shields from the demon system and slave system.

Itsuki: "After changing once, when you change your weapon back to before the difference would still be there."

The other heroes also nod.

Tentatively, are there other changeable parts too.....

Don't get caught up in that now.

Ren:"Next is me."

Ren raises his hand and speaks.

Ren:"This is a continuation of Itsuki's story. When the materials of a demon are absorbed and unsealed, Equipment bonuses can be gained by equipping it."

That is reliable information. It is something I do all the time.

Ren:"Well, this equipment bonus system is a little different from the Brave Star Online system that I was using."

Naofumi:"It's different?"

Ren:"Yeah, the acquisition of skill points and skill levels for skills. It means that even after equipping, it isn't available to use at any time."

Well, It's certainly something that isn't too different from what I can agree with.

Even in games that I played, your character got skill points to distribute, and in the game you could make your characters original.

What can I say, I don't think that I can acquire all of the skills from the trees from releasing the shields.

However.....so far there is already a difference, do these guys think it's the same as those games?

Ren:"That's right. I am not wrong."

Naofumi:"Yeah."

Ren:"But, us heroes are probably the only ones that can acquire all the skills."

.....Ah, I see. Usually adventurers can only learn a limited amount of skills. But we obtained cheat-like powers due to the legendary weapons.

Motoyasu:"Next is me, the weapon can copy another weapon from the same system. There is a weapon copy system."

Naofumi:"Ha?"

Motoyasu:"Yes, although this was a big difference, but I was saved due to the strong weapons available."

Ren:"Right, We are heroes. Such a thing can be done too."

Motoyasu:"I think everyone here understands that the assortment of goods in the weapons shops and the mercenaries in the capital of country Zeltbull are good."

At Motoyasu's words, the other two nod as if this was common sense.

Naofumi:"What is that!?"

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Chapter 103 - Hero Conference (End)

I reject the sudden accusation in a loud voice.

Weapon Copy?

There was nothing written about this on the help screen. I've been in this world for four months. I have committed the contents of the help screen to heart.

From this person's explanation, it seems he modified all of his weapons the second he got them.

"Naofumi... You don't even know that? I'm surprised you've survived until now." (Motoyasu)

Damn. It's pissing me off. This person's eyes are pissing me off.

No wonder I was getting nothing but strange shields.

I never got any normal shields like, 'Iron Shield' or 'Round Shield' or 'Buckler'. I did think it was strange.

"Did you find that function on your own?" (Naofumi)

"More like, isn't it common sense to use the weapons from the weapon store? The weapons were weak at first so I obviously visited the store."
(Motoyasu)

Now that I think about it, I had previously decided to leave my shield as it was and had tried to equip a sword.

At that time, 'System Warning. To the holder of the Legendary Weapon. You have tried to equip a weapon besides your Legendary Weapon' had popped up.

At that time I had realized that I couldn't equip any weapons.

"I received a system warning, but Weapon Copy never came up."

(Naofumi)

"Ah" (Itsuki)

"Oh course." (Ren)

My head was starting to hurt.

Of course, I am the shield, but the first thing any adventurer looks for should not be a shield.

I already had a basic shield so I looked for a one-handed sword or anything else I could use as a weapon.

Is that why I never notices.

"... To advance the conversation, Ren, why did you already know which monsters to hunt to advance your weapon." (Naofumi)

"How?... Isn't it common sense to check the identity of your drops?" (Ren)

Drop!?

Ah... In normal Net Games, monsters do drop items.

Items that had no relations to the actual parts of the monsters.

“The Store also sold some high quality items. They had plenty of ingredients. It really gave off the feeling that I was in another world.” (Ren)

“Yep” (Motoyasu)

“And there were a lot of useful items within the monster drops.” (Itsuki)

It seems that a lot of useful information is coming out one after the other.

And it seems that it applies to all the weapons.

It feels like the time I first came to this world. The feeling is unpleasant.

“Preparing equipment was basic and then comes” (Ren)

“Learning skills, correct?” (Itsuki)

“... for argument’s sake, please explain in greater detail.” (Naofumi)

It feels like these people are teaching it as if it is common sense. I’ll strengthen my heart, and inquire further.

“Once you acquire recipes and skills, if you feed them to your weapon, the system makes them for you. If you do it enough times, the weapon learns the skill by itself.” (Itsuki)

The system does it by itself! What the Hell!

It seems that it will still boost effects if you make it by hand, but as long as you have the recipe, the weapon makes it by itself?

So the reason Motoyasu had Holy Water was because he made it himself?

And it seems the materials come from monster drops.

“The drawback is that the weapon can only store items made from drops.”

(Ren)

“It really lightens the load.” (Itsuki) (TL: there was a hammerspace system…)

It seems that the system has some shortcomings, but I lived without any of the benefits.

To think I would be getting so much useful information. I motion for Shadow to take notes.

“Regarding hunting grounds, we’ll need to set some ground rules.” (Itsuki)

“Right… We could divide by level, but the monsters will probably be the same across the islands.” (Ren)

“We need to make sure our hunting grounds don’t overlap.” (Motoyasu)

“Correct.” (Itsuki)

“Well then is there anything else?” (Ren)

I pound this information into my head as I listen quietly.

“Then I’ll tell you my special method of becoming stronger.” (Itsuki)

Itsuki sticks his chest out and begins talking.

“In this world, the rarity of equipment is everything. After that is Money. If you don’t build these up from the beginning, there is no point.” (Itsuki)

“What a blatant lie.” (Ren)

“To mix in a lie after starting off with true statements, you really are the worst.” (Motoyasu)

And all of a sudden, Ren Itsuki and Motoyasu are in disagreement.

In one sentence, the atmosphere had deteriorated.

“W-What are you going on about! This is definitely the truth!” (Itsuki)

“No, It’s a lie.” (Ren)

“Yeah, you really are a liar.” (Motoyasu)

“N-no! I never lie.” (Itsuki)

? Itsuki’s behavior is clearly different from before.

It’s not the same behavior as when he was defending his lie. He currently seems to be genuinely angry.

Well, Itsuki has been being called a liar for the whole meeting. Getting mad is understandable.

I suddenly remember something.

“Now that I think about it, Itsuki, you seem to gather this gem quite often.” (Naofumi)

I take out the gem that Rishia handed me and place it on the table.

"Y-yes, this is useful in strengthening weapons." (Itsuki)

Refining, huh. Well, it is a game-like system.

"It's important to strengthen your weapons to their limits." (Itsuki)

"I bet there are risks of failure. Please tell us all of the details truthfully."
(Motoyasu)

Motoyasu warns him.

"There is no failure!" (Itsuki)

No failure? What does that mean?

I don't get it.

"What are you talking about, there can't be such a convenient gem."
(Naofumi)

"For a while, you have been doing nothing but deny me. Ren, please explain it to him." (Itsuki)

"Me? Fine, I'll tell the truth to Naofumi." (Ren)

Why am I being singled out... But it's the truth that I want to know.

"In this world, level is everything. As long as you raise your skill level, things will work out." (Ren)

"Lies are not good." (Itsuki)

"Yes, please stop lying with a straight face." (Motoyasu)

So which is it!?

"Naofumi, it seems like you'll get nothing useful out of these people, so I'll specially tell you. To strengthen your weapons, you must increase your proficiency in them" (Ren)

"Proficiency?"(Naofumi)

"Yes, if you use the same weapon for a long amount of time, it will get stronger. And when a weapon becomes obsolete, you can convert that proficiency into energy and transfer it. Storing energy unleashes extreme powers. This is most important" (Ren)

"Why are you lying in the heat of the moment?" (Motoyasu)

"Don't be bothered by these people. All that's important is rarity. In normal games, low level rare items would lose out in late game, but the Legendary weapons are different." (Itsuki)

Just by listening to these people makes me want to try out different things.

However, everything they say is a mystery. I don't know what to believe.

"What a guy. He can say such lies with a cool face." (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu derides Ren.

"Yes, you shouldn't listen to him. He's lying." (Itsuki)

"I really don't know what's going on. What should I do?" (Naofumi)

"First open your weapon tree and check your weapon proficiency." (Ren)

As told, I open my weapon tree and look at the Chimera Viper Shield, a shield I use quite often.

I just see the normal status window.

What am I supposed to check?

... nothing is happening.

"There's nothing, but..." (Naofumi)

So it was a lie. It's not like I believed him, but this guy is also a liar...

Weapon Copy also seems dubious.

"That can't be! I know what you are doing, you're making me out as a liar!"
(Ren)

"I also don't have that function." (Motoyasu)

"Me neither. It wasn't written on the Help Screen." (Itsuki)

"Wha... Never Mind! The me that tried to help you was an idiot." (Ren)

Ren makes a dejected face and sits back in his chair.

The usually cool Ren has taken quite a bit of damage.

I have to assume that everything they told me is a lie.

It wasn't written in the Help, so...

"I was still in the middle of my conversation. To strengthen equipment, you take energy from items and then you can add percentage points to the equipment through enchantment." (Itsuki)

"Like +10% attack?" (Naofumi)

"Yes, this process takes up a lot of time, but there is a 0% chance of failure."
(Itsuki)

"That's a lie. You're giving Naofumi knowledge from a separate game."
(Ren)

"And I'm saying it's not a lie! By absorbing items dropped from monsters into our weapons, we can increase our stats. This applies to all forms of the legendary weapons. Like increasing the level of another job." (Itsuki) (TL: I don't know if this is a specific reference, it applies to a couple of games)

Ah, so that's why Itsuki was mentioning monsters and percents earlier.

To even lie to Firo, he is quite thorough.

"Yes, Yes, they keep saying bullcrap, so let's leave Ren and Itsuki aside and move onto me." (Motoyasu)

"I don't really want to hear it..." (Naofumi)

It seems everything I have heard so far has been a lie.

“To be blunt, this world is all about strengthening weapons! Using your equipment to their utmost level is exponentially more important than level. As long as you get status bonuses, you can overcome level gap. Even a terrible weapon can be strong if upgraded!” (Motoyasu)

“That’s a large lie!” (Naofumi)

“Let me continue Naofumi-san!” (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu starts talking to me out of nowhere.

“It changes based on the weapon, but you can then use a special gem to enchant weapons. In the original Emerald Online, there was a chance of losing the weapon, but for the legendary weapons, that chance is zero.” (Motoyasu)

“There is no such system!” (Itsuki)

“Yeah!” (Ren)

This has turned into nothing but a shouting match. Shadow also seems to be troubled.

I’m just as troubled as Shadow.

“It’s all about status enchantment. If you feed your weapon the souls of different monsters, the effect is different. If you fight the same enemy for a while, you get attack bonuses against that enemy.” (Motoyasu)

“Please stop it already.” (Itsuki)

“Yeah, you are speaking of a different game.” (Ren)

Ran and Itsuki shout at Motoyasu in loud voices

“For the love of… Why must all of you speak such lies?” (Motoyasu)

“That would be you!” (Itsuki)

“Hello Mr. Pot, can I introduce you to Mrs Kettle?” (Ren)

(TL: Personal touch, the dialogue is getting boring)

“Um… I’m sorry to intrude, but…” (Naofumi)

I’m beginning to see the connection.

It seems that Ren, Itsuki and Motoyasu have seen different things.

“Could it just be that each weapon works on a different system?” (Naofumi)

“… Yes, it seems that way. It’s the same for what happened with my skills.”
(Itsuki)

“That makes sense. But Itsuki, we haven’t confirmed whether or not you are lying” (Ren)

“But that means that none of this information will help me…” (Naofumi)

And the conversation was back on track.

Well these people got genuinely angry, so I guess they weren’t lying

They had nothing to gain by lying here anyways. This meeting was organized by the queen to help combat the wave, anyways.

“Well, last is me.” (Naofumi)

“Yes, you haven’t said anything for a while, so now tell us everything.”
(Itsuki)

“... I have take no responsibility in whether or not he lies or not.”
(Motoyasu)

These people...

“First, what do you want to hear?” (Naofumi)

“Why are Raphtalia and Firo so strong?” (Ren)

Having these people understand my abilities may save my life one day.

So I just tell them the truth.

“Yes, that is the bonus from the Slave User and Monster User shield series. They speed up the growth of monsters and slaves. They pretty much increase stat gain, and the effects are quite potent. Firo also gets bonuses from the Filo Rial Shield series.” (Naofumi)

Should I also tell them about the Ahoge Class up item?

“There was no such skills in the shield users of my game.” (Ren)

“I agree. An ability that convenient comes close to Cheating. Where did you get such a shield.” (Itsuki)

Cheating, huh. Well, I can't argue with that.

"I got the Slave User Shield when I absorbed the ink used for making the Slave Seal. I got the Monster User Shield by absorbing the Egg Firo was born from." (Naofumi)

"Well if you can prove your absorption ability, we will believe you." (Ren)

"He may be lying." (Itsuki)

"Say what you will." (Naofumi)

"Then next. When fighting the pope... Your battle abilities were surprisingly high. I've never seen such an ominous Shield in my games." (Itsuki)

Itsuki is staring at me with doubting eyes.

How troublesome. (TL: He says Fuyukai Desu if you wanted to know)

"Where did you get that power? No, let me rephrase that. Where did you meet god?" (Itsuki)

"Wha?" (Naofumi)

"Where did you meet God, and get the power to cheat? In the forums for my game, I have read about a User who was able to meet God and gain that ability. Answer me." (Itsuki) (TL: really? REALLY?)

You! Even if it's a joke, you shouldn't go that far.

... Since coming to this world, I have met much misfortune, but phrases that annoy me to this extent are rare to come across.

"I'm not cheating!" (Naofumi)

"For the Shield to have that much attack power, you must be cheating."
(Itsuki)

Ren and Motoyasu nod.

"Where did you get that power? If we were to obtain it, our powers would increase exponentially. Please tell us." (Itsuki)

He has already assumed that he is correct. I'm getting a bit angry.

"You don't think I could have gotten power through honest effort?"
(Naofumi)

"Like hell." (Itsuki)

He believes that the shield will always remain weak.

It's a legendary weapon. There's no way it can be as weak as he believes.

I just earnestly raised my stats by unlocking new shields and made use of the powerful Curse Series, that takes a toll on my body every time I use it.

Yet this person is asking where I obtained the ability to cheat.

"That shield originated from a shield called The Shield of Rage, and evolved into a series called the Curse Series. The conditions under which it appears are... uncertain, but it manifests whenever my rage crosses a certain boundary. I got it when I first fought Motoyasu." (Naofumi)

At that time, I was swallowed by an uncontrollable rage.

I can't imagine what would have happened if Raphtalia hadn't been there to restrain me.

"Isn't it written in the Help? That shield requires quite a high price. I wonder if you would be able to control it. By the way, all of my stats besides defense have been halved since I used that skill on the pope."
(Naofumi)

Ren's eyes look like they are going through the Help.

And as expected, he says...

"... There's no such item in here." (Ren)

Nonono, It's written in mine.

Well, only after I unlocked the Shield of Rage.

"Maybe it only appears after you have unlocked it." (Naofumi)

"Did your net games contain such potent cursed items?" (Ren)

"Nope, it also did not shields that need compensation to work." (Motoyasu)

"If you're going to lie, you need to make it more believable, Like Motoyasu and Ren" (Itsuki)

Itsuki's comment pushes Ren to the Limit. He stands up, points at Itsuki and says...

"You're one to talk, you compulsive liar!" (Ren)

“What? Aren’t you the one constantly putting up a cool façade?” (Itsuki)

“Yeah, Yeah!” (Motoyasu)

“And you’re a Skirt-chasing Idiot! Do you plan to self destruct defending another woman?” (Both Ren and Itsuki)

“What you say?!” (Motoyasu)

“And Itsuki, his shield may absorb things, but you have your meat shield to do that for you.” (Ren)

“They are absolutely necessary!” (Itsuki)

“And you, Do you plan to act like this is a game, and play Hero? Death is the end! If death isn’t absolute, then why did you people pursue me when I had that death warrant?” (Naofumi)

“I don’t believe it’s a game to that extent! I thought that only heroes could kill other heroes! That I would be able to kill you since you became a Demon Lord.” (Itsuki)

“What a convenient brain you’ve got there. Are you sure you haven’t played too many games that your brain is rotten? You might have thought it was a game event, but what you were trying to do was simple Murder.” (Naofumi)

“The you that came under suspicion is at fault. And I didn’t believe it was an event!” (Itsuki)

“Right! It’s fine if you see this as an event, but you see us as nothing but villains.” (Ren)

“Ren! Do you plan on saying more!? Do you plan on having it out with this hypocrite Itsuki more? Who do you think you are? This world’s savior? If god has sent you to punish me, then I want to go and kill that god.” (Itsuki)

If this world had a god, I want to smack the hell out of hm. He dropped me into this living hell.

Don’t outsource for heroes!

“What are you saying to the god who made this wonderful world?”

(Motoyasu)

“I won’t offer my thanks to someone with such a dubious existence.”

(Itsuki)

From here to the end of the meeting, I don’t really remember.

What followed was a long stream of verbal abuse.

Shadow tried to get the meeting back under control, but it was already way past the point of no return.

The first one to get fed up and leave was Itsuki. Ren soon followed. Finally, Motoyasu drudged off.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 104 - 1/4

Naofumi: "Ugggh."

I groan after the three of them left the meeting room.

After calming down and thinking about it, I couldn't help but grimace.

I'm thinking about all of the information drawn out of those guys.

But, I have no idea how to judge what is the truth, and what is a lie.

.....As I compile their claims on a memo, I groan again.

It is common for us to absorb the dropped items from demons.

Come to think of it, I forgot to explain the reason for dismantling the parts.

Well, they should be able to understand this much.

Next is weapon copy. It seems this is where the differences in the games those guys played starts.

When a weapon is already found from the same system, it becomes possible to equip that weapon after unsealing it.

Besides compounding, the weapon can also act as a proxy for other creation skills.

All of their claims match up until here.

Let's come to a conclusion on the claims of their respective strengthening methods after seeing it myself. I don't know what each respective differences in characteristics their weapons have compared to my shield.

There is no game that I can use as a model, not to mention it feels like I'm reading an unfinished book.

.....Though they also took a stab at my shield's power to train companions.....

Ren.

Level dependence.

Proficiency: The more the same weapon is used, the more the power increases.

Energy Grant: Hidden power can be unlocked by using energy granted from resetting the weapon's skill proficiency. Additionally, items absorbed into the weapon can be converted into energy.

Rarity Increase: By using energy, it is possible to increase the weapon's rarity. Overall ability will improve.

Motoyasu.

Everything is decided by his weapon. The weapon's original strength doesn't matter much, everything relies on Spirit Enchants. The necessary stats are needed to wield though.

Tempering: Equipment can be strengthened with the use of ore.

Spirit Enchant: By giving a weapon the fragment of a demon's soul to absorb, special powers can be granted.

Status Enchant: Stats can be increased.

Itsuki.

Everything is decided by bonuses granted by a weapon's rarity.

Reinforcing: A weapon's power can increase by using a specific type of ore.

Item Enchant: Items absorbed into the weapon provides energy that has a chance to increase the weapon's attack percentage.

Job Level: Stats can be boosted up by absorbing items acquired from specific demons.

(TI note: ドーピング Doping, I couldn't really find a way to fit this into the sentence without it sounding weird. Example: Stats can be doped up by absorbing....." This makes me cringe for some reason.)

Something like this.

It's falling apart splendidly.

There's Energy for Reinforcement, Tempering, Skill Proficiency, and Rarity is also covered.

There's also as many as three enchantment systems.

In the first place, all three of them are from worlds where games are common, but each one of them is operating with a different game in mind. Moreover, even the genres are different.

VRMMO, Ordinary MMO, and Console Games.

I don't know VR well, but MMOs and Console games can't possibly have the same system.

Due to bad experiences with fan games.

For some reason or another, there was a similar system used in my old world.

If I think about it like that.....I can say that their insistence of knowledge on other games is a lie.

But.....Is that really the case?

I turn my eyes to the shield.

I think that the influence of previous owners has left the legendary weapons with these results.

I mean that would explain the curse series.

The series couldn't be found when I looked through the skill tree before, it only appeared at the time I thought Firo died.

I see. It's influenced by.....The heart.

It may not have appeared if I denied it from the beginning.

Weapon Copy..... Since all three of them agreed to it, it's not a lie.

The drops were the same. However, I did not understand it.

I open the weapon icon to investigate.

.....Of course It's still not there.

Is it in a completely different category? Is the system structure different from those guys?

Legendary Shield.

Negative..... Of course.

I denied it somewhere within my heart.

Perhaps.....Is that why I can't do the things that those guys can do?

If I look at it from a purely objective standpoint, my field of view should widen right?

There are drops! There is copying!

I recall those three at the same time. It's not impossible.

Believe it..... Believe in it. Imagine the screen with the drop list that pops up when a demon is defeated.

I press the system menu on the shield.

The menu opens with a ring.

A window appeared with parts of dismantled demons, and other items that were absorbed pop up.

Naofumi: "What the hell is this!?"

It seems the power of believing exists.....Didn't me being cautious and skeptical narrow down my own possibilities?

.....Somehow, when I press the item menu, I can open it and verify what the monsters dropped.

Ah, a plant that can be used for magic power water came out. The materials for soul healing water also appeared.....

Various things just appear. It would be amazing if everything was pulled out.

Beside that.....Ah, there's a considerable amount of garbage. There are some demon entrails too.

I turn my attention to Itsuki's ore.

That guy really purchased that ore. He even explained how to use it.

I can't help but try to believe it.

It exists. He was even angry to that extent. He shouldn't have told a lie.

.....However, nothing shown up.

I am denying this somewhere.

I just don't believe that a liar will tell the truth.

Is the power of my trust not enough? Feels like an anime for children.....

However.....I'll still believe it.

Shadow:"Hero of the Shield-dono?"

Shadow speaks to get my attention. But I decided that in order to preserve my life, I started a glaring contest with the shield.

Is it acceptable that you were deceived? You legendary shield. Believing helps. I will absolutely never lose.

Believe it!

Itsuki's Reinforcing happened. There is also Item Enchant.

Otherwise, we are only slightly stronger than the usual adventurers.

I believed in the idea, and pressed the icon on the shield.

ZaZa.....The icon distorted, but only for an instant.

The next moment.

With a ding, an item for Reinforcement appeared.

Naofumi:"Alright!"

I let the shield absorb the ore I got from Rishia, and let the shield search for the corresponding request.

Found it.

Shark Bite Shield 1/20

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: On Board Combat Skills 1.

Special Effect: Shark's Fang.

To experiment, I reinforced the Shark Bite Shield.

I see, looks like reinforcing is easy, with the number 20 appearing next to it. This enhancement method is somewhat similar to a game in my world called Monster Hunter.

I mean..... Since there is a number in place, I can avoid jumping to conclusions.

I did not suffer so far without reason. There are many who use a shield and move sluggishly..... It would be a bad habit to only use strong weapons. A combination of a shield and a one-handed sword is by far the strongest, with it being easy to move, and strong to defend.

Though for convenience, in that game, a the bow was exactly that. Perhaps it might be similar. Well, the difference would be magic since it didn't exist,

Let's use the energy from an item that was absorbed before.

.....There are a variety of effects.

Oh? From the blue shark's intestines, I discover an aquatic monster damage mitigation skill. Let's try it out.

The probability of the first try will absolutely succeed.

Shark Bite Shield 1/20

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: On Board Combat Skills 1.

Special Effect: Shark's Fang.

Item Enchant Level 1: 2% Damage Reduction of Aquatic Monsters .

Since there still a little left, I'll try it again.

Ah, a failure! It became zero. But, I'll continue.

I got it to level 2.

Shark Bite Shield 1/20

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: On Board Combat Skills 1.

Special Effect: Shark's Fang.

Item Enchant Level 2: 3% Damage Reduction of Aquatic Monsters .

While getting carried away and apply more, I stopped at seven. The success rate for 8 is rather low.

Shark Bite Shield 1/20

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: On Board Combat Skills 1.

Special Effect: Shark's Fang.

Item Enchant Level 7: 16% Damage Reduction of Aquatic Monsters .

.....This will be amazing when fighting against aquatic type demons.

At any rate, another gauge exists, I think Itsuki's word for it was Job Level.

Let's try it out.

Defense Job Level 1

Defense Gauge 0/5

A large number of the internal organs from demons was absorbed, and the button was pressed repeatedly.

It looks like after 1, the rate the gauge rises slows down.

Defense Gauge 5/5

Gauge up! [Defense +1]

Defense Job Level 2

And the Defense Gauge now displays 0/6.

Furthermore, when I wanted to add another item, a cool down time appeared.

It seem it is necessary to increase it regularly.

Quite long-term. Though, it doesn't seem too ridiculous to gather.

At any rate, the others probably didn't lie either.

First of all is Ren.

While praying as strongly as that time with Itsuki, I open a menu, I habitually use the Chimeric Viper Shield.

Chimeric Viper Shield 0/30 C

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: Skill [Change Shield] Detoxification

Compounding Improvement Poison Resistance (Intermediate)

Special Effect: Snake's Fang (Intermediate) Hook

Proficiency: 100

Somehow, the stats have already risen enormously, but.....

Isn't it already increased by about 1.5 times? It's defensive power alone is formidable.

It seems the maximum is 100.

As I was playing around the menu with my finger.

Would you like to reset skill Proficiency?

A system message popped-up.

I press "Yes" with some hesitation.

Then, the ability reverts back to the shield that I knew.

2000 Skill Energy Acquired.

.....I select the Chimeric Viper as the target.

Ah, insufficient.....The requirement is 4000.

For the time being, I convert enough Skill Energy to upgrade.

I hear the sound of something being filled.

Chimeric Viper Shield (Awakened) 0/30 C

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: Skill [Change Shield] Detoxification

Compounding Improvement Poison Resistance (High)

Special Effect: Snake's Fang (High) Long Hook

Proficiency: 0

Its base ability went up considerably.

What is this!?

Do I increase the rarity Now? C is an abbreviation of Common.

As I thought, Energy is still insufficient. Let's continue to convert and increase it.

Challenge!

Failure!

Like I'd fail!

Success!

Chimeric Viper Shield (Awakened) 0/30 UC

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: Skill [Change Shield] Detoxification
Compounding Improvement Poison Resistance (High)
Special Effect: Snake's Fang (High) Long Hook
Proficiency: 0

UC.....Uncommon.

The ability has improved by about 1.2 times.

After several more challenges, I managed to raise it up to R. With just That
It's ability went up considerably.

The amount of increase is abnormal. The Proficiency also increases.....Wait
a Minute!

Furthermore, there is also Motoyasu's claim.....I believe and open the
menu. I already believe all of it greedily.

Shit.....There isn't any ore that Motoyasu used for Tempering.

Let's test out Spirit Enchant.

Since I gathered a large amount of demon soul fragments from Magenta
Frogs on this island, let's use it!

Chimeric Viper Shield (Awakened) 0/30 R

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: Skill [Change Shield] Detoxification
Compounding Improvement Poison Resistance (High)
Special Effect: Snake's Fang (High) Long Hook
Proficiency: 0

Magenta Frog Spirit: 16% Damage Reduction of Poison Monsters.

Let's also try out Status Enchant.

Do you use these materials?.....Oh! The results are random.

The Result, magical power was added.

Chimeric Viper Shield (Awakened) 0/30 R

Ability Unsealed..... Equipment Bonus: Skill [Change Shield] Detoxification

Compounding Improvement Poison Resistance (High)

Special Effect: Snake's Fang (High) Long Hook

Proficiency: 0

Magenta Frog Spirit: 16% Damage Reduction of Poison Monsters.

Status Enchant: Magic Power +20

Huge! That amount of Magical Power is huge!

Oh, I can reset. However, since the amount of materials I used isn't small, let's stop for now.

The shield has become remarkably stronger than before.

Though the stats are a little messy, it is still a plus for me.

Though I was bewildered about Itsuki and Ren's similar description of Rare and Rarity.

It wouldn't be wrong to remember it.

Let's take the opportunity to check Help.

Naofumi:"....."

Sure enough, everything is added.

This is good.....I can even use the systems from old net games which I know.

Naofumi:"Huh?"

No matter how much I think or pray, I have no idea what to say to them. Since I already strengthened myself considerably already, any complaints won't be convincing.

Anyway.....

Naofumi:"Shadow....."

Shadow:"What degojaru?"

Naofumi:"Notify the other heroes. Tell them that everything said here was true. No one told a lie. Tell them that unless they truly believe each other, it won't work."

To think that such a thing would happen. That reminds me, the queen did say so before.

The pope's replica weapon only had 1/4th the power of the real thing.

Due to the results here, I can understand. No, that already exceeded the worst-case scenario.

If they stalled to put the replica in its original form, and wasn't outwitted.....It would have been impossible.

After I give advice to Shadow, I leave the meeting room and head back to mine.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 105 - Weapon Copy

That day, I went back to the inn and tried feeding ingredients into my shield.
An Icon popped up.

For now, I want to make a basic Heal pill.

…To make one pill, the mix time is 5 minutes.

It seems the required time increases based upon the level of the recipe.

5 minutes later.

A chime sounded off, and the system message, 'Mixing Complete' appeared before my eyes.

I confirm the result.

-

Heal Pill

Quality: Normal

-

Did it come out as 'Normal' because the materials used were bad? No, the quality decreased too much

I'll try using better materials.

-

Heal Pill

Quality: Normal

-

I ran some more tests, and it seems that the Quality is stuck at normal.

So even if all I have is 'Poor' materials, I will be able to make 'Normal' goods? This might be a good source of profit.

And the shield can make medicine while I do other work.

The quality might increase if I raise my level.

Well, right now, the Queen is sponsoring my living costs, so I don't have to worry about money though.

"Master, what are you doing?" (Firo)

"? Firo, huh." (Naofumi)

"Yeah" (Firo)

As I test a lot of things in the Carriage, Firo wanders over.

At the inn, Firo is usually either in the room, or in the carriage. If she has free time, she will come over to the carriage.

"Master, Firo was about to kick the person who was doing strange things in Firo's carriage" (Firo)

(TL: Referring to Naofumi)

This bird is saying some scary things. Well, I guess I can trust her to guard my merchandise at least.

It seems that Firo really treasures this carriage. Every morning, she comes and does maintenance on it.

Normally, the Iron Carriage would rust in the sea air, but due to her daily maintenance, that doesn't seem to be an issue.

It may be because we have taken a break from peddling, but the bird had a lot of free time. The Carriage is way too clean.

It's so polished that it is reflecting light like a mirror. The carriage itself seems to shine.

For a Filo Rial, the carriage is a precious item. If someone is messing around in it in the night, there is no surprise that she will come and check.

By the way, though she can do maintenance, she cannot do repairs.

Whenever something starts to look off, Firo comes shouting to me to fix it.

"Is Master going to sleep in the Carriage tonight? Let Firo sleep with you~."

(Firo)

"Wrong, I'm just testing a few things." (Naofumi)

"fu~n" (Firo)

I guess I should go to one of the weapon vendors on the island... Now that I think about it, it's already midnight.

I guess tomorrow is fine too.

After this, I will try reinforcing my equipment. I'll try modifying a normal shield.

"Welcome back. What happened? Did you have any progress?" (Raphtalia)

When I returned to the room, Raphtalia asks this to me.

"I learned quite a bit. I still need to test a few things, so I will be busy tomorrow." (Naofumi)

"That's good. Will we be making an honest effort to raise our levels starting tomorrow?" (Raphtalia)

"Well... I have to... I guess we could do that." (Naofumi)

I can get some monster drops as well.

I'll look for some monsters that look like they will drop something useful.

"Please step back." (Naofumi)

"Yes.....?" (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia tilts her head and steps backwards. I had previously found a sword. I try to take it out of the shield.

With a bang, the sword falls out of the shield and hits the floor.

“Wa!” (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia lets out a sound of surprise.

“W-what is this?” (Raphtalia)

“It’s something that a monster left behind.” (Naofumi)

“A monster was holding something like this?” (Raphtalia)

“Now then…” (Naofumi)

The monster that dropped this was… Brown Pill Rabbit.

I analyze the item.

-

Iron Sword

Quality: Normal

-

Well it was a small fry.

“Raphtalia, your sword is starting to rust. Please use this for a while.”

(Naofumi)

“Ah, Yes. Thank You…” (Raphtalia)

Picking up the mysterious sword, Raphtalia critically looks over it.

Firo starts to sniff it.

“It smells like Pill Rabbit” (Firo)

Wow. She got it right.

As expected of a Filo Rial. Even though she looks like this, she is still a monster.

Well, I guess tomorrow will be fun.

I looked through my drops, set my shield to produce some random medicine, and went to sleep.

The next morning.

I wake up, eat a light breakfast and go off to look for a weapon store.

They have them. A wide variety of shields.

“Can I look at this for a bit?” (Naofumi)

“Go ahead.” (Weapon Dealer)

The price is really high. Probably because this is a tourist attraction.

Or because a lot of adventures have been visiting as of late.

On its off season, I wonder how the islanders make money.

Do they sell monster goods? There are some unusual ones here.

I don't really want to imagine cooking with Magenta Frog Meat.

Does this Island even have an active economy? I'll ask the Accessory Merchant later.

"Naofumi-sama?" (Raphtalia)

"Ah, Raphtalia, Firo, please wait a bit." (Naofumi)

"Okay..." (Raphtalia)

"What is master doing?" (Firo)

"Just Wait, you'll see." (Naofumi)

I take one of the Shields hung on the wall and touch it to the Legendary Shield.

Beep. An icon appears in my field of vision.

Weapon Copy activated.

-

You have unlocked the Iron Shield

You have unlocked the Red Iron Shield

You have unlocked the Pink Iron Shield

You have unlocked the White Iron Shield

You have unlocked the Brown Iron Shield

You have unlocked the Blue Iron Shield

You have unlocked the Sky Blue Iron Shield

Etc... (TL: looks like the Hero can accessorize.)

-

I unlocked the Iron Shield... and all its color variations...

Now that I think about it, my initial Small Shield did have color variation as well. At that time, I didn't really care, as it didn't unlock any extra stats.

I question the usefulness of such a system.

I wonder if the balloon shield also has such function. I have still yet to unlock that shield.

The monster came in Orange and Red variety, there might also be a Normal variety.

Anyways, I repeat the process for the other shields in the shop.

Round Shield, Buckler, Knight Shield, Copper Shield, Bronze Shield, Steel Shield, Gold Shield... There were also things like Leather Shield.

It also seems that all the store's shields have color variation as well.

The amount of shields I had greatly increased. I didn't feel like going through all the bonuses.

They all probably only raised stats, so there shouldn't be too much of a problem.

Some skills may have been mixed in, but going through all these shields will take time.

"I guess that's it." (Naofumi)

"What?" (Shop Vendor)

The Weapon Dealer tilts his head and stares at me.

Though the store's inventory wasn't the best, I still got a lot of shields.

Once I finish leveling up here, I'll go see the old man at the weapon shop. He probably has a better selection. (TL: Referring to SmithBro)

"Have you found something that interests you?" (Store Vendor)

"? No..." (Naofumi)

Now that I think of it, I got some useless weapons with the Monster Drops. I'll try to sell them.

"Please wait for a second." (Naofumi)

I go to a place where the vendor cannot see me and take out some weapons from the shield.

"Would you be interested in buying this item?" (Naofumi)

"Sure, can you let me appraise it?" (Vendor)

I hand over the Bronze Spear I had taken out to the Vendor.

“It seems to be quite solid. There also seems to be a minor enchantment on it…” (Vendor)

The dealer can see things that I can't.

“It doesn't appear to have an inscription, so the price will drop a bit. Is that okay with you?” (Vendor)

“Is there supposed to be an inscription?” (Naofumi)

Now that I think of it, it makes sense.

If someone famous made it, there should be a way of telling. Something like a signature.

“It's in good condition, so the price shouldn't drop too much. But where did you acquire this item?” (Vendor)

“That's a secret.” (Naofumi)

If this person had been suspicious of me, I would have played it off by lying, but we haven't reached that level yet.

So it's a weapon without a maker…?

“Wait, if I look closer, there is something like an inscription on it… It looks like a shield.” (Vendor)

Was there something like that?

“Some smith probably made it while thinking of the legendary heroes.” (Vendor)

“Things like that can happen?” (Naofumi)

“Yes, long ago, weapons like these popped up all the time. Even now, they sometimes come up. Many Smiths admire the Legendary Heroes and inscribe their creations with their Marks.” (Vendor)

“Then this mark won’t really raise the price will it.” (Naofumi)

“That would be correct. Though the quality is good, one who would put such a mark on their creations is simply a dreamer without a name.”
(Vendor)

The Vendor’s appraisal is a bit troubling.

“Well, an adventurer drawn to the magic of the Awakened Islands will probably buy it. I’ll take it for 20 Silver coins.” (Vendor)

“Understood” (Naofumi)

I give some other Items to the Weapons Vendor. My total profit is 90 Silver Coins.

If I had discovered the drop system earlier, I could have probably improved Raphtalia’s equipment early on… But there’s nothing I can do about that now.

After I left the Weapons Shop, I changed my Shield to an Iron Shield and look at the equipment bonuses.

Ah, it seems the Iron shield comes with a Skill

-

Iron Shield 0/10 C

Ability... Equipment Bonus: Shield Bash

Skill Proficiency 0

This is obviously an offensive skill.

I can't wait to see it in action.

"Um... That shield looks like the one that was being sold at the store but.."
(Raphtalia)

"Ah, the legendary weapons can copy the abilities of weapons sold at the store. That way, if a hero finds a good weapon, he will actually be able to equip it." (Naofumi)

"That... Seems a bit like stealing." (Raphtalia)

"It's not like I'm taking the item, I'm just making a copy of it. And what am I supposed to tell the store vendors?" (Naofumi)

"...yeah..." (Raphtalia)

Well, I also have complicated feelings about it.

Is this like pirating games and manga online?

It's like bootlegging a movie at the theater to watch later. (TL: No Moe)

It's a crime, isn't it. Yeah it is.

But this is an alternate world. Mine didn't have anyone with legendary weapons.

And in this world, the one who gets fooled is at fault.

I won't complain about it, and I won't avoid doing it.

I mean, the other three are doing it as well...

I do feel like I'm doing something bad... but I have to get used to it.

I think The Old Man will happily let me copy his shields if I ask.

I think the other heroes probably stopped at his shop and copied all his weapons first.

I'll have him make more equipment for Raphtalia as compensation.

"Next, let's go to the market place." (Naofumi)

I'll see if they are selling any of the Enchantment Gems that Motoyasu and Itsuki were talking about.

I wonder how much they will cost.

The result: very few people actually sold them.

They mostly only carried the Gem I had already got from Rishia. Its name was the Prani Ore.

I had already cleared the conditions to unlock the Prani Shield when I tried the weapon enhancement technique Itsuki had talked about. It gave +1 Defense.

Unfortunately, it seems that my Chimera Viper Shield requires a different Ore.

When I checked the Help Screen later, the required information had appeared.

-

About Reinforcing

You can reinforce an item up to the denominating number, which has a minimum of 5 . However to strengthen stronger items, you will need more valuable items as ingredients.

(TL: i.e., if a shield says 1/20, reinforcing will take it to 2/20 and 20/20 is the maximum)

-

And these ingredients seem to only be made by people with high Steel-working skills. But with my skills, it seems that I am able to extract Prani Ore by myself.

Originally, Prani Ore is a soft, cheap, malleable metal that is used to increase the volume of gold products.

It made something like Gold Alloy, if too much Prani was added, the value would decrease.

It seems Itsuki was able to feed it to his bow to produce other valuable ingredients.

I will probably have to learn some Metal Working Skills. That way, I could mold the items sold by stores into more valuable materials.

“Then, should we go hunting?” (Naofumi)

“Yes” (Raphtalia)

“Yeah!” (Firo)

We’ll finally be able to do some honest-to-goodness level grinding.

And I can see the effects of my new shields.

My expectations are quite high.

“Now then, go quickly! Your body’s still in good condition, isn’t it? *Achoo*”
(???)

“Mother. I can do it, relax!” (???)

“……” (Naofumi)

I hear a familiar voice from the market place… But I won’t turn around.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 106 - Days Spent on Cal Mira Island

For the time being.....We are travelling by ship.

It seems Firo has completely mastered swimming. When she swims she looks like a penguin.

Firo:"Master."

While floating in the water Firo grabs onto the reins for the boat that I am holding .

.....I have a very bad feeling about this.

Firo:"Let Firo ferry the boat."

Naofumi:"Huh?"

While sitting on the boat with one hand on the oars, I think about the request.

Well, I understand what she is trying to do.

Naofumi:"Raphtalia, you don't seem to be vomiting."

Raphtalia:"I am fine on boats!"

That's a relief.

I nod and strongly shake the reins.

Firo:"Go~!"

Firo gallantly swims forwards while pulling the boat at high speeds.

Raphtalia: "Wa-Wa-Waaaaaah!"

As we were being ferried a funny voice was heard.

Well, it is normal to be surprised.

Raphtalia: " It's just like a foreign Dophi Ship."

What's that?

If I remember correctly, a Dophi is a demon that resembles a dolphin.

I can somehow imagine that.

Ships being pulled across the sea by large quantities of Dophi.....I imagine it to be such a place.

We are being very efficient, since Firo is able to do it herself.

Or rather, does Firo even know where she is heading towards?In more ways than one.

Firo: "Where is the island?"

Raphtalia: "Over there."

After confirming where the island Firo is supposed to ferry us to, she changes the direction she is swimming in.

This fellow sure adapts quickly.

Firo: "Master~, next time we play, dive with Firo to the bottom of the sea, it's very beautiful."

Naofumi: "I'll suffocate."

How long and how fast can you dive for in the sea?

I would hate it. Coming to a different world, and drowning while playing in the sea.

Firo: "Onee-chan can dive for a long time, she won't lose to Firo."

Naofumi: "Really?"

Raphtalia: "Y-Yeah..... Diving is my forte."

Well, if she couldn't swim, her parents would not have pushed her into the sea, away from the demons when the wave happened.

Raphtalia: " Shall I fetch some seafood for later?"

Naofumi: "That's fine..... But it always comes out at the hotel."

Raphtalia: ".....That seems be the case."

I'm getting slightly tired of seafood. Well, the dishes here are mostly in Meunière style, there is an absence of sashimi.

(TInote: Meunière: Rolled lightly in flour and sautéed in butter.)

Raphtalia: "Is it safe to eat it raw?"

Naofumi: "Dunno....."

Firo: "Is it delicious?"

Naofumi: "Let's feed it to Firo and see."

The problem with feeding it to Firo is that there is still the possibility that it isn't safe for us.

Naofumi:"Next time I'll make some food from my world."

Firo:"Yay~!"

Raphtalia:"I'm looking forward to it."

Naofumi:".....Though it'll probably be from the East."

A cook book would be something I would like to search for soon. Incidentally, it also seems that my shield has a cooking skill.

And so, while chatting idly, we arrived at today's destination surprisingly swiftly.

Well, we were able to see it from the start, it barely took us any time at all to get here.

Naofumi:"Th-That was surprising."

While getting off the boat, my legs were trembling, and I am having trouble standing.

Knowing the ridiculous speed that the boat travelled to its destination at is surprising.

Firo's speed is quite considerable.

After arriving at the island, we comfortably move to the hunting grounds.

As a result, the experience points that demons give are increasing every time. Of course that's excluding the Miraka Bracelet.

If equipped, the experience increased even more.

Anyway, for the time being since Raphtalia is the lowest level, she equips the bracelet first.

Raphtalia:"It's been a while since I hunted demons with Naofumi-sama."

Naofumi: "Now that I think about it, that's right."

Due to one thing or the other, from the fight against the pope all the way to Cal Mira Island, the only fighting that was done was from Firo.

Though I don't think it has been that long either.

I mean.... when we were living as fugitives we had to hunt demons in order to procure food.

Naofumi: "From now on let's level up together at this Cal Mira Archipelago.

Do your best."

Raphtalia: "Okay!"

Firo: "Okay~!"

As we chatted and worked on raising our levels, we noticed that there were more people on Cal Mira Island than the day before.

As expected, the adventurers don't really head towards the center of the island much.

Well, usually the upper limit for them is level 40. Unless they are a chosen adventurer it would be dangerous.

Though that might not be the reason I rarely met them.....

Just that.....How should I say it, those who are overly greedy will turn into bone.....

I am reminded of the law survival of the fittest.

How many adventurers have died on this island?

I refrain from questioning it too much since they aren't in the same class as us.....

Raphtalia: "Tei!"

Firo: "Taaaaa!"

Demons are cut apart in a single one of Raphtalia's sword strikes, and the demons that are kicked by Firo resemble meat paste.

.....Correction, Raphtalia and Firo still have quite a lot to spare.

Furthermore, since I was strengthened, I can efficiently and safely defend against large numbers of demons.

Oh right, there is that Shield Bash.

Naofumi: "Shield Bash!"

I set my sights on an enemy, chant the skill to hit with my shield. Therefore, the demon was hit by the shield.

I watch as the Yellow Beetle is smashed.....and I hear a nice smack.

Though, it didn't seem to do very much damage.

However.....Its movement stopped.

It seems to have been stunned for about three seconds.

This is a skill that inflicts an abnormal state called Stun or confusion.

Though it's still a problem that i can't do any damage.....

Firo: "Bug~"

Some munching sounds resounded.

.....During the opening that the yellow beetle shown when its movement stopped, it was pitifully finished off with Firo eating it.

Cool down time is 5 seconds. It is easy to use. Doesn't cost much SP either.

(TInote: WHAT!? 3 second stun on a 5 second cooldown that doesn't cost much SP? Can somebody yell: "NERF!"?)

As we approach the center of the island, the demons increase in levels, and Raphtalia was struggling slightly.

Naofumi: "Are you alright?"

Raphtalia: "There are no problems!"

Firo: "This is nothing~"

Well, by struggling I meant, instead of needing one attack, now it's two. So, at the center of today's island, we encountered a Karma Dog Familiar. Similar to a circular orb.....A big dog with a pitch black body, had wings growing out from some magic-lens object from it's back.

This breed of dog.....similar to a Golden retriever? It's an indescribably deformed demon. However, it doesn't change that this is still a brutal demon.

I confirm the displayed name as Karma Dog.

Is it the boss of this island?

I can't imagine the guy that summoned something like this Karma Dog Familiar as his familiar.

Naofumi: "Tzuvait • Aura!"

I use support magic on Raphtalia and Firo who challenge the Karma Dog. The Karma dog tries to attack me by biting me with its enormous fangs.

Naofumi: "Hmph!"

The karma dog clamps down on my hand with its mouth, as I try to hold it down.

With a loud clang, I stop the movements of the Karma Dog.

Naofumi: "Shield Bash!"

I use one strike of Shield Bash on the Karma Dog.

If Raphtalia and Firo can take advantage of this opening it would be good.

And, contrary to what I thought, the Karma dog wasn't showing any effects from the Abnormal state, does it have a resistance?

For just a moment, I felt the power of its bite weaken, but it seems to be recovering quickly.

Its movements are fast though, but thanks to me holding it down, we can fight it safely.

After defeating it, we are able to catch up since the experience gained is considerable.

And so our everyday life on the island continued as such.

The next day we defeated a Karma Squirrel. Of course, it included the Familiar.

During yesterday night I checked the skills included in the shields that I obtained.

It was quite fortunate that I got a skill called Highten Reaction that informed me of any hostilities from demons.

I used it in the beginning in the hunting grounds.

Naofumi: " Highten Reaction!"

I tilt my neck, puzzled, as nothing happened. Then Firo blinks several times.

Firo: "Master, there's a strange feeling of something flying around everywhere."

It was brought to my attention.

At first I didn't understand what happened, but I immediately thought about it.

It was due to the swarm of demons aiming at me.

Of course, it included the ones that other adventurers that were fighting.

The effective range is about 15 meters.

As expected, I had to return their demons and apologize to the other adventurers for troubling them, during that time it came to light that I was the hero of the shield.

I had no intention of hiding it, but there are some obstinate guys that have a problem with me.

Still, Highten Reaction has no effect on demons that are above a certain level of intelligence.

Similarly we defeated a Karma Rabbit, and I absorb it into the shield.

Ah, it had a charm that was considered a good rare item. Of course, when a demon is defeated it will be dismantled before absorbing.

I wonder what principle they appear on? It's quite likely that it could be from the dimensional crack.

And then, an ore called Oracle Ore dropped. After confirming the ore, it seems to be one of the necessary materials used to reinforce a weapon.

Therefore I started gathering it.

Since a weapon called Karma Dog Claw dropped, I took it out and gave it to Firo to equip.

.....But its size didn't fit. We were fighting against Karma Dogs for a while, and a larger sized one dropped so we finished without trouble.

Though the size is all over the place.....Can't anything be done about it?

Firo:"Master~ This is claw is ominous~"

Naofumi:"Don't worry about it. It's probably not particularly cursed."

Firo:"Though-.....When kicking, some black stuff sprays out and the demons become unappetizing. The enemies before were more tender~....."

Hmm.....I wonder if it's because the weapon has a darkness attribute. Do you want a different weapon to make your food with?

Naofumi:"How about you Raphtalia?"

A Karma Rabbit Sword dropped from a Karma Rabbit for Raphtalia.

Raphtalia:"For some reason my body has become very light, it is very peculiar."

Before coming to a different world, using weapons dropped from bosses would be very exciting, but for some reason it doesn't seem so good.

I should probably ask the old man at the weapon shop to make weapons from the materials from the Karma bosses.

Well, it should be fine since the offensive power is good.

Though the bad point is that it doesn't have blood clean coating, so the weapon won't last a long time.

While staying at the hotel, I can make my shield a whetstone, and there are also a lot of other shields to go through.

Let's give priority to that.

I should take the weapon to the old man for the coating.....It is necessary to prepare for the next wave too.

It would be best for it to pass anti-climatically.

As our levels rise steadily, a sense of impending crises also rises.

For the time being, to combat the anxiety, I will continue to collect shields from new demons and open up more possibilities to deal with any problems.

I cannot do anything without being careful.....

Well, should I check out the area where unknown demons inhabit after the wave.....?

I have the queen's funding so gold should be no problem.

Anyway, Including Raphtalia and Firo, we started strengthening ourselves.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 107 - The Cal Mira Island Revolution

I defeat a boss called Karma Penguin and check the drops.

…penguin plushy?

What the hell is this?

I take it out of inventory.

“W-what is this?” (Naofumi)

“It looks like a stuffed animal.” (Raphtalia)

“It’s wearing sleeping clothes” (Naofumi)

It’s a Penguin Plushy in a Santa Suit. It seems familiar for some reason.

For argument’s sake, I check its status.

-

Penguin Plushy

Defense Up, Impact Resistance (Small),

Water Resistance (Large),

Dark Resistance (Small),

HP Restoration (Weak),

Magic Amplify (Medium)

Autonomous Repair,

Increased Swim Time,

Size Correction,

Skill Correction (Small),

Race Change – Monster (When Equiped)

-

…It has quite a few useful abilities. It's basic stats don't even lose to my Barbarian Armor +1.

Increased Swim Time… but I don't plan on swimming any time soon.

"It seems to be some sort of Legendary equipment. Raphtalia, please wear-"
(Naofumi)

"NO! There's no way I can fight while wearing that." (Raphtalia)

As I thought.

I also refuse to wear this.

"Then Firo, wants to wear it" (Firo)

"How are you going to wear it. Don't you hate clothes?" (Naofumi)

"It seems fun!" (Firo)

And the second Firo grasped the doll, it increased in size.

? Is that what they meant by size correction? How useful.

“Firo will wear it.” (Firo)

Firo says as she equips the penguin.

Firo now completely looks like a penguin. A Santa bag also appeared for some reason.

“Wha... Don’t those clothes look a little stiff?” (Naofumi)

“D-do they?” (Raphtalia)

“Ah, I can’t put any power behind my attacks.” (Firo)

“Then take it off.” (Naofumi)

Was that the effect of Race Change? As her race changed to something besides Filo Rial, she no longer received any bonuses from my Filo Rial shield series.

It doesn’t seem we can use this...

“Um, Firo wants to wear it to sleep” (Firo)

“Well, I guess that works.” (Naofumi)

It does look like something you would sleep in.

“...Or Naofumi-sama could let me wear his armor, and then wear this. The stats won't be wasted.” (Raphtalia)

“Raphtalia...You want me to fight in this?” (Naofumi)

Well, if you just look at stats, this is most efficient. It is better equipment than my Barbarian Armor.

...

Because of my shield, my equipment isn't taking any damage, but Raphtalia's equipment needs to be repaired.

(TL: If Raphtalia wears it, she should get additional bonuses from Demon Tamer Shield)

“...fine.” (Naofumi)

“Then we'll decide by lottery who wears it. According to Firo, it is hard to move in.” (Raphtalia)

“I-I understand.” (Naofumi)

For some reason, it seems we both just don't want to wear it due to appearance.

The Result...

“Master looks so cute!” (Firo)

“Damn! I'm taking it off when we get to the inn!” (Naofumi)

I can't let the other adventurers see me like this! Just as Firo's shape had changed, I now look like a penguin.

I look like a stuffed animal.

But as I say that, Raphtalia's defense greatly increased upon donning my Barbarian Armor, and we had no problems hunting the other Karma Penguin Familia and Karma Penguin.

I can't let the other Heroes see me wearing this.

But my face has also changed so as long as I hide my shield no one should find out.

"By the way, did you dismantle the monsters?" (Raphtalia)

"Oh, right." (Naofumi)

I was so focused on drops that I forgot to dismantle and absorb the monsters.

For now, I dismantle and absorb the Karma Penguin we just defeated.

Now then what should we do about the others?

Firo begins running around eating the fallen penguins raw. It's not a sight for children.

"Don't eat too many." (Naofumi)

Starting a fire is a pain. When we get to the inn, food will be ready, so I don't feel like cooking.

“Yes~” (Firo)

For the love of...

Now then, I turn my back to the desolated field of penguin carcasses.

“Pe~” (Karma Penguin)

Paku!

“? Did you just hear a strange sound?” (Naofumi)

“Yes, I wonder what it was” (Raphtalia)

“Firo didn’t notice” (Firo)

Om nom nom, Firo answers while engrossed in eating penguin meat.

I thought it had come from Firo’s direction but...

“Was it my imagination?” (Naofumi)

Maybe a nearby Karma Penguin Familiar had cried out.

It did sound like that.

“Gefu~” (Firo)

“Firo, please eat in moderation.” (Naofumi)

“Yes!” (Firo)

That day, we were able to level without a problem. Twas a bit anti-climactic.

Maybe because of the things we have been experiencing until now.

But for Level Grinding to be this easy, I can see why the others still see this as a game.

It was a day like that.

Oh yeah, it seems that I unlocked Karma Penguin Familia Shield and Karma Penguin Shield some time along the way.

-

Karma Penguin Shield (Awakened) 0/25 C

Ability Bonus

...

Equipment Bonus:

Diving Level 2,

Water Resistance (Small),

Fishing Level 3,

Speckle Status Correction (Medium)

Special Effect : Diving Time Up

Weapon Proficiency 0

-

Karma Penguin Familia Shield (Awakened) 0/10 C

Ability Bonus

...

Equipment Bonus:

Diving Level 1

Fishing Level 2

Speckle Status Correction (Small)

Weapon Proficiency 0

-

It seems like it comes with various abilities and status corrections as a bonus.

However shields like the Chimera Viper just came with high stats. I don't understand the system.

And what is Speckle supposed to mean? It doesn't give any explanation.

It is then that the Penguin Plushy comes to mind.

Wearing that item did give a lot of miscellaneous bonuses.

"Raphtalia..." (Naofumi)

“W-why are you looking at me with those eyes? I’m definitely not wearing it.” (Raphtalia)

I pull Raphtalia’s name out of the cup we used for the lottery.

“Today is your turn.” (Naofumi)

Firo is… Well, I’m happy she was born as a Filo Rial.

By the way, this is something that we learned later, but if you wear this costume you can dive in the ocean for long periods of time. But that doesn’t really matter right now.

Later… Firo has learned to move in penguin form without issue.

It seems that she enjoys playing around in that form.

Once again, a normal day of level grinding has passed. It is now the dusk of the last day.

The EXP bonuses slowly subsided, and eventually disappeared altogether along with the red light.

“These days were quite useful.” (Naofumi)

“You’re…correct” (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia answers with a troubled face.

Well, it’s not like I don’t understand.

We’re about to get on the boat set to return to the main land.

Though I had the initial advantage in levels, the result was

Me: Level 73

Raphtalia: Level 75

Firo: Level 74

We reached around the limit that the Island could help us. I was told the bonus was not particularly helpful past level 80, and getting through the 70's was difficult.

Motoyasu calls down to me from the boat.

"It seems you've gotten stronger. Isn't that nice?" (Motoyasu)

"Yeah!" (Firo)

Firo is currently floating next to the boat. It is still docked.

"Firo, he wasn't talking to you" (Naofumi)

"eh?" (Firo)

"Returning to subject, I am now 30 levels higher than when I got here."
(Motoyasu)

"Me too... but I expected a little bit more." (Itsuki)

"There's nothing we can do about it." (Ren)

"The monsters were just too weak." (Motoyasu)

“Ah… well that is true.” (Itsuki)

By the time we had reached level 70, the Karma Series bosses were nothing but small fries.

Firo and Raphtalia’s statuses have sky rocketed.

I have tested new methods and found different ways to increase my stats.

By the way, I still have many shields that are still sealed.

We may have been able to increase our levels, but that does not necessarily mean we have gotten strong. I think Raphtalia and Firo realize this too.

It seems that Level is a sort of magical property of an individual, and things like skill and intelligence are separate.

I don’t think I have the reaction speed or mentality to take on stronger opponents yet.

This is an unfortunate side-effect of grinding.

In the net games I used to play, there were mountains of players who thought they were strong simply by leveling up in special events.

They didn’t realize that level and skill level are separate items.

We should train to prevent that.

“Oya? Is it not the hero of the Shield?” (Swindler)

“…You.” (Naofumi)

The swindling merchant calls out from a boat that is docked next to the one we are about to board.

It seems to be some sort of Cargo ship. Many boxes are stacked on it.

“Well, the Awakening is now over, have you ended business?” (Naofumi)

“Ended business? Surely you jest. I am merely switching to another enterprise.” (Swindler)

“I see…” (Naofumi)

What does he plan on doing? I have a bad feeling about this.

“It’s a secret. I’ve been bound to secrecy.” (Swindler)

The swindler cuts off explanations.

It seems that the rumors of the EXP raising accessories he sold at Cal Mira have spread quite far.

However, rumors being rumors, some information is lost over time. Though the accessory was supposed to only work on the islands, people are now saying that they work everywhere, and testimonies are already popping up.

“I think you should get out of the accessory industry.” (Naofumi)

“What are you saying? Miracle Gem Accessories are still flying off the shelves.” (Swindler)

By the way, they supposedly have a property that makes them break easily. Once they have lost their effects, they shatter and the customer must purchase another.

It seems I have started quite a dubious industry. I have some doubts.

“I’ll work hard! See you Again, Hero of the Shield!” (Swindler)

It seems that his inventory has finished loading. His boat departs first.

“Well… There’s nothing I can do about it now.” (Naofumi)

All I did was give him some advice. The rest is up to him.

“Well, we should board our boat too.” (Naofumi)

“You’re right.” (Raphtalia)

“Board~!” (Firo)

And so, we boarded the boat and waited for it to depart.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 108 - False Charges, Again

The other heroes seem to have all boarded the ship. I was informed by Shadow as the ship departed.

I am thinking about the future while watching the sun set over the sea. First of all, what are all the things that I need to ask the queen when we get back to the castle town?

Next, I need to go to the old man's place to prepare for the next wave. On that topic, should I ask the queen for materials?

If there is time, it wouldn't be bad to go demon hunting ourselves for the materials.

Afterwards, there is also that thing about completely tempering my shield. There is a limit to how many reinforcement materials I can get on the island. At night, I headed up to the deck after finishing dinner .

I watch the sea and feel the evening wind.

.....I found Firo exercising by swimming after her meal.

Just how obsessed are you with swimming right now.

(TLnote: マイブーム MaiBumu..... Apparently it means:" Something that a person is currently obsessed with."

I'll pretend I didn't see anything.

Naofumi:"Hm?"

I see Motoyasu at the corner of the deck..... And I also discover Rishia there.

Flirting again? That reminds me, Rishia was also included in Motoyasu's beautiful girl ranking.

Just how much do you want to make a harem.

Do you even know what Itsuki would say?

For the time being, I'll warn him a bit.

Naofumi: "Hey. Motoyasu, why don't you stop flirting here--"

Motoyasu: "Ah! If it isn't Naofumi! I beg you!"

Motoyasu seems to have a pale complexion and pushes Rishia to me by her shoulders.

Naofumi: "What's up with you?"

Motoyasu: "It's fine! I'll leave it to you!"

What's the matter? To think that womanizer would entrust me with something..... When I look at Rishia, she seems surprised.

For some reason.....Her eyes are swollen up and bloodshot.

Rishia was probably sitting down in that corner crying over and over.

Naofumi: "Wh-What's wrong!?"

Motoyasu: "Th-Then with this I'm done!"

Naofumi: "Wait! Surely you didn't.....Not on a ship....."

Did you fall so low as to commit a crime?

Since she didn't obey did you say: "It's alright, it'll only hurt in the beginning....." and rape Rishia?

It does seem like a Motoyasu's modus operandi. That guy seems like he could nonchalantly steal someone else's lover.

And so, it leads to her being so upset and crying.

What a terrible sleazebag. I'll never let you escape.

Motoyasu: "Th-That's not it!"

Naofumi: "Then prove it."

Rishia: "Mo-Motoyasu-sama isn't responsible....."

Rishia muttered in a hoarse voice.

Damn, was I just over thinking?

As expected even Motoyasu isn't rotten to this degree.

Naofumi: "Then what happened?"

Motoyasu: "There are certain circumstances. But I'm no good at dealing with it. Therefore I'll entrust it to you!"

After saying that while laughing, Motoyasu escaped back to his cabin while trembling after a large sigh.

That's the first time I've seen such an expression on Motoyasu.

Or perhaps, Is that guy the type that is not good at dealing with women?

Was it because of what type Rishia is? That guy's good luck looks a little weak.

Firo: "What happened~?"

Firo noticed the situation and asked after returning to the deck.

Rishia: "Please don't worry about it."

Naofumi: "I'm afraid I can't do that, I feel uneasy thinking you might have been raped by Motoyasu."

Rishia: "No.....I just couldn't put up with it any more."

Naofumi: "You couldn't put up with Motoyasu:"

Rishia: "Th-That's not it!"

Though still tearful, for a moment she looked slightly angry. Did she get a little vigor back?

Rishia: "Motoyasu-sama tried to cheer me up at first too.....As I thought, I don't think I should talk about it."

Naofumi: "Don't say something like that.....You help me once before, I am grateful."

It was Rishia that taught me about the ore that Itsuki uses.

If Rishia is troubled, I want to co-operate as much as possible.

Rishia: "No.....Really, please don't worry."

After saying that, Rishia escaped by departing.

Naofumi: ".....What was that about?"

In the end, only unpleasant examples of what might have happened remains.

Next morning.

I was reading a book in the cabin while questioning Rishia's attitude last night.

Naofumi:"I'm worried after all."

For some reason.....This is something that by all rights I could ignore, but my heart is noisy.

This feeling resembles the time when Melty was attacked by the guard and when I was falsely accused by Bitch.

I have a very bad feeling about this.

Raphtalia:"Is something wrong?"

Naofumi:"Just a little. I can't relax so I'll just go investigate something a little."

Raphtalia:"I see....."

I left the room as Raphtalia continued to do push-ups.

What on earth could have happened? I can't understand this by myself.

I feel a little anxiety as I eavesdrop on Ituki's cabin.

For some reason, happy voices could be heard.

Am I over thinking too much?

Rishia:"Ah....."

Then I see Rishia, who is for some reason staring enviously at the cabin.

When she noticed me, she ran away.

.....What is wrong? Really.

I might be able to discover the circumstances by questioning Motoyasu.

With that reasoning I knock on the door to Motoyasu's cabin.

Woman1:"Yes~"

Woman 1 Opens the door.

An amazing smile that I have never seen before was shown to me.

This girl.....She can make such a face?.....

Is this an act to get along with Bitch and Woman2? Frankly, it makes me sick.

To have the ability to make such a face when she habitually has a deadpan expression.

Women are scary.

Woman1:".....Ah, It's you! If it's just you, then I can remove the mask!"

After a few seconds, her facial expression dampened tremendously, vented her anger for acting towards me.

I absolutely cannot understand why she would be angry.

Naofumi:"Is Motoyasu here?"

Bitch:" Is there a reason why I must tell you?"

Naofumi:"Heey. Motoyasu--"

Bitch:" Don't ignore me!"

Woman2:"Yeah Yeah!"

Woman 2 is taking advantage of the opportunity. I pretend that Bitch isn't in my field of view and ignore her.

I would rather not come here due to the trauma from before.

This guy doesn't matter to me.

Motoyasu: "What's up with you Naofumi, everyone here seems to hate you."

Motoyasu talks to me while being sandwiched in a harem-like situation between Bitch and Woman2.

What an irritating pose.

It would be impossible to ask about his position without being sarcastic.

Naofumi: "Such a thing doesn't matter. I just want to ask about something."

Motoyasu: ".....What is it?"

Naofumi: "The matter from last night. Something about entrusting me before you left."

Motoyasu: ".....I understand. However, after that I'll leave everything to you."

Naofumi: "Leaving it to others.....well fine. I'm acting on curiosity. I'll accept the risk that comes along with it."

There is an idea forming in my mind, as that guy Motoyasu comes out of the cabin with a pale face while telling his followers to stay.

When we head up to the deck, he is still looking at me with a pale face.

Motoyasu: "About Rishia-chan's situation."

Naofumi: "Yeah."

I can't get the reason why Rishia was crying from questioning her.

So I'll ask Motoyasu about the circumstances, since I think he is kind to women.

Motoyasu:"To tell the truth--"

The situation was explained from Motoyasu's point of view.....

After hearing Motoyasu's story, and realising that my intuition was right, there was a lump in my throat as anger surged up.

Naofumi:"Itsuki-----!"

I forcefully kick down the door to Itsuki's room.

The door opened with a loud bang, and everyone inside stared at me simultaneously.

Itsuki:"Wh-What is it!?"

Armour:"Hero of the Shield you bastard!What do you want!"

Naofumi:"What do I want? Ask yourselves! You trashes!"

Due to my loud voice, the whole ship felt noisy.

Itsuki and Armour flinched momentarily due to my oppressive attitude.

Itsuki was the first to recover and he raises his voice in anger as well.

Itsuki:"That's why I asked what the hell happened!"

Naofumi:"Do you seriously not understand yet!?"

This is dangerous, if I keep this resentment smouldering in my heart, then the Wrath Shield will appear.

If Ren comes, it would go on a rampage.

Armour: "I don't know what suspicions you have, Hero of the Shield!"

Armour tried to grab me.

So I avoided Armour's arms and applied a joint-locking technique.

[The rules of a legendary weapon, it is prohibited to have a weapon other than the exclusive weapon]

(Sfx*)Bashin*Bashin* I received pain through my arm, but I ignore it.

Am I prohibited from even doing a Joint-lock attack?

Throwing was okay though, what's the difference?

Armour: "Ouch! Owowow!"

Naofumi: "I came here to talk to Itsuki. Don't get in my way, you small fry!"

I thrust away Armour, and glare at Itsuki.

I haven't felt this anger in a long time.

Since I calmed down a lot thanks to Raphtalia.

I don't intend to suppress it now.

Naofumi: "You.....For someone who has a habit of claiming justice, you know nothing!"

Itsuki: "What are you....."

While angrily looking at Itsuki, I see that Rishia ran towards the commotion and is looking in to the room.

Itsuki:"Seriously, the reason I think you are so mad, is it that thing?"

Naofumi:"So you do know."

Itsuki:"She is the bad one."

Naofumi:"Don't joke around!"

The story that I heard from Motoyasu, it's---

The reason that Rishia was grieving that way.

On the last day of activation, Rishia finished shopping for the day and returned to her companions.

Itsuki:"Rishia-san. Was it you?"

Rishia:"Eh? What are you talking about?"

After Rishia returned, she tilted her neck to Itsuki's disappointed question.

Itsuki:"It's not use to pretend you don't know. You are the one that broke my accessory."

After saying so, Itsuki brought out his cherished bracelet that was cruelly broken.

Rishia:"Eh? I-I have no idea. What is that?"

Itsuki:"To think you would tell a lie like that.....There is evidence."

After saying so, Itsuki directs his gaze to his other companions.

Armour: "Yes, we all saw it. Rishia broke the bracelet that Itsuki-sama cherished and hide it."

No Name: "That's right."

No Name2: "I saw it."

Rishia: "Ehh!? Th-That's not it! I didn't do anything.....I really didn't know!"

Rishia pleaded desperately.

However, Itsuki doesn't believe it.

Itsuki: "So do I not believe in the eye-witness either?.....I can't be helped. I intended to forgive you if you apologized..... Rishia-san, please leave the party starting today."

Rishia: "N-No way! I really didn't know anything!"

At that moment, Rishia saw that Armour was chuckling faintly.

However, Rishia at that moment was clinging to Itsuki and pleading to not be thrown away.

Rishia: "I beg you! Please! Let me stay near Itsuki-sama!"

Itsuki's eyes swim around and seem to be tormented with a little sense of guilt.

Armour: "It's not okay to permit it here, Itsuki-sama!"

No Name: "There is suspicion that Rishia leaked information to the other Heroes."

Armour argued with his companion backing him up.

Itsuki:"It's regrettable, but.....Farewell."

Rishia:"Itsuki-sama!? I really really beg you! Please reconsider, I'll do anything!"

At Rishia's tearful begging, Itsuki turned his back and didn't respond.

Armour:"How long are you going to provoke Itsuki-sama's pity! You liar! You don't have the qualifications to approach Itsuki-sama!"

Itsuki's companions forcibly expelled Rishia out.

After that, even though she wanted to approach even a little.....The results were the same.

This was roughly the contents from Motoyasu's story on Rishia.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 109 - Reason for Dismissal

Motoyasu Relates Rishia's story to me with a pale face.

"At first I was curious as to why she was crying and got a little worried so I called out to her but... sorry... I... I can't stand to see girls like this... Can I leave it to you?" (Motoyasu)

I couldn't hear Motoyasu's words to the end.

Now that I think about it, Motoyasu was killed and sent to this world due to his popularity.

So he can't handle dark girls like this.

Those girls that appear in Galge, yandere was it? (TL: Galge: Non eros Dating Sim)

In my world, games with those types of girls existed as well.

They became famous for their morbid bad endings.

Listening to Rishia, who is getting close to being a stalker, might have awakened his trauma.

But Motoyasu, that isn't the important part.

From the story, it seems Rishia is innocent.

It seems that a separate culprit has framed her.

I hate false charges more than anything. There's no way I can let this be!

So I go after Itsuki to abate my own rage.

"When I said there was no room for further questions she went and tattled to the other heroes... Do you think that will make me take her back in?"

(Itsuki)

"Rishia didn't tell me anything. She went to the womanizing Motoyasu."

(Naofumi)

"What I said was the truth. Rishia lied. It seems that she forgot the debt she had to me and tried to use me. The result is obvious." (Itsuki)

"You have no doubts as to whether or not she is lying?!" (Naofumi)

"You... Do you think I cannot trust the comrades I have built trust with for months? The newcomer Rishia is the dubious one here. I will believe the words of my comrades." (Itsuki)

This person... He thinks I don't know anything so he's spouting bullcrap.

I made sure to gather information before coming here.

Did you think that I, who is used to false charges, would come here without evidence and act on feeling alone?

Rishia isn't the culprit, and I have already figured out the culprit's identity.

Well... my information mostly comes from Shadow, though...

It seems that the Culprit is another member of Itsuki's party.

Shadow already told Itsuki about it, but Itsuki chose to trust his Comrades words over Shadow.

Shadow even told me the contents of that conversation.

I've come this far, it's time for me to go on the offensive.

"No matter what you say, there was a witness! And it's an unrelated person, there's no reason they would tell a lie. And it's weird in itself that your comrades didn't catch the culprit at the scene of the crime." (Naofumi)

"For you to have investigated that far... There's no choice. It's all for her sake. The others are merely giving her what she deserved. They merely found that Rishia had been stained with the color of evil, and carried out the appropriate punishment." (Itsuki)

"Wait, what are you talking about." (Naofumi)

"Rishia called my party members villains and left the party. She cares not for her comrades." (Itsuki)

"...?" (Naofumi)

What is he saying?

I can't keep up with his explanation.

Could it be a conspiracy? An accusation in name only to get her to leave the party?

“And Rishia isn’t suited for fighting. We all discussed and decided it would be best for her to return to her home town and live in happiness.” (Itsuki)

“Yes, it was all for Rishia’s sake.” (Armor)

Armor comes in and confirms Itsuki’s words, but I have no idea where this conversation is going.

Doesn’t that just mean that Rishia had a false crime placed on her for no reason?

There’s no way she can return home like this.

And so,

As far as Itsuki knows, the matter with Rishia was settled. But Rishia, who was left in the dark, was troubled

So Itsuki and his comrades put a crime on her to force her to leave.

That is the real crime here.

Cares not for her comrades? Bull\$h!t!

They were just too used to dealing with villains that they treated her as one as well.

This isn’t a game!

In a game you could just get her to leave the party with a press of a button.

This guy played console games if I remember correctly.

Does he think that Party Members are NPCs?

I feel worn out and look in Rishia's direction.

Even now, Rishia looks like she is about to cry. She is staring at Itsuki in silence.

"To be honest, in my party Rishia was the one who fit in the least... Instead of willingly rushing into dangerous situations, it is best to let her live in peace." (Itsuki)

"You're just avoiding the main issue! How about her feelings!" (Naofumi)

"That isn't what I'm saying. A battle for the fate of the world cannot be won on feelings alone!" (Itsuki)

"Then why did you fire her without telling her anything." (Naofumi)

"Then I will say it bluntly. She does not provide any useful manpower. I thought she would get stronger over time, but if she refuses to raise her skills, it's better for all of us if she just returned home!" (Itsuki)

Ah. He said it.

So he's just shifting the blame now isn't he.

"Then why didn't you just outright tell her that? Were you afraid of becoming the villain?" (Naofumi)

"Of course not! Where are you getting these ideas." (Itsuki)

“If you have to make her a scapegoat because he can’t muster up the courage to tell her to leave, then it’s the truth.” (Naofumi)

“But in regards to her ability, the road ahead will be difficult. We are swallowing our tears and wishing for her happiness.” (Itsuki)

“That’s only you. What do you think other people’s lives are?!” (Naofumi)

From what I can see, she has a high potential for magic.

However because of you, she forced herself to wield a sword and even classed up to aid your fighting style.

And yet you’re just going to abandon her like this. You then justified your actions by making up reasons.

Dammit!

She would have understood if you just told her.

In the end, you just didn’t want to become the villain.

Isn’t this the same as what happened to me?

The end was decided before I could do anything. Itsuki seems to think this matter is already settled.

“This is a good opportunity. Rishia, I can’t put up with you anymore. Frankly, you are weak.” (Itsuki)

So he’s finally become like this.

In order to make sure his situation doesn't worsen, he has decided to say the truth.

And because he sensed he was getting cornered, he decided to make Rishia out to be the bad guy.

Where is your justice now? What self-righteousness, what Hypocrisy.

Even the Swindler and the Slave dealer are better than this.

At least they understand that they are at fault.

They are much better than a kid who acts on a whim and then labels his actions as justice.

"..." (Rishia)

Rishia tries to let out her voice in response to Itsuki's accusation.

"Rishia?" (Naofumi)

"She's just trying to get sympathy. Now leave, both of you." (Itsuki)

"People like you... do you plan to put more charges on us?" (Naofumi)

"When did I ever place false charges on you!" (Itsuki)

"I won't let you act oblivious now! Remember when you ignored Bitch's cheating and acted like I was the one at fault? And that time when you accused me of taking your funds?" (Naofumi)

"The matter with Bitch had nothing to do with me." (Itsuki)

What do you mean 'nothing to do with me'?

How did your Hero of Justice spirit not go off there?

"Anyways, at this point in time, we cannot conclude that you did not take the funds." (Itsuki)

"But haven't we already found the culprit?" (Naofumi)

"Wha!? What nonsense are you spouting now?" (Itsuki)

"It seems you really don't know." (Naofumi)

"Don't look at us like that. If you know the culprit, just say it." (Itsuki)

He seems to be genuinely curious right now.

"It's the Three Hero Church." (Naofumi)

"Are you alright in the head?" (Itsuki)

"Itsuki, you're not actually very smart, are you?" (Naofumi)

"Gu-! What makes you think that." (Itsuki)

I myself don't consider myself to be smart.

I'm actually quite stupid.

If I was smart, I wouldn't have been fooled by Bitch.

My grades were average and my parents gave up on my education.

But if this person isn't the culprit, I think I can figure it out.

"The Church had one didn't it... A legendary weapon in the shape of a bow."
(Naofumi)

"Ah..." (Itsuki)

So he finally noticed. He seems stunned.

The Church was fundamentally against us summoned heroes. They definitely had reason.

And when he had accused me before, where had he been?

Right in front of the church. They had probably fed him the info that I was the culprit.

Now that I think about it, it was quite simple.

"T-that matter is irrelevant now." (Itsuki)

"Itsuki, you..." (Naofumi)

How selfish can this person get. Does he care not of the hearts of others?

I can feel my anger rising.

The blood is rising to my head.

This feels like when Bitch placed false crimes on me. No, it's different.

This is...

"I see, I thought you were a troublesome person, but you had a strong sense of justice and you would make a good hero. But your value as a person was only this much? You've betrayed my expectations. I've had it with you." (Naofumi) (TL: How I felt a few chapters ago)

I give him a cold stare and leave the room.

I've heard something like this before.

The opposite of love isn't hate. It is Apathy.

That means the opposite of Hate is also Apathy.

To me, it looks like Itsuki has already lost interest.

There's no point in getting mad at a person who no longer cares.

"You have no right to be telling me that. Please stay away from me from now on." (Itsuki)

Itsuki shouts at me as I leave. His voice is louder than I have ever heard it.

Ah. I see

So this stems from his childish desire for praise. He hates it when people's opinions of him drop.

"It's no longer of my concern. I have no intentions of dealing with your tyranny any more. I hope you don't break any more expectations."

(Naofumi)

"I'm telling you to get lost!" (Itsuki)

I ignore Itsuki, who has drawn his bow. And walk away.

“This is the last time you can get so full of yourself.” (Itsuki)

Like I care.

His opinion of Rishia... Remains unchanged.

It can't be...

As I head towards side of the ship, I witness Firo Jumping out of the water.

On one wing, she is carrying a drenched Rishia.

“This Onee-chan suddenly fell in. She was sinking, so Firo helped her out.”

(Firo)

“Suicide...” (Naofumi)

To be depressed to that extent...

I can understand Motoyasu's dislike of this type of person a bit.

Just because the person you like bad-mouths you, it doesn't mean you have to die.

“Good job Firo.”(Naofumi)

“Yay~” (Firo)

I pat Firo's head.

If it hadn't been for Firo, this story would have reached the worst possible ending.

If that happened, I would have trouble sleeping at night.

And there's something I have already decided.

"Now then, Rishia." (Naofumi)

"*Cough* *Cough*" (Rishia)

I pat Rishia, who is coughing up sea water, on the back and speak.

"Firo of my party has just now saved your life. What will you do with that saved life?" (Naofumi)

"...Let me die. Itsuki has abandoned me. There is no worth left in me living."
(Rishia)

"The person who decided that is none other than you." (Naofumi)

"Then please let me decide my own death." (Rishia)

"If you think that way there's nothing I can do about it... But there is one thing I can't forgive." (Naofumi)

If I just let it end this way, my anger will never subside.

"Will you accept these false charges? Do you not want to get back at them?"
(Naofumi)

"B-but I..." (Rishia)

“Don’t you want to make Itsuki say, ‘Please come back, I need you’?!”

(Naofumi)

“I-I knew I was weak from the beginning…” (Rishia)

“Who decided that a person has to stay weak forever? The only person who said that is Itsuki. All you have to do is get stronger.” (Naofumi)

Back at the start, I too had been called weak and useless. The other heroes looked down on me.

That’s why I can’t overlook this behavior.

“…Really? … Can I really become strong?” (Rishia)

“I promise you this. I’ll definitely force Itsuki to acknowledge your strength.”

(Naofumi)

I’ll make him regret ever abandoning her.

“That’s why Rishia. Until you find a way to get stronger on your own, I will help you. No, I’ll make you strong!” (Naofumi)

I’m merely acting on a grudge right now.

Rishia resembles me too much. She was falsely accused, and looked down upon. So for her sake and mine, I must make her stronger and let her get back at Itsuki.

“Join my party.” (Naofumi)

Rishia reaches out for my hand. She hesitates for a bit, but finally grasps it.

「……本当に……私は強くなれますか？」

「お前が強くなる方法を見つけるまで手伝ってやる。いや、強くしてやる！」
これは意地だ。

冤罪で嵌められ、弱いと蔑まれていた過去の自分と重なるリーシアを
絶対に強くして樹を見返してやる。

「俺の所へ来い！」

リーシアは俺が差し出した手を、戸惑いながら掴む。



“My heart still belongs to Itsuki…” (Rishia)

“Ah, I’m fine with that. I’m not asking you to believe in me. Believe in whatever you want to believe and you should be fine.” (Naofumi)

I’m not like Motoyasu. I’m not acting because Rishia is a woman.

I just cannot forgive Itsuki for picking her up and throwing her away at his own convenience.

I can also feel the similarities in our circumstances.

And that’s why I can say for sure…

“You will become strong no matter what.” (Naofumi)

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 110 - A Girl Full of Joy

Anyways, Rishia has become our comrade for now but...

When I was walking back to my room, I was stopped by Rafatalia.

"Um, earlier I heard Naofumi-sama shouting, but what happened?"

(Rafatalia)

"Ah, don't worry about it. Itsuki just did something unbelievably infuriating."

(Naofumi)

"Hm? Who is the person behind you?" (Rafatalia)

"U...um" (Rishia)

"I believe she was... anyways, let's return to the room. We can talk then."

(Rafatalia)

It seems that Rafatalia could read the situation to some extent.

We return to the room and I explain the circumstances to Rafatalia. I also conduct introductions and say that she will be a comrade from now on.

For obvious reasons, Rafatalia listened with a face composed half of amazement and half of anger.

"That person is..." (Rafatalia)

"U-um please don't say bad things about Itsuki." (Rishia)

“Even after going through that, you will still defend him…” (Rafatalia)

Rafatalia seems quite surprised.

I feel the same…

“If Firo hadn’t been there, she would have been dead.” (Naofumi)

“Praise Firo more.” (Firo)

“Yes, yes. But I just praised you earlier.” (Naofumi)

“Eh?” (Firo)

Looking for more praise, Firo turns into her human form and forcibly puts my hand on top of her head.

This sensation is… The Ahoge is annoying.

“Itsuki isn’t at fault. It’s all because I am weak.” (Rishia)

Rafatalia grabs Rishia’s hand. Rishia looks like she is going to cry again.

“I understand. He is important to you, right.” (Rafatalia)

“Yes…” (Rishia)

“I think I can understand. Let’s work hard together.” (Rafatalia)

“…Is Rafatalia like that too? Ok, I will do my best.” (Rishia)

? is it just my imagination or is there a strange aura directed at me?

Well, as long as they get along.

It's a hundred times better than forming an antagonistic relationship.

"Rishia, you will be travelling with us as a comrade. Please think of a way to make yourself stronger as you do that." (Naofumi)

"Do your best." (Rafatalia)

"Oh yes, and stalking Itsuki is henceforth banned." (Naofumi)

"I... I understand." (Rishia)

"We'll only be on the ship for a few more hours, so you should be able to handle it." (Naofumi)

It will be bad if she develops a stalking habit.

It's probably better for her to keep her distance for now.

"I'll make an effort." (Rishia)

"Also... Itsuki probably won't do anything, but for your sake I think you should avoid meeting him face to face." (Naofumi)

Time will probably heal these wounds.

I also try to avoid him. Dealing with him is a pain.

If I need to ask him anything, I'll use Shadow.

"Shadow" (Naofumi)

I call Shadow. And he/she/it appears immediately.

Where is this person watching us from usually?

But besides me, Shadow seems to observe the actions of the other heroes as well.

“What is it-gojaru?” (Shadow)

“What are the other Heroes planning to do? Oh and is there anything my party has to do?”

“The Sword and Bow will start on missions when we reach the main land-gojaru. I have been told to take the Shield and Spear to the Castle when the boat docks-gojaru.” (Shadow)

“Fumu…” (Naofumi)

So Ren and Itsuki already have jobs to do… and Me and Motoyasu have to go to the castle.

That’s fine by me. I have to ask the queen something anyways. Does Motoyasu have anything to do at the castle?

Ah, Bitch’s punishment.

Well as long as we head off after Itsuki departs there shouldn’t be a problem.

“Now then, what should we have Rishia do?” (Naofumi)

“Hiii-!” (Rishia)

“What’s with that voice? I won’t give you an impossible job.” (Naofumi)

She did all the odd jobs at Itsuki’s place.

Does she think I will do the same?

I just wanted to confirm party roles.

I hunted with Itsuki’s party for two days. I know her specialties.

Rishia’s specialty is being a Jack-of-all-trades.

CQC, Attack Magic, Healing, Support.

Having someone who can perform all of these will truly benefit my party.

The front line has Rafatalia and Firo, so that aspect is probably fine.

Should I assign her to the currently-vacant Magician position?

She can use all types of Magic and is quite resourceful, so there shouldn’t be a problem.

Level and Status aren’t everything.

If you use your head, you can achieve results past your stats.

This is perfect.

I give out the party roles.

I assign myself to defense, healing. The Support Role

There's no point if I switch now.

Rafatalia is the Vanguard.

In battle, she is weaker than Firo, but against skilled opponents she can use illusion magic to gain the upper hand.

Firo is on offense.

She has high basic attack and speed. She can also use ranged magic. Her specialty is crowd clearing.

And I have to make a new position for Rishia considering her strengths.

I begin the explanation to Rishia, who seems to be afraid.

"Don't worry Rishia, Naofumi may be sharp tongued, but he's not as bad as you would think" (Rafatalia)

"... I'd like to ask this once, but why are you two suddenly so close?"
(Naofumi)

What do you mean 'not as bad as you would think'?

Well, I am used to dealing with dangerous people like the Slave Dealer and the Accessory Merchant

"T-that is..." (Rishia)

Rishia looks in my direction but stays silent.

What is she looking at?

"Are you wondering what my position in battle is?" (Naofumi)

"No..." (Rishia)

"Don't say no. I'll gladly tell you." (Naofumi)

"He's this sort of person." (Rafatalia)

"... I see..." (Rishia)

For some reason, Rishia is no longer afraid. I don't understand women.

Why are women so complicated? In Galge, it was so simple...

"Now that I think about it..." (Naofumi)

I stare at Rishia from head to toe.

Her equipment is quite sub-par.

It must be because of the Hierarchy. The higher members get all of the good equipment.

To be useful, she must first have good equipment. To have good equipment, she must prove to be useful. This vicious spiral made it so that only her level rose and her equipment stayed the same.

"Rishia, what is your level?" (Naofumi)

"? I'm level 68." (Rishia)

She answered quite simply.

I can't check her status, but she will probably be a helpful asset.

Rishia's base specialty is Magical Attack and Healing. If I leave these to her, our party should become more diverse.

But I am worried about my own defensive capability.

Rafatalia and Firo are quite tough. I don't need to worry about protecting them to that great of an extent.

At 68, her defense will probably be behind the other two.

I also have to worry about the abilities she has that Itsuki never bothered to train.

"I feel bad about it, but for now, to make up for the difference in stats, you will have to wear this." (Naofumi)

I hand the Penguin Plushy to Rishia.

It's really durable and out-ranks Rafatalia's and my armor in stats.

"Naofumi... That is..." (Rafatalia)

"There's no choice. This is currently the best armor in our possession."
(Naofumi)

All of the other excess equipment I have right now is around the same level as Rishia's current gear.

By the way, I currently have 3 of the penguin suits in my possession. We hunted way too many of those things.

But we didn't get any other plushies from the rest of the Karma series.

"Ah, this is..." (Rishia)

"What's wrong?" (Naofumi)

"Itsuki also had something like this... It was a Squirrel Plushy." (Rishia)

"He... So did he wear it too?" (Naofumi)

"He said it was powerful equipment and asked if anyone wanted to wear it. But everyone rejected it." (Rishia)

"So you ended up wearing it?" (Naofumi)

"Of course" (Rishia)

What do you mean of course? Don't accept it so easily.

She really is too positive.

That was definitely a form of bullying, and yet she can simply laugh about it.

"It was wonderful Equipment. But when I took it off, my comrades took it."
(Rishia)

"What sort of Equipment was it?" (Naofumi)

"When I wore it, I got a lot of bonuses, and fighting became easy." (Rishia)

"Well the enchantment on it is quite powerful..." (Naofumi)

The Squirrel suit probably also had Magic Amplify as an ability. It has a good compatibility with Rishia

But it also stands out in another way...

Itsuki is skilled at hiding so I think he can wear it just fine.

"Once we get off the boat, you can take it off." (Naofumi)

"You want me to take it off?" (Rishia)

For some reason, Rishia stares at me with a troubled face.

What is with this reaction?

"Are you bothered?" (Naofumi)

"It's good equipment, and if I wear it, no one will be able to notice if I am sad." (Rishia)

That is the logic of a loser.

She is acting like a bullied child.

"Are you really okay with that?" (Naofumi)

"Yes!" (Rishia)



Yes!... really?

This will be difficult. It will probably work out fine, but if her heart doesn't get stronger then getting stronger will be difficult.

Saying no one will notice her crying if she wears the suit...

"You can wear that at the beginning, but you eventually have to graduate from it." (Naofumi)

"*Sigh*" (Rafatalia)

Rafatalia has a complicated expression.

Does she have a problem with Rishia's behavior?

I don't think their compatibility is bad... but I can't judge yet.

"Anyways, let's get stronger one step at a time." (Rafatalia)

"Yes!" (Rishia)

Only her response is high-spirited.

I feel she will get along well with Ren's people.

And so Rishia puts on the Penguin Plushy.

"How do I look? Dood" (TL: Please help me. I have no idea what sound a penguin makes)

"ah... It's... fitting." (Naofumi)

It makes her stand out quite a bit..

I remember the me that was there before I came to this world

It seems that there are now two people who will happily wear this costume including Firo.

As a Hero, I was supposed to gather human companions, but now it feels like I've gathered nothing but monsters.

"I will be under your care from now on." (Rishia)

"Likewise." (Naofumi)

"Welcome. Your clothes match Firo's" (Firo)

"Welcome to the party" (Rafatalia)

And so we welcomed Rishia as a new member.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 111 – A King I Can Only See as an Idiot

After Shadow told us that Itsuki had departed, we get off the boat.

After that, we use the carriage and comfortably proceed towards the castle town.

There seemed to be an event going on at the gate. I'm about to enter the city when-

I see something that makes me doubt my eyes.

Trash is wearing nothing but his mantle and some pants. He is walking around in a comical manner.

The Queen is watching from a lavish carriage parked behind him.

"Welcome back Iwatani." (Queen)

".....?" (Naofumi)

Raphtalia tilts her head in confusion at the spectacle. Firo cranes her head to see better, and Rishia is making troubled arm gestures. By the way, she is still in the penguin suit.

"What... is that?" (Naofumi)

"It's the king dancing around in clothes only stupid people can see of course." (Queen)

... The Emperor's new Clothes? Clothes only stupid people can see? The person wearing them looks quite stupid already.

Right now I am experiencing two spectacles.

I'm not sure if I'm supposed to see a man dancing around half naked, or a man dancing around in stupid clothing.

Well, it doesn't really matter to me.

"Is something weird?" (Firo)

Firo seems puzzled.

Ah... Firo is also an idiot.

Perhaps she can actually see all his clothes. (TL: Emperor's New Clothes Fairy Tale Reference)

"That person is naked, is there a party?" (Firo)

... or not.

I occasionally treat Firo like a child, or a bird-brained fool.

However, I realize that she can sometimes be surprisingly sharp.

"I dread asking, but Why?" (Naofumi)

"Are you asking because you can see the clothes?" (Queen)

Which is it?

My head hurts.

Is he wearing them or not?

“Wisdomless Darling, where do you think you are going?” (Queen)

“gunununu…” (Trash)

The Queen watches over Trash with a sadistic expression.

Trash notices me and starts staring at me as if I was the boyfriend his daughter suddenly brought home.

But if he tries to do anything to me, he will only be punished further.

Why is it? For some reason, I am starting to pity the man. Perhaps I just question the Queen’s punishment methods.

I approach Trash and ask…

“Trash, why must you follow all of the Queen’s orders?” (Naofumi)

“you bastard-!” (Trash)

Trash looks like he is about to lash out, but then he senses the Queen’s stares and calms down.

“Please talk with the Shield.” (Queen)

“gu…” (Trash)

The Queen orders Trash around.

I really wonder why he is obligated to obey.

Is he in love? Nah, love should wither after a hundred years.

(TL: He's saying they've been married a long time.)

"Do you want me to raise your punishment?" (Queen)

"If you will." (Naofumi)

"Gu... I will listen to my wife, but definitely not you!" (Trash)

"Exactly. I want to see you suffer." (Queen)

Is this the Queen's fetish? Could she simply be a Sadist? Does that make Trash a Masochist?

The world of fetishes is quite wide.

I won't pursue this matter any further.

"But seriously, why?" (Naofumi)

"You'll never understand." (Trash)

And Trash runs off by himself.

I can't understand him, but he probably has his own reasons.

The people of the town watch Trash leave with troubled expressions.

This country is done for isn't it. In multiple ways.

“... That person understands that he is at fault. But his emotions do not allow him to forgive you.” (Queen)

“*sigh*...” (Naofumi)

Is this something that only his wife can understand?

But for the king of a country to act like that... I can understand it if no one is watching, but to run off down the central shopping district...

I'm surprised the Queen is able to understand this person. What does she see in him?

“Iwatani, please go ahead to the castle. I still have many things I must prepare.” (Queen)

“Understood... Wait, you're not making another set of 'Clothes only Idiots can see', are you?” (Naofumi)

“I wonder. Well, it's something I had ordered before you set out to Cal Mira.” (Queen)

“Understood” (Naofumi)

In a few hours

I was lead in front of the throne.

It seems that Motoyasu's party has just arrived here.

They took their time. I wonder what happened.

"I've been expecting you." (Queen)

The Queen says whilst looking at Bitch. Trash is... absent.

But if he were here, he would just complicate things more.

"Now then, how did you find Cal Mira?" (Queen)

"Couldn't you have just invited all four heroes to ask?" (Naofumi)

"That is a plan for another day." (Queen)

I think Itsuki and Ren were invited to come in a weeks' time.

"Queen, isn't it cruel to leave the King in such a state?" (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu asks the Queen with a slightly worried face.

So he saw the spectacle as well.

That might be the reason they are so late.

"That is the severity of the crimes my husband committed, Kitamura. Even if you are a hero, this is not a matter you should interfere with." (Queen)

"But still-!" (Motoyasu)

"And there was a reason for that festival. We must somehow reclaim the valuable funds that that father-daughter combo frivolously spent." (Queen)

"ku..." (Motoyasu)

"Kitamura, please continue to oversee Bitch's punishment as well." (Queen)

“Moth- Queen! I was only doing what was necessary for the sake of the world.” (Bitch)

Bitch realizes that Parental sympathy will not come. She tries to use logic

But...

“The bills came for Expensive Accessories, Precious Metals, Clothes. A luxury rental estate and several visits to numerous expensive night clubs. Is that what you call the sake of the world?” (Queen)

So the Queen was tracking Bitch’s spending... Also that woman seems to be ridiculously loose with money.

I would have fired her on the spot.

“Also, you also attempted to attack Iwatani during the personnel exchange. For that, the length of your sentence is increased.” (Queen)

“You Can’t!” (Bitch)

“If you are travelling with Bitch, you must shoulder her debt to some extent.” (Queen)

“gu...” (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu looks angry. His fists are clenched.

How has he been handling Bitch’s spending before?

“I will transfer some of her debt to Kitamura. Please be prepared to receive reduced rewards from missions for a while.” (Queen)

“...Fine. But if I pay off the debt, then let her go! Change her name back as well.” (Motoyasu)

It seems Motoyasu is misunderstanding something.

“This and that are separate matters. Unless she puts an honest effort towards saving the world, she will not regain her freedom.” (Queen)

“Aren't you being too cold.” (Motoyasu)

“For a princess of a country to frame a hero, and try to assassinate her sister this punishment is still too light. Does Kitamura wish for something more severe?” (Queen)

If this continues, Bitch's punishment will only increase. Motoyasu senses this and stays quiet.

“Let's turn the conversation back a bit.” (Queen)

The queen raises her arms, and Shadow appears carrying a plate full of Lucor Fruits.

“Bitch, you said before that Iwatani got drunk and tried to violate you, correct?” (Queen)

“O-of course!” (Bitch)

“That is odd. My report stated that Iwatani was a god of all liquor. That he doesn't get drunk no matter what.” (Queen)

Motoyasu's face turns blue at the sight of the Lucor.

Will this act truly prove my innocence? But... Where the hell did you get information on my alcohol constitution?

"Doesn't get drunk? What are you saying. That was just a trick to make a fool out of Motoyasu." (Bitch)

"Then have a bite." (Queen)

Shadow presents the Lucor fruit to Bitch.

"Why must I eat it?!" (Bitch)

"There's no choice... Iwatani, please taste test the Lucor Fruit." (Queen)

"? If you'll let me eat it."(Naofumi)

This fruit is slowly becoming my favorite food.

However, it is quite expensive so I don't think I will be able to eat it often.

I eat the Lucor Fruit presented to me.

Yep, this thing is delicious.

"u..." (Everyone)

Shadow, and everyone else in the room stares at me with their mouths open in amazement.

Is it that deadly?

"Now then, please eat one as well." (Queen)

"T-the one you gave him just now was definitely fake." (Bitch)

"Fine... Iwatani, only eat half of it this time." (Queen)

"Yes Sir." (Naofumi)

The thought of having an indirect kiss with Bitch sickens me. But if I follow the Queen's orders, I will be able to see something nice.

I bite off half of the Lucor and give it back to shadow.

Ah...Raphtalia and Firo are now making very weird faces.

I can't tell Rishia's expression as she is still in the penguin suit, but she seems to be facing a wall and putting her head against it in anguish.

Is this food really that disgusting?

"N-no! There's no way I'm eating it! There's no-" (Bitch)

"Just eat it already!" (Queen)

"S-stop it!" (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu steps in front of bitch and reaches toward the lucor.

Not happening.

I approach Motoyasu and look him in the eye.

"Oh yes, about that matter with Rishia..." (Naofumi)

"Why are you bringing that up at this time!?" (Motoyasu)

“She was deeply impacted by Motoyasu, who is a nicer person than me. She was always watching from afar. That’s right… Broken under the Bow’s oppressive regime she found solace in your kindness. She is now infatuated with you, she wants to monopolize you. She is now waiting for you behind every corner, sharpening her knife.” (Naofumi)

(TL: If you didn’t get it, he is awakening Motoyasu’s Yandere Trauma)

“Wha………….t……!?” (Motoyasu)

“He?” (Rishia)

Rishia lets out a surprised voice.

She is still wearing the suit so Motoyasu doesn’t recognize her.

“Where could she be watching you from? She might be staring at you even now…” (Naofumi)

“Now that I think about it, I can feel a stare!” (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu, you’re imagining it.

Rishia is definitely here, but I don’t think she is staring at you.

Is Rishia even a Yandere?

As long as she only likes Itsuki, I don’t have to be afraid.

“U…wa…a..aa.a..aaa” (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu is looking around frantically and moaning under his breath.

How scared can he be right now?

Motoyasu really REALLY hates Yanderes.

I seem to have found a good weakness. I'll try it next time as well.

This is even more effective than Firo's Groin Kicks.

"M-Motoyasu!?" (Bitch)

Motoyasu has frozen up, and Bitch gives an expression of surprise.

"Now!"(Queen)

Shadow once again advances on Bitch with the lucor.

"Why do I have to- Mugu!?" (Bitch)

It was quite a surreal experience. I saw Woman one trying her hardest to hold back her laughter.

With perfect aim and timing, Shadow had tossed the lucor into Bitch's mouth as she was speaking and forced her to eat it.

"Oh, also we have testimony from the innkeeper that you were seen taking the key to Iwatani's room that day. I bet you used your authority to silence him, but mine is greater than yours." (Queen)

The second after the Queen says this, Bitch's face turns red and she collapses.

"Bitch!" (Motoyasu)

Motoyasu recovers and catches Bitch before she hits the ground.

"Please take her to the Infirmary. She will be fine." (Queen)

That was a surprisingly satisfying event.

"Naofumi, you are laughing darkly again." (Raphtalia)

"Sorry, there's no way I can't laugh here." (Naofumi)

"a ha ha~" (Firo)

"... Firo, why are you laughing?" (Naofumi)

"Going with the flow." (Firo)

"You know, um..." (Rishia)

Rishia waddles over. She seems troubled.

She should relax more...

"There's a mountain of other evidence. For example, let's examine Kitamura's old chain mail." (Queen)

"W-what are you doing?!" (Motoyasu)

"I won't do anything. But can you please confirm the inscription on that chain mail?" (Queen)

"There's nothing like that!" (Motoyasu)

“Every blacksmith puts an inscription, a sort of magical signature on their creations. In this city, it is considered to be a sort of obligation to inscribe them.” (Queen)

“Really?…” (Motoyasu)

“They are usually made so that the Merchants guild can identify when where and by whom they were made quite easily.” (Queen)

I didn’t realize it. So the items I got from the old man also have inscriptions?

“By Iwatani’s testimony, the Chain Mail he bought was stolen. So I will just need to verify the inscription on it.” (Queen)

“T-this was a gift that Bitch saved up for and gave to me.” (Motoyasu)

“Yes, I understand and believe you. But to clear all doubt, let’s get it checked up just in case.” (Queen)

Old Man… So you are even helping me here.

He was the first person to believe me over Trash and Bitch.

“If that armor is proven to have been honestly bought by Bitch, then there is no problem but otherwise…” (Queen)

There’s no doubt about it. I already know the results

“… Understood, let’s check.” (Motoyasu)

"This parchment contains the inscription on the Chain Mail Iwatani purchased earlier. Please compare it to the one on your armor." (Queen)

The Queen hands the parchment to Motoyasu.

Motoyasu takes out the chainmail and searches for the inscription

... When he finds it, his face turns pale.

"Next up, Naofumi, is this yours?" (Queen)

And she hands me a single set of clothing.

It is clothing I wore upon coming to this world. It gives off a nostalgic feeling.

"It's something I found in a store in ShieldFreiden. It is Iwatani's isn't it?" (Queen)

"... Yes, it's a bit dirty, but there is no doubt." (Naofumi)

It might be a difference in culture, but this world's fashion is completely different from mine.

There's no mistake. It's the cheap set I wore as casual clothes.

The pants are even there.

The entire set is around 3000 Yen, but it feels so nostalgic that I want to cry.

(\$28.10 USD last I checked)

Now that I think about it, was the selling of these clothes the cause of Trash's current stats?

Is that why he is currently half naked?

I had completely forgotten about them until now. This irritates me for some reason.

I should be angrier right now.

Not only does he summon me against my will, he frames me and leaves me penniless. I even lose all the Items I have on hand.

"Is this clothing from Naofumi's world?" (Raphtalia)

"Yes. I never thought I would get it back." (Naofumi)

Raphtalia stares at the clothes with interest.

I got Raphtalia after I already lost these. It's not unusual that she is curious.

I have a lot of better equipment now, so these clothes are not helpful, but they are still important to me.

Bitch had probably taken them and sold them. They were unique so they might have fetched a high price.

"That's good. We traced the route this item travelled, and found a merchant who admitted to purchasing it from Bitch." (Queen)

"This is a lie! You're just making things up! I won't believe it!" (Motoyasu)

Well, I expected this.

Motoyasu desperately shouts out these words and then runs off.

What a difficult person.

Where does he even plan on going?

"I told you didn't I, Kitamura. Please remove this person and take her to the infirmary." (Queen)

After the Queen confirms that all members of the Motoyasu party have left, she shuts the door.

Quite a few vicious things were said without any thought given to Motoyasu, Woman 1 or Woman 2.

Woman 1 understands, but Woman 2 is on Bitch's side.

That party is quite scary. I don't really want to meet them again.

"Well then, let's leave this matter here and go on to your job." (Queen)

Did she call Motoyasu's party over just to issue a punishment?

I find that fact more funny than the situation itself.

"You're smiling again." (Raphtalia)

"Ha Ha" (Firo)

"Please don't laugh." (Naofumi)

It seems that it will take a long time for my acquired cynicism to go away.

Rishia is also letting out a troubled voice.

By the way, she was saying

“Will the princess be alright?” (Rishia)

“Rishia, don’t misunderstand. That is not a princess. That is just the In-debt Adventurer, Bitch.” (Naofumi)

“Feeeee…” (Rishia)

Rishia pops out of the Penguin costume. She is shaking.

It seems her evaluation of me has dropped.

It wasn’t even that high to begin with.

“About her debt, the amount she currently owes is 5000 Gold Coin. I hope she can work it off during the next wave.” (Queen)

5000 Gold! That’s a lot. Last wave, Motoyasu earned 4000 Silver for his efforts. Paying it off will take a while.

Well, what to do next. Should I go to the weapon shop and see what they have?

I believe the Old Man said he would take custom orders.

“You’ll need better Swords, Claws and armor for the next wave. Perhaps the royal Blacksmiths can do something. Please follow me for a second.”
(Queen)

“Ah…” (Naofumi)

The Queen leads us to the warehouse building next to the castle.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 112 - Storage

At the warehouse that stinks of a dusty castle. It seems the equipments for the knights order is kept here.

A place where excellent equipment is located in a RPG.

I will confirm it one by one.

Wow.....Most of these are expensive all-purpose equipments but they have strict requirements.

Queen:"The demands of Iwatani-sama were not finished yet.....I apologize."

The swords that are lined up here are already better than the magic silver sword that Raphtalia was using..... The problem is that the offensive power of the Karma Rabbit Sword is still higher.

It seems quite hard to use..... Let's go ask the old man at the weapon shop. I mean, the direction this is heading in isn't bad

Naofumi:"Don't worry about it. Let's makes some compromises."

Queen:"Thank you very much. You can use the materials collected here instead."

Next, we are shown the warehouse keeping various materials.

The queen passes me a document that has letters written on parchment.

Queen:"This is a list. You can make a custom order to a blacksmith master for your orders."

Naofumi:"Mhm.....I appreciate your cooperation."

Material System.....

Naofumi:"May I take a little?"

Queen:"Go ahead."

I absorb a little bit of each material stored within the castle to unseal new shields.

There are a ton of things that are too far down the skill tree, but a lot of excellent ones increased.

It would be impossible to unseal all of them before the next wave.....

Naofumi:"Afterwards, for the blacksmith, I have a guy that I want to request from."

Queen:".....Is that so. If that's how Iwatani-sama wants it."

The image of the old man in the weapon shop that took the trouble to make my protective gear and our weapons springs up.

He has helped me out in various ways.

It feels like I would be returned good with evil if I order equipment or weapons from places besides the old man's weapon shop.

Above all, that guy's skill can be trusted.

There are a few more problems to deal with before the wave.

I just noticed something this place.

Naofumi:"Where did the other heroes go?"

Queen:"I had them go quell a wave in the neighboring countries."

Naofumi:".....Come again?"

That reminds me.....There certainly was such a feeling.

That waves are happening not just in Melromarc, but all over the world.

Naofumi:"How do they participate."

Queen:"It is possible to fight the waves of a region by letting your weapon resonate with the Hourglass of the Dragon's Era in their country."

Naofumi:"Wait.....That means it's possible to not participate when the wave is happening in Melromarc?"

Queen:"Yes. That's what it means."

Hey!

Won't it be bad for you if I found that out? to think she would explain it and point it out naturally.

If I knew about this before.....I would have already quickly escaped from this country.

But I wonder.....The situation right now isn't bad, and I will have to fight a wave eventually.

I wonder if the Hourglass of the Dragon is a device that works like a save point in net games.

I wanted to know this before!

Queen:"Iwatani-sama? Do you know there are appearances of heroes other than the four holy heroes?"

Naofumi:"Come again?"

That's the first time I've ever heard of such a story.

Queen:"Then shall I explain?"

The queen's eyes sparkle.

There was a time when I heard about the queen liking legends, from Melty when we were talking about the legend of the Queen of Philorials.

Queen:"There is a legend about the Seven Star Heroes almost as famous as the legend of the Four Holy Heroes."

Naofumi:"Seven Star Heroes?"

Queen:"Yes, it is a legend of heroes that are chosen by seven weapons, just like the Four Holy Heroes."

As many as seven huh.....

If all of the other weapons are on a different system, it feels more like a game.

In an RPG it would be certain that one of these guys will become a companion in the future.

However.....In this world, when I hear about guys that use legendary weapons.

I think about some people who only make matters worse.

Queen:"Due to the problem in our country created from Trash and the Three Heroes Church, we had to close our eyes and abandon the power of the Seven Star Heroes."

Naofumi:"Hmm....."

Queen:"The thing is, it is said that the Seven Star Heroes and the Four Holy Heroes are deeply related to each other, they are called Supplementary Heroes--"

The queen continues to talk about legends for a long time.

Raphtalia only knew about the Four Holy Heroes and listens intently. Firo is dozing off to the queen's story.

For some reason Rishia seems to already know about it and keep calm.

Naofumi:"Then, just like me, are there as many as seven other Heroes that were summoned?"

Queen:"No."

Naofumi:"Is it something else?"

Queen:"It is common throughout adventurers to yearn to become a Seven Star Hero. In short, there are those that become heroes by answering the summons, and there are those from this world that can become heroes."

(TInote: For those that read the christmas side story.....So many things just clicked.)

Someone from this world that can by-pass the summoning limitation and become a hero.....

Is it something from the common sense of this world?

Since I am called a hero, some strange person would probably not be chosen.

Queen:"Tentatively, if the hero summoning using a legendary weapon fails, the weapon will be available to look for chosen ones among the commoners."

Naofumi:".....Isn't there a feeling of a legendary sword sticking in the ground?"

Queen:" The sword is a weapon of one of the heroes among the Four Holy Heroes, I'm certain that it would not be stuck in the ground."

Indeed. There will be plenty of those that will want to challenge it. If they are chosen, they get stronger and national aid will be received. There is no reason not to yearn for it.

Queen:"There are many more heroic epics about the Four Holy Heroes around the world. There is a possibility of a Seven Star Hero appearing whenever a war occurs."

Naofumi:"Hoh-....."

Queen:"After the recent wave happened, a majority of the Seven Star Heroes appeared."

Naofumi:"Was it that much of a crisis?"

Queen:"Yes. Well.....Iwatani-sama has already encountered one of the Seven Star Heroes already."

Naofumi:"What? Who?"

Queen:"That is.....It's better for you not to know."

Naofumi:"Speak. I am bothered by who."

Queen:"There is no advantages to finding out. That one is already....."

Shadow:"Queen."

A cautioning tone could be heard from Shadow.

Queen:"That is a state secret. If it leaks out I don't know if it could lead to a war or not. Please excuse me."

Naofumi:".....I still want to know."

Queen:"If that person was as splendid as before, I would have gladly talked about it. Someday.....Please wait until that time comes to talk."

Naofumi:"Is just the name fine?"

Queen:"The name of that formerly excellent person is Rouge. Twenty years ago, he is the Seven Star Hero of the Cane that saved a lot of countries, including this one by faced off against Silt Welt, which at the time was scheming world domination.

Naofumi:"You're praising that guy very highly. Are you acquainted with this guy?....."

(TInote: Hoooh boy..... Must hurt to be the queen."

If it was twenty years ago, he must be considerable old.

When thinking about my acquaintances, the grandmother, slave trader, and accessory merchant.

The latter two are out of the question, the grandmother would be someone to consider.

That rampage after her dramatic revival with the medicine.

But, I feel it's someone different.

.....Who? I seriously don't know!

Queen:"It's a story you will hear someday."

In other words, the queen won't tell me.

Queen:"That person was remarkable back in the day too....."

..... She said the same thing about trash with this expression.....

Naofumi:"Rishia, do you know?"

Rishia:"Ah, yes. King-sama is the Seven Star Hero of the Cane-sama."

Naofumi:"Huh?"

Rishia:"Right now, it's a fact that thanks to the king the country of Melcromarc exists now. I heard stories from papa that he was a great person, known as the Virtuous King of Wisdom."

No No No way, that lump of foolishness called trash has the power of a Seven Star Hero?

Impossible! I couldn't even see a cane on him.

What Virtuous King of Wisdom. They might be mistaking it with Foolish King of Ignorance.

Naofumi:"Don't say such a funny joke Rishia."

Rishia:"It's not a joke though.....I think his figure a while ago is surely a plan or something. my mama said that as long as King-sama is hero, Melromarc would be peaceful."

Naofumi:".....Therefore your papa and mama become fallen nobles."

Rishia:"Fueeee....."

(TInote: Holy shit. Low blow dude.)

According to what I heard, it might be some famous scheme mentioned in my world.

Laying a trap by acting foolish or something. I have a feeling not to carelessly read too deeply into this.....

No way.

This has got to be that. That is the real thing.

The real one could be dead, and Trash is just inheriting the place.

Queen:"By the way, it looks like the one wearing the suit recently joined."

Naofumi:"Yeah, she came from Itsuki's place."

Queen:"I know the circumstances. Was it house Ivy Red?"

Was there such a name?

Incidentally, she is from a fallen noble family.

Queen:" I remember those local nobles. By all means, I hope that you fulfil the mission of saving the world with Iwatana-sama."

Rishia:"O-Okay."

With that, the conversation and getting was done.

Looking at the suit Rishia is wearing, it's impossible to tell whether or not she is embarrassed.

I mean, to be able to notice that is a human.

Naofumi:"That reminds me, Rishia what do you want to do in the future?"

Rishia:"What to do?"

Naofumi:"Yeah, did you not hear it from Itsuki? The reason why Raphtalia and Firo are so strong is due an ability within my shield. I am asking whether or not you want to apply it to yourself as well."

I explain the power of growth correction.

Rishia:"There is such a power? Just by raising levels..... To be strong."

Naofumi: "Normally you would have been strong, but you are a jack of all trades and master of none, I thought it would be best to apply some protection."

Rishia approaches me and leans forward.

Naofumi: "Rishia, do you want to become strong?"

Rishia: "Yes!"

(TInote: Is it just me, or is this really creepy?)

A good answer with strong enthusiasm.

To answer those feelings, I clearly say.

Naofumi: "Then, become my slave."

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 113 - How to become Stronger

Rishia:"Fueeeeeee~::~::~~!"

A loud pathetic voice echoes throughout the warehouse.

And Rishia begins to run from me like an escaping rabbit.

She is demonstrating her judgement in a strange place.

Naofumi:"Catch her! Bring her back alive!"

Raphtalia:"What is with those strange lines!?"

Naofumi:"It's nothing, I just wanted to say that phrase."

Firo:"Okay~!"

Naofumi:"Do-Don't! Firo, I'm kidding! Catch her normally! Don't use any power on your feet!"

Raphtalia:"The beak is no good either! Rishia-san will die!"

Oh shit, my joke may have turned into a tragic disaster. Let's be careful.

Firo catches Rishia and carries her back on her shoulders.

Rishia is behaving violently.

Rishia:"Please release me! I want to go back to my hometown! I want to return to papa and mama! Itsuki-samaaaaaaaaa~!"

Naofumi:"It was only a joke....."

Rishia:"About making me a slave?"

Naofumi:"That was the truth."

Rishia:"Wh-Why would you do that!?"

Naofumi:"My shield grants demons or slaves growth correction."

This is the biggest problem.

(TInote: ネック Nekku. Wut?)

The correction ability, multiplies with the demon and slave correction.

If I use this, Rishia should be remarkably stronger.

It would be good if there was something for companions.

Naofumi: "Do you want to try it out and see?"

Rishia: "Huh?"

Naofumi: "Rishia, cut your hair a little."

Rishia: "Sure....."

Rishia cuts her hair with a knife and hands it to me.

I let the shield absorb it.

Rishia: "Fue!?"

.....Nothing happens.

As I thought, the Companion Shield didn't unseal even though I got the hair from a companion.

Maybe it's due to my relationship with Rishia not being very deep.

Naofumi: "Anyway, there is not choice other than becoming a demon or a slave."

Rishia: "Demon? I heard there is a secret dark medicine called Ghoulish Powder. Shall I prepare it?"

Naofumi: "You.....won't you die?"

A companion with an immortal attribute huh?.....Perhaps it might be strong due to removal of the human limiter.

As expected, my conscience would hurt if I made Rishia a zombie, I would like to avoid that.

I mean, does Rishia want to become strong to the point where she stops being human?

Naofumi:"Well, you are free to choose Rishia, though you won't really receive any protection."

Rishia:"But....."

Naofumi:"Think carefully, what is necessary in order to become strong? You must greedily explore every single possibility. I am only showing you how."

Rishia:"....."

(TInote: Come to the dark side.)

Rishia was lost in thought and was at a loss.

It's something you have to deal with yourself. There is no other way.

All I can do is supplement here and there.

Naofumi:"Well, since you are already level 68, and considering the speed of level ups, you wouldn't receive that many benefits anyway, so it might not even be needed. But I still think that the growth potential is better than nothing."

It would be meaningful to do if we started at low levels.

Doesn't this feel like a game?

From the start the high level guys were betrayed and killed. Or their growth was just bad.

Queen: "Logically speaking, would putting someone under Iwatani-sama's care since level 1 be the case for the best growth?"

The queen asks me.

Naofumi: "That's right. However, there is no method to return to Level 1."

Queen: "There is."

Naofumi: ".....There is?"

Such a convenient thing exists?

If we could use it, it would be perfect for Rishia.

The problem with being level one is the amount of time and effort required to grow.....Wouldn't it be a problem to have her shoulder such a risk?

Queen: "Yes, originally it was used as punishment to reset the levels of adventurers who commit crimes. The effect of Class Up disappears simultaneously."

Ah, there is such a penalty.

Thinking about it carefully, it would be a menace to have high level adventurer becoming a criminal and threatening nobles.

The punishment for those people would be to make all of their effort in vain. That's certainly scary.

Naofumi: "Where is it done?"

Queen: "It can be performed at the Hourglass of the Dragon's Era."

(TInote: What the hell is that thing, is it the box from Redshirts?)

Naofumi:"Is that so..... Rishia, what do you want?"

Rishia:"What do you mean?"

Naofumi:"I have a method that will help you become strong, I will only compel you to fight for me. You are free to choose your Class Up. Consider starting over again from level 1."

Rishia:".....Okay."

Naofumi:"Let's see. The deadline on whether or not you want to return back to level one will be after the coming wave. There is no time now."

Due to there being no time, I am concerned for Rishia's life if she would return back to level 1 then. It would be best to at least finish the wave.

Naofumi:"However, You only need to become a slave.....Don't run away! There are no restraints other than---Listen to me!"

Whenever I talk about slavery, Rishia tries to escape. What a troublesome fellow.

Naofumi:"I will not force you to do anything cruel, I just ask you to fight!"

Rishia:"Fueeee~~~~~!"

Naofumi:"Fine, Rishia I'm just showing you a method to become stronger. What are you going to do?"

At my words Rishia's eyes swim around.

Her answer is equivalent to whether or not she will become a slave.

.....Is it Raphtalia?

Naofumi: "By the way, Queen, would it be possible to apply the same slave crest that you did to Bitch?"

Queen: "Yes, if that is what Iwatani-sama desires."

Naofumi: "Then that means. Although I will hold the reins, I swear that I won't bind you to do anything."

Raphtalia: ".....Unless you are being extremely selfish, he will not do anything. I can prove it."

Rishia: "Raphtalia-san....."

Firo: "Master. Is Firo being binded?"

Well, the words of Raphtalia and Firo that I have brainwashed will probably not reach Rishia.

Naofumi: "I won't force you. If you hate it then we'll leave it at that. Think about it until then."

The conversation ended here, and I turned to face the queen.

We'll let Rishia's matter slide for now, moving on to Trash abandoning the power of being a Seven Star Hero and staying in this country.

I wonder what the reason of doing something like that and not complaining. That reminds me, the queen did say this to Trash before.

[Fight as a commander at the front line of this country against the wave, or lose your position and become an adventurer.]

From a different viewpoint, that's telling to fight with the Power of the Hero of the Cane.

The bottleneck of this country, it's general.

In the first place. That manner of speech was as if the whole world recognizes him as a hero, wouldn't it be impossible to bind a hero?

For instance, if Melromarc lost the right to Trash who is a Seven Star Hero, Melromarc would then have to beg Trash to remain.

In short, that would mean recruiters coming from every country while Trash continues to stay here.

Was that parade meant to get them to leave?

However, seeing Trash's attitude, it doesn't seem like he will leave.

But why? Unlike me, he is probably not ignorant about this world's common sense.

To be made an ice pickle, and a naked king, some thought must have went into it.

Does he like the queen that much?

He did say "A bastard like you wouldn't understand your whole life."

Let's change my thinking for a second.

There is a possibility that Trash is troubled by the appearance of scouts.

In short, he already doesn't want to be a hero anymore.

When I look, I don't see a cane in his hands.

It could simply be that he doesn't have the will to fight anymore due to old age.

Oh well. Let's fix and prepare our equipment for the wave now.

Naofumi: "I'm going to go and order weapons."

Queen:"Understood. I will entrust it to the weapon shop that Iwatani-sama relies on."

Rishia:"Ummm--"

Naofumi:"Hm? What's wrong?"

Rishia has her hand in front of her chest..... I can't see her expression, but her voice is full of determination.

Rishia:"I have decided.....Please enslave me!"

Naofumi:".....Are you fine with it?"

She came to a conclusion quickly.

I thought that it would take longer, since it was Rishia.

Rishia:"Yes! I want to become strong!"

Rishia:"U.....Ku....."

The ceremony finished without any problems.

A High-class slave crest was engraved on Rishia's chest.

Just like Bitch, after a while it turned invisible and won't be seen again unless invoked.

A prohibition list appears in my view.

However, I take off all the checked items..... and, it was rejected.

Apparently, if I remove all the restrictions to activate the slave mark, it doesn't work.

I'll just check off a trifling item and be done with it.

.....I'll check down her ability to lie to me.

I also thought about the possibility of her doing something like Bitch.

Or in the case of her being a spy sent by Itsuki.

Though those possibilities were mostly gone when she selected to become a slave.

Rishia:"Haah.....Haah....."

Naofumi:"Are you okay?"

Rishia:"Yes. I'm fine."

Naofumi:"I see, then that's good."

While thinking that it's wrong, I confirm Rishia's Status.

Naofumi:"Tsu---"

Rishia:"What's wrong?"

Naofumi:"N-Nothing, it's fine. Don't worry about it.

I was involuntarily at a loss for words.

What is this.....This is fatally low compared to Raphtalia, Firo, and I.

Although she is level 68, her stats are 1/5th that of Raphtalia's.

I understand the reason Itsuki dismissed her as weak.

However, I will not abandon her. This is a chance for me to see just what I can do.

Are commoners the same?

Surely.....These stats are the same as Raphtalia's early period.....

A peculiar trait is that all her stats are around the same.

There isn't any weak or strong points.

However, due to it being originally low, the feeling now is that everything is lacking.

Are you really level 68?

If she didn't earnestly accept the strengthening method, it would have truly been dangerous.....

Naofumi: "Th-Then let's go to the weapon store."

Rishia: "Okay!"

Raphtalia: "Sure."

Firo: "Go~"

After a long absence, we headed to see the old man at the weapon shop.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 114 – Meteor Shield

Naofumi: "Yo. Old man, Long time to no see."

Our carriage was stopped behind the weapon shop, and we entered.

Old Man: "Oh. If it isn't the lad. I was surprised that you got a bounty a few days after departing."

Naofumi: "Guess so, I was in a serious trouble back then."

Old Man: "Apparently it looks like you were able to prove your innocence."

Naofumi: "Yeah, thanks to your help." "Read more..."

I felt glad finding out that the old man tried to prove my innocence to the false charges today.

It's not just that, he helped me out in various other ways as well.

Naofumi: "Thank you."

Old Man: "Stop it, it's making me itchy."

The old man scratches his head in embarrassment.

Old Man: "Though.....I don't think today's parade was a good idea."

Naofumi: "Well he's probably like that normally."

Old Man: "Back in day he was excellent though."

Naofumi: "Do you know about it, old man?"

Old Man: "Hero of the Cane? Was it back when I was ten that the king was still active? I was in another country."

Naofumi:"I see....."

Leaving aside Trash's story, I want to move on to the main topic.

Since it's the old man, I should be able to get favorable conditions for weapons without a problem.

Naofumi:"Since I obtained the queen's support, I want to ask you to make weapons and armour for me."

Old Man:"Oh? A special order? Aren't there other master blacksmiths within the country you can employ?"

Naofumi:"I came here with expectations of your weapons."

Old Man:"Lad....."

The old man seems to be deeply moved, and is holding his feelings back.

Since I bought most of my equipment till now from his the old man. There is also a sense of security too.

Old Man:"Then I'll work hard to answer the lad's expectations. What do you want made?"

Naofumi:"Here is the material list."

I show the old man the material list I got from the queen.

I don't know whether or not this amount of materials is too much or too little.

Naofumi:"Old man, I want you to make weapons and armour that you think are suitable for us from these materials."

Old Man:"Understood. However, there seems to be some fairly rare materials here. I'm itching to test out my skills. What about the money?"

Naofumi:"The country can foot the bill."

Old Man:"The lad has gotten a fairly good position."

Well it is certainly comfortable.

There are materials, tutors, social positions, and money for equipment.

If it's like this, there is no reason to not stay here.

I will fight against the wave after all. If there is an advantageous environment, I don't want to waste time.

.....I'm a little anxious about it, so I should take some precautions.

Naofumi:"Then....."

I glance at Raphtalia and Firo.

Both of them put their equipment, the Karma Dog Claw, and Karma Rabbit Sword on the counter.

I also point at the penguin suit, and put the ores obtained from Cal Mira Island on the counter.

Old Man:"You brought a lot lad. Is the missy wearing these like pajamas a companion?"

Rishia:"Fue?"

Naofumi:"Yeah, that's Rishia. Though she has that appearance, the contents are human."

Rishia:"Naofumi-sama, that explanation is indeed a little....."

Naofumi:"Can't be helped. You don't want to take off that costume."

Does Rishia like it very much? She seems to be wearing it all the time. Her face is always hidden, could it be possible a new fetish came out?

Old Man:"L-Let's leave it at that. You brought a strange weapon.....This is certainly the perfect weapon for the missy."

The old man answers while appraising the Karma Rabbit Sword. It is difficult to use in various ways, but the offensive power is very high. I want to ask the old man's opinion before we customize or replace it. There is also the option of melting and reforging too.

Naofumi:"The problem is that this thing doesn't have the Blood Clean Coating. Can you do something about it?"

Old Man:"To process it at this stage..... It's accuracy would decline. Is that fine?"

Naofumi:"I'll be relying on you."

Old Man:"Fumu.....That's fine, but it might be interesting to try some improvements."

Are you going to add some parts like the barbarian's armour?

It might be good to ask about it.

Old man:"You keep brining me interesting requests lad."

Naofumi:"I guess. Oh right, old man. Can this child Rishia choose a weapon?"

Old Man:"Hm? Go ahead.....Take off the suit and show your hand."

Naofumi:"Rishia."

Rishia:"I-I like swords."

Naofumi:"I want to leave the rearguard to you though....."

After looking at her status I don't really want her to take the front.

If she suffers even a scratch, she may just die.

Both her defence and agility are low. Worst case scenario, she gets caught up in Firo's kick and dies.

If it's the power of magical attacks, even Rishia may be able to manage to some extent in the rear guard while I protect her.

I'll ask whether or not she can use ranged magic later, if she can use it, then she can support Raphtalia and Firo from the back with magic.

Rishia:"I can do either!"

Old Man:"I appreciate the enthusiasm, but for the time being let me take a look."

Rishia:"Okay....."

Rishia timidly takes off the suit and extends her hand to the old man.

Old Man:"Another beautiful woman. The lad must be happy."

Naofumi:"Happy? You think that I'm anything like Motoyasu?"

Old Man:"A blockhead as usual huh, the young lady's troubles increased again."

Raphtalia:"Yes.....Seriously."

The old man says that and Raphtalia nods in understanding.

Old Man:"Fumu.....It looks like you have good compatibility with a rapier. If you want to become a rearguard, then one with a defensive blessing will be good."

Rishia:"I see, can you choose one for me?"

Naofumi:"Wait, is there a bow or a spear she can use as well? She doesn't have any power so I can't really recommend it."

Rishia:"Fue.....A bow is no good!"

Naofumi:"Is it unpleasant due to Itsuki?"

Rishia:"That's not it, I'm just scared that I will hit somebody."

Naofumi:"Ah, so that's it."

Do I have to worry about friendly fire by accident now?

It seems her respect for Itsuki is still there.....Is he still a hero to her?

Naofumi:"Anyway, how long would it be?"

Old Man:"The wave is soon, so a little over a week. I'll do the best that I can within that timeframe."

Naofumi:"Understood. And....."

The Old man asks about the penguin suit.

Old Man:"How is this done? Can it be disassembled? I mean.....Who was it that made this."

Naofumi:"Ah, that. It's performance is excellent, but the appearance is bad. A demon dropped it.....it's bad, to put it simply the legendary weapon produced it from the demon's materials."

That's about it. These kinds of things are dropped by demons.

It makes me realize again that this is a different world. I didn't realise .
It's not funny that I didn't realise before. Those guys that knew before are strange.

In the first place, how does a porcupine like animal drop a weapon that has nothing to do with its physique.

Old Man:"Don't make such unusual things.....Though it's clear that its effects are excellent....."

Naofumi:"Can you transfer the effect on to something else?"

Old Man:"It would be difficult. I'll give it a try from various angles, but don't expect too much. At that time, I'll ask you again since some fine tuning would be needed."

Naofumi:"I'll be relying on you. Should I leave the barbarian's armour here?"

Old Man:"That's fine.....Just, I'll be using it as an experimental basis for the missy's armour."

For Raphtalia huh. I hope it goes well.

Raphtalia:"Wh-What is it?"

Naofumi:"Don't worry about it."

A rather unpleasant feeling aches, I don't know if it's a bad premonition.
This feels like a reconstruction that will go bad.

Rishia:"For some reason it feels exciting."

.....The expectations of a fan of stuffed animals.

It seems like this will go down a bad direction.

For someone like Rishia to excitedly anticipate something, it's quite a flag.

At worst, would I have Rishia wear it?

Firo:"Master~ can we go yet?"

Naofumi:"Yeah, ten more minutes.'

Throughout the whole thing, Firo has been quietly carrying the materials.

That reminds me.....There are some other materials that I unexpectedly got on the island.

Materials not available when I give priority to drops.

Drops not obtained when I give priority to materials.

It was difficult.

Naofumi:"Oh right, I completely forgot about it. Hey old man, can you show me your shields?"

Old Man:"I don't really think you need a shield right.....? Ah, is it for the young ladies?"

Naofumi:"It's something else. It's fine to tell you about it."

I tell the old man about weapon copy.

As expected, he is frowning.

Old Man:"To blatantly say towards me the shopkeeper, that you are performing a theft."

Naofumi:"Should I do it silently instead? I think it should be a service provided by the country."

Old Man:"Well.....The other heroes are doing it silently..... Can't be helped. It doesn't matter is its the lad's request. I'll show you my favorite."

With that, I copied every shield that the old man had in his shop.

I copied various shields, such as the Magic Silver Shield, Heavy Shield, Iron Shell Shield, Magic Shield, and so on.....

Is the Iron Shield and Iron Shell Shield different?..... Magic Shield seems to be a shield that can convert magical power in to a shield.

I mean, I have heard it before, but is the shield an item that is considered a weapon after all?

It's naturally being sold at a weapon store.

I'm not complaining since I am copying the shields one by one.

Well I have consent from the owner.

Old Man:"That should be it, ah wait a moment lad."

After saying so the old man goes to the back of the store.

I heard the sound of him going upstairs, and there is a lot of clanking going on.

The old man returned after a while.

Old Man:"Thanks for waiting. This is a shield that is rare in this country."

It's quite boorish..... However the shield that the old man brought also has a strange luster to it.

Is the metal used iron? However, there is a strange atmosphere.

I appraise and judge it.

Iron Meteorite Shield Quality: Normal

Naofumi: "Iron meteorite?"

Old Man: "Yeah, this shield is made of an unusual ore that fell from the sky. It's a display product of Zeltbull. A prototype of the iron meteorite series."

Naofumi: "I see.....Hm? Display product? Why do you have it?"

Old Man: "It's from back in the day."

Naofumi: "Uh huh."

I wonder why this article is not for sale.

Ah, Motoyasu was saying that Zeltbull had a good assortment of weapons. Did he touch and copy one?

Old Man: "Here, try it."

Naofumi: "Ah, Right."

I take the iron meteorite shield handed to me by the old man.

And I activate Weapon Copy!

Iron Meteorite Shield 0/20 C

Ability Unsealed.....Equipment Bonus: Skill [Meteor Shield]

Proficiency 0

It finally appeared!

The shield version of the meteor series those other heroes used!

By the way, there are various colours, but that's normal in the status system.

Am I now part of the foolish four?

Well, that depends on its efficiency.

I change my shield to the Iron Meteorite Shield.

Old Man:"Ooh"

The old man speaks in surprise.

Naofumi:"A strange skill appeared, let me try it out."

Old Man:"Wha----Hey!"

Naofumi:"Meteor Shield!"

And, I shout. A thin wall of light appears around me. it's effect is 2 meters centering around me.

Sp consumption is.....Around 5% of it all. The cool down time is short, 15 seconds huh.

Based on what I saw, I have a feeling that this is a skill that creates a defense wall.

Raphtalia:"What kind of skill is it?"

Naofumi:"I think it's a skill that will create a defensive wall....."

Raphtalia:"Hah."

Raphtalia touches the wall surrounding me.....for some reason she slipped right through.

Raphtalia: "Is it something different?"

Firo: "Hmm~....."

Raphtalia and Firo slip through the same way.

Since the Meteor skills of those other guys had such high-efficiency, I didn't think it would be a garbage skill.

Old Man: "Seriously, don't do something strange within the shop---Fube"

The old man tries to pass through the wall but gets knocked back.

Naofumi: "Ah, can only party members pass through?"

Depending on its durability, it is a skill that can work as ranged protection. If I think of its uses, it's quite excellent.

And.....The effective time is about 5 minutes. While factoring in the cool down time, this is quite an excellent skill.

Old Man: "Good grief, think about it for a little before you do anything lad."

Naofumi: "Sorry, I wanted you to see it since it is your best."

Old Man: "If you say any more, it will become a complaint."

Naofumi: "I'll leave it at that for now."

Afterwards, I told him about Motoyasu's tempering technique with ore.

There is some in the material list, there is a delicate line to align until it's satisfactory

There is fewer compared to other ores.

It's possible that Trash wanted to gather it for Motoyasu, but the queen was a step ahead.

Since a lot of it is necessary, I need to think of a different way to obtain it.

Naofumi: "See you later old man. If you need anything for the weapon shop, just ask the castle with these documents."

Old Man: "I understand lad. Please wait expectantly."

Naofumi: "Yeah, I'll be relying on you."

Thus we left the weapon shop.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 115 - Weapon Shop Owner's Curiosity

The next few days passed without issue.

We went out every day to prepare for the wave. Sometimes we would go to the mine and search for rare materials, and other times we would fight monsters to raise our levels.

In the mine, I would feed all the gems we acquired into the shield and we would also eliminate any nearby monsters.

For Firo's legs, it doesn't even take a day to return to the castle.

At the castle, I would mix medicines or learn magic. Raphtalia and Rishia are also studying magic under the court magician.

For some reason, after the class-up Raphtalia has begun to be able to use magic other than Illusion. She has started absorbing new types of magic into her fighting style like a sponge.

But even for her, there is not much she can learn in 2-3 days.

The court mage says that in 2 weeks, she will be able to utilize Dreifach Class magic. I am waiting expectantly.

(TL: Apparently a magic level, if anyone has a better translation of ドライフ
ア be my guest)

This will be useful in the future.

I was unable to save the people of the plagued village on my own, so I am studying medicine. For some reason the Medicine Shop owner went to the trouble of personally teaching me.

This world's medicine is very effective, however only a select few actually studied and sold it.

They seemed to make up a sort of Apothecary Guild.

However the Church and Apothecaries were constantly fighting over treatment methods, and there are very few skilled people among either of their members.

The Church is putting its resources towards researching Healing Magic. This magic can heal extremely severe injuries, however it is not effective on disease.

The Apothecaries are putting their efforts towards mixing medicine. They are making progress towards eliminating diseases, however are unable to heal severe physical wounds.

Both sides have few advanced equipment and skilled individuals, the Medicine shop owner complains.

I wonder what field I should direct Rishia towards for support.

In order to make her stronger, I have a lot to learn.

By the way, Firo is spending her time playing with Melty.

The Wave will come in 4 days.

I go to the Weapon Shop to check on the old man's progress.

"Oh, it's you kids." (Old Man)

"Are there any new developments?" (Naofumi)

"Let's see... The Bird Girl stopped by with her friend to play." (Old Man)

Friend?... He's probably talking about Melty

She's the princess set to take over the country, you know. Wait, for now she is the only princess.

He should already know as he saw my wanted poster.

And Melty is being too carefree, playing outside after all that stuff happened.

"You brought some mysterious ingredients, boy. I used the Black rabbit materials you gave me to try to reinforce the sword, and it immediately turned white." (Old Man)

"Ho-..." (Naofumi)

"I applied a Blood Deterring Charm to the sword. It's not as effective as the coating, but it should work for your purposes." (Old Man)

Blood Deterring Charm?

Is it a level below Coating?

"Ah, it somehow gives off a better feeling than before." (Naofumi)

"I sharpened the edge, and put some light enchantments on it. The process went well." (Old Man)

"This is incredible." (Naofumi)

"I tried to do the same on the Bird Girl's claws and it went well. For this one, I used the Black Dog Materials."

"Wow..." (Naofumi)

For some reason, Firo's claws have turned white as well.

It looks like a curse was lifted from them.

I inspect these two items.

-

Usauni Sword, Quality High (TL: Rabbit is Usa)

Item Effects: Agility Up, Magic Up, Pierce Power Up, Blood Deterrent

-

Inulut Claw, Quality High (TL: Dog is Inu)

Item Effects: Agility Up, Magic Up, Pierce Power Up, Blood Deterrent

-

"You do good work." (Naofumi)

"Thanks" (Old Man)

These weapons have increased in quality considerably. They will be a major asset. I wonder if they already had preset names, or if the Old Man named them.

Usauni... Inulut... I believe they were the legendary monsters of the islands.

"I also finished this spear." (Old Man)

-

Speckle Spear

... Effects pretty much the same as the others.

-

"Who here can wield a spear? Also where did you get that spear from?"
(Naofumi)

From that name, was it made from the Penguin Ingredients?

"I thought it was odd, but when I started using some of the remaining ingredients, this was the result. The ingredients almost ran out, it was difficult." (Old Man)

"That was unnecessary..." (Naofumi)

Well, I guess there's no harm. Worst comes to worse, I'll give it to Rishia. She's even wearing the Penguin suit, It will be quite fitting.

"This is still under construction. Try giving it to the Lady in the Costume."
(Old Man)

“Keep up the good work.” (Naofumi)

“Sure. But… The problem is the modification of the Penguin Suit that you ordered…” (Old Man)

With a sorry face, the old man goes into the back of the shop and pulls out what used to be the penguin suit.

“Oy… It’s slightly different, but it’s definitely still a costume.” (Naofumi)

The whole suit has turned white.

“I think I am going crazy. When the Bird Girl came over to play, I got inspired to try something, and it turned out like this.” (Old Man)

“… I have a really bad feeling about this. What sort of inspiration was that!”
(Naofumi)

“What is that?” (Rishia)

“Come on, Rishia!” (Naofumi)

Rishia touches the suit. She is shaking.

…

“Hey, Old Man. No matter how you look at it, this is impossible.” (Naofumi)

“I also think that it turned out wrong.” (Old Man)

The Old Man looks like he is going to cry.

That's right... What was once a Penguin Suit is now a Filo Rial Suit.

(TL: Rishia OP, she will get, Demon, Slave and Filo Rial Shield Bonuses)

And no matter how you look at it, Firo was the Model.

It is pretty much a Firo Suit.

-

Firo Plushy

Defense Up,

Agility Up (Large),

Impact Resist (Small),

Wind Resistance (Large),

Darkness Resistance (Small),

HP Restoration (Weak),

Magic Amplify (Medium)

Autonomous Repair,

Pulling Skills Increased,

Carrying Capacity Increased,

Size Correction,

Race Change- Monster (When Equiped)

-

… Both me and the Old Man avert our eyes from the Costume.

“Wa- Is this imitating Firo?” (Firo)

“It definitely looks like you.” (Raphtalia)

“What a wonderful Costume!” (Rishia)

“Hey! Don’t just equip it by yourself!” (Naofumi)

Rishia immediately puts on the suit.

“How do I look? Kue! Kue!”

… There is now a bird-form Firo next to the human-form Firo.

Well compared to the real thing, it is a bit smaller.

It’s quite a sorry sight.

I go and check Rishia’s status.

High! Is this the effect of the shield?

What was once 1/5 of Raphtalia’s stats is now 1/3!

For an equipment to be this effective… The Race change also gave her Filo Rial Shield Bonuses.

Well, as long as it's effective, I guess it's fine.

"Yes. Apart from the appearance, it is fine." (Naofumi)

"How cruel." (Firo)

Rishia seems happy with the Firo Suit.

However Firo seems to be protesting.

"This is all I can do for now. Next time, I'll make some actual equipment for the girl." (Old Man)

"How about me?" (Naofumi)

"I can make it, but I don't think it will be ready in time for the wave." (Old Man)

"I see." (Naofumi)

Well, with the defense of the Shield, my armor has taken very little damage to begin with. I guess I can leave it as it is for now.

"I'll pop by later. Thank you for your work." (Naofumi)

"Sure. Oh yes, boy?" (Old Man)

"What is it?" (Naofumi)

"I can also make you new shields." (Old Man)

That's right. With these strange ingredients, he can also forge new shields that I have yet to acquire.

Feeding materials to the Shield will not necessarily guarantee a new shield, it will be more efficient to have the Old Man forge shields out of the drops.

Should I leave some materials from the next wave's boss to the Old Man?

"If I run into some interesting materials, I might ask for that. Please wait 'til then." (Naofumi)

"I'll be waiting, boy." (Old Man)

And as such, we prepared for the wave.

I have been using the methods the other heroes gave me to strengthen the shields already in my possession as well.

-

Soul Eater Shield (Awakened) +6 35/35 SR (TL: Super Rare)

Ability Bonus

...

Equipment Bonus

Skill: Second Shield

Soul Resistance (Medium)

Psychological Attack Resist (Small)

SP Up

Passive: Soul Eater

Sp Recovery (Weak),

Drain Effect,

Intangibility,

Undead Control

Proficiency 67

Enchantment Level 7, SP +10%

Bonus against Undead (Defense +50)

Status Enchant (Endurance +30)

-

I am currently raising my proficiency. For some reason, upon strengthening, this shield's stats went higher than the Chimera Viper Shield.

I guess this is because this is from the boss that came after the Chimera. Its abilities' effectiveness also went up with reinforcement.

The abilities Drain, Intangibility, and Undead Control appeared after awakening the shield.

Just as its name implies, Intangibility allows me to pass through solid objects... But going through a single wall takes up all of my SP. And that was quite a thin wall at that. I wonder what will happen if I solidify inside a wall. (TL: The Wizardry generation knows)

Undead Control allows me to manipulate undead monsters to some extent. I tried using it on some Skeletons, but it immediately dried up my SP.

I don't think I can use these functions.

But by stats alone, my Defense is now 4 times what it was when I got back to the castle.

Yesterday, I let myself get attacked by all sorts of monsters, and I didn't even feel anything.

... However, I myself never let damage get through to me to begin with.

After leaving the Old Man's store, I go to the Castle's courtyard to experiment.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 116 - Blue Sand Sound

I called Rafatalia, Firo and Rishia to test something.

I plan studying magic after this, but that can wait.

"Naofumi, what happen?" (Rafatalia)

"I have something to ask of you, Rafatalia" (Naofumi)

I remove the slave limiter preventing Rafatalia from attacking me.

I do this prior to the test because she will suffer due to the slave crest if I don't.

"I wanted to test the defense on the shield I've upgraded. I gave you permission to hit me." (Naofumi)

"Huh...." (Rafatalia)

"Try bare-handed first. Don't hold back." (Naofumi)

"I see." (Rafatalia)

While hesitant, Rafatalia hits my chest with great force.

The impact let out a loud sound.

But i felt no pain, only a sentation as if bitten by a mosquito.

Was this the extent of Rafatalia's fist.....

How would it turn out if i was struck by a sword?

Though it may be foolish, and it would be unpleasant to get wounded, I want to test out how much i can endure.

"Lets use a sword next" (Naofumi)

"Oh, that. Are you sure?" (Rishia)

Rishia asks fearfully.

I understand her feelings. If you look at it from an ordinary person's view, this doesn't look normal.

"I'm trying to see how much i can withstand" (Naofumi)

If i can endure one of Rafatalia's attacks, I feel I'd be fine for the moment. I do not know how high my defense is, or if it's better.

"Here i go" (Rafatalia)

Rafatalis swings her sword at me with without serious intent, I can tell she held back somewhat.

A light sound is made as it hits my shoulder.

"This is hard...." (Rafatalia)

Rafatalia says in a tearful voice as she drops the Iron sword in her hand.

I did not recieve any damage.

This is amazing, It's as if my body has become metal.

My body is normal meat and flesh when i touch it.

Did i gain more muscle since coming to this world?

Including Lvs I feel this body has become on suitable for fighting.

Well i have been involved in a lot of fighting these 4 months.

Well i use more physical strength like in older times where one got around by foot or carriage. Can't even compare to

the time when I was a geek.

"Firo next." (Firo)

"Oh, good." (Naofumi)

"Yay!" (Firo)

I uncheck Firo's demon crest.

I'll know i have great defense if i block one of Firo's attacks, I want to know.

"Well then, let's go" (Naofumi?)

Firo changes into her demon form, she raises her leg high ready to kick.

Mississauga Mishimishimishi Biki.[TL: this is onomatopoeia explained soon]

"Wh, what is....." (???)

The sound of Firo's powerful leg muscles contracting can be heard.

Past experiences can tell me. This is dangerous.

bikibikibikibiki![TL: More onomatopoeia]

"It stopped"(Naofumi?)

"Yes!"(Firo)

I ready my shield at once.

With a roar, vibrations are felt. A shock runs through my whole body.

"You trying to kill!"

I may have been taken back if i didn't prepare myself. For this.

With a smile i gaze over at Firo, i can't complain.

I felt my eyebrows furrow for a moment.

"Wow, master is really sturdy" (Firo)

"What was that kick just now!" (Naofumi)

"Well, it's a kick using all the power, can't be used in real battle" (Firo?)

That was a serious kick from Firo..... She completely didn't take it easy.

"I use power as if kicking the Spear guy" (Firo)

I sympathize for Motoyasu, it's his end if he's kicked with this power.

I feel like watching that a little also.

"Want to go flying into the horizon?" (Firo?)

"You, think a little more about your actions!" (Naofumi?)

No, I'll definately be killed.

Wonder if the kick would send you into the horizon.

Or into a different world..... if you think of it like an anime.

However, I was able to establish the strength of my defense.

I was able to prevent all of Firo's power, which is comparable to Glass.
I do not know how much stronger, but i can anticipate further effects.

"Hmm.....Alright"

"That's not for you to decide, it's for me"

"Well i think that's ok"

Does this person have some wild perception?

That was a little scary, let's go check the items a second time.

"Well it's ok..... no one was injured... so let's go back for tonight" (Naofumi)

"Umm" (Rishia)

I turn slowly towards Rishia.

"Eh?" (Rishia)

"You don't need to do it, you are good." (Naofumi)

"Y, Yes" (Rishia)

I was not damaged by Firo, or Rafatalia. It would be impossible if Rishia tried.

It would be bad to strain oneself.

Though it feels like she has frail health, it is a defeat if it minds it.

"Since the next wave is near. Train you magic for today" (Naofumi)

You should raise your level in earnest.

Though Rafatalia seems to do simulation exercises with the knights.

"Yes"

"I understand"

"I'll go study with Firo and Mel chan"

"Let's go like that."

Because she is the princess of this country, it is natural, but Melty tends to only study in the castle.

Now that Bitch has been deprived of her inheritance rights, what such thing do you need as the next queen.

Maybe Monarch studies? There was a similar thing in my world.

It may be said that she studies every day and make it the utmost proper country.

Speaking of Melty, if i find spare time while being taught compounding and magic, i go to my place.

Studying with Firo can also be fun.

.....Let's forget how i complained about being caught up with Firo while studying a few days ago.

Firo's head is not good, Melty's might also be going bad. Yeah. [idk]

Now that i have to time to myself, i think I'll strengthen..... the Wrath Shield for the time being.

Wrath shield III (awakened) +7 50/50 SR

Ability unsealed equipment bonus, Skill [Change shield (attack),] [Iron Maiden] [Blutopfer]

Special Effect: Dark Curse Burning S, Strength UP, Super(orMighty)
Dragon's Rage, Roar, Frenzy of Companions,
Magic Sharing, Clothing of Anger (medium).
Proficiency 0

I seems the shield can't preform item, spirit and status enchantments.
Still it's abilities imporved tremendously.

The problem is, that the moment i switched to this it started trying to take
over my consciousness, a fearsome

problem.

Preperations for the wave are coming along well.

The next day.

3 days until the wave.

"Queen Speaking"[Knight?]

"What? "(Naofumi?)

After lunch a meeting with the queen was hailed.

Preperations are almost done, then just wait for the wave.

As is expected, it would be severe to fight against Glass with only us.

Which is why we gathered the heroes now, but who knows if they'll listen.

"How are you Heroes? How went the waves of other countries?" (Queen)

"Heroes, except Iwatani, participated in the wave of other countries
between these few days and seem to have let

you suppress it safely. Iwatani is alright....it isn't a big problem treating our country exclusively."(Queen)

"I'm anxious to say its a big problem but - Tsu!?"(Naofumi?)

A sound that could break glass is heard from the corner.

A big shock shook our heads.

The sound was similar to the Wave starting, but it was.....delicately different.

"....Something happened just now"

"?"

I look around.

Although i thought i was transferred to the wave, I didn't go anywhere, I was still in the castle hallway.

"What happened?"(???)

"I don't know...but something just happened that is certain"(Naofumi)

The call the icon of a red hourglass to check the wave in the corner field of my view.

The timer had stopped at 3 days.

Next to it another icon appears..... a blue hourglass with a "7" engraved into it.

"Another hourglass has appeared, with a 7 engraved into it, but i don't know what this means" (Naofumi)

Calling up the Help menu, i verify if there are no new items.

But it seems.... Information can not be found.

What's going on?

7 ... the story of the Seven Star Heroes, i recently heard the story.

Could it be?

"A Hero may have been defeated in some wave somewhere"

"However, these brave heroes participated in other waves, but just in case...

I will look into other countries and seek

information"

The Queen gave instructions to a messenger soldier to gather information.

The opening of the case was here

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 117 – When Gaming Knowledge Bares its Fangs

It was only a few hours later that we realized exactly what had happened.

A messenger riding a gravely injured dragon flew to us.

“What is happening?” (Queen)

The Queen shouts with the face of someone who has just failed a mission.

We are all gathered in front of the throne.

“T-there’s big trouble! The seal holding the legendary Magical Beast, the Spirit Turtle has been broken!” (Messenger)

“Spirit…?” (Naofumi)

Spirit? As in referring to ghosts?

The Spirit Turtle… In my world, I remember it was a sort of legendary beast.

He often appeared in games as one of the 4 minor holy beasts

Does this world have some system like that as well?

The major 4 are Seiryuu, Byakkou, Genbu and Suzaku. The minor 4 are Phoenix, Spirit Turtle, Quilin, and Dragon.

Many people think they are the same, but they are slightly different.

But from the feeling I am getting from this conversation, this beast is probably Genbu.

In Mythology, The Spirit Turtle was said to carry Mt. Horai on its back. (TL: In Chinese, Mt. Penglai)

Genbu was a tortoise-like beast with a snake for a tail, and long legs.

The Chinese said that Mt. Horai was a legendary mountain in the east inhabited by immortals. Whether it is based on a real location or not is still up for debate.

(TL: I know others may translate it as Tortoise but by his mythological reference, the beast that carried Horai was definitely a turtle. It was even often described as swimming through the ocean and being mistaken as an island. So I'm pretty sure it is Spirit Turtle, while Genbu is a Tortoise. Right now, the beast may very well turn out to be Genbu, so I cannot say for sure what to translate it as.)

"It can't be..." (Queen)

The Queen's face has turned pale.

... That means the situation is really bad. I might get dispatched.

"In my world, there was something similar so I can kinda understand, but is the seal breaking something that bad?" (Naofumi)

"Yes. Long, long ago, the beast suddenly came into existence. It's a monster that all four summoned heroes had to work together to seal."

(Queen)

"I see..." (Naofumi)

Did the seal weaken from the wave? Or did the seal just run out naturally?

The Help menu says that when the hour glass stops, a calamity even bigger than the wave is imminent.

"And to make it so that the seal never breaks, the four heroes of the time never told anyone how they set it. We do not know how to reseal the beast."
(Queen)

"Did it break because of the wave?" (Naofumi)

"Unfortunately, that is quite likely." (Queen)

"But that does not explain the 7 that appeared on the hourglass."
(Naofumi)

7- that number holds many ominous connotations.

I hope it just means that the situation has to do with the 7 star heroes.

If not, then...

"U-um..." (Messenger)

As he speaks, the messenger's face turns blue.

"What? Do you have some information?" (Queen)

"T-that is..." (Messenger)

The Messenger averts his eyes from our gaze.

? What is it? He's staring intently at my feet.

"Speak up." (Naofumi)

"T-the truth is..." (Messenger)

The Messenger began to elaborate on the situation.

"I was told that the seal was broken by the four summoned heroes, the Sword, Spear and Bow." (Messenger)

"Are you certain?" (Queen)

"Yes! They all visited the town it was supposedly sealed in and performed some strange ritual. After investigating the town thoroughly, they destroyed a statue in the shrine. It was only after that that the seal broke. The heroes were last seen heading for the beast." (Messenger)

The Queen looks pale.

But based on the messenger's words, this reaction is appropriate.

"Itsuki!" (Rishia)

Rishia tries to run off to some unforeseen destination.

"Firo, please capture Rishia." (Naofumi)

"Yes~" (Firo)

Firo chases after Rishia and promptly captures her.

“Unhand me! I need to go save Itsuki.” (Rishia)

For her to be devoted to this extent... Itsuki sure is lucky.

“But... Why would the Heroes take such idiotic actions... Why did they even know how to undo the seal?” (Queen)

“The heroes other than me should be quite knowledgeable about this world.”
(Naofumi)

They probably used the knowledge of the games they used to play to undo the seal.

Now that I think about it, Itsuki said some incomprehensible statements before.

He told Raphtalia, ‘You will come to rely on me someday,’ and he told me, ‘This is the last time you can act so conceited.’

Did the feelings of inferiority he got from those times cause his current actions?

The turtle will probably give a lot of EXP and some valuable items.

The three heroes probably headed there because they became overconfident after defeating the Level 80+ wave bosses of other countries.

Again with the Game Knowledge. They should quit it already

I bet they plan to beat the Spirit Turtle to one-up me.

Even after all of this, they only care about strengthening their own characters.

I'll bitch about it to them later.

"About that..." (Messenger)

"They unsealed it correct? So how are they doing in regards to defeating it?"
(Naofumi)

The Dragon Hourglass is still stopped. Those gamers will never pick a fight with an enemy they cannot beat.

They should soon be celebrating in a nearby village.

There's no food tastier than food on someone else's tab anyways.

"Well... After heading for the turtle, the heroes are currently MIA, and the Spirit Turtle has yet to be stopped." (Messenger)

"What?!" (Naofumi)

What the Hell

There's no way they would unseal it if there was no chance of winning.

Well, that's just my opinion as a hero.

I have a bad premonition.

There's a possibility that something is impeding them from fighting the Spirit Turtle.

But for a monster so powerful that it could only be sealed to be released into a populated area...

This is really, REALLY bad, isn't it.

"Shadow, what information do you have?" (Queen)

"I followed each hero, but..." (Shadow)

Shadow appears next to the queen and whispers into her ear.

It doesn't seem to be the shadow I know that says -gojaru

"... It seem the situation is ... uncertain." (Queen)

Two days later.

Me and my party had departed with a large squad of knights to a neighboring country to join the fray.

We will be the front line of this war.

Our job is to make sure the damage caused by the Turtle is kept to a minimum.

So far, 5 Cities, 3 Forts and 2 Castles have fallen to the beast.

The Spirit Turtle is a Gigantic monster, and it is usually surrounded by numerous subordinate monsters. These subordinate monsters are tasked with finishing off all those that flee in the Turtle's path.

It seems to be headed towards areas with high populations.

“Will the 7 Star Heroes be participating as well?” (Naofumi)

“We have sent out a request, but currently, we are the closest to the Beast. It will take several days for the others to arrive.” (Queen)

If I leave it to the 7 Heroes, the sacrifices will be great. This has to do with my duty as a hero.

And I don't know if those heroes are strong enough to depend on at this point.

Also... If the monster is strong enough to render the other 3 heroes missing, I myself am in quite a bit of trouble.

But it doesn't seem that I will be able to run.

If I weigh fighting here with being considered a traitor and having the other heroes come after me again, I would rather perish in this battle.

I have to do this.

The other heroes better have not just unsealed this thing and disappeared to show the queen my lack of worth as a hero...

However, I cannot deny that I do lack such worth.

The risk is too great, so they probably won't do that... probably.

I guess I should act as if the other 3 are dead.

Their Game knowledge... The item that allowed them to believe that they understood everything about this world. It finally betrayed them, and caused them to underestimate a terrifying enemy.

That is the only explanation I can think of for their failure.

Perhaps in their games, it was a different beast that had been sealed away.

"... No matter what happened to the other 3, I have no choice but to fight. So how powerful are our current forces?" (Naofumi)

"We have this country's knights, our soldiers, various vagrant adventurers and some other armed forces sent from neighboring countries... But some countries have already attempted to confront the turtle and have suffered crushing defeats." (Queen)

"They advanced without waiting for the heroes?" (Naofumi)

"There's no way a country can refrain from fighting when a monster is destroying it right before its ruler's eyes." (Queen)

"... I see..." (Naofumi)

It may have been rash, but there was no choice for those people but to fight.

It's not like I can't understand their feelings.

"So the only hero you can count on... is me." (Naofumi)

If I allow even one casualty, my reputation will only get worse.

If the other three heroes are the culprits of this calamity, then I, the fourth hero, must step up and act like a hero for once.

… Acting heroic isn't like me at all.

I am up against a monster that can destroy countries overnight, and I am fighting with nothing but a shield. This may seem very reckless. But if I do nothing, nothing will result.

"I can see it." (Queen)

The Queen calls out from the carriage Firo is carrying.

I'm speechless as I stare at the monstrosity on the horizon.

"Um… Is that Mountain over there moving, or is that my imagination."
(Naofumi)

I'm supposed to fight that?

It's far away, so I can't see it clearly but this is even larger than the largest dragons of the games in which you hunt monsters. (TL: Probably referring to Monster Hunter, but I don't know)

It truly is the size of the Turtle said to move an entire country on its shell in my world.



There seemed to be the wreckage of a town on top, and the Turtle is carrying it all on its mountain-sized back.

“Queen, in the legend of the heroes that fought this thing, how exactly did they fight it?” (Naofumi)

“It seems they got inside of it from the city on its back, and placed a seal on its heart.” (Queen)

So that means we first have to stop that thing, and then get inside of it somehow... No, stopping it will take more forces than we can muster.

“Do you have a plan?” (Naofumi)

“There is one. The turtle seems to be headed for areas with high population. We can estimate its course, evacuate the cities and castles in the way, and set up ambushes to hold it down in those cities.” (Queen)

“That isn’t all is it?” (Naofumi)

“After that, we plan to follow the legend and send you inside to attack the heart.” (Queen)

Should I try to damage it with Iron Maiden or Blutofer?

I had just gotten over the shield’s curse… but looking at that thing, I don’t think I have a choice.

“But with that plan, the casualties will be quite great, won’t they?”
(Naofumi)

If we enter the Turtle, he will probably start rampaging.

So while we proceed towards the heart, a lot of damage will be done to the forces on the outside.

“…Yes” (Queen)

“Unhand Me! I… I Won’t fight! The Shield. Send the Shield!” (Trash)

“……” (Naofumi)

Trash is sitting in the seat next to the Queen.

The Queen is currently performing an iron claw on his face to prevent him from escaping the carriage.

… This person does not look like he will be of any help.

“I understand the risk, however there is no other way we know of to rid the world of that monster.” (Queen)

Trash’s interjection completely ruined the atmosphere.

Why is this person even here?

He may be the general, but I feel the army would be better off without this idiot.

I guess he is here as the Hero of the Cane, or the former Wise King to increase troop morale.

“We’re done for… in many ways.” (Naofumi)

“Meaning?” (Queen)

“Well for one, Your husband is done for. Also, that plan will result in too many casualties.” (Naofumi)

It’s too risky and too rash.

But I can’t decide anything unless I can see just how powerful an attack from the beast is first hand.

All I know right now is how many people attacked it and lost.

“… Let me try fighting it as a test.” (Naofumi)

We'll decide our next course of action based on whether I can withstand its attacks or not.

"Fue..." (Rishia)

"Rishia, We are going to go scout out the power of the Spirit Turtle. Depending on the situation, I am counting on you to relay the information to the queen." (Naofumi)

"B-but I'm" (Rishia)

"I understand your concern. That costume should greatly increase your speed. You don't have to go on the front lines, but please observe the battle and report your findings." (Naofumi)

This doesn't look like an opponent I can beat with just the power of a Hero.

And it also doesn't seem to have any intention of backing down.

He's as large as a mountain. If I encountered such an enemy in a game, I would run. However if I ran here I would only be making more enemies of the shield.

I should start off by trying to fight it.

"Understood. I will help relay the situation." (Rishia)

"I'll also leave magical support to you. Worst comes to worse, we'll have to retreat and wait for the Star Heroes to arrive." (Naofumi)

"Iwatani, your performance will affect the morale of all of the troops fighting here. Please be careful." (Queen)

"Yes Ma'am." (Naofumi)

We unattach Firo from the Queen's carriage. Firo takes us all on her back.

"Firo, we'll be fighting that giant thing." (Naofumi)

"Yes~!" (Firo)

"Raphtalia, just fight as you always do. As the Queen said, if this doesn't work out, we can always think of another plan." (Naofumi)

"Understood." (Raphtalia)

"Rishia, only think about your own safety. If worse comes to worst, retreat and report the results to the Queen." (Naofumi)

"Y-yes." (Rishia)

I give out orders and prepare for battle.

"Let's go." (Naofumi)

Firo starts running at full speed. We begin our assault on the Spirit Turtle.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 118 – Versus the Spirit Tortoise, Scout Battle

“It’s much bigger up close.” (Raphtalia)

Before my eyes, the large turtle is getting closer step by step.

There is an earthquake every time it takes a step, it is making me stagger.

“That seems to be the case.” (Naofumi)

“……We should escape.” (Rishia)

“I understand your feelings.” (Naofumi)

It’s been about a month since the heroes came and let this out……. It is reckless to fight against an opponent that those heroes from before couldn’t beat.

……There is a reason why I can’t leave, it can’t be helped.

Well, let’s test something.

It should be fine to withdraw immediately if it gets dangerous.

“That turtle is huge~” (Firo)

“Fueeeeeeee! Itsuki-samaaa!”(Rishia)

A swarm of demon bats are coming from the first mountain-like shell.

Are these the Spirit Turtle’s Familiars?

“Meteor Shield!” (Naofumi)

Immediately the Meteor Shield I learned expands, and I fall back to Rishia.

“Highten Reaction!” (Naofumi)

The swam of Spirit Turtle's familiars fire rays of light at us from their eyes.
Thumping sounds could be heard as the barrier is struck.
so they can use long-range attacks huh.

[TL gagingagin was the sound in the original. I changed it to thumping since that's what i think of when i imagine a barrier blocking attacks.]

"Tei!"(Raphtalia)

"Teriyaa!"(Firo)

Raphatalia and Firo exit the barrier to attack the spirit turtle's familiars.

"Gyiii!" (Familiars)

The familiars die off as each attack hits.

However, they are too numerous.

Since this is just reconnaissance there aren't that many methods to go about things.

"Taha!" (Raphtalia)

"Oryaaa!" (Firo)

The familiars fall with a gasugasu, as Raphtalia and Firo cut them down.

It might be good to analyze the fight in case of something surprising.

"Are you alright?" (Naofumi)

"Yeah. But, I think it'll be hard to bring it down." (Raphtalia)

"I see."(Naofumi)

A thud could be heard, and something falls from the Spirit Turtle.

A gorilla-like Demon with a turtle shell on its back is now coming towards us.

“Zweit Aura!” (Naofumi)[TL: In reading some comments on Yoraikun's page I found out the author is using a lot of german in special skills. Zweit seems to mean second or tier 2 spells, and Raphtalia is capable of learning Dreifach, or third/tier 3 spells with practice.]

I apply support magic on Raphtalia and Firo.

“Fast Guard!” (Rishia)

At the same time, Rishia applied defensive magic on me.

That was good judgement.

It seems that status and smarts aren't related.

“Go! Yin-Yang Sword” (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia's sword alternates between black and white glows, as it cuts through the demon.

It was split into 2 black and white spheres, they collide and destroy the demons.

Is this a certain kill sword attack that Kills two birds with one stone!?

“Critical Quick~ ~” (Firo)

Firo becomes a blur as she quickly flies of towards the enemy and kicks.

What is that? The same attack?

That's what I thought, but Firo's speed doesn't fall, and unleashes a flurry of kicks onto the demon.

"Umm you see~, its an instant version of High Quick." (Firo)

It's an attack is easy to maintain.

That is certainly useful.

"Fue, Fast Water Shot!" (Rishia)

Rishia slips through the barrier and fires her Water Magic at the familiars.

Yup. They didn't die.

But, they have been slowed down.

"This may be good." (Naofumi)

Well, there is a large margin between us and familiars of this degree.

The problem is the main body. Maybe, the other heroes struggled against the main body.

There is also the possibility that they are fighting within the body.

"Anyway, let's try to fight it!" (Naofumi)

"Yes!" (Raphtalia)

"Okaay~" (Firo)

"Fueeeeeee!" (Rishia)

And so, the closer we get to the spirit turtle the stronger the demons become.....As we arrive in front of the spirit turtle, it recalls all of its familiars.

Of course, it's gigantic when seen up close.

A village can be made on its face alone.

Now, what to do?

The turtle turns its gaze towards us.

"_____ ! "(Spirit Turtle)

It lets out a tremendous roar, I have to cover my ears.

This is not a friendly attitude.

I activate Meteor Shield again, to repel the familiars as I check the status of the spirit turtle.

The turtle moves its foot towards us.

"That's dangerous!" (Naofumi)

It sends forth a powerful kick. I raise my shield to prepare for the attack at once.

With the sound of glass shattering Meteor Shield is broken, immediately after, I'm hit by the Spirit Turtle.

The shock goes through my whole body.

"gu……" (Naofumi)

I am pushed back a few steps.

"Na-Naofumi-sama?" (Raphtalia)

"Master?" (Firo)

Raphtalia and Firo manage to get in behind the shield without trouble.

Rishia had slipped under my mantle understanding the situation, letting out a 'fueeee'.

"I-I'm fine. Here it comes again." (Naofumi)

Despite being trampled, it doesn't seem I suffered any damage.

The cooldown for Meteor Shield has passed too.

Let's try a new approach.

Right after that, Rain clouds gather in the sky, and the familiars surrounding us are swept away.

It's the Queen and her guards, they're providing cover fire.

It's an attack that if not timed correctly, would have hit Raphtalia as well.

I think it's an attack that can only be fired after I used my meteor shield.

"Alright! You guys, attack it for the time being!" (Naofumi)

It's a problem that I don't understand this monster, but it might be weaker than it looks.

"Tooooo!" (Firo)

Firo lands a powerful kick on the enormous jaw of the Spirit Turtle.

"————— ! ? " (Spirit Turtle)

The Spirit Turtle's head was bent back.

"Waaaaa...heavy~" (Firo)

"It's not over yet" (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia cuts across the limits of the Spirit Turtle's neck while it's head is bent backwards.

A crevice was made into the turtles neck, as the sound of vegetables being

cut could be heard.

Blood gushed out.

However, the cut was shallow, the wound quickly regenerated, and the Turtle turned its angry gaze at Firo and Raphtalia.

……It's not going to fight, huh.

Raphtalia and Firo have become immensely stronger as well.

I'm aware that I got stronger, but is that enough?

This is a hard fight to some extent, but it's not an enemy we can't beat
If that's the case, those guys... they could have won, why did they leave?
Now, it is impossible to deny the possibility that it could have been left to
annoy me.

"————— ! "(Spirit Turtle)

A large magic formation appears before the Spirit Turtle.

……I have a bad feeling about this.

Immediately, Raphtalia and Firo are forced to the ground.

"Gu~uuuuu" (Firo)

"Wha, What is that……." (Raphtalia)

"What happened?" (Naofumi)

"I-I don't know. But my body is stuck to the ground…….It's heavy"

(Raphtalia)

That's Dangerous! I don't understand, but Raphtalia is in danger.

"Fuee?" (Rishia)

Rishia, who was under my cloak, let out a goofy sound.

This girl, doesn't have any problems……Right?

The Barrier created by Meteor Shield was vibrating.

It's good to see this defended against something.

I approach Raphtalia and Firo to get them into the barrier.

“Ah, It feels light again” (Firo)

They both stand up and approach.

From the looks up it, it's safe to say this is Gravity Magic.

However, the Spirit Turtles Magic wasn't able to break through my magic defense.

After confirming that we are not moving, the Spirit turtle tries to trample us.

You think I'd let you?!

“Shield Prison” (Naofumi)

I use Shield Prison on top of Meteor Shield.

A large clank sound can be heard, the prison breaks and the foot is blocked by the meteor shield.

……It seems to be supporting the weight of the spirit turtle for the time being……

The barrier starts creaking.

It'll break as it is.

“We're moving, come with me.” (Naofumi)

There is no reason to continue being trampled.

“Okay!” (Raphtalia)

“Okay~” (Firo)

“Fueee… I understand” (Rishia)

After those three understand what is going on, we escape from being trampled by the Spirit Turtle.

With a thud, the Spirit Turtle raises a cloud of dust.

Ah, it seems that Meteor Shield also prevents the dust cloud.

“We should be able to endure this for the time being” (Naofumi)

“It shouldn’t be able to pinpoint our location within this cloud of dust.”(Raphtalia)

“Firo thinks we should be able to beat it right? but only if its magic is stopped.”(Firo)

“Fumu… That might be a chance to attack but…”(Naofumi)

The area rumbles as familiars drop down.

Is it being overly cautious? It seems to be verifying that we were defeated.

There’s no time. What should we do……?

“Isn’t there something we can do?”(Naofumi)

“……There is. Block the next attack.”(Raphtalia)

“Yeah. Firo will put everything in to the next attack”(Firo)

“Can I count on it?” (Naofumi?)

We can only attack the turtles neck. It may be possible to kill it if we attack seriously.

“I’ll leave it to you” (Naofumi)

“Yeah”(Raphtalia)

I take a stance in order for Raphtalia and Firo to deliver their special moves.

Firo's stance looks familiar.

She flaps her wings.

The magic power is so condensed that you can see the flow of wind from behind.

"Whenever you're ready Raphtalia onee-chan" (Firo)

It's faster than before! Can it now be used in actual combat?

"Wait a little longer" (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia's tail begins to puff up.

She has condensed a suitable amount of magic also.

"My preparations are complete. Let's go." (Raphtalia)

"Yeah!" (Firo)

Raphtalia gets on Firo's back releasing her magical power.

"Spiral····."(Firo)

"Eight Trigrams····." (Raphtalia) [TL: 八極陣 got any other suggestions?]

Dust swirls around them, light gathers around Firo.

The light forms into an Yin Yang symbol and parts into eight.

For some reason Raphtalia's attacks are oriental.

"Strike!" (Firo)

"Heaven's Sword!" (Raphtalia) [TL also Fate Sword. Karma Sword]

Becoming a straight light, Raphtalia and Firo pierce through the Spirit Turtles throat.

The Spirit Turtles eyes are colored in surprise.

No... because the head is already decapitated, it could not react.

The huge neck and body of the Spirit Turtles was pierced so beautifully, it tore off the head and sent it flying.

Fresh blood spewed from the Spirit turtles neck, and rained down.

It's huge body falls to the ground with a thud.

"We did it" (Raphtalia)

It should be dead since the head is blown off.

That was unexpectedly easy.

It doesn't appear to be the type of enemy we have to enter the body and seal the heart.

Cheers are heard echoing from behind.

"Fuhee....." (Rishia)

Firo touches down on ground with experience, Raphtalia does the same.

"We did it." (Raphtalia)

"Yeah, you guys did great" (Naofumi)

If we could hit high-powered moves like these, we'll never lose.

It feels like we may have become stronger than the other Heroes.

"That's amazing." (Rishia)

"Rishia, you work hard too, to become like that." (Naofumi)

"Fueeeeeeee?! That's impossible." (Rishia)

"It's not impossible. You can do it!" (Naofumi)

"That's impossible for me!" (Rishia)

Rishia thinks about tearing the head of the spirit turtle and fervently denies it.

I can't train her spirit.

"Well then, let's have a victory party--" (Naofumi)

The sound of something wriggling comes from the direction of the Spirit Turtle.

Everyone notices the sound and turns their sight on to the spirit turtle.

The body of the spirit turtle stands up……The meat on its neck starts to wriggle……

The body and head regenerate and make it seem as if nothing happen.

"Wha……" (Naofumi)

What happen?

How strong is you regenerative ability? Didn't it just lose its head? Like a Hydra.

It seems this regeneration ability is related to the reason why those heroes of the past had to seal the heart.

"_____ ! "(Spirit Turtle) [that's all he says, nothing]

"Argh!?" (Naofumi)

The Spirit Turtle let's out a roar.

No… I see something bright rise from the body through the throat.

A shiver runs up my spine.

I jump before everyone and use Meteor Shield, along with Shield Prison.

Highly concentrated lightning erupts from its mouth.

It's like a particle gun you see in anime.

"Gu...u..." (Naofumi)

"Na-Naofumi-sama!?" (Raphtalia)

"Waa!" (Firo)

"Fueeeeee! ?" (Rishia) [she really loves making this noise.]

The cage is broken, the barrier is also penetrated, the smell of burnt skin passes through my nose.

However, with all of this pain passing through my whole body, I can't lose consciousness.

That brief moment felt like an eternity.

"haa...haa..." (Naofumi)

I feel light-headed, I see the Spirit Turtles attack has stopped.

This is like the damage I received when using Blutopfer.

No, more than that...

I feel some places with deep burns.

"Master!?" (Firo)

"Naofumi-sama" (Raphatalia)

"Hero-sama" (Rishia)

Ku...I try to chant recovery magic, but i can't concentrate.

At that moment, a warm light pours around me.

My wounds heal quickly.

However, there isn't enough time to heal completely.

"Zweit · Heal!" (Queen)

I use magic I had to learn these past few days, and I block the spirit turtle's finishing kick.

Good, I can think clearly again.

That was probably support magic from the queen.

I was saved. Soul Eater Shield was not enough to endure that attack.

Fortunately that finishing move from the spirit turtle needs time to recharge.

When I look back, everything that I wasn't guarding vanished, the mountain behind us is missing.

"Firo, restore your magical power." (Naofumi)

"Okay!" (Firo)

I throw Firo a magic potion I had prepared, she drinks it quickly.

"It's bubbly~ tastes like fruit." (Firo)

"...people, call it a carbonated soft drink" (Naofumi)

Indeed, I think that mana(mp) potions taste like soda without sugar a.k.a. carbonated water, but to sum up my world's drinks in one phrase... as expect of this wild kid, she's quite sharp in unusual case

At any rate, with this Firo is at maximum potential.

"It looks like attacks from the outside will be impossible. Let's withdraw"
(Naofumi)

While blocking the attacks of the Spirit Turtle, I expand Meteor Shield. I dodge his foot.

The earth shakes every time as it raises its foot again to trample us. However, this is our chance.

“High Quick” (Firo)

Firo carries us and leaves in haste.

Really, it broke through my defense, it'll be impossible to win with a frontal attack against a guy that can even regenerate his head.

It looks like we have no choice but to attack the heart.

Riding Firo, we withdraw from the Spirit Turtle.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 119 – Measures to End a Battle

“As expected, this is quite tough.”

I have returned to base, and am resting with the rest of my party. I head to the Strategy Meeting taking place between the leaders of multiple countries.

“Ah, the Hero of the Shield.” (Someone)

“Please, save the world.” (Someone else)

“I beg you, because of that, our country is…” (Someone else entirely)

The faces of the country leaders are quite pale.

The situation is quite grim. There will be no hope if I run here.

But… The difference in their treatment of me now is annoying.

Well, these people are from different countries. They may not know about my false crimes.

“We were watching from the back line. For it to have regeneration power to that extent…” (Queen)

The Queen speaks up with a worried face.

Trash… Doesn't seem to be present.

But I think he would be a nuisance if he was here, anyways.

"I thought we had a chance of victory... but I guess we will have to defeat it in accordance with the legend." (Naofumi)

"Yes... But the problem seems to be how to get you onto that giant."
(Queen)

"Now that you mention it, I have been seeing dragons flying around for a while." (Naofumi)

On the way here, I saw many soldiers preparing and riding on dragons.

I guess they were making preparations to infiltrate the turtle's insides.

"Will it be possible?" (Naofumi)

"The problem is the monsters that accompany the beast. It will be nearly impossible to break through a swarm of monsters that dense, and make it to the Turtle's back." (Queen)

"Fumu..." (Naofumi)

An impenetrable defense...

If it is just my party, we might be able to break through. But we have no idea how to seal the heart.

"Just to make sure, but you do have personnel capable of putting a seal on the heart?" (Naofumi)

"Yes, we have investigated the matter and have found a method we are certain will work." (Queen)

“Is it something that my party will be able to perform?” (Naofumi)

“That is…” (Queen)

The Queen stays silent.

It seems we will not be able to do it alone.

It’s not that convenient, I guess.

“I see…” (Naofumi)

“It’s something we’ll need an entire platoon of magicians to perform.”
(Queen)

“So we will need to infiltrate the Turtle with an entire army, and somehow reach the heart with minimal casualties?” (Naofumi)

“…Yes” (Queen)

If only the spell was long range, our lives would be so much easier.

So we need to buy enough time for an entire platoon to enter the body.

I look at the map on the table. It shows the location of the Turtle and nearby cities.

It’s getting very close, If we don’t hurry, more cities will be destroyed.

“Have you completed the evacuation procedures?” (Naofumi)

“That has been… Difficult.” (Queen)

"I see." (Naofumi)

Just by getting close, this monster causes large-scale earthquakes. The fissures themselves can collapse buildings and block off escape routes. This is very bad.

And this monster is proceeding with clear purpose and direction.

Now that I think about it, it hasn't shot out that powerful attack yet.

"What was that large scale attack that thing released on my party?"
(Naofumi)

"We are currently investigating it. It has not released one since." (Queen)

"Fumu..." (Naofumi)

It seems that it will take time before he can use such a large-scale attack again.

Or that it has yet to find another opponent worthy of firing it at.

Regardless, I will have to buy time for the Magician army to infiltrate the body.

And I need to help evacuate the populace...

"How far have evacuations progressed?" (Naofumi)

"It doesn't seem we will make it before the Turtle arrives." (Queen)

So this event will result in a really large amount of deaths.

What should I do.

I could try attacking it head on, while trying to destroy the heart, but there is a possibility that the result will be the same as when we destroyed the head.

It might be impossible to kill this monster.

“Why is it attacking densely populated areas, anyways?” (Naofumi)

“This is just from our investigations, but it doesn’t seem to be searching for food or resources.” (Queen)

So it isn’t trying to sustain itself.

So it is attacking of its own will.

I can’t think of a reason.

“Moreover, we have observed that it is not heading for the areas with the highest human populations.” (Queen)

“What do you mean?” (Naofumi)

“It also seems to be heading towards area with the highest monster populations.” (Queen)

So is it like an animal that enjoys going after ants’ nests, and that wants to make sure that no bugs build homes on its territory?

It’s not only attacking humans.

A monster like this...

I direct my gaze to Firo, who is resting outside.

This Filo Rial Queen may be able to attack it head-on and win.

Though I don't know exactly how strong either of them are.

But I guess I shouldn't try to test that.

"Will the ground troops be able to somehow board the Spirit Turtle's back?"
(Naofumi)

"It's taking all of their manpower just to hold back the subordinate monsters. The flying unit may stand a chance, but breaking through the wall of monsters will be difficult." (Queen)

The plan isn't perfect, but there's no choice.

"If I stall the Lesser Monsters and the Spirit Turtle, will the Army be able to get on its back?" (Naofumi)

If I can take on its strongest attack, then stalling might not be impossible.

When it was fighting my party and me, I was able to draw its attention, and its advanced slowed.

Worse comes to worst, I can just stall it until evacuation measures are complete.

Though I don't know if I can stand that attack consecutively.

“Well, I’ll need a bit of back-line support.” (Naofumi)

“… Please wait for a second.” (Queen)

The Queen and the leaders from the other countries begin to discuss the plan.

“How is it? Taking an all or nothing chance?” (Someone)

“We’re acting too fast! If we are to go with that plan, it is better to wait for the 7 Star Heroes’ Arrival” (Leader Person)

“But at this rate, several cities and castles will become sacrifices before they arrive.” (Person)

“You’re only saying that because your country has yet to face any casualties! This monster needs to be defeated as soon as possible.”
(Another Person)

This is getting quite heated.

Right now, the integrity of the four summoned heroes is in question, so I can’t really say anything.

Of course there are objections, and the counterarguments are understandable. Such is politics.

“That’s right, if we let that man defeat it, we can reduce the casualties to an absolute minimum.” (Someone)

“But he is the cause of this tragedy is he not?! One of the four heroes!”
(Person I do not like)

“Let me ask you, what is a hero?” (Naofumi)

It does not seem I can remain silent for much longer.

I am supposed to be the Shield Hero, the one who will save the world.

Even if I don't want to.

“T-that is…” (Person I do not like)

In response to my question, some people begin stammering out answers.

“A hero is a strong person who uses his power for just cause. It is someone with courage” (Queen)

The Queen presents this answer.

Good, if this person understands, then we may be able to proceed as planned.

“Heroes are all about Heart. No matter how hopeless the situation, they can never give up. Heroes must possess a will to protect the people!” (Naofumi)

What the hell am I trying to say.

Even though I'm the one who said it, I feel disgusted.

And anyways, I'm not that good of a person to begin with.

But don't these things appeal to everyone?

Things like Courage, Justice, Will and Heart?

"If the people stationed here do not have enough power, then I will become their shield and protect them". (Naofumi)

"Hero of the Shield..." (Person)

It seems I have left an impression on these people.

I spoke quite loudly. I bet my voice reached quite a few people outside as well...

"Hero of the Shield. Please forgive our previous words of cowardice."
(Person I didn't like)

"Don't mind it. I am used to being hated by the people. Let me take on the hate the people have for the four heroes." (Naofumi)

I hold out my hand to the person who looks like a Shogun from another country.

"So for now, I want all of you to lend me your power. Let's work together and defeat this monster." (Naofumi)

"YES!" (Shogun)

The Shogun-like person firmly grasps my hand and exclaims loudly.

How simple. (TL: Just as Keikaku)

And so the plan to defeat the Spirit Turtle was finalized.

And it seems I raised the morale of the leaders.

We'll work together to defeat the monster, and I will fight as a hero of justice.

"Now to return to topic, let us find a way to reduce the amount of casualties." (Queen)

...The Queen is staring at me with a complicated expression.

Well, she knows that I'm not this sort of person.

The Queen restarts the meeting.

"Even though the Seven Heroes have yet to arrive, do we have enough soldiers capable of using the sealing spell?" (Queen)

"That is.. As long as they learn it by the time we are ready..." (Someone)

"Then do you think they will be able to proceed without issue? The army will be advancing regardless of whether they learn it or not." (Queen)

"But to safely reach the heart, we need to..." (Someone)

"But that will only result in more damage. The best course of action is to seal the beast as fast as possible. Do you think the Hero of the Shield can hold out until the Seven Heroes get here?" (Queen)

...The leaders exchange some more words.

That's right. The 3 heroes that caused all of this are currently missing. Even if we amass the seven heroes, it is not certain that we will attain victory.

As the shield, I am probably the only one capable of restraining the Spirit Turtle.

"Iwatani, please protect the Magical Platoon as they proceed towards the heart." (Queen)

"I had that intention from the beginning. But once the platoon has infiltrated the turtle, I'll only hold them back. My job is to decrease casualties. I'll definitely buy those people enough time to complete their mission." (Naofumi)

"Understood. Does anyone have any objections?" (Queen)

"..."

No one spoke up. There was no way that they could.

There is a strong feeling of unity present in the room.

All that's left is to snatch victory.

"Well then, the mission will commence after all the preparations have been carried out." (Queen)

The meeting is adjourned, and I leave the tent. I take a deep sigh, and Raphtalia calls out to me.

"Naofumi-sama, did you do something again?" (Raphtalia)

I had purposely raised my voice so people outside could hear.

But by her reaction, it does not seem that she was listening.

"Yep, it was the same as what happened back at Cal Mira." (Naofumi)

"*Sigh*... I don't understand what you are saying, but I guess that's alright." (Raphtalia)

"Oneechan, Master said that he would protect-" (Firo)

"Silence Bird." (Naofumi)

If Raphtalia did not hear, then it's fine as it is.

Truthfully, she will probably just sigh and look at me strange

?

Rishia is staring at me with admiration.

Why are her eyes sparkling like that?

"I'm inspired! It's scary, but I'll do my best!" (Rishia)

So both Firo and Rishia heard my speech.

Why is Raphtalia the only one left out?

I later found out that she had gone out to fetch water.

Replenishing the water supply is also important.

By the time she had returned, the camp was already astir with the trouble I had caused.

Most of the things I have caused so far have been no good, so there's no helping it if she thinks I did something wrong.

"Now then, I'll tell you the decision reached by the meeting." (Naofumi)

"Yes" (Raphtalia)

"It's been decided that I will stall the Spirit Turtle to give the army an opportunity to infiltrate it. Raphtalia and Rishia will be helping out that squadron. Firo, help me fight on the outside." (Naofumi)

"Yay~!" (Firo)

"I understand, but will Naofumi-sama be alright fighting that beast without us?" (Raphtalia)

"I can't even feel the attacks of the lesser monsters, and after the army has succeeded in its infiltration, I will follow on Firo." (Naofumi)

If all else fails, I can use the Shield of Wrath to hold off the Monster.

I haven't tried to use it yet as I was testing my Soul Eater Shield. The Wrath Shield will probably be able to take the Spirit Turtle's attacks.

But I'm not sure if I can control my feelings.

Last time, Firo helped me get through it. I guess I'll have to count on her again.

“Rishia, don’t be afraid. There is a possibility you might find Itsuki inside of the Turtle.” (Naofumi)

“Yes! I’ll try my hardest!” (Rishia)

This girl is more energetic than usual.

“And fix that talking habit of yours.” (Naofumi)

“Fue…” (Rishia)

“Yeah, that. Every time you feel uncertain, you let out that sound. Listening to it is annoying.” (Naofumi)

“Fueeee!?” (Rishia)

“Hey, are you picking a fight or something?” (Naofumi)

“I-I’ll work on it…” (Rishia)

If she gets over it, she will mature mentally.

The first thing she must change is her own heart.

Raphtalia was like this at the beginning as well. It’s fine if she just progresses slowly.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 120 - Stalling for Time

"Illumination magic should be fired after the troops finish mounting the Spirit Turtle. Please hop on then, Iwatani-sama" (queen)

"Understood. Then, operation start!" (random soldier)

"Roger that. Everyone! We're going!" (shield)

"Okay" (raphtalia)

"Oka~y" (filo)

"I'll do my best!" (rishia)

Ans thus Filo and I faced the Spirit Turtle for another assault.

During that time, Raphtalia, Rishia and half of the Allied forces circled around the Spirit Turtle's back to mount it.

"Together with Master~" (filo)

Filo let me ride on her in good humour, and ran towards the Spirit Turtle.

Such a fearless kid.

I checked the number of Mana Potions and.... medicine.... and stood before the Spirit Turtle.

"—————!" (turtle)

As the Spirit Turtle detected us, it simultaneously released a swarm of familiars.

And then it used its body to trample down on us.

“Zweite Aura! Meteor Shield!” (shield)

I chanted protective magic while raising my voice, and deployed Meteor Shield.

The Spirit Turtle's foot rained down on us and caused an earthquake.

As if I'm going to take that obediently!

Just like that, we evasively dodged its foot before Meteor Shield could be broken.

Fissures formed in the ground.

In the midst of a dust cloud being raised, I used my whole body to grasp the Spirit Turtle's foot before it could lift its gigantic leg.

“—————!?” (turtle)

It seemed that the Spirit Turtle raised its voice in surprise at being unable to raise its leg at will.

Such a sorry state.

gu....gu gu..... *clench*

Nevertheless, if I show even a little hint of an opening then the Spirit Turtle will try to raise its leg. And in terms of strength, I don't have nearly enough to prevent from being thrown out into the air.

The good thing is that the neck didn't extend up to the tip of the forefoot that we were on. I'll try to make use of that.

“—————!” (turtle)

Familiars were released in our direction.

Now!

A large number of magic circles were deployed in the sky, and fire came raining down incessantly.

A wave of supporting magic swept down from the rear and descended upon the familiars, stitching up that interval.

“Tahh!” (filo)

Filo kicked the familiars away, protecting me.

“How long do we hafta wait?” (filo)

“Who knows” (shield)

gu gu..... *clench*

This is bad, if I lose even a bit of focus I won't be able to restrain the Spirit Turtle's foot.

All the same, it's only focusing in my direction so the rear was defenceless.

“Master.....that” (filo)

I looked behind the Spirit Turtle, through the gap in its legs. Well, what I could see was no larger than a speck.

A ladder or rope hung in order for the army and Raphtalia's party, who had circled to the rear, to climb onto the depths of the Spirit Turtle's shell.

It appeared that there were also wyvern-riding soldiers who boarded the Spirit Turtle favourably and were lending a hand.

All right.....

A crackling vibration transmitted through the Spirit Turtle.

This is.....

The Spirit Turtle turned to use and tried to fire its special move.

“Filo!” (shield)

“Kay!” (filo)

Filo hid behind my back.

The Spirit Turtle opened its mouth and fired that intense thunder, intending to wipe out its own foot together with us!

I immediately changed to the Wrath Shield.

Anger ignited in the depths of my heart

“Master” (filo)

Filo's arms and legs were covered in black flames.

Not yet..... I could endure it. Because Raphtalia and Filo were lending me their strength.

There was a dazzling flash, which was immediately followed by a loud roar one beat later.

I held out the shield and defended with the Wrath Shield.

..... There wasn't any pain like the last time.

As expected from the Wrath Shield. I'm unharmed.

As I thought that, and waited for the Spirit Turtle's attack, I realised a time counter had appeared in the corner of my vision.

4 : 37

This number that was decreasing every second.....

What the?

When the number fell to just below 4:30, the Spirit Turtle's attack ceased. All right, I withstood it. And then I realised. Somehow strength wouldn't enter my body.

"Master?" (filo)

What just occurred?

I checked my status.

.....My SP became 0!?

What the? Why was my SP 0?

It couldn't be that that Spirit Turtle's attack also drains SP, can it?

I changed to the Soul Eater Shield and recovered SP by stealing it from the swarming familiars with a counter-attack.

I summoned Meteor Shield.

The number that appeared when I changed into the Wrath Shield has disappeared.....

I have a bad premonition.

Could it be that that number was the duration that the shield couldn't control me, or otherwise Filo, converted into a numerical value?

It seems like something bad would happen if it reached 0.

The Spirit Turtle regenerated its burnt foot and trampled down on us.

"No way!" (shield)

Like before, I seized the Spirit Turtle's foot to halt it. If I changed to Wrath Shield, the Dark Curse Burning S would activate from the neighbouring

attacks and Filo would be caught up in it. I can't change it until the very last moment.

When I did, the Spirit Turtle took a breath as though to say it was waiting. No matter how much, wasn't this a bit quick!?

Sweat dripped down my face unpleasantly.

It had an ability to drain SP.... would spit out a lightning attack with that recovered SP, and then sucked away the SP I acquired again.

I could remain uninjured with the Wrath Shield but my SP would be absorbed. I'd receive a lot of damage with the Soul Eater Shield but, because it invalidates the drain and steals SP, it would take time before the lightning attack could be fired.

So it's like this?

"Tsk! Shield Prison!" (shield)

I aimed at the Spirit Turtle's head and summoned a cage.

However, the cage was broken as soon as it appeared.

As expected, I can't encase something as large as that.

Well, it looks like I can't attack with Iron Maiden.

I withstood the next lightning attack by changing into the Wrath Shield.

However, I lost all the SP I had as compensation.

I changed back to the Soul Eater Shield to counter but.....

When I look to the vicinity, the familiars hadn't finished assembling together.

"Are you alright, Master?" (filo)

"Gu....." (shield)

Should I get on Filo and flee?

The power of that attack is no joke. If it misfired and hit the allied troops, it would have caused a serious loss.

I deployed Meteor Shield with the SP I just managed to recover.

"Filo, it might be painful but bear with it" (shield)

"Kay!" (filo)

I caught the lightning attack with Filo supporting me up.

"Guu....." (shield)

The lightning attack pierced through me for about 30 seconds.

It's a pain I've never felt when I was in my original world. This feeling was like receiving an electric shock together with the pain of my whole body being roasted.

..... My consciousness took a leap.

I chanted recovery magic concurrently with supporting magic invoked by the troops behind me.

My wounds healed but I lost physical strength and accumulated fatigue during the time I was recovering from the injury.

"Filo's also gonna go" (filo)

"I'll leave it to you" (shield)

If Filo could blow away the head, that would buy us some time.

Filo took the stance for her special move, established her aim and attacked.

“Spiral Strike!” (filo)

Filo's assault arrived at the Spirit Turtle's throat and pierced through.

And yet, it may be because Raphtalia wasn't there but, it didn't manage to sever the head.

Before our eyes, the Spirit Turtle's wound repaired itself with an unpleasant tearing sound.

“Fuee....” (filo)

Filo sought refuge in my barrier as she landed and dropped her shoulders in fatigue.

The Spirit Turtle once again opened its mouth to spit a lightning attack.

Wha..... did the time for the next attack shrink because of the damage!?

“Filo, get away the next time this guy tries to stomp on us” (shield)

“Kay!” (filo)

I braced myself so that Filo could have time for her magic to recover; Filo's feathers bristled as she concentrated.

Speaking of which, the duration of the Spirit Turtle's lightning attack and the time it takes for Filo to accumulate magic power is equal.

The Spirit Turtle spat out its lightning attack and I changed to the Wrath Shield to resist it.

And then, the Spirit Turtle's blackened leg regenerated again and it attempted to stomp on us.

"Now's the time!" (shield)

"Oka~y!" (filo)

Filo retreated back at a high speed and I stopped Spirit Turtle's trampling with the Wrath Shield, then started running towards its face.

Dark Curse Burning S activated and black flames coiled around with me as the centre.

The Spirit Turtle's leg and face was thoroughly burned by the cursed flames.

"How's that!" (shield)

Dark Curse Burning S has an effect of diminishing recovery. It might be able to seal that miraculous regeneration power.

If that's the case then stalling for time will be easy.

However.....the blackened leg and part of the face regenerated as if nothing happened.

"————— ! " (turtle)

W-What vitality.

"Master" (filo)

"Yeah, I know" (shield)

I changed the Wrath Shield into the Soul Eater Shield to economise the time. This will turn into.... quite a drawn-out battle.

Once again, I instructed Filo as I endured the lightning attack.

"Filo, please go and ask the queen, who's monitoring the timing, for the state of progress. This is quite relentless. Make them hurry up as much as possible" (shield)

"If I do that then Master will....." (filo)

Filo replied with a voice that seemed like it would break into tears at any moment.

"I'll be fine....." (shield)

".....okay" (filo)

That Spirit Turtle let out a mortifying cry, possibly because it couldn't steal any SP.

I think I can endure until the next discharge.

Filo kicked the enemy away.

"High Quick!" (filo)

With high speed, she ran down to where the queen was.

I materialised Meteor Shield with SP taken from the familiars, and repeated the action of pinning down the Spirit Turtle's foot.

It was difficult, because all the lightning attacks made the footing worse.

There were fissures caused by the earthquakes as well as crater ruins.

This is harder than I thought.....

The Spirit Turtle's familiars forcefully attacked the barrier made by Meteor Shield.

.....If I didn't learn those strengthening methods from the other heroes, wouldn't I have died?

Well, this situation is the fault of those other heroes.

<As one worthy of the origin of power, Filo is commanding: She's reread and understands the terms, blow away those creatures with a tornado of intense vacuum>

"Zweite Tornado!" (filo)

The familiars surrounding me were blown away by a tornado

"I'm back~!" (filo)

"How was it?" (shield)

"They're hurrying but said to hang in there for a bit longer" (filo)

"I see....." (shield)

"Ah, also, this is medicine to recover stamina" (filo)

Filo took out some medicine from a bag she wasn't carrying when she left, and gave it to me.

It was a candy-like medicine.

When I put it in my mouth, there was a minty taste. I felt like a bit of strength had returned to me.

"And this was also set aside for Master's use" (filo)

"What?" (shield)

....it was a Lukol pill [T/N: herbal supplement, used for Leukorrhoea]

“Yes, yes” (shield)

I also put that in my mouth.

.....I felt more strength return than from the candy. When I checked the status magic, SP and MP was recovered.

The Lukol pill had a recovery effect. I'll remember that.

With this, the curtain closed on the long battle of suppressing the Spirit Turtle

I don't want to do this offense-defence thing a second time.

This repetition of sometimes using the Wrath Shield to resist, sometimes using the Soul Eater Shield to endure.

The barbarian's armour had become tattered here and there.

Its self-repairing was no longer able to catch up.

So intense.

“Haa.....Haa.....” (shield)

The Wrath Shield's time counter had dropped to below 0 : 30. Around this point, Filo also started tearing at her head seeming to be enduring something.

I also had a dark emotion taking over my heart, which made my mind start to become strange.

“M-Master..... Filo is already.....” (filo)

Filo, who wanted to release the anger that didn't have anywhere to strike, and I. We're almost at the limit.

I can't change to Wrath Shield any more.

"I understand. I won't change it any more! Endure it!" (shield)

"Okay" (filo)

I endured Spirit Turtle's lightning attack with the Soul Eater Shield.

How many times have I endured this roasting sensation. I'm already fed up with just this. Should we flee?

Just when I thought that, the illumination was fired at last.

"Alright! Let's go!" (shield)

"Hooray! Filo will do her best!" (filo)

The Spirit Turtle regenerated its foot, and in the instant it tried to stomp down, I got on Filo's back and passed through its legs at high speed.

Tsk! That Spirit Turtle, it's trying to crush us with its whole body.

The Spirit Turtle's stomach drew nearer second by second, as the ceiling was lowering.

"High Quick!" (filo)

Filo changed her course midway using a high speed movement, turned her back and escaped from the front, dodging earthquakes by leaping over them and changed direction as she landed.

And with a huge leap, she jumped onto the Spirit Turtle's shell.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 121 – The Inscription of the Heroes

“It’s good that we jumped on the Turtle, but…” (Naofumi)

The ground is shaking. More specifically, the Spirit Turtle’s whole body is shaking.

But its head can’t stretch far enough to look at its back. I don’t think it can concentrate on its shell.

I check my surroundings.

The place we landed is quite close to the ruined city.

The buildings give off a Chinese sort of feeling. Possible because of the Chinese legend that the Spirit Turtle carried the city of immortals on its back.

“Firo, can you sense where the army is?” (Naofumi)

“nn… Probably… that way?” (Firo)

Firo points to the mountain range outside of the city.

That direction is towards the back of the Turtle, so she’s probably correct.

“For now, let’s leave the city and meet up.” (Naofumi)

“Yes!” (Firo)

I get on Firo, and she runs towards the mountains.

... There are quite a few corpses littered around the ruined city. It seems the cause of death is attacks from the Spirit Turtle's familiars.

The cause of all of this is those three idiotic heroes.

Why would they do such a thing...

The putrid smell of rotting bodies is making me feel sick.

"Master, please hold Firo tightly." (Firo)

"Sure." (Naofumi)

Firo runs while kicking Familiars that look like Gorillas and Yetis.

Along the way, a familiars that looked like floating eyeballs and bats also appeared. These ones seem to be more powerful than the others.

But none of them are a match for the speeding blur that is Firo.

We still have yet to get out of the city.

... For a while, I have been seeing nothing but carcasses.

As I think this, I see the shadow of a person.

I wonder if it is one of the Army Soldiers...

But it is definitely a corpse. The dead bodies on the turtle's back have begun to move.

“Even after death, his body is being controlled by something... Something like that?” (Naofumi)

I’ve only ever seen Zombies in games. In reality, fighting them while looking at their decrepit faces is quite mortifying.

The only undead I have ever encountered before was Skeletons. Apparently, finding undead monsters that still had flesh is quite rare.

There’s no way I can fight these.

A child zombie appears and Firo is unable to kick.

“Let’s avoid it.” (Naofumi)

Even though Firo will happily eat most humanoid monsters, even she cannot bring herself to fight a child.

“I’m sorry master...” (Firo)

With amazing leg power, Firo jumps out of the swarm of Zombies that had begun to form.

If they were doomed to have such a fate after death, it would have been better if they had been hit by the Turtle’s lightning and been obliterated without leaving a trace.

But I’m just stating my opinion here.

“That girl... looked a bit like Melty” (Firo)

Melty is in the castle, but Firo’s imagination is running wild.

I couldn't see anything in that child that looked like Melty.

"Why would this Turtle make that child do such a thing?" (Firo)

Firo looks down at the ground.

That's right. I can't seem to see the turtle's goal.

It's not eating anything, it's just going around and killing as many things as it can.

As if killing in itself was its goal.

"We need to hurry to Oneechan." (Firo)

"Yeah...?" (Naofumi)

I see a building that looks like a temple.

The architecture is not of eastern origin. It looks like a Greek temple from my world.

In a game, a building like this would usually contain a useful clue or key item.

"Please stop by that building." (Naofumi)

"Yes~" (Firo)

I carefully peer inside.

Perhaps due to the Turtle's walking, the temple is half collapsed.

Is this the statue that the other heroes supposedly destroyed in here?

I search the temple but cannot find any artifact with a relation to the Turtle.

I should have probably gotten more information from the queen.

It seems that I am wasting my time.

“This is…!?” (Naofumi)

On a mural on the wall, I see some writing.

… It’s in Japanese.

“What is this…” (Naofumi)

If anyone is once again summoned here from Japan… if you are reading this, please… this.

Th… Monster was se… but the… Seven Eye seal will probably… ek someday.

From what we learned, his purpose is………… and to protect this world’s…………..

I pray that the blue sand…… and the seal never breaks.

Though having more victims may benefit this world.

Looking back, we have paid a large price by sealing this monster

But… be… greed. If you… read these letters… for the… living in this world… defeat… Monster.

...way to defeat it is.....,

... and then use the eight... courage... -Keiichi

(TL: The Hero's name, I don't know the exact pronunciation, 桂一)

(TL: BY THE WAY, THIS WAS REALLY A PAIN, I CAN'T REALLY HELP YOU DECYPHER THIS)

... The writing is faded and scratched out, so it is difficult to read.

But I can pretty much guess what is written by context.

Something like the seal we placed will someday break.

The dragon hourglass will turn blue and display a warning.

However, the Turtle's objective and the ever-so-important sealing procedure are illegible.

More victims may benefit the world? Even though this was left by a hero, I cannot make sense of it.

And this isn't an Anime or a Manga. Why is only the most important information omitted?

This writing seems to be very old, so I can't really complain to anyone.

The only piece of info I really got was the person's name, Keiichi.

I don't know his last name, but there was definitely a Hero of that name.

Apart from the cracks caused by the turtle's walking, this was already an old piece of writing. There isn't much else I can learn from this.

There's a high possibility he comes from a different Japan than me.

I don't know how long ago this Mural was painted, and I'm not sure that this world even records its history accurately.

But thinking about this won't really help anything.

Is the number eight connected to something? I can't read any of the text around it.

...

"Can Master read this?" (Firo)

"Yeah, sort of." (Naofumi)

"hm... these letters are a little weird." (Firo)

"Yes, these are not letters used in Melromark." (Naofumi)

By the way, it seems that the countries around here all have different languages and writing systems.

The shield acts as a translator, so I can probably manage with the language barrier, but as for writing...

"There doesn't seem to be anything else of interest, we should be on our way." (Naofumi)

“Yeah!” (Firo)

We leave the temple and continue towards the mountain.

“It will be difficult to locate Raphtalia and the others.” (Naofumi)

We enter the mountain range and continue heading towards the turtle’s rear.

It looked like a rocky mountain from afar, but the base of the mountains are surrounded by dense forests. It will be difficult to find the army squadron.

From what I know, the legends say that there is a cave that leads into the Turtle somewhere around here, so the army is probably searching for a cave as well.

There is also a possibility the entrance was somewhere in that village.

And where are the other heroes, anyways?

They could be inside the Turtle fighting, but they could just as easily be lost searching for the entrance on top.

“Firo, can you sense the others?” (Naofumi)

“Over there I think.” (Firo)

I leave navigations to Firo

Occasionally we find a soldier’s corpse lying around.

"We need to hurry." (Naofumi)

"Yes!" (Firo)

Firo speeds up, and we find the army squadron locked in battle.

Since their forces are very large, it is difficult to miss them.

Raphtalia is on the front lines destroying the familiars one after the other. Those that can still move are aiding her in battle.

Rishia is frantically casting support magic from the rear.

There are also many who have deserted due to the onslaught of monsters.

"Alright Firo, We're helping them!" (Naofumi)

"Yes!" (Firo)

Firo rushes in at the speed of sound and sends the familiars in front of Raphtalia flying with a kick.

"Naofumi-sama!" (Raphtalia)

"Yep, we've finally met up. What's the situation?" (Naofumi)

"We are in the middle of looking for the cave." (Raphtalia)

"You still haven't found it?" (Naofumi)

"According to the magic brigade, it is impossible to locate it with magic because the Turtle is constantly moving." (Raphtalia)

“Fumu…” (Naofumi)

So the troops have been manually searching for it whilst fending off attacks from these monsters.

The number of familiars seems to be infinite. That must have been difficult.

As I think this, an army recon squad comes running in.

“We have located a cave that seems to be the one we are looking for. Its appearance matches the one spoken of in legend.” (Recon Person)

And the Recon squad leader points deeper into the mountains.

“That’s good. I’ll hold off the attacks, please lead us there.” (Naofumi)

“Understood” (Recon Guy)

“Everyone, Follow the Hero of the Shield’s lead!” (Army person)

“SIR YES SIR” (Entire army)

We continue to drive off the familiars and proceed to the cave the Recon Squad found.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 122 - Exploration

Naofumi: "Be careful."

Raphtalia: "Okay." "Read more..."

Raphtalia uses magic to create a ball of light that illuminates the cavern.

I am in the lead while Raphtalia, Firo, Rishia, and the allied forces follow along.

Eyeball-like familiars and caterpillar-like familiars were appearing from the walls of the cave, though they weren't that strong at fighting.

The problem is this cave.....This structure of it is as complex as a maze.....

The walls aren't living beings but stone and mud.

Naofumi: "Do you know the way?"

Soldier: "More or less, I was assigned to the reserves because I investigate caves in the past."

Naofumi: "That's helpful."

It would take too much time to map this place out from scratch after all.

We spread open the map to confirm the location.

As I thought, the cave has a complex maze-like structure.

The ironic thing is that there is another entrance at the back, where the town was.

Shit.....

Well, it can't be helped since I didn't know. In the first place, it was just Firo and I.

It would be meaningless if I didn't meet up with the group that is supposed to seal the heart.

The problem is.....it seems that the location of the heart isn't shown.

Perhaps it could be on the way, unless we can stop the spirit turtle from regenerating, we won't be able to stop it from advancing.

Doesn't seem very reliable huh.....

Naofumi:"Oh?"

After checking the map, I find a spot that is somewhat bigger than the rest. It would be a good idea to put together a search group and have the rest wait there.

Honestly, too many people would burden our movement.

There's no problems if there were guys that could match Raphtalia and Firo's level of performance, but it would be cruel to demand the same as these two from the rest.

Anyway, tricking the allied forces into thinking this is a break would be fine. Let's go with that.

deciding, I mark the large space on the map of the cave, and tell the allied forces the goal.

Eventually, the space opened up according to what was shown on the map. Originally I thought the map was based entirely on guesses, but it might be dependable after all.

It's good that we have arrived at our desired location, but.....

Firo:"There's some huge demon."

Within the large clearing is a large demon, which has a presence suitable to being the spirit turtle's familiar.

It would be useless to compare its huge total length to the other familiars.

Looks like the purpose of its deployment here at the plaza is to remove invaders like us, it's like that game prisoner's base.

(TInote: I'm sure most of you guys played this before in elementary.

http://www.gameskidsplay.net/games/chasing_games/prisoners_base.htm

)

It feels like a Mid-boss from RPGS.

It's the spirit turtle after all. This should be considerably stronger than the other small fries.

The problem is the number of them.

We can still keep our composure with just one, but if there are more it would be dangerous for the allied forces.

Raphtalia:"Since this is the case. What shall we do?"

It would be troublesome for another to appear after we defeat this one.....Should we just try it?

Naofumi:"Alright, fortunately there is only one, we will defeat it and then observe the circumstances. You guys in the allied forces, pay attention to the rear."

Soldiers:"Roger!"

Firo:"Okay~"

Rishia:"Fuee.....I'll do my best."

Naofumi:"Haah....."

As usual, Rishia said those words I warned her about.

Well, it's not like it's going to stop all the way just because I warned her.

Right now what Rishia needs is confidence and experience.

It would be nice if she could act like she did with the queen, I want her to become strong, not only from levels, but also from actual combat experience.

With that in mind, you could say that the spirit turtle is the perfect opponent for that.

.....Though it's just a slightly drastic measure.

Naofumi: "Alright, Charge!"

We charge towards the familiar that is occupying the plaza.

This is different from the gorillas and yetis outside.....A turtle-man type?

It's a monster that spans a full 4 meters in length.

Firo: "Teryaaa!"

Firo kicks the familiar's shell with all her might.

A louch crack resounded and the shell caved in, it was sent flying into a wall and its movements stopped.

Raphtalia: "Yaaaaaaa!"

With a flash of her sword, Raphtalia cuts off the familiar's head.

It's so unreliable.

Rishia was trying to attract its attention with weak magic attacks, and she also supported Raphtalia.

In the case that we are targeted, I have the meteor shield up to defend. For the time being her understanding of cooperation is lacking. Just a passing mark.

Or rather, the cooperation itself isn't a problem. We can expand on that after strengthening her body.

The problem is that her abilities are affected by her status.

.....What was she concentrating on before?

Raphtalia:"This thing is quite disappointing."

Raphtalia swings the blood off her sword after confirming the annihilation of the familiar.

It was certainly much weaker than expected.

I mean the spirit turtle was so tough. Was I too cautious?

No, the allied force is behind me. Being very cautious is just right.

Firo:"Yup. It was only a little bit hard."

Raphtalia:"Firo did you kick the hardest place intentionally?"

Firo:"Because everything else is soft~"

Raphtalia:"That's wasted movement."

The two of them are having a silly conversation.

It's like a conversation between a genius and a prodigy.

Rishia:"The two of them are very strong."

Naofumi:"Rishia."

Rishia:"Fuee-----I'll make that my goal!"

Hrmm.....Put in the effort and strive to get there, don't just say it.

This has completely become a habit.

Naofumi:"As for reinforcements.....it doesn't seem like there are any."

Raphalia:"Seems that way."

Apparently there is no trap that causes us to defeat the thing endlessly.

Soldiers:"Amazing....."

The group of allied forces expresses to us.

To us, I can say that I thought it was weak, but.....

What is the average level?

If it's around level 60 it should cry.

Shadow:"Hero of the Shield-dono."

Shadow appears. Speaking of which, where were you?

The knife in her hand was drenched in the blood of familiars, so it looks like she was fighting somewhere else.

Naofumi:"What happened?"

Shadow:"I am investigating this place according to the plan degojaru."

Naofumi:"Right.....I mean, why did you come?"

Shadow:"As per the plan, I was assigned to guard the allied forces degojaru. Other than, the queen told me to ask Hero of the Shield-dono for orders deojaruyo."

Naofumi:"That's fine."

To have shadow guard the allied forces.....For the time being this guy can act as a military unit.

Are the familiars of the Spirit turtle that strong?

Well..... I should regard the allied forces as a special unit that seals the spirit turtle.

I'll calculate where I should assign our combat ability.

Naofumi:"Alright! To each of you from the allied forces, I intend to search for the spirit turtle's heart with this place as a base. It is important for everyone to protect this place. We will begin the search."

Allied Forces:"R-Roger that!"

The tension is gone as the allied forces cautiously being to rest in plaza. It seems they have become considerably fatigued from the extreme tension and continuous fighting.

I didn't expect that they would fight till they were this tired.....

Is it the shield's influence?

Or is it just that Raphtalia and Firo are strange?

In any case, without thinking about various things we won't be able to reseal the spirit turtle.

Naofumi:"Shadow.....Do you know the average level of the allied forces?"

Shadow:"The average level of the military units for sealing the heart of the spirit turtle is 65 degojaru."

.....It's not as bad as expected.

What? Is the difference with growth correction this big!?

Since Rishia's stats are so low, is this the standard without growth correction?

No no, I expect that's not the case.

Since Itsuki's reason for dismissing Rishia is because she is weak.

.....That Rishia at least has some war potential now thanks to the Firo costume.

Should I ask the old man to make more Firo costumes? There are only two pieces of material required.

Mass production of the Firo costume huh.....

I wonder if it's possible by plucking Firo's feathers.

Firo:"!?"

Suddenly Firo's feathers stand on end restlessly like a wave.

Raphtalia:"What's happening?"

Firo:"Something strange is in the air!"

I didn't say anything and she still noticed.

.....What a sharp fellow. It seems plucking her feathers is impossible.

Naofumi:"Shadow is stronger than that fellow though."

I know since we fought together a little back on Cal Mira Island. Having a unit that is on Shadow's level is extremely convenient, they should be useful.

Shadow: "Temporarily, our assassination unit will enter the battlefield degojarukara, we are knowledgeable on levels and martial arts deojaru."

Naofumi: "Then take half of the shadow corps to defend, and the remaining half to search."

Shadow: "Understood degojaru. That being said, right now there are considerably less shadows degojarukara, please don't expect too much degojaru."

Naofumi: "I know."

The shadows tailing the other heroes are missing.....They probably can't move due to the situation, or dead in the worst case scenario.

To that extent the allied forces should be more dependable when including them.

Anyway, the strategy has been decided.

There is still a long way to go. We will look for the heart as the allied forces take a break.

Naofumi: "Rishia, you wait here and fight with the allied forces if demons appear."

Rishia: "U-Understood!"

Naofumi: "Raphtalia and Firo, you two are searching with me. Firo use your nose. I'll be relying on you."

Firo:"Okay~! I'll do my best~!"

Raphtalia:"Roger."

We left Rishia behind and we advanced towards the caves that started to diverge.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 123 - Blue Hourglass

How many dead ends does this make now?

I check the map, and confirm that everything is mapped out.....The road connected to the heart of the spirit turtle still hasn't been found.

Naofumi:"HmMMM....."

Sometimes we encounter familiars, but they aren't a problem since Raphtalia and Firo are here.

Every time we come across a dead-end, we head back to where Rishia and the allied forces are to confirm it.

They encountered some familiars several times as well, but somehow they were able to defeat it with Rishia leading the way.

With those stats..... It's thanks to the Firo costume

Naofumi:"Shit....."

As this continued, the spirit turtle approached human villages and we started getting impatient.

In the first place, this kind of cave, as long as the spirit turtle isn't some artificial life form, shouldn't the dungeon walls be made of meat?

I wonder. It feels like we haven't even found the entrance yet.

Or is this cave itself a mistake?

According to the map this should be the bottom layer but.....

Shadow:"Hero of the Shield-dono."

Shadow appears and updates my map.

.....All the dead ends have been filled out.

Naofumi:"What happened? Was there a mistake in the legend?"

Shadow:"Not exactly degojaruka..... A hidden door has been confirmed degojaruga."

Firo:"Hey Master~"

Firo is having a good time kicking the ground.

Naofumi:"Can you check one more time? Or should I just go ahead and dig?"

A tool to dig will be necessary.....That reminds me, I have a digging skill.

Firo:"Hey."

Shadow"The allied forces have already packed their luggage degojaru."

Firo:"Hey!"

Naofumi:".....What!?"

Firo is trying to get my attention by calling out.

Firo:"Umm you see. The floor.....Isn't it kind of strange?"

Firo rubs her foot and on the ground and hits it.

By the way, there are no echoes, and I even confirmed that there is no hidden floor.

Naofumi:"What's strange about it?"

Firo:"It's a living creature."

Naofumi:"Of course we're inside the a mountain on the back of a giant monster."

Firo:"That's not it!"

Firo smacks her foot on the floor again.

The floor ripples with a boing sound.

Naofumi:"Hm?"

That sound.....It was strange.

Come to think of it.....That strong acid water from the intermediate class recipes that I wasn't able to make before should be suitable here.

I recall exactly how and make the it with my shield.

Naofumi:"Firo stay back a little."

Firo:"Okay~"

I take the strong acid water from the shield and pass it to Raphtalia.

Naofumi:"Scatter that."

Raphtalia:"Ah, Okay."

Raphtalia scatters the strong acid water on to the ground.

Spirit Turtle:"-----!"

The floor wriggles and reveals its true form!

The mucus bodied huge eyeball opens up like mochi, and a turtle shell appears in its place.

(TInote: Mochi is a japanese rice cake. As for what's happening, it's like this <http://imgur.com/EH3CyDz> but with a giant eyeball (ew))

Shadow:"I see, so it is a mimic type familiar degojaruka, no wonder we couldn't find it degojaru."

Naofumi:"Since it was dormant, it didn't show any signs of being alive, so that's why we were never able to sense it."

To think that even Shadow and Firo couldn't sense it.....What a splendid cheat-like familiar.

Naofumi:"Kill them!"

Firo:"Okay~"

Raphtalia:"Roger!"

Shadow:"I too shall go degojaru!"

Every attack on a mimic type familiar kills it.

The mimic type familiars shrink like a slug and then disappear into vapor when they die.

Shadow:"So the path was concealed in such a place degojaruna."

When we confirm the disappearance of the last familiar, a path appeared. That means, all dead ends up until now are doubtful.

That being said, let's proceed down this path first.

Naofumi: "Let's go."

All members nod and follow me.

After advancing a little, I felt the wall, temperature, and air change.

The wall itself is warm and pulsating.

Firo: "This feels strange."

Raphtalia: "That's right.....I feel a little sick."

Firo: "Does Firo's mouth feel the same?"

.....What an unpleasant thought.

It does seem like Firo to say something like that huh?

Naofumi: "I wonder if we entered the spirit turtle's body."

It still feels like a cave though, but it's for real now.

Our foothold is squishy, and pulsing could be heard.

Anyway, let's verify where the heart is.

Thinking about it, the demons and white clumps flying towards us are like platelets under a microscope.

(Tlnote: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Platelet>)(Tlnote2: as for the white clumps 白い塊 I googled it and I lost my appetite.)

Thanks to my meteor shield repelling them, Raphtalia and Firo were able to kick them around.

Apparently, these familiars appear to be the immune system.

Every now and then, parasite-like caterpillar would appear, spreading potent acid wherever they go.

Naofumi:"It would seem that bringing the allied forces here would be hard."

The demons appear quite frequently. Since we are getting close to the heart, the defense would be stronger.

Shadow:"Shall I return and guide them here deogjaruka?"

Naofumi:"No, we haven't found the heart yet. In the first place, there is no conclusive evidence that this is the correct path either. We'll get to where it's at and clear it out."

Shadow:"Understood degojaru."

As we advanced forwards a little, a red muscle dangling from something is blocking our path.

.....Either way, a gimmick of this kind will just be cut open.

Naofumi:"Raphtalia, cut through it."

Raphtalia:"Ah, Okay."

Raphtalia cuts the red muscle.

The wall of meat opens up and a path appears.

Shadow:"Houu.....You understand it well degojaruna."

Naofumi:"I don't know about the other heroes, but frankly that muscle was suspicious..... I do know a few things you know."

Shadow:"So that's how it is degojaruka."

Now then, after advancing a bit, what blocked our way this time is a blue muscle.

Haah.....Even if you change it a bit, the path is still here.

Naofumi:"Raphtalia"

Raphtalia:"Okay!"

After cutting it down in the same fashion, the path in front opens up, but the red muscle behind us is restored.

Uggh. So troublesome.

Furthremore, just like a warning, every time we cut down a muscle, demons from the immune system appear.

Though.....We advanced quite far.....

We heard the beating of a giant heart from behind a door.

After cutting open a blue muscle we found it.

However, after seeing the inside, the double doorway in front of us closed.

That's troublesome, it seems that unless we cut somewhere else, this won't open completely.

Naofumi:"As if I'd let you! Raphtalia, cut the red tube!"

Raphtalia:"O-Okay!"

After cutting open the red one, the inner part of the door opened.....I rush forwards while deploying the meteor shield.

Naofumi:"Firo! There should be another muscle somewhere, tear it up!"

Firo:"Mkay!"

The meteor shield makes a cracking sound.

It seems the attack outside was more concentrated.

After Firo checks the area, she uses Spiral · Strike to tear apart the muscle on the wall, and that causes massive bleeding.

Spirit Turtle:"-----!"

I heard a voice that could be from the heart in the interior.

It was probably painful.

Regeneration.....Seems like it's trying.

Do we have 30 seconds?

Naofumi:"Let's go!"

Raphtalia:"Okay!"

I advance through the path opened to the heart.

After a while I discover a white muscle. The rear opened when it was cut.

Ha! Obediently let me conquer you!

Naofumi:"Shadow, if continuing through this place is the path, then it is your duty to report it."

Shadow:"Understood deojaru. Do you want me to carry out the order now degojaruka?"

Naofumi:"No, After a little more."

Before long, an out-of-place blue building came into view.....

It was a blue Hourglass of the Dragon's Era.

The size of it is smaller than the hourglass in Melromarc. Just that, I insist this is an existence floating inside the body of the spirit turtle somewhere. (TInote: I'm not sure about this line. No matter what I try it seems weird to me.)

Naofumi: "Hourglass of the Dragon's Era.....?"

Raphtalia: "It's blue."

Shadow: "That's right degojaruna."

Firo: "There's less sand."

Right, as Firo said, there is less sand in this blue Hourglass of the Dragon's era compared to the other one.

Firo: "Also, what are those letters of there~?"

On the middle of the Hourglass of the Dragon's Era are seven familiar letters that aren't of this world.

What on earth could it be?

Also on the hourglass..... there is a mark similar to a scale.

The whole thing seems to only have about 1/10th of its quantity left.

I try to gently touch it.

And my hand slips through, it seems I won't be able to touch the blue hourglass.

Something is different about this Hourglass of the Dragon's era from the country's.

That one has the function of informing us when the next wave will appear and Class up, but I don't understand what this can do.

Naofumi: "There's no use worrying. Our first priority is to confirm it."

Raphtalia: "Okay!"

Naofumi: "It will be fine to investigate it later."

Firo: "Okay~"

After advancing past the blue hourglass for a little, we discover the heart. Its magnitude was more than 6 meters, the heart is divided into two different colours.

Naofumi: "So this is the heart of the spirit turtle huh."

Shadow: "Looks that way degojaruna. It's a very ominous creature degojaru."

An eye direct's its gaze towards our voices.

No matter how you look at it, that is not a welcoming gaze.

Spirit Turtle: "-----!!"

Do we seal this guy?

*Pew, light hits the meteor shield and is reflected off.

(TLnote: ズユツ I have no idea, but it's light so I'll just go with pew)

Furthermore, a high-powered laser is discharged from the eye.

The eye on the heart of the spirit turtle opens wide and vibrates.

Familiars of the spirit turtle appear out of nowhere.

What a troublesome opponent. It's not necessary for us to fight it, we'll have to group up with the allied forces to come and seal it.

It can probably call an unlimited amount of familiars.

Naofumi:"Should we weaken it for now? Shadow go back."

Raphtalia:"Okay!"

Firo:"Mkay!"

Shadow:"Understood degojaruyo."

Raphtalia and Firo jump out from the barrier and attack the heart of the spirit turtle.

Both of them can't help but unleash their respective finishing moves.

Raphtalia:"Yin-Yang Sword!"

Firo:"Critical Quick~"

Both their attacks hit the eye of the spirit turtle's heart.

Spirit Turtle"-----!!"

hey hey, it's raging it's raging. The vicinity around us vibrates.

A huge magic formation develops on the heart of the spirit turtle.

It seems to be doing something.

Naofumi:"Raphtalia, Firo, get back."

Raphtalia:"Roger."

Firo:"Okay~!"

Both of them fall back within the range of the meteor shield as I prepare for the attack.

The spirit turtles heart shoots..... a black ball of magic at me.

I receive it.

The meteor shield shatters like glass.

When the black ball hits the shield and light is distorted.

My body is heavy!

This magic is super gravity.

My body feels incredibly heavy.

However, my defensive power won't be suppressed by something of this degree!

Naofumi:"Deryaaaaaaaaa!"

I divert the ball of light to the right, and the ball of supergravity is repelled. As expected, I won't be hit with something as powerful as that electric attack from outside.

Well, that's what it feels like. I don't think the spirit turtle would do something that would destroy its own heart.

And so, the tube streaming around the spirit turtle's heart is analyzed.....Some kind of white spirit is circulating through it.

it is scattered around the room centering from the heart.

Naofumi:"Meteor Shield!"

I once again put up the meteor shield.

.....I should receive it, once.....what kind of attack is it?

I must receive it to analyze it..... Though for now I should be careful.

Naofumi:"Alright, we're not going to fight now. We'll withdraw and bring the allied forces here."

Shadow: "Roger deojaru."

We postpone the battle against the spirit turtle's heart and withdraw.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 124 - Heart of the Spirit Tortoise

Rishia: "A-Are you guys alright!?"

When we came back, Rishia and the allied forces greeted us.

Naofumi: "We found the heart."

Soldiers: "Ohh!"

The allied forces let out delighted voices.

The problem is getting these guys there.

Just like a while ago, it would be difficult to get to the heart.

Naofumi: "How is the damage?"

Soldier: "Before Hero-sama returned we were attacked by demons nine times. There have been some victims."

Naofumi: "Fumu. Anyways, victory is before our eyes."

Rishia: "Umm.....did you find Itsuki-sama?"

Naofumi: "No we did not."

Come to think of it, the other heroes still haven't been found.

Did we just miss them?

That's a pretty painful thought. Since there are hidden floors here. They might have entered by destroying if they knew.

Could they be fighting somewhere else on this mountain?

No.....Surely they witnessed that disastrous scene in the town. Normally after seeing a scene like that, the subjugation of the spirit turtle would become top priority.

So far my analysis of those guys tell me that they aren't bad to that extent.

No way, did they get annihilated after all?

This thing is a monster. So I can't deny that possibility.

Should I prepare for the worst case scenario?

Rishia:"I see....."

Naofumi:"Don't be discouraged. It's better than finding a corpse."

Rishia:"Fuee---Okay."

Orders to protect would be evaluated higher. They shouldn't be that desperate.

(TInote: Not sure about this line.)

Naofumi:"It's fine to look for the other heroes after we seal the spirit turtle. You guys from the allied forces come with us. From now on, the demon's attacks will become even more intense. Prepare yourselves. Even heroes aren't almighty, if possible try to protect yourselves!"

Soldiers: ""Yes!""

The group of allied forces nod and raise their voice at my instructions.

After this..... Let's concentrate on which units that I expect will make it to the heart.

It has to be that huh. I had to rely on volunteers last wave since I was weak. Yup.

When I think about future waves and fighting with the strength of others.....it's harsh.

How many sacrifices will there be.....

We bring the allied forces and head back to the depths of the cave.

Along the way, I explain to the allied forces the various attacks of the spirit turtle's heart.

Also for them not to be defeated between the gaps of Meteor Shield, Air Strike Shield, and Second Shield's protection.

Soldier:" As expected of the Hero of the Shield-sama, to go through the effort of analysing the enemy to prevent our sacrifice."

Naofumi:"I.....guess so."

It's not possible to protect.

It's not possible to defend them against the attacks of the opponent when they are attacking as well.

I am only conveying that.

Naofumi:"Just that, I wasn't able to grasp the real nature of the white lump attack that the heart fired before our withdrawal. Be careful."

Soldiers:"""Roger!"""

The familiars that appeared along the way were barely beaten by Raphtalia, Firo, Rishia, and the allied force's attacks.

When the cave walls became walls of meat, the allied soldier's breathes got taken away.

As everyone carefully proceeded, the sound of the heart beating could be heard.

Opening the Red muscle and closing the blue line were assigned to the allied forces, while Raphtalia and Firo dealt with the attacks from the front and behind by familiars.

Those parasites that suddenly appear are a problem. They appeared when the meat walls were torn down so the response was late.

There were some casualties.

Mental fatigue started appearing on the group of allied forces.

When someone was caught by the immune-system like familiars.....He was melted right before our eyes.

(TInote: Ew.)

Those with weak spirits vomited on the spot.

Naofumi: "Don't stop! Anybody who stops here becomes their prey!
Anybody who is separated has no hope!"

I lead the way and protect, while Raphtalia and Firo defeat the enemies.
And shadow was standing by, at the last gate mechanism.

Naofumi: "Heeey."

When I call out the door opens.

Naofumi: "Are you okay?"

Shadow: "I wouldn't be opening the door if I wasn't safe degojaruyo."

Naofumi: "I guess so."

Since she is good at hiding, there doesn't seem to be any problems.

As I thought, Shadow is dependable.

This is just my selfish wish, but I want a companion like Shadow.

Naofumi:"Alright, the spirit turtle's heart is just beyond this point. Everyone from the allied forces, I'll be relying on you."

Raphtalia:"Right. But Don't start until we weaken the spirit turtle's heart."

.....That's right.

Well, there shouldn't be any problems considering Raphtalia, Firo, and Shadow's attack power.

Even Rishia and the group of allied forces should be able to have some effect due to their numbers.

Soldier:"It takes time to prepare the ceremony."

Naofumi:"So we should be playing for time then?"

There's this too?

Can't be helped.....

Naofumi:"You guys can't prepare the cast beforehand?"

Soldier:"Right.....The ceremony requires us to stay within a certain range."

So it's come down to that huh.

During that time, the power of defence from the shield will be useful.

Naofumi:"Then I'll protect you guys from the allied forces as you concentrate on the ritual. Everyone else will defeat the familiars that appear while Raphtalia and Firo weakens the heart."

Raphtalia:"Understood!"

Firo:"Okay~!"

Soldier:"Roger!"

I see Rishia making a face that asks what she should do.

Rishia:"What should I do?"

Naofumi:"You are--....."

What she should do is a delicate question.

(TInote: 微妙なライン Delicate Line?)

She is more reliable than the group of allied forces, but I feel anxious for her compared to Raphtalia.

Her movements have become faster, the person in question is also delighted about that.....Though there is fear that she doesn't understand what is ahead.

Naofumi:"I'll entrust Rishia to cover the rear. Before you go, your job is to report to me if something unexpected happens."

Rishia:"O-Okay....."

This is the only thing to do for now.

On the way, everybody held their breaths due to the blue hourglass. It is still somehow intimidating.

Huh? Did the sand increase slightly?

No, It's just my imagination. Some sand might have collapsed due to swaying slightly.

Now, let's head to the decisive battle.

Soldier: "This is.....the spirit turtle's heart....."

Somebody from the allied forces expresses.

It is certainly ominous.

The spirit turtle's heart lets out a sound that's like a roar.

The eye opens widely and its pulsation strengthens.

I remember from a while ago.

Yeah, we won't withdraw this time, and we will defeat you.

Naofumi: "Let's go!"

Everyone: ""Oohh-----!""

The magic corps from the allied forces starts preparing the ceremony by chanting magic.

Following up, Raphtalia and Firo start attacking the spirit turtle's heart.

And the other allied forces start cutting down the familiars that appear.

I interfere with the familiars aiming at the magic corps with Highten Reaction, Air Strike Shield, and Second Shield, I also use Change Shield to give status debuffs.

In addition Shield Bash is also utilised.

My SP decreases considerable, and I use the Soul Eat ability on the Soul Eater Shield to replenish. I also use a convenient Sp recovery (Small).

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama! As expected, there is a lot!"

Firo: "Yeah! There is no end."

Since the fight we had before was just reconnaissance, our combat time was short. Due to that, we couldn't measure the number of reinforcements.....

Familiars are appearing in the room with the spirit turtle's heart from the wall, the ground, and the ceiling.

The heart doesn't remain silent, and throws all of its familiars at us, and also shoots lasers.

The spirit turtle's heart is aiming towards the magic corps that is reciting the magic for the seal.

What's this? Does it intend to fire something?

A magic formation appears on the eye of the spirit turtle's heart.

Is it the supergravity magic!?

The magic begins to form at high-speed.

It's something else!

I stand in front of the magic crops and ready my shield.

Immediately after that I realise that my hunch was correct.

A high output laser was released from the heart's pupil.

Naofumi: "Whoa!"

Several people who were in the way of the laser were disintegrated without a trace, and when it hit my shield, I was blown a few steps back.

Naofumi:"Damn....."

This laser doesn't end like the normal ones, it is still going. It is a very thick beam. Sort of like a deadly attack from a game.

The firepower is lower than the electric shock, but it would do more than hurt if I was hit.

Naofumi:"Deryaa!"

I change the angle of the shield, and deflect the laser.

The ceiling of the heart room was scorched.

Fresh blood drips from the ceiling.

Well, it regenerates in a bit, as if it was never there in the first place.

Raphtalia:"Naofumi-sama!"

Firo:"Are you okay?"

Naofumi:"Yeah, No problems here."

The one outside was still stronger. The heart probably can't withstand it though.

We can win when the sealing ceremony is completed.

Naofumi:"Is the magic seal not completed yet?"

Soldier:"Just wait a little longer!"

Naofumi:"Alright, Raphtalia and Firo use your best attack to weaken it."

Raphtalia:"Okay!"

Firo:"Okay~!"

According to my instructions, Raphtalia and Firo use their finishing attacks.

Raphtalia: "Yin-Yang Sword!"

Firo: "Critical Quick-!"

The spirit turtle's heart starts to shake in agony as the ceiling starts to tremble.

Not yet?

Does damaging the monster's source of vitality weaken it?

For the time being let's concentrate our attacks.....I have a very bad feeling for some reason.

Raphtalia: "With this--"

Firo: "How's this!"

Raphtalia and Firo cut apart several tubes that are connected to the spirit turtle's heart.

Spirit Turtle: "-----!?"

The movement of the eye on the heart weakens remarkably.

With this we should be able to buy some more time before the sealing magic completes.

Soldier: "It's completed!"

Naofumi: "Alright! Go!"

Soldier: "Okay!"

""We command the origin of power. We have read and deciphered the truth, Four spirits of calamity, become the wedge that stops the spirit turtle here and now!""

Hm!?

The spirit turtle's heart starts to move suspiciously.

A large white mass circulates through the heart and scatters in all directions!

Solider: "High Class Group----!?"

The white mass flies everywhere, including towards the allied forces.

I use Meteor Shield, Shield Prison, Air Strike Shield, and Second Shield to defend the magic corps as much as possible.

Naofumi: "Whoa!"

Rishia: "Kyaa--"

Naofumi: "Damn....."

However, a small part of the attack wasn't prevented completely, and it hits the rear.

As I was holding the shield in front, I look back.

Damn.....There were an unexpectedly large amount of casualties.

Naofumi: "A-Are you guys okay!?"

Soldier: "My apologies, we have failed....."

A person from the magic corps reports to me.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 125 - Possibilities

“Not Yet! Report your situation!” (Naofumi)

“The people who received the attack have yet to recover. We are confirming the situation.” (Soldier)

How is the front line holding up?

I look towards Raphtalia and Firo, who are currently battling around the heart.

The assaulting familiars seem to be endless. Both of them are exhausted.

When the chance comes, they break through and reach my location, but their faces are pale.

“A-are you two alright?!” (Naofumi)

“Y-yes... but... my Mana is...” (Raphtalia)

“Yeah... you know... they absorbed our mana...” (Firo)

Ku... how troublesome. This attack has the same effect as the electric blast from the head.

I receive an information report from the back line.

“A large number of troops have died from Mana depletion.” (Soldier)

“How is the situation on the front?” (Naofumi)

“Because of the Hero of the Shield’s protection, they have begun to prepare the sealing magic for the heart.” (Soldier)

“I see…” (Naofumi)

For my Drain resistance to come in handy in a place like this…

The casualties are great, but we will still be able to carry out the mission.

“It might be difficult, but please finish the sealing preparations as quickly as possible!” (Naofumi)

“S-sir yes sir!” (Magicians)

By this pattern…

The Spirit turtle’s heart begins releasing the magic energy it has stored up.

I rush in front and hold up my shield to deflect the blasts of energy.

“_____!” (Spirit Turtle)

“Gu-…” (Naofumi)

The output is even higher than before.

The white masses the heart had released are now re-assimilating with it to increase the output.

Long! The duration of this attack is much higher than any of the others I have withstood. My HP begins to drop.

“Guuuuuuuuuu-…” (Naofumi)

I can't change my position or the blast will be reflected on our forces.

“Mu… Don't use Firo's power to hurt Master!” (Firo)

Firo takes a stance.

“Raphtalia Oneechan, Costume wearing Oneechan! Please keep monsters away from Firo for a little bit.” (Firo)

“Y-yes!” (Raphtalia)

“I Understand!” (Rishia)

Raphtalia and Rishia get into formation and repel the swarms of monsters from Firo.

“Suuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu…” (Firo)

Firo takes a very deep breath.

I can feel the wind gathering around her.

The white masses that had returned to the heart are being pulled away.

More specifically, Firo is sucking them in.

The white clumps are forcefully pulled towards Firo, being drawn to her strong magic.

Soon, the magic blast weakens.

“Good job, Firo!” (Naofumi)

“Gepu-” (Firo)

I look behind me and see Firo waving happily. She looks slightly more inflated than before.

…Did she eat those things?

“Payback.” (Firo)

Firo faces the heart and opens her mouth. Something comes out.

I think it is the air that she sucked into her body.

A sphere of pressurized air flies towards the heart.

“_____!!!” (Spirit Turtle)

The turtle hastily deploys a magic barrier around its heart, as if it sensed the dangers presented by Firo’s attack.

The familiars, as if protecting the organ, fly head on into the ball of air.

But the sphere merely sucks in any monster that gets close, and continues to fly at the heart.

A large sound fills the area, and the magic barrier around the heart breaks.

The heart is reconstructing its defenses. It’s the perfect time to activate the seal.

“Now!” (Naofumi)

“Ha!” (Magicians)

『We have read and understood the origin of power. It is the time for the Truth of the world to manifest. Now become that chains that binds one of the four: the Spirit Turtle, this beast of Calamity! 』

A large magic circle appears centered around the heart.

The turtle is currently focused on healing the damage caused by Firo’s attack, it is unable to perform a follow-up attack.

This is the end!

『Large Scale Covenant Spell: ‘Magic Sealing’!』

Ribbons appear from the magic circle, and begin encircling the heart, which has almost finished repairing itself.

“_____!?” (Spirit Turtle)

Badump… badump… ba… dump… ba… (TL: If you have a better onomatopoeia, be my guest.)

The beating sound of the heart gets fainter, and eventually fades into nothingness.

The monsters outside seem to have also stopped. From the next room, I can hear some noise.

“YYYYEEEEAAASSSS!” (Soldiers)

They are celebrating.

“Victory! We Won!” (Soldier)

“Hooray!” (Soldier)

“It was long and difficult, but we finally did it!” (Soldier)

(TL: death flags all around)

Fuu………

“Oneechan, Firo is returning these.” (Firo)

“? Firo, what are you doing?” (Raphtalia)

Firo suddenly throws up all of the white clumps she had inhaled at Raphtalia. Are they Spirit attribute? Maybe I should absorb them.

Raphtalia’s face color is getting better as the Drain effect wears off, but her expression is getting much, much worse. It’s as if a bug had dropped down her back.

Slapping the White clumps away, Raphtalia begins chasing Firo around in rage.

“Oy, Firo! I definitely won’t let you off easily!” (Raphtalia)

“Ahaha~” (Firo)

Sigh It seems we were somehow able to finish the sealing.

"...- Master!?" (Firo)

Firo suddenly stops. Her face is pale.

Badump! Badump!

The heart beat sounds resume.

With the sound of breaking glass, the magic circle breaks apart.

"How could this be!?" (Naofumi)

"Firo did her best, so why?" (Firo)

The eye on the heart grows very large, and releases the beam attack once more.

"This thing knows not when to give in!" (Raphtalia)

"Yeah!" (Firo)

"Was it a failure?" (Naofumi)

"No... the spell went perfectly... but it was able to shrug it off with ease."
(Magician)

Dammit! Damn it all!

We don't have any forces left. The head has regenerated. We cannot seal the heart.

... No there still has to be a way. I can't give in.

“Raphtalia, Firo, can you handle it?” (Naofumi)

“Leave it to me.” (Raphtalia)

“Yes!” (Firo)

Both Raphtalia and Firo prepare to unleash their respective strongest attacks.

Even though it’s broken free, there must be some information I can gain from this exchange.

“Tell the troops in the back lines to fall back!” (Naofumi)

“B-but-” (Soldier)

“If possible, try to support these two, otherwise, tell them to focus on protecting themselves. Worse comes to worst we will have to retreat!”
(Naofumi)

“U-understood!” (Soldier)

The army follows my command and withdraws the back line.

And Raphtalia, Firo, Me, Shadow and Rishia prepare for battle.

「Zveit Aura」 (Naofumi)

I cast support magic on the party. The two rush forward.

「Spiral Strike!」 (Firo)

「Hakke Destiny Slash」 (Raphtalia)

(TL: Hakke, Japanese pronunciation for Bagua <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bagua>)

Forward! This may be rash, but there are no other options.

“_____!?” (Spirit Turtle)

The two fighters rush the Heart of the Spirit Turtle. The turtle tries to summon familiars to protect it.

But those two are putting all their magic remaining into this strike. The familiars have no effect.

There is a grotesque sound. The heart has been pierced.

“…” (Raphtalia)

“This is the limit” (Firo)

“I understand… please stand down.” (Naofumi)

I observe the heart. Just as when it had been sealed, the beating has stopped. Did we do it?

Most of the arteries around it have been reduced to scraps of flesh. The heart itself has a large hole in the center.

If it could recover from this, it would truly be immortal.

…badump.

____!?

Before my very eyes, the arteries restore themselves and the hole begins to close.

“Wha…” (Raphtalia)

“What tenacity…” (Naofumi)

“Fueeeeeeeeeee…” (Rishia)

I also want to say Fueeee.

“The mission… was a failure-gojaru. We must call a retreat-gojaru.”

(Shadow)

“And after that? Can the seven star heroes win against a Monster like this?”

(Naofumi)

Out of rage, I unintentionally speak my mind.

“T-that may be so-jaru… but staying here will not accomplish anything-gojaru.” (Shadow)

“Ku…” (Naofumi)

Shadow’s right. Nothing has come out of fighting for hours inside of this thing.

Where is it getting all of this vitality?

If a monster like this appeared in a game, then no one would buy it.

"... I understand. We'll retreat for now and think of another plan."

(Naofumi)

"... Sir yes sir." (Soldier)

The hearts of the soldiers is heavy.

To fail after we had found victory. The mental damage inflicted is quite high.

Carefully avoiding danger, I lead the men away from the heart and out of the Turtle's body.

"It will be easier to escape from the town than from the mountains."

(Naofumi)

The mountain path is heavily sloped. With the earthquakes caused by the moving turtle, the footing is unstable.

Though we may have to deal with the rubble, it will probably be safer to dismount from the town area.

"We are thankful to you for finding a safe escape route." (Commander)

The army's commander gives me words of thanks.

"Don't mind it. Protecting is my duty." (Naofumi)

But... for all our efforts to come out in vain...

The only information we got was that the sealing magic didn't work.

Is there no way to win?

I fend off monsters as we head towards the exit in the town.

“This is…” (Naofumi)

It’s a building similar to the temple I investigated with Firo.

“It seems to be a temple-gojaru.” (Shadow)

“You can tell?” (Naofumi)

“I have been trained in scouting out buildings-gojaru. There are lithographs of the messages left by the heroes all over the place -gojaru.” (Shadow)

“Lithographs? Are they of the message I saw in the other temple?”
(Naofumi)

“Perhaps these were made using that as reference-gojaru. Selling lithographs of these messages was this town’s specialty-gojaru. There were probably more but the entire town has been destroyed with the awakening of the Turtle-gojaru.” (Shadow)

Reference? Could there have been people who could write in Japanese here?

Hmm… so this temple contains various lithographs…

Keiichi left the method of defeating the turtle. Perhaps, I may find a lithograph of his message.

“Can you let me look around for a bit?” (Naofumi)

“I do not believe now is the time for that-gojaru” (Shadow)

““The previous message I saw had writing regarding how to defeat the Spirit Turtle. However the most important info was left out. (Naofumi)

“How surprising, then we must search through these records-gojaru.”
(Shadow)

My party and the rest of the army search for and gather all the Lithographs we can find.

These paintings are not very well done, they seem to be mass-produced varieties, with a simple picture of the Turtle and words printed on them.

And these works have also been damaged by the Turtle’s movements.

“Can you read it-gojaru?” (Shadow)

“How is it?” (Raphtalia)

Like a jig-saw puzzle, I gather the pieces of various mass produced pictures. Many of these have shattered beyond recognition. I don’t think I can decipher this.

“I have found more.” (Rishia)

Rishia comes carrying a large fragment of a Lithograph.

… Finally, something I can read.

Even more so than the wave, his objective is… to stop…

I can also make out the words Head, Heart and Same.

I have to think, what would the Hero Keiichi want to leave behind?

Along with the head, you must... to defeat this monster, then... It's cut off here.

Now that I think about it, from the start, Keiichi has been talking of a method to defeat, rather than seal it.

So in the past, people had already figured out the method for defeating it.

So why was it sealed until now?

I don't understand.

If I can't understand this point, I have to move onto the next.

I must gather some useful information from this.

Head, Heart, Same were used on the same line.

... Could it be that? That thing in Games and Manga...

(TL: You know that thing in Megaman EXE and in Neon Genesis Evangelion, that thing.)

However there is no way of testing that theory.

"What?! Is that true?!" (Soldier)

As I am deep in thought, the army people are getting noisy.

"What's wrong?" (Naofumi)

“Look outside. The Spirit Turtle is approaching a city that hasn’t finished evacuation!” (Sodja Boy)