

As soon as the car arrived at the gate of Klinge's wall, guards immediately ran up to it. Even for Klinge, the car built by Emil was unusual, but it wasn't anything that was kept completely hidden. Since Emil was occasionally taking it out for a drive through the city by herself, the soldiers weren't surprised to see it, but as it was a machine which people, who had come to Klinge from outside, could have never seen before, it gathered the attention and astonishment of those waiting outside the city for their turn to enter through the gate.

However, in the eyes of the four sitting in the car, the fact of drawing attention each time they did something wasn't anything that wouldn't cause them to think anything of it as they were already used to it. Only Kilie, who had little experience in that area, let her eyes restlessly wander all over the place in a way that looked somewhat suspicious.

Among the soldiers stationed in Klinge, there wasn't anyone who didn't know Renya's face. That was something that could be considered natural seeing as he was the feudal lord, but among the nobles, there were also some who almost never left their own mansions, and in this world it was still normal for information about their lord's appearance to not be passed on to the soldiers at the lower end of the hierarchy.

However, because Renya was frequently leaving his mansion to stroll through the city or eat something at restaurants and stalls, most of the soldiers had seen Renya from nearby on several occasions, and thus such a concern didn't exist.

"Milord, welc..."

One of the soldiers, who rushed over, started to say when he recognized Renya, but he stopped in the middle of it, surprised by the weight and the light impact he felt from the helmet on his head. Even Renya, who was about to answer the soldier, became speechless after turning his eyes slightly above the soldier's face. All the women except for Kilie smiled bitterly, and Kilie was bewildered as if witnessing something unbelievable.

"Welcome back, master ~nano."

Any resident of Klinge, ranging from little babies to old men on their deathbed, knew the name connected to that voice, with around 70% of them harboring heartwarming feelings, 20% feelings of respect, and 10% fear. The little girl lightly pinched the hem of her skirt, and while making the hemline draw a gentle curve, she performed a bow to welcome the return of her master, which anyone would describe as flawless. However, her having chosen the head of a soldier for that wrecked almost all of the mood.

By the way, the soldier used as a foothold tightly pressed his eyes shut with a frozen expression, and stood completely still without even twitching a bit, just as if he had turned into a stone statue.

'I cannot imagine that she's not heavy,' Renya thought absentmindedly.

Going by the whole situation it was vanishingly unlikely, but if the soldier opened his eyes and looked upwards, or even if he pointed his face upwards just a bit, something that mustn't be seen by him might be reflected in his eyes. Or, it might happen that his head would get stuffed inside her skirt if she were to slip on top of his head, missing her footing.

If any of that were to take place, he'd die. Most likely he would be killed.

The cruel nature owned by humans was occasionally described as being so nasty to look at that it made even the gods draw back, but he would doubtlessly killed in a way so repulsive that it'd be hard to put in words and that even looking at the cruel acts mentioned above might still be much better than watching the scene that would unfold.



Exactly because the soldier managed to instinctively grasp that fact somehow, he didn't move at all while acting as foothold. Persuading himself that he was a stone statue, he was stoically enduring something that was far more dreadful than a death god to the point of giving up his own humanity.

"Thanks for coming to welcome me. But, isn't the place way too poor? Get off him right away. You're troubling the soldier, you know?"

Once Renya ordered her like this while worrying that the soldier might voluntarily stop breathing any moment now if he didn't throw him a lifeline at once, Frau, the reason why the soldier had transformed into a stone statue, casually hopped off his head like a rabbit.

For an instant the soldiers got entranced by the gentle scent of an unknown flower wafting through the air in concert with her jump, but immediately understanding in the next moment just what had happened, all of them turned right about-face with a speed and force that it looked as if smoke was raising at their feet, turning their backs on Renya and the others. Their behavior was triggered by them having caught sight of the hem of Frau's skirt having been faintly blown up by the wind pressure alongside Frau's hair, which scattered a floral aroma into the vicinity as it spread out due to the force of her jump. But then again, on top of it not having been blown up to a dangerous extent, it wasn't as though Frau had jumped off without considering all that, but sometimes the worst case scenarios also came true.

What would have awaited them if they ended up drawing that possibility, which hadn't a probability of zero, might have been a future where they would have no choice but to appeal to get killed at once. Thus you could call the soldiers' reaction very reasonable.

In reality, the extent of the soldiers' thoughts was well within Frau's assumptions. If something like that had actually happened, Frau had planned to hug Renya while complaining to him about her underwear having been seen while blushing out of embarrassment with tears in her eyes, and certainly not what the soldiers had been imagining.

'If it had played out like that, Renya would have likely forgiven the soldiers since it was an accident while consoling Frau. With Frau forgiving them then, it would have resulted in the soldiers obtaining a good impression of Renya, who would have smoothened things over in their favor. After all, Frau can fully behave like a spoiled child towards Renya without having any scruples about what others might think about her. It'd have been the truly best plan without anyone losing anything from it. If it's for that sake, Frau wouldn't mind showing her underwear,' Frau judged, but at the last moment she gave up on it with her reasoning kicking in, 'Frau probably shouldn't act so shamefully as Renya's maid.'

The retort that she shouldn't land on top of a soldier's head but instead on the ground in the first place didn't even occur in Frau's mind, and there was no way that someone, who could give her such retort, existed in the Kunugi Margraviate, except for Renya.

Frau, who had executed a soundless landing while suppressing the flapping of her skirt by releasing a faint amount of mana, ran up to Renya, who got off the car, with noisy footsteps, the exact opposite of her quiet movements just now, and energetically hugged him at his waist area.

"Welcome home, master ~nano! I missed youuu ~no!" Frau, who embraced Renya with such a force that he let a groan escape, rejoiced as she ground her face against Renya's belly.

The surrounding people were puzzled whether they should stop Frau's rubbing and hugging which made one think that any common soldier might easily faint from just the rubbing damage, but seeing Renya shaking his head, indicating that it was no issue, while accepting Frau's body, the soldiers returned to their own stations, and Shion's group got out of the car.

Frau fully immersed herself in the sensation of burying her face in Renya's abdomen, but noticing that the number of people getting off the car had increased compared to how many had mounted the car at their departure, she suddenly stopped moving altogether.

"Did you increase the number of girls again, master ~no?"

"It's not 'again,' stop using that word. It sounds so scandalous."

Pulling back her arms which she had put around Renya's waist, Frau turned around and made a short bow towards Kilie who had left the car.

"Hello, I'm the super beautiful peddler Kilie."

Just as Renya wondered whether he should go ahead with the introductions in this place, Frau responded to those words while lowering her head, "How polite of you. Thank you. I'm called the transcendental beautiful maid, Frau ~no. Nice to meet you ~nano."

"That's where you compete...?"

Renya rolled his eyes, and Shion as well Rona laughed dryly. However, Frau's next words caused the blood to drain from their faces.



"Over there is Frau's master, Renya-sama, the super militaristic noble ~no. And next to him are the super-disappointing beauty Shion-ane-sama, and the super-fleshly-desires beauty Rona-ane-sama ~nano."

"It's not necessary to introduce me, is it!? Or rather, you don't need to throw me in the mix there, do you!?"

"Disappointing? You're talking about me!? ...Renya, what's the meaning behind the second half of your remark?"

"Flesh...I'm...fleshly..."

"Ah, somehow I got totally left out there as if it's very natural? Renya, since I kinda feel like crying, lend me your chest or back, okay?" Emil laughed loudly without even showing the slightest hint of such a tragic feeling.

"Nothing came to mind in regards to you, Emil-ane-sama ~no."

Once Frau said so to Emil without any shyness, even Emil pulled a somewhat pitiable expression, seemingly affected by Frau's words. "Look, isn't that the moment where it's okay to come up with something related to the relationship between you and me?"

"Excuse me for not having come up with anything ~nano. Rather than that, let's go back home instead of standing around here talking ~no."

Completely cutting down Emil with a smile that showed to everyone that she didn't feel sorry at all, Frau tried to lead the party to Renya's mansion, but just as she was about to leave, Renya called her to halt.

"Frau, there's something I'd like to check with you before going back home."

"If it's today's color of Frau's underwear, it's pink with frilly lace ~nano."

Frau declared nonchalantly something, which surprised everyone around them and drew the looks to both questioner and replier, but seemingly having anticipated that Frau would give some kind of silly comment, Renya responded to this indifferently with no visible change in his expression and while ignoring the looks of those around him, "All's fine as long as it's cute. It's not my favorite color, though. Anyway, what I want to confirm is not that, but something else."

Frau, who had been easily brushed off, pulled a slightly disappointed face, but tenaciously hung onto it as if unwilling to lose here.

"Then, Rona-ane-sama's ~no?"

"Black, right? No matter how you think about it."

"Shion-ane-sama's?"

"On a first glance, it'd be white, but somehow I've got a feeling that it's light blue."

"E-Emil-ane-sama's?"

"Pretty sure, violet. Wanna bet on it?"

For Renya all of these were quite unserious and casual answers, but the members, who had their names called out, reflexively pinned down the hems of their clothes, looked down while blushing, or laughed weakly and foolishly. Going by all of those reactions, it looked as though Renya hadn't been that far off with his guesses. However, the soldiers, who had keenly listened to their conversation, applauded in their minds at Renya's mental strength to dispassionately and boldly talk about the colors of women's underwear without even minding the looks by the spectators waiting in front of the gate to enter the city. It would be nothing they could imitate even when told to do so.

Having been brazenly warded off up to his point, Frau, who had been unable to tease Renya, unleashed what she considered her game-changer blow in order to somehow tear down Renya's

calm facade after lightly chewing on her lips.

"Then, Kilie-sama's..."

"I'm not wearing any, you know?"

Faster than Frau could finish speaking, and before Renya could even react, Kilie's short comment instantly quieted down the noise around them, and at the same time, caused an effect as if time had stopped just then and there. While everyone doubted their sanity and their own ears while unable to move and speak, Kilie restlessly looked around her at the situation in the frozen space, and then suddenly said in a somewhat troubled voice, "It's a joke. A joooke. Ha ha ha. There's no way for that to be true, is there?"

Kilie's voice was extremely flat and false-sounding, but for Renya it was impossible to check the authenticity of her words. Denying Frau's questioning look, implicitly asking him whether she should undress Kilie, with his eyes, Renya sighed deeply as if to pull himself together, and once again stated to Frau that he wanted to confirm something after turning around to her.

"When we were driving back to Klinge, I saw smoke rising in the distance. I don't think there was a facility that would cause something like that when I departed. So, did something happen?"

After pondering about it for a little moment, Frau suddenly clapped her hands together.

"Master, come to think of it, Klinge's famous spot was finished ~no."

Frau's words seemed to be completely unrelated to Renya's question. While suspecting that she might possibly intend to dodge his question by avoiding the topic through vagueness, Renya reminded her just in case.

"That's your answer to my question?"

"Of course ~nano. I'm certain that you have seen the steam from far away, master ~nano."

Hearing the term 'steam', Renya grimaced, looking somewhat displeased. That's because when he combined the fact that he had made the heroes dig a huge hole for the transfer device and the information he obtained from Frau just now, that it had really been water vapor he saw from far away, it allowed for only a single conclusion.

On the other hand, the only places causing phenomena corresponding to that in Renya's former world would be areas with volcanoes which were active to some extent. Renya couldn't quite believe that such phenomena would occur in an area like Klinge which didn't have any places like that. However, Frau's next words downright denied those considerations of Renya.

"Once we dug up the ground, hot water gushed out ~no!"

Renya didn't recall having given them any instructions to dig that deep into the ground, but he thought that maybe it was something that would appear even if digging shallowly. While pondering about that, Renya led everybody to his mansion, in order to get further details from Frau, and to move to another place where they wouldn't stand in the way of other people by occupying the

space.

