

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 26 - Growth

The next morning. Raphtalia overslept due to staying up late last night. I groaned with the magic book in one hand.

Eh? I was brewing medical herbs into medicine.

While I prepare to leave and regain some time from oversleeping.

“Ah, it’s hatching.”(Naofumi)

I left the egg by a window in the room. Raphtalia noticed that the egg which I bought yesterday started to crack.

A fluffy wing with feathers could be seen peeking out from the gaps.

It’s trying really hard to be born.

“Okay.”(Naofumi)

I’m interested in what’s going to hatch from the egg.

I watched the egg as more cracks appear.

The cracks noisily spread with a PikiPiki sound, the face of a baby demon emerged from the egg.

“Pii!”(Fledgling)

With soft, fluffy feathers and eyes of a demon the pink fledgling looked at me with a piece of shell on its head.

“Pii!”(Fledgling)

It jumped cheerfully and collided with my face.

It wasn't painful at all, and the demon seems to be very energetic despite just being born.

Although I don't know the race, it seems the physical condition is good and it will grow up well if it's properly taken care of.

"What kind of demon is this? Is this thing from the Pikyu bird race?(Naofumi)

Pikyu is a demon that's similar to a condor that cannot fly high due to being deformed.

I observed the newborn chick's body.

The body seems more agile than the balloons and I can expect it to attack when it grows up due to its beak.

"Hmm... Well I am not familiar with demons."(Raphtalia)

Raphtalia answers with an embarrassed face.

"It can't be helped. Should we go ask some villagers?"(Naofumi)

Because this is a purchased demon, it shouldn't be dangerous to bring around. If there is any trouble, it will obey my commands.

When I extend my hand to the demon chick, it runs up my hand onto my shoulder and jumps on top of my head to settle down.

"Piiii"(Fledgling)



SuriSuri slipping from my head to my cheeks

This is... really cute.

"Fufu, Naofumi-Sama It must think of you as it's father."(Raphtalia)

"Oh, it's probably due to imprinting."(Naofumi)

It might be registered beforehand because the one who moved it first was me, so it must have assumed I am its parent.

When I picked up the egg shards, my shield reacted.

It might informed me what demon this is if I absorb a fragment of the egg.

Therefore, I let the shield absorb a fragment.

Requirement for Demon Trainer Shield have been revealed.

Requirement for Demon Egg Shield have been revealed.

Demon Trainer Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Demon Growth Correction
(Small)

Demon Egg Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Cooking Skill +2

...A shield I wasn't expecting came out. I'll change it into Demon Trainer Shield from Slave Trainer 2 Shield because it seems more convenient.

"Did you discover something?"(Raphtalia)

"No, but a shield I wasn't expecting came out though."(Naofumi)

What kind of demon is this young chick? Hopefully the guys from the village will know.

I thought about where to Level Up today while walking through the village that's in the middle of reconstruction.

Maybe we could go to the bog area near the western part of the village? I also want to search for a suitable enemy near the North-west mountains. I saw a villager that I recognized.

"Ah, Hero of the Shield-sama."(Villager)

"Good morning."(Naofumi?)

"Good morning."(Raphtalia?)

This was where I was defending last week during the wave, it seems there's a lot of familiar faces here reconstructing the villager.

"Good morning."(Villager?)

He bowed his head very deeply. I'm feeling a little embarrassed

"Pi!"(Fledgling)

The chick on my head chirps rather cheerfully.

"Oya?"(Villager)

The villager looked at the chick on my head.

"What's wrong?"(Naofumi)

I pointed at the chick on my head.

"I bought an egg from a demon dealer."(Naofumi)

"Aah, I see."(Villager)

"However, I don't know which demon I bought. Do you guys know what kind of demon this is?"(Naofumi)

The villagers stared intently at the chick.

"Let's see…… Do you think that is a Philorial?"(Villager)

"Eh? The birds who pull carriages?"(Naofumi)

It would seem I made a little more than the money I paid…… Well, only if what the villagers say is true.

"Yeah, you can go see check with the ranch near the outskirts of the village."(Villager)

"Then I'm going to go see."(Naofumi)

We arrived at the house of the fellow who is managing the ranch.

The ranch seems have been damaged during the wave, half the bred demons were killed.

"In short, Is this demon a Philorial?"(Naofumi)

The ranch man nods when I ask.

"Let's see. This is a female Philorial."(Ranch man)

The young chick sits still while the ranch man appraises her.

"This breed of the Philo Aria Philorial species is good, however unless she pulls a cart she'll be restless."(Ranch man)

".....What kind of creature is that."(Naofumi)

"Is there something strange?"(Ranch man)

Oh, It's not strange if you're born in this world.

Hmm.....I wonder if to these birds the carts are treated as their nest that protects their eggs.

"Well, at least I didn't lose any money."(Naofumi)

This isn't bad, when she matures, she'll go for at least 200 silver coins. Quite a good deal for 100 Silvers.

Though, I don't know how much time and money she will need before maturity.

"Pi!"(Fledgling)

The young Philorial chirps on my head.

"What does this fellow eat?"(Naofumi)

"In the beginning something soft, like boiled beans. After she matures anything is fine."(Ranch man)

"I see, Thanks."(Naofumi)

I'm surprised I can bow and say thanks this easily.

For now I should look for boiled beans inside the village.

"Well, What should we name her?"(Raphtalia)

Raphtalia asked me while stroking the chick.

"You're going to name a pet which may be sold?"(Naofumi)

Well, you will be attached the moment a name is given, and when it is time to sell, you won't be able to.

"Do I call this Philorial chick all the time?"(Raphtalia)

"Mu……"(Naofumi)

This is surely troublesome.

"Then…… let's call you Firo."(Naofumi)

"…… So cheap."(Raphtalia)

"Shut up."(Naofumi)

"Pi!"(Firo)

The young chick chirped cheerfully when she understood she was named.

After we had breakfast we head out to hunt with Firo.

"Where should we go today?"(Raphtalia?)

"Pii?"(Firo)

"Let's see…… A place we can walk to safely."(Naofumi)

"Okay"(Raphtalia)

Raphtalia is very reliable. Fights were very easy compared to before.

Firo is happily chirping on my head.

It is noisy, but very comfortable.

When evening approached I noticed some strange sounds.

There were a lot of unexpected encounters with demons, but they were defeated easily.

It was probably due to the brand-new weapons and armor. I could defeat enemies coming from the front.

Today's results are.

Me Lvl 23

Raphtalia Lvl 27

Firo Lvl 12

Though I hardly fought, I got enough experience for a level, while Firo's Level soared.

This is good. For young Demi-humans I heard the body grows rapidly when levelling up, it seems demons are the same.

But.....I wondered.....

Firo's appearance changed considerably.

Before, Firo was a small chick that could be held with both hands, but now she's big and grown up.

Well..... Her figure seems to resemble a steamed bun.

And her feathers grew lighter, the color changed from pink to light pink.

I stroke the wings slowly for feathers.

Requirement for Demon Trainer Shield 2 have been released.

Demon Trainer Shield 2

Unsealing completed……Equipment Bonus: Demon Status Correction
(Small)

Still, I noticed Firo's growth when I didn't even notice Raphtalia's.

"Piyo"(Firo)

She changed her chirp and is beginning to walk on her own with a pitter-patter, because she's heavy.

Guuuu……

There's an unpleasant premonition from Firo who is constantly chirping. Though I bought a little too much feed, it seems grass on the roadside is already a suitable substitution.

Her appetite is unending……This was the proof of her rapid growth.

"Umm…Naofumi-sama…"(Raphtalia)

"I understand. Demons are amazing."(Naofumi)

To grow so much in one day…It's only a matter of time before she can be rode.

Though her body is strong, it's a little scary that her mind will be immature. Therefore I performed a considerably severe limitation.

I returned to the hotel and showed the storekeeper Firo and asked where I can put her.

Afterwards, we were guided to the stable of the hotel and substituted straw for a nest.

"Hm? The meat and bone of the Chimera are put here."(Naofumi)

It seems this place hasn't been corrupted yet so the materials will rot slower.

"For the time being, I am waiting for it to soften so it will be easier to process."(Villager)

"Eh....."(Naofumi)

It isn't for food, does that make it easier to process and handle?

"After that, I'll make dried meat and look for buyers.I am still looking forward to selling them. It seems a few mages are coming."(Villager)

"That's good."(Naofumi)

Because it was quite a big chimera, there seems to be a lot of stock. It's probably around 2 cows.

It is inedible, but there are many who still want to research it.

This will be a place to acquire it.

"Piyo"(Firo)

Guu.....

Are you still hungry?

Though I got additional feed in the village and fed her, it still doesn't seem to be enough.

Where does it all go?

Biki …… BikiBiki ……

Is that the sound of meat and bones creaking? You're still growing up?

"To grow up so much in one day…… That's pretty unreasonable"

The shopkeeper watches my face anxiously.

"She is still Lvl 12."(Naofumi)

"Eh? 12?"(Villager)

The storekeeper is surprised at my answer.

"I think It is necessary to be around 20 and needs a few days to grow up but as expected of the power of a Hero-sama"(Villager)

Hmm… There is the possibility of Demon Growth Correction (Small) having an influence.

It changes every time I check her status. What growth.

I still can't send her to battle yet.

"Piyo"(Firo)

Firo who is growing up quickly and healthily chirps.

After I petted Firo to confirm if she's asleep, I head back to Raphtalia and my room. I study this world's letters afterwards.

The problem is that there are too many letters in this language.

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Chapter 27 - Growth

The next morning.

Raphtalia had been studying until late last night, so I woke up and discreetly slip out of the room in order to see Filo.

It would be particularly troublesome if she were to die from hunger.

I gathered the medicinal herbs since I hadn't finished compounding them yesterday.

"Kweek!"

I heard a hoarse voice coming from the stables.

Looking at her figure, the feet got long and the neck got longer, remolding herself as if she were a manjū. I say she looked very much like an ostrich.

It's an amazing change. Her growth was entirely different from the birds I knew.

Her height is around my chest level, so it is still impossible for a person to ride her.

Gū...

It seemed that she was hungry. That's why I bought some animal feed from the farm and brought it here.

The consumption of gold was quite severe but it is still cheaper than having to buy equipment.

Seeing how rapid she is growing in just a day... I have a terrible feeling about this.

"You. Only a day had passed since you were born."

"Kweeek!"

'Surisuri' Filo clung to me and I smiled softly and naturally.

This doesn't particularly mean my love towards animals has awoken.

I'm just excited about what she will do when she grows up.

Earning her keep as a substitute for a carriage... my chest swelled with anticipation.

Wait, I can see a tinge of white and cherry blossom colors when I look carefully at the feathers.

I let the shield absorb the feather as a way of grooming.

The requirement for Demon Tamer Shield III has been met.

Demon Tamer Shield III.

True power unsealed ····· Equipment Bonus: Growth Revision (Medium)

Nothing... So it didn't have to be blood. Then it might also be good to cut Raptalia's hair and absorb it again.

She plays and runs energetically, even though Filo is still a newborn.

"Kwek!"

Although she wasn't a dog, I played with Filo by throwing a tree branch a distance away, where she then picked it up and returned it to me.

Her legs seem fast, swiftly catching the branch before it even falls on the ground and quickly returning.

She is quite intelligent.

Kukuku... it looks like my luck has finally turned around.

I was playing with Filo until Raphtalia woke up.

It's a rejuvenating type of therapy. These pets.

"Mu.. I've never seen Naofumi-sama showing such a refreshing smile until now."

Raphtalia came over to me while softly murmuring her displeasure.

If anything, it is an impish smile.

"What's wrong?"

"It's nothing."

"Kwek?"

Chon, Chon. Filo's beak peck lightly at Raphtalia.

It seemed she wanted to engage in some skinship.

"Ha~a... Guess it can't be helped."

Raphtalia smiled while caressing Filo's face with both hands.

"Kwee~ek..."

Filo snuggled up to Raphtalia, squinting her eyes from the pleasant feeling of being caressed.

"Now then, where should we explore today?"

"That's right. How about going to the southward grassland in order to save food expenses for Filo?"

"Fumu... I guess so."

The medicinal herbs as well as weeds have grown in abundance within that vicinity. I also think that it's a good place to go.

For now, the purpose is to save money for better equipment.

"Yoshi, Let's go then."

"Kwek!"

"Yes!"

Well, we blithely went to the grassland while fighting monsters and levelled up slightly.

Me: Lv 25

Raphtalia: Lv 28

Filo: Lv 15

Picking medicinal herbs among other things, we focused on Filo's food and several other harvests.

We defeated various monsters, releasing shield requirements at best status bonus around +1 or 2.

... The shield's Intermediate Compounding Recipe has still not been found.

Evening of that day.

Filo has grown into a splendid Filorial.

"It's early..."

The Inn's shopkeeper and the farm owner are both surprised.

The reason might be because of Growth Revision (Small) and (Medium)

"... Raphtalia, incidentally, when I bought the ink did you recognize..."

"A wa wa..."

I wonder if Raphtalia also wants to grow up like that.

Biki...

A sound similar to a bone creaking heard.

"Kwweek!"

Shortly, Filo, who grew up so much that a person can now ride her, sat in front of me.

"You want me to ride?"

"Kwek!"

Turning her head as I ride on her back, Filo chirps as if it's natural.

"Then let's go."

But is it all right to not attach a saddle or rein?

While thinking about it, I got on since she wanted me to ride her. It's sturdy thanks to the shield.

It will be all right even if I fall.

Riding her... wasn't so bad thanks to the feathers.

There seems to be no problem even with maintaining my balance properly.

"Kwek!"

Filo readily stands up.

"Uwa!"

The view is quite high.

I feel deeply move as I proceed to ride an animal, even though I don't know a thing about horse riding.

"Kweeek!"

Filo started running while I was thinking her chirp is very cheery!

"You, Hey!"

"Na, Naofumi-sama--"

Dotadotadota!

Wa, so fast! The scenery passes behind me in no time, and Raphtalia's voice became distant in an instant.

Dotadotadota!

I wanted to test Filo. When she lightly went around the town, and stopped in front of the stables.

And sat, then I got down.

"Are you all right!?"

Raphtalia runs up to me anxiously.

"Oh, yeah. I'm all right. But it sure is fast."

Filo appears to not even be that tired and started tending to her own feathers.

I was surprised when it exceeded the speed which I imagined. I might have done a good shopping.

"Well then, that's enough for today, let's return to our room."

And then, someone grabbed the collar of my armor.

When I looked behind, I saw Filo seizing my neck with her beak.

"What's wrong?"

"Kwweeek!"

I got called to stop by a chirp that seems like a wail.

"hn?"

Oh well.

And, when I tried to leave, I got grabbed once again.

"What is it?"

"Kwwwek!"

Filo cried in a slightly displeased way and stamped her foot on the ground.

"Huh, have you not played enough?"

Filo shook her head when Raphtalia asked.

She understands words?

"Are you lonely?"

I nod impudently at the two.

"Kwweek!"

She started her appeal by unfolding her wing.

"That said..."

I'm reluctant to sleep in the stable, and I can't take such a big monster to a bedroom inside the inn.

"Let's accompany her here until she falls asleep."

"Mu... well, fine."

This girl has a big body, although it has only been 2 days since her birth.

Whether if it's an animal, it's too early to leave her in a stable at night.

That day at the stables, I study this world's letters together with Raphtalia.

Filo watched us quietly while resting tensely in her nest.

Biki

"Ah...you really can't read letters easily!"

If there is a shield like that I want to find it fast.

"It can't be helped. I think the appearance of Naofumi-sama isn't good if it depends on anything like a legendary shield."

"...Raphtalia. You've learned to even say things like that now huh."

"Yes. Therefore, let's learn magic and language together."

...Shit.

There's nothing which will make this thing easier. While praying that my efforts won't be wasted, we continued to study at the stables until Filo falls asleep.

Afterwards, we return to our room and began making medicine with the newly obtained herbs.

The result, well, don't ask - since I wasn't able to decipher the recipe.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 28 - Exit by a Kick

The next morning, Raphtalia got up early today so we went to the barn together.

"Gua!"(Firo)

Firo happily rushed towards us as we arrived.

"Mou, the body is already grown up?"(Naofumi?)

Somehow…… compared to yesterday her head is bigger. It's strange.

"Her body is almost balanced now."(Naofumi)

"If you say so."(Raphtalia)

Her appearance is similar to the other Philorials we saw in the castle town and on the highway.

Her colour now is white with some light pink mixed in.

It's a beautiful colour.

That slave trader doing quite a good job.

"Are you hungry today?"(Naofumi)

"Gua?"(Firo)

Firo chirps while tilting her neck.

Yup. It seems the growing phase is over.

Biki……

A strange sound is echoing.

Is this ok?

We finished breakfast and think of our plans. Meanwhile…

“Gua……”(Firo)

Firo stares at the wooden carts that entered the village enviously.

“So you want to pull one too?”(Naofumi?)

“I guess so.” (Raphtalia)

“How’re you doing Hero of the Shield-sama”(Villager)

The villager sees me pointing at the cart and come to chat with Raphtalia.

“Ah because my Philorial wanted to pull a cart, I’m wondering what to do.”(Naofumi)

“Ma……. It’s second nature for Philorials to pull carts.”(Villager)

The man nods as if convinced and starts inspecting Firo.

“Right now the village is in the middle of reconstruction so we have insufficient manpower. Hero-sama, can you help with distributing supplies in exchange for a cart?”(Villager)

“Hmm……”(Naofumi)

That's not a bad idea. After all, I want to take advantage of the fact that I have a demon that is capable of these things.

I could also do other activities as the cart is being pulled.

"What do you need?"(Naofumi)

"I cut lumber in the nearby forest, can you bring it to the village for me?"(Villager)

"Forest huh....."(Naofumi)

That reminds me, I didn't check out that forest yet.

"It'll take a while to return."(Villager)

"Sure."(Naofumi)

"Understood. Let's discuss the details."(Villager)

On the goodwill of the villagers, one cart was given to me.

Everything from the wheel to the stands was made of wood. Because it's free, it can't be helped that it's old and of low quality.

"Gua ♪"(Firo)

After the cart was prepared, Firo pulls it happily.

The villagers prepared reins for the carriage too, but it's only for looks.

"Yosh! Let's get to the forest today!"(Naofumi)

"Alright!"(Raphtalia)

"Gua—!"(Firo)

Firo cheerfully pulls the cart in the direction I pointed.

Goton Goton!

So relaxing……

Goton Goton Goton! Garagaragaragara!

Wheels turn noisily as the scenery passes at high speeds.

“Faster! Faster! Slow down!”(Naofumi)

“Gua……”(Firo)

After slowing down, Firo walks with a Tokotoko sound while seemingly dissatisfied.

“Ugh…… I feel sick.”(Raphtalia)

Raphtalia has motion sickness and is lying down in the cart.

“Are you okay?”(Naofumi)

“Eeh……Don't sway so much…” (Raphtalia)

“I see, Raphtalia you have motion sickness?”(Naofumi)

“It seems so. Are you okay Naofumi-Sama?’ (Raphtalia)

“I'm fine unless I get drunk…”(Naofumi)

It seems for me that liquor is related to motion sickness. I remember back in grade school, during a field trip on the bus, I was reading manga and light novels while the person next to me got sick. In the end, I had to ask for a seating change.

In additional, I remember on a family trip to meet relatives on boat, I was playing games while my family got seasickness.

“Mah… just relax, Firo will go slowly there.”(Naofumi)

“Please let me accept that kind offer.” (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia replies lifelessly as she lay on the cart.

On the way, I encountered someone I didn't want to.

“Buaha! What's with that! Haha, Fuahahahahahah!”(Motoyasu)

This fellow holds his sides while he laughs out loud and the fucking woman behind him starts laughing too.

It feels disgusting to be laughed at.

“What do you want Motoyasu?”(Naofumi)

Motoyasu and the women who follow him all burst into laughter.

“Come on! You look ridiculous!(Motoyasu)

“How so?”(Naofumi)

“You're so poor you began peddling? And that bird—!”(Motoyasu)

Hmm……Peddling! That's not a bad idea.

It seems Firo's ability is more dependable. Let's actually consider it.

“That's so stupid! That's not a bird or a horse, and what's with that colour, it's not even pure white, there's pink in there. And furthermore-
!”(Motoyasu)

“What the hell is your problem?”(Naofumi)

I don't understand why this bastard is laughing.

This is a waste of time. I should just ignore these guys and move on.

Motoyasu approached Firo when suddenly.

"Guaaaaa!"(Firo)

Firo strongly kicks Motoyasu right in between the legs.

I saw it.

Motoyasu face that was laughing was distorted and was sent flying back about 5 meters while spinning around by the impact.

"U-ge……"(Motoyasu)

"Ky-Kyaaaaaaaaaaaa! Motoyasu-Sama!"(Motoyasu's companions)

Haha, I think his balls got crushed.

That was extremely refreshing. My investment for buying Firo was totally paid/worth just by seeing that.

As expected of my demon, it seems to have retaliated for me

I'll buy you some good food tonight, Firo.

"Guaaaaaaaaa!"(Firo)

While flapping her wings, Firo runs around noisily.

Motoyasu is now disregarded and forgotten about.

Iyaaa……That was great. I couldn't even see that scene in a dream.

"Wh-what's going on?" (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia asks while getting up.

"Huh?? Ah, don't worry about it, it's nothing."(Naofumi)

"……You have a cheerful expression on your face that I have never seen before." (Raphtalia)

Oh. It was reflected on my face?

But, that's some amazing leg strength, to blow off the hero of the spear like that.

(TI note: literally BTFO)

"Umm…… Please run slower." (Raphtalia)

I couldn't hear Raphtalia's voice from the back as I let Firo run with a great feeling.

By the time we reached the forest, Raphtalia hit her limit.

"Uu……Uu……" (Raphtalia)

I reflected on going too far after seeing Raphtalia groaned and her pale face. It's all Motoyasu's fault, because that fellow let me feel so refreshed.

"I'm sorry."(Naofumi)

"Gua……"(Firo)

A disheartened Firo agrees apologetically.

"I'm, I'm alright....."(Raphtalia)

"You don't look alright at all. You should be able to rest around here."(Naofumi)

"Ah, it's Hero of the Shield-Sama."(Lumberjack)

There is a hut near the forest and a lumberjack villager comes out.

"Ah, so you came to get wood for the village."(Lumberjack)

"Umm..... is that person ok?"(Lumberjack)

"I think so. Is there a good place we can rest?"(Naofumi)

"There's a bed here, let's put her there."(Lumberjack)

The lumberjack guides us to the hut as I carry Raphtalia to the bed.

"Firo and I are going to fight enemies we can beat easily, while you pack the luggage."(Naofumi)

Raphtalia is vulnerable to vehicles, let's not use the cart for a while.

"Excuse me, I'm going to go put the wood in the cart. Come back in a few hours."(Lumberjack)

"Ah ok."(Naofumi)

Firo took off the cart and looked inside the cabin.

"Well then, let's go."(Naofumi)

"Gua!"(Firo)

With a kick that blew Motoyasu away, I expect great offensive power from Firo.

We went into the forest.

When we entered the forest, we did not encounter any demons.

We wandered around in the quiet forest.

In the forest, the atmosphere is clear and relaxing.

That reminds me, there are many sights that I have never seen before in this world.

I wonder why I never noticed it before.

It seems everything was blown off when I saw Motoyasu's face warped in pain.

...No, it's something else.

I think it's because Raphtalia believed in me.

Raphtalia isn't here right now due to motion sickness.

It's somewhat lonely, even though we have only been together for about half a month.

"I should create some pills for motion sickness."(Naofumi)

I look around and gather medical herbs.

"However, a demon may come out..."

Though we have been walking for a while, I haven't seen any signs of demons.

"Gua"(Firo)

"Hm?"(Naofumi)

Firo's voice is heard in the distance.

I turned around and see Firo with something in her mouth.

……Is it my imagination? No, that's an Usapiru.

It got swallowed immediately.

"Gua!"(Firo)

Firo runs to me as if nothing happened.

EXP 34 Acquired.

……I'll stop worrying about demons.

After about an hour, we return to the hut. Our cart has already been fully loaded by the lumberjack.

Raphtalia is still asleep in the hut.

This is an evil idea. Raphtalia can't last when Firo runs at full speed. But it is necessary to train Raphtalia who is not accustomed to the vehicle.

"It's necessary to train with a cart for a while."(Naofumi)

"U……Uu" (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia groans at my words. Did she hear it?

"Umm…… I have finished placing the wood."(Lumberjack)

"Ahh. Then can you watch over her while I go to village immediately?"(Naofumi)

“ Yes! If it’s a companion of Hero of the Shield-sama, I’ll guard her with my life.”(Lumberjack)

Though I am slightly uneasy, I can’t just sit here and wait.

“Then I’ll be back soon.”(Naofumi)

I prepare the cart and depart with Firo.

“Guaaa!”(Firo)

Firo dashed energetically.

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Chapter 29 - Those With Wings

On the way back, we did not encounter Motoyasu.

Though, it's just a groundless fear of him angrily looking for me.

Raphtalia was energetic again after I returned from unloading the baggage in the village.

"Are you okay?"(Naofumi)

"Yup"(Raphtalia)

"Ha.....that was fast"(Lumberjack)

The lumberjack was surprised that I returned so soon.

"This fellow here has great legs"(Naofumi)

Was the answer I gave to the lumberjack while I pet Firo.

"Gua!"(Firo)

Firo also energetically answered. That's right, you're very fast.

"Did you search the forest?" (Raphtalia?)

"Yeah"(Naofumi)

"We must go slowly when we return." (Raphtalia?)

"Gua!"(Firo)

Piki.....

What's that? This sound…… Growth should have ended.

I heard something from Firo.

I hope it's not some strange disease.

Today's harvest was quite good.

Raphtalia moves naturally while Firo's offensive power and speed is eye catching.

To be honest, the strength of her blows may already have surpassed Raphtalia.

Me Lv 26

Raphtalia Lv 29

Firo Lv 19

Requirement for White Usapiru Shield has been revealed.

Requirement for Dark Porcupine Shield has been revealed.

Requirement for Usapiru Bone Shield has been revealed.

Requirement for Porcupine Bone Shield has been revealed.

White Usapiru Shield

Unsealing complete... Equipment Bonus: Defense +2

Dark Porcupine Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Agility +2

Usapiru Bone Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Stamina Up (Small)

Porcupine Bone Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: SP Up (Small)

My stats are improving wonderfully.

I should equip a shield that is efficient and has a high performance, but I still haven't found a place where farming gold and experience is efficient.

How many abilities have I already unsealed..... There are too many to keep track of.

In the first place, after unsealing lower class equipment such as the Orange Balloon Shield, I have never used the ability.

The most efficient shield I have is the Whetstone Shield and that is a necessity.

Though, I can use all my shields.

Today I unsealed 4 shields which probably won't be used.

We were walking slowly back to Forest Village, reaching only when evening arrived.

It seems cart training for Raphtalia is necessary.

We advanced leisurely a few times before she felt sick and had to stop.

As a result we arrived after the day was over.

"I am very sorry"(Raphtalia)

"It's fine, you'll gradually get used to it."(Naofumi)

I am pretty strange too, I can't get drunk. I'm not saying she doesn't have spirit, it's just in her nature.

Motion sickness is hard to get accustomed to.

Therefore, I want Raphtalia to quickly get used to the carts.

Well, I think Firo's explosive running speed is also part of the problem.

"Gua!"(Firo)

At this point, the change has already begun.

For a while, we didn't notice. No, I noticed but I chose to ignore it.

The next morning.

Raphtalia notices the changes and is lost in thought.

"Guaa!"(Firo)

When I arrived at the barn, the change was already over.

Firo..... In every aspect, has greatly deviated from the average Philorial and has become gigantic

The average height for a Philorial is 2m 30cm, about the size of an ostrich.

However, Philorials have bigger heads and necks.

Firo's current height is 2m80cm.....

Her head reaches the ceiling when she stands up.

"Did we really get the egg of a Philorial? I'm beginning to think we bought something else entirely."(Naofumi)

"Yeah..... I think so too." (Raphtalia)

"Gua!"(Firo)

Firo swallows something with gusto.

There appears to be no more Chimera meat left in the stables.

2 cows worth of meat just disappeared.

Was that the last piece?

"I thought her appetite stabilized but....."(Naofumi?)

"She ate everything-!"(Raphtalia?)

"Gua-!"(Firo)

"Hahahahahahahahah"(Naofumi)

"This isn't a laughing matter!" (Raphtalia)

Well then, what should I do about her huge appearance.....

.....However

Piki.....

The sound of growth is heard again.

"Something is happening to cause that sound!"(Naofumi)

"Ummm Perhaps the cause of this growth is due to Naufumi-sama's shield?" (Raphtalia)

"That's possible. Maybe it's from Demon Trainer Shield 3's ability: Growth Correcting (Intermediate)"(Naofumi)

"Uh.....Naufumi-sama, what about the effects of Slave Trainer Shield?" (Raphtalia)

"Iyaaaaaaa"(Raphtalia)

Raphtalia cried and ran from the barn, so I had to chase.

"Ra-Raphtalia!?"(Naofumi)

"Recently, I thought my body was light. But that's because of Naofumi-sama!" (Raphtalia)

"Calm down!"(Naofumi)

"Wi-Will I become big like Firo!? I'm scared!" (Raphtalia)

"I don't hear any growth sounds from you"(Naofumi)

"Well... If you say so. Phew, that's good!" (Raphtalia)

That still doesn't change the fact that this is an unpredictable situation.

I glance at Firo and imagine Raphtalia growing to be like that.

"Are you thinking something rude?" (Raphtalia)

".....What are you talking about?"(Naofumi)

Raphtalia looks at me doubtfully.

"One moment, should we go back to the slave trader tent and confirm the situation?" (Raphtalia?)

"Yes, I think we should." (Naofumi)

It can't be helped. I don't want to return to the castle town because that place is unpleasant..... But we might have no choice.

"Gua!"(Firo)

We left Forest Village with Raphtalia fighting against motion sickness while Firo attracting attention.

On the way, Firo got hungry so we took a break and fought some demons to feed her. We arrived back in the castle town during the afternoon.

"Hey....."(Naofumi)

Firo's appearance changed again while I wasn't looking.

Her feet and neck shortened gradually, now she looks like she has the torso of an owl.

Though it changes the way the cart is being pulled.

The front of the cart that was pulled by rope around her body, similar to a leash.

Now, she uses her wings as hands and skilfully pulls the cart along.

"Kue!"(Firo)

Her chirp and colour have changed again, now she is pure white.

"Huh?"(Naofumi)

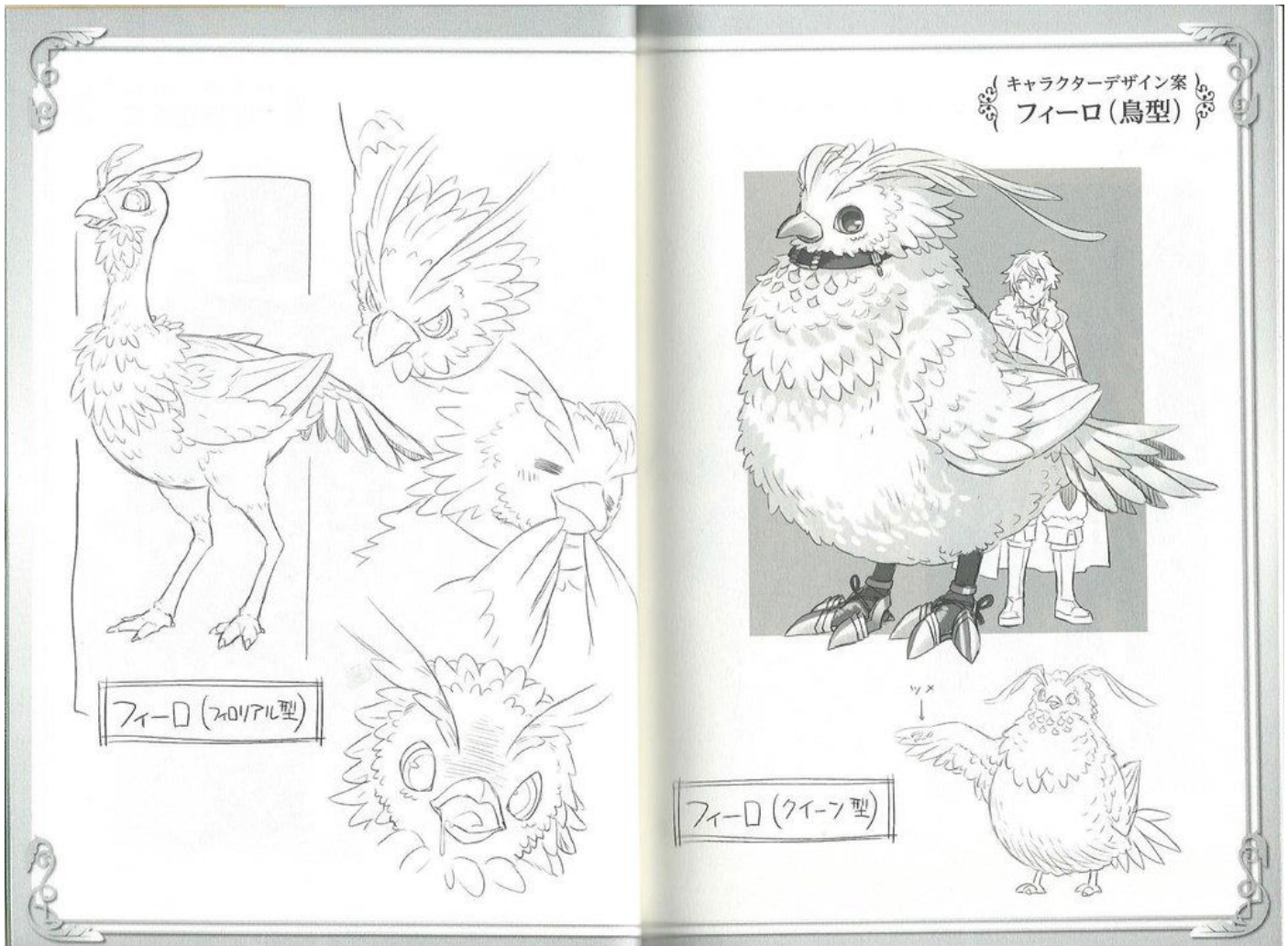
I got off the cart slowly and remeasure Firo's height.

She shrank?

Her height is back down to 2m30cm. But her width has increased and now it feels somewhat oppressive.

She resembles a certain mascot from an amusement park who gains weight unnaturally.

(TI note: I don't get this reference.Can someone explain?)



"Kue?"(Firo)

"No, this is fine."(Naofumi)

Does Firo herself notice the change?

I don't understand this creature any more.

"Well.....no matter how I think about it it's surprising. Yup."(Slave Trader?)

The slave trader continuously wipes cold sweat while observing Firo.

"Kue?"(Firo)

Firo became huge width-wise and now resembles an Owl-like demon.

Where did the figure of a friendly ostrich disappear to?

"Well, I want an honest answer. What was the demon that was inside of the egg you sold me?"(Naofumi)

In any case.....

When I point my finger threateningly, Firo prepares to attack.

"Kueeeeeee!"(Firo)

The slave trader hastily checks a bunch of documents.

"This is strange. It says here that the egg Hero-sama purchased was a Phirorial egg."(Slave Trader)

"This?"(Naofumi)

"Kueeee!"(Firo)

I throw some food at Firo, who skilfully swallows it all in one go.

"Well....."(Slave Trader)

That reminds me, I haven't heard that growth sound from Firo for a while now.

Is this her final adult form?

(tl note: Mega Evolution = Loli form)

"However, Hero-sama. It's only been a few days since you have purchased that egg, I take my hat off you."(Slave Trader)

"Don't deceive me with compliments. What kind of egg was that."(Naofumi)

"Umm... Is this the appearance the demon had in the beginning?"(Slave Trader)

"Nope"(Naofumi)

I explained about Firo's growth to the slave trader.

"It was a normal Philorial for half the time?"(Slave Trader)

"Ah, I stopped trying to understand this demon."(Naofumi)

"Kue?"(Firo)

I feel a little irritation at Firo who looks at me with a cute pose and tilted head.

Whose fault do you think it is that we're here.

"Kueeee"(Firo)

*SuriSuri*She snuggles her entire body on me. Then I'm embraced by her huge wing, It's hot, Firo.

"Mu....." (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia raises her eyebrows and takes my hand.

"Kue?"(Firo)

Firo and Raphtalia stare at each other

"What's your problem?"(Naofumi)

"Uh, Nothing"(Raphtalia)

"KueKue"(Firo)

I say nothing. I wonder what's going on.

"So? How about it?"(Naofumi)

"Well, That is....."(Slave Trader)

It is pretty awkward in front of the slave trader.

Don't you know all kinds of demons? Aren't you supposed to breed and sell demons?

"Anyway, for the time being let me call an expert so she can be inspected, is that Ok? Yup"(Slave Trader)

"????"(Naofumi?)

"Kue!?"(Firo)

"I understand, it might take a while before the expert comes though.

Yup"(Slave Trader)

"Well that's fine. If anything goes wrong, I demand consolation money."(Naofumi)

"Kueeee!?"(Firo)

It seems Firo objects my answer by flapping.

However, a subordinate of the slave trader attached a collar to Firo and brought her into a cage.

Partially due to the fact that we are here, Firo enters obediently.

"Well then, I'll come pick her up tomorrow. Have an answer by then."(Naofumi)

Raphtalia and I then leave the tent.

"Kueeeeeeeee!"(Firo)

I was surprised at the loud voice from the tent.

That evening, the storekeeper of the hotel suddenly calls for me.

"Umm Hero-sama"(Storekeeper of the hotel)

"hm? What do you need?"(Naofumi)

"A visitor has come to see you."(Storekeeper of the hotel)

Who is it? While I was thinking the storekeeper points to the counter. A man who I don't recognise is sitting there.

"Do you have some business with me?"(Naofumi)

"Um..... I am on an errand from the Demon dealer."(Errand guy)

Demon dealer.....Ahh, that slave trader. Certainly you can't introduce yourself in public as such.

"So is there something wrong?"(Naofumi)

"Ummm, we want to return the demon that is being held there."(Errand guy)

"What!?"(Naofumi)

It's only been a few hours since then..... What could have happened?
When Raptalia and I return to the tent, Firo's cry can still be heard.

"Iya, Iya, I apologize for the disturbance at this time of night."(Slave
Trader)

The slave trader has a tired face while he greets us.

"So what went wrong? We had a promise to meet tomorrow."(Naofumi)

"Yes, that was my intention too, but Hero-sama's demon is slightly
troublesome."(Slave Trader)

"Kueeeeeeee!!"(Firo)

Firo behaves violently inside the cage until she spots us.

"She destroyed 3 iron cages, injured 5 of my subordinates, and 3 other
demons have suffered serious wounds. Yup"(slave Trader)

"I'm not compensating you."(Naofumi)

"I take my hat off to the Hero-sama who thinks of money at such a time.
Yup"(Slave trader)

Is this slave trader a masochist?

"So, what is it? did you find anything?"(Naofumi)

"Well..... It seems there's a witness report that says this one is similar to a
King of Philorial."(Slave Trader)

"The king?"(Naofumi)

"Actually it's a lord of a group of Philorial, it's a story that is famous among adventurers."(Slave Trader)

This slave trader seems to have quite an extensive information network. Well, there is a big group of wild Philorial and there are stories that they have a king who manages them.

The master of Philorial which rarely appear..... And it seems Firo is one of them.

"Hmm"(Naofumi)

Is this information reliable?

Maybe removing the slave crest, killing Firo, and letting the shield absorb her body.

Even though I can absorb blood and feathers, it is still my demon. Only the demon trainer shield will appear.

Or the level I have is insufficient.

I stare at Firo.

".....Kue?"(Firo)

Though the race does not appear on the shield, she is not hostile.

"So, what now?"(Naofumi)

"She is called the Philorial King, or Queen."(Slave Trader)

"Is it because Firo is female?"(Naofumi)

"Yup, it is awkward for me to do business with Hero-sama under these conditions....."(Slave Trader)

I observe the destruction caused by Firo around the tent.

Everything is broken!

I have no plans to sell her.

".....Sama"(Unknown Voice)

"N? What was that unfamiliar voice I just heard?"(Naofumi)

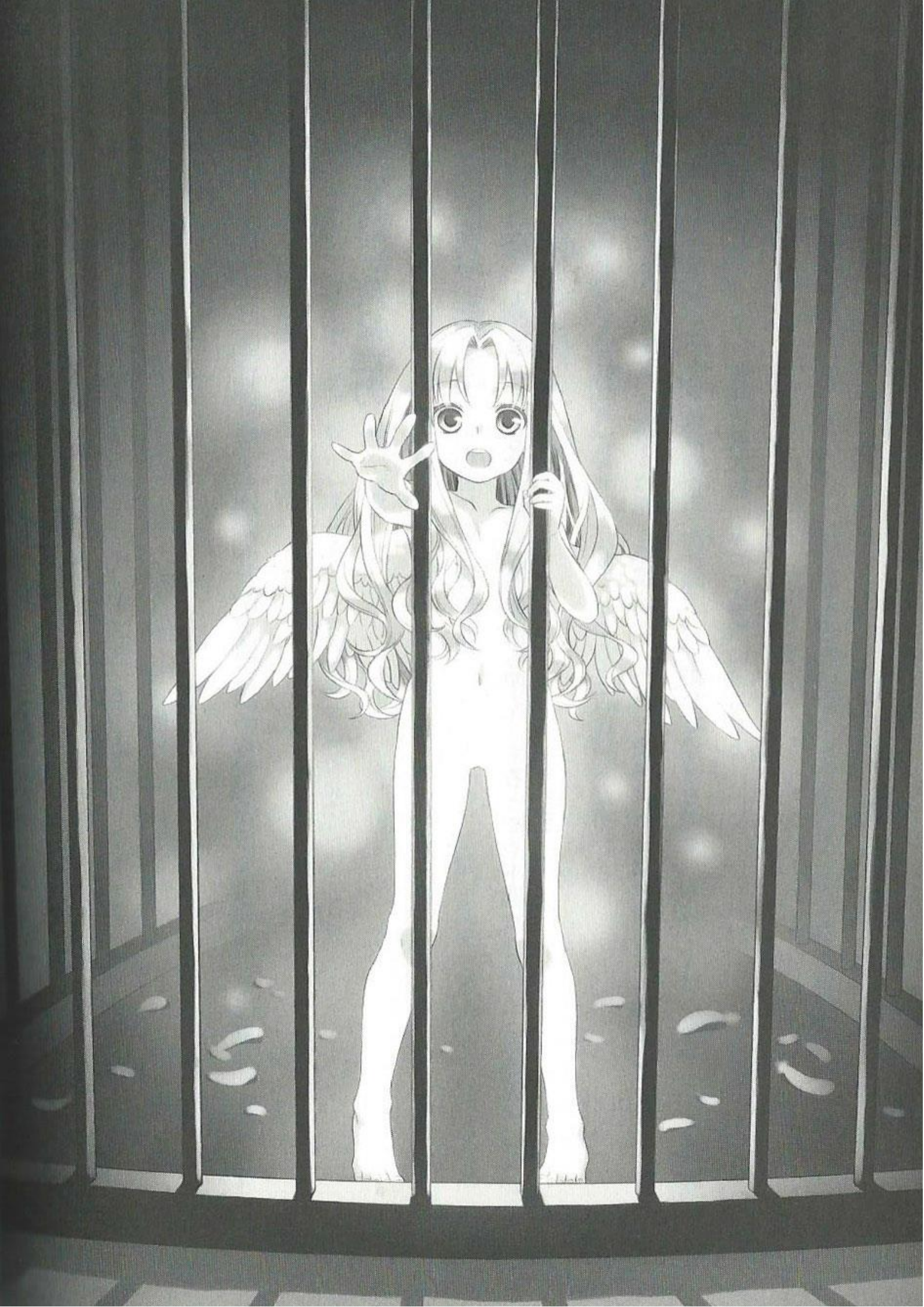
"uh,Ummm...." (Raphtalia)

Raphtalia holds her mouth and points to the cage where Firo was held. The slave trader is also speechless.

I look back at the slave trader and we trade puzzled looks.

"Masssterr~~~"(Yup, Firo)

A naked blonde girl with wings extends her hand towards me.



TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 30 - Transformation Ability

Naofumi: "Oyaji! Oyaji! Oyaji! Oyaji!"

(TI note: Changed the rest of Oyaji to Old man, it would be a little weird spam old man 4 times.)

I constantly knocked on the door of the closed weapon shop.

The old man from the weapons shop opened the door with a slightly annoyed expression.

Old Man: "What does the lad of the shield want now? I closed the shop long ago."

Naofumi: "This situation is special!"

I show Firo who was wrapped in a mantle to him.

Old Man: "Lad, did you come here to boast about buying a good slave?"

Naofumi: "Of course not!"

What does this old man think of me!?

Though, when I met the old man, I could kill without hesitation.

Firo: "Master~? What's wrong?"

Naofumi: "You be quiet!"

Firo: "Noo-"

Shit! What the hell is going on!?

After that affair, the noise never stopped.

I'm surprised that the slave trader wanted to buy her off me while not listening to the complaints of his subordinates.

Even Raptalia was speechless.

I told Firo that if she wants to stick to me, she needs to be in human form. Thus, I carried Firo here to the weapons shop.

Firo: "Ah... Achoo!"

Bofun! Biriiiiii!

She transforms and all I heard was the sound of the mantle ripping. In the blink of an eye, Firo reverts back to her Queen of the Philorial (Temporary) form.

This bird! That mantle wasn't free.

Old Man: "Hey..."

Even the old man is at a loss for words. I looked up at Firo.

Firo returned to her human form and holds my hand.

All that's left of the mantle rests on top of her head.

Naofumi: "Do you understand the circumstances now?"

Old Man: "Yeah..."

The old man guides us inside the store with a really complex expression.

Old Man: "So, the reason you came to see me is to get equipment for this child?"

Naofumi: "Are there any clothes that can transform with the user?"

I asked the old man for the unreasonable.

Naofumi: "Please make it transform!"

Old Man: "Lad, calm down a little."

Right, now that I think about it, why does Firo have a humanoid form?

She has wings growing from her back, blond hair, and fair blue eyes. Very angel-like.

Furthermore, her face is cute enough to be a lovely picture.

Her age looks around 10 and is about the same height as the old Raphtalia.

Guuuuuu..

A very classic sound.

Firo: "Master~ I'm hungry."

Naofumi: "Endure it."

Firo: "Nooo-"

Damn! What am I supposed to do!?

Old Man: "Well, let's just have some dinner first."

The old man brings us to the back of the shop and takes out a pot full of something. It's soup.

Naofumi: "Sto-"

Firo: "Waaa, Itadakimasu~"

Firo takes the pot from the old man and pours all of the contents into her mouth.

Firo: "N-.....It tastes ok I guess~"

I returned the pot to the old man.

He was dumbfounded and just stared at me.

Naofumi: "Ummm, sorry."

Old Man: "Lad, treat me to a meal later."

I'll learn from this mistake.

Old Man: "Hmmm... Well, I know there are clothes for Demi-humans that transform... But this is a weapon shop, what you are looking for is in a clothing shop."

Naofumi: "I am with a naked girl in the middle of the night, where am I supposed to find a clothing shop that won't reject me!?"

Old man: "That's true... Wait here a little."

The old man went to the back of the shop and all I heard was rustling.

Old Man: "Don't expect too much since I don't have anything in her size."

Naofumi: "I understand"

After a while, the old man came back.

Old Man: "Damn. I don't have any clothes that will fit her transformed size."

Naofumi: "What!"

This is already my last resort... What am I supposed to do? How am I supposed to answer when people ask me why there is a naked little girl without parents in my care?

My reputation is already bad enough, but this will make it take another nose dive.

Firo: "Master-"

Naofumi: "Don't you dare transform!"

There is no item that keeps a demon in her human form. As expected, humanoid demons are extremely rare.

Firo: "Nooo-"

Ku.....What the hell is wrong with this child!

She's refusing everything I told her to do.

Is this the rebellious phase? No, that's impossible, she was born a few days ago.

Naofumi: "Then how about this. If you will stay in your human form, we can sleep together."

After hearing that, Firo has a big smile on her face and tightly holds my hand.

Naofumi: "Sigh..... why do we have to sleep together."

Firo: "Because I'm lonely"

Old Man: "Lad..... Are you serious?"

I did not come to this world to baby-sit...

Old Man: "Anyway, where is Raphtalia?"

Raphtalia: "I finally caught up"

Raphtalia entered the shop building while panting.

Raphtalia: "Because you suddenly ran off, I looked everywhere..."

Naofumi: "Sorry, my bad."

Firo: "Ah, Raphtalia onee-chan."

Firo energetically waves.

Firo: "I'm not giving Master to you~"

Raphtalia?: "What is this child saying!"



Naofumi: "No you're not, I'm not yours. In fact you two belong to me."

As slaves.

Old Man: "Well, there're no suitable clothes for you today, just return later."

Naofumi?: "Ah, sorry for the disturbance"

Firo: "Thanks for the meal."

Old Man: "I'm always surprised by you, lad."

We left the weapons shop and walked towards the inn when Raphtalia says.

Raphtalia: "Ah, the slave.....Demon dealer called."

Naofumi: "Hm? Understood."

We returned to the tent, only to be welcomed by the slave trader.

Slave Trader: "Well, that was certainly a surprising development. Yup."

Naofumi: "Yeah."

Slave Trader: "Well, as it turns out, because of eye witness testimony, that is actually a Philorial Queen."

Naofumi: "Oh? You know about her?"

Slave Trader: "Yup. I think I understand, Hero of the Shield-sama."

What's with this slave trader's pretentious expression?

Slave Trader: "You don't understand?"

Naofumi: "Hurry and say it."

The slave trader pointed at Firo who is in her humanoid form, wearing nothing but a tattered mantle.

Slave Trader: "The Philorial Queen has advanced transformation abilities. Therefore, it changed itself into a normal Philorial to escape attention. At least that's our hypothesis."

No wonder... If I was in a similar circumstance, I'm sure I would decide to disguise myself too.

That's reasonable.

Slave Trader: "Iyahaha. As expected of the Hero of the Shield-sama, to be able to raise a Philorial Queen in such a short time. Yup."

Naofumi: "What?"

Slave Trader: "Did you raise a Philorial Queen, or is it a Philorial Queen because you raised it?"

I understand what the slave trader is saying. This fellow is trying to learn a method on how to produce Philorial Kings from me, and then mass producing.

It is classified as a considerably rare demon due to its transformation abilities. Although it stinks, the profits would be massive.

Naofumi: "Maybe that's just the power of the legendary shield hero."

I believed this was due to the power of Growth Correction. I couldn't explain how to do this naturally.

Slave Trader: "Then, can you tell me how you do it? For a price of course."

Naofumi: "That's not what I mean."

Slave Trader: "How about raising another Philorial, for free of course-"

Naofumi: "No thanks!"

My wallet won't last if there is another mouth to feed. The clothes for Firo won't be free either. If the expenses increase any more, it will be dangerous.

Slave Trader: "Ha~a..... Well, if you change your mind, please come and find me."

Naofumi: "We'll see."

Uah.....This slave trader's eyes are sparkling
I feel sick.

Naofumi: "This fellow ate meat from the boss of the last wave. I think the possibility of influence from that can't be ignored."

Well, this feels a little forced anyway.

But it is the truth that Firo ate chimera meat, so I'm not lying.

Slave Trader: "I see...Well, that's too bad then."

The slave trader withdraws reluctantly.

Slave Trader: "Anyway, I'll buy your Philorial any time. Yup"

Naofumi: "I'll decline if I can."

Slave Trader: "You can accumulate money easily."

Naofumi: "Well, if the need arises."

I am aware of the fact that I have become a miser.

Raphtalia: "Is your conversation over?"

Naofumi: "Yeah."

Naofumi?: "Let's go over there."

Firo?: "What?"

Firo entered the conversation with a question mark over her head.

Naofumi: "This is your treat."

Firo: "Master~ let's sleep together~"

Raphtalia: "I forbid it!"

Firo: "Not Fair! Raphtalia onee-chan monopolises Master."

Raphtalia: "I do not!"

You guys are noisy.

Naofumi: "Well then, Firo, go to the barn and sleep."

Firo: "No!"

I was refused by this bird easily.

Firo: "I want to sleep with Master~"

I am reminded of a child who wants to sleep with their parents...

Naofumi: "Well, it can't be helped."

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama!?"

Naofumi: "It's fine to be selfish to this degree, it's just sleeping together."

Raphtalia: "Well... Me too"

Raphtalia muttered words that I couldn't hear.

Naofumi: "But, you must not be naked in public!"

Firo: "Okay!"

Do you really understand? Oh well, it's fine. I hope that the old man from the weapon shop has something tomorrow.

I head back to the inn and pay the storekeeper for another night.

Hmm... Should I study or continue compounding? Well, at least Firo is in human form.

Firo: "Waa! A soft bed!"

I decided to sleep early today while watching Firo bounce around on the bed.

It's hot...

Why is it so hot!?

Naofumi: "Uu..."

My body can't move.

What is going on?

When I open my eyes fearfully, all I can see is white.

I seem to be wrapped in feathers.

Firo?: "Suu.....Suu....."

The bed breathes!

I slowly lift my head, It seems the bed I was sleeping on is Firo's true form.

Firo seems to have returned to her original form after falling asleep.

Without her knowing, she started holding me as a hugging pillow.

Naofumi: "Get up you fat bird!"

I told you not to return to your true form!

Firo: "Yan"

It seems this fellow's true form is able to speak now.

Raphtalia: "Wh-What's going on!"

Raphtalia who is half asleep shouts at me.

Naofumi: "Oh, Raphtalia, Help!"

This fellow isn't even getting up after I hit her. It is my fault for lacking any offensive abilities.

Raphtalia: "Get up Firo!"

Firo: "MunyaMunya.....Ma~ster~"

Firo rolls and flops onto the floor.

MishiMishiMishi.....

I heard an unpleasant creaking sound from the wooden floor. It seems to be at its limit.

Naofumi: "Get up!"

But there is no sign of Firo stirring while hugging me.

Raphtalia: "Get up!"

Raphtalia wrenches open Firo's arm which was hugging me

I was somehow able to escape through the gap.

Naofumi: "Fu..... What a terrible morning"

Firo: "Nnya?"

It seems when the sensation of hugging me was gone, Firo woke up.

Firo noticed Raphtalia and I glaring at her and tilts her neck.

Firo: "What happened?"

Naofumi: "First of all, change back to your human form."

Firo: "Eh? When did I change?"

Ku! I didn't want to do this but it can't be helped!

I choose the demon icon from the status magic and change the settings to whatever I say becoming absolute.

Any order cannot be disobeyed if I do this.

Naofumi: "Become a humanoid!"

I commanded Firo

Firo: "No... I want to sleep with Master more~"

The demon crest appears on Firo's abdomen because she went against my orders.

Firo?: "Eh?"

Naofumi: "If you don't listen it'll hurt."

The demon crest on Firo's body glows red.

Firo: "Yan"

A Geometric pattern appears on Firo's wing and moves towards the demon crest.

With a fizzle, the demon crest became silent again.

Naofumi: "Ha?"

I checked the demon icon. It seems the command for absolute obedience was removed.

I tried to apply it again but nothing happens.

This demon won't listen to a thing I say?

Shit! I bought a demon because I expected it to follow my orders.

Slave trader... Wash your neck because I'm coming for you.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 31 - Carrot and Stick

I marched straight to the Slave Trader's tent first thing in the morning.

"What are you doing here so early in the morning Hero-sama."

"Your Demon Seal was a sham! Depending on your response I might have my dangerous slave and demon here to go on a bit of a rampage, you see?"

"Firo is hungry. Can I do that later?"

"... If you keep up that behavior I'll turn you into breakfast instead."

The Demon Seal that was placed on Firo didn't work as intended. Not only that, the option couldn't even be checked.

"Hm? Now what do you mean about that?"

I then explained to the Slave Trader about what happened this morning. It sure was rough. We somehow got Firo to calm down and had her change to her human form and from there headed to the tent.

Raphtalia was hard enough, but Firo on top of that. Having to constantly stay on watch to make sure they don't do anything out of the ordinary was stressing indeed.

"It seems the Philo Rial Queen can undo a normal Demon Seal, yes."

"Elaborate?"

"You can't restrain a higher order demon with a normal Demon Seal. The grand prize of the lottery, the Kiryuu, must have a special Demon Seal engraved."

"So you're saying a normal Demon Seal won't work on this thing?"

"Yes."

This bastard Slave Trader is happily jotting down this new discovery into some pocket notebook.

"So, will you be giving me this special Demon Seal?"

"Good gracious! That is outside the realm of our free services, yes."

"What did you say."

"As you would expect, this is not a cheap process and doing so for free would place me in a rather difficult position. The costs are starting to weigh down too much on my end you see."

Damn, it looks like getting any more free services from him would be pretty hard from now on. Well I guess it can't be helped considering all the damage I did...

"How much is it?"

"As I look forward to Hero-sama's future prospects, I will be taking a huge loss and price it at 200 silver coins. How does that sound?"

Shieeeeet that's expensive.

"Could you please---"

"By the way, the market price for this kind of service is 800 silver coins at the cheapest. I would not lie about this as I have much hopes placed for Hero-sama."

Ack!

That was a heavy blow to my consciousness.

I accept my defeat and so very reluctantly hand over 200 silver coins to the Slave Trader.

“……If I find that you’re lying I’ll have my dangerous subordinates start a bloodbath you hear.”

“I understand indeed.”

Firo, who was in the form of the Philo Rial Queen and looking around restlessly, was taken in by Raphtalia who was holding Firo’s enormous wings.

“Stay right there, Firo”

“Why-?”

“If you do I’ll let you eat something real tasty.”

“Really?”

“Yup.”

With her eyes gleaming, I had Firo stand still at the place that the Slave Trader indicated.

Alright, if you’re going to do your magic now is the time.

I gave the Slave Trader the signal. The Slave Trader nods his head as well, and 12 of his robed subordinates with their faces covered and invisible, surround Firo.

Then they poured some kind of medicine or other substance onto the floor, faced towards Firo and began chanting their spell.

The floor began to shine, and a magic circle started to unfold with Firo at the center.

“Eh, W-What’s going on?”

Bam, Bam. Firo tried to put up a resistance, but was unable to do so as the magic circle enclosed in on her further.

“I, It huuuuurts! Stop-!”

Firo rampages about as she bears the pain from the Demon Seal’s renewal, and each time she slams against it, the magic circle shakes.

Slave Trader’s subordinates let out a gasp of shock.

“Just in case, I had extra followers restraining her with magic but… for her to be able to move under such pressure, I fear what she will eventually become, yes.”

Now that I think about it, she’s still only level 19. If she’s already like this, how strong will she be when she’s around Level 70? I nod to the Slave Traders words.

Finally, the magic circle is fully engraved onto Firo’s abdomen and it becomes quiet.

“It’s over, yes.”

In my view there’s a Demon icon that looks like it has higher level commands than the one before. I promptly check the option labeled with listen to everything I say.

“Hah… Hah…”

She heaves as she walks towards me.

“Master that was mean. It hurt so much-.”

As I wonder if there was a wicked smile was plastered on my face, I command Firo.

“First of all, turn to your human form.”

“Whaat? That hurt so much I don’t wanna-. Give me something yummy to eat!”

Taking little heed to my command and demanding food as if she was taking me lightly, the Demon Seal on Firo began to glow [in response].

“Eh, no-! Wha, stopitstopit!”

Firo fired some kind of spell at the Demon Seal, but this time the seal repelled it and the curse activated.

“It hurts, it hurts, it hurts!”

Firo crumbles to the floor in pain from the Demon Seal.

“If you don’t listen to what I say, it’ll hurt even more.”

“It hurts, it hurts! Uuu…”

She reluctantly turns to her human form. When she does so the Demon Seal stops glowing.

“Yup... looks like it worked properly this time. Good work Slave Trader.”

“Indeed, it is quite a powerful seal, so it won’t be so easily tampered with, yes.”

I walk stand in front of the fallen Firo and announce:

“You yourself costed 100 silver coins, and following that your Demon Seal costed 200 silver coins. That’s a total loss of 300 silver coins. You’re going to have to pay me back that much by listening to what I say.”

“M, Master-.”

As Firo was having trouble getting up, I extend my hand.

It sends pangs to my consciousness having to say these kinds of things to a child who is so pure, but I want to at least [have the funds to] keep a roof over this self-indulgent kid.

“Listen to what I say.”

“N, No-”

“I see, I see. If you really don’t want to listen to what I say, then I’ll just sell you off to this scary man over there”

“...!?”

Firo seems to have finally understood her position as her face warped in fear.

That Slave Trader, he's looking at me with some expression that's both troubled yet happy...

"How much would she sell for?"

"Let me see. She's rare, so dealing with her will be a bit difficult, but 30 gold coins sounds like a price I would buy her for if I include that cost. Since she has a powerful Demon Seal engraved on her, she won't be able to rebel anymore. I can see quite a few ways to use her, yes."

Damn Slave Trader, he deliberately lays down the price the moment after he says it'll be difficult to sell her.

I don't actually know for sure, but if I hand Firo over to him, her life will probably be over.

And now Firo is looking at me with upturned eyes looking absolutely terrified.

This is tough... My good conscious that I thought had vanished is rolling back in full force here.

However, depending on Firo's attitude, such a choice may really have to be made in the future.

If I can't be a nice onii-chan [in regards to Raph], then I can't be a doting pet owner either.

"And so he says. So the next time you go on a tantrum, I won't be there to pick you up anymore... You'll probably be forced to drink some biiitter medicine, then they'll poke around all- over your body, until finally... you die."

"N, Noooo----!"

Firo screams out in dissent.

“Master, please don’t hate Firo- …”

Firo earnestly begs as she clings to my leg.

Shit! This is hard…

But I can’t back down now.

“If you listen to me obediently then I won’t hate you. Make sure you listen, got that?”

“Y, Yeah!”

“Good. Then when we’re staying at the inn, absolutely do not turn back to your original form. That will be our first promise.”

“Okay!”

At Firo’s beaming smile, whatever remnants left of my good consciousness aches in pain.

Well then, I also have to head over to the Armorer today…

When I look away from Firo, I catch a glance at the Slave Trader who now has the most jubilant smile I’ve seen him have on to date.

“I’m getting a shiver down my spine at your magnificent display of fiendishness. You are most definitely the legendary shield hero!”

I have a feeling there’s something wrong about what he’s extoling me for…

But I’m not sure if I should voice a complaint here.

And beside me, Raphtalia had on a rather complicated expression.

“Naofumi-sama… That might have been a bit much…”

“If I don’t do this, then she won’t listen to what I say. It was the same for you in the beginning right.”

Raphtalia nodded at my answer.

“Now that you mention it, that was the case wasn’t it.”

“There are some things we can let her indulge in, and some things that we can’t.”

I won’t mention my true intents behind this [statement] though.

“Carrot and the stick I see, yes.”

“Slave Trader, I wasn’t talking to you.”

And quit understanding my motives.

“I sure gave you quite a hard time.”

“If that’s how you feel, then please, I will prepare for you an easy to handle Philo Rial chick to raise and-“

“Well then, I have places I need to be today. So if you can let me go then.”

“Being able to not get swallowed up by my pace, I have the utmost respect for Hero-sama’s strong will, yes.”

With the conversation ending on that note, we left the tent.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 32 - Reward (aka Riverside BBQ)

Firo is wearing my mantle as we head to the weapon shop.

Old Man: "Hey lad."

The old man waves as we approach.

Naofumi: "Did something happen?"

Old Man: "Yea. Wait a moment."

The old man closes the weapon shop and guides us.

We arrived at the magic shop where I received the magic book.

Magic Shop SK: "Oh my."

The aunt from the magic shop beams when she sees the old man.

Magic Shop SK: "Why don't you guys come in?"

Naofumi: "Right, Firo, don't change into your true form until I permit you to."

Firo: "Okay."

At the back of the magic shop, there was a workplace that smelled of nature.

We were guided to the workplace.

The ceiling was quite high, about 3m.

In the middle of the floor was a magic square with a crystal.

Magic Shop SK: "I'm sorry it's a little crowded because I'm working."

Naofumi: "No it's fine. Anyway, is there any clothing for children here?"

Old Man: "This aunty from the magic shop is an acquaintance that could help you."

Magic Shop SK: "That's right~"

She removed the crystal and puts an old design sewing machine on a pedestal.

Remember the bobbin machine? That one from Sleeping Beauty.

(TI note: <http://i.imgur.com/fsS6pIV.png>)

Magic Shop SK: "Is that child really a demon?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, let me take off the mantle first before she changes. Firo, return to your original form."

There should be enough room in here for her original form.

Firo: "Ok"

When I gave the command, Firo removed the mantle and returned to her original form.

Magic Shop SK: "Oh my, Oh dear"

The magic shop aunty looked up at Firo who returns to her Philorial Queen form in surprise.

Firo: "Is this all right?"

The scene is very strange to do Firo's voice contrasting with her body.

Even though this is a fantasy world, it's still weird...

I looked towards Raphtalia

Raphtalia: "What is it?"

Naofumi: "Nothing"

That reminds me, Raphtalia is also a Demi-human.

Now that I think about it, in the past when I could feel something like romance, I might have been be very excited, it seems Motoyasu is the same, though that's in the past.

Magic Shop SK: "So what clothes do you need?"

Naofumi: "Can you make something that won't break when it transforms?"

Magic Shop SK: "Strictly speaking, I'm not sure I can make clothes."

Naofumi: "What!?"

Magic Shop SK: "Hero-sama, what do you see?"

Naofumi: "Magic shop... And a witch."

Magic Shop SK: "That's right. I only have some knowledge on transformation."

Though I don't really understand the common sense of this world... I know that witches can transform into animals.

Magic Shop SK: "Oh my, it takes a great amount of magical power and a very troublesome procedure to transform yourself into an animal. Wouldn't it be bothersome to put on clothes every time you transformed?"

Hm? So it seems it is possible for witches to transform.

The aunty answered while working on the bobbin.

By appearances alone it resembles a sewing machine from my world.

Magic Shop SK: "Staying in her true form at home is fine, but if she transforms in a crowded place, it would be pretty serious."

Naofumi: "Yeah, that's right."

Clothes are my main concern. Walking around naked would stand out.

Magic Shop SK: "Therefore, it would be best if the clothes could be stored safely when transformed and re-equipped when reverting"

Naofumi: "I see."

True, if the clothes just disappear after transforming, the problem would be solved.

Magic Shop SK: "It's a technique passed down by demon category of Demi-humans. A famous one is a vampire's mantle."

Yeah, like when they transformed into bats or wolves. That is in this world too?

Magic Shop SK: "Well, this bobbin machine makes the materials for those clothes."

Naofumi: "Interesting... What do the clothes transform to?"

Magic Shop SK: "Strictly speaking, what are clothes? Something visible to others, correct?"

I tilted my neck and gave the aunty of the magic shop a puzzled look.
What does that mean?

Magic Shop SK: "What I mean is, this item can transform thread to magical power and magical power to threads. Therefore, the user can change a thread to magical power at any time."

Magic Shop SK: "To put it simply, the user can change the thread to magical power and vice-versa."

Naofumi: "Oh, I understand."

Now I understand why the old man from the weapon shop brought us here. It'll certainly be weird to call these clothes. When not in human form the magical power circulates the body, and takes shape once back to human form.

Magic Shop SK: "This is Firo-chan right? Turn the wheel on this slowly."

Firo: "Ok"

Firo begins to slowly turn the wheel on the bobbin machine.

A thread comes out immediately and the aunty wraps it around a spool. Then, thread starts to gather on the spool.

Naofumi?: "Hmm? It feels weaker."

Magic Shop SK: "This changes magical power to threads. It should be tiring, but I just need a little more to make clothes."

Naofumi: "Hmm... Interesting."

Firo is still a child who is barely one week old.

Firo looks tired while spinning the machine.

Naofumi: "Endure it, I'll promise you something."

Firo: "Food? Delicious food?"

Naofumi: "Yeah"

I am a man who keeps his promises. I'll let you eat your fill of delicious food later, Firo.

Firo: "I'll do my best!"

Firo begins to energetically turn the bobbin machine.

Firo: "Yay, I'll do my best!"

The aunty seemed surprised at the speed.

Naofumi: "Old man, I owe you a meal. Are you free after this?"

Old Man: "I left a note at the shop explaining I'll be closed till early afternoon. What're you going to treat me to, lad?"

Naofumi: "How about this, can you prepare a big iron plate?"

Old Man: "What're you going to use that for?"

Naofumi: "I'm going to cook."

Old Man: "The lad's home cooking? I was expecting something different."

Naofumi: "What was that?"

I am slightly offended by the old man's disappointed expression.

Old Man: "Oh well, what did I expect."

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, go to the market to get meat, vegetables, and charcoal. Firo can eat enough for 5 people."

Raphtalia: "Understood"

I handed some silver coins to Raphtalia to go shopping.

Firo: "Food~ Food~"

Firo is in high spirits while spinning the bobbin machine.

Magic Shop SK: "That's enough. You can stop spinning now."

After awhile aunty told her to stop.

Firo: "Will there be more food if I turn it more?"

Naofumi: "No. you can stop."

Firo: "Yay~"

Firo returned to her original form.

Firo: "Master~ food~"

Naofumi: "Hold on a bit."

Firo: "Eh-..."

Firo sounded very disappointed. Raphtalia hasn't returned yet, so there is no food.

Naofumi: "When we leave the shop, return to your humanoid form."

Firo: "Ok"

Do you really understand?

Magic Shop SK: "You can use this to make your clothes."

The magic shop aunty shows us the thread.

Old Man?: "I'll go ask someone who knows how to weave this."

Naofumi: "I have high hopes for that fellow. Firo, let's go."

Magic Shop SK?: "What should I tell the young lady who went shopping?"

Naofumi: "Tell her we'll be waiting at the gate that leaves castle town."

Magic Shop SK?: "Understood."

Following the old man from the weapon shop, we left the magic shop.

Magic Shop SK: "As for the fee, I'll be sending it to the weapon shop~"

Naofumi: "How much would that be...?"

I asked a little anxiously.

Magic Shop SK: "Making the magic string? Because the crystal is expensive, I'll charge Hero-sama 50 silver."

Damn! Firo is expensive.

In the future, we need to be careful with clothes, it's like wearing money.
We head to the weaver with the thread.

Weaver: "This is some unusual material, I could do a lot with this. Go to the dressing room and measure your size. I should be able to complete the dress tonight. You can pick it up later."

We went straight to the dressing room.
Although there is only a mantle, it still took a while.

Sales Clerk: "Wow..... that's a very cute child."

The sales clerk is a girl with glasses and a scarf.
She seems a little plain. By that, I mean she looks like the kind of girl from my world who would write doujinshis.

Sales Clerk: "Her wings are just like an angel. She seems similar to a Demi-human... I'll work on your order now."

Naofumi: "Is that so?"

The old man puts a hand on my shoulder.

Old Man: "There are Demi-humans who have hands or feet that resemble birds. But this child only seems to have wings, so it's pretty great."

Firo: "Hm~?"

Firo tilted her neck while looking up at the sales clerk.

Naofumi: "Yeah... This fellow is a demon that can transform into a humanoid. When she reverts to her true form, her clothes break."

Sales Clerk: "Interesting..... So that's why you need clothes made from magical power."

Her glasses gave off a dangerous light.

As I thought, this girl reminds me of an Otaku.

I feel a little nostalgic because I had an acquaintance selling doujinshis within a circle.

She would often give me admission tickets for the circle and was quite friendly.

Sigh... There's no such thing in a different world.

Sales Clerk: "This material is perfect for a one piece dress, It will be unaffected as well since it'll just turn to magic."

Naofumi: "Eh? Uh sure?"

Firo is measured again after she puts on her mantle and then the clerk starts designing something.

Sales Clerk: "I want to see her true form!"

Firo looked at me with a troubled face. I gulp and looked around.

Naofumi: "It seems to just barely fit here."

Firo's changed form will just barely fit under the ceiling less than 2m.

Sales Clerk?: "Can you sit down?"

Sales Clerk?: "Yea, that's good."

Firo changed back to her demon form while paying attention to the ceiling, and stared at the girl.

Sales Clerk: "Oh-... This gap is good!"

Not even being shaken by Firo's true form... This dressmaker can do it!
As expected of a character who sells doujins. I'm glad this is a different world.

Sales Clerk: "I'll bet a ribbon will suit her."

Firo's neck size is measured by the dressmaker and she begins to design clothes again.

Sales Clerk: "Well I'm going to wait for materials to arrive!"

She seems excited while answering.

Old Man?: "This fellow is a good craftsman."

Naofumi: "I guess..."

She is the type to be absorbed in her work and will accomplish it by all means.

Old Man?: "Well, it will be completed tomorrow."

Naofumi: "That's fast. How much is this going to cost in total?"

Old Man?: "I recommended you to this place so it should be around 100 silver pieces."

Ugh... I received a shock.

Naofumi: "Firo, do you understand? I spent a large sum of 400 pieces of silver on you. I expect you to work diligently."

Firo: "Okay!"

Do you really understand? We left the shop with Firo in her human form. We joined up with Raphtalia, who was waiting at the gate of the castle town.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama, I bought the ingredients you asked for."

Naofumi: "Firo costs 400 pieces of silver. Raphtalia was cheaper."

Raphtalia: "Please don't say it like I'm a cheap woman!"

Sigh... Is this going to be okay?

Naofumi: "Alright, old man, bring the iron plate. Firo, get a cart and carry it from the weapon shop."

Firo: "Ok!"

Old Man: "Alright..."

Firo left with the old man for the weapon shop and came back pulling a cart.
Why is she pulling it in her human form?

An iron plate within the size I was imagining was within the cart.

Naofumi: "Alright, let's leave the castle town and go to the riverbank near the grassy plains."

We arrived at the riverbank.

I took out the iron plate, put it on a griddle and immediately put charcoal under it.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia and Old man, take care of the fire."

Old Man: "Yeah yeah."

Raphtalia: "Okay"

As expected of the old man of a weapon shop, it seems managing fire is his forte.

Firo: "What about Firo?"

Naofumi: "Stand watch so that balloons don't approach us..."

Firo: "Okay~!"

I told Firo to do something else because she would likely fail doing anything here.

I cut the meat and vegetables that Raphtalia brought into appropriate sizes and put it near the grill.

Old Man: "Lad, the charcoal is ready"

Naofumi: "Yeah"

Raphtalia and the old man heated the plate as per my instructions, so I put the fatty meat onto the grill for the oil.

Then I spread out the vegetables and meat so they aren't directly on top of the fire.

Old Man: "You sure are skilful"

I used a stick and a knife to turn the meat and vegetables so they don't burn.

Naofumi: "Well, this should be fine."

Yup. Today's lunch is a barbecue by the riverbank. Firo's reward.

Naofumi: "Firo, it's ready."

Firo: "Okay~"

Firo was already drooling from the smell when she took the skewer I handed her.

Firo: "Yaay~! This is delicious!"

Firo starts throwing meat and vegetables that were just cooked into her mouth.

Naofumi: "Hey don't eat everything, this is for everyone."

Firo: "Mfkay~"

Firo nodded while stuffing her mouth.

Do you really understand?

Naofumi: "Let's eat I guess..."

Raphtalia: "Okay"

Old Man: "Sure"

I distributed the meat and vegetables onto some leaves and hand it
Raphtalia and the old man.

Old Man: "Oh this is delicious. I'm surprised grilled meat tastes so good."

Raphtalia: "For some reason, this dish that Naofumi-sama makes is
strangely delicious."

Naofumi: "I'll take that as a compliment"

Old Man: "I'm not flattering you. Why does it taste so good?"

The old man looked at his plate with a puzzled expression.

Naofumi: "It's probably the result of the cooking skill from my shield."

Old Man: "The power of the shield?"

Naofumi: "Well, at least I think so."

From the corner of my sight I see, Barbeque is now available. Quality: Good
-> Great quality.

To think that such a strange icon would exist.

Old Man: "That's such a mysterious shield. I'm quite envious."

Naofumi: "I can't take it off so it's quite inconvenient."

Not to mention the non-existent offensive power.

Oh right, there was the special effect from the Bee Needle Shield that I can counter attack enemies with called [Shield of the Needle].

Although the enemy would have escaped before I beat it, unless it's slow like a balloon.

As expected, even if the demon runs away, I'm at a disadvantage.

Sometimes, a smart monster would ignore me and aim for Raphtalia.

Old Man: "Haven't you become quite strong?"

Naofumi: "I don't know... Compared to the other heroes..."

Old Man: "Is that so, are the legendary weapons that powerful?"

Naofumi: "That's right, I learned from experience."

Old Man: "I see"

Naofumi: "Then-"

Because skills could be acquired in various ways, the power of a legendary weapon is way above average.

Moreover, accumulating status improvements whenever a shield is unsealed is good.

There are a bunch of conditions that unseal new shields, such as absorbing monsters and other materials, levelling up and the skill tree.

Besides, any exclusive effects any shield that was released gives permanent bonuses.

Even a weak shield could be helpful if I unseal it.

Due to the Equipment bonuses carrying over, the more shields I unseal, the stronger the skills I use.

I can see how many bonus stats I got. My stats in general are higher than Raphtalia's. Maybe it's because I'm a hero.

Especially in the aspect of defence. I have 3 times more and that's not including the permanent bonuses from unsealing other shields.

Because I originally never attack, all the gear went to Raphtalia. After all, the potential ability as a Hero of the shield is in defence. The price for that is 1/10th of ATK.

The difference between a resident of this world and a hero would be from any effects granted by this shield.

Otherwise, I can never beat a monster with just defence.

After all, the only reason a hero is different from a normal person was because of the legendary weapon. It could be considered that you are only a hero because you have the legendary weapon.

I hate it, but I am only a hero because of this shield.

It seems there is an influence from being the companion of a hero.

Raphtalia is superior to normal Demi-humans because of the ability from Slave trainer Shield and Firo's abilities are on par with her despite the level difference.

I don't know how much effect Growth Correction had, but it seems to be quite large.

The effects of Slave Trainer Shield and Demon Trainer Shield are good. I wonder what effects Friend Shield would have, if that even exists.

It seems the existences called companions are essential for a hero.

Friend huh..... an existence I don't have.

Old Man: "I see... It seems heroes really are different from us commoners."

Naofumi: "That seems to be the case."

Travelling around the world, absorbing various demons and materials to grow stronger.

Honestly, there's just so much more to examine.

I don't understand how much I can improve the shield.

But if I don't do anything, the wave of disaster will strike.

I don't know how many times it will come either.

It's been twice already. Maybe 5 times, 10 times, or even 100 times, I don't know.

Whatever it is, I can't just sit around and do nothing.

That reminds me...There seems to be a worrisome shield called Curse Series.

At that time when I almost lost Raphtalia, the Curse series was released and started eroding the shield.

I've looked for that skill tree many times.

However, I can't find it no matter how hard I look.

I'll try asking for help.

Curse Series

I hesitated to ask.

I only type in that sentence. Besides, I checked many times. I feel a shock and the letters change.

Curse Series

Armour that grants power and consumes the user. Hero! Do not use it.

Therefore, I decided to stay away from this topic.

When I need it, the power will appear. This shield seems to have many limitations.

Firo: "Master~ there's no more meat"

Naofumi: "What!"

When I look there is no more meat. Everyone has already finished eating the stuff I prepared.

All that's left are vegetables.

Firo: "Is it already over? Firo still wants to eat more."

Naofumi: "Uhhh, well... Go to the forest and catch 5 Usapiru. I'll cook those too."

Firo: "Okay~!"

Firo rushed to the forest at full speed.

Old Man: "Oh man, that was delicious. Totally worth it."

Naofumi: "If you think that, then discount the price of clothes."

Old Man: "Lad, there's already a heavy discount, it'll be a large loss if I discount any more."

Oh well, we barbecued next to the riverbank till evening and then called it a day.

By the way, Firo caught 10 Usapiru.

I barely had time to eat. Mostly managing the barbecue and dismantling Usapiru to roast.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 33 - Peddling

The next day, that childish otaku greeted us with a smile when we enter the dress shop.

"Yes, it's here. The clothes have been made. It took me all night."

The tired dressmaker was ready to split, her eyes giving a tension-filled, red-eyed stare. She then brought Firo's clothes from the back of the shop.
[TL note: "red-eyed gaze" is placement for "gingin" which describes a tired stare with red eyes]

The dress's colour is mainly white. The colour blue contrasts it in some areas and decorating the middle is a large ribbon of the same hue. It can be seen as rustic and old-styled, but it's very beautiful all the same.

Firo: "Master, I'm going to wear this?"

[Edt: I changed "Goshujin-sama" to "Master" since "Master" is commonly used ltr.]

Naofumi: "Yeah."

Firo: "Yay!"

Firo, who had worn a cloak to cover herself until now, became nude on the spot.

Raphtalia: "Firo, no!"

Firo: "Eh--"

With Raptalia urging her to stop, I guided them both to the back of the shop.

I was waiting for you to come get dressed in here...

Sales Clerk: "Alright, change into your demon form."

[Weaver=Sales Clerk= Dressmaker, for standardisation, I'll be using Sales Clerk]

I could hear the dressmaker's voice from the depths of the store.

Firo: "Why~?"

Sales Clerk: "If you wear this ribbon, I'll give you meat."

Firo: "Yay!"

Don't just casually say something so terrifying.

Firo: "Understood~"

I could hear the transformation sounds.

Sales Clerk: "Yup. As I thought you look good..."

I could hear an enchanted voice.

Sales Clerk?: "Alright, let's go."

Firo: "Ok!"

The two girls appeared from the back of the store.

My eyes turned towards Firo.

Alright, her figure which was already angel-like is even more stunning.

Pure white wings, matching the white one piece... And a blue ribbon on her chest. What was it?

Right, she looks like an angel heroine from the 2-D world.

Firo: "Master~?"

Naofumi: "Hm?"

Firo: "Well? Does it suit me?"

Naofumi: "Yea, it suits you."

This otaku dressmaker is able to take full advantage of Firo's specs and make suitable clothing for her. Her talent is quite outstanding.

Firo: "Ehehe"



An embarrass Firo laughs while her clothes flutter.

Seriously, what a terrible expenditure.

I let Firo pull the cart while we head back to Forest village.

When Firo changes to her demon form, the clothes dispensary and the ribbon turns into a collar.

[Do you mean "disperse" when you used "dispensary"? I googled the meaning, so it doesn't seem to fit in there.]

That function is very convenient.

Magic Shop SK: "Oh, it's Hero of the Shield-sama"

Before we leave the castle town, we coincidentally meet with the aunty from the magic shop.

Magic Shop SK: "Are you heading to Forest village?"

Naofumi: "Yeah"

Magic Shop SK: "I happen to have some business there too. May I tag along?"

The aunty from the magic shop asked with a smile.

Oh well, I don't really want to decline her since she has helped us out with various things.

Naofumi: "I don't guarantee it being comfortable, is that fine?"

Magic Shop SK: "Yeah"

Raphtalia looks ahead and already starts fighting against motion sickness.

Magic Shop SK: "Well then, let's get going."

The magic shop aunty gets on the cart.

Naofumi: "Good, Firo. Don't go too fast."

Firo: "Okay~"

The pedestrians who pass by look at Firo with surprise. Talking demons are probably rare.

The cart rolls along with a pitter-patter.

I feel that in these past few days, I have been really busy.

Actually, I'm usually busy, it's just that recently have been especially busy.

The whole situation could be summed up with Firo...

Magic Shop SK: "So, how's your study of magic going?"

Naofumi: "Uh..."

The magic shop aunty attacks where it hurts.

To be frank, I made no progress at all.

Should I retort with a "you should have given me a crystal ball"? No, she helped procure the threads to make Firo's clothes at a discount, I can't complain.

Naofumi: "Because I am from another world, I can't read these letters."

Magic Shop SK: "Oh... I'm sorry."

I felt bad to seeing her apologise. I lament at my insufficient studying.

I was defeated.

I repaid a good intention with bad feelings.

Therefore, I want to repay aunty for the help.

I must learn it as fast as possible.

I don't have any support, unlike the other fucking heroes. That's why I have to do my best to learn.

Also, I need to acquire better equipments to survive the next wave.

Let's not forget about translating the medical recipes either.

Though it would take a lot of time, I decided to learn the letters first.

Firo: "Fuua... it's light"

Firo was yawning while pulling the cart steadily.

You're calling a cart with 3 people light?

That's great. I already have a certain plan. This can't be done without Firo.

The aunty from the magic shop gives me 25 coppers when we arrive at Forest Village.

Naofumi: "What's this for?"

Magic Shop SK: "Transportation fee"

Naofumi: "Oh I see."

I can use this.

Forest village is reviving nicely. A storekeeper welcomes us pleasantly.

I have already apologised for the chimera meat.

Although keeping that meat there was my idea in the first place.

Naofumi: "Now then, Raphtalia, let's go on some motion sickness training."

I promised to help with the reconstruction to compensate for the meat. Although it's only a little I still get some compensation.

Raphtalia: "Eh!?"

Raphtalia has a bitter face. Oh dear, it's not good if you can't overcome something like this.

Naofumi: "From now on, our transportation is Firo pulling the cart, so you must get used to it."

Raphtalia: "O-Okay"

Firo: "Okay~!"

Naofumi: "Firo, you're pulling."

Firo: "Yup!"

Philorials really like pulling carts. Firo's eye shines.

Raphtalia: "Uhm.....Are you thinking of something?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, I think we should start peddling."

Raphtalia: "Peddling? Why?"

Naofumi: "Although we don't have a lot of goods, I want to stock up on an assortment of medicine."

Raphtalia: "Sigh....."

Raphtalia doesn't seem to see the appeal. Oh dear, do I have too high expectations? However, to have such a precious cart, it's a waste not to make full use of it.

Naofumi: "Though when you get used to the motion sickness, Firo can pull the cart everywhere at maximum speed."

Raphtalia: "I understand the reason..."

Naofumi: "I know a place that would make it hard to get drunk. You should get accustomed there."

Raphtalia: "Is there really such a place?"

Naofumi: "Yeah"

Before starting the today, we head to the place where it is hard to get drunk. I told Raphtalia to get on Firo.

(TI note: I have no fucking idea with the drunk. 俺はラフタリアを酔いにくい場所 help.)

Firo: "I'm fine with master, but why is Onee-chan on my back?"

Firo muttered as Raphtalia gets on her back.

Raphtalia: "It's the same for me. This is embarrassing."

It's a strange sight to see Raphtalia in a semi-crouching position on top of Firo's owl shaped body.

Naofumi: "Is it hard?"

Firo: "Nope, this is easy."

Firo seems to have no problems at all.

Naofumi: "Well then, let's go."

Firo: "Ok!"

Firo pulls the cart with Raphtalia on her back.

Her weight shouldn't be too heavy.

I began decoding the book of Intermediate recipes while learning the letters.

Rumble...

Rumble.....

It is difficult to concentrate with the sound of a wheel as background music.

Raphtalia: "Uhhh..."

Rumble.....

Raphtalia: "Uh-Uhhh..."

Hm?

I looked at Firo and see her in human form piggybacking Raphtalia.

Raphtalia seems troubled and tried to get my attention while the passers-by whisper and point at us.

Naofumi: "A strange rumour is going to circulate!"

My reputation is going to drop again because there is going to be a rumour that I forced a slave girl to do manual labour by pulling a cart and carrying another person.

Naofumi?: "Well..."

Naofumi: "When you pull a cart, do not turn into a humanoid."

Firo: "Okay"

Firo nods and seemingly dissatisfied returns to her demon form.

I'm getting bored. Raphtalia doesn't seem to have motion sickness yet.

It will probably be okay if we go faster.

Naofumi: "Alright, Speed up!"

Firo: "Okay~!"

Firo nods energetically and begins running.

GaraGaraGara!

The wheels on the cart turn noisily.

Raphtalia: "Wa!"

Raphtalia was surprised and clings to Firo.

At least, we will arrive at our destination today.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 34 - Journey on Carriage

Hrmm...

"Uuu... Did we make it?"

As we've arrived at our destination, I take a look at Raphtalia who looks like she's just about to collapse and I let out a bit of a woeful groan.

It didn't look like she was having trouble earlier, but it looks like having Firo run amok may have been too much.

"We've made it to the hut?"

Looks like Firo didn't have enough as even after she stopped pulling the wagon she was letting her legs loose and frolicking about.

Raphtalia looked dreadful as she staggered on her feet.

"Well, let's load up the lumber now."

I aided the lumberjack who came out of the hut in loading the lumber onto the wagon.

I also helped out a bit in cutting down some trees. Thanks to my [shield] skill, the quality of the lumber was raised.

While I did that, I had Raphtalia continue her riding training. On a side note I got a reaction from the lumber so I let [the shield] absorb it.

The requirements for the Kino Tree shield have been unlocked.

The requirements for the Les Tree shield have been unlocked.

Kino Tree Shield

Ability remains locked... Equip bonus – Woodworking Skill I

Les Tree Shield

Ability remains locked... Equip bonus – Low Level Wood Working Recipe

It's the Wood Shield branch. These two trees seem to be the most common types used for woodworking. The Kino trees are like the Hinoki (Japanese cypress) from my world but with a bit of an aromatic fragrance. The Les trees sort of resemble the Sugi (Japanese cedar), but the grain of the cut tree seems to differ depending on the location. It's a bit of an odd tree.

Well, not like that matters too much.

A few days later.

Pound, pound, pound.

With a wooden mallet in hand, I work vigorously in modifying our wagon into a full horse-drawn carriage.

It seems my skill has improved considerably which I suspect is due to the Woodworking Skill I I unlocked the other day.

I begin to affix a frame on top of our wagon. After that I'll need to cover the top with some thick cloth.

The Ryuuto village reconstruction is proceeding swimmingly, and it looks like they'll be fine without our help now.

The villagers noticed I was working on upgrading my wagon into a carriage and even lent a hand.

"Alright, this seems to be pretty ok."

"Looks like it's done."

I, along with the few villagers that helped me out, let out a bit of a cheer upon finishing the carriage.

It's a horse-drawn carriage, but the one pulling it will be a Philo Rial... Well, whatever.

"Thanks for helping me everyone."

"It's no problem at all. Hero-sama has helped us out so much, this is the least we can do."

The villagers all helped me out with kind smiles.

[They're treating me kindly as] I've saved their lives, but I can't spoil myself by staying here. Still, I'm honestly grateful to the people here.

"I'm glad you feel that way."

"You'll be peddling goods you said?"

"I'll mostly be a guy that does odd jobs. Traveling from village to village, town to town carrying transporting goods, selling whatever commodities I come across, escorting people."

"I see..."

Yeah, the villagers don't seem to really get what I mean.

Well it's true that it's not typical hero behavior like what Motoyasu would do.

It's not like I've envisioned a clear cut path to success here, but I've got Firo now, and it only makes sense to make the most out of her.

"Hm? Woah... The wagon turned into a carriage-."

Firo, who was in her human form and playing about, had a look of surprise as she notices how large the wagon has grown.

"Is Firo going to be pulling this?"

Firo asks, her eyes positively glimmering.

"Yeah, that's right. From now on you'll be pulling this carriage as we travel all over the country."

"Really!?"

Firo cheers, brimming with happiness.

Man if it were me I'd absolutely object to doing so much manual labor...

"Are we really going to."

Raphtalia mutters dejectedly.

It seems Raphtalia doesn't sound very enthusiastic about our journey on the carriage as she has yet to completely get over her motion sickness.

"You'll get over it eventually. Just bear it until then."

"Fine."

I face Firo and go over this multiple times.

"Firo, what is your job?"

"Uhhh, Firo's job is to pull the carriage to wherever master wants to go."

"Right."

"And to kick that spear guy if I ever see him."

"Correct."

"One of those is wrong! Just what are you making her do?"

Raphtalia objects to my words in bewilderment.

"What... You're looking at me as if I said something crazy."

If you see Motoyasu, kick him. I see nothing wrong here.

Seriously, I'll get nowhere if I have to micromanage each one of them so much.

"Alright then, we're off to peddle our goods. I'll be hiding myself in the carriage. Raphtalia, whenever we hit a village or a town, try to sell what we've got.

"Okay... I will."

Outside of Ryuuto village, I still have a pretty bad reputation. So if I were to come out and try to negotiate, things might go awry and I won't be able to sell a thing.

That's why I've appointed Raphtalia with the task of selling and haggling our wares.

She has a fairly attractive appearance and is not particularly shy either. She might be pretty well suited to jobs handling clients.

“Well, let’s head out.”

Our preparations complete, we load up the carriage with our baggage and have Firo draw us.

“Ah, Hero-sama”

“Hm? What is it?”

Within the mass of villagers seeing us off, a man stepped forward in front me and was dressed several notches above everyone else.

“I am the lord who is in charge of the area in which Ryuuto village resides. Shield Hero-sama, I thank you for everything you have done.”

“Don’t worry about it. This was just a nice place for me to set up a base.

“…Please, take this.”

The lord says that as he hands me a sheet of parchment.

“This is?”

“As you’ll be selling goods, I’m sure this will be useful. It’s a Commerce Amnesty.”

“A Commerce Amnesty?”

“Yes. In this country, if you sell goods, at each and every village or town you visit you must pay a fixed amount to that region’s lord.”

… Is that so. Well, if I just flaunt my authority as a hero then… Nah, since I have such a shitty reputation, that’ll probably just backfire.

“But that’s when you can present this Commerce Amnesty with my stamp on it. If you have this then you’ll be exempt from paying the region’s lord. I hope you will find this useful.”

“Uhhh… Is it really ok?”

“Yes. I won’t be able to face my people if I don’t present to Hero-sama proper remuneration for the services he has done.”

Now that I think about it, this is the agricultural sector of the Merlot Mark region. It’s a place that gets quite a bit of traffic, so the lord of the region must have the same degree of influence and dignity to match its affluence. It must’ve been brought to his attention by the villagers that I minimized the possible damage that could’ve occurred to Ryuuto village during the wave. With my bad reputation spread about, the king would scorn [any nobles] that would assist me. So for his villagers he’ll force himself to bear such humiliation… But instead what faced me was a cheerful smile.

“… I give this to you out of concern that your poor reputation may detriment your future business.”

He’s giving it to me with purely good intentions. Then I can respond with honest gratitude.

“Thank you. I’ll make use of it.”

“May you have a safe journey.”

“…Yeah, I’ll be off.”

“If there’s anything we can do you aid you Hero-sama, please allow us to help.”

“If you guys can just live long and prosper, that’ll be plenty.”

“Of course!”

And with that our journey as a jack-of-all-trades doing odd jobs began.

At first we began with selling medicine.

We didn’t have much, but we were able to sell it below the market price. Our main items were remedies and nutritional supplements. These specifically I was able to make in higher level quality and we were able to sell it for a fairly high price.

And whenever we stopped by a village I would buy the medicinal herbs that I knew about and synthesize them into medicine on the road.

Firo was quite fast, so most of the time we made it to the next village within a day, but on some occasions we have to camp out.

When that happens we stop the carriage, set up a campfire and have dinner.

“Master! The space next to Firo is open! Let’s sleep together!”

Pat, pat, in her Demon Form Firo signals to me to sit beside her.

“It’s way too stuffy being next to you…”

It seems Firo really wants to sleep next to me. At an inn, I’ve ordered Firo to never change to her Demon form, so when we camp outside like this she indulges herself a bit more.

Well, if we're camping outside there's no one around so there won't be any trouble. I guess it's fine to let her off the hook a bit every now and then...

"Firo, you really do like Naofumi-sama don't you."

"Yup! I won't lose to you Raphtalia onee-chan."

"How did you end up with that!"

Whenever Raphtalia and Firo argue, it's in some fine line where I can't tell whether they're on good terms or bad terms.

Firo is still a kid, so she can throw a tantrum at just about anything.

Oh wait, Raphtalia is also actually a kid herself isn't she. So mentally they're about the same age.

"Yes, yes. Hurry up and sleep you two. I'll wake you up when it's time to switch- ."

"Ahh- you're treating Firo like a kid again-!"

"That's right! Please stop treating me like a child!"

"Oh that's right-! Raphtalia and Firo are both grown ups aren't they-!"

"You don't think so at all!"

"Yeah! Master you're so meeean!"

And with silly conversations like that, our days of peddling continue.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 35 - Rumours of Our Hero

Naofumi: "Hm?"

About an hour before arriving at the next village, I heard a strange sound while working in the carriage.

There are wheezing sounds coming from a carriage next to ours. When I look outside, I saw a man with an impatient expression on his face, holding onto a bag.

Naofumi: "What's the rush?"

The key to being proficient in business is the ability to act curious.

Naofumi: "Hey, you over there, what's wrong?"

Villager: "I need to return to the village on the other side of the mountain quickly."

Naofumi: "Why are you in such a rush to return to the village over there?"

The man wanted to buy medicine for his parents but Firo ran past him.

Villager: "Yes, every second counts."

I understand the circumstances of this man who caught up to my carriage. Hmm...The cost of getting to the other side of the mountain should be around 50 coppers.

Naofumi: "Firo, how fast can you get there if you go at top speed?"

Firo: "Uhhh, let's see... If I were to run without pulling the carriage we would arrive quickly."

Naofumi: "Understood."

I glanced at Raphtalia who read my mind and nodded.

Naofumi: "I'll take you there for 1 silver is that fine?"

Villager: "Eh!?"

The man has a shocked expression.

Villager: "I just bought medicine, I don't have any more money..."

Naofumi: "One silver is already cheap you know? You can repay me with medical herbs when we get there. That's my final offer."

Villager: "In that case....."

Naofumi: "Alright it's done. Firo!"

Firo: "Okay~!"

Firo leaves the carriage on the side of the road and turns around.

I pick up the man and put him in the wagon on Firo's back.

Villager: "Uwah!"

Firo carries the wagon with both hands and dashed at full speed.

Raphtalia is waving away from the carriage.

Firo: "I'm leaving!"

Villager?: "Oh!"

Dotadotadota!

When Firo runs seriously, she is two times faster than an average Philorial.
We arrived at the man's house in the village across a mountain in no time.

Villager: "What frightening speed....."

Naofumi: "Don't you need to give your parent the medicine? Don't drop it."

Villager: "Oh, right!"

The man enters the house. I enter after him as I have yet to receive my compensation.

It is a very normal house in a farming village.

I heard coughing sounds as I stepped inside.

Villager: "Mom, I brought medicine. Endure it and drink."

As I walked towards the voice, I saw a pale old woman who looks as if she is about to die at any time.

What medicine is that, the effects seem greater than any I know.

Hm...

Naofumi: "Hey. Before you let her drink it, boil it in hot water first."

Villager: "Is that ok?"

Naofumi: "Pass me the medicine"

I received the medicine from the man and fed it to the old woman while rubbing her back.

The skill Medical effect Up seems to be working.

Old woman: "Cough..... Cough....."

The old woman somehow managed to finish the medicine.

In my eyes, I can see some light scattering.

Apparently it was pretty effective.

The old woman's condition seems to have improved by leaps and bounds.

Some redness returned to her complexion and her coughing has decreased.

Naofumi: "You should rest for a while. Your son will bring you food immediately."

The old woman looks up at me while trembling.

Naofumi: "Now then."

I leave for the kitchen where the man is.

Villager : "Oh, did she drink it properly?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, her condition seems to have stabilised as well."

The man's shoulders sag in relief at my answer.

Naofumi: "You can pay me later."

Villager: "Okay"

I leave the house and head to where Firo is waiting.

Before we leave the village, the man's expression becomes tense.

Villager: "Um..."

Naofumi: "What's up?"

I answered the man while packing up peddling goods.

Villager: "Because of you, mother's complexion has improved remarkably."

Naofumi: "It's not necessary for you to thank me."

I have a bad reputation, so if people hear this, they will be doubtful.

Villager: "At least tell me your name."

Naofumi: "I have no reason to tell you. The medicine did all the work. Now, bring a silver piece or some suitable herbs."

Villager: "O-okay!"

The man brought some items and some food from his house and gave it to me.

Naofumi: "Thanks, best regards and see you later."

Villager: "Thank you very much!"

The man seems to be a lot more cheerful.

As a side note, on my next visit, the old woman seems to have become very energetic... Maybe a little bit too energetic for an old woman.

I got back on the wagon as we return and begin compounding medicine while translating the intermediate recipe book.

The intermediate recipe book seems to be easier to translate than the magic book.

I was exhausted after being able to barely translate a treatment potion. I've gotten pretty far.

Various things have happened in this past month, I wonder if I can meet my brother some time...

(tl note: He has a brother? or is it just my shit translations? "ここ一ヶ月色々あって忘れていたが、もしも生きて弟に会えたら何か言ってやるのも良いかもしれない")

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama, I've finished selling items."

We arrived at the village sometime in between evening and afternoon.

Naofumi: "Can you take this baggage and letter to the next village?"

Raphtalia: "Sure"

I get off the carriage and load the baggage.

This luggage must not be worth much to trust an unknown peddler with it. Since it might be stolen, it should be full of cheap things.

Well, it's not my problem since I can earn some pocket change.

I continue from village to village, town to town in this manner.

If I feed someone medicine directly, it seems the effects do improve.

After two weeks, I've become famous for being a peddler with a rare demon.

As my credibility increases, customers who want a ride also increase.

I've been saving up money slowly.

There's some merit in being a travelling peddler.

First is being able to sell medicine smoothly.

Then, any demons that were defeated on the way were absorbed, increasing my stats.

On this trip, I found out that every region has different demons.

As a result of peddling, my shield seems to be getting stronger.

I also overheard various information.

I didn't know what the other heroes, Motoyasu, Ren, and Itsuki were doing before.

Motoyasu seems to be in south-western region, I heard he solved a famine for a village by providing some legendary crop.

That knowledge seems to have come from a game.

Ren is in the south-east region where atrocious devils are residing. It seems there's a rumour about him dealing with a violent dragon.

And Itsuki... Well, he seems to have brought down a tyrant in a small country to the north.

But there's no evidence of who Itsuki took down. There are also vague rumours that claim Itsuki of the Bow is the strongest hero.

Before I came to this strange world, I read about the 4 holy weapons and the events that are happening resembled what I read...

The journey continues with these thoughts.

Our levels after two weeks.

Me Lv 34

Raphtalia Lv 37

Firo Lv 32

We have grown.

Firo's growth is abnormal because she is a demon...

Especially her physical abilities, before she needed both hands (Wings?) to pull the carriage, now she can do it with 1 while yawning.

(TI note: 両手 (翼?) <= that's in the actual chapter.)

The person in question says.

Firo: "This carriage is too light, my motivation is dropping."

Oh well. That's a good thing

It seems the Status Up bonuses from my shield is effective.

Though there are other changes.

Pickaxe Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Mining Skill 1

Crystal Ore Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Craft Skill 1

I wonder. When we arrived at a prosperous mining town, I found a broken pickaxe on the road and absorbed some crystal ore which was thrown away.

Although these two skill bonuses seem good for making money, I lack information.

If I fail in processing some ore, it would become trash, I think a recipe would be necessary.

In the first place, I had to solve the intermediate recipe book I got.

The deciphering was completed in 2 weeks. There were 3 weeks before that when I couldn't understand anything and had a staring contest with the book.

Antidote

Herbicide

Healing Ointment

Treatment Medicine (Already able to make)

Nutritional Supplement (Already able to make)

Gunpowder

Strong acid

Magic Power water

Soul Healing Medicine

Insecticide

That is what I have deciphered so far. The basic of the intermediate class is that the effects change depending on how it's mixed.

Although I can't be certain, understanding the recipe seems to provide a bonus.

I let my shield absorb some of the intermediate recipe book.

And the results were.

Book Shield

Unsealing completed.....Equipment Bonus: Magical Power Up (Small)

Yup. I had high hopes that an intermediate recipe shield would appear. It seems to be a waste.

Besides, the defence is very low.

However, during the next morning, when I finished deciphering the Intermediate Recipe book.

Demon treants appeared, which were quickly dealt with and then absorbed.

Requirement for Trent Shield has been released.

Requirement for Blue Trent Shield has been released.

Requirement for Black Trent Shield has been released.

Treant Shield

Unsealing completed.....Equipment Bonus: Plate Appraisal 2

Blue Treant Shield

Unsealing completed.....Equipment Bonus: Intermediate Compound Recipe

1

Black Treant Shield

Unsealing completed.....Equipment Bonus: Half Compounding

Is this some kind of bullying?

Right after I finished deciphering that book too!

All I learned was the Heal Ointment? Perhaps, those monsters are materials for a recipe.

I cried when recipe 2 and 3 pops up.

I don't know how to make gunpowder, but it seems these treants are materials for herbicide and the healing ointment.

It seems that gunpowder can be substituted with some kind flammable grass called Crackling grass.

I experiment with the gunpowder by collecting it into bags and creating make-shift bombs.

After setting the bags on fire, I hurl them at an enemy.

After throwing it, I dive to the side. Oh my, it seems the power of the bombs was terrible, it just burnt the bag and turned to ash.

It seems I'm not even allowed to attack with tools such as bombs. That's actually kind of amazing.

The strong acid that I store in a glass bottle seems to be a little less acidic than sulphuric acid.

This is not a medical herb, but it seems I can mix it with water. I don't know what I can do with this yet so I'll just let my shield absorb it.

The Magic Power water restores magical power when drunk. But, the materials are rare and hard to get.

It is an expensive medical herb. If I create this, I should sell it.

The Soul Healing Medicine seems to restore SP. It also seems to be rare and difficult to prepare.

Insecticide was easy. I just dissolve and mix grass that repels insects until it hardens.

Of the new recipes I learnt, the antidote, heal ointment and insecticide seems to be popular.

However, the herbicide seems to only sell in small quantities since people don't need that much.

I let my shield absorb the extras.

Requirement for Anti Poison Shield has been released.

Requirement for Glyphosate Shield has been released. (TI note: <http://i.imgur.com/t82ZsY2.jpg> LOL)

Requirement for Medicine Shield has been released.

Requirement for Plant Fire Shield has been released.

Requirement for Killer Insect Shield α has been released.

Anti Poison Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Defence Power 5

Glyphosate Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: 5% Damage Reduction from Plants

Medicine Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Medicine Effect Range Expansion (small)

Plant Fire Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Fire Resistance (Small)

Killer Insect Shield α

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: 3% Damage Reduction from Insects

Perhaps I originally would have received the anti-poison shield, for Poison Resistance (Intermediate) but that probably changed because I acquired the Chimeric Viper Shield first.

The skills that I have acquired change due to the fact that I already have it, so instead of replacing the current skill, it gets replaced by something new. I am also confused as to what the range expansion from the Medicine shield does.

Does it make it so that medicine is effective at a range or will be it effective to its surroundings?

I think the latter makes it way too convenient.

I wonder if the Plant Fire Shield is also effective against magic.

What Is Glyphosate? It's the chemical name for an herbicide. As for the Killer Insect Shield α ... Maybe it will turn into Killer Insect Shield β if I increase the amount of herbs mixed.

The effect of reducing damage from specific enemies seems to be convenient.

The problem is deciphering the magic book.

It seems to be considerably difficult.

Raphtalia seems to have gotten the hang of it, but she can't use any magic effectively yet.

A ball of light floats in front of Raphtalia for a few seconds.

You're making this prestigious hero look bad.

Therefore, after Raphtalia goes to sleep, I asked Firo to use transformation magic.

Though it's difficult to call that magic, I am grasping at straws.

Firo: "Uhhh. Imagine what you want to become and feel the power gushing from the bottom of your body."

Yup. I completely don't understand.

I'm done thinking.

It seems that even after deciphering characters to read, I can't use magic.

I can't get the feeling of magic flowing since I am originally from a world without magic.

Still... I must learn magic.

I must live up to the expectations of that magic shop aunty.

Not participating in a wave would be a problem. Since no one else is protecting the villages and towns, it has become my job.

Sooner or later, being able to use magic might make a difference.

Though there is also the option of buying a crystal ball, a book is much cheaper.

Therefore, recently while riding the carriage, I've been groaning with a magic book in one hand.

It seems Raphtalia's explanation on magical power is the same as Firo's, it's a feeling in your body that comes from the soul.

The feeling of sensing magical power that even Firo has, what kind of sense is that?

I continuously ponder that question in my head.

Oh well, such are the results of two weeks.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 36 - To Take Everything but Your Life

“Ohh… I am so fortunate as to be able to ride on the carriage of the Holy Bird.”

“The Holy Bird?”

That day we met a merchant who was looking to head over to next town so we gave him a lift.

“Did you not know? Uhm, you are the owner of this carriage correct?”

The merchant who was chatting with Raphtalia points to me rather than her. He pointed me out even though I try to make it seem like Raphtalia was the owner while I pretended to simply be the guy who synthesizes our goods.

“I am…”

“You guys are getting quite famous. Word has it that there is a carriage drawn by a Holy Bird whose proprietors wander about bringing miracles as they sell their goods.”

As the carriage rattles about as I take a look from within the carriage at Firo. People seem to think pretty highly of you. When in truth you’re just a glutton who wants to be spoiled.

But just what are these miracles that he’s talking about?

Hm?

“KWEEEEEEH!”

Firo suddenly lets out a strange call and runs rampant.

“Uwah!”

The three of us who were in the carriage (Me, Raphtalia, and the merchant) grasp at the carriage’s handrails to keep from falling.

“----GYAAAAA…”

“-----YASU-SAMAAAA…”

Gararara!

The wheels let out a loud rattle so I couldn’t hear what was going on outside.

Every now and then Firo flips out and causes a ruckus like this.

This is the fourth time since we’ve started peddling. Such a capricious creature.

“Watch it, it’s not just us two in here you know.”

“Oka-y, I mean… Kweh!”

I whisper at her so that the merchant doesn’t hear.

It seems that a talking monster sticks out quite a bit, and I’d prefer not to invite any needless attention

… Though I have a feeling I might already be getting that attention.

The merchant giving me a look in complete surprise.

“I’ve heard that it can understand our language, but it’s really amazing.”

“Yeah, I think so too.”

Now that I think about it, just understanding human language is pretty amazing, but being able to speak our tongue too? Such a high spec monster. I'll consider it as the expansive possibilities that the monster race can have. But even in that sense she might be something unbelievably rare.

“We just peddle plain old medicine and pick up any jobs that would benefit from our carriage.”

I respond going back to our original topic.

“It's said that a saint riding the carriage bears special medicine, and the sick and ailing who drink this special medicine from his hand will be saved.”

“Is that so…”

It's a bit expensive, but it's medicine that most anyone can afford.

On a side note, it seems I can change which kind of herbs to use to make medicine that would best target specific symptoms.

The first medicine I made was an all-purpose one so its Quality was quite low. It might've been pretty good at stopping a cough.

But now that I've gotten my hands on a wide range of herbs, I can cater the medicine towards a specific purpose.

Fevers, pulmonary problems, digestive problems, skin problems, the efficacy of the medicine towards each of these issues depends on the type of herbs I use. I've just got all kinds of these targeted medicines on hand.

This type of stuff was gone in pretty fine detail in the intermediate recipe book. Though I still use the shield skill [menus] to help me out when I mixing herbs.

“Plain old medicine you say?”

I pull out a bottle from our goods box and let him have a look at it.

“Is this the miracle drug?”

The merchant pulls out the top and takes a whiff.

“Well it certainly… Does smell like the medicine I’ve taken sometime ago.”

“… Do you know what it is?”

Is this guy also an apothecary?

As such questions go through my mind, he shakes his head.

“Nope, that’s just the feeling I get.”

So you have no idea!

-I considered interjecting, but just let it slide.

“So, what kind of merchant are you?”

“I’m a jeweler.”

When he means jewels he probably means that. It’s probably in this world too.

He's probably off to sell accessories and the like to some bigshot nobles.

"A jeweler huh... You've got money selling valuables to the nobles and yet you're dealing alone?"

If there's that much money riding on this merchant then it would make sense to bring with a comparable envoy to guard him. And yet he's alone, which makes me quite suspicious.

"Your words hit a sore spot."

Hahaha, the merchant responds with a short laugh.

"Jewelers come in all kinds. If I had to be more specific then I'd say I'm an accessory merchant."

"What's the difference?"

"Well then would you like to take a look at my wares?"

As he says that the accessory merchant pulls out his baggage.

When I take a look inside I see things like broaches and necklaces. Seem to be a few bracelets in there as well.

But the ores used seem to most all be iron or copper. As for the affixed gemstone... How can I say this, actually calling it a gemstone would be somewhat of a gray area.

"This time around I mostly just have cheap goods."

"I see... Did your business not do too well?"

"Nope, this time I'm just selling low-profit accessories to adventurers."

“Is that right…”

According to the accessory merchant, accessories can be Enchanted which could boost the wearer’s abilities.

“By the way, how much would each of these go for?”

“How much you say… This iron bracelet that increases the users Attack Power would go for about 30 Silver.”

Ooh… That’s quite pricy. Even my remedies don’t sell that high.

“If it was Enchanted it would go for 100 Silver.”

“Is that so.”

“It would.”

Hmm… I should definitely give this some thought.

My medicine business has more or less plateaued at the moment. I typically get pretty close to selling out, but since I have to buy herbs as materials, there isn’t much profit.

I wouldn’t be able to keep up with sales if I had to go out and gather the herbs.

They might have been fine for use back then, but the medicine made from gathered herbs are of too low efficacy to be sold.

“You would make these with Crafting correct?”

“Hmm… Indeed, making the accessories into this form would be crafting, but then I’ll be Enchanting them. Till that point it would be Crafting I’d say.”

... I see. So you could craft an accessory, but it wouldn't be effective until you Enchanted it.

Enchanting... this seems to be kicker.

It has an unpleasant ring to it. Why would it be, I've seen the term a few times when I was making medicine.

It came up quite a few times in the Magic Water and Spirit Water mixing instructions.

This is something you can't make unless you're able to use magic.

"This has been quite educational. Thank you."

"No problem at all, the pleasure is mine."

"Master-, looks like something is coming."

Firo warns me in a slightly wary voice as she brings us to a stop.

From the suddenly stopping carriage, Raphtalia and I take a look at our surroundings.

And from within the forest came several figures.

All of them bore arms and approached us with a look that was anything but good.

They looked rather ragged, but they had pieces of armor here and there which resembled barbarians. It's most certain that they're mountain bandits or something of the like.

"Bandits!"

The accessory merchant called out in distress.

"Hehehe... You lot, bring out your valuables and leave 'em here."

I was almost astonished at such a cliché line.

It's that sort of thing isn't it. Is there really any point in charging into these situations?

Ah, I'm sure Firo already realized it but charged straight in anyway.

It's written all over her face, 'I can beat these guys, they sure are making light of me.'

"We know you've got a Jeweler holed up in there!"

The bandits shout at us.

I look over at the accessory merchant.

"I thought you said you didn't have anything that was of really high value?"

"Yes... I don't have anything of the like this time..."

Very nervously, the accessory merchant puts his hand to his shirt pocket as if he's covering something important.

"I do have an accessory that would sell for quite a bit."

"I see... So that's what they're after huh."

Looks like I've let on a pretty risky passenger.

"I thought they wouldn't target a merchant that's carrying mostly nothing but cheap goods and going for personal matters rather than official ones, so I skimped on security."

"Are you stupid? Geez..."

All I can do is sigh.

"I'll be charging you an annoyance fee for this"

"... I understand."

The accessory merchant nodded with a solemn look.

"Raphtalia. Firo. They're enemies."

"Right!"

"Yup!"

On my signal, Raphtalia jumps out of the cart and arms herself.

I pull the accessory merchant with me as I follow suit.

"Do not leave my side."

"G, Got it!"

I change from a shield that I'm working on releasing the abilities from to a shield meant for battle.

"Y, You're the shield...?"

"Yeah..."

The owner of the carriage of the Holy Bird was actually the notorious Shield Hero. At that fact, the accessory merchant was dumbfounded.

"What's that? You guys wanna have at it?"

“Yeah. One must protect themselves from whatever danger comes after all.”

I answer, glaring at the bandit.

The goal of this fight is to prevent the enemy from reaching their objective. In other words, it's to prevent them from stealing what the accessory merchant is holding.

“Raphtalia. Firo. Are you ready?”

“Yes, I'm ready when you are.”

“I was just about to die of boredom.”

“I see, then... GO!”

At my call the bandits also brandished their arms and charged forward. From what I can see there are about 15 enemies give and take. There are about that number of targets.

“Air Shield!”

I distract the enemies running towards me with the shield that suddenly appears out of thin air, then quickly activate my next skill.

“Change Shield!”

Change Shield is a skill that allows me to change the shields that appear from Air Shield or Shield Prison into another Shield that I know.

The shield that I change it to is Bee Needle Shield.

Bee Needle Shield's Special Effect is Shield of Thorns (S) and Bee's Poison (Paralysis)

"Wha, The shield suddenly...! Gaah---!"

One of the people charging after me runs head first into the shield that suddenly appeared. He then tumbles to the floor gets paralyzed and starts convulsing. Nice, it looks like the Special Effect is actually kicking in.

"Shield Prison!"

"The hell is---"

The cage that comes from the shield then traps one of the other bandits. Each of the shields have different time limits. Change Shield's cooldown time is 30 seconds. It's not something I can really use repeatedly.

But it lets me bring down their numbers so it's quite effective.

Three bandits appear in front of me. They must think I'm stupid as even though I'm an escort I've got nothing on but a shield.

I stand in front of the merchant and block the attack.

Sparks fly from the point it hits the shield, and I deflect the robbers attack, a metallic clang reverberates. It seems his Attack Power is below my Defense Power.

The shield I'm currently equipping is the Chimera Viper Shield.

Its Special Effects are Poisonous Snake's Fang (M) and Hook.

The snake sculpture on the shield begins moving and bites the bandits who come to attack me.

The Poisonous Snake's Fang retaliates with a poisonous counterattack to whoever tries to strike me.

“Guaaaahhh!”

“I, I won’t go down with just… Ugh!”

“I, I feel sick…”

Poisonous Snake’s Fang poisons all who attack me. It’s not too effective on things that have resistance. It seems to be working. I’ve never tried it on people before but it looks to considerably effective. Also, it’s not really a detriment, but the poison is actually lethal.

I order the shield to use Hook. The snake ornament on the shield comes out and grabs one of the bandits. The Hook’s effect has no Attack Power, but just pulls anything from within 2 meters. It’s pretty useful when trying to climb a cliff.

The bandit’s movements begin to dull and a few of them start to fall over.

“T, This guy is the Shield Hero!”

The bandits start to get a bit spooked.

It seems they’ve just realized that they bumped into one of the countries famous heroes.

But it’s too late for them at this point. With that fear the bandits quickly affirmed their own disadvantageous position.

“Tei!”

“E-i!”

Raphtalia, with sword in hand, takes a swing at the bandit when she spots an opening. His armor protected him from the cut, but with the sheer force

from Raphtalia's swing the bandit was flew to the floor, hits his head and collapses.

Firo moves at a breakneck speed kicking one, and another, with her powerful legs that sends the bandits flying. Each time, the bandit flies about 5 meters like Motoyasu did... No wait. He just flew 20 meters. I'm pretty sure you would die from that?

In no time at all, the bandits' numbers dwindled, and those that can remain standing numbered 6.

"Shit! Retreat!"

"You think I'd let you?!"

I capture the guy who looks to be the leader of the bandits with Shield prison. The remaining bandits who try to run are captured by Raphtalia who is riding on Firo.

I'm glad they were weaker than I thought they'd be. Though Raphtalia and Firo sure did quite the work.

"Now then."

I pass my judgment on the tied up bandits.

"Maybe I can turn you guys in for some kind of bounty?"

"At times like these I'm not sure there's money to give for that..."

Raphtalia responds with a troubled face.

"Do you know?"

I ask the accessory merchant, but as expected he shakes his head.

“Even so I believe you should turn them in anyway.”

“Hmm… Is that so…”

The leader of the bandit troupe is looking at me with a flippant smile.

I can easily imagine what he’s thinking.

“ ‘We were attacked by the Shield Hero. We’re just normal adventurers!’ is what you’re thinking?”

The leader gives an unpleasant scowl.

That’s right! The officials will probably take our word over yours, you no-good Shield Hero!

“Well, I can’t root out that possibility.”

Just why is my reputation so bad… I think about it now, and I just can’t really accept it.

Thanks to that fucking princess and king, even if I do good deeds, no one would believe I did it.

Sigh…

“It can’t be helped. I’ll just kill you all.”

As they didn’t think I’d fathom that choice, the bandits all instantly turned pale.

Within the bunch one of them was frantically trying to undo the ropes, but Firo quickly came in and kicked him and he fainted in agony.

"I guess I can have my dangerous monster here learn how human flesh tastes like..."

I say that to the bandit troupe in a low voice with a hint of duress.

"Food?"

Firo says that as she stares at the bandit troupe, drooling.

"H,Hiii---?!"

"I wonder what I'll do."

"Y-You're the Carriage of the Holy Bird aren't you!? You're supposed to being miracles and yet you're about to commit murder!"

"It's not like that's a title I made up. One must protect themselves from whatever danger comes right. I've been taking it up the ass from everyone else up until now. But now it's your guys' turn, so just give it up."

"A-At least spare our lives!"

"Then give me all your valuables and equipment, and tell me where your hideout is. You're fine to lie all you want. But you know, I hate being lied to to death. If you tell me one lie, I'll have my Holy Bird here rip out each one of your four limbs one by one and eat them."

I say that casually as the bandits tremble in absolute fear.

Since I'm the notorious Shield Hero, it's very much effective.

"I, I got it! Our base is---"

I confirm the location on our map.

It's close.

"Alright, looks like negotiations succeeded."

As I bring my hand down, Firo lets out a kick with such force it knocks out all of the bandits.

"In any case, let's strip off any valuables they may have. Oh? This guy has some pretty good gear. Raphtalia this will be yours."

"Stripping the bandits of their goods... What we're doing is exactly the same as them."

So Raphtalia says as she follows my orders and quickly strips the equipment off of the bandit.

"Now give the guys that are poisoned some antidote and load them onto the carriage. Quickly now, we'll be bringing these guys to the hideout as well."

"Oka-y!"

After confirming that the bandit's base is really there, I proceed to strip the guards who were on lookout of their valuables in the same manner.

We then crammed the considerably abundant stockpile of treasure onto the carriage, and got all the bandits and tied them up in their base.

The various treasures were quite bountiful.

Things like plain money, food, liquor, weapons and armor, precious metals, healing pills and other cheap medicine.

It's far more bounty than I imagined and an unexpected bonus income.

These guys might be the bandits that are raiding people all over the region.

"Such... Boldness."

The accessory merchant, who has been following my actions in a confounded manner, looks deeply at me.

"So, how much of an annoyance fee do I charge you?"

The accessory merchant comes to his senses at my question.

"Maybe a few Silver Coins..."

I proceed to threaten him.

Thanks to you, this whole predicament happened. I didn't put in all this effort just for that much.

[After negotiations] we agreed to one accessory as proper recompense.

"... That mindset to not just take the bandit attack without something back... I'm deeply moved."

Something seems to have sparked inside of him. The accessory merchant has been looking at me with a fire in his eyes. Yeah he's probably telling the truth.

“Okay then. I will tell you my secrets in Crafting and Enchanting as well as the trading routes.”

“... Isn't that a bit much?”

That is way too much compensation, to the point it's making me a suspicious.

There's a good chance that he's trying to trick me somehow since I took an accessory off of him.

“Not at all. Greedy merchants such as yourself who wouldn't take a single hit without some sort of recompense are becoming a rarity.”

“I'm sure there are countless people who are greedy out there.”

“That's not what I meant. It's how you squeeze every last drop of profit out of someone. Not just using them then disposing of them, but to keep them going in order to wring out everything they have is what I'm saying is necessary.”

“Using then disposing huh...”

I look over to the bandits whom I've wrung out everything from.

They seemed to be pretty well off judging by how good their clothing were, so I just snatched all the equipment they had.

They're just getting their just desserts. Having all of their goods taken away from them feels like a fair curtain call.

“By doing that?”

“These guys tried to take our money and our lives. However, you negotiated and compromised to let them live so long as they gave you all of their possessions. They were after your life, so it would've only been

natural for you to kill them. From your standing, [who had their lives in your hands], this is the best possible outcome for them.”

Well I do have a terrible reputation, so even if I tried to turn them in, there’s a good chance the officials would believe their testimony over mine. Though there was also the chance they would believe me.

“They bought from you their lives by giving all of their possessions.”

“I guess you can look at it that way…”

“And then, when you could have had your just revenge, you used that as leverage to increase your own profits and wrung every last drop out of them!”

The accessory merchant let out a heinous smile.

What’s with this guy?! I can see that he’s absolutely atrocious!

“W, Well, let’s I’ll let you off at the next town.”

“No way, I have so much I must teach you. I won’t get off until I’m done.”

Just what is this accessory merchant aiming to teach me!

I’m a bit worried about how fired up this guy is getting…

But with that we carry on with the goods we snatched away from the bandits and this merchant who seems to have warmed up to us.

This bit might not be of any worth, but the one who sold out the accessory merchant to the bandits was apparently a merchant union member. It seems that after that act he was excommunicated from the union.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 37 - Magical Study

For some reason, the accessory merchant joined our peddling. I'm not complaining since there is payment, but I don't know what this fellow is up to.

The accessory merchant started teaching me various things after he found out about my Hero status during the bandit fiasco, which he seemed to have enjoyed.

Apparently accessory merchant wants to refine my talents...

While the accessory merchant on the surface is someone who is gentle and teaches apprentices kindly. He actually holds considerable influence within the merchant guild. Apparently, the thieves around this area are notorious. It seems that they were tipped off by associates within the merchant guild.

The first thing he taught me was where to mine for the gemstones needed to create jewellery. Next is processing precious metals into accessories. I am currently capable of making various designs. Because I am somewhat of a picture otaku, my creations were quite nice.

The tools needed to work are also cheap. In this world, there are magic tools that were powered by magic stones, similar to how fuel works. There are several points that seem similar to the burning and grinding process of metalworking in my world.

(TI note: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metalworking>)

To process any hard iron, I would need to go to the ironworks and work with a metal mould. Having crafting skills really help out with preventing any mistakes that might have been made. Although the Shield is reacting, I can't just let it absorb my work because it's expensive.

Back to the main issue, I wanted to start working on enchantment magic.

As expected, I need to be able to use magic. I groaned while holding the magic book in one hand and the accessory merchant is curious.

Accessory Merchant: "Is Hero-sama unable to use magic?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, even though my slave can already use magic"

Accessory Merchant: "Ah I see... "

The accessory merchant took out some small transparent fragment and handed it to me.

Naofumi: "What is that?"

Accessory Merchant: "It's a piece of an extremely rare ore. It's quite expensive."

Naofumi: "Wow..."

Accessory Merchant: "Can you read the letters?"

Naofumi: "Yeah... Only the simple ones though."

I've been seriously tackling the letters of this world for about a month. I can't read any of the more difficult words, but I can understand the simple ones.

Accessory Merchant: "It's enough for you to be able to feel magic first, learning how to use magic will come after."

Hmm... What you said just now is quite difficult.

I play with the fragment while thinking.

The fragment begins to shine.

What can I say... This feels like I just found another hand within myself that I had no idea about.

Until now, I had no idea of the existence of such an "organ", but it doesn't feel out of place. Seems quite similar to how even when a bird doesn't know how to fly, it still know how to flap its wings

Naofumi: "What a strange feeling."

Accessory Merchant: "I grew up knowing the magical power was there. However, you had no idea of its existence until recently, but you seemed to have succeeded"

Naofumi: "Is that so...?"

I am now conscious of another "arm" called magic power.

I open to the part of the magic book which I have already deciphered. The letter begins to shine. This is a magic engraved by me and only usable by me.

Naofumi: "I am the Hero of the shield who command the origin of power. I have read and deciphered a law of nature. May the power of nature defend me!"

Naofumi: "Fast Guard!"

A target mark appears in my view. I selected myself as a test.

A light shines over me. Then I check my status and it seems to have risen.

Naofumi: "Oh..."

Naofumi: "I seemed to have learnt it somehow. Well then, teach me some magic."

The accessory merchant disregarded my excitement and begins another lecture.

Though, it wasn't that draining to use such a spell. Then I recall the enchantment magic taught by the accessory merchant.

I try and apply magical power to a processed jewel.

I had trouble at first but my shield corrected some of my mistakes.

It gets difficult when I try mixing power from a different gem. Also I seem to be able to draw out magical power from medicine and apply it.

Accessory Merchant: "Well, that's the basics. Please keep improving and apply it to your business afterwards."

The accessory merchant gets of the carriage and heads off.

Thus, I learn how to craft something besides medicine.

Because it is necessary to use ores, when we arrived at a mining town, I started mining immediately.

Owner: "Eh? Is that an introduction letter?"

The coal mine owner asked in surprise when I showed him the accessory merchant's letter of introduction.

Owner: "This is certainly a letter from him. How did you manage to get something from someone so stingy?"

Naofumi: "What do you mean?"

Apparently the accessory merchant is a very stingy person.

The owner of the coal mines was suspicious when I appeared with a letter of introduction from that scrooge, but was shocked when it was the real thing.

Owner: "Since the letter is real, how much do you want to buy? Since you have the letter, I'll be flexible."

Naofumi: "Uhm, may I mine it myself? It would be cheaper."

Owner: "Eh? Well... That's fine, take whatever you mine..."

I left the business to Raphtalia and Firo as I head to a cave with my pickaxe. I'm interested in the mining skill.

The sound of pickaxe striking stone echoes through the cave. To be honest, it's quite noisy and the air is hot and stuffy.

As expected of a different world, a crystal is exposed on the wall and shines.

Owner: "This cave is safe unless there are extreme circumstances, so there are no problems wherever you may want to dig. However, the risk of collapse is not zero."

I was guided to several places within the mine by the coal mine owner.

As I raise the pickaxe slowly, a cross-hair emerges on the wall.

What? Do I strike there?

Naofumi: "Tei!"

I swing the pickaxe down with momentum.

With a clang a crack emerges from the wall. The crack spreads and the wall falls apart.

Owner: "Whoa!"

That was a very fragile wall.

Naofumi: "Hm?"

The coal mine owner looked at me as if I'm crazy.

Owner: "That hard bedrock... In one strike?"

That was hard...?

Due to the mining skill, walls collapse whenever I swing and ores were collected at a terrifying pace.

But there are still walls that I can't collapse no matter what...

Maybe it's because of my low skill level.

Naofumi: "Well I'll just work with this."

Owner: "O-okay."

I filled a bag with gemstones and leave quickly.

By the way, gemstones were even able to be found near the entrance of the mine. I just had to dig near a few mulberry trees.

It is surprisingly easy to find in the neighbourhood.

Although the uncut stones close to the surface seems to be of a lower quality for magic.

According to my knowledge of my world, there seems to be a famous place where jewels were dug up simply by digging in the field.

Even though this is a different world, I believed the good quality gems will be buried deep underground.

Ruby Bracelet was made!

Quality: Good -> High Quality

Even though I originally made that as a trial, It seems to have turned out well.

I also tried to imbue the bracelet with magic.

Ruby Bracelet (Fire-Resistance +)

Quality: High Quality -> Normal

Ugh... The quality fell a lot after magic was imbued.

I dabbled in making accessories as the peddling continues.

By the way, it is very hard to make accessories on a moving carriage, so I can only work on them at night.

It seems my shield is not high enough level to absorb a finished gem.

Time to sell it.

The bracelet that was created earlier was for 80 silver pieces. The value of gems in this world seems to be lower than my world. It takes time to create the foundation.

It might be worthwhile to make new designs in the wagon. Though, it's a little inconsistent.

It seems anything will be popular. What's popular in my world might be popular here too.

Though I don't know much about expensive jewellery

However, production takes quite a while.

That said, there is money to be earned. It might not be a bad idea to improve our equipments.

Requirements for Iron Ore Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Copper Ore Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Silver Ore Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Lead Ore Shield have been revealed.

Iron Ore Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Smelting Ability 2

Copper Ore Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Smelting Ability 1

Silver Ore Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: 2% Damage reduction from Demons

Lead Ore Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Defence Power 1

A skill which seems to be useful for the old man from the weapon shop appeared.

It's pretty useless to me at the moment anyway.

The Lead Ore Shield seems to have displaced another skill. I'm not going to use that skill anyway.

Every day of peddling was passed with such a feeling.

Having stopped at a southern town.

Through a certain reliable source (Accessory Merchant), I heard of a province that wants to acquire large amounts of Herbicide.

Apparently there's a lot of money to be made so we leave for a south-west village in haste.

Judging by speed alone Firo seems to be a match for a God Bird...

(tl note: No idea..... なんでも速度からして間に合うのは神鳥……フィー口位なものらしい。)

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 38 - The Reason it is Sealed

After hearing that there was a village that had huge demand for herbicides, we quickly rushed over...

It might be that Firo was excessively fast, but we were able to make it to the region in just a few days.

"Master-"

"What is it?"

"Uhhh, the plants here are pretty crazy-"

"Huh?"

Raphtalia and I both look outside of the carriage.

And when we do, we see the road completely buried in some sort of viny, squirming vegetation.

"T, The hell?!"

It's advancing slowly and gradually, but the vegetation is most definitely expanding its domain.

"The village is..."

I take a look around and notice there were people gathered over at somewhere that looked like a refugee camp.

"Firo, head over that way."

“Okay.”

We head over to the camp and start to set up shop.

“Alright, what should I price these herbicides.”

I’m sure these will be used to try to exterminate those slowly encroaching vines.

I can see what the accessory merchant meant when he said I’d be able to make a killing here.

So then, just how much profit will I be making.

“Though there might already be a specialist here dealing them out.”

“You might be right.”

I get out of the carriage to try and gather some information.

On a side note, I changed my shield into Book Shield. I then turned the shield around to make it look like I was just any old peddler holding a book. By setting my shield to something that doesn’t really stand out, I can hide my identity as the Shield Hero.

“I came by since I heard I can sell herbicides for a good price here.”

I ask someone at the camp who looked like they had some authority.

“Oh, a trader. It would definitely help.”

He responded quickly as if he was waiting for me.

“But what exactly is going on here?”

I inquire as I look towards the invading flora.

“What exactly… Our village was hit by a famine.”

Ah now that I think about it, I did hear of a rumor along those lines.

But didn't Motoyasu handle that?

“However, we requested aid from the Spear Hero and he returned with a miracle seed that has been sealed since ancient times. While it did resolve our famine it…”

“That can't be the miracle seed can it?”

I look towards the encroaching vines. Now that I observe carefully there are fruits and other vegetable produce stemming from the vines.

It doesn't seem like this camp is having any issues with food, and there aren't any food relief aids in sight. The vines also apparently have potatoes as I notice some farmers approaching the vines and digging them out.

In other words, the villagers have no trouble whatsoever with food, but because the plants are growing out of control, they've been driven out of their homes…

Are you retarded?

I'm thinking about it, the seed was sealed, was it not. There has to be good reason for it to have been sealed or they would have just ignored it and let it go.

So what the hell was Motoyasu thinking?

"Also it's not an issue outside of the growth, but when you're inside where the village is at, some of the plants have transformed into monsters."

Oh, so the plants can evolve.

Are you retarded?

Why must I feel this way in such a short span of time.

Seriously, that guy [Motoyasu] is a genius at rustling my jimmies.

"And that's why you guys need herbicide?"

"Yes."

Since they're farmers I'm sure they know about plant and weed control...

"At first we were overjoyed with all the harvest we were getting. But then it started growing from the fields to our homes... We tried our best to weed it out, but it just grew too fast."

"By the way, when did this happen?"

"It wasn't an issue two weeks after the Hero left. But ever since two weeks ago..."

"I see. Have you tried reporting this to the kingdom?"

“We have. But since the Heroes are all so busy, it would take some time before they arrive it seems. So we’re just trying to stop it from spreading further with herbicide.”

Haaah… Before I knew it I let out a sigh.

“Have you tried just lighting it all on fire?”

“We’ve tried everything we can think of.”

“Oh, so you guys already did.”

I’m sure they’ve also called to adventurers for help.

I take a look around and see people with weapons who were clearly not villagers.

“Uwaaaaah!”

A scream comes out from the village.

“What’s going on?!”

“Some adventurers said they were going to go in to try and raise their Level. I tried to stop them, but they didn’t listen. That scream might have been coming from them…”

The villager says that as if he’s given up on them.

“Dammit…! Firo!”

“Yu-p!”

I point towards the village and Firo, who was stuffing her face with the produce from the plants, rushes in.

She then busts out of the verdure outgrowth shouldering three adventurers who were in tatters.

“What’s it look like inside?”

“Uhhm, there were plant monsters inside creeping about. There were some pretty interesting ones that spat out poison and acid. These guys here sure are dumb going in there when they’re so weak--.”

“You didn’t need to mention that last bit.”

“Fi-ne.”

The villager was flabbergasted at Firo’s fluent speech.

“A, Are you the rumored Saint who rides a carriage drawn by the Holy Bird?”

The villager now asks me, covering my hands with his own.

“Well… I don’t know about a saint, but I am the owner of a carriage and a bird.”

“Please! If you can, please help us! There are some people here who have been infested by the plants!”

“So some of them have parasitic capabilities huh…”

With a remedy and herbicide in one hand, I’m lead into a tent.

Inside I see some people laid down with half of their bodies blighted by plants.

“I don’t know if I’ll actually be able to cure them though. But I don’t run a charity here, so you better make sure you pay the treatment fee.”

“We will…”

It was barely audible, but I could hear people around lamenting in a low voice, ‘If only the Spear Hero didn’t come here…’ It made me a bit giddy. In any case, I go to the nearest patient who was a sleeping child that had troubled breathing, and had him drink some medicine.

A dim light appears, and the child’s breathing returns to normal. I then spread the herbicide along the diseased areas.

The child looked to be in a bit of pain, but the plants that were ailing him began to wither away and scatter about. What resulted seemed to be a full recovery.

“Oooh…”

“As expected of Saint-sama.”

Voices of admiration start flowing out.

I continue on to the other patients, feeding them the medicine and applying the herbicide.

After I finish treating everyone, the air around the camp seemed to lighten up a bit for some reason.

Well, even if it’s not that major, I guess good news would tend to brighten up the mood.

“Thank you, thank you so much!”

The people here give me their gratitude.

"Give me my treatment fee."

I charge them a tad bit above the market price.

I gotta be careful here. Since they've already requested aid from the kingdom there's a very high risk that I'll end up seeing one of the other Heroes.

If that happens then there's a good chance that these guys here will instead look to me in aversion.

The villagers are now giving me their money with smiles on their faces.

"Well then, I'll be here selling herbicides now. After that, I'll be off as I'll no longer have any business here."

"Ah... Saint-sama, if you can, could you please save our village?"

"The hell?! Why don't you go ask one of the country's Heroes?"

"But..."

Ugh... The villagers are now gathering around and begging me as if in prayer.

I'm not the type of guy that would do anything so long as they ask. On top of that I have no obligation to help them.

"I refuse."

"Please. If it's money we can gather some."

"...You pay me in advance. And after, no matter what happens don't come crying about it. Now, tell me everything you know about the seal that the Spear Hero released."

At my response, the villagers began to pull money out of their own pockets and amassed their funds. In the meantime I try to gather as much information as possible.

According to what they were told, sealed inside of the nearby ruins was the seed of a certain type of plant, and protecting it was a powerful guardian. Really, did you guys not have any doubts considering there was a fucking guardian protecting this seed?

I had an almost uncontrollable urge to scream that out but somehow I was able to restrain myself.

And that's all could get from the Spear Hero's... Motoyasu's story.

From what I got from questioning the villagers, long ago this region used to be the stronghold of an alchemist, and it was said that his one masterpiece was sealed here.

And some other details saying that some time ago, this whole area was under the domination of plants or something like that...

"If you had legends like that, don't go around undoing seals! Did no one really stop to consider?"

Everyone averted their gazes at the same time.

I'm sure they thought it was safe since a Hero brought it to them after all.

It doesn't seem like I can find any more useful information besides that.

And while we had these discussions, the funds have finished collecting.

... This is quite the sum of cash.

Since they paid up front, I can get away with showing my identity now.

"Understood. I'll see what I can do."

I then change my shield into one meant for combat: the Chimera Viper Shield.

“T, The Shield Hero?!”

I ignore the voices of the villagers and head toward the mass of vines. Behind me follow Raphtalia and Firo.

I tie the ample bag of money I received to my hip, and walk down the road rife with the encroaching vegetation.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 39 - Plant Invasion

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, Firo, be careful."

Now then, the enemy is coming with a plant.

According to my vast knowledge of medical herbs, the plant in front is quite unique.

Various ripe fruits could be found from the vines and potatoes could be seen on the root.

That's not all, apparently it also has the ability to spit poison and attach parasites to the human body.

Is the herbicide even going to be effective?

Physically beating it up doesn't seem to be a good plan either...

It attacked us with vines as it advanced.

Raphtalia: "Haa!"

Firo: "Yaa!"

Raphtalia and Firo each cut down some vines.

But, we have already been surrounded by them.

Might as well try magic...

Naofumi: "I am the Hero of the Shield who commands the origin of power. I have read and deciphered a law of nature. May the power of nature defend me!"

Naofumi: "Fast Guard!"

I applied defensive magic on Raphtalia and Firo.

This magic improved the target's defence by a percentage. It is a support magic that shines when the target has high Defence.

Raphtalia: "Thank you Naofumi-sama"

Firo: "Thanks~"

The pair thanks me as they continue to decimate the attacking vines.

Although we are destroying plants left and right, it's still hard to advance.

It's got to be that. To clear a path, we must use some strong magic, I guess our only choice is to withdraw for now.

But at least, we'll annihilate the enemies here.

There is a high chance that a strong demon is lurking within the village.

According to the stories that have been passed down, there is no sure-fire way to exterminate the plants.

Then a full frontal assault...

Would be impossible, there has to be another way.

Due to the vine's lacking in attack power, my progress should be unimpeded.

Naofumi: "Anyway, I'll investigate myself first."

Raphtalia: "Okay!"

Firo: "Okay~!"

I started running towards the root of the plants in the centre of the village.

It's overflowing with plant demons.

Though, this level is still manageable by the three of us.

However, I'm quite uneasy about Raphtalia and Firo's defence.

Naofumi: "Humm....."

The names of the demons are Bio Plant, Plantriwe, and Mandoragora.

Bio Plant is the general name for all the common plants. Plantriwe Is a demon in the shape of a human made of vines. Mandoragora seems to be an immobile plant fortress.

According to Firo, the Plantriwe scatters poison pollen the big flower on top of its head.

The Mandoragora sprays acid from a vine to weaken and drag in its prey.

Bio Plant is the demon that is producing these two. Occasionally, a vine swells up and these demons burst from within.

I smile in satisfaction as the herbicide withers these demons.

It seems the shield does not consider scattering herbicide an attack.

Is it because these are just really aggressive plants and not actually demons?

I wonder what the criteria is.

Is it the same principal as sprinkling holy water and recovery magic on Zombie-Type Monsters?

There is also the fact that my medicine can cure the parasitic state to consider....

I don't understand.

Perhaps the parasites are pathogens and my treatment medicine is effective against sicknesses.

Naofumi: "So what do we do?"

Plantlike and vines continued to attack me meaninglessly.

The attacks themselves do nothing, but my nose is slightly stuffed because of the poison.

The acid is also troublesome. It seems to be very effective in lowering the Defensive status.

Still, it's not as if they can break through. Snake's Poison Fang (Intermediate) makes those effects useless.

This is pretty common. The enemy is a plant and uses poison.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia"

Raphtalia: "Cough...! What is it?"

The air seems to be bad for Raphtalia...

Raphtalia's respiratory system was damaged before. Although she is cured, it might still be weak.

Naofumi: "Here, take this herbicide just in case."

Raphtalia: "Ah, Okay!"

I throw some herbicide to Raphtalia. I hope it will be useful in an emergency

Raphtalia is caught by vines and it looks like she's about to be violated.

The ways these vines wriggle about remind me of heroines from an eroge...

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama?"

Firo kicks the vine mid-air, using it as a foothold, but the distance she gained is insufficient.

Firo: "Master~"

Naofumi: "I know! Air Strike Shield!"

I used Air Strike Shield on where Firo was falling to let her use it as footing. Firo jumped off the shield and straight for the eyeball again.

Firo: "Tei!"

Bicha! With a squish, Firo kicked the eyeball.

That was pretty gross...

Monster: "!!!!!!!!!!!!"

The earth shakes as the vines tremble in rage.

Is it still not dead even after the eyeball was destroyed?

Hmm..... What happened?

Naofumi: "It's not falling over."

Raphtalia: "I noticed."

With a grotesque sound, the eyeball regenerated.

At the same time, I spotted a plant seed in the middle of the eyeball.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, Firo. The main body is within that eyeball. Pour the herbicide in it."

The cool-down time is over. I can use Air Strike Shield again. By the way, Plantriwe and Mandoragora were attacking me together.
But it does nothing so I can take it forever.

Naofumi: "I understand!"

Firo: "Roger~!"

Raphtalia Jumps onto Firo's back while approaching the regenerating eyeball.

The eyeball must have registered them as the highest priority threat and unleashed a rain of vines at them.

Naofumi: "Shield Prison!"

I used the cage formed from Shield Prison to protect both of them.

The shield will stay in the air, unless an attack is strong enough to break through.

Effective time is 15 seconds.

Meanwhile, the vines are bouncing off the Prison.

Oops... Vines surrounded the Prison.

After 15 seconds, the Prison disperses. At that moment, I cast Air Strike Shield under Firo to be used as a foothold.

Raphtalia: "Tei!"



Raphtalia's sword flashes and the vines surrounding Firo was cut down. The vines were cut beautifully and Firo succeed in jumping off the shield. She kicked the Eyeball twice.

Monster: "!?????"

The eyeball's movements have stopped to repair itself. By taking advantage of this chance, Raphtalia spreads the herbicide over the eyeball's wounds.

Monster: "!!!!?????"

An enormous vibration which isn't exactly a voice spreads around the Bio Plant.

Naofumi: "Did we do it?"

I don't even care that I death flagged myself, these attacks aren't even enough to make me itchy.

However, the Bio Plant begins to move again.

Raphtalia: "I apologize. It seems I didn't spread the herbicide well enough."

Naofumi: "No, you did it properly. It seems the herbicide is not effective enough."

There must be something we can do...

Oh, that might work.

Personally applying medicine makes it more effective. I wonder what will happen if I apply the herbicide myself.

Naofumi: "Well, it won't hurt to try that next."

I ignored the enemies surrounding me and took out the herbicide with one hand.

Though recently, I've noticed that my defence is now ranged, I can proceed through enemies even though I'm surrounded.

However, this doesn't apply to my attacks.

I stroll through the large amount of demons like it's nothing.

At last, I've reached the Bio Plant.

Naofumi: "The effect might increase even more if I apply the herbicide while riding Firo."

I scattered the herbicide on all its roots.

Monster: "!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!?????????????"

The Bio Plant convulsed violently. It seems to be its death throes.

The Bio Plant is dyed brown as its eyeballs dries up.

With a poof, the whole thing started falling apart.

The whole Bio Plant crumbles and we evacuate.

Naofumi: "Oooh..."

All the other demons started turning brown and withering. Everything is gone except for fruits that grew on their bodies and us left.

And...Where the Bio Plant used to be is a shiny seed.

... It would be dangerous to leave that here...

Naofumi: "I'll keep it for the time being. Maybe my shield can absorb it."

Raphtalia: "Okay"

Firo: "Food!"

We were collecting seeds while Firo stuffed herself with the remaining fruits and potatoes.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 40 - Selective Breeding

Raphtalia: "Something like this?"

Naofumi: "Yea, we should contact the village after this"

Seed of Miracles... We who subjugated the Bio Plant, which was Motoyasu's failure, are currently collecting seeds.

I let my shield absorb any seeds that it reacted to.

Requirements for Bio Plant Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Plantriwe Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Mandoragora Shield have been revealed.

Bio Plant Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Plant Remodelling

Special Effect: Hook

Plantriwe Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Intermediate Compounding 2

Mandoragora Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Plant Analysis

I've unlocked the plant skill tree for my shield. Although it's been unlocked, it still seems insufficient.

Naofumi: "Plant Remodelling?"

I switched to the Bio Plant Shield and test out what plant remodelling does.

An icon appeared over the seed that I look at.

I fed some magic to the seed of a Bio Plant that I picked up earlier.

The seed floats in the air.

Fertility 9

Productivity 9

Vitality 9

Immunity 4

Intelligence 1

Growth Potential 9

Variability 9

Special Ability

What is that?

First of all, I'll lower everything.

The window makes a beeping sound as the values decrease.

All other statuses were decreased while increasing one.

Fertility 1

Productivity 1

Vitality 1

Immunity 1

Intelligence 1

Growth Potential 43

Variability 1

Special Ability

Hmm... I don't understand.

Well, all it has is growth powers, is that even good?

Oh, my MP decreases when I use this skill, it's almost empty.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama?"

The modified Bio Plant seed that I made was dropped by accident.

"Oo!"

The ground immediately becomes lush and green

But...

"What?"

It grew in abundance for about 3 meters and then withered instantly.

Raphtalia: "What are you doing?"

Naofumi: "Ah, I'm experimenting with Plant remodelling using that seed"

Raphtalia: "Please don't do something so dangerous!"

I was scolded by Raphtalia.

Well, if it was someone else who did that, I would be angry too.

But, this skill is really interesting.

It seems I'll be able to make huge profits if I utilize it correctly.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama, your smile looks rotten"

Oops, did it show on my face?

Naofumi: "Anyway, let's return to the village"

Raphtalia: "Yeah"

We were greeted by silence as we walked out of the brown plant zone.

Villager: "Thank you Hero-sama"

Humans work for profit.

After I save the village I am welcomed gratefully.

Well, it would be impossible to live in the village with all those dead plants.

That day, we ended up cleaning all the withered plants.

Even if the main body is destroyed, the fruit and potatoes remain, It seems there won't be a food shortage for a while.

But I'm a little worried about the soil.

Naofumi: "Aren't you going to return to a famine?"

Villager: "Well..... that's very likely"

In the near future, this village might be deserted.

After thinking it through, I push forward my plant remodelling plan.

I don't understand what special ability is yet.

By looking at a seed, the plant analysis menu pops up.

I equip the Mandoragora shield and go to bed.

The next morning, I change to the Bio Plant shield and continue remodelling.

Fertility 9

Productivity 9

Vitality 9

Immunity 4

Intelligence 1

Growth Potential 9

Variability 9

Special Ability

Upon death a seed is produced.

Mutation Range Expansion.

I see... This was the original ability of the Bio Plants.

Originally, it was made with the purpose of producing food, but due to its mutation ability, it became a demon.

It might not be a bad idea to nip the problem at its root.

Due to its low immunity the herbicide is effective.

I check the special ability. Various items appeared.

There are special instructions next to each item.

It seems I can choose abilities by sacrificing stats.

This village is troubled by the second coming of the famine.

That's why I'll experiment.

Fertility 4 is simply the power to increase. We don't need too much so I'll lower it.

Productivity 15 should be the ability that produced fruit. To combat the famine I'll increase it.

Vitality 6 is this the power to grow anywhere? Let's drop it a little.

Immunity 4 is the power to resist sickness. Because the herbicide is effective I'll leave it alone.

Intelligence 1 What the heck is this, does it give it a demon's intelligence? I don't know what increasing it might do.

Growth Potential 15 the speed at which it grows. Let's increase this.

Variability 1 this is probably the cause of plants becoming demons.

Special Ability, I add in an ability that increases quality of crops and cancel the Mutation ability.

Upon death a higher quality seed is produced.

Naofumi: "It's completed"

Raphtalia: "Is something wrong?"

Raphtalia stirs and asks me sleepily.

The villagers suggested that the saint, and holy bird stay overnight in the village.

The fruits and potatoes of the Bio Plant are quite delicious.

It's an annoying plant, but it tastes good.

If my remodelling succeeds, it will become the special product of the village.

Naofumi: "Ah, continuing from yesterday is a bit..."

Raphtalia: "You're still at it?"

Naofumi: "It's a little bad to leave things as is right?"

The famine will hit sooner or later. Therefore, I'll stop it by all means.

Even if I can go shopping from different areas, it's impossible for this amount of people.

It would be difficult for these inhabitants who have lived here a long time to move.

Naofumi: "Now then"

I got off the carriage and dropped the seed onto the withered ground slowly.

The plant grows and covers a corner of the former village site.

Villager: "Wh-What's happening?"

The people who were resting near the camp run up to get a closer look.

Naofumi: "Ah my bad, it's just a little experiment."

Villager: "What are you doing?"

The villagers seem to be scared of the plants.

Naofumi: "Experiments to change this into a safe plant..."

Due to its low fertility, the plant stops growing.

And.....

Red and young fruit similar to a tomato appears. It seems the foundation for the plant is a tomato.

Naofumi: "I think that's a success"

Villager: "Yea..."

Naofumi: "Whether or not you want to use it is up to you. Whether this was in vain or be an asset is in your hands."

It seems the mutation range expansion and the variability status doesn't only change into demons, it also has the effect of producing various fruits and other plants.

I sprinkled some herbicide to wither the plant. I hand the seed over to the feudal lord there.

Naofumi: "Well then, we'll be on our way, bye-bye."

Firo who was already awake and stuffing herself with tomatoes prepares to pull the carriage.

Villager: "Please wait!"

Naofumi: "Hm? What's up?"

Villager: "We still haven't rewarded you yet. How abo-"

Naofumi: "Are you fellows having difficulty with stock processing, and going to push the problem on me?"

Villager: "Uh-uhm how about....."

My carriage has now become 4 vehicles.

3 of the carts were loaded with crops that came from the Bio Plant.

It seems they were gifts along with the carts.

I reluctantly received it because they presented it with a smile.

After connecting the carts, Firo pulls the carriage happily.

Firo: "It's heavy and comfortable~!"

As expected of a demon changed from a Philorial

The journey continues while the carriage shakes.

Additionally, after I realised the herbicide could be used as a weapon. I went to play with treants.

It seems to be effective only on plants which have a parasitic ability.

I don't understand its standards.

Perhaps there are no traces of any demons in the Bio Plant, it might be just a simple plant.

Well, it's fine. With Raphtalia and Firo, I don't have to worry about being attacked.

Let's think of a way to use the food that cannot be eaten first.

That reminds me... I heard a rumour about a famine up north. I should go sell there.

Naofumi: "Let's depart for the north."

Firo: "Okay~!"

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 41 - Shogun-sama.....

On our way north, we came across a town.

Naofumi: "What? There's a toll fee?"

The guards stopped us as we were about to enter the town and asked for a toll, so I showed them the note I received from the feudal lord of Forest village...

Guard: "These kinds of things aren't accepted! Pay quickly!"

Raphtalia: "But-"

The guard didn't even respond when Raphtalia tried to negotiate, only asking for gold.

Despite all that negotiating, the guard held his ground.

Naofumi: "What a stubborn bastard!"

Even though the guard looked like he was going to rush us, he stood there and just glared at me with hostility.

Hmm... Something must have happened here.

After I started peddling in this world, I learned a few things.

No one would perform such unreasonable extortion unless they had strong backup.

It seems whoever this person works with is powerful.

It seems we have to call this guy's partner to negotiate, we'll have to discuss about human relations.

It'll only work if his partner is not hostile though.

As for why this guy's partner isn't here, there are a few reasons...

Naofumi: "The Feudal lord here must be an outrageous bastard."

I muttered while looking at the town. The guard's expression changes upon hearing that.

Guard: "Don't you dare speak ill of the lord! Or else I will punish you!"

Ah I see. So it's a problem with the top dog. In this case, neither threats nor negotiations will be effective.

The road is closed so I can't pass. There will be punishment if caught.

Maybe if I make enough of a commotion for the lord to appear.

However, there is little reward for such a risk...

Naofumi: "I understand. You guys have it tough too..."

I hand the amount asked to the guard.

The guard looked a little shocked.

Guard: "Yeah... This is good"

The guard whispered to me.

Guard: "I'm sorry..."

Naofumi: "It can't be helped."

Is this in the jurisdiction of that trash king? Or is this country's feudal lord also rotten.

I intended to sell the food loaded in my carts, but I stopped when they collected tax.

The inn seems to be fairly high class, at least when compared to the neighbourhood.

Everything in this town seems to be taxed: daily necessities, food, weapons, armour, crafted goods and even the hotel fee. Everything is expensive. Living here must be hard.

The commerce is totally in decline and the markets aren't lively at all. The unreasonably heavy taxation must have taken its toll.

Naofumi: "Collect information on the village that's short on food"

Raphtalia: "Understood"

Firo: "Okay~! Master I want a souvenir~"

Naofumi: "You eat so much food and you still want more?"

This Firo, demanding a souvenir despite the high prices...

We head to the bar with Firo in her human form.

By the way, I changed my shield to the Book Shield.

There, I saw a fellow who I would rather not have encountered.

"Fellow": "It seems that way"

Although he has a bow, there is also a sword on his waist, his equipments also seems to be of low quality.

Similar to my Book Shield as camouflage, the bow is small and plain.

If this was our first meeting and if he wore a glove, I wouldn't have known him.

But, his companion was dressed in very conspicuous colours. It looks like he's trying to hide himself. Probably.

That's right, the hero of the Bow is having a discussion in the corner of the bar.

He doesn't seem to have noticed me.

What are they talking about? I'll get closer and concentrate on listening...

Villager: "The lord here..."

Apparently, they are gathering information about the lord's notoriety.

According to the story, he fill his own pocket with the raised tax money, accept bribes from merchants and employed bodyguards to severely punish anyone who object

It seems this feudal lord is also trash.

Itsuki: "That's overboard, I must punish him."

Whoops!

I almost fell over when I heard Itsuki's dangerous line.

First off, how am I supposed to respond to that...?

What are you trying to do staying concealed anyway, what kind of shogun are you?

Are you going to leave right after the revolution?

Didn't I hear some rumours similar to this about the Hero of the Bow?

In hind sight, rumours aren't really reliable since I am known as the saint of the holy bird. But I am almost known as the nefarious Hero of the Shield.

Because nobody knows my real identity, I can still get by pretending to be a saint.

As for the reason why Itsuki is hiding, I do not know.

For example... Is the country asking him to hide?

I can't really speculate due to lack of information on Itsuki.

There's little to nothing on the Hero of the Bow either.

Are you hiding intentionally...?

Itsuki: "Everyone, let's go."

Itsuki finished his talk, left the bar, and disappeared into the night.

The next morning, the feudal lord was removed...

After making a mess of the feudal lord's mansion, Itsuki's subordinates revealed themselves to start preaching.

The trash king heard about it, and in the end, the Lordship was transferred to another person.

I am reminded of dramas about olden times and a journey of revolutions.

Are they retarded...?

This is too troublesome to be involved in.

I returned to the hotel after looking for what I originally came for, information on the village that wants to buy food.

Firo's souvenir? There's no way I'll buy something like that in such an expensive town.

I just read my magic book and ignored Firo who seemed to be complaining to me about something.

I learned another spell.

What the aunty from the magic shop told me about the Hero of the shield being good at using support and healing magic seems to be true...

Next morning.

As I expected, adventurers hired by the country are secretly investigating the town, stories about how the lord lost power are everywhere.

In the middle of the town, I see Itsuki engaging in small talk with a beautiful girl.

Girl: "Really, thank you very much."

Itsuki: "There is no such thing. Its secret you know."

That's a secret my ass.

Yup.

My suspicion has been confirmed.

Now I know why there are no rumours of Itsuki.

This guy is pretending to hide himself and creating the image of being humble.

And rejoices when people "finds out" and confront him about it, what an unpleasant hobby.

That guy's retarded.

Hiding your true identity to satisfy your "superhero unmasking for the public" desires, truly obnoxious.

Otherwise, you wouldn't be chatting in such a conspicuous place.

At least I understand the reason she would be indebted to such a guy.

It seems she was almost taken away due to being unable to pay the tax and she has to take care of a bedridden old man.

This is ridiculous. We left the town at a quick pace.

After travelling for half a day, we reached the village bordering a neighbouring country.

It seems that all the food that wasn't sold yesterday is in high demand.

Apparently the entire region is in famine.

However, it looks like there are a lot of guys that aren't residents of this village.

Their clothes don't seem to be from this country.

Naofumi: "Hey. You over there..."

It seems they are from the neighbouring country where their tyrant of a king was exterminated.

Are they here to peddle?

After they looked into my carriage, they came to have a talk about business.

They don't seem to have money so maybe they'll try to barter. Their medical herbs are good and maybe some lumber for woodworking... I got off the carriage and asked about their circumstances.

Villager: "Thanks for saving us money"

Even if I am handed string or coal, as long as I acquire enough, it will be useful.

Though I only traded because they had a nice amount of medical herbs.

Villager: "I'm sorry. For a while now, there has been little to sell....."

If I look closely, he resembles a thin twig, seems like he'll die at any moment.

Naofumi: "...Here's a little gift. Although it's not much, eat it sparingly."

Because it can't be helped, I borrowed a large pan from the group of villagers.

The village suffering from starvation cooperates willingly.

There's many things that are about to rot. Give or take 4 days until they go bad.

That's even after I got the skill Anti-corruption which delays rotting.

Villager: "Thank you very much!"

They hungrily devoured everything I made in the pan.

Meanwhile, I inquired why this is happening.

It seems that regardless of whether or not the king was a tyrant, life was fine.

Taxes weren't too high, and some people even took it easy.

But it seems that was over soon.

It seems that the known as the Resistance that took over, they increased the taxes.

Naofumi: "What? Didn't you guys overthrow the evil king?"

Villager: ".....Money is required to properly administer a country, hence taxes were raised, and military power was also reduced due to cost."

Indeed, rather than the king being bad, it is folly to not even keep a minimum amount of military power in order to defend the country.

It is said that it is not a country without its people, but what do you say about a country that cannot protect its people?

It seems only bad rumours of the king were being spread.

I don't know what the king was thinking but, I feel a strange sense of camaraderie with the king that was labelled as a tyrant.

Something could have been done if the king was negotiated with instead of being exterminated.

As for the trash king in this country, he's been evil since the beginning.

Villager: "Only the head changed and it's becoming impossible to live. So we bring what little wealth we have into this Melromarc country and try to live."

Firo: "I feel sorry for your king~! I wish everyone the best. Anyway, I'm hungry so who do I blame?"

Naofumi: "Shut up you bird! My spirit as the owner will be doubted!"

Firo: "Okay~"

I scolded Firo for opening another's wounds.

It seems recently she has become unable to read the atmosphere, and has become foul-mouthed.

Raphtalia: "I wonder who she is learning from..."

Raphtalia watched and commented under her breath.

Naofumi: "Did you say something?"

Raphtalia: "Nope, absolutely nothing..."

It seems Itsuki took part in the Resistance. He might have been bad behind it since the beginning.

Anyway, are these people entering this country illegally to buy black-market food?

It seems the prices of food have sky-rocketed in this area. And I can just rake it in.

If I'm not mistaken, Itsuki...Shogun-sama has done some reforms around this area.

Though the after service sucks...

Because his sense of justice was satisfied, he moved on.

Villager: "Although this nation could attack our country as it is weakening, it is simply impossible to live during a famine..."

Naofumi: "Hmm I see..."

The wave may also be influencing famines.

Villager: "This is?"

Naofumi: "This is a remodelled plant that was causing trouble down south of this country, I modified it with a special technique so that it will grow when planted. It will probably be okay, but pay attention to managing it. If it is handled carelessly, it could be dangerous."

Villager: "O-Okay....."

Naofumi: "I'll be around this neighbourhood again in the future. You can thank me then."

Because the three carts were sold completely, I gave two seeds as a bonus. As for what will happen to the village? That's a different story.

It seems that my true identity was revealed, but because the small neighbouring country was saved from famine, the residents weren't bothered by it.

Additionally, due to the large amount of medical herbs acquired here, it seems an epidemic was prevented in the east district after we decided to sell there.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 42 - The Village of Plague

We were camping outside that day.

Naofumi: "We were somehow able to dispose of that ridiculous amount of food at a high price."

Because the south's famine was already resolved, we had to come to the North and sell.

Though there is still one cart of food left, it is for that absurdly gluttonous bird.

Firo: "Food~~!"

The bird stuffs her head into the cart and starts devouring.

Firo: "Delicious~!"

I've heard the annoying phrase somewhere before.

Although this fellow's growth is over, she's still a glutton. Everyday food costs are nothing to scoff at. On the other hand, we travel extremely fast. However, the carriage went through quite a lot of abuse as various unreasonable actions are performed.

The repair costs are also quite hefty...

Naofumi: "What should I do?"

In this case, maybe the carriage should be made of metal instead of wood. Firo was also complaining about how light it was and considering the higher durability.

Raphtalia overcame her motion sickness, but the g-force from Firo's full speed is ridiculous.

Maybe the shock will be reduced if I add in a spring.

My money has been accumulating nicely. I'm looking forward to meet the old man from the weapon shop.

That weapon shop in the centre of the castle town sells the best weapons. I don't know where the other heroes buy weapons and armour, but I haven't found a shop that sells better equipments than the old man's weapon shop.

Firo: "Master~"

Squish..... Firo hugged me and pressed her feathers to my face. It's the North, so it's a bit cold. Therefore, Firo's feathers that have her body temperature are nice and warm.

Firo: "Ehehe~"

Raphtalia: "Muu....."

For some reason, after I sit down, Raphtalia also clings to me.

Firo: "Hehehe, everyone is nice and warm together"

Naofumi: "It's getting quite hot for me....."

Though, I didn't leave this position because it's still somewhat chilly.

Raphtalia: "Firo, get off. The temperature will be just right after that."

Firo: "No~, if anyone should get off, it's Raphtalia Onee-chan. Stop monopolizing Master!"

Raphtalia: "I'm not monopolizing anything!"

Noisy!

Naofumi: "Both of you go to sleep!"

Raphtalia: "But..."

Firo: "Master~ let's sleep together~!"

Naofumi: "I need to prepare medicine before we arrive at the east area."

In response to the large amount of medical herbs I've acquired, I started mixing treatment medicine zealously.

Though you never know whether or not you have enough...Such are the difficulties of peddling.

Firo: "Boo....."

Firo parted from me and sulked to sleep.

At the same time, Raphtalia entered the carriage. Rather than it being comfortable, it's preferable to sleeping on the ground.

Naofumi: "Now then."

I continue to work on the medicine while tending the fire.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama"

Naofumi: "Hm?"

I heard Raphtalia's voice from the carriage.

Then I saw Raphtalia beckoning me to the carriage.

Naofumi: "What's wrong?"

Raphtalia: "... Can we sleep together?"

Naofumi: "You too...? Honestly..."

Though they looked like adults, they are still children. Being lonely is a given.

Naofumi: "How bout you sleep with Firo in her human form."

Raphtalia: "I'm not lonely... It's just..."

Raphtalia looked down shyly and fidgets.

That reminds me of the time she was crying non-stop at night... A considerable amount of time has passed since then.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama... was there anyone you liked...? In your original world?"

Naofumi: "Huh? No not really."

Why would she want to talk about Earth?

I don't get her intentions.

Naofumi: "What's up with you?"

Raphtalia: "Um... I'm just wondering what Naofumi-sama thinks of me."

What?

Hmm... That fucking woman appeared in my mind, but there is no reason to get angry at Raphtalia.

As to the reason why that fucking woman is in my mind, I have no idea.

Naofumi: "At this moment, Slave isn't a very fitting position for you."

Raphtalia: "Then... Is there anything else?"

Naofumi: "Anything else...?"

While I tilt my neck questioningly, Raphtalia has a very delicate expression.

Naofumi: "You trust me. So I trust and value you too..."

Raphtalia: "O-Okay!...hmm?"

Raphtalia nodded with a smile, and returned to bed in the carriage with a puzzled face.

Naofumi: "Now then..."

I continued working for our next peddling trip.

By the way, our respective levels from the fights that happened occasionally.

Me Lv 37

Raphtalia Lv 39

Firo Lv 38

I'm even lower than Firo. Is it because I need more Exp to Level?

No, these two are attackers. Especially Firo, who is more aggressive and agile compared to Raphtalia, obliterates enemies in the blink of an eye.

So she would gain experience quicker.

Raphtalia's attacks gradually speed up and are very reliable.

We arrived at the eastern area of the country.

What can I say? The nearby trees are all dead and the air is heavy.

Though, it's not particularly cold around here.

I observed the soil and it's dark enough to be comparable to black.

When I looked at the sky, the clouds are thick and the big mountain range slowly grows.

What an ominous feeling.

Naofumi: "Umm"

I had to check the map again because the road was cracked.

Naofumi: "Firo, head towards the mountain"

Firo: "Okay~!"

Naofumi: "Also you two, make sure to cover your mouth with a cloth. An epidemic seems to be spreading in this neighbourhood."

Raphtalia: "Okay"

Before we arrive at a farm village I also covered my mouth for a minimum amount of defence.

Villager: "...Is that person... peddling? Sorry, but in this village a plague is spreading *cough*... Please evacuate."

A villager explained to us while having a painful coughing fit.

Naofumi: "I know. That's why I came to sell treatment medicine."

Villager: "Is-Is that true!? We're saved."

The villager starts running and reporting that a peddler with medicine arrived.

... The situation seems to have become considerably tense.

There is some anxiety about the amount I have.

My anxiety comes true, it seems the whole village needs medicine.

Villager: "It-It's the carriage of the famous holy bird! The village is saved!"

Uwaaa.....Such high expectations.

If the medicine is not effective, my hard earned trust will plummet.

It can't be helped.

Naofumi: "Where are the fellows who need medicine?"

I should use the most effective method of giving them the medicine personally.

Villager: "Here. Saint-sama

(TI note: Jesus shieldbro in the house.)

Though I've been called a saint for a while now, it feels a little unsettling. Still, it's a lot better than being looked at with disgust as the Hero of the Shield.

We were guided to a building where the people with the most serious symptoms were gathered.

This is probably an isolation facility.

There is a graveyard at the back and several brand-new grave posts were seen.

...No wonder this place smells of death. I'm sure this is an unpleasant atmosphere exclusive to graveyards and hospitals.

I'm not confident that this will be solved with only treatment medicine.

I shouldn't be conceited because I deciphered a mere Intermediate class recipe.

Moreover, if the treatment medicine is not effective then we're screwed, but if the treatment medicine works, I'll be able to make a large sum of money. Still... It's unsettling. Even though the deciphering was difficult, the effects may not necessarily be that much better.

Next time I stop by the Pharmacy, I'll ask for a High Class Recipe book.

Naofumi: "I would like to see you wife!"

Villager: "Okay"

I woke up a woman who won't stop coughing and give the medicine little by little.

Pa... Light spreads around the woman.

Was it effective? Colour returned to the woman's face. That's great. It seems to have worked.

Naofumi: "Next!"

When I looked up, all the villagers were staring at me with their eyes opened wide in surprise.

Naofumi: "What's wrong?"

Villager: "Uh-Uhmm....."

The child who was laid next to the woman is pointed at.

Some time ago, he was coughing just as bad as the woman.

Hm?

He's dead.....?

I confirmed the child's breathe.

What a relief, he's still alive. However, he was just having a coughing fit.

Why has it stabilised?

Naofumi: "What happened?"

Villager: "When the saint gave my wife medicine, the breathing of the child next to her also seems to have softened."

Hm..... Is this due to the effect of Medicine Effect Range Expansion (Small)?

If the range increases, it will be too useful.

It seems to be able to produce a similar effect of the medicine up to 1 metre of the surroundings.

Just how much potential is hidden within this shield?

But with this range, it will hardly be useful in combat. I'm considering clustering people up within 1 metre, unless the effect diminishes.

Naofumi: "I'll explain the story later! The medicine has an effective radius of 1 metre when drunk. Gather up!"

Villager: "O-Okay!"

Because the manpower is insufficient, the patients were carried into the vicinity by Firo and Raphtalia.

This will save medicine, the treatment of the isolation facility was finished quite early, but it only suppresses the symptoms. I am unable to completely cure the sickness.

Naofumi: "Is this the limit of the treatment medicine..."

Villager: "Thank you very much!"

Even though I was thanked while being unable to fix the situation, I do not feel satisfied.

The risk of being infected becomes apparent and I can't exterminate the sickness.

Naofumi: "That reminds me, where did this sickness come from? Was there an epidemic or something? This is no ordinary disease."

This illness is quite formidable for the treatment medicine to only be this effective.

There is also a risk that we are infected.

We might have to flee as quickly as possible.

Villager: "Umm... It seems the treatment master found that the cause is from a demon that lives within the mountains"

Naofumi: "Give me the details."

Villager: "Then, he..."

A treatment master is an occupation that is proficient in recovery magic and medicine, quite similar to a doctor in my world.

The treatment master was compounding medicine to combat the illness and came by the isolation facility to help out.

Naofumi: "You, can you make High Class treatment medicine?"

Treatment Master: "Yes. I am working on it now. Due to your help with the saint medicine, I can get back to work on it."

Naofumi: "Hurry it up, the treatment isn't complete yet. They will relapse sooner or later"

Treatment Master: "O-okay!"

Naofumi: "Wait"

I stopped the treatment master who is about to run.

Naofumi: "I heard you explained the cause of this sickness is from the mountains. Explain."

Treatment Master: "Ah yes. About a month ago, Hero of the Sword-sama got rid of a huge dragon in the mountain range territory."

Speaking of which, I heard that rumour too.

Treatment Master: "Dragons usually make a stronghold in rural areas. But this dragon was a straggler and builds his nest near the village."

Naofumi: "What does that have to do with anything?"

Treatment Master: "At one time, the villagers gathered to watch the feat of the Hero. So the adventurers go up the mountain and brought back the materials of the dragon that Hero-sama defeated."

It seems that excellent weapons or armour can be made with the materials of a dragon...

Quite enviable.

Naofumi: "Then?"

Treatment Master: "Here is the main issue. All the good material was taken and this deserted village was lively again thanks to it. However, the corpse of the dragon began to rot and a problem appeared. The adventurers who went to see the corpse got sick."

Naofumi: "...Understood. Is the corpse the cause of this illness?"

Treatment Master: "Most likely..."

Although all the materials of the dragon were taken, the corpse was left. The meat. If the dragon rots then what's affected will be the neighbourhood. Some gourmets may want it, but adventurers have no use for decaying meat.

Though I have no idea how dragon meat is treated in this world. It might be delicious but we don't know.

The entrails left behind, especially the liver will rot easily.

Ren that bastard seems to be after the materials, so the entrails are discarded.

There's also the heart... It probably works very well with magic.

Naofumi: "Since the cause is known, you should quickly dispose of it."

Treatment Master: "Removal is impossible for the farmers of this neighbourhood... The mountain range is infested by evil demons."

Naofumi: "Then ask some adventurers"

Treatment Master: "By the time we noticed, the ecosystem of the mountains changed dramatically and poison was mixed into the air. Any common adventurer gets sick immediately. Moreover, adventurers were warned not to approach due to the epidemic."

Sigh...

Ren that guy, dispose of the corpse properly.

Ren is the youngest hero.

I didn't know things rot, until I was a high school student.

Besides, that guy is the Hero most familiar with games.

Even if it is a product of Science Fiction called VRMMO.

It can be said that it is hard to tell the difference between a game and real life, this result seems to have been inevitable.

Treatment Master: "Saint-sama, what will you do?"

Naofumi: "Did you report to the country?"

Treatment Master: "Yes. Medicine is scheduled to arrive shortly."

Naofumi: "... What about the heroes?"

Treatment Master: "There is little possibility of them appearing because they are busy."

He seems to be referring to Motoyasu and Ren.

It is unbearably provoking.

Naofumi: "Has the request fee to the country already been paid?"

Treatment Master: "Yes..."

Naofumi: "Can you get it back if you cancel it?"

The Treatment Master looked at me with wide open eyes.

Treatment Master: "Is the saint-sama going to go?"

Naofumi: "How long will it be until you finish the medicine anyway?"

Treatment Master: "Uhm... it should be in half a day."

Naofumi: "Alright, I'll go get rid of the dragon corpse. Give the request fee to the country to me instead."

Treatment Master: "Un-Understood."

Thus, we went to dispose of a dragon corpse in a mountain.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 43 - Curse Series

The influence of the mountain has turned the land into nothing but barren rock.

We advanced slowly along a mountain path in the East of the country. It's been 30 minutes since beginning to climb, while Firo is running and kicking a demon.

Right now, we have treatment medicine and antidotes due to the poisonous air.

By the way, we left the carriage at the village and only bringing a wagon before heading out.

Firo: "No~! Many of Firo's memories are in here~!"

Firo this fellow, she absolutely wants to pull everything, I'll ditch you here.

You were born last month and you're already talking about life?

Well, I can understand her attachment to the carriage because she has been pulling it for 90% of her life...

There are many demons here that are from the Poison class, such as Poison Tree and Poison Frog.

I diligently let my shield absorb it all after we defeated them.

Requirements for Poison Tree Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Poison Frog Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Poison Bee Shield have been revealed.

Requirements for Poison Fly Shield have been revealed.

All the Poison Resistance bonuses have been displaced, and have become status up as equipment bonuses.

The sole exception is the Poison Bee shield.

Bee Needle Shield II

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Attack Power 1

Special Effect: Shield of Stinger (Small) Bee Poison (Poison)

The defensive power hasn't really changed from the Bee Needle Shield, but the paralysis poison can now be changed to poison damage over time.

Well, enough of that, it seem the enemies are appearing quite frequently.

Even after defeating them, another one just takes its place.

Certainly, the wind is full of poison which scattered a plague, this is definitely too severe for a normal adventurer.

Naofumi: "There is no point to killing them all! Firo, run through!"

Raphtalia and I ride the wagon while giving instructions to Firo.

"Okay~!"

Firo pulled the wagon and ploughed through at full power.

Some experience was occasionally gained while running over enemies.

Along the way, Firo ran over a sludge-like demon, but because there was no time I didn't get to absorb it.

And after a few minutes...

Naofumi: "Is this our final destination?"

I saw the corpse of a dragon, leaking poisonous miasma and releasing a foul odour into the air.

The size is around a 10 meters and it resembles a Western-style dragon... However, the features can't be made out any more.

The extent to which it is rotten has made it hard for even the original colour to be seen, all that's left is black miasma-like skin.

It seems the fatal injury would be a single blow to the abdomen. There is a big scar in the abdomen, exposing its internal organs and releasing a putrid smell.

Poison flies gathered around the rotten meat of the dragon. This is quite disgusting...

Firo: "I'm hungry~"

Naofumi: "Is your appetite so great you can still eat after looking at that...?"

Firo began eating the food in the wagon.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, are you okay?"

Raphtalia: "Y-Yup."

I need to make sure Raphtalia is okay because her respiratory system is weak and the miasma will damage it even more.

Naofumi: "Take a rest as if it gets hard."

Raphtalia: "Okay"

I checked out the other side of the corpse while swatting poison flies. The fingernails, scales, skin, and wings are all gone. Even the tongue was taken. Seem to have been stripped by Ren and the adventurers. It's not an exaggeration to call all that is left bones and meat. Excluding an extremely small portion of skin there is nothing left. The smell is extremely nasty. This is definitely severe. I might be faring better than Raphtalia because of my poison resistance. I have no idea about Firo.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, exterminate the poison flies. Firo, come dismantle the corpse with me. It's too big for my shield to absorb."

I should let my shield absorb all of it. There is a risk of the soil getting corrupted as well if I bury it.

Firo: "Okay"

Firo finishes her meal with a bloated belly and nods.

Firo: "I feel a little sick."

Naofumi: "That's because you're over eating."

I approached the corpse to dismantle it as planned.

Goso.....

Naofumi: "..... Did it just breathe?"

Raphtalia: "Ummm....."

The dragon's corpse seems to have begun to move.

Oh my, it probably looked like it because of the poison flies flocking on the corpse.

Gorori.....

Yup.

Just my imagination.

The dragon's corpse began to move, and got on its hands and knees in attack mode.

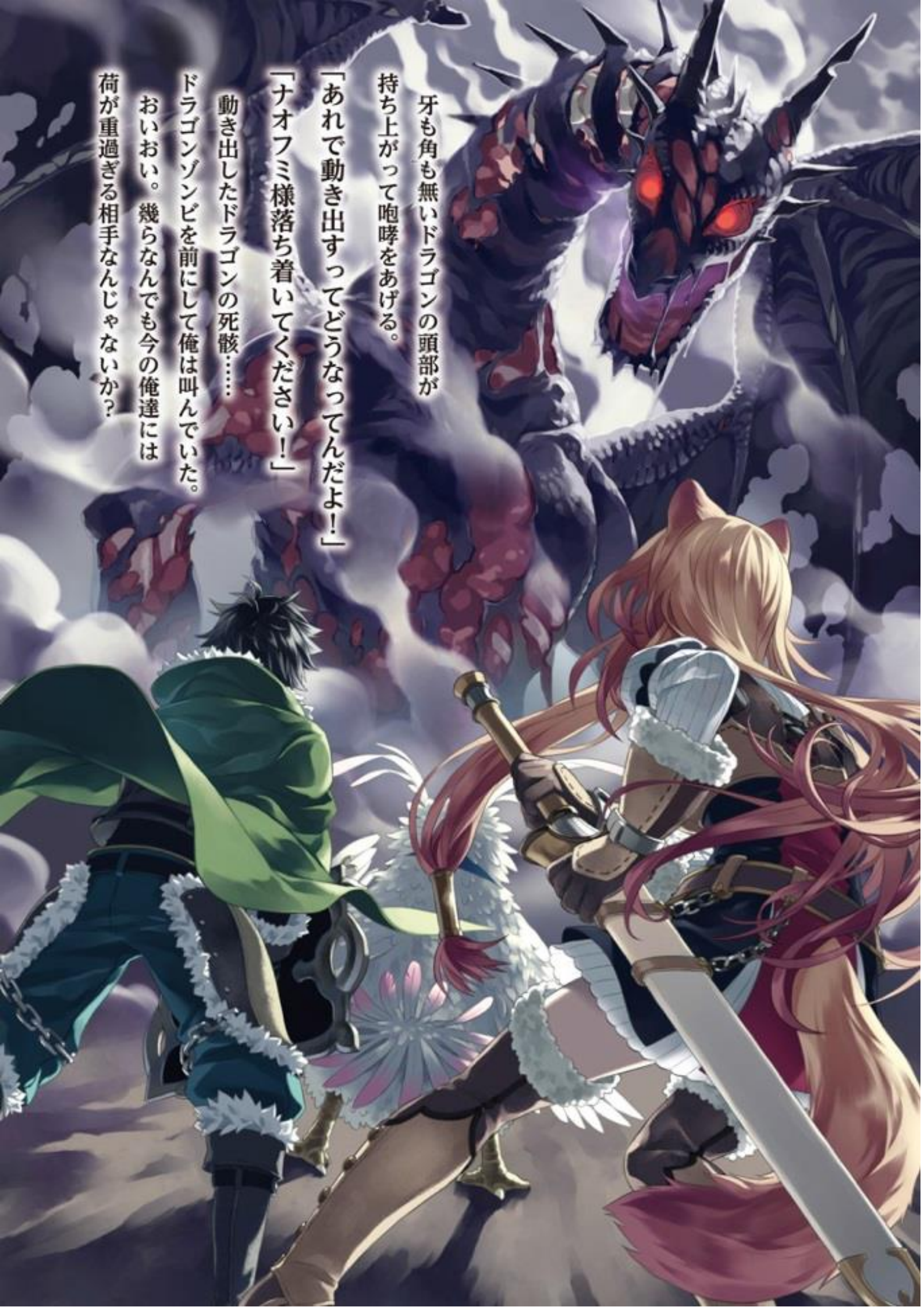
Zombie Dragon: "GYA000000000000000000000000!"

The dragon raised its head and unleashed a roar with its fang-less mouth.

Naofumi: "How the hell can it move!"

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama, please calm down!"

The corpse of the dragon..... No, the zombie dragon began to move as I shouted.



牙も角も無いドラゴンの頭部が
持ち上がって咆哮をあげる。

「あれで動き出すってどうなってんだよ！」

「ナオフミ様落ち着いてください！」

動き出したドラゴンの死骸……

ドラゴンゾンビを前にして俺は叫んでいた。

おいおい。幾らなんでも今の俺達には

荷が重過ぎる相手なんじゃないか？

What the hell. This is too much for us.

The Level is unknown and any ability this zombie dragon has is unknown.

What is wrong with this world!

The zombie dragon turned to face us while regenerating each organ.

A part of the wing and tail is regenerated. I don't know whether the fangs and claws will regenerate too.

It seems to be liquidizing the rotting meat and turning it into its wings and tail.

The fatal wound on the abdomen was closing and the internal organs were regenerating.

Dealing with this is impossible for me!

Naofumi: "Let's escape!"

Raphtalia: "But, Firo is already--!"

Raphtalia pointed at the dragon zombie.

Firo: "Terya!!"

At that moment, Firo jumped on the zombie dragon and kicked it in the head.

There was a nice smack and the dragon zombie bends backwards.

Naofumi: "That's unexpected…… Can we fight it?"

Firo's offensive power is high and there are no fangs or claws on this zombie dragon.

We may be able to win, but the opponent does not have the concept of stamina……

However, there is a risk of the zombie dragon coming for the village if we escape there.

Of course, there is also the possibility of it returning to its territory. But it might regenerate everything next time, so it must be defeated now.

Naofumi: "Don't be rash!"

Firo: "Okay!"

Naofumi: "Alright, we're stopping this thing here!"

Raphtalia: "Okay!"

The dragon roared threateningly and attacked.

I change into the Chimeric Viper Shield which has the highest defence, and I am able to block the dragon's attack.

But……

Zombie Dragon: "GYA0000000000000000!"

The zombie dragon shoots purple gas from its mouth at us.

Raphtalia and Firo run behind my back.

I set up my shield and prepare to block the attack.

Naofumi: "Ueh…….What is this!"

Raphtalia: "Cough, Cough"

The real nature of the breath attack is high-concentrated poisonous gas. Even with my poison resistance, I felt breathlessness and dizziness.

I had a coughing fit while Raphtalia behind me is barely able to breathe. While the zombie dragon was shooting its breath, Firo who seemingly unaffected by the gas kicked it and made it stop.

Naofumi: "Ra-Raphtalia, are you all right!?"

Raphtalia: "Coughcoughcough-"

Raphtalia wanted to answer me with tears in her eyes, but she was just coughing non-stop.

……This might be really bad.

Firo and I can fight, but Raphtalia is out.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, hurry up and get back, there is an antidote in the carriage. Drink it and rest."

Raphtalia: "Coughcough"

Raphtalia desperately points towards the zombie dragon.

I turned around and see what's happening.

In just a second, the zombie dragon opened its mouth and swallowed Firo who is jumping over it.

Naofumi: "A---"

Bagun!

A loud sound echoes, and from the zombie dragon's mouth crimson liquid drips down.

Naofumi: "FIROOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!"

My mind blanks out and I don't understand anything that Raphtalia is doing. The bird who act like a pampered child ever since being born a month ago, always clinging to me, hugging me……

Memories of Firo were recalled and shown like a revolving lantern.

What happened?

Something……

The zombie dragon chewed its mouth several times, something red leaks out of it, and then the zombie dragon swallowed with a large gulp.

Raphtalia: "Cough!"

Raphtalia slapped my cheek strongly.

I have tears in my eyes.

The situation is only getting worse as I am lost in my own world.

However, all I felt was the anger from my heart after losing an important companion right before my eyes.

---Power, Do you desire it?

I thought I heard a voice from the shield.

I looked at my shield almost unconsciously and listened for the voice.

---Everything, Do you wish for it?

Dokun.

My heartbeat is stronger.

I remember the feeling that is produced from the darkness shield.

This... It's the same feeling after that fight with Motoyasu.....

The skill tree section of the shield appeared.

The skill tree screen turns inside out and a weird background that is neither black nor red appeared another skill tree.

Curse Series

This phrase reverberates in my mind.

The shield glows brightly.

Curse Series

Shield of Fury

Mortar Shield

Unsealing completed... Equipment Bonus: Skill "Change Shield (Attack)"

"Iron Maiden"

Special Effect: Self-Burning Curse Physical Strength Improvement.

Being born from the heart, Killer Shield.

On this shield is a particular explanation..... Am I even conscious? I hold my hand over the shield with these feelings.

Shield of Fury

Intense feelings were released from the shield and the shield changes with a red and black light.



There was a crimson shield with decorations of abominations and flames.

Dokun.....Dokun.....

Consciousness was swallowed in anger.

I hate everything in this world.

Everything in this world is black, all there is left are shadows sneering at me.

I am ruled by a single emotion.

Zombie Dragon: "GYA00000000000000000000"

A big black shadow stretched its arm towards me.

Naofumi: "UWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH"

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Chapter 44 - Shield of Rage

Naofumi: "UWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!"

I unleashed a roar which rivalled the dragon's and caught the arm of the shadow with the shield.

I don't feel pain or anything else.

Zombie Dragon: "GYA!?"

The black shadow mouth distorts in astonishment and sneered at me.
Ridiculous.

Naofumi: "DIE!"

I caught the black shadow and throw it.

The black shadow flew while roaring in surprise.

Zombie Dragon: "GYA00000!"

However, the shadow gets up immediately and rushed to attack.

…… Can this shield attack an enemy?

Not available.

The black shadow attacks me with its tail and arms, knocking me to my knees.

Naofumi: "It's not working!"

The attack of the black shadow is not effective on me.

Naofumi: "Haha…… Are you stupid?"

Though, I don't have any means to defeat it.

After that thought, a black flame immediately appeared around my arm and it burned the tail and arms of the black shadow.

Zombie Dragon: "GYAOO!?"

The shadow was surprised at that fact and fell down.

Naofumi: "Hm…… Is there a counter-attack offensive ability in here?"

The shadow is keeping its distance, seemingly afraid.

Naofumi: "Are you begging for your life now? It's too late for forgiveness!"

I slowly recite a skill.

Naofumi: "Iron Maiden!"

However, the skill is not activated and a skill tree appeared in my view.

Shield Prison -> Change Shield (Attack) -> Iron Maiden

Is this the activation conditions?

That's troublesome, I suppose to trigger the counter-attack, I have to trick the shadow into hitting me.

Naofumi: "Wait for me……I'll kill you by any means possible……"

The shadow swings its arm at me, frightened by my murderous intent and anger.

My shield was raised to intercept the arm and a black flame engulfed it. It roasted the meat and melted the bone.

This amount of heat is insufficient…… I want to erase the existence itself.

Zombie Dragon: "-----OT!"

I see… The angrier I get, the more powerful the Shield of Fury get.

That's simple.

All I have to do is remember my feelings for those bastards.

Mein = Sofia…… Or was her name Malty?

I feel angry just remembering that name.

Next is Trash king, Motoyasu, Ren, and Itsuki.

I remember the things they did to me one by one.

Hate…… I want to kill them……

My anger begins to dissolve into the crimson shield, staining it black.

Naofumi: "This time I'll kill…… Everyone……"

I catch the arm of the shadow and everything is erased, exterminated by the flames of indignation.

The flame wrapped around the entire shadow and consumes it all.

Somebody touches my hand.

Dokun……

This is…… The same gentle feeling as that time?

Raphtalia: "I am different from the whole world which tortures and shuns Naofumi-sama…… I'll say it as many times as it takes, Naofumi-sama won't do something like that."

……Eh?

My visibility warped by darkness slightly shakes.

Somewhere inside of me, a voice is warning me that if I give in to the anger, I will lose what's most precious to me.

I want to deny it. But……

Raphtalia: "Please believe me. I am convinced that Naofumi-sama didn't commit any crime. You are a great Hero of the Shield-sama who gave me medicine to save my life and taught me how to live…… I am your sword and I will follow you no matter what road you take."

A voice whispered to me.

Don't be consumed by the urge to kill.

There is something you must protect.

Did you forget your anger?

I did not forget, but I want to repay the person who so sincerely believes in me.

Do you defy me?

Do not order me. I will decide for myself!

…… I am always here, waiting for an opening……

The black voice disappears and my view becomes bright.

Raphtalia: "Cough! Cough!"

When I noticed, Raphtalia was holding my hand while trying to hold down her coughing.

Naofumi: "Ar-Are you okay?"

She had suffered terrible burns.

There is no enemy here that can use fire.

Just… What…

Ah……

Special effect of the Shield of Fury, Self-Burning Curse.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia!"

Raphtalia: "Coug-"

Raphtalia smiles and collapses.

Because of me… Raphtalia suffered serious wounds.

Naofumi: "I am the Hero of the Shield who commands the origin of power. I have read and deciphered a law of nature. I call forth the power of nature to heal!"

Naofumi: "Fast Heal!"

Naofumi: "I am the Hero of the Shield who commands the origin of power. I have read and deciphered a law of nature. I call forth the power of nature to heal!"

Naofumi: "Fast Heal!"

Naofumi: "I am the Hero of the Shield who commands the origin of power. I have read and deciphered a law of nature. I call forth the power of nature to heal!"

Naofumi: "Fast Heal!"

Until my magic power run out, I did not stop healing.

Raphtalia... Raphtalia is the only person who believed in me!

There are severe burns. Using beginner class recovery magic is insufficient for treatment.

I must hurry to the wagon and use the healing ointments.

Zombie Dragon: "GYA00000!"

I turned around and saw the zombie dragon roar. It faces us and uses its breathe while attacking with its un-burnt arm.

Naofumi: "Get out of my way!"

I intercept the zombie dragon's attack by raising my arm.

The shield shines with a black light and activates Self-Curse Burning.

Naofumi: "Stop it!"

The shield stopped as if responding to my voice.

If the shield activates again here, it will also burn Raphtalia.

I cannot do such a thing. However, the poison breath is very bad for Raphtalia's vitality.

As if in response to my intentions, the shield burns only the poison breath.

But this output is not enough to earnestly slaughter the enemy.

What should I do?

The urge to kill and anger is always supplied to me from the shield, I try to hold it down somehow as to not be swallowed by rage again.

My highest priority now is to return to the wagon quickly and treat Raphtalia.

Protecting Raphtalia is all that's left of my reasoning.

Zombie Dragon: "GYA!?"

While in the midst of attacking and defending, the zombie dragon begins scratching at its chest painfully.

Naofumi: "Wh-what is going on……"

What on earth is happening? Is the Self-Curse Burning burning it from the inside?

Zombie Dragon: "GYA000000000!!!"

Eventually, the dragon stops moving and returned to its original corpse form.

Now is not the time to observe the situation.

There seem to be no more poison flies buzzing around.

They probably escaped as a result of the zombie dragon's rampage.

I returned to the wagon with Raphtalia and rub the burn cure made from healing ointments and medical herbs on Raphtalia's burns.

And an antidote was given to Raphtalia.

Raphtalia: "Ah…… Naofumi-sama"

Raphtalia's breathing becomes quiet and opens her eyes to smile at me.

Naofumi: "Are you okay!?"

Raphtalia: "Yeah…… Thank you for the medicine Naofumi-sama……"

Still, her burns are quite severe. Though the simple burns were cured with the medicine…… Because the effect was from black magic, a black trace is left. Though it's a little better, a complete recovery seems unlikely.

Raphtalia: "I-I'm fine…Hurry…the dragon"

Naofumi: "The zombie dragon isn't moving anymore"

Raphtalia: "That's not it…… dispose of the corpse quickly."

Naofumi: "…… Okay."

Raphtalia's strong gaze was directed at the corpse of the dragon.

Naofumi: "Is it safe to leave it here?"

Raphtalia: "If it gets up again, we have no way to fight it."

Naofumi: "I see…… Okay."

I got off the wagon and walked towards to corpse of the dragon.

It is necessary to dismantle the dragon and then let my shield absorb it.

And Firo…… even if it's only a corpse, I have to at least make a grave.

When approaching the corpse, I noticed its internal organs were wriggling.

What on earth is going to happen?

I can barely fight in this state.

Shield of fury……

It's a dangerous shield that erodes the mind, but it provides strong physical defence and a strong counter attack.

I still haven't recovered from when I used it earlier, so I changed to the Chimeric Viper Shield.

But I get ready to respond to anything while taking a stance.

And I approach the corpse.

The wriggling stops in one place, it's getting eaten? The chest is broken and something appeared!

Firo: "Puhaa~!"

A familiar bird that was dripping with rotten liquid walked out of the corpse of the dragon.

Firo: "Fu.....Finally Firo is out"

Naofumi: "Firo? Are you safe? Are you not injured?"

Firo: "Yup. Firo doesn't feel hurt."

Naofumi: "Then..... What about the blood that came out when you were eaten?"

Firo: "Blood? Firo threw up all the food inside the dragon."

Did Firo eat the red fruit that resembles tomatoes.....? Is that why It looked like blood was dripping?

She certainly was eating before the battle.

Naofumi: "Don't scare me like that! I thought you died!"

Firo: "An attack of that level is not even painful,Firo isn't even itchy."

Is this a bird or a monster?

No, it is in fact a demon.

Honestly..... I am surprised.

Firo: "Master, were you worried about Firo?"

Naofumi: "I don't know."

Firo: "Master is embarrassed~"

Naofumi: "Do I have to kill you myself this time?"

Firo: "Noo~"

Sigh..... She's safe, that's great.

I'm angry at the smirking Firo though. I'll remember this.

Naofumi: "So what did you do?"

Firo: "Oh right. There was a big crystal that shined purple inside the stomach of the dragon. So Firo tore it up and it stopped."

Naofumi: "Hmm....."

What does that mean?

Was the foundation of that zombie dragon the big crystal?

The place where Firo came out.....the heart?

But, such a thing.....

Because it's a dragon...? Did the magic that stay in the body all gather in the heart and crystallize?

That might be possible.

Naofumi: "So... The crystal?"

Firo: "Geffuuuuu!"

Yup. She ate it..... I want to smack this fellow.....

Firo: "Firo left a little. A souvenir for Master"

After saying so, Firo passes me a small purple fragment.

..... What can I do with this?

First, I'll let the shield absorb half.

As I thought, the amount of skill trees unlocked and level is insufficient.

Naofumi: "Because Raphtalia is hurt, Firo dispose of the corpse with me.

Firo: "Okay~!"

Honestly..... This bird really surprises me.

I watch Firo and think.

At that time, if I didn't give in to the anger.

After I changed the shield to defeat an enemy for Firo, I completely lost to the anger after that.

If Raphtalia did not stop me, I might have even burned Firo.

Anger..... The shield which was cursed.

Were you trying to take over the consciousness of the hero?

All that I can say is, it gave me an uncontrollable urge to kill.

.....At that time, that was all I could think about.

Firo: "Itadakimasu!"

Naofumi: "Hey Firo, don't eat that meat! It's Rotten!"

Firo: "Meat that's about to go bad is the most delicious, Master~!"

Naofumi: "This one isn't going bad, it's completely rotten!"

And without any tension, the zombie dragon was disposed of.

Though, I couldn't level any skill trees with the bone and meat of the dragon.

Still, the dragon zombie's skin and dragon's bone seem to be useful so I'll put in the wagon.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 45 - The Results of Peddling

This is a curse, isn't it?

After hurrying back to the village, I got Raphtalia to see the healers about her burns that I had caused.

Healer: "Even so, this kind is quite strong. The dragon corpse on the mountain had a curse that was this strong?"

Naofumi: "Eh... No... That is..."

Wondering how I was going to answer, I stammered.

Raphtalia: "Yes, I made a mistake and was accidentally burned by the dragon."

Raphtalia smiled while looking in my direction as if to say it was a secret.

Naofumi: "Can you do anything about it? If it's money, I'll pay whatever you need"

Raphtalia is a girl after all. If she has black marks like this, she would stand out which would be troublesome.

Healer: "It's not that it's impossible, but..."

During the preparation, the healers bring a bottle of transparent liquid to the room.

Healer: "It is quite powerful. It could heal her soon..."

Naofumi: "What is that?"

Healer: "It's holy water. To cure a curse, it's best to use holy power..."

Naofumi: "I see"

It seems the injuries would be slow to heal due to the effect of the curse shield until fully healed.

That is very dangerous.

There is no clear distinction between friend and foe. In addition, there is a counter effect on allies.

I can't even think about using it.

Also, after looking at the shield tree, the unsealing wasn't progressing at all. It was only for a short time, but I cannot unseal that shield. I remember having that sort of hunch.

Healer: "Soak the holy water into the bandage..."

The healers apply the holy water soaked bandage to Raphtalia's blackened wounds.

Healer: "Sorry it's so simple for now. Please use powerful holy water made by the church in a large town if possible."

Naofumi: "How much will it heal?"

Healer: "To be honest... it's a fairly strong curse. Whether it can be truly cured... when it comes to the work of dragons..."

The truth is that I did it though. But to think the curse was so powerful that it could be considered the work of a dragon...

Naofumi: "Oh right. How much more medicine will be needed?"

(TI note: all of above is translated by MIZUHOCHAN so all credit goes to him/her, I am merely copy/pasta and mtling the rest)

(TI note: Healer = Treatment master.)

Treatment Master: "This is all I can do for now. Saint-sama, please help the people who are suffering from the illness."

Naofumi: "Okay"

I left Raphtalia in the room with the Treatment master and head to the building where they gather the sick.

As expected of medicine made by a professional.

The sickness that could not be cured with my treatment medicine was easily cured by this.

I felt relieved looking at the sick people breathing calmly in their sleep.

..... I want strength, but not from relying on that kind of shield.

Saving someone from sickness is significant, but I still curse my weakness.

There may come a time where even Firo could get hurt. Thankfully, she was fine this time.

My head blanked in an instant when I thought she died.

I've thought this many times. This world is not a game.

Nobody will revive if they die.

I watch the graveyard behind the isolation facility deep in thought.

I was betrayed and swindled----But I want to protect the people who believe in me no matter what.

I returned to the Treatment room and spoke to Raphtalia who is wrapped in bandages.

Naofumi: "I'm sorry"

Raphtalia: "It's alright"

Naofumi: "But....."

Raphtalia: "I was afraid. Afraid that Naofumi-sama went somewhere far away."

Naofumi: "Eh?"

Raphtalia: "That power, it's trying to drag Naofumi-sama somewhere. That's what I feel. Therefore, this is a cheap price to pay if I was able to stop Naofumi-sama."

Raphtalia's laughing expression pierces my heart.

I must absolutely protect her. With determination, I swear not to lose to that shield.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, is your sickness cured?"

Raphtalia: "It should be alright for now....."

Naofumi: "Next time I administer medicine, stay close to me. It will serve as prevention."

Raphtalia: "Okay"

Thus, we slept in the village that day.

We worked on the extermination of the epidemic as hard as possible on the next day.

I asked the treatment master if I could help make the medicine and the work was completed earlier than scheduled.

I wanted to learn, but I felt something inside me that was interfering.

(TI note: I'm a little confused with this 教わろうかと思ったが今の俺ではかえって邪魔になる気がした。)

People suffering from illness disappeared and the village becomes peaceful again.

Raphtalia: "Where will we peddle next? Did you ask the treatment master on how to make medicine?"

Procuring holy water for Raphtalia is top-priority now, but I do want to learn how to make High Class medicine.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama? Won't the wave start soon?"

Eh!?

That reminds me.

What Raphtalia says return me from my thoughts.

I hastily open the arrival prediction window.

There are only 3 and a half days left!

Naofumi: "This is bad! We only have a little over 3 days remaining!"

Preparations will be insufficient.

Naofumi: "Firo, let's hurry to the castle town!"

Firo: "Roger~"

Village Chief: "Uhhh Saint-sama...this....."

I was presented a bag full of money by the village chief.

Village Chief: "Saint-sama this is the money you asked for. Please accept it."

Come to think of it, my real identity is still hidden.

Naofumi: "Yeah....."

I receive the bag of money and count how much is inside.
.....I put half in another bag and return it

Village Chief: "Eh?"

Naofumi: "It wasn't my power alone. This is for the outstanding treatment master who is in this village. Hand it to him."

Village Chief: "O-okay....."

Yup, it would have been really dangerous this time if that treatment master was not here.

Because just suppressing the illness is already my limit.

That person contributed just as much.

Naofumi: "See ya."

Village Chief: "Ah, thank you very much!"

The group of villagers saw us off together.

When these guys know my real identity, will they look at me in disgust?

It's a complicated feeling.

I stow it away in the corner of my head, because there are preparations to be made.

I can't care about the condition of the carriage at a time like this!

We rushed to the castle town.

There was a rumour about a carriage that was roaring down the road with frightening speed after that day.

On the way.

Firo: "Master~ something is-"

Naofumi: "Hm?"

I come out of the carriage.

Wild Philorial A appears!

Wild Philorial B appears!

Wild Philorial C appears!

Wild Philorials: ""Gua!""

Firo looked at the Philorial with an astonished expression.

Philorial A, B and C looked at Firo with the same expression and ran away.

Naofumi: "What was that?"

Running away right when encountering……

That is the behaviour pattern of rare monsters that have delicious experiences points and money.

Though, I can't expect a lot of experience from Philorials in such a place. Maybe they were just surprised to see a Philorial Queen and ran away.

Firo: "What an appetizing bird. Whenever we pass someone, they have one."

Naofumi: "They are from the same family as you."

I noted that Firo is licking her lips. Is there anything this fellow doesn't see as food?

It is scary that she is likely to perform cannibalism

Firo: "Master, if we chase now we can still kill them~"

Naofumi: "……Stop it."

It's still not too late now?

This fellow has no sense of tension at all.

That reminds me, I did not check our lvl after the fight with the zombie dragon.

Me Lvl 38

Raphtalia Lv 40 ★

Firo Lv 40 ★

★..... Star?

Naofumi: "Hey, do you guys know of the star next to your lvls?"

I have a bad feeling. What could it be?

Raphtalia: "No....."

Firo: "Firo has no idea"

Hmm..... Let's see, Help.

.....I don't understand it.

I can't find anything on the ★.

At long last, we arrived at the castle town.

Naofumi: "Let's go to the old man and get some weapons and armour to prepare for the wave"

After a long absence, the old man from the weapons shop just watches us with a hand on the middle of his forehead and seems to be lost in thought.

Old Man: "Hey lad, don't just appear so suddenly."

Naofumi: "Don't you know sudden events go hand in hand with business?"

Old Man: "Well, that's true. So, what's your budget?"

Naofumi: "Let's see"

I put my month's earnings on the counter in front of the old man. It's about four large bags of money.

Naofumi: "This is all the silver coins."

Old Man: "Count properly lad! How did you make such a killing!?"

Naofumi: "Hahaha, this is the result of peddling"

Old Man: "Seriously…… What a surprising hobby for you to have"

Naofumi: "It's not unfortunate."

Old Man: "Well, did you count how much there is?"

Naofumi: "Uhh"

The contents of the money bags were counted by Raphtalia, the old man and me.

Old Man: "So, how did the missy get injured?"

The old man points at Raphtalia while counting money.

Raphtalia: "Uhh, earlier I received a powerful curse attack by a powerful demon."

I stop counting and looked at Raphtalia.

Old Man: "Ah, yea curses are troublesome. Did you get any treatment?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, after this we will go buy some holy water at the church."

Old Man: "I see"

Why are you lying……? Is it because it's a curse that I gave?

Phew.

Naofumi: "After buying equipment, can I request a carriage made of metal?"

Old Man: "Don't order anything from me lad"

Naofumi: "You can't do it?"

Old Man: "Well…… I'm familiar with dealing with metal"

Though it may look like a lot, but there is surprisingly little after being converted from silver coins.

Old Man: "This is equivalent to 70 gold coins! Lad, your earnings are tremendous"

Naofumi: "I am aware of my business talents"

Though I'm not sure if I actually possess such talents, I am conceited. I feel like I have done a few things similar to merchants of death.

Naofumi: "Oh right, there is various equipments taken off of thieves."

I gave instructions to Firo who has been restless within the goods store and told her to bring in the various armours from the carriage.

Naofumi: "This is for trade-ins"

Old Man: "Lad, this is too much"

Naofumi: "How much equipment can I get with only this much?"

Old Man: "Let's see…… The missy can get a new weapon and you can get some gauntlets."

The old man is rather impressive and I start to think.

Old Man: "I am thankful that you're favouring my shop, but go to another shop to trade-in."

Naofumi: "What do you mean?"

Old Man: "Recently, the other heroes haven't been seen, so you could go check out the other excellent shops."

Naofumi: "Hmmm....."

I haven't considered that. Because they have knowledge from games, the possibility of knowing where they can get better equipment than from the old man shop is quite high.

Let's assume that the best shop in this city is the old man's..... Are they somewhere in another country?

Naofumi: "Do you have any idea?"

Old Man: "There might be something in the neighbouring country."

Naofumi: "Your shop is good enough, I'd rather not waste time on speculations."

Old Man: "Lad....."

Naofumi: "Even the worse weapons and armours I've seen you make are quite good. Is that a skill?"

Old Man: "What are you saying! I was a disciple of a master craftsman in the east when I was young."

Naofumi: "Exactly. I'll be in your care because it's efficient."

Old Man: "Lad. I understand. I'll live up to your expectations!"

The old man left the counter and started browsing the wares in his own shop.

Old Man: "Let's see..... For the missy, a High class magic sword should be adequate. Needless to say the Blood Clean coating will be applied after it's completed."

It cost 10 gold. Of course there were some trade-ins included in the 10 gold.

Old Man: "Next is magic silver armour that has a magic defence within an appropriate range."

Naofumi: "Magic Defence?"

Old Man: "The process of absorbing the magical power of the wielder to boost defence."

Naofumi: "I see."

I want to make Raphtalia's defence as high as it can because there is a possibility I could hurt Raphtalia.

The old man moves 10 pieces of gold again. It's quite expensive.

But.....

Naofumi: "Hey, isn't there better equipment that I can buy?"

Old Man: "The metal carriage and the missy's treatment will be quite expensive. Also, it is absurd to have equipment that doesn't balance with you."

Naofumi: "That makes sense."

Old Man: "This is also the limit for equipment around here for now."

Naofumi: "Ah, so that's why."

I'll take the old man's word for it if the equipment is good enough.

Old Man: "From here on out it needs to be custom-made. Come back later."

Naofumi: "So for the trouble, but the wave comes in 3 days, will it be done in time?"

Old Man: "I won't have enough time if I have to procure the materials."

……that's what I figured.

Old Man: "I already have various materials, but it's not enough."

Naofumi: "Well…… Can you use the skin of a decaying dragon?"

Old Man: "That's not a problem, what are you going to do lad?"

Naofumi: "What am I going to do?"

Old Man: "I can lighten the heavy equipment because you prefer it, and I can make new equipment with any materials you bring."

Naofumi: "By the way, will the performance be good?"

Old Man: "It can be done easily, the durability will be good too."

Naofumi: "Hmm…… by the way, would the performance go up if you add bone to the armour? Similar to the armour of the savage tribes."

Old Man: "Ah, I was going to recommend that. Chimera and Dragon materials are amazing! It would be perfect to protect the core of the armour with dragon skin too."

The core of the armour was that souvenir from Firo and a certain dragon. It seems it will become some good armour.

Naofumi: "Then…… can I order it?"

Old Man: "Thanks for business, there will be extra fees for processing costs and material charges."

After saying so, the old man moves another 5 pieces of gold and takes the materials to the inner part of the counter.

Old Man: "I can put the bone armour onto what you already have equipped."

Naofumi: "Okay"

I go to the changing room to change and put the armour on the counter.

Firo: "Master is just like a villager"

Naofumi: "Shut up"

This bird has a foul mouth.

Firo: "Hey Hey, What about Firo?"

Naofumi: "You're getting a new carriage"

I made the arrangements with the old man for a metal carriage. It was quite costly.

It cost me 10 gold coins.

Well, there were some bonuses added in.

Firo: "Firo wants armour like Raphtalia Onee-san and Master~"

Naofumi: "No"

Firo: "I want it! I want it! I want it!"

I'm pretty frustrated by this bird's whining.

Old Man: "Don't be like that lad. I'll do you a favour and lend you the equipment for that little bird missy"

Naofumi: "You see....."

I tell him this fellow's offensive ability already surpasses Raphtalia and that's with her bare hands.

That is already sufficient.

Naofumi: "Is there anything?"

Old Man: "Hmm. Does the Bird missy usually fight in her Demon form?"

Naofumi: "Yeah"

Old Man: "Well then that's outside of my jurisdiction. It's not impossible to acquire equipment from demon shops though."

Naofumi: "Demon trader....."

I am reminded of that nasty smile. The gentleman in my imagination.

Old Man: "Do you need me to introduce you?"

Naofumi: "No, I know someone."

Should we go meet him?

Old Man: "Then..... Come back two days later for the equipment."

Naofumi: 'Okay. So…… Old man"

Old Man: "What's up?"

Naofumi: "Do you know about the stars attached next to a Lvl?"

Old Man:"Oh? Did you get strong enough to Class-up?"

Naofumi: "Class up?"

Old Man:"The lad doesn't know? The class up is a growth limit breakthrough. When levels are raised to their limit, a class up can be done, after that power can rise even further."

What was that!?

In other words, it's a rite of passage for a job change in gaming terms.

Unless a Class up is performed, they can't get stronger?

Old Man: "Originally, if you are a knight loyal to the country or a magician adventurer, you can get a class up. But will you be granted one as a Hero?"

When I think about it, it was no wonder thief groups were so weak. The highest Lv is 40. Using the fact that, unworthy adventurers and villages cannot class up, power is managed.

The reason is that if the country does not deem you trustworthy a class up is not granted……

Old Man: "There are worries as to what direction to take during a class up…… But if you get a star, then all the possibilities are open."

Naofumi: "……Where can I class up?"

Old Man: "It can be done in at the Hourglass of the Dragon's era."

You can do it in such a place? No wonder the management was so strict.
…… Then meeting the other heroes there, Was it because of Class up?
I wonder what their Levels are.
As expected, I feel irritated.

Naofumi: "Then I'm going to head out"

If it's possible, I should do it as quickly as I can.
We left the weapon shop and hurry to the Hourglass of the Dragon's era.
Because our carriage has reached its limit, we left it at the back of the
weapon shop.
Firo is in human form.

Raphtalia: "What are we going to do?"

Naofumi: "Um....."

Every day, I feel that there is some kind of weird atmosphere in the inn.
(tl note: Not sure what this means 毎日、宿屋で見ているはずなのに、何か珍しい構図になってしまっているような気がする。)

It seems there were many people with birds similar to this fellow.
That would be the result.

Naofumi: "Now that I think about it, what exactly does class up expand?"

Raphtalia: "I want to Class up as per Naofumi-sama's request."

Naofumi: ".....Stop that. Raphtalia, you must decide your own possibility yourself."

In the games of old, the class change would let you choose between a light route and a dark route, the person in question has to make the choice themselves.

Naofumi: "When the wave is over and I return to my own world, you must live for yourself."

Raphtalia: "Eh…… Naofumi-sama will go back?"

Naofumi: "Yeah"

I have no attachments to this world either. There are people that I want to repay, but I will do that by saving the world.

I do not wish to remain in such an unpleasant world.

Raphtalia: "Can you take me with you?"

Naofumi: "Where?"

Where would you stay? If someone like Raphtalia comes to my world, it would look strange.

Firo: "Firo wants to go too. Where are you going?"

Naofumi: "Firo is impossible……"

Firo: "Really?"

Naofumi: "Oh well. Firo what class up do you want?"

Firo: "Firo wants to be able to spit poison~!"

Naofumi: "……"

I was at a loss for words. All I can muster is. What is up with this bird?

Was it that? Recently we've been fighting a lot of demons that had the ability to use poison.

Like that Bio Plant and Zombie dragon.

Naofumi: "You're already poisonous enough"

By that I mean your tongue.

Firo: "Really!?"

Firo exhales and checks her breath.

Firo: "It's not coming out?"

Naofumi: "That's not what I meant. Anyways, let's go."

As for us, we head to the Hourglass of the Dragon's era full of expectations.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 46 - Exit By A Kick, Again

We arrived at the Hourglass of the Dragon's era.

As usual, the facilities give off a solemn atmosphere.

Sister: "Hero of the Shield-sama right?"

Just like before the sister stares at me with a suspicious expression.

Naofumi: "Yeah....."

Sister: "What do you want this time?"

Naofumi: "I want to Class up"

Sister: "Then..... 15 gold per person."

15 gold!? No matter how you look at it, that's too expensive!

The sister's expression doesn't change but her eyes are smiling.

You want to make me look like a fool for not being able to pay?

Naofumi: "Just 15 gold."

I reluctantly reach for my bag of money and produce 30 gold coins.

The sister's expression changes and produces a document.

Sister: ".....It is prohibited for the Hero of the shield-sama"

Naofumi: "What did you say? What does that mean!"

Sister: "By the king's direct order, the Hero of the Shield is prohibited from getting a Class up"

That fucking king! I honestly want to kill him!

I especially need stats, and to top it off, that ridiculous Class up cost. Being turned down without even knowing about it.

At this rate it will be impossible to Level up!

Controlling any job changes without permission is just player control!

Naofumi: "Don't joke around!"

Sister: "That's the rules. In the first place, it is impossible for the Hero of the shield-sama....."

Naofumi: "Say that first!"

I burst into a fit of rage and knights start appearing from behind the reception.

Naofumi: "Tch! Fine! I get it!"

I stomp towards the Hourglass of the Dragon's era noisily.

Seriously, everything about this is unpleasant, especially this country!

Raphtalia: "But, what now?"

Raphtalia was troubled and muttered, this is certainly a big problem.

Firo: "Hey hey, what is that hour glass? Firo wants to see more!"

Naofumi: "Hold it"

While feeling unpleasant, I go take a look at the help section.

.....Class up was found.

Class up is a ceremony that expands the possibilities of members who become Hero companions.

Let's check the Hourglass of the Dragon's era.

It is recommended that I do it after a ★ appears.

There is no growth limit for a Hero.

Heroes have no growth limit?.....

Does that mean I can get past level 40?

But, this is still very unpleasant!

If Raphtalia cannot Class up, there will be problems with our attack power.

Raphtalia: "What should we do?....."

Naofumi: "Can't be helped, we'll do this later."

Fortunately, raising our levels was not scheduled until after this wave has passed, I'll think about it afterwards.

There is also the trump card of having Raphtalia become an adventurer and acquire a class up recommendation that way.

It can probably be done with more money.

But, there is no time now.

Searching for that would also be especially difficult.

That reminds me, the slave trader had slaves over Level 40. Wasn't I going to go there anyway to get a weapon for Firo?

Motoyasu: "Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!"

What's that?

I turned around and see Motoyasu pointing at me.

Motoyasu: "You! What are you doing!"

Naofumi: "What? Don't apply some strange connection to me."

Motoyasu: "Are you trying to play dumb? I know. The owner of that fat bird is you."

Fat bird..... is he talking about Firo?

Naofumi: "Come to think of it, how's your crotch?"

Motoyasu: "It was almost crushed, Thanks to this fucking guy!"

Naofumi: "What.....!?"

It wasn't destroyed!? Don't joke around!

To be kicked by such power and still not lose its function?

Naofumi: "You haven't lived up to my expectations."

Motoyasu: "You bastard-"

Naofumi: "It's not me who did it! Why would your crotch be destroyed?"

I asked Raphtalia who looks amazed.

Oh right, Raphtalia was not there to witness this guy getting blown away.

Raphtalia: "Why are you looking at me with pity?"

Naofumi: "Because you missed a really refreshing moment?"

Raphtalia: "I don't need to know such a thing!"

Motoyasu: "Fine, hand over the fat bird! I'll kill him!"

Naofumi: "You want my bird? What even happened? You are the one who approached carelessly."

Motoyasu: "Are you feigning ignorance? I was kicked whenever that bird spotted me!"

Hm? What did he say?

Is it fate?

Naofumi: "What do you mean?"

Motoyasu: "I said, whenever we meet with your fat bird, it chases me to kick!"

I look at Firo.

Then Firo says.

Firo: "Yup. I kick him every time I see him"

Naofumi: "I see, I see, that's great"

Firo: "Ehehe"

Raphtalia: "Why are you praising her!?"

I pat Firo's head.

I noticed that on Motoyasu's nice equipment, there is a crotch protector in the groin area.

That is hilarious! This guy has a trauma!

I burst out laughing.

Naofumi: "Ahahahaha!"

Motoyasu: "That's enough you bastard!"

Motoyasu's companions: "That's right! Motoyasu-sama, don't concern yourself with that unpleasant shield!"

What are you saying, you follower.

That fucking woman's face is red while denouncing me.

This is refreshing.

Raphtalia: "What a refreshing smile, I haven't seen Naofumi-sama smile like that before."

Motoyasu: "You-"

Motoyasu clenched his fist and grabbed my coat.

Firo: "Master~ Firo is hungry!"

The bird that cannot read the atmosphere asserted itself.

Motoyasu's gaze turns to her.

Pita.

Motoyasu stiffens when he makes eye contact with Firo.

.....What's the matter?

Motoyasu: "Deryaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!"

He takes a second look at me and throws a haymaker punch to my face, but I caught it.

Naofumi: "What was that? If you want to have a fight, use your spear"

Motoyasu: "Miss! Hurry up and run away! This guy is very dangerous"

Motoyasu shouts in the direction of Firo, trying to look like a good person.

That's the fat bird you wanted to kill not long ago.

Oh right, she's in her human form now.

Is it because she's pretty? That does seem like Motoyasu.

Firo: "Eh? Master is not dangerous, right~?"

Motoyasu: "That is your master!?"

Motoyasu's face is dyed with anger.

Motoyasu: "You have another slave again!"

Naofumi: "What's with you..... Do you have a problem because she's a woman?"

Motoyasu: "Wrong!"

I talk big.

Motoyasu: "Amazing..... This is the first time I saw such an ideal woman....."

Naofumi: ".....Ha?"

Motoyasu: "I did not think a girl so similar to Flonne-chan would exist in the world!"

Who is that?

..... It's a game character.

That reminds me, Firo's appearance is that of a certain pure daughter angel who is from a game in my world.

(TI note: <http://i.imgur.com/9wNrM5N.jpg> <- Flonne from Disgaea)

Motoyasu: "I, What a moe angel....."

Naofumi: "Shut up! I do not want to know your sexual preferences!"

Motoyasu: "Different worlds are the best!"

Motoyasu's tension reaches its climax.

The moods of his followers are the opposite.

I don't see the human being that flew into a rage a while ago.

However, I see Firo with a well-defined expression.

Motoyasu: "Miss, what is your name?"

Firo: "Uhhh It's Firo"

Naofumi: "Don't just answer honestly!"

Motoyasu takes Firo's hand affectionately.

Motoyasu: "This guy is probably working you like a coach horse. I will save you."

Firo: "Well, Firo deosn't pull the carriage like a horse."

You should just accept it. That's the kind of race she is.

Firo: "Firo pulled a heavy carriage everyday for more than a month!"

Annoying, I don't see this ending well.

Motoyasu: "You bastard-----!"

Motoyasu is being noisy.

I don't have a lot of time. I want to leave already.

Motoyasu: "Release Firo-chan!"

Naofumi: "This again!?"

It didn't work for Raphtalia, so it's Firo this time?

Do you want to take away my subordinates so much?

Motoyasu shouts with blood thirst and turned his spear to me.

At that time.

Firo: "What are you doing to master!"

Firo knits her eyebrows and asked.

Motoyasu: "Don't worry Firo-chan. I will save you!"

You're not listening!

Completely in his own world.....

Naofumi: "Anyway, that fat bird you were looking for. That's Firo."

Motoyasu: "Naofumi! You bastard! To say such a thing to a girl!"

Naofumi: "It's you. You're the one who has been calling Firo that. You even said you wanted to kill her."

Motoyasu: "Haa?"

This guy looks at me like I'm stupid.

Though, I do call her a fat bird.

Naofumi: "Anyway, stop complai-"

Firo: "Firo will protect Master~!"

With a Bofun, Firo returns to her true form.

Motoyasu: "Eh? What?"

Firo raises her foot and kicks Motoyasu in the groin while he is dumbfounded.

Motoyasu: "Ahhhhhhhhhhh-"

I was able to see it. With a perplexed expression, Motoyasu flies over 10 meters while spinning.

Furthermore, the crotch protector was shattered.

Motoyasu: "Uge!"

Were they destroyed this time?

No, they were probably okay. There was a crotch protector.

Naofumi: "Now then, let's ignore the fool and move on."

Raphtalia's face is blue and is muttering awawawa.

Still, his entourage is not trying to help him.

Well..... a lot of unpleasant feelings were blown away.

I must give Firo a reward.

Naofumi: "Alright, shall we go to the slave trader now?"

Firo returns to her human form with a frightened expression.

Firo: "Firo is going to be sold?"

Naofumi: "Don't worry, I'm not going to sell you, I'm going to buy you a reward."

It seems she has been faithfully following orders and whenever we come across Motoyasu, he is kicked, not to mention that blow just now.

This good behaviour must be rewarded.

Naofumi: "I shall buy the equipment you wanted."

Firo: "Yay! Firo also wants food too!"

Naofumi: "Yeah, definitely."

Firo: "Then, Firo wants food cooked by Master~"

Naofumi: "Very well. This will be special."

Firo: "Yaay~!"

Firo begins skipping happily.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 47 – Welcome

Slave trader: "My my, if it isn't Hero-sama. Welcome."

Naofumi: "I certainly was not expecting this."

We show up at the Slave trader's after the run-in with Motoyasu.

Slave trader: "What business do you have today?"

Naofumi: "Putting that aside....."

I am quite concerned with how the slave trader is dressed.

Even his subordinates..... They are all wearing luxurious accessories that are shaped like wings.

Naofumi: "That wing design looks good"

Slave trader: "Thanks to Hero-sama. Yup"

Naofumi: "Ha?"

Slave trader: "These profits were due to the Hero-sama peddling."

Naofumi: "What do you mean?"

I can think of several reasons, but none of them are too significant.

Slave trader: "First of all, is the infamous Philorial Queen. Many nobles with demon collections are trying to obtain one. Yup"

Ah, so the reason his reputation rose is because Firo was pulling the carriage. Well, she is certainly a rare demon. If someone wanted one, they would of course come to the slave trader and check.

And whenever a noble comes, he just points them to my direction.

While knowing that, I will not sell Firo because of her rampage.

Slave trader: "So when they give up, they purchase various other demons.

Yup"

Naofumi: "That's just like you"

At the moment, the condition to become a Philorial Queen is uncertain.

Otherwise there would be a lot more sold.

Will it become a queen if it's raised by a hero?

Two is not a good idea..... Firo alone is troublesome enough.

Slave trader: "Next, because Hero-sama's slaves are seen, there is a rumour that my shop's slaves are high quality, so I get some extra profits.

Yup"

It's Raphtalia this time huh.....

Raphtalia is certainly a beauty with a great figure.

Once people know where she came from, they would give them credit.

Will everything I do raise the slave trader's reputation?

Slave trader: "So, what do you need this time? Another slave? Maybe your co-operation on Philorial experiments?"

The slave trader rubs his hands together happily.

Naofumi: "No, I came for demon dealer business this time."

Slave trader: "Then Philorial experiments it is."

Naofumi: "That's not it"

Are there only 2 options in this guy's head?

Slave trader: "So, what do you need?"

Naofumi: "Ah, I was wondering whether or not I could purchase equipment for Firo here."

Slave trader: "Equipment?..... That can be done"

The slave trader turned to observe Firo.

The slave trader hummed cheerfully as Firo ran and hid behind my back.

As expected, she is bad with him.

Slave trader: "Would a horseshoe shaped weapon suffice? There is also armour made for Philorials....."

Armour is probably impossible, it is unreasonable to tailor-make something considering Firo's body size.

Naofumi: "Do you have anything for charging?"

Slave trader: "You could equip a helmet. To use when tackling"

Naofumi: "Hmm....."

The horseshoes might work since she is not a horse.

Slave trader: "What about the claws?"

Firo: "Firo, what do you want?"

Firo: "Eh?"

Were you too scared of the slave trader to listen?

Naofumi: "You can get a helmet or have shoes attached to your feet."

Firo: "Umm..... When Firo transforms it will dig into my skin, No~"

Ah, is the threat from the dressmaker's still working?

It would be no problem in her demon form, but it would be very heavy for her in human form.

The horseshoe would dig into the foot too and the size of the armour might not be correct.

We head to the magic shop, it seems to be possible to add the string to metal plates, but it would be very expensive.

The defence would not increase that much either.

Slave trader: "How about de-attachable claws, yup."

Naofumi: "Firo, is that fine?"

Firo: "Yes"

Slave trader: "We need to measure the size so release her demon form please. Yup"

Naofumi: "Oh right"

Firo: "Okay~"

With a Bofun, Firo returns to her demon form and sticks her foot out.

A subordinate of the slave trader measure the size of Firo's foot.

Slave trader: "Hmm..... She is considerably larger than an average Philorial"

Naofumi: "Is there any you can prepare immediately?"

Slave trader: "I think we have one just barely her size. Are you all right with iron?"

I wonder what kind of offensive power I can expect.

Should I be looking for hardness? If it's sharp.....

Naofumi: "That's fine, I can afford to get this fellow something good."

Slave trader: "I understand. Iron with magical properties is the best I can prepare for now."

Naofumi: "By the way, how much is it?"

Slave trader: "Because of the help from Hero-sama, I will sell it to you for half the market price, which will be 5 gold coins."

Naofumi: "May I haggle further?"

Slave trader: "Hero-sama's greed is giving me the shivers. Fine, I'll compromise for 4 gold."

Naofumi: "Done. Also, throw in a good bridle."

Slave trader: "Sold!"

The slave trader's tension is high. Though he feels easy to deal with, I feel like I'm being used.

What scary business sense. This guy.

A big claw is brought out from the back of the tent.

The size of the metal claw seems to fit Firo's foot just right. That's good.

Naofumi: "This thing is huge"

Slave trader: "It's a claw meant for Wyverns. There is a bigger size too."

You're not even a Philorial anymore?

Firo: "Firo will wear this?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, it is your weapon."

Firo pick up the claw and equip it.

Firo: "It fits perfectly"

Naofumi: "Seems like it."

All that's left is to connect the claw to the foot with a cord.

Firo raises her foot to confirm if the claw is actually attached.

Firo: "Feels strange~"

Naofumi: "This will make your offensive power even stronger than before, you'll get used to it."

Firo's attack power with her leg is still ridiculous. Having it increase even more.....

The scene where Firo kicked Motoyasu is replayed in my mind.

This time, it seems Firo's kick will rip it apart.

Naofumi: "Firo, next time you kick that spear guy, do not use the claw."

Firo: "Why not~?"

Naofumi: "Because the balls will be completely crushed."

Though imperfect, he is a Hero. I do not know what consequences there will be if I murder him. I feel it's a little late now.

That guy's reason to live is to become popular with woman.

For Motoyasu being kicked in the groin by my subordinate would be very mortifying.

If that happened, who would be the one to inform that trash king?

Firo: "Hmm"

Firo concentrates really hard on the claw that we just bought.

Am I hearing properly?

Oh well..... Whatever happens to Motoyasu doesn't concern me.

I gave the slave trader 4 gold coins.

Firo: "Firo deosn't need the armour after all~"

Do the nails not fit? Firo seems to think that the armour is unnecessary.

Well, if you don't want it then that's fine.

Naofumi: "Now then, next....."

Hmm, I'm sure there was other business.

I can't remember after watching Motoyasu get blown off.

Certainly Raphtalia and Firo..... Ah I remember.

Naofumi: "Hey, slave trader. Is it possible for you to provide Class up here?"

Slave trader: "Class up you say?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, because the trash king won't let my subordinates who reached level 40 class up, I am having a little trouble. I remember seeing some slaves here above level 40."

I tell the slave trader my request and he puts his hand on his chin to think.

Slave trader: "Hero-sama, I regret to inform you that I cannot help with that. I do not have a letter of introduction."

Naofumi: "I see....."

Did this guy Class up from the power of a slave trader?

Slave trader: "If you obtain enough trust with neighbouring countries, you can use their Hourglass of the Dragon's era to perform Class Up."

Naofumi: "What?"

Wait a minute, this isn't the only country with a Hourglass of the Dragon's era?

Naofumi: "They are also in other countries?"

Slave trader: "Yes, though it might take you time to gain their trust....."

Time is very precious right now and I cannot waste it.

Will the Hero of the Shield have a bad reputation in the neighbouring countries?

This might be difficult.

Slave trader: "You can do it at the mercenary's country ZerutoBuru, the Demi-human country Silt Welt, and ShirudoFuriden is also available. Yup"

Naofumi: "There's that many?"

Slave trader: "Yes, for Hero-sama, I would recommend Silt Welt or ShirudoFuriden. You have a free pass there."

Naofumi: "Hmm..... How long would it take me to get there?"

Slave trader: "Let's see, by carriage it would be one month, and two weeks by boat."

The slave trader brought out a map and taught me the road.

Certainly, it is quite far from Melromarc.

It would take Firo a little over two weeks to arrive.

Though, if we don't push it, 3 weeks would be the case.

Two weeks on a ship sounds good, but I would not be able to do anything during that.

Slave trader: "If there was a wyvern around here, Hero-sama would be able to get there very quickly."

Naofumi: "It is far....."

However, it would be important to Class Up because of our situation.

It shouldn't be that bad if I get new materials and monsters for my shield to absorb.

There is no meaning to stay here any longer as Raphtalia and Firo cannot improve.

Should we just go to the country of Demi-humans?

Naofumi: "I suppose we'll go when the wave is over."

Seriously, that trash king is devoting so much passion into annoying me.

Naofumi: "I am indebted to you."

Slave trader: "If that's what you think then by all means-"

Naofumi: "I refuse. Oh right. Do you sell humans here?"

I was wondering if it would be better to sell thieves here instead of killing them.

Slave trader: "Humans are impossible in this country. If you look deeper, there are people who will buy, but there is risk and quality to watch for."

Indeed, so Demi-humans are fine in this country. I guess this is a country of human supremacy.

Naofumi: "Well then, see you."

Thus, we left the slave trader's tent. Firo returns to her human form and ties her claws with a cord to carry.

However, Raphtalia was quiet all the while during the conversation with the slave trader.

Well, it is admirable that she didn't intervene in a business talk and make it awkward.

Naofumi: "It's your turn, Raphtalia."

Raphtalia: "For?"

Naofumi: "Holy water. I'm sure it's sold at a church"

Raphtalia: "Ah, yeah"

Naofumi: "You're a girl, Raphtalia, these black bruises would be bad."

Raphtalia: "Well..... If Naofumi-sama is worried."

Raphtalia mutters bashfully.

Naofumi: "No, I don't mind them. It's because I caused them."

Raphtalia: "So that's what you mean..... It's nothing"

I don't understand Raphtalia sometimes.

Well, either way it's decided.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 4B - Accusations of Identity Fraud

We arrived at an outstanding church within the castle town.

Sister: "He-Hero of the Shield!?"

I was greeted by an extremely bitter face.

Just how much do you reject me to show such a face?

As I expected, due to the rape accusation scandal will I be refused entry to the church?

Priest: "Do not be alarmed."

The priest from the church came and scolded the sister who scowled at us.
..... Something feels off, but there is nothing I can do about it.

Priest: "What do you need from our church?"

Naofumi: "Ah, my companion received a strong curse, so I would like to purchase strong holy water."

This guy did not openly antagonise me, so let's stay neutral.

A price list is hanging from the wall.

Priest: "Then, please give an offering."

Are you asking for an offering because I am supposed to know the price from the price tag?

Naofumi: "How much is it?"

Priest: "The effect from the cheapest to strongest holy water is 5 silver, 10 silver, 50 silver, and 1 gold coin."

Hmm..... It seems that they are not overcharging.

I was expecting them to add sanctions but.....

Naofumi: "It doesn't seem like a good idea to negotiate for discounts in front of God, so I'll take the strongest holy water you have for 1 gold."

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama, you shouldn't get such an expensive thing just for me."

Naofumi: "It's fine. I already said so before. I cherish you. Compared to Raphtalia, one gold coin is nothing."

Raphtalia: "T-thank you very much!"

I give the gold coin to the priest while Raphtalia is thanking him.

Priest: "Understood"

The priest instructed the sister to bring a bottle of holy water.

.....I check the quality of it with the Judge Skill.

Low grade holy water

Quality: Bad

I glare at the priest who makes a confused face.

The priest then checks the holy water and his expression changes.

Priest: "Why did you bring something of so low quality?"

Sister: "But he is....."

Priest: "God is merciful. Repent for your barbaric act of satisfying your own sense of justice right now."

Sister: "I-I am sorry!"

Priest: "I apologise. Our church has been rude"

Naofumi: "I won't complain if you give me my money's worth"

Priest: "I appreciate your benevolence."

The priest personally went to get the holy water.

I check the holy water again.

Holy water of curse removal.

Quality: High Quality

Naofumi: "Well, this is what we came for."

I receive the bottle of holy water.

Firo: "Is that water delicious? Give Firo some too!"

Naofumi: "This is not for drinking. This is Raphtalia's medicine. Is there something wrong with you that require it too?"

Firo: "Yes. Firo is always energetic!"

Naofumi: "Then it is not necessary."

Firo: "Huh~?"

I turned to the priest while Firo has a question mark floating above her head.

Naofumi: "I am grateful. Later, please say the same to that sister at the Hourglass of the Dragon's era. That person tried to make a fool of me."

Priest: "I understand. They are shameful displays unworthy of a person of faith."

Naofumi: ".....I see. Well, Good-bye"

Priest: "Thank the guidance of God."

I feel that the priest is a pretty good person.

This country would be a better place if there are more people like him.

I left the church with that kind of impression.

Itsuki: "Ah! There you are!"

For some reason, Itsuki, Ren and their followers run up to us after we left the church.

What do these guys want?

Everyone is gathering in the castle town. What kind of situation is this?

This time, Itsuki isn't wearing low quality equipments. He is wearing all high quality equipments.

Itsuki is looking at me with displeasure and speaks first.

Itsuki: "You thief! You stole the achievements and rewards of my work!"

Naofumi: "What!?"

Why would I steal Itsuki's reward?

Ren: "Me too. The request that was meant for me was taken by you."

Ren is also denouncing me.

I don't know what they are talking about. Then I remember that plagued village that I helped may have requested help from them.

Naofumi: "I may have taken Ren's job, but I don't know about Itsuki."

Itsuki: "Are you playing dumb?"

Naofumi: "I just said I don't know."

Ren: "Wait wait. Even if Naofumi does not confess, I want to talk first."

Naofumi: "Don't talk as if I am a criminal."

Firo: "Did master do something?"

Naofumi: "I did not do anything! At least nothing that I remember!"

While soothing Raphtalia and Firo, I glare at Itsuki and Ren.

Naofumi: "Anyway, explain the situation."

Itsuki: "Then I'll start"

Itsuki started explaining his circumstances to me.

It seems Itsuki received a request to investigate and if necessary, exterminate the feudal lords causing problems in the northern area. The fellow dressed in armour that stood out was his companion and went to receive the reward from the guild that requested his help.

However, it was said that the reward of the request was already paid and Itsuki concluded that the only person to do something like that was me.

Naofumi: "You know, Shogun-sama..... While you are hiding in the shadows and defeating evil, never revealing your true nature, people won't know who did what. I know revealing you are a hero is your hobby but there are many rumours going around."

Itsuki: "Sho-Shogun!? Wh-What are you talking about!?"

Naofumi: "Placing a sword on your waist and pretending to be an adventurer. Shogun-sama."

Itsuki seems to remember and starts shouting at me. Yup, that's the attitude toward requests that is giving Itsuki a problem in the first place. No one will identify you as the Hero of the Bow with that kind of appearance.

Because of that, your recognition by the country has become either the Hero of the Sword's or Hero of the Spear's.

Why the hell am I actually evaluating something like this, it's meaningless. Being a secretive hero judging evil is cool, but it is not recognised by the world.

While I am still a university student, I understand that appearances are necessary for society to acknowledge you.

If somebody wants to take Itsuki's recognition for his job, all he has to do is announce he is the one who did it.

I mean that kind of hero will exterminate evil because he wants to, not for money or fame.

.....It's a painful topic. In the sense of being a Saint.

Naofumi: "Did you resolve the request as the Hero of the Bow? It is only in the town where the tax is high did I hear it was you. And at that time it was because I was there."

Itsuki: "Because I was keeping it a secret."

Naofumi: "Then, to confirm. Is the Adventurer with the bow in the Resistance of the north country you?"

Itsuki: "Yes that was me! I subjugated the tyrant king with the Resistance."

Naofumi: "..... Do you know what happened to the country after that?"

Itsuki: "The bad king was overthrown, it should be prospering."

Naofumi: "No it's not! They have become so starved that they have to smuggle food by bartering!"

Itsuki: "No way! Why!?"

Naofumi: "You know, the king may have been bad, but the whole country was originally going through a famine. As for the country, all that changed was its head."

Itsuki: "That has nothing to do with me. Please do not shift the problem!"

Sigh..... Irresponsible..... Worry about it a little.

Naofumi: "Then let's reset the story. Did your subordinate go get the reward? Can your subordinate explain the situation?"

Itsuki: "Yes he did! Explain! Explain it!"

Naofumi: "The guild? Is there anything that proves your subordinate isn't the one that accepted the reward?"

Itsuki: "That.....There's a deed. I showed a deed with the king's direct seal stamped on it."

Itsuki declares with a face full of conviction.

What are you saying?

Itsuki: "It is a deed made with special techniques! It is impossible to counterfeit easily."

Naofumi: "Then there is no way for me to get it."

Itsuki: "!"

It seems something clicked in Itsuki's head.

Itsuki: "Th-Then the weapon!"

Are you that desperate for an excuse?..... It seems you want to pin it on me no matter what.

Itsuki: "It is a Hero only privilege to be able to change the form of your weapon. You changed your shield to look similar to a bow, and somehow forged another deed."

Naofumi: "Is that so? Well, all that is possible in this world."

Itsuki: "Yes that's it, do you have any evidence to prove otherwise?"

Naofumi: "Firo"

Firo: "What's up?"

Naofumi: "Return to your true form"

Firo: "Ok"

Firo changed to her true form.

At that time, Firo's one piece disappears and what's left of it becomes the collar. I point at the collar.

Itsuki: "What!?"

Naofumi: "Do you understand? This is a world where something like that can be made. There may be a tool which changes shape into a bow. And it is possible for other heroes besides me."

Itsuki: "B-But-"

Ren: "Give it up Itsuki, with the present conditions and lack of evidence, we cannot conclude that Naofumi is the criminal."

Ren stepped in-front of Itsuki before he tried to accuse me again.

Ren: "In the first place, did you ask the appearance of the fellow who took your achievement?"

Itsuki: "Umm.....that....."

Itsuki ambiguously tried to answer Ren's question.

Ren: "Then give it up. Make yourself known as a hero more. Next is me."

Naofumi: "Is this the matter of the epidemic in the east?"

Ren: "If you understand then this will be quick. Why did you steal my request?"

Naofumi: "Because I was in the area. Did you know? The corpse of the dragon you defeated was causing the plague."

Ren: "What!?"

Ren was at a loss for words and just stood there.

He didn't know? I thought he was a more cold-hearted person.

Naofumi: "A lot of people were dying. There was a brand-new graveyard behind the storage facility. There would have been even more if I wasn't there."

Ren: "No way....."

With tottering steps, Ren tried to head east.

Naofumi: "Wait, you don't have time to go now. The wave is soon"

Ren: "But, this is my responsibility-"

Naofumi: "I already removed the corpse of the dragon. The locals and the Treatment Master took care of the plague. I did steal your request though."

Ren: "Is that so.....Well, it can't be helped."

Ren's complexion is pale.

Itsuki: "You believe that!?"

Itsuki calls out to Ren with a perplexed expression.

Ren: "He has no reason to lie. Besides, the request was cancelled because it was solved. That means it is not wrong."

Naofumi: "I was surprised when the corpse became a Zombie Dragon. Raphtalia received the curse at that time when fighting it."

I did not lie. But, it was my fault.

Ren: "Oh, is that why you came out of the church?"

Ren looked at Raphtalia and saw the bandages as his answer.

Ren: "I hope it heals quickly."

.....This is unexpected. I thought Ren was a cold-blooded guy, but he seems to be weak to problems he caused himself.

They say that weakness is evil though.

Naofumi: "Why did you leave the dragon's corpse there?"

Ren: "Because..... My companion wanted to give the materials to the other adventurers."

Come to think of it, the village did say they were raking it in.

Ren: "I left it to the adventurers and the village. But....."

Naofumi: "Next time, make sure to dispose of the corpse neatly. Corpses will rot. There is danger of causing sickness when rotting. Disposing of entrails and meat are the highest priority."

Ren: "Yeah....."

This is somewhat anti-climactic.

Still, I said nothing about the village.

To think that it was their own fault..... Well, this was the consequence of their own deeds.

Itsuki: "I do not believe it."

Itsuki is more persistent than Ren.

Itsuki: "I will absolutely bring evidence."

Naofumi: "Sure, bring it. However, do not fabricate it. Were you saying that you found the criminal as the Hero of the Shield? Don't interrogate too closely. You know my rumours"

Itsuki: ".....What do you mean?"

Naofumi: "Because after a thief attacked me and I retaliated, he went to a town and declared that I robbed him."

Itsuki: "Th-That....."

Naofumi: "It's the same for you. Shogun-sama I hope you think about it carefully."

Itsuki seems to feel pity for me from that rumour, his glance makes me feel sick.

Why are you looking at me with such eyes?

Itsuki: "For now, let's put this matter on hold."

Naofumi: "I am fine with that, I am not a criminal."

Seriously, I hate false accusations!

Don't just attribute anything bad to me!

Itsuki left in an irritating manner and Ren seemed to be unsettled as he left.

Naofumi: "Oh well, should we go?"

Today was an unlucky day. There were various experiences.

After all, this castle town is under the jurisdiction of that trash king, so there is no way they won't be biased.

Let's quickly return to the hotel.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 49 - Volunteers

The day was over, so we decided to go to a hotel and give Raphtalia treatment.

We re-dressed Raphtalia's wounds by soaking the bandages in the holy water I bought.

After the bandages have been applied, black smoke started rising from the wound.

Raphtalia: "U.....Ku....."

Naofumi: "Are you okay?"

Raphtalia: "Y-yes. There's a feeling of stiffness leaving the body and it's also quite itchy."

Naofumi: "I see....."

I want to heal her as fast as possible, because I injured her.

The black bruise seems to have gotten lighter.

Raphtalia: "The place Naofumi-sama wounded is healing quickly."

Naofumi: "That's good"

I want you to recover as soon as possible.



Firo: "Ah, Raphtalia Onee-chan is so sly, stop philandering with master."

Although Firo says that, she was clinging to me throughout the treatment.

Raphtalia: "I am not flirting!"

Naofumi: "That's right, all I'm doing is treating Raphtalia's wounds."

Raphtalia and I are philandering..... what's with that outdated slang? Oh well. Where did you learn something like that? Raphtalia and I aren't in that kind of relationship.

Firo: "Raphtalia Onee-chan's back is black."

Raphtalia: "Please don't say such things"

These two get along quite well.

Naofumi: "Well, the wave is coming soon so just relax"

Firo: "Okay~!"

Raphtalia: "That's right. We have been quite busy recently, relaxing occasionally is not bad."

Naofumi: "Yeah."

Firo: "Master, when are you going to make food?"

Naofumi: "Let's see..... How about tomorrow?"

Firo: "Yaay~!"

In this way, while giving Raphtalia treatment, we slept at the inn.

The next day.

The equipment I asked the old man to make hasn't been finished yet.
There's nothing particularly important to do, it might be a good idea to show up at the magic shop or the pharmacy.
Or should I go to the dressmaking shop and look?

Naofumi: "Now then, what should we do today?"

Raphtalia: "Let's see....."

Firo: "Food!"

Naofumi: "Yes Yes. I know."

As for recovery medicine, I have already prepared a lot in between the waves.....

Since Raphtalia and Firo have already hit their Level limit, only I need to get levels.

It might be a waste, but it would be fine to take a rest for a while.

Raphtalia's wounds aren't completely healed either.

Naofumi: "Should I go get more holy water?"

Raphtalia: "Eh? There's still some left"

Naofumi: "Is this enough for a complete recovery?"

Although the blackness has faded a bit, it is still far from a complete recovery. What is left leaves me uneasy.

The effect won't be as potent if holy water is not changed every day. At this rate, there will still be some damage left during the wave.

Naofumi: "I sincerely apologize."

Raphtalia: "It is a wound I got myself. Don't worry about it."

Naofumi: "Okay"

Naofumi: "Then, let's go to the pharmacy shop first, we can get food after."

Firo: "Yeah!"

Raphtalia and Firo nodded, we left our baggage at the inn and headed out.

When we got to the pharmacy, the storekeeper's attitude did not change as he welcomed me.

Pharmacy SK: "It's been a while"

I answer the storekeeper's first question.

Naofumi: "Ah, the intermediate recipe book was received and put to good use."

Pharmacy SK: "I see....."

Looking at the medicine handled, I am not up to par yet.

Pharmacy SK: "That reminds me, my old friend the accessory merchant seems be your acquaintance."

Naofumi: "Ha?"

I was surprised at the connection with an unexpected person.

Pharmacy SK: "How did you get so friendly with that miser? He praised you highly."

Naofumi: "You two are acquainted?"

Pharmacy SK: "We knew each other since the old days. That guy, he had an aptitude for using fragment medical herbs to make treatment medicine."

Back then, that guy knew I was making middle class treatment medicine from smell alone!?

Accessory merchant, what kind of person are you? I cannot fathom what else he might be hiding.....

Pharmacy SK: "Hm..... Are you still peddling?"

The storekeeper seems to have heard about me peddling from an acquaintance in Forest village.

Naofumi: "That guy was riding with us in the carriage when a thief that was after him appeared."

Pharmacy SK: "I don't think that guy would have been very happy about it."

I don't understand. Accessory merchant, are you some kind of celebrity?

Naofumi: "Ah, where was I? Oh right, after we captured the thief, I stripped him of all his possessions and confiscated everything from his hideout."

The store keep was silent, put his hand on his forehead and nodded.

Pharmacy SK: "That certainly does seem like you. Indeed, that fellow is also capable of something like that."

Naofumi: "Afterwards, he taught me a lot of things."

Pharmacy SK: "Oh, he was praising you as a quick learner and said you were his successor in commercial spirit."

Naofumi: "Please leave me alone."

I went peddling for equipment fee. The true purpose was not for money.

Pharmacy SK: "So, what do you need today?"

Naofumi: "Ah, do you have any High Class Recipes to sell?"

The storekeeper stops mixing.

Pharmacy SK: ".....That's fast, although I think you are not ready yet."

Naofumi: "Yeah, there is also medicine that is not on a recipe that I can make too."

Strong Acid water, Magical power water and Soul Medicine water can't be made yet.

There has been no need for these yet, but it is possible to acquire the rare materials through a distribution route learnt from the accessory merchant.

Naofumi: "But..... I was not able to save people with the medicine I made. Fortunately, the Treatment Master made Higher Class medicine. I felt inadequate in terms of ability."

The store keeper is convinced with my reply and nods.

Pharmacy SK: "I see..... But it is still too early for a High Class recipe."

Naofumi: "Is it that difficult.....?"

Pharmacy SK: "There are a lot of applications to medicine in Middle class recipes. Besides, there are other things you can make without a recipe."

Is it the materials necessary for compounding? Certainly, it can't be that bad.....

Pharmacy SK: "I can still sell a High Recipe book though, but it will be expensive."

Naofumi: "How much?"

Pharmacy SK: "It's 500 silver coins. It cannot be lowered any further."

I understand that I am getting a good deal.

Learning about medicine, I'm sure there are organizations and companies that are willing to teach, I can also imagine guilds trading information.

But if I learn from somewhere, there will be pressure to help them.

However, a recipe book will save me the trouble.

Naofumi: "I'll take it."

I obediently hand over 500 silver.

Pharmacy SK: "Hmm.....next is this"

I received a book called [Poisonous plants and Poison recipes].

I am slow but I am able to read the letters of this world, to some extent.

Naofumi: "Recipes for poison?"

Pharmacy: "It is impossible to avoid it when trying to be familiar with medicine. Those are intermediate recipes."

Naofumi: "Hmm....."

I skim through it. It contains a simple anaesthesia and other such drugs. This looks difficult, but it won't hurt to learn it. Beside, learning the High Class recipes are out of my reach at the moment

Naofumi: "Thanks. Do you have beginner class recipes such as the heal pill and regular medicine?"

The storekeeper of the pharmacy almost did a splendid fall.

Pharmacy SK: ".....You were making middle class medicine without even knowing the fundamentals?"

Naofumi: "I saw what you were making and remembered."

Pharmacy SK: "Are you a boy from a temple who can't read.....?"

Those words are a proverb from Japan. The shield is probably translating the corresponding phrase from this world.

The shop keeper sighs and fluently writes something onto parchment.

Pharmacy SK: "I wrote the basics of the beginner's class on this. Remember it."

Naofumi: "Yeah"

When we left, Firo was already outside because she disliked the smell from the medicine and Raphtalia was looking at medical herbs.

Soldiers: "Hero of the Shield-sama!"

I hear an unfamiliar voice after leaving the pharmacy.

There were five 14 year old kids dressed as soldiers who were out of breath. I start escaping at once. Raphtalia and Firo also start running. There are too many ideas in my mind.

Solder A: "Please wait! We are not here to capture you! Please Wait!"

Naofumi: "Then what do you want!"

Soldier A: "I only want to talk for a little!"

.....Doubtful.....Let's stop for now.

If it is a lie, should I let Firo rampage?

Soldier A: "Haa.....Haa..... At last, I can finally meet you"

The boy's shoulders are heaving while he gasps for breath.

Naofumi: "What do you want with me?"

Soldier A: "Umm. Can you please let me go with you during the waves.....?"

Naofumi: "Come again?"

What are you saying? I look at the boy with a puzzled expression.

Soldier A: "We are junior soldiers who were impressed with the fighting method of the Hero of the Shield-sama during the earlier wave."

The boy's story is like this.

During the previous wave, the low rank soldiers were impressed by the appearance of Raphtalia and I, who were the only ones to stay behind and protect Forest Village.

It seems the Knight's Order was complimenting me after the wave, seems like there were new rumours spreading about me while I was away.

Soldier A: "During town patrol, I heard that the Hero of the shield was here in town so I came over to have this conversation"

Naofumi: "Really....."

Soldier A: "Our duty is to fight against the wave, but our top priority is to prevent damage done to the people."

That's a noble thought. Though you should be telling the other heroes that.

Soldier A: "Therefore, please let us participate together with Hero-sama during the wave."

Naofumi: "I do not particularly want to fight against the wave, can't we just fight separately?"

There is a backside to this proposal.

Perhaps, with soldiers and knights more active in fighting the wave, security would be better.

Their position will also rise due to actively participating as a companion of a hero.

However, the Hero would also have to fight in the wave. I replied with sarcasm.

There is status magic that requires companions. Perhaps, I can test this during one of the waves.

Using this and establishing a party to fight the wave, it should probably be correct.

If anything, it may be something like offensive and defensive battles with guilds in a net game.

The enemies are not human, but mistakes can be made.

It would be extremely rash to fight alone against such a large amount of demons.

A Hero is probably carrying the duty of defeating the boss class demons because they are the aces..... But the small fries should be able to be dealt with by the inhabitants of this world.

The last wave proves it.

Because the wave spawned near the Forest village which was close to the castle town, the knight were able to rush there, but what about this time.

This country is big. It would be catastrophic if the wave appeared somewhere far-off.

Once that happens, the damage could not be suppressed with such a small group of people.

Well, a standard strategy in fighting against the wave is the proposal I gave the boy, I want to hear his answer.

Did he come to me because there would be little competition compared to the other heroes?

Soldier A: "We want to protect the nation along with Hero of the Shield-sama."

On the surface I can say anything.

Naofumi: "Are you aiming for promotions?"

Soldier A: "No this is different."

The boy shakes his head and answers immediately. I beckon another boy who looks like a magician to me.

The robe he was wearing wasn't purple like the magic shop, but a cheap yellow colour.

They lined up in-front of me and bowed.

Soldier B: "I.....am a native from Forest Village. My family was helped by Hero of the shield-sama before.....Therefore I want to help, even if only a little."

Naofumi: "Aah, I see."

This fellow wants to repay the kindness of helping his family?

Soldier A: "As Hero-sama says, there are certainly people who want promotions. But, I want to help Hero of the Shield-sama"

Naofumi: "I see, well I was just curious..... Hm?"

Soldier B: "Umm.....Hero-sama"

The boy in the wizard clothes looks up, pulls up his robe, and gives me a quill pen.

Soldier B: ".....Please sign"

There might be a catch. Do I write Motoyasu in Japanese?

Hm?

When I look closely, this child is a Demi-human.

Even in this country of human supremacy, when it comes to soldiers there are room for Demi-humans.

Comparing his age and the cheap costume with the wizards and knights, he should be at a low level.

I silently write my signature on his robe according to the wish of the boy while preparing for any magic. There is no a strange feeling or magic effects after I signed.

Well, it does not mean that nothing will happen later. I'll deal with it later if something does happen.

The boy with the wizard clothes smiles happily with a slightly red face.

What is this? It is itchy.

Soldier A: "This fellow is a fan of Hero of the Shield-sama. From a long time ago, he heard traditions of heroes from different countries and wanted to meet the Hero of the Shield."

Naofumi: "Wow....."

This party seems to extremely trust us and want to help.

This boy is not talking, but people from the village of Toka who were saved during peddling gathered with the same thought.

Well, should I try it?

I turn to the boy captain in front and muttered the party formation magic.

As for the conditions of the party, party leader is me followed by Raptalia and then Firo.

Under that, the captain of the squad was given authority.

As for this party, my authority takes precedence. In other words, it is possible to steal all the experience points.

Soldier A: "This is....."

Naofumi: "You don't know?"

Soldier A: "Nope"

Naofumi: "If you are not in the party, go ask that fellow, and go gather any other people who want to participate. However, do not misunderstand. If you try to use me, or something impolite is done, I am dismissing you all immediately." [This sentence here feels weird... not sure if it's just me or that something is really weird here]

Soldier A: "Yes! Thank you very much!"

The two saluted me and left together.

I think that even in this country, I can trust a little.

It was only a moment where I felt that.

Naturally, as I said if anything happens, I will not be lenient.

TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

Chapter 50 - Before the Storm

Old Man: "Lad, your armour is not ready yet. If you are here to use the kitchen, I would like to ask you to refrain."

Naofumi: "Why? I thought you gave me permission a while ago."

Old Man: "If you want to use my kitchen, some compensation is required."

After separating from the child soldiers, we stopped by the market to purchase large quantities of food.

Then we proceed to impose on our handy equipment store acquaintance and start cooking up a storm.

Is this food not my sincerity and gratitude for equipment store for providing cheap weapon and armour?

Firo: "Food! Food!"

For a while now, Firo has been consuming the roast meat and skewers that I have been making.

Old Man: "This smells great! Everyone who entered the shop was tempted by the smell. I went and checked when they left and they all went to the market to buy food."

Raphtalia brings the old man some food while he is making my armour at the counter.

Old Man: "Furthermore, some idiot stole some food from the dish the missy brought me, how did you produce such a taste! There is a crazy commotion since a while ago."

Naofumi: "Just kick the guy who stole food out."

Old Man: "The guy who stole food was generous and bought a weapon. Lad, with you here my sales record for the month is going through the roof."

Naofumi: "That's good. Take it as my thanks to you."

Old Man: "Alright. Not! This isn't some restaurant, it's an equipment store!"

For an equipment shop, you sure have a lot of additional pots and quite a big pan.

Thanks to that, I am borrowing a cauldron to make this world's unique curry.

Strangers: "....."

An aunt from the neighbourhood peeks through the ventilation window, along with several other adventurer-like guys.

I close the ventilation window with a bang.

The smell drifts to the front of the equipment shop.

Old Man: "Lad!"

I heard the old man's shout.

Seriously.....

After the curry was completed, we were evicted from the old man's kitchen and thus end our cooking session for Firo.

Firo still seems dissatisfied and wants to eat more. There are only half of the contents in the pot left.

Due to the pot left behind, the equipment shop later had a rumour about it having absurdly delicious food, but that is a story for later.

Firo: "Master, Firo wants to eat more food~"

I bought some skewers for Firo who inflated her cheeks with a dissatisfied expression while wandering the town for cheap food.

Naofumi: "Hmm, should we just go make something by the riverside?"

Firo: "Meat again?"

Naofumi: "Yeah, you're getting tired of it?"

Firo: "I will not get tired of anything Master makes~"

Naofumi: "Sure sure"

We head back to the equipment shop to borrow an iron plate, which Firo carried.

Well, we will probably become familiar with this place since we will barbecue here in the future too.

I buy the proper materials and start barbecuing by the riverbank.

Firo is concerned about insufficient meat so she went to the forest to horde Usapirus

(tl note: Rip poor Usapiru population)

We had to barbecue for a while until Firo was satisfied and started discussing about what to do next.

Raphtalia: "This is the first time we took it easy"

Naofumi: "Now that you bring it up, yeah it is"

Every day in this abnormal world has been a battle and now looking up to the blue sky gives off a very peaceful feeling.

Makes one forget about the wave of disaster that is only a few days away.

Unexpectedly, Raphtalia plays with the ball that I purchased for her a while ago

Naofumi: "Isn't that..... the ball that I bought for you?"

Raphtalia smiles when I point at the ball.

Raphtalia: "So you remember"

I thought she lost it a while ago, to think she still had it.

Raphtalia: "This is the first thing that Naofumi-sama gave me"

Naofumi: "You were looking at it so wistfully that anyone would have bought it"

Raphtalia: "I don't think so"

Firo: "Na?"

After Firo cleaned up the rest of the barbecue, she turned around.

Firo: "Onee-chan, what are you talking about?"

Raphtalia: "It's just something that happened before Firo was born."

Firo: "Hmm....."

I watch the ball bouncing around.

It looks worn out and some parts are torn. Perhaps Raphtalia was playing with the ball while I wasn't looking.

Naofumi: "Do you want me to buy you a new one?"

It's not an expensive item. If playing with balls is Raphtalia's hobby, then for the sake of her relaxation, I would buy more.

(TI note:PFT anyone got a better translation? because this is too lewd.ボールで遊ぶのが趣味ならラフタリアの息抜きの為に買っても良いとは思う。)

Raphtalia: "No, that is not necessary because this is my memento."

Naofumi: "I don't get it, but....."

If she wants to treat it as a cherished memory then I will not question it.

Naofumi: "Do you want to play together?"

Raphtalia: "Eh!?"

Raphtalia look at me in shock.

Naofumi: "What's wrong?"

Raphtalia: "No..... I just didn't think Naofumi-sama is someone who wants to play with balls."

Naofumi: "Well..... It is unavoidable I would see someone who thinks like that. Though, today would be a good day to take it easy and play."

Can we play volleyball with only the two of us? Well, there is always passing the ball back and forth without dropping it.

The ball is thrown at me and I raise my hands to return it to Raphtalia. This is unexpectedly difficult..... Back then, I barely ever played beach volleyball.

Firo: "Master and Raphtalia Onee-chan are playing! Firo wants to play too!"

The bird finished her meal and started making a commotion while we were tossing the ball back and forth.

Naofumi: "If you want to play make sure to control your power and not destroy the ball."

Firo: "Okay~!"

Raphtalia: "Fufufu"

Raphtalia tosses the ball very happily.

Even though her body is grown up, she is still a child.

Naofumi: "When the wave is over, I'm thinking of going to another country to Class up"

Raphtalia: "Okay. I will follow you everywhere."

Firo: "Firo too~"

The ball flies from Raphtalia to Firo and then finally me.

Naofumi: "Ah"

The ball flew behind Raphtalia and is about to fall to the ground.

Raphtalia: "Ei!"

Naofumi: "What!"

The ball was skilfully hit towards Firo with her tail.

Firo: "Wa..... Firo too"

Firo hits the ball with the wings on her back.

You guys..... Don't use parts that common human beings don't have.

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama"

I wonder why this game is becoming one with strange conditions.

It can't be helped.

Naofumi: "Air Strike Shield!"

The ball is bounced back by a shield that appears in the air.

Raphtalia: "Ah, that's dirty!"

Naofumi: "It's not!"

Seriously.....This is child's play.

As a result of the cool down time, I lost. Afterwards we just played volleyball normally.

Raphtalia: "Well, what should we do now?"

It will be essential for Raphtalia to become stronger from Class up.

Additionally, whenever a wave appears, I am summoned. In the meantime, I should work on levelling up and earning money in a different country.

Naofumi: "We still have time. Raphtalia, Firo. Are there any accessories that you want?"

Raphtalia: "Accessory?"

Naofumi: "Ah, I can craft some so I was wondering if you two wanted any."

From a while ago, I already decided to reward Raphtalia and Firo because of their hard work.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia, you're at the age where you want something like that right?"

Raphtalia: "Y-yes....."

Firo: "Firo too!"

Naofumi: "I understand. Now tell me what you two want."

Raphtalia seems to be dumbfounded.

Is this such a rare occurrence?

Firo: "Uhhh, Firo wants a hairpin"

Firo wants a hairpin huh..... that's surprising since I expected her to want a saddle or some reins.

Naofumi: "Hairpin? Why?"

Firo: "Because it won't dig into my skin after I transform."

You still mind that? Well, perhaps something to stick on her head would be good.

I guess it is appropriate considering how old Firo looks.

Naofumi: "Raphtalia what do you want?"

Raphtalia: "Me? Let's see....."

Raphtalia thinks for a while before answering.

Raphtalia: "I want a bracelet. Granting an effect is important. It will be useless if there is no meaning."

Naofumi: "Huh?"

Raphtalia: "Naofumi-sama, an item that can raise my abilities would be preferable."

I wonder what. My mind seems to have trouble understanding Raphtalia's answer.

A bracelet that gives an effect. I thought she would have wanted rings, earrings or a necklace.

Is my brain just bad?

Naofumi: "O-okay. I'll make it properly"

Firo: "Firo too~"

Naofumi: "Yeah yeah"

We played at the grassy plain till the end of the day, then returned to the hotel to prepare for the wave.