

## **Chapter 201 - It seems Something has been summoned**

Orichalcum was the name of a metal. Its rarity value was said to not lose out to mithril which was mostly monopolized by the elves. It was a metal famous in this world for its abnormal hardness and durability, even more so than the beauty of its silver shine. Only its name was renown, but most of the humans would not get to see the real thing even once in their lives.

It had a value that would be exchanged between people, who knew of its worth, for twice its weight in gold. That's how precious a metal it was. Because it required a high level of skill on top of extremely much time and effort to process and refine, it was likewise a troublesome metal that would turn into useless craps depending on the skill of the craftsman working with it.

"It's not wrong for me to interpret it as being a somewhat amazing metal, right?" Renya asked to make sure after receiving an explanation about orichalcum.

In response, Emil bobbed her head with a nod, "At least it's such an amazing metal that it made the baron's expression change."

"Somehow it doesn't sound as though it's anything worthwhile if you phrase it like that."

"Ah right, I forgot you were a margrave, Renya." Emil laughed with an "Ahahaha."

The baron and his soldiers had begun to remove the unnecessary soldiers and residents in the vicinity. In the end, the baron and his retainers didn't have an idea what to further do with Renya who safely returned after jumping into the sea just as he had said at the beginning. Above all, it's not like he was safe by coincidence after jumping into the ocean. He properly returned after hunting the katurul, the reason for the ban on fishing in the sea.

"Margrave-dono...please restrain yourself a bit." The baron couldn't do anything besides saying this with an extremely exhausted voice.

Being told so, it wasn't as if Renya didn't feel slightly bad about it, but beyond that, he was actually more concerned about having to process his catch first.

"For the time being I think I will later consider how to deal with this orichalcum or whatever."

"Umm, Renya. That's actually a top quality item as metal that can be processed by humans, and a priceless treasure as military material. If you handle it badly, it's very likely capable of throwing the military balance on the continent into chaos."

Certainly, it was a metal requiring time and effort. Moreover it was an unusable raw material unless you handed it to a capable craftsman possessing a high skill, but it was also a material which became more rewarding the more effort you put into it. It would be possible to create arms boasting of such a performance that any comparison with armies only using iron and steel would be a bad joke.

With just that, it should be handled delicately, but Renya's handling of the orichalcum could be summed up with 'crude'.

Given that it would become impossible for Renya to play dumb by saying that he hadn't heard anything about this later on as long as she told him in advance even while believing that it might be pointless to do so, Rona gave him a retort while explaining, but Renya's reply was curt.

"Isn't it fine for them to do as they like as long as they can retrieve it from the bottom of the ocean?"

"That's impossible. They will die." Rona bluntly said as if making clear that no one besides him would be able to swim around in such a dangerous sea.

Without being surprised, Renya nodded, and answered, "Then there's no problem, is there?"

Renya's words included his thoughts that it was unnecessary to worry about it, no matter how valuable it might be, as long as it was a material no one besides him could pick up, even if it might be dangerous, and seeing how this was the truth, no one could actually object either.

"There's something more important than that."

"Eh? Umm...more important despite it being such a crucial topic...?"

"For me this is more important."

Albeit being surrounded by soldiers, Kilie continued to maintain her fire without minding the looks of the town's residents at all. Round slices of the katurul's tentacles and slices of the goldthun, which Renya had just caught, were being grilled on top of the wire netting placed above the fire while scattering a fragrant aroma all around with a sizzling sound, whetting one's appetite.

Both were being grilled while only having salt sprinkled on them, but the fragrance of the goldthun's roasted oil was mesmerizing, and the grilling aroma of the katurul's tentacles was - contrary to its appearance - filled with the aroma of salt, bringing about a scent that spurred on the saliva in everyone's mouths.

Thinking that he might as well eat it raw, Renya cut it into thin slices and placed it on a plate together with soy sauce. It was a raw dish, and as result, it managed to keep others at a distance, but since Renya told her to try it since it's delicious, Shion readily went for it.

Because the grilled ones were already available, the other members were only interested in those, and didn't go for the raw fish.

Shion, who went for it after being told to do so by Renya, had slowly extended her hand for the initial and second portion, seemingly considering raw seafood to not be half bad after tasting it, but now she was stabbing the raw slices with her fork and taking it off Renya's plate on her own device without being offered any by Renya, quickly dipped it in soy sauce, and stuffed it into her already swelling mouth.

"So it was about eating, after all."

"Well yeah. So, in regards to this matter, I think I will fully hunt down the katurul in this area of the ocean first."

"Wut?" Rona said something silly while feeling that she misheard.

While stabbing her fork into a grilled fish slice, Emil said with a serious look, "That makes sense. What a wonderful idea."

"Wait a moment!?" Rona was surprised at Emil easily agreeing with Renya.

Baron Gordonal had apparently heard Renya's words while organizing the soldiers withdrawal, and turned into Renya's direction with a cramped face

"What's so surprising? Seeing as that's here, you can't fish in this area of the ocean. Hence, is there any other method besides exterminating it?"

"That's certainly true, but although you talk about exterminating, it isn't such an easy matter..."

The opponent was a creature so big that it occupied almost all of the world's oceans. No matter how much Renya could one-sidedly hunt the katurul, the Gordonal Barony was but a tiny fragment when compared to all oceans. Even if he were to hunt the katurul's arms in this barony, Rona couldn't believe in the slightest that he would manage to hunt it down completely.

"More or less, it seems to possess some intelligence. It ran away when I started to hunt it. That's why it will sooner or later understand that this area of the ocean is dangerous if I keep hunting it determinedly, no?"

"That's not really..."

"It doesn't...sound like an overly realistic...plan." Kilie interjected while bringing a piping hot, grilled fish slice to her mouth.

Kilie, who was shrewdly watching over the portioning while preparing the fish and tentacles that Renya spit out of his inventory, continued after swallowing down the slice in her mouth, "The katurul's intelligence isn't all that high. Above all, the damage of the katurul in this area is no more than chipping off a bit from its toes. That's why I can't believe that it will consider it a danger, no matter how many tentacles you cut off, you know?"

"So it's no good if I don't fight its main body after all, huh?"

"No, please refrain from fighting its main body. That will actually spell the destruction of all continents."

The katurul's main body was said to exist in the space between the continents and the bottom of the world. It was unknown what kind of calamities would strike the continents which were located on top of its body, if the main body of such a creature were to thrash about after being hit directly. At worst, it was possible that most of the continents would sink into the ocean.

"What are you telling me to do then?"

"I want to tell you to give it a rest, but that's probably impossible, isn't it?" Kilie separated from the

fire with an expression that made it clear that she was reluctant.

While being watched by the others who wondered just what she was planning to start here, Kilie briskly stepped up to the edge of the wharf without any kind of enthusiasm, suddenly closed her eyes, and thrust her arms into the sky.

"Oh ocean demon, oh great ocean demon, thou shalt wait dreaming in this house of thine dreamland..."[efn\_note] Ph'nglui mglw'nafh Cthulhu R'lyeh wgah'nagl fhtagn — "In his house at R'lyeh, dead Cthulhu waits dreaming"[/efn\_note]

"Hey, wait a moment."

Renya, who went around to behind Kilie who had started to make some kind of speech towards the sea, delivered a front kick at Kilie's waist area. His kick slightly veered off target, and struck Kilie's tailbone.

Kilie, who raised a weird groan after being surprised by the impact of the kick and the place hit by the kick, had the misfortune of standing at the wharf's edge, and thus fell into the sea with a splash.

The act of kicking someone down into the ocean where the katurul dwelt was quite likely to directly connect to their death. The air in the vicinity froze, but the perpetrator, who had kicked her down, and the victim remained calm.

"Renya-san, even if I might be a nice woman, I don't think that it's any reason to forcibly make me sopping wet with water and all." Kilie completely sank underwater once, but she immediately rose to the surface, and reproachfully looked at Renya who was brazenly standing on the wharf.

Even that look of hers didn't perturb Renya at all, "Just when I wondered what you were starting there...a phrase that sounded like something I have heard somewhere before?"

"That's of course because I thought I would summon the katurul itself." Kilie declared indifferently, but the reaction by the gallery was tremendous.

Almost everyone except for Renya distanced themselves from the wharf in panic. For it to be almost everyone and not everyone was owed to Rona warming herself at the fire, Shion still extending her hands to the grilled fish in silence, and Emil watching the whole chain of events while looking amused. In other words, only Renya's friends hadn't moved a step from their spot.

"Summon the katurul, you say? Are you sane?" Baron Gordonal, who was at a distance that couldn't be called escaped yet but still in the range of having retreated somewhat, asked Kilie who still didn't show any signs of getting out of the ocean.

"No, I mean, don't you think it's the easiest way for everyone involved to get the main body to come here to tell it about Renya-san's wish?"

"It might be the easiest way, but I can't believe that it will be able to understand our intentions."

In Renya's mind, the katurul hadn't left the region of being recognized as abnormally huge octopus. It was Renya's belief that it would be impossible to communicate with an octopus, but since this

was a different world, he couldn't actually exclude that possibility either.

'Don't think that everything is allowed as long as you add the tag "because it's a different world" to it', Renya felt.

"That puts me at a loss."

While placing a finger on her chin, Kilie raised her body from the ocean where she had sunken down, and stood up straight.

"Haah?"

Kilie was obviously standing on the water's surface. It was clear to Renya who had dived there, but it's not like a foothold where one could stand was existing there. It should be a place with the ocean's bottom being ten-odd meters below the water's surface. Of course people couldn't stand on water without any kind of support either.

'In that case, just what is supporting Kile from below, allowing her to stand there?'

"Shion! Rona!"

"Yes?"

Shion, who was still chewing fish slices, and Rona, who was looking into the far distance for some reason, simultaneously looked in Renya's direction upon his slightly desperate-sounding voice while being led by the hand and having their heads grabbed by Renya.

Emil, the only one to not be pulled along, looked at Renya unhappily, but immediately after noticing where Renya was looking, her face cramped up a bit.

Once Baron Gordonal and the surrounding soldiers, who noticed that Emil's face had cramped up, followed her eyes, they directly looked into a pair of shining eyes beneath the place where Kilie was standing.

"Nu!?" Baron Gordonal strongly ground his teeth.

His eyes widened drastically and large drops of sweat appeared on his face. Around him, the soldiers feebly sank down to the ground as if their souls had left their bodies. Some soldiers among them started to weakly laugh with empty voices while sitting on the ground, with their eyes darting around aimlessly and any expression having vanished from their faces.

"Well, I have given up on summoning the katurul itself."

While looking down at her own feet, Kilie started to explain with an indifferent tone as if not noticing the terrible spectacle around her.

"I guess we should try talking with a kin that can understand us."

The water surface under Kilie's feet rose slightly.



Renya, who guessed that it was an omen for the something beneath her feet trying to make its appearance above the surface, shouted in panic, which was unusual for him, "Don't come out! Don't let that one come out of the surface, no matter what!!"

"Are you pretending?"

"As if anyone would put up such a pretense in this situation!?"

While blocking the view of Rona, whose face became bright red, and Shion, who looked somewhat happy, with his own body to make sure that the two wouldn't see the thing below Kilie's feet, Renya reined in Kilie, who had a puzzled expression, with a fairly frantic voice.