

Chapter 175 - It seems to be the Defensive Battle of Klinge 5

Asking for an enemy's identity in front of them is something that happens frequently, but that doesn't apply to Frau.

It's because Frau believes that she should initiate the attack first before greeting someone, as soon as she knows that she's obviously dealing with a hostile entity.

Since it's a situation where it doesn't seem as if she would receive an answer even if she were to ask in the first place, she needed no time to judge that it's pointless.

Frau, who charged forth with such a power that she gouged out the ground, unleashes a thrust with the readied spear tightly grasped in her right hand with a force as if throwing it.

Once that attack penetrated the female demon's chest as she was trying to draw close to Frau with unsteady steps, the spear is buried up to the spear handle while making the demon's body blow back.

Originally this was an attack definitely capable of causing a fatal wound, but as long as the temporary immortality effect cast by Frau continues, the female demon won't die.

"Pu-chan! Drag them down!" (Frau 2)

While shouting, Frau cancels the barrier and the temporary immortality which continued in the back of her consciousness.

The fact that the monsters, who were lucky enough to be still alive in a perfectly good health, guessed that the barrier cutting off their retreat apparently vanished and thus scrambled to get away was trifling for Frau at this point in time.

Even the circumstance of the corpse bomb, which had continued its chain, stopping and vanishing due to its targets running away is no problem in particular for her.

In the next instant a ghastly spectacle took place with all beings present disappearing from the surface.

If there was someone unlucky enough to watch that spectacle, they might have seen how countless pure white tentacles extending over a vast range around Frau appeared from underground and dragged each and every thing in the vicinity into the ground in little to no time.

That person would very likely succumb into a state of their mind being broken and craziness within moments.

That's because the confusing scenery possessed such a sinisterism that it would affect the mind of any life-form with just a glance while still being completely lost on what's going on.

The only thing remaining on the ground, which was completely devoid of anything as if the scenes until now had been a lie, besides Frau was the female demon's corpse which had tentacles of various thicknesses hang down from it while being torn apart all over.

Completely different from until now, Frau's eyes narrow down in wariness. In contrast to her vigilantly putting herself on guard, the female demon staggers left and right with her body being full of openings on a simple glance.

But, Frau saw how the tentacles dangling from the demon's body repelled the pure white tentacles that tried to drag her underground.

Moreover, not only did she repel several of them, she even tore them off.

The being waiting for orders below her feet possesses considerable strength as it had been created by Emil and endlessly raised by Frau.

The fact that the demon avoided being captured through a feat of strength boosted Frau's wariness all the more.

However, it seems like the being below Frau's feet hadn't only been repelled. Its tentacles were

entangled with several of the tentacles growing out of the female demon's body, trying to pull it underground.

It was a competition of strength with the demon's tentacles, which in return pull the underground tentacles upwards in order to resist, but the demon's body seems to be fastened to the spot.

"You...acting quite...mercilessly, aren't you?"

A cracked voice that's difficult to understand could be heard.

It was the female demon who's staggering around in front of Frau. She's in no state to produce a voice as her throat had been crushed by a tentacle.

While the tug of war between the tentacles that seems to cause creaking sounds continues in front of Frau who wonders from where she might have heard that voice, the voice speaks up again,

"To suddenly...aim for the heart...impolite woman."

"Unfortunately I want to be regarded as a woman by only a limited number of people." (Frau 2)

A laughter resounds through the throat upon Frau's reply.

Although Frau believes it to be absurd seeing as it should have been crushed, it can't be helped since she's actually hearing the laughter.

Each time it laughed, the demon's shoulders trembled and the spear handle growing out of the center of her chest shook lightly.

"Oh my, oh my, so you were a female dog that shakes her ass to entice men, eh?"

"To not name yourself even though that female dog introduced herself also means that you're lower than a dog, doesn't it?" (Frau 2)

Once she pointedly retorts the provocation, the voice laughs with the demon's body trembling even more violently as if it had heard something very amusing.

Matching those movements, new tears appear all over her body, and new tentacles grow out while scattering blood.

"A dog that's never at a loss for words, eh? But, I guess I shall first praise you for taking such attitude in front of me."

Making sure to drag along the legs, 'that', which had already changed into a cluster of tentacles adopting a human shape, takes one step forward.

Only that move caused several of the white tentacles which should restrain it to be torn apart.

While soothing the hints of trembling perceptible from below her feet with a thought, Frau retreats as much as 'it' advanced.

"I don't feel anything from being praised by someone whose name I don't even know." (Frau 2)

While saying so, Frau considers various options in her head.

The owner of the torn tentacles, "Putrid-chan," as it's called by Frau and Emil was given powers that wouldn't allow any wounds being inflicted to its body with superficial strength.

Much less now that it had devoured three demons and an army of monsters.

'That', which easily succeeded in tearing off Putrid-chan in its reasonably filled state, could be

called such a dangerous being that it couldn't be compared to the demons which had invaded. If she were to be caught by just one of 'its' tentacles, Frau's personal strength wouldn't be enough to slip out.

"I guess the maid's tentacle attacks are meaningless...no, if it's this body, I suppose those around Keith-san will watch the video at front-row seats." (Frau 2)

The cluster of tentacles apparently didn't hear Frau's muttered words.

"You desire mine name? I shall tell you if you can endure this."

As soon as one of the tentacles released a violet phosphorescence, it's brandished towards Frau. The blow was outside the combat distance, but the violet phosphorescence, which clad the tentacle, transformed into a blade, still tracing the tentacle, and swooped down on Frau. Without panicking, Frau is about to cast the <Magic Shield> spell, but then immediately changes her thinking.

"<Roaring Lightning>!" (Frau)

The lightning, which flashed down in a straight line from the sky, clashed with the violet blade. <Roaring Thunder> is a rare high-ranking spell of someone who used it to drive a section of a city into annihilation, and continued to block the hero's attacks, but the instant it clashed with the violet blade, Frau's expression warped.

It's because Frau became aware that her own spell loses out to the blade's power, albeit only slightly.

And that even though she chose and used something with a high power output among the spells used by Renya.

The effective time of <Roaring Lightning> is short.

In proportion to being outpushed, the blade assails Frau while maintaining its power.

"Yaaa!" (Frau 2)

For the first time Frau raises a yell full of fighting spirit.

Her palms, which were charged with so much mana that they shone white, thwarted the violet blade that struck down trying to bisect her body by stopping the stroke between her bare hands.

The clashing violet and white mana cause a violent wind around Frau. Frau stands stock still while pressing her hands together in front of her chest with her hair and skirt fluttering in the wind.

"Hoh, you endured it? I suppose that's quite the feat."

While the tentacle said so with a smile hinting in its tone, the right shoulder and left flank parts of Frau's apron dress tore open.

It's proof that the power, which she couldn't kill completely, reached Frau's body.

Her white skin peeks out beneath the black fabric, and bright red blood appeared on that white skin.

Without holding down those wounds, Frau says with a subdued voice,

"You said you would tell me your name, didn't you?" (Frau 2)

"Very well. You shall have the honor to hear mine name."

Veins appear on Frau's forehead due to the voice released by the tentacle cluster putting on airs, but the tentacles don't notice that.

"I am the demon king. Demon King Stolas Vasargo. Etch this name into your soul." (Stolas)

"Haah, as you wish. By the way, is this your real body?" (Frau 2)

"Are you stupid? There's no way that something like this could be mine real body, is there?" (Stolas)

Stolas answers Frau's question, obviously laughing scornfully.

Deciding to not focus on the matter of being ridiculed for the time being, Frau ponders.

'In other words, the cluster of tentacles in front of me is an offshoot or terminal of the demon king.

Either way, that means it's not their real body but something that's operated by the real body.

Hence it's the same thing as the dummy body currently used by Frau, but the one big difference is the distance to the real body that operates it.

Frau's real body is resting in the audience hall of Renya's castle. The distance to the dummy isn't all that big.

However, if you assume that the demon king offshoot-like creature is operated from somewhere in the demon territory or likely inside the demon king castle located in the demon country's center, it would mean that it's manipulated over an unknown distance that might be several ten thousand times further away than Frau.

"Just what kind of abilities does your main body possess..." (Frau 2)

Exactly because it's something she's doing herself as well, Frau understands. In this kind of work, the grade of difficulty goes up in proportion to the distance between main body and manipulated body.

At least Frau doesn't believe in the slightest that she would be able to operate her adult version body as she's now from the same distance as the demon king.

"You might call it a splendid waste, though." (Frau)

"You bitch, what are you mumbling there..." (Stolas)

Lightning pours down on the offshoot.

It safely blocked the spell with defense magic, but noticing that Frau approached in front at the same time as the lightning stopped caused the tentacles to stir.

On the other hand, Frau unleashes a right front kick towards the core of the tentacle cluster as she draws close. After the thick sound of her boot drilling into the flesh could be heard, one tentacle coils itself around her right ankle. Using that tentacle as foothold, she performs a flying kick with her left leg.

A small, dry sound could be heard from her right ankle at this moment, but Frau's expression didn't change.

The offshoot, which ended up releasing Frau's ankle due to the kick, is sent flying quite a distance while using the momentum to escape the restraint of the white tentacles binding its body.

"Right ankle bone fracture...cutting off sense of pain." (Frau 2)

In defiance of her ankle that seems to be broken, Frau firmly steps down on the ground with both feet.

"This body is more or less set up for combat, but above that, it's something that was created to attend master." (Frau 2)

Frau, whose voice was full of anger, glares at the demon king's offshoot.

"Thanks to you, I've been put on the spot. I have to dispose of this now." (Frau 2)

As soon as Frau mentioned "dispose," the apron dress' fabric from both sleeves up to her shoulders is blown away in one go.

The pure white arms that became visible below are clad in a mana radiance as if burning brightly, making her flaxen hair and the remaining clothes flutter.

"Does your master like playing around with dolls?" (Stolas)

The offshoot hasn't felt the damage from being kicked away for the most part.

Countless tentacles attack Frau, who once again charged while being provoked.

Frau repels those with her arms while charging, but compared to the two arms of Frau, the offshoot has countless tentacles.

The difference in numbers leads to her being unable to repel all of them, resulting in Frau's body being injured.

However, Frau doesn't stop her advance.

At last one blow, she didn't manage to handle, deeply pierced her abdomen. Frau proceeds without minding the wound widening with the same expression as before, and then stabbed her mana-clad arms into the core of the tentacle cluster.

"Even though it's a dummy, that's a drastic way of using it. I'm sure creating something of that extent took time and labor, no?" (Stolas)

"There's no way that I can show something like a body that had been injured by the smelly hands of a demon king to master." (Frau 2)

"What a nasty mouth you have." (Stolas)

The offshoot brings back the tentacles that had been shot out and twines them around Frau's entire body as both her arms are stabbed into the core.

Frau's body, which got restrained without any means to evade, was constricted by the tentacles, and the sounds of bones breaking could be heard all over in no time.

But, there's no movement of Frau's expression as she has cut off her sense of pain.

"I don't know what you're planning to do, but I will twist and crush you before that!" (Stolas)

The sounds of bones breaking become even louder. Bones pierced through flesh and blood throughout Frau's entire body.

Joints bent in direction they must not bend. She completely looked like a doll which had been broken after experiencing the temper of a child.

"It's too late. I have already finished executing what I set out to do." (Frau 2)

Even while her entire body is tattered, Frau's face, which remained unhurt, grins broadly within the tentacles.

The demon king, who can't understand the meaning behind that smile, becomes speechless due to the torrent of mana they can perceive welling up within Frau's body in the next instant.

"A blow with the mana I received from master. That's nothing the likes of a demon king offshoot can block." (Frau 2)

"This is...the mana of a human, you say? Oh my, that makes me look forward to meeting the person himself, you know?" (Stolas)

"Indeed, look forward to it." (Frau 2)

Her body, which keeps being smashed, sinks even further into the cluster of tentacles. While blood runs down at the edges of her lips, Frau whispers,

"A chance meeting with master. That will become your time of death." (Frau 2)

Using those words as trigger, anything and everything was filled by a white light.