

Chapter 211 - It seems to be the Next Job

Dull impacts could be heard in the distance. Those sounds, which kept occurring endlessly since early in the morning, were apparently overlooked by the town's residents as something inevitable for the time being, but still, there was no way to change the fact that it was annoying.

As for just what those sounds were about, Renya could provide an accurate answer. And, exactly because he knew its true identity, he sighed for the umpteenth time today at reality, becoming heavy-hearted.

After the mock battle, Shion had to stay in bed for several days. As a result of her going at it with a strength unbelievable for a beginner while abruptly controlling mana, which she couldn't even touch until then, for an extended period, she had apparently experienced a fairly deep mental fatigue which was accompanied by an intense sleepiness that didn't go away at all.

Another reason was her body falling short in performance, albeit having received a certain level of basic training, since she had exploited it at the levels of Renya and the katurul. In other words, her body needed several days for recovering from its mostly self-inflicted damage.

The first two days were terrible. It was fine when she was asleep, but during the short periods when she regained consciousness, Shion was tormented by intense headaches and muscle pains. Moreover, as a part of her muscles had torn, she continued to groan in pain while unable to move. It was a situation where an outsider would worry whether she was being tortured.

Rona, who could use healing arts, single-mindedly nursed Shion, but she also went down on the third day after overusing her divine arts. She had used too much of her arts power, but just like Shion, she became unable to move on her bed while being tormented by sleepiness and headaches.

The one who helped those two in their time of need was Emil who assiduously concocted many medicines using ingredients she had obtained from Kilie. Furthermore, after confirming that Kilie herself was a divine arts user, she was given permission to apply healing arts on Shion and Rona.

This resulted in Renya looking at Kilie, who could manipulate even divine arts despite being a peddler, in suspicion wondering just who the hell this person was, and even others besides Renya started to get interested in the question just what kind of upbringing Kilie had to have acquired so many abilities, but with Kilie's short comment that it was owed to her being a peddler, everyone except for Renya lost interest in Kilie in such a smooth way that it was rather quite odd.

Now that it had come this far, even Renya started to make various guesses about Kilie's true identity, but after trying to ponder about it in various ways, he eventually realized that it might not lead to significant benefit even if he attempted to thoroughly investigate the truth, and thus stopped brooding over this matter altogether.

For some reason Kilie was displeased about Renya readily pulling back here, but while saying that she should simply spit it out at once if there was anything she was hiding, Renya deliberately didn't concern himself with that matter any longer.

As time passed on, Shion and Rona recovered. However, their surroundings were taken aback by

the changes to their bodies.

First, Rona's maximum amount of arts power had increased to an abnormal level. Between mana and arts power didn't exist any difference. It was just that they were categorized in mana to be used for sorcery, and arts power to be used for divine arts, but both belonged to the same greater origin.

Certainly, it was a well-known fact that the amount of mana one could possess increased by continuous use, and with arts power basically being the same, this fact applied here as well, but no matter how much arts power Rona might have exhausted for Shion's sake, the power increase should have been a small one according to common knowledge, even if Rona endlessly continued casting healing as soon as it wore off over a period of two days.

However, anyone would hold their head in despair if an uncontrollable power, which raged within the room the moment she woke up while pulverizing the furniture, breaking the windows, and blowing away the sickroom's walls in the end, were to be described with just 'abnormal.' Fortunately, Rona was alone in the room when she woke up, and therefore no one got injured, but assuming this wasn't a natural phenomenon, the number of suspects could immediately be narrowed down to two.

Once Renya confronted Suspect No. 1, Emil, she denied liability at full throttle.

"It's true that I do like experimenting on people, I admit. But you know, if I did something to those two, it wouldn't be anything where I wouldn't be able to predict what you'd do to me, would it? You don't really think that I'm that much of an idiot, do you?"

That was definitely no remark one could brag about, but neither did she say anything wrong. Emil, who kept the secret of being a demon from others, had kept Renya company for a fairly long time, so she naturally was able to judge how far she could go before it became a fatal mistake.

"Well, that makes sense...which means..." Renya shifted his eyes to Suspect No. 2.

This side said with a broad smile while keeping her calm, not trying to make her point like Emil, and without looking away, "Even peddlers have things they can and cannot do."

"...That doesn't say that 'cannot' applies in this case, does it?"

"Now, I wonder which it might be."

Kilie immediately struck back while keeping up her smile, but while a thin layer of sweat formed on her face, she averted her eyes slowly, truly very slowly, as if to escape Renya's stare. Renya stared at her for a while, but after a while he released Kilie from his scrutinizing gaze.

Rona's change was just an increase in her arts power, and although she was regarded by some around her like a ridiculously dangerous being, she immediately mastered the control over her grown powers. Given that it allowed her to lead a very ordinary life afterwards, it didn't cause any harm but only advantages, if seen in the bigger picture.

'Although it seemed as though she had been hurt a bit by the looks from those around her, I think she should perceive it as trifling matter seeing how she had gained the benefit of her usable power

having increased significantly in comparison to before she fainted and collapsed, shouldn't she?' Renya wondered.

Rona's case finished with only this much, but for Shion it became even more terrible. First off, just like Rona, she grandly destroyed the sickroom and its furniture when she woke up. One could consider this to be owed to her increase in the amount of mana she possessed because she continued using <Roar>, but just as with Rona, the increase went far beyond common sense.

What was even worse was Shion, who had been no more than a swordswoman, meeting unexpected difficulties in controlling her increased mana - unlike Rona who apparently easily mastered its control because she had a foundation to work with as a priestess. This led to an amplification of the damages, and Renya got stuck with paying a rather big amount of money to Baron Gordonal as reparation and repair fee for the building destroyed by Shion.

The problems didn't stop at that either. Shion's abused body even had its physical strength, in other words, its muscles increased and showed a trait similar to Renya's Super Recovery. And that led directly to many comical situations: By just trying to raise her body from the bed, Shion jumped up due to the strength of her abdominal muscles, broke through the ceiling, and soared high up in the sky, just to drop down again and create a crater on the ground by simply bracing her legs to endure the impact. Becoming panicked by this event, she tried to run off to look for help, but putting too much force behind it, she destroyed several buildings along the way, and unable to stop her momentum, she fell into the ocean, almost drowning in the process.

Renya started to believe that now that it had reached this extent, it wasn't a simple matter of just muscles either, but very likely something triggered through body strengthening by her increased mana, and became somewhat panicked due to that. He seized Shion who was nearly drowning while raising sheets of water spray, or rather, was grandly stirring up the sea while causing explosions and columns of water shooting up into the sky. He soothed the rampaging Shion by hugging her, and prevented the situation from going out of control any further by somehow making her calm down.

Afterwards, Renya taught Shion how to use her strength for the whole day, and brought her up to a level where she could somehow go on with her everyday's life without any impediments.

On a side note: If Renya had been unlucky, he could have been in a situation of actually causing the same kinds of incidents as Shion. Since he possessed abilities going beyond those of Shion, you could only call that natural, but if you were to ask why he didn't pull off such Shion-like comedy acts, the sole answer would be his superior ability in handling his own body.

Later on, those comedy-like incidents also became an issue when Shion repaired the plaza she had destroyed. In order to prepare the churned ground which had become very uneven because of Shion's attacks, Shion took out a wooden mallet and started an attempt to level the ground, but as soon as her first mallet strike hit the ground, the plaza was transformed into a crater alongside a thunderous roar.

Although Shion had become capable of controlling her strength to a degree allowing her to somehow lead a normal everyday's life, Shion unnecessarily put too much strength into her mallet strike, and the blow, which fully used her entire body's power, ended up blowing away the ground as a result. At this point, Renya could only feebly laugh at this, and after recovering Shion, who had frozen up in the pose of having swung the mallet down, he was once again forced to shoulder the

reparations and repair costs for the destroyed buildings that had their walls and windows broken by the earth that had been blown away. Moreover, ocean water flooded the new crater, turning it into a situation that couldn't be fixed with a superficial repair any longer. Renya reluctantly provided the funds out of his own pocket, and got stuck with rebuilding the town's plaza from scratch after Shion had delivered the finishing blow against it.

"Sorry, Renya..."

Making that much soil fly into the vicinity naturally meant that the ringleader behind it would be covered in plenty of dirt as well. Shion came to Renya's place to apologize with a meek expression while being smeared with earth and sand from the top of her head to her toes.

While wondering whether she would break out in tears if he started to laugh loudly here, Renya loosely waved his hand.

"Yeah, well...don't worry about it. I'm not troubled with money, and even if I lose some of my funds in the Gordonal Barony, it might pay off beneficially in the future. Besides, I have no intention to get upset over the careless mistake of a young chick who just discovered her abilities."

While calming the dejected Shion, Renya carried soil and materials, which Rona had arranged for after he asked her, over to the plaza, and rebuilt the plaza from its foundation while having the katurul hold back the ocean water after putting up a request through Kilie.

Normally this would result in even further expenses assuming that he decided to carry out this workload while employing manpower, but in addition to turning this into Shion's skill training while at the same time having her learn to handle her strength, Rona helped Shion out, thinking that it would be a good opportunity to practice her own strengthened divine arts. Thus he got two birds with one stone, as long as he didn't take his own personal expenses into account.

And that's how the plain work of carrying in the soil and hardening it by single-mindedly beating it down in order to level the ground before laying out a stone paving led to the dull impacts of the mallet striking the ground continuously resounding throughout the city from morning until evening.

While watching the work from a small hut that had been quickly erected close to the work site, Renya suddenly recalled the time when he came to this world. The two women, who introduced themselves as swordswoman and priestess apprentices while being caught in the dilemma of being surrounded by several adventurers back then, now had reached a point where they carried out work that would usually be handled by heavy machinery in his former world.

'At this point it's nothing that will ever happen, but I wonder what the adventurers of that time would think if they were to encounter the two right now,' Renya sighed heavily.

"The passage of time...is unexpectedly cruel, isn't it?"

Once Renya muttered this line while somehow unable to escape the feeling that he had pushed those two in a wrong direction, Kilie chuckled right next to him as she gazed in the same direction as Renya with vacant eyes that seemed sleepy out of boredom.