

Chapter 90 - Izayoi

48 hours after usurping Demon King Alyssa's Domain.

Rina and Chloe, leading their bloodkin and subordinates, began the invasion of Domains on the way to Uchinada's Domain. As far as we have investigated, there are no high level Demon Kings en route. We might be able to clear a path to Uchinada's Domain in less than a month.

Having reached level 10, I wanted to join the invasion as well, but the Domains that will become the targets this time include outdoor type floors. Given that their compatibility with me is really bad, I decided to focus myself on my Domain's defense.

At the moment humans invading from south and north are completely slaughtered. The sectors there have been set up in a way fitting the Domain's designation as Hazard rank S. 30% of the humans invading from the western side are killed. Those sectors are designed as being gentle towards beginners by me having deployed subordinates who are likewise low level. The humans invading from the east are killed with a rate of 50%. Suitable high rank subordinates have been stationed in those sectors as it's designed towards dreaming intermediate level adventurers.

I will keep this setup for a while. I'm expecting that the invaders' segregation will be finished through active information manipulation on news forums catered towards humans.

The deployment of subordinates and the practical application of the configuration only took 24 hours, but I could confirm that it works. It's necessary to make minute adjustments to get closer to the targeted human annihilation rate, but I think it will be alright even if I leave it alone to some extent.

Pheew, that was tiring. Although a Demon King doesn't require sleep or food...there's really too much work. Well, 【Separation】 probably exists in order to reduce that, but...I still don't have any subordinate who I could entrust those tasks with a peace of mind.

Even a Demon King will someday collapse from overwork...wait, were the Demon Kings specified to be able to move day and night for the sake of preventing that!? Mastermind is truly scary...

Let's stop joking around this point.

"Izayoi, are you ready?" (Shion)

"I have waited for those words." (Izayoi)

Once I called out to him as he stood next to me, Izayoi bowed his head respectfully.

"It's your debut battle, isn't it? Don't betray my expectations, okay?" (Shion)

"Yes, milord! I shall stake my life on it!" (Izayoi)

Izayoi replied to my jokingly encouragement with a serious tone.



The invaders this time are twelve humans invading from the northern side. Their levels are around 20.

According to my net investigations, 20 is the average level of humans who are trying to make a living through invasions of Domains (dungeons). If seen on a global scale, the highest, confirmed

level of a human is 63. In this country the highest confirmed level is 52. If limited to the prefecture, the highest confirmed level becomes 39.

If you compare the human levels with monster ranks, it's said that rank E (rats and similar) is equal to level 1~2, rank D (goblins and similar) is equal to level 3~5, rank C (kobolds and similar) is equal to level 6~20, and rank B (dhampirs and similar) is equal to level 21~50. However, the strength greatly fluctuates depending on the equipment. Given that monsters grow as well, it's a rough estimation that only applies to newly created monsters.

Izayoi's rank is B. Since he's a newly created subordinate, he's at level 21~50 if we apply the levels of humanity. If you take his equipment into consideration, he likely won't be inferior to the invaders in a one-on-one. I had planned to choose moderate opponents for his debut battle, but...

"You or Izayoi...who's stronger?"

I call out to a rank B subordinate, a dhampir, whom I had accompany me.

"With all due respect, I think it's Izayoi-sama."

Thought so... If judged by just his rank, he's equal with a dhampir. However, when I look at the one-sided massacre unfolding in front of us, I can't believe him to be equal to a dhampir at all. I couldn't see the bottom of Izayoi's strength,

"Hi...Hiii...w-why does the Demon King appear at such high floor...!?"

A human, who had lost four of his friends in no time, cramps up his face in fear.

"Me the Demon King...? Bastard! To mistake a weak being like me with Shion-sama...die and repent for thy sin!" (Izayoi)

The enraged Izayoi stabs his spear through the torso of the human who had backed away.

Who's a weak being...? I unintentionally smile bitterly at Izayoi's words.

Nightmare Vampire — a dreadful vampire exhibiting its true value within darkness. At the same time as the battle started, he killed two humans with arrows of darkness that were filled with overwhelming killing intent, and then consigned one human after the other to oblivion with quick movements similar to a flowing water stream.

I had ten dhampirs and living mails ready on standby as backup just in case, but that turned out to be a needless worry.

The invaders were completely overwhelmed by Izayoi's strength. So to say, a state of panic. If they had capitalized on their numerical advantage while keeping their presence of mind, they might have been able to put up a good fight...even if it wouldn't have gone as far as them being able to defeat Izayoi.

This time's battle had been decided at the moment they fell into panic because of Izayoi's first move — the 《Dark Arrows》 Izayoi fired at the same time as combat started.

Izayoi is really strong. The decrease of the maximum CP hurts, but I think I will create one more vampire baron...

I repeat various simulations in my mind while weighing the demerit of the maximum CP decrease and the merit of creating a vampire baron.

The demerit of a maximum CP decrease equals a decrease of the CP recovered over time, doesn't it...? The disadvantage of lowering the hourly CP recovery by 100 is quite big, isn't it...? After all I've still got to recreate the items and subordinates that I lost in the battle against Alyssa...

As I was deeply in thought, the number of surviving humans had become one.

——Izayoi, stand down!

"Yes, milord!" (Izayoi)

Once I order Izayoi in a hurry, he moves to my side and bows reverently.

"I will get rid of the last one by myself." (Shion)

"As thee wish, milord." (Izayoi)

The objective of this battle was to confirm Izayoi's strength, and try out my newly acquired special ability 《Crescent Moon Slash》.

With one left, it's safe and I will check out 《Coercion》.

I stab the handle of Gáebolg into the ground, and speak up, "Mine name is Shion! Disrespectful low-life violating mine domain, you may depart to the realm of the dead with mine name as a souvenir!"

A speech was indispensable to invoke 《Coercion》. I modified the wording a bit, but...since this much is the specification, it can't be helped.

The invader, who was hit by my 《Coercion》, trembles violently, immediately falling on his backside.

"Mmh? What's wrong? You're not going to come? Then..." (Shion)

"Uwaaaaaaaaah!"

While shedding tears, the invader charges at me with full speed while brandishing his sword.

I guess he has become unable to recognize any being besides me...

I tightly grasp Gáebolg's handle with both hands, and swing it down while putting my strength into it.

——《Crescent Moon Slash》!

Swung down with a terrifying force, Gáebolg bisects the invader, who comes rushing...clad in a shock wave at the edge of its blade.

Hmm. The motion is big, but its power is quite high.

I smile, satisfied with the power of my new special ability — 《Crescent Moon Slash》.

"Now then, you guys strip all the belongings of the invaders." (Shion)

I order the accompanying subordinates, and return to my dwelling one step ahead of time.

Chapter 91 - Towards the Outside

Ten days after I defeated Demon King Alyssa.

The invasion of the Domains by Chloe and Rina had been proceeding at a good pace.

"We just have to usurp five more Domains to get next to the Domain with the two Demon Kings?" (Shion)

"After all there hasn't been any particularly strong Demon King since Alyssa." (Kanon)

I have a casual chat with Kanon while checking Rina's and Chloe's situation on my smartphone.

"The Domain that will be invaded next by Rina's unit is...a forest type Domain ruled by an Elf Demon King, and the Domain that will be invaded next by Chloe's unit is...a cave type Domain ruled by a Vampire Demon King, huh? ...That fits perfectly." (Shion)

I chuckle while looking at Chloe's next, scheduled target.

"Oh!? That means...f-finally!? Shion-san you're going to grow out of being a hikikomori[efn_note]I think it's a known Japanese term by now, but basically it describes recluses staying at home all the time, often as result of social withdrawal[/efn_note]?" (Kanon)

"Who's a hikikomori!? Or rather, all Demon Kings are compulsory hikikomori, aren't they!?" (Shion)

"Thii!?" (Kanon)

Kanon, who made a rude remark, screams as if laughing dryly.

"I'm going out, but...Kanon, the Domain's defenses will be fine, right?" (Shion)

"Me receiving the authority as a domain master by doing a 《Separation》 would be an option, no?" (Kanon)

"Don't go on a rampage, okay?" (Shion)

"Don't worry!" (Kanon)

Once you transfer authority to a domain master by separating a Domain, it looks like the temporary domain master becomes able to call upon the information of the entrusted Domain in their mind. Even though the true domain master, the Demon King, needs to straightforwardly check it through the smartphone...I think that discrimination is cruel.

"Well, I guess it can't be helped since it will likely be difficult to defend without the domain master authority." (Shion)

"Fu fu fu...you can leave it to me as I intend to keep the ship sailing." (Kanon)

"That ship...isn't made out of mud, right?" (Shion)

"——Wha-!?" (Kanon)

As saddening it is, I can only entrust Kanon with the defense at present. Given that Kanon has always been sticking to me, she understands my way of thinking. I hold the right over her life, so I

don't think there's any worry of her betraying me.

"Once I activate 《Separation》, the CP will temporarily run dry. The number of subordinates is no problem, right?" (Shion)

"Yes! It will be alright since Izayoi-san will be with me as well." (Kanon)

"The subordinates' stored food is no problem either, right?" (Shion)

"Yes! It's pointless to worry about it since we have put a food production system in order recently." (Kanon)

"The number of stored items is no problem, right?" (Shion)

"Yes! There's also the items we stole from the invaders, so there's no problem." (Kanon)

"Contact me right away if something happens, okay?" (Shion)

"Yes! Please leave it to me!" (Kanon)

"My telephone number is——" (Shion)

"I told you, it's fine! Shion-san. Are you my father!?" (Kanon)

Kanon throws a tantrum because of my nitpicking.

"I'm not your father...I'm your ruler." (Shion)

I answer while laughing.

"Lastly...don't die." (Shion)

"...Yes!" (Kanon)

I give her a last order, and activate 《Separation》 in my Domain.



Once the Domain's 《Separation》 has finished safely, I check the usability of the domain master authority with Kanon.

I had transferred the authority over all sectors adjoining to hostile powers.

There don't exist any strong Demon Kings in the vicinity. As long as the humans don't start a large-scaled mop-up operation with my Domain as target, it will likely pose no problem.

"Well then, I'm off." (Shion)

"Have a safe trip~" (Kanon)

"Shion-sama...good luck!" (Izayoi)

Being seen off by Kanon and Izayoi, I transfer to the exit of my Domain closest to Chloe's current location.

Having finished the transfer, I shudder in front of the exit leading outside.

Haha! ...When was the last time I went outside?

In the residential area of my Domain exist very many outdoor type floors called Production Districts.

I'm not scared of going out under the sunlight... Or rather, it's night right now. Even if I go outside, I don't have to worry about getting weakened.

And yet...what's this trembling traveling across my whole body? Am I scared of the outside world?

Me? The famous, strongest Demon King of Kanezawa is...scared of the outside world?

It was truly correct to not have my subordinates come to see me off at the exit. I definitely can't show...such a state to them.

With trembling legs, I walk across the ground, leading to the outside world.

Come on...I'm not afraid.

I take one step and then another step into the outside world.

A gentle night wind brushes my cheeks, and the somehow nostalgic, outside air stimulates my nose.

Before I realized it, my legs had stopped shaking.

I widely lift up both hands towards the sky, deeply inhaling the fresh air.

The invisible fear had vanished.

Pheew...I fell slightly behind schedule, didn't I? I guess I will bring some souvenirs.

While thinking of the glutton Blue, I try to alchemize fine-quality meat, but...

——?

I operate my smartphone, carrying out item creation with practiced hand moves, but the creation fails completely.

——Don't tell me!?

Realizing a possibility, I try to alchemize various items, to create subordinates, and in the end — to summon a 《Blood Chalice》, but all of it fails.

I can't create and alchemize once I leave my Domain...?

If my subordinates die, I will replenish them with new subordinates. If I'm afflicted by poison, I will alchemize an antidote...and I will create a 《Blood Chalice》 in order to turn a Demon King into a bloodkin. All the strategies I had thought up went up in smoke.

As I realized it before the real deal...I guess I will consider it a good thing.

Oops, I'm really making those guys wait too long.

Okay, off I go!

I run through the outside world towards the place where Chloe's unit is waiting for me.



"Sorry for keeping you waiting." (Shion)

I joined up with Chloe's unit who had been waiting in a ruined park right next to the Domain we will invade.

"That's out of the question." (Chloe)

"The meat souvenir is — gyaaaah!?" (Blue)

Chloe who bows deeply while genuflecting, and Blue who writhes in agony after receiving a back hand blow from Chloe. The one bowing deeply like Chloe, the dark high elf who had become a new bloodkin — Kureha. Two ogres boasting of huge frames and bowing lightly — Noire and Rouge. In addition, as subordinates of my bloodkin, three living mails, two dark elves, and two dhampirs. Those are the subordinates composing Chloe's unit which has been active as an invasion team.

"It's abrupt, but I suppose we're going to start the invasion of the Domain." (Shion)

"Yes! What's the policy on this occasion?" Chloe asks keenly.

I had informed Chloe and Rina of the policies, including the Domains that will be invaded.

There are two big policies.

First, annihilation.

Second, restraining the enemy's damage. The purpose is to welcome the enemies' monsters, which I can't create, as subordinates.

Hence, the policy I should tell her here is——

"Annihilation." (Shion)

The Demon King of the Domain we're going to invade next is a vampire. The monsters that have been confirmed are mostly ghouls. In short, the rank of Creation is C. There are no subordinates I would want to obtain at great pains. In that case, it's the very best plan to use them as nourishment for a level up.

""As you order!""

I set out for my very first Domain invasion alongside my subordinates whose morale was at its peak.