Chapter 197: Meeting Natsumi

"Why did ya look at him!" Loki asked.

"The truth is..." Riveria trailed in an odd voice. "Asahi and his companions slew Amphisbaena."

"What!" Loki stared at me. "Thief!"

"I'm sorry?"

"We needed its magic stone for a quest by Hephaestus," she said. "Ya willin' to sell it?"

I swept the trash off the table and dropped the shattered pieces of Amphisbaena's magic stone.

Loki reached with trembling hands and touched the magic stone. "You! Was that a god's personal dimension?"

Oh crap. Another mistake. I can't reveal the spatial rings, or I'd disrupt the whole Orario. All the supporters, whose entire purpose is to carry stuff for adventurers, will lose their job. That'd be a big blow to Orario.

Riveria took a seat on the side without moving her stare from me. Her jade eyes sparkled like someone who found an oasis in a grueling desert.

"Just a rare skill of mine."

"I was never this jealous." Loki took her hand to her mouth and chewed her thumb-nail. "Not even that loli big-boobs."

"Why, Loki-sama?" Riveria said. "This skill is useful, but it might have limitations. I do not see any other reason for a god to be jealous... also, Asahi. Why did you lie about your level? For five women to take out Amphisbaena, someone among them had to be a level six mage."

"Riveria, don't tell this to anyone." Loki put a finger on her lips as if emphasizing her point. "This man is a demigod?"

"Demigod?" Riveria's eyes shook for a moment before her composure returned. "As in the children of a man and god? Did you not say that gods can't conceive? Then how...?"

"Let's call him an irregularity among irregularities—ouch!" she rubbed her forehead after I flicked her head with telekinesis. "Who was that?" I turned to Riveria with a smile. The sweat on her face made her glowing face even brighter, giving her a divine appearance. She probably ran all the way to the surface. Even as a mage, her basic stats should be more than enough.

"You look lovely."

Riveria shook her head. "Flattery will not get you anywhere."

"Oi, stop ignoring me! I know ya hit me just now!"

Totally ignoring the fuming goddess, I let out a dejected sigh. "A man can't even be honest."

Riveria gave a tiny smile of her own. "Why don't we chat more about this demigod race of yours? How did you come to be?"

"I... let's talk about this later."

I got up and darted out of the room. Loki's voice rumbled behind me, which I dutifully ignored, and sprinted out of the mansion. I don't know why but playing these kinds of pranks elated my heart.

(Naughty child.)

'...'

I bought Jagamarukun for everyone and stopped by Apollo's mansion. I hadn't heard from the guy since the day monsters ravaged his butthole. Did Natsumi blend in with others? I had yet to find out.

I stored the sizzling hot Jagamarukun and smiled at the black-haired woman standing with a spear in her hand.

"Could you please let me in? I want to meet Natsumi in your Familia."

"Oh, it's you. The gig—" she coughed and looked away. "The gentleman with lovely flowers in your garden."

My lips drew a wry smile. She chuckled and opened the door. "Please, forgive me. Natsumi-san ordered me to let Asahi-san inside without any question."

I shook my head and walked inside. I already knew each corner of the mansion, so finding Natsumi was easy as heck. I pushed the door with two presences inside it.

Natsumi sat opposite Apollo, separated by a desk. She turned around, got off the chair, and bowed deeply.

"...Master."

Her hair regained the glossiness, so did her cheeks that showed rosiness, even her thin limbs had become meatier.

Klyscha giggled.

(You are describing a human, not a goat ready to be butchered.)

"Ма—"

"Stop," I interrupted Apollo before he finished his words. A male calling me 'Master' gave me goosebumps. "Call me Asahi."

"Yes…"

Natsumi acted differently compared to that day as if she had accepted to live as my slave.

"Apollo, go do your job. I'll tell her if I want something from you."

His face reminded me of the day he got raped. Satisfying but cursed memories.

Apollo walked past me, stumbling a few times. The ground couldn't be any cleaner, so his unsteady steps meant one thing... I dispelled the thought and cast my gaze to the brunette.

"Did you go to the dungeon?"

"Yes, Master. I reached the seventh floor on my own," she said, a smugness in her voice. "My magic attribute has improved to A-class."

A-class magic was just short of S-class. To get there in a few days, her potential was as broken as ever. Nothing less from the endgame antagonist. Her broken ability to create creatures might be useful if she raised her level. For that, she needed to shed blood and sweat in the dungeon, and possibly eat monster stones. Rini didn't have any side effects, so she should also be fine, the reason being monster stones having no soul.

"And, did you try eating the monster stones here?" I said. "You ate human hearts like nothing. These stones shouldn't be that far."

Natsumi's cheeks lit up, and she lowered her head. I narrowed my eyes at her blushing face. Was she trying to act cute?

"M-Master, I had no choice before..."

"I don't want to know," I cut her off.

Her shoulders slumped sadly before she nodded. "I understand, Master..."

I still didn't like the fact that she ate a human heart like it was nothing. More so, I didn't want to hear her reason. Nobody was born evil. Even she must have terrible circumstances to become a cannibal and wage war against the world. I preferred to avoid knowing her background or my heart will get soft toward her.

(My love is so weak to women.)

'You know me too well.'

"I apologize for my previous misconduct..." she bowed again. "I'll do everything in my power to conquer the dungeon."

I told her my inn's address, which should be plenty popular by now, and returned to the inn.

The girls were discussing the fight and ways to reduce the time. It was like those times a Guildleader sat down to strategize about how to beat the score.

Good ol' RPG days.

They all already showered when I was out. I threw myself at Nao and rubbed my face on her breasts.

"I'm beaten."

Nao giggled and lightly patted my head. "Good job, busy boy."

Once I had enough recharging some energy, I went over to Aimi and settled on her lap.

The girls soon started passing me to others' lap. Grayfia was forced to join since I already bought tonight's dinner.