

Chapter 4 - It seems to be a Battle of Losts

'With all his strength is great,' Renya thought while dodging the bullet by leaping widely to the left. 'Given that guns are basically weapons that can send bullets flying in the direction their muzzle points at, you can somewhat predict a bullet's flight path as long as you know the muzzle's alignment. If you see through the timing of the trigger being pulled on top of that, just evading the bullet isn't that much of an issue. However, if it comes to anti-material rifles, just shifting your body a bit after perceiving the line of fire won't cut it. Since it has too much firepower as a weapon, barely dodging the bullet will still cause damage through the after-effect.'

Renya wasn't an idiot who would evade an attack, where getting grazed was already plenty dangerous, at hair's breadth. He had jumped widely while thinking all that, but feeling a solid touch and hearing a click at his landing point, he immediately leaped far back.

Half a beat later, flames explosively erupted from the ground. With the time to understand that he had stepped on a land mine being already a waste, he knocked down the approaching fragments after immediately drawing his katana, but got immediately attacked by another shot of the anti-material rifle as he escaped the range of the mine.

After Renya knocked down this bullet, using the back of his katana, without dodging while thinking that something was quite wrong here, he observed Kazuya who had been shooting his rifle from the hip without even looking through the scope.

There were several parts that appeared weird to Renya. First off, the bullets came straight at Renya despite Kazuya's way of using his sniper rifle was completely nuts. Moreover, despite using an anti-material rifle with a big caliber, a normal high school student to all appearances was not only easily handling such a heavy gun, but didn't care at all about the recoil at the moment of shooting.

Renya wasn't an expert on guns and thus he didn't know the exact details, but no matter how much countermeasures against recoil were applied, it'd be weird for the snipers in Renya's knowledge to adopt sniping positions of kneeling or laying down on the ground, if a rifle allowed one to hit a target while being shot from the hip.

Second, the planting points of the planted bombs were way too precise. Especially the land mines had been deployed as if Kazuya had completely seen through Renya's movements. Renya was about to get slightly depressed over the fact that an ordinary student could possibly understand all his actions to such an extent that it was plain as day, but even if he were to account for that, the buried bombs were still too precise.

"Considering that you told me that you'd let me go if I pulled back, you seem rather gung-ho about this, don't you?"

"It's because you're so uncontrollable that I've got to go at it with at least this much of an effort." While saying so, Kazuya casually dropped his rifle.

Dropping on the ground with a heavy, metallic thunk, the anti-material rifle vanished in the next instant after shining faintly.

"A materialization ability..."

"Next up's this guy!"

What appeared in Kazuya's aloft right hand, also accompanied by a faint light, was something that seemed rather short and stout for being called a gun. Setting it up by holding it in his arms, the visible gun barrel appeared to be awfully short.

"A P90 SMG!?"

"Oh, you know your stuff! That's a smart guy for you! However, it ain't called SMG, but PDW!" Kazu pulled the trigger while prattling on about insignificant trivia knowledge.

The bullets, which were spit out of its muzzle alongside a rhythmic firing sound, would completely run out in several dozen seconds according to Renya's knowledge. Renya, who dodged the bullets while running around and planning to aim for the instant of the magazine swap, attempted to close the distance in the moment the barrage stopped, but immediately jumped to the side when he spotted the object that had suddenly appeared at Kazuya's feet.

At almost the same time, the directional anti-personnel landmine, which had been planted at Kazuya's feet, scattered iron shrapnel as it exploded, devastating the spot where Renya had been moments ago.

"Somethin' like a katana is trash if I don't allow you to get close!"

Renya ground his teeth, thinking that the little bastard was getting carried away with the barrage that had started up again, but he definitely didn't feel like he could get close enough with just his katana. Going by Renya's analysis, Kazuya's cheat ability allowed him to materialize any weapon he knew of in a specified place.

'Since I doubt that a mere student knows about the precise structure of all those weapons, his ability is probably set up in a lean way of making the corresponding weaponry appear as long as he somewhat knows its name and shape. It's obvious that some kind of restriction has been attached to it since there were traces of the C4 detonation field having been set up in advance by burying the explosives, but even considering all that, you can still call it a rather handy ability if he can set up a weapon at his desired timing at his desired location.

"Going by my knowledge, stuff like a satellite cannon hadn't been implemented, though!?" Renya asked during a pause in the barrage while adding, "I feel like there existed the concept of a similar weapon though."

Kazuya made another directional landmine appear at his feet so as to hold back Renya while proudly answering, "I can create anything as long as it's a weapon I register as being usable by me!"

Even while feeling somewhat suspicious about Renya not approaching him, Kazuya readied his P90 once more, and unleashed yet another barrage.

While dealing with the shots by just dodging without even considering defending against them, Renya said with a fed-up voice, "Wouldn't things be done quickly if you simply created strategic

weapons then?"

"You an idiot!? If I created stuff like that, it'd be a pain to clean up afterwards, don't you think?"

Renya ended up positively surprised about Kazuya surprisingly possessing common sense at this part.

'Certainly, it was normal to hesitate on the usage of a weapon that would make it impossible for people to live in its effective area for several decades if created once, no matter how reliable its effectiveness might be.' But then again, someone like Renya was the kind of human who would think that Kazuya had still a long way to go if this much was enough to let him hesitate.

"Besides, it'd be crazy as fuck for a protagonist to destroy the princess' country after responded to her call for help, aight?"

"Just who has actually summoned that protagonist or whatsoever? The demon king?"

Renya didn't really care whether the weapon was called SMG, PDW, or whatever, but it was much easier to deal with than the anti-material rifle. The power of the bullets fell remarkably short while the preamble that the bullets would be fired in the direction of the muzzle didn't change at all. It could be used to lay a screen because of its quick firing, but it wasn't as though there was that much of a difference between dodging its rapid fire and a slashing attack over a bigger distance. For Renya it was nothing he wasn't familiar with.

"It looks like the one summoning me was the demon king, but it was god who gave me my cheat power."

"The god of the demons?"

"No, no. They introduced themselves as the god of this world."

Renya felt like he simultaneously heard two screams claiming this to be untrue in his mind, but he readily ignored them. In the first place, Renya didn't suspect that little goddess or her subordinate angels to be behind this. If they, or rather, those girls felt like hurting him, they'd just need to deprive him of his powers, give those to someone else, and have that person attack Renya. And even without putting so much effort into this, Renya believed that the little goddess should be able to erase him in an instant if she felt like it.

While experiencing an auditory hallucination, telling him, "I-It's not like that," Renya judged that the god mentioned by Kazuya had to be the guy referred to as demon supervisor by those who were the reason for him coming to the demon country.

'If there's something that's outside expectation, it's probably the fact that the demon supervisor had an ability allowing them to grant abilities somewhat similar to mine,' Renya assessed. 'Since it looks like Losts have fallen into this world in rather big numbers over time, it seems like they can somehow use the summoning spell to call people here intentionally.'

"What a diligent god. It almost wakes the wish in me for the god of our world to follow their example."

'Leaving aside whether the action itself is right or wrong, the god of this world or whatever they are is far more hard-working as they're doing their work by making various moves', Renya judged, and Kazuya appeared to have the same opinion.

"No kiddin'! If our god had simply summoned elves or some such, our world would've become a fantasy world too!"

"You're quite hung up on this...if it becomes impossible to distinguish reality and illusion, you wouldn't be able to tell apart what's fantasy and what's not, right?"

"Oh, fair point!"

Renya casually dodged another barrage. He wondered whether Kazuya would soon realize that his barrages didn't bear much meaning, but since their absence would allow Renya to get close, Kazuya probably couldn't afford to ease up on this.

"If you can create any weapon you know about, why not go with something like a tank?"

"You think I'd bring out a tank without any infantry to man it!?" Kazuya quickly shot down Renya's suggestion.

This caused Renya to elevate his assessment of him a bit since Kazuya didn't seem to be that much of a boundless idiot as he had expected. If he could have gotten him to go along with the suggestion and board some kind of tank, Renya would have baked him with fire magic from outside, but it seemed as if things wouldn't proceed so conveniently.

"What about a fighter plane?"

"I hate high places!"

'That's regrettable,' Renya shrugged his shoulders. A fighter plane was a bit of an overkill to take on a single person, but since the pilot would almost definitely die if it got shot down, a fighter plane would be easier to handle for Renya, who could use magic arts, than plain barrages of bullets.

"How about you bring your friends along? That SMG, PDW or whatever thing won't be able to bring me down, you know?"

"I'm all that's needed to deal with a bastard like you! The other two are completely unnecessary for this!"

'So, three people have been summoned in total. I'm truly thankful for him being such a blabbermouth to honestly divulge information that's of importance for our side', Renya laughed in his mind without showing it on his face. 'It'd be godsend if we knew what abilities they were given before getting summoned here, but I kinda doubt that he's that much of an idiot to tell me all that.'

In front of Renya, Kazuya violently threw the P90 in his hands on the ground.

"Fuck, this ain't goin' nowhere!"

Apparently he had finally noticed that the P90 couldn't keep up with Renya's movements. As Renya wondered whether he'd give up and go back, Kazuya's body was wrapped up in a faint light, and another weapon materialized. Just when Renya started to ask himself what would come out next, he saw a huge, unrefined gun with six barrels tied together appear at Kazuya's waist, causing Renya to look up to the sky in sheer disbelief.

"A M134 Heavy Machine Gun...that's nothing you'd aim at people..."

"Haha! The number of bullets and firepower of this guy is incomparable to the peashooters from before!"

Even if Renya's abilities might be far removed from any human standard, there was no way that he'd be able to deal with a barrage of 4,000 shots per minute with a single katana. You could say he'd be in quite a bind if Kazuya was capable of handling the machine gun decently.

Though, that only applied if he could actually handle it decently.

"Hmm?"

Renya saw that Kazuya could operate it more or less. Kazuya pointed the muzzle of the machine gun, which should be unthinkable because no human would normally be able to suppress the gun's weight and its recoil, at Renya, and used the machine gun, which looked like it was spraying fire out of its muzzle because of the bullets' high speed, as a weapon without being trashed around by the recoil. But, Kazuya's capability wasn't at a level allowing him to freely turn the machine gun around.

That gun wasn't a weapon intended to be held in the hands of an individual to begin with, but because there existed many scenes in movies and similar where individuals actually held it, people generally misunderstood how the machine gun actually worked.

"You're not getting a lock on me with this thing, are you?" Compared to the barrages by the P90, this one was even easier to dodge for Renya.

The barrage of the M134 couldn't keep up with his movements at all. Certainly, its number of bullets and firepower was in a completely different league than the P90, but since the bullets didn't even come close to flying towards their target, it was no more than a noisy device continuing to flashily shoot at empty space.

"Fuck it! Stop scurryin' around from one place to another!"

"I don't really think that I'm moving around that much, though...are you telling me, the other two are also at your level?"

"Shut the fuck up! As if I'd answer that!"

Having obtained rough information about people having been summoned, the person who gave them their abilities, the number of summoned people, and moreover the ability of Kazuya, Renya gathered his thoughts while gazing at the barrage that couldn't catch up to him at all.

'If possible I'd like to also gain some information about the abilities of the other two, but as might be expected, that'd be asking for too much.' Renya didn't know whether Kazuya actually knew about their abilities in the first place, but he didn't seem to intent on telling him, going by his earlier light questioning.

"In that case, I've got a final question." Once Renya asked while pouring a faint amount of bloodlust into his voice as he lowered his voice and placed a hand on his katana's hilt, Kazuya stopped moving, and eased the finger on the trigger.

Renya believed that it might also be fine to use that chance to attack Kazuya, but desisted from doing so since he had to at least ask this one question which he hurled at Kazuya while staring at Kazuya's movements.

"You're a student, right? Don't you feel like returning to your former world? If you actually want to go back, I think that it'd somehow be possible to arrange for that."

After being pulled over here without understanding a thing, and being fed lies on top of that, Kazuya fought on the side of the demons. It wasn't as if Renya had enough sympathy to actually pity Kazuya who had been easily deceived, but he wouldn't be able to kill him as long as he didn't at least make sure of this in advance.

For just an instant Kazuya's finger trembled as it rested on the trigger while Renya waited for the answer to his question.

