



The battle between the fairy and the Lost was also visible from Jade's city. Originally that shouldn't have been possible because of the densely growing trees and their leaf canopy covering the sky, but thanks to the attacks by the evil dragons, burning holes had opened up all over the leaf cover, allowing a peek at the sky.

"A huge, decisive battle between kaijuu..." [efn_note]I'm using kaijuu here since monster (its translation) would be misleading. It's about monsters like Godzilla. Huge monsters walking around and destroying stuff + fighting each other.[efn_note]

After having come back without so much of a notice, Rona directed a puzzled look at Renya, who had reflexively muttered that comment while staring upwards, not understanding what he was talking about.

Renya shrugged his shoulders, assuming that it was inevitable for her to not know what a kaijuu might be in this world that was usually overrun with dragons and other such monstrosities.

"No, it's nothing."

"Is that so? Leaving that aside, is Frau-san going to be alright up there?" Rona worriedly looked up, but as far as Renya could tell from the evil dragons flying through the black cluster, which he could spot through the trees, while spitting their breaths, he couldn't visualize a future where Frau wouldn't be alright.

"The silkies of this world...are damn amazing, I gotta say. Even if I only come to this realization this late in the game."

"I think you'd receive vehement protests by all other silkies, if they heard this comment just now."

'Moreover, they'd likely loudly complain to not lump them together with that silky,' Rona added in her mind.

At this point Frau was no longer an expression of common sense, but rather one of having given up on the absurdity in Klinge, but if someone were to demand the same standard from other silkies, any silky would very likely choose suicide after discerning that they'd be unable to meet that demand.

"In the first place, they'd would reasonably ask what kind of hero Frau-san was supposed to be, seeing how she's fighting demons who're riding dragons, and gave the demon king - even if only a copy of him - a run for his money."

In addition to Frau not really being aware of it herself, she didn't actively bring up this topic, seemingly because silkies weren't counted as race in this world, but if someone were to fully cover all that Frau had done up until today, it'd result in the picture of a person who could be labeled as hero without any problem, although it'd add a somewhat bad reputation to the title.

"Thinking about it now, I've had nothing to do this time, have I?"

Rona placed a hand on her forehead and shook her head in exasperation at Renya who grumbled that he didn't feel like he'd done much, especially considering that he'd been the one who suggested searching for Emil.

"Don't worry, just making this huge city fly through the sky goes well beyond the work of any average person."

"My calling is to be a swordsman, though?"

"Bah, then tell me why a swordsman is doing something that even the strongest magic practitioner on the continent wouldn't be able to pull off in their wildest dream?" Rona muttered with a sigh, and then after pondering for a moment, looked up to Renya, "So, umm, is your physical condition holding up?"

"It's taken a change for the better, I'd say."

Given that the mana cost for making the city fly had been tremendous, Renya's condition wasn't quite returning to normal, but now that the mana recovery has succeeded the consumption, it'd continuously recover from now on as long as he didn't use it for anything else, so Renya's condition had improved significantly.

Rona stared at him as if to examine his state through his bearing and expression, and after confirming that Renya didn't tell a lie, she breathed out in relief.

"I've been telling you repeatedly, but just making a city fly could already be described as an unprecedented, big achievement, so isn't it fine with that? I'm sure this will make its way into history books, you know? So please don't try to get involved with anything else, okay? Okay, Renya?"

"Are you my mother, or what?" Renya answered while rolling his eyes at Rona who flooded him with requests at a rapid rate.

Hearing that, shock dyed Rona's face for just a moment. Rona gestured claws with her hands, seemingly itching to grab Renya who wondered whether he'd mentioned something that offended her, while keeping her silence for a short time, apparently enduring something, just to glare at him.

Seeing her behavior, Renya assumed that she had somehow managed to resist jumping at him on impulse after considering that he was currently in the middle of maintaining the spell to keep this city flying.

While Rona kept glaring at him as if trying to stare daggers, she clearly declared, "I'm not so old that it'd be appropriate to call me a mother."

"That was just an allegory..."

Even though she should be at the same age as Shion, Rona looked a lot older than her. Renya guessed that she somewhat had a complex towards being regarded as old even if she didn't go as far as voicing it out. Seeing how she had insisted on it with a fairly serious look, he held back on giving

her an unsavory reply showing his lack of interest.

Rona continued grumbling something under her breath, directed at Renya, but apparently realizing that it'd be completely pointless anyway, she took several deep breaths as if to get her breathing in order after a short while, and asked Renya once more, "As there's no issue with your condition, how is the control of the city coming along?"

"Because they've been exchanging heavy fire above, it's become troublesome to adjust it. Even though the city is flying through magic arts, somewhat big spells are being fired all over the place, so the interferences are causing the flight to become unstable."

What Renya was talking about was the city's spell formula losing its balance because Frau and Frau's enemies were successively unleashing big spells above the huge art crest which was necessary to keep the city afloat. Moreover, Frau was still alright since she seemed to be acting while paying attention to this fact, but because their enemies were releasing spells without a care about the effect on their surroundings, stray shots had started to hit the city, causing parts of the city to start collapsing here and there.

Furthermore, with the ground being gouged out by those stray shots, sections of the art crest drawn there were eradicated at the same time, resulting in the difficulty of controlling the spell formula going up by several degrees.

"We'll be in trouble if she doesn't get rid of them quickly, but the opponents don't seem to be ordinary either."

Renya didn't know just what Frau had summoned up there, but the enemy was strong enough that her calling that black something as if to cover the entire sky with it and using it to fight wasn't sufficient to bring the enemy down. He was filled with a strong desire to back her up, but most of Renya's concentration was directed at controlling the spell, so he didn't have any leeway to use any other magic arts.

Managing an art crest which got erased at several places and had been partially damaged wasn't anything but ordinary. After all, the magic practitioner would need to compensate for the missing parts by themselves. Thanks to the skill allowing him to run spell formula in parallel, Renya was somehow able to divide the part controlling the crest itself and the part responsible for compensating the crest, but if he put Az in charge of controlling it for example, he should easily fail with the throughput due to the sheer amount of information processing. Because Rona knew this, her warnings had become so numerous with her also being worried about Renya.

"Still..." Renya sighed while looking around himself.

The city had mostly sunken into the trench created by the katurul with only a little remaining. Of course, the tentacles that created the rift were towering like a wall on the left and right in the direction of the city's flight path.

It was a sight that would clearly make anyone lose their mind over time, but since this also had its advantage, Renya couldn't completely dismiss it as gross either.

The advantage lay in crushing the possibility for their pursuers to board the city. Seeing that the city

was traveling beneath ground level to pass underneath the barrier, it meant that it'd be possible to jump onto the city from the edge of the rift. Because the city's speed wasn't all that fast, the act of jumping on the city wasn't overly difficult if you could use simple magic art to control the fall.

However, since the katurul's tentacles were forming a wall, the enemy would be forced to scale the tentacle wall to jump on the city, and even for demons this was anything but a simple feat. As a result, Renya had only to worry about attacks coming from the sky.

Assuming that they'd be forced to engage in an urban warfare after the enemy jumped onto the city, just the troops under Jades would never be able to fully protect the city and its residents.

"Well, it doesn't change the fact that it's disgusting, though."

The experience of slowly advancing through a corridor surrounded by walls of squirming flesh wasn't anything anyone would want to go through, and even Renya couldn't hinder his mood from taking a heavy hit.

As Renya held his forehead and sighed due to the surrounding scenery, which made him feel like he'd start seeing some kind of dream if he kept gazing at it too long, Rona repeatedly poked his shoulder from the side.

"What's wrong, Rona?"

"No, it just somehow looked like you were depressed, Renya." While saying so, Rona suddenly bent herself backwards as if stretching.

Of course it resulted in her body line, which boasted the biggest volume even if only among Renya's friends, to be emphasized, naturally drawing Renya's eyes to a certain part.

"How about you get your mind off things by looking at me then?"

Renya instinctively revealed a wry smile at Rona who was shaking her body a bit as if trying to lure him into looking at her.

"No...I appreciate your concern, but it seems like that would actually cause me to drop my control over the spell formula."

If he ended up fascinated by her, he'd naturally concentrate on her, and neglect the control of the spell formula. Even though a precise spell control is already indispensable even under normal circumstances, the entire city would graze against the walls formed by the katurul's tentacles if Renya's focus were diverted by something unnecessary.

As someone who had been visually hurt by tentacles and flesh walls, Renya felt tempted to seek some salvation from Rona's voluptuous body, but he resisted that allure, tearing his eyes off Rona with an iron will.

Due to Renya's reactions, Rona had recently started to sense that she might have a chance to get some response if only she pushes a bit further, despite him having resisted advances previously.

As if he hadn't noticed Rona, who had reaffirmed her determination to become somewhat pushy if the mood was right once things settled down, Renya looked up to the sky while chasing Frau, who seemed smaller than a speck of dust, and the evil dragons with his eyes.

"Well, let's leave it at that."

Perceiving Rona, who apparently had come to some kind of conclusion within her mind, making a gesture as if she was putting something in front of her aside, Renya shifted his look back to Rona while asking, "I'm really not in the mood of wanting to ask what you're talking about, but is something wrong?"

"I was wondering whether we'd soon reach the location of the barrier."

Being told so, he followed Rona's line of sight, just to realize how something like a barrier was being formed in a place where nothing had been before in response to the huge city mass continuing to approach. The space which had shown no response whatsoever when Dra-kun passed through with his mass being far lower than that of the city, but it apparently reacted just as configured to the city's approach.

The barrier wall seemed to even dig into some parts of the trench created by the katurul's tentacles, but got completely cut off in the middle. Renya identified a room that would allow the city to somehow pass underneath the barrier.



"It looks like it's going to work. Although it's going to be quite close."

"Shouldn't we try to prune the tips of the trees we're using as reinforcement of the foundation?"

It wasn't wrong to assume that it might somehow affect the city's foundation if a part of it got stuck on the barrier, if it remained limited to a little grazing of the tree tops, they should be able to force their way through regardless of the trees snapping apart or not, so Renya shook his head, assessing that it wasn't necessary to expressly cut them down.

"Let's not since I somehow feel like it'd piss off Croire."

"No doubt. But, even without doing that, a reasonably high number of trees got destroyed anyway."

It wasn't as though he didn't feel like increasing the number of broken trees wouldn't really matter much at this point, but if they could proceed without doing so, it was preferable above all.

"I'm rather worried about Frau and Dra-kun."

"Eh? About Frau-san?"

Renya nodded at Rona who apparently considered that unexpected.

"If we don't get them to come back soon, we'll end up passing the barrier without them. It'd be great if that space beneath the barrier remained open indefinitely, but our opponent won't be that careless, don't you think?"

If they were to realize that someone had passed underneath at that place, the barrier caster should first think of closing up that spot if they weren't a total nutcase. It seemed to be already too late to hinder the city passing, but an alteration of the barrier's spell formula might be in time for the passage of Frau and Dra-kun, who would follow afterwards.

Having said that, slowing down the city's flight speed would only give birth to the possibility that Renya, the city, Frau, and Dra-kun altogether would fail to escape due to the barrier having had its spell formula altered.

Renya thought that he probably should call Frau back by using the telepathic link that had been established between him and her. While looking up to the barrier that was gradually coming closer, Renya began to heavily tend towards that idea.

