

Beloved Dog 131

Chapter 131

I Talked To A Girl

“Are you the physician?”

“Yes?”

It was as we watched the others in the garden and enjoyed the tea that had been poured for us. A voice suddenly rang from behind.

“Who are you?”

I turned around to see a child who was likely one of the orphans.

She had long, disheveled hair and simple clothes. She appeared to be fifteen or sixteen.

“What is it, Milina?”

“I’m sorry, headmistress. I just wanted to thank the physician...”

The girl who was called Milina smiled happily at me and then bowed.

“Thank you, physician. We are all better now because of you.”

“You are welcome. But you really don’t need to thank me. I’m just glad to see that you are all well now.”

I replied, and then Ms. Anna explained to us about the child.

“Milina is the oldest of the children here. That being said, she is already eighteen...and has been an adult for some time now...”

“Headmistress, I want to settle at a job where I can help people!”

“...That’s what she keeps saying. And yet she’s rejected any available work and has remained here.”

Ms. Anna said with a troubled face as she looked at Milina.

...A job where you can help people, huh...

“That’s what you were saying during my last visit, Milina. And you didn’t want to become a servant.”

Ms. Claire said with a chuckle.

Though, I thought that being a servant was pretty useful work as well.

Ms. Lyra and Ms. Gelda have helped me so much...

“I am so grateful towards Headmistress Anna, and everyone here who took me in and raised me. And that’s why I want to help people. ...But you truly are amazing, mister. You helped us all with such ease...”

Milina said as she looked at me with awe. It reminded me of when I had first met Tilura.

“Milina. I understand you want to help people. But how do you mean to do that?”

“...Well...”

But she only started to think, and could not give me a straight answer.

My guess was that she just had the desire to help others, but did not know how to go about it.

I could understand that... There had been times when I wanted to do something but had no idea how to do it.

“Milina. For instance...there is a stall where they sell vegetables on the main street, yes?”

“Yes.”

“Do you think that those people aren’t helping others? Even if no one would be able to buy vegetables if no one was there?”

“But...that is just business...”

Because it is a business, based on the trading of money and goods, which involves profit, it could not be seen as helping others. That was the way she saw it.

“But there are still people who are happy because of it. As it allows people who aren’t farmers to eat vegetables. I think that is a very useful thing?”

“I...suppose.”

When thinking about helping people...the first thing that would come to mind is helping those in need and contributing to your country.

But it’s not as if someone in need or in danger will appear in front of you as soon as you think this.

In the end, she just needed to decide what to do...and do it. And then she will be of use to others. That’s what I think.

“What do you want to do, Milina? In what way do you want to make people happy?”

“...Uh...I...”

Different thoughts seemed to be moving through her head.

Her expression changed as she went from one to the next.

“...I was very happy that a physician treated our illness. And that we were rescued by the orphanage...”

“Yes, I see.”

“But...I cannot do those things...”

“And why is that?”

“It’s not as if I can run an orphanage, and I have no knowledge of medicine.”

“Then you just have to study. Think about what you want to do, find out what you lack in order to do it, and figure out a way to fix that. And then you’ll eventually be able to do it.”

Well, there are always going to be things that you can’t do no matter what. But I hesitated to say such things to someone her age.

I didn’t think that it was always a good thing to push the harsh realities of the world onto someone.

It wasn’t that you should never do it, but it depended on the person.

“Study... Mister Physician! Please teach me medicine!”

“Huh? Me?”

“Milina, don’t be so rude to Mr. Takumi. Surely a mind as brilliant as his has better things to be doing.”

After pondering the question for a moment, Milina looked at me straight in the face as she made the request.

...Teach her, huh... It wasn't as if I had much knowledge of medicine myself... It was only because of Weed Cultivation. But we had said that in order to hide my ability...

I turned to Ms. Claire for help, but she just smiled back at me.

Oh, so she wasn't going to help... If anything, she looked like she was excited to hear my answer...

"No, I'm not that busy, but... Milina. Why do you want to study medicine?"

"It wasn't just this time, but the last time people became ill here. I was not able to do anything. And yet you immediately knew what to do, and treated us with medicine. And look at how they are all smiling now!"

Milina said with a passionate expression as she looked towards the children who were playing with Leo.

The children were running around excitedly and laughing.

If Milina wanted to work for those smiles, then it was not a bad idea...

"I understand what you are trying to say. And I think that it's wonderful."

"In that case!"

"But wait a minute. I'm just a guest at Ms. Claire's house. So it's not a decision I can make alone."

"Oh, you're allowing me to decide, Mr. Takumi?"

Milina seemed to have decided that she wanted to be my student... And she was now looking at me with great expectation.

However, I was currently living at the mansion.

It would be difficult for me to teach someone who lived at the orphanage.

And it would be dangerous for her to come to the mansion alone. And while I wasn't terribly busy, I still had my training and the herbs. So I could not be visiting this place so often.

In any case, it was something Ms. Claire and I would have to discuss.

Chapter 132

I showed Milina 'Weed Cultivation'

"No, Ms. Claire. Surely I need your permission to work freely in that mansion?"

"What do you mean to do, Mr. Takumi?"

"Indeed... To be honest, I don't have enough knowledge about medicine to teach it. However, I don't want Milina's resolve to go to waste. And so... I have a request. If it's alright..."

"You want me to let her stay at the mansion. Or it will be difficult to teach her."

"Yes..."

Well, it would be less like teaching and more like studying together.

I had some knowledge from the world I was previously in, but I didn't know much about medicine or medical treatments in this world.

"Indeed... As we had once considered taking Milina in as a servant, that shouldn't be a problem, but..."

"Is there something else?"

"It won't be proper for her to stay in your room..."

“No, of course not. We must be in separate rooms. I cannot share a room with a young woman.”

“...Well, I’m quite young...too...oh, maybe not so young...anymore... Does he...prefer...a younger...?”

“Ms. Claire?”

Ms. Claire started muttering darkly to herself after I started talking about different rooms.

I couldn’t hear what she was saying, but it sounded like she had mentioned me?

“No, it’s nothing at all!”

When I asked her, Ms. Claire raised her head and shook it violently.

“There is no problem if you are in separate rooms. ...Though, it will be the same room as the servants...”

“That should be fine. I’m sure she’s used to living with other people at this orphanage.”

After discussing this quietly with Ms. Claire, I turned back to Milina, who was looking at us seriously and wondering about her fate.

“Milina. Ms. Claire has given her permission. While you will have to share a room with the servants, you can live at the mansion and we can study medicine together.”

“Really!? Thank you!”

“Mr. Takumi. Are you sure?”

“Yes. Well, I’m still learning myself, so I may not be able to teach Milina much.”

I answered with a smile to Ms. Anna.

Ms. Anna was just happy that things with Milina were finally settled, and they both bowed so low that I thought their heads would touch the ground.

“Mr. Takumi, in that case, you will have to tell her about that other thing.”

“Sebastian...so you returned...”

I hadn't even realized that he was back, but he was now whispering to me.

“I returned just now. Lady Claire, I put someone in charge of the investigation. So now we just need to wait for a report. ...It should come tomorrow or the day after that.”

“I see. Very good. Thank you.”

After telling me of his return, he turned to Ms. Claire to make a report.

...Even though he had just returned, he sounded like he was aware of the situation with Milina... This person really was mysterious.

“Sebastian. Ms. Claire. Are you fine with this?”

“Yes. If that's what you want, Mr. Takumi.”

“Indeed. She cannot stay without knowing, so I have no problem with it.”

They both nodded in reply.

And so I went towards the entrance of the orphanage with Milina, Ms. Claire and Sebastian.

We asked Ms. Anna to watch Leo and the children... Milina was the only person who needed to know.

We stood by the door...behind the fence that surrounded the orphanage. It was here that I would show her Weed Cultivation.

“What are you going to do here?”

Milina looked puzzled, as she had no idea why we had brought her out here.

This was no surprise, as we hadn't explained anything to her.

“Milina. You cannot tell anyone about what you will witness now, understand?”

“Huh? Oh, yes!”

“Milina. What Mr. Takumi is about to do is a secret of the duke's house. And so you cannot tell anyone, even Ms. Anna.”

Milina nodded at me.

Ms. Claire then added to my words, and Milina nodded again in agreement.

She looked quite intimidated after hearing about the duke... Perhaps that part wasn't necessary, Ms. Claire?

“Now, I will show you. ...What should I do... I suppose I might as well make Ramogi for everyone in the mansion.”

As I felt Milina's intent eyes on me, I placed my hands on the ground and used Weed Cultivation.

“Huh?”

When the Ramogi started to grow out of the ground, Milina gasped in surprise.

This was her first time seeing it, after all.

“That should do it.”

“What is this, Mister Physician?”

“As you can see, it is Ramogi.”

While her eyes were wide open, Milina seemed like she could not understand what she was looking at.

“Milina. This is my special ability. ...It’s because of this that I was able to prepare enough medicine for everyone.”

“Ah...”

“Milina, allow me to explain it to you.”

As Milina stood there uncomprehending, Sebastian stepped forward in order to explain it to her.

He seemed very pleased by this opportunity... He really did like explaining this. I mused. And then I waited for Milina to finally understand.

“In other words, physician...I mean, Mr. Takumi is not a physician...is that right?”

“That is true... Are you disappointed?”

Milina slowly started to understand after listening to Sebastian.

And so I asked her.

Because it seemed that part of the reason why she had any admiration for me was because she thought I was a physician.

But now she knew I had no knowledge of medicine... I didn't like to crush someone's dreams, but she would have found out soon enough anyway.

Perhaps she wouldn't want to come to the mansion and study anymore.

It had been a deception in a way, so it couldn't be helped.

However, as if to reject these thoughts, Milina shook her head.

"No, I'm not disappointed. I'm moved at the thought of such a wonderful ability existing in the world. You must be very special if you are able to use it!"

"Oh? Well...I wouldn't say special..."

"That's right, Milina. Mr. Takumi is a special person."

Milina was so impressed by the Gift, that she looked at me with great respect.

Not only that, but Ms. Claire was now encouraging her...

Ms. Claire... This is getting embarrassing...

Chapter 133

I Was Called Master

"I was troubled over what I should do, and you offered a solution, Mr. Takumi. And I was able to find what it was that I want to do."

"Is that...so?"

Apparently, my words to Milina earlier had helped solve her problem.

I suppose it was because she now wanted to study medicine.

While I may not have been much of an adult, it made me happy that my words had helped direct a young person towards their goal.

Though, I was still young myself.

“Yes. From now on...with your words, Mr. Takumi...master, in my heart, I will do my best to learn medicine!”

“Master... I’m not anyone so impressive, you know? Medicine is something that I’ll have to study with you...”

“I understand that. But I suppose it’s because you are a tutor when it comes to life.”

...First it was brother, and now master...

It wasn’t that I hated it, but it was hard to get used to something like this...

“Very well. So Milina will now be Mr. Takumi’s apprentice.”

“Yes. I look forward to being able to work with you, Master and Lady Claire!”

“Yes, you’re welcome.”

“...Well, I suppose it’s fine.”

Milina bowed vigorously towards me and Ms. Claire.

I was thinking about telling her to stop calling me master, as it felt odd, but it would be awkward to say it now.

Well, maybe I could just get used to it.

“Now, we should go back to the garden. I think the children might be tired of playing.”

Sebastian said, and so we took Milina and headed back to the garden.

We were greeted to the amusing sight of children sitting on Leo’s back or leaning against her after falling asleep.

I could see that Tilura and Sherry had also fallen asleep.

“Good work, Leo.”

“Wuff.”

I talked to Leo quietly so as to not wake up the children, and she also replied quietly.

I could tell by her happy expression that Leo had also enjoyed playing with the children.

“Lady Claire. Did you finish talking with Milina then?”

“Yes. We decided that she should come and live at the mansion.”

“I see. She was taking a very long time to decide what she wanted to do, so thank you for accepting her.”

“You should thank Mr. Takumi. He’s the one who persuaded her.”

“Yes. Of course, we are very thankful to Mr. Takumi.”

Ms. Anna thanked us, and then we talked about what Milina would do now.

While it had been decided that she would go to the mansion, it wasn’t as if she could go today.

She had only just recovered from an illness, and she would also need to pack.

Besides, since she was moving away from the orphanage, she would want time to say goodbye to the other children.

Though, the mansion wasn't too far away, so she could visit as often as she wanted.

"Well, we should be taking our leave then."

"Indeed. The sun is starting to set."

"Yes. Thank you for coming today. And thank you, Mr. Takumi."

We then helped them carry the sleeping children back to their rooms in the orphanage, and then left.

Ms. Anna and Milina saw us off by the door as we walked away.

It had also been decided that Milina would come to the mansion one week later.

That would be enough time to gather her things and say goodbye to everyone.

On our way back, Sebastian disappeared into several alleys a few times, but we continued on until we finally reached the plaza where the carriage was waiting.

"There is not much information yet..."

Sebastian said as he returned from one of his detours.

Apparently, he had been going to listen to reports from those he had sent to gather information.

Well, he did say that there wouldn't be any proper reports until tomorrow, so it wasn't surprising that there wasn't much information at this point.

It had only been a few hours...so it was doubtful that they could gather all of the information already.

“Well, let us depart now.”

“Leo. Be careful that you don’t drop Sherry and Tilura.”

“Wuff.”

I got into the carriage with Ms. Claire, and then Sebastian took the reins and drove the carriage back to the mansion.

As Tilura and Sherry were sleeping on Leo’s back, I told her to be careful that they didn’t fall off.

But I was sure that Leo would think of them, and we had even strapped them on with a rope, just in case, so I was sure they would be fine.

Unlike before, Leo was calm during the return trip, and she ran quietly alongside the carriage.

“...Welcome back.”

We arrived at the mansion and let Johanna take the carriage and horses as we stepped inside.

Sebastian entered first, and told the servants that Tilura was sleeping. And so they welcomed us in quieter voices than usual.

...But they were still perfectly in sync.

“Thank you, Good Leo.”

“Wuff.”

Ms. Gelda and another servant approached Leo.

Leo barked softly in reply, and then crouched low so that they could pick up Tilura and Sherry.

Ms. Gelda held Tilura, while the other picked up Sherry, and they took them away to their room.

“Sebastian. I don’t want to trouble you, but...”

“I understand.”

As I watched as they were taken away, Ms. Claire spoke with Sebastian.

Was this about the malicious merchants?

While I couldn’t say that it had nothing to do with me, there was also nothing that I could do... I would just leave it to Sebastian.

And there was something oddly comforting about that... I suppose it was because he seemed like someone who could do anything.

“Lady Claire. Dinner has been prepared.”

“I see. Mr. Takumi, let’s go to the dining hall.”

“Yes. ...Ah, I must drop my things off in my room first.”

“...Of course.”

I took Leo and returned once to my room where I dropped off my sword and other things. Then I headed to the dining hall.

There wasn’t much stuff, as we hadn’t gone shopping. But I didn’t want to take them with me to eat.

“Let’s eat then.”

“Is Tilura still sleeping?”

It was just me, Leo, Ms. Claire and Ms. Lyra in the dining hall.

Sebastian seemed to have a lot to do, as I had seen him moving busily around before I arrived in the room.

Chapter 134

I Told Them How To Avoid Getting Sick

“Lady Tilura was sleeping soundly while holding onto Sherry.”

Said Ms. Lyra, who had been watching Tilura.

...And yet when I had arrived at the dining hall, not only was the food already prepared, but so was the tea... How exactly did she move around the mansion so quickly...?

It had only been about ten minutes between our return and my arrival here...

“We should let Tilura rest. It’s been so long since she was last in town, and she must have become very excited.”

“Indeed. And she would be tired after having played so much with the other children in the orphanage.”

It was also possible that it was all the training she had been doing since Mr. Ekenhart’s visit.

Training and studying... She had been quite busy recently.

“So, Mr. Takumi. What are your thoughts after seeing the herbs being sold today?”

“Hmm. I’m fine with leaving everything to Mr. Kalis. He seems to know what he is doing, especially with how he used Leo to attract customers, or how he sold them outside of the store.”

After dinner, Ms. Claire and I sipped our tea and talked about the herbs that were sold in Ractos.

Well, Leo had been a lot more popular than expected, and he had trouble handling all of the children.

“Also... According to Ms. Anna, there are herb shortages in Ractos now. So I think we can expect the good word to be spread, which will increase the number of customers.”

“Yes. As the duke’s family, we have to deal with this issue of shortages... Still, it’s a good thing that this will help the reputation of your herbs, Mr. Takumi.”

“Well, the real problem is that there are shortages at all.”

A malicious store was selling herbs and medicine of bad quality.

It was because they were sold out at all of the other stores that the citizens had no choice but to rely on the malicious store...

The more I thought about it, the more likely it seemed that they were responsible for the shortages.

...Though, it did feel ironic that it was in turn helping the sales of my own herbs.

“Indeed... I’m sure Sebastian is looking into it, but... This is still a very wicked thing. Selling herbs of low quality to the people.”

“I don’t know if it was that the timing was on their side, or they were targeting...but there is also the illness. While those at the orphanage are healed, there are too many people in the town to be able to help all of them.”

“Yes... It would be impossible for you to make enough Ramogi for all of them... We can only hope that it doesn’t spread any farther.”

“Indeed...”

I answered Ms. Claire, and then started to think about this illness.

The symptoms I had seen at the orphanage resembled that of a cold.

And while it was easily healed with some Ramogi, there was not enough of it.

It would be best if people could avoid getting sick at all...

Hmm? Prevention?

“Ms. Claire. Is it not possible to avoid getting sick in the first place?”

“Avoid... What do you mean?”

It seems like it wasn't a concept they had here...

Medicine had not advanced much, and they only thought of healing people with medicine after the fact.

“Uh, well... In the world that I used to live in...”

And so I told Ms. Claire what little I knew about disease prevention.

When it came to contagious diseases, the reason was usually pathogenic bacteria.

As I wasn't a doctor, and had never studied medicine, I only had a little knowledge. But perhaps it could still be useful.

“I see... So that's what they did in your world, Mr. Takumi.”

“Yes. Washing your hands and rinsing your mouth should be the bare minimum. Also, you should keep your body as clean as possible... And your living space should also be clean.”

I was only able to tell Ms. Claire the basics.

Wash your hands and gargle when coming back into the house... It was stuff you taught children in Japan.

I told her some other things as well, but Ms. Claire acted as if she was hearing it for the first time.

But it was no surprise if they had no concept of prevention here...

“I understand. I’ll have everyone who lives here practice that first. Also...yes...Lyra. Tell this to Sebastian. He’ll ensure that it spreads through the town of Ractos as well.”

“Certainly.”

Ms. Lyra bowed once and then left the dining hall.

It might be a little difficult to make everyone in the town do this, but if word came from the duke’s house, then they may be more inclined to try it.

If we could stop the spreading of the disease even a little, that was a good thing.

After that, I continued to drink tea with Ms. Claire and talk about what could be done.

I didn’t know how useful my knowledge would be for other diseases, but it should be effective enough for colds.

“Now, since I rested yesterday, I should do some swinging today.”

“Wuff?”

You’re not going to rest? Leo seemed to ask.

Sorry. But I want to make up for resting yesterday.

And I also had to make some extra Ramogi.

And so I went out into the back garden and unsheathed my sword, after bringing it down.

And then I focused on doing a thousand swings as if to make up for the previous day.

As Tilura was still sleeping, I practiced alone.

“Now I just have to make some Ramogi...”

“Mr. Takaumi, I heard about what happened in town today. Please don’t push yourself too much...”

“Oh, this is nothing. Don’t worry.”

As I was training, Ms. Lyra voiced her concerns, but it really wasn’t anything to worry about.

While I had no clear indicator, I was quite sure that making Ramogi did not require much power at all.

“All right, it’s done. Ms. Lyra, can you make sure that the servants drink this?”

“Very well. It is for this prevention that you were discussing with Lady Claire, I presume.”

Well, something like that.

I wasn’t actually sure if drinking it in advance would be effective... After all, the servants had been around Tilura when she was sick.

As there is a latent period, it was possible that there were some people who were already sick and just hadn’t shown any symptoms yet.

That's what I thought, even though Ms. Lyra seemed satisfied with the notion that it was for prevention.

"Well, Leo. Let's go back to our room."

"Wou!"

I said to Leo, who had been watching me train, and then I headed back to the room.

Leo had yawned when replying, and walked behind me sluggishly.

She had gone to town and played with a lot of children, so perhaps she was tired?

It was quite late now, so it was no wonder that she was sleepy.

When we reached the room, Leo quickly curled up into a ball next to my bed and fell asleep.

"Good night, Leo. You did well today."

"Wuffff..."

I got into bed and said good night to Leo.

Leo murmured back as if in her sleep.

Chapter 135

I Paid Nick the Herb Carrier

"Mr. Takumi, you have a guest."

"Someone is here to see me?"

“Wuff.”

The next day, during my morning training, Ms. Gelda came to call me.

But I barely had any acquaintances in this world. Who could have come to see me?

For some reason, Leo was nodding with a knowing expression. Leo. How would you know, if you were with me this whole time?

While I thought it was strange, I wiped away the sweat and followed Ms. Gelda to the entrance hall.

“Brother, good morning!”

“...Is that...Nick?”

“Yes, it is!”

So it was Nick.

But he no longer had a mohawk like yesterday. He was completely bald...I suppose he had shaved it off. Well, I suppose that might be preferable if he was working at Mr. Kalis’s store now.

His clothes were also no longer covered in spikes. He was wearing regular clothes, and looked quite normal. Though, there was still an intimidating air about him.

...So that explains why Leo was nodding... The spell that Sebastian had cast allowed her to know where he was.

“And what are you doing out here? Did Mr. Kalis throw you out already?”

If Mr. Kalis had driven him out because he was a useless worker, then I would have to go and apologize to him.

After all, I had been the one to hire him and ask that he be placed there.

“Oh, even I wouldn’t get thrown out that quickly! I came here to pick up the herbs.”

“Ah, the herbs.”

Now that I think about it, I had left the job of delivering the herbs to him.

I had completely forgotten, as my mind was filled with the event at the orphanage, as well as thoughts of the malicious store.

Even Sebastian was busy dealing with it.

“What should I do...”

“Are the herbs not ready?”

“Yes, that’s just it... Wait here a moment.”

I left Nick at the entrance and asked Ms. Gelda where Sebastian was. Then I headed there.

“Sebastian. Do you have a moment?”

“Mr. Takumi? Of course.”

The room was an office for the butlers, and was located in a corner on the second floor.

I knocked on the door and Sebastian immediately gave me permission to enter.

“Excuse me.”

I opened the door and stepped inside. There were several desks lined up, and Sebastian was sitting in the back of the room among a pile of documents that were stacked on his desk.

The room reminded me of the old company I used to work at in my previous world...

“Is something the matter?”

“No, it’s just that Nick came to pick up the herbs... What should I do?”

“Now that I think about it, I didn’t give you the order sheet. I’m very sorry, but I was busy organizing the information about this malicious store.”

So Sebastian really was busy with that.

I hadn’t seen him at breakfast, even though he usually waited behind Ms. Claire.

“Hmm...here it is. It is a little more than what was sold yesterday. Is that all right?”

“Uh...yes, I think this should be fine. I could even do more if necessary.”

“Thank you.”

“Yes. And please don’t overwork yourself either, Sebastian.”

“Hohoho. I know that I’m no longer young, and I know my own limits.”

I accepted the order sheet from Sebastian and then returned to the entrance hall. Then I told Nick to wait a little longer as I went out into the back garden.

I watched Tilura train as I stood next to Leo and used Weed Cultivation.

“Wuff?”

“These herbs are for today’s order. You can’t eat them.”

“Kyau.”

As Leo was looking at me with a puzzled expression, I explained what I was doing.

Sherry then started to sniff the plants that had grown from the ground, so I warned her.

It was probably fine, but I didn’t want her to eat them by accident.

“Still, there sure is a lot of Ramogi.”

Even with the herbs that we sold yesterday, the Ramogi had been the first to sell out. And so the number had been increased for today.

Either the illness was starting to spread through the town, or it already had...

I was able to prepare all of the herbs in half an hour.

After changing the herbs into a state where they could be used, I had Ms. Lyra help me by wrapping them up by type.

Wrapping them individually would take time, and so I would leave that to Mr. Kalis.

“Good, it’s ready. Thank you for your help, Ms. Lyra.”

“Not at all, I’m just glad that I could be of use.”

After thanking Ms. Lyra, I returned to the entrance hall where Nick was waiting.

But on the way, I met Ms. Gelda, and was told that Nick was taken to the waiting room, and so I went there instead.

“Sorry to keep you waiting. I’ve brought the herbs.”

“Brother, this really is an amazing place...”

Nick said with a dumbfounded expression as he looked around the room.

Well, it was the duke’s mansion.

All of the furniture looked expensive, and the room was big.

Nick seemed like the kind of person who would not have much experience being in such places, so it was no wonder that he was surprised.

I myself had been stunned when I first came here...

“Don’t do anything strange here. Now, take this with you.”

“Yes, sir! I’ll deliver it to Mr. Kalis no matter what!”

“I’m counting on you. ...Oh, also...”

“What is it, brother?”

I stopped Nick just as he was about to leave the room after accepting the bag of herbs.

As he turned around, I put a single gold coin in his hand.

“Here is the payment for now. Multiple days’ worth. You don’t have any money, right?”

“...Brother... Thank you!”

Upon receiving the money, Nick's eyes seemed to be filled with emotion as he bowed his head repeatedly.

Was it really something to be so happy about?

Well, perhaps it was because he didn't have money, that he resorted to crime. And so I wanted to ensure that he wouldn't have that problem anymore.

It was a good thing I had discussed the average rates with Sebastian on the way home.

He said that one gold should cover anywhere between half a month to a month.

"Well, you'll be making many roundtrips from here to Ractos."

Since there was a lot of traveling, I had figured that I should give him an incentive.

I suppose it was like traveling expenses, and so I would make it half a month's pay.

After that, I would consider lowering or raising it depending on how he works.

That was something I would have to ask Mr. Kalis about later.

Chapter 136

We Talked About The Store With The Bad Reputation

"Now... Don't even think about taking the herbs and running away."

"I would never do such a thing! I know what terrors you are capable of! Besides, to defy the duke would be to throw my life away!"

They were nobles... A beheading could be waiting for him if he wasn't careful.

That being said, these terrors he spoke of...wasn't that more about Leo than me?

In any case, I believed his words and sent him away.

If he did anything strange, Leo or Sebastian would catch on, so it should be fine.

“Mr. Takumi. Let’s eat lunch!”

“Tilura. Is it that time already?”

“Wuff. Wuff.”

“Kyau.”

Just as I was thinking about returning to the back garden in order to train, I bumped into Tilura.

Apparently, the herbs had taken up more time than I thought, and it was already time for lunch.

And so I headed towards the dining hall with the hungry Tilura, and Leo and Sherry, who always had the greatest appetite.

“Lady Claire, Mr. Takumi. About the store that’s been causing trouble. I’ve gathered enough information to make a report.”

After we finished eating lunch, Sebastian came to the dining hall and started to talk about the malicious store.

“Am I allowed to listen to this too?”

“It does concern the herbs. And so it would be best for you to listen, Mr. Takumi. It may be that you will have to do something.”

As it concerned the family business, I wondered how involved I should be as an outsider. But Sebastian assured me that it was fine, and Ms. Claire nodded.

But what did he mean that I might have to do something?

I couldn't do anything outside of Weed Cultivation.

"You might have to prepare some Ramogi, Mr. Takumi."

"Ramogi?"

Did he mean that the illness was spreading more than expected?

"The appearance of this store happened to be very close to the spreading of the disease... And it seems like the store was aware of it."

"Why is that?"

"It was confirmed in today's reports. This store was responsible for buying all of Ractos's stock of herbs and medicine. And Ramogi was the first thing they started to buy."

"The first..."

"And after what we saw at the orphanage, there is no doubt that it is effective with the disease that is spreading. And so we must assume that they knew that it was spreading, and what would heal it."

So not only was the timing the same, but they had bought the Ramogi first.

Surely that meant they knew about the illness.

"However, when it first started to spread, the people of Ractos tried to buy other kinds of medicine. This was because they did not have any knowledge about the illness."

"Yes. Ms. Anna also seemed like she didn't know what medicine would be effective."

And so she had followed the advice of the store, and ended up buying the medicine that had been weakened.

Ms. Anna had been tricked into buying it because it was cheap, while the store made an extra profit.

“And then the store started to buy other kinds of medicine as well. And they started to sell them. I suppose they decided to take advantage of the fact that people were ignorant. It seems like they’ve been making a profit this way ever since.”

“...I see.”

“They are deceiving the people... This is unforgivable.”

As these people didn’t know about the illness, they didn’t know what medicine was effective.

And so even when the store bought every kind of medicine and sold it after weakening the effect, they still sold well.

It was likely that the clerks there were recommending them to customers...telling them to buy medicine that was completely unrelated... Just like what happened with Ms. Anna.

“It’s fraud.”

“Yes. However, in the next report...something was revealed that means the duke will not be able to deal with the matter immediately.”

“What do you mean?”

“Well, the situation has become more complicated...”

“...Is it the other noble, Sebastian?”

Ah, now that I think about it. There was talk of some other noble house being involved.

“Indeed. In the last report... Well, it seems like our neighbor...the count, is involved.”

“The count?”

“House Barsler.”

“Yes. Count Barsler is involved.”

Apparently, the neighboring lands were owned by someone called Count Barsler.

When looking at Ms. Claire or Mr. Ekenhart, it was hard to imagine nobles doing such things, but clearly, people were different, and even nobles could commit such crimes.

“Who is this Count Barsler?”

“The count owns lands that neighbor the Liebert territories. And a duke’s power alone is not enough to crush this store immediately, if it’s backed by a count.”

Why is that?

Weren’t dukes much higher in rank?

But I suppose things were a lot more complicated than that when it came to high society...

“And so we will not be able to take immediate action.”

Indeed, it was a very troublesome matter.

“And you’re sure of this? If you know this much...why can’t you just submit the evidence...?”

“But it’s still mostly speculation based on circumstantial evidence that was gathered. We still haven’t found anything solid. As the medicine was diluted, we don’t know where it was originally sold. And the person who bought them has already left the town, so they cannot be caught.”

“And how did you acquire all this information?”

“Most of it was from an old informant of Ractos. We’ve also been questioning residents. And there were eyewitnesses of this person entering and leaving the stores...”

“The person who left?”

“We don’t know where. But it’s still just eyewitness accounts, and cannot be used as evidence.”

So they didn’t know where this person was... Well, that was certainly troublesome.

And as Sebastian said, the words of some random residents would not be considered as strong evidence...

Chapter 137

I Went Out To Pick Up Milina

“Isn’t the fact that they are selling medicine of low quality enough of a reason?”

“While these are dirty methods, that is not enough on its own. It would be if it were an ordinary store, but not when they are backed by a noble house... After all, they might say that we were just criticizing them as rivals.”

“If only there was something else...”

“...I see.”

After that, it was decided that they should wait until Mr. Ekenhart received the reports, and we all went on our way.

Everyone seemed to be in a dark mood as they left the dining hall.

Tilura and I went to the back garden with Leo in order to practice our swings.

While Tilura was able to do it as usual, it was not the case for me.

“Wuff...wuff!”

“Ah...sorry. Thanks, Leo.”

A store that made profits through hurting the people... Now that I was also someone who made herbs and medicine, I had strong feelings of anger towards the store.

However, there was no point in swinging when your emotions were so turbulent.

I realized this when Leo pushed her head close to mine with a worried expression.

After thanking her with some pets, I went back to swinging.

“Wuff.”

Leo seemed relieved as she saw that I was able to concentrate this time, and she nodded.

She was starting to feel like my guardian...

In any case, while I was still mad at the store, I had to concentrate on my training now.

I would trust that Mr. Ekenhart would know how to deal with the issue.

“Good night, Tilura.”

“Yes. Good night, Mr. Takumi.”

“Wuff!”

When I was done swinging, I said goodnight to Tilura and we parted ways.

I then took a bath to wash away the sweat, and then got into bed.

I had a lot to think about, but there was still little that I could do... And so I would rest.

A few uneventful days passed after that.

Sebastian had still not found any solid evidence, and we were still waiting for Mr. Ekenhart's reply.

Tilura and I continued to train every day.

Well, Tilura also had her studies.

"I suppose I should study as well..."

I didn't know much about this world, so I thought that perhaps I should study with her. But my training and making herbs kept me busy.

...Though, I would have to start studying eventually.

Between training hours, I would grow herbs to be sold in Mr. Kalis's store.

Apparently, the Ramogi was still selling very well, and it made up most of the order.

And surprisingly, Nick was a hard worker.

I had asked about him once, when a different clerk came with him to the mansion.

“Is Nick working properly?”

“Yes. There is still a lot that he needs to learn, but he does work hard. He says that he doesn’t want to disgrace the reputation of his brother.”

The clerk said with a laugh.

I still wasn’t used to being called that, but I was glad that he was working hard.

If he worked hard, and Ramogi sold well at Mr. Kalis’s store, then that would lead to less success for the malicious store.

Other than that, Ms. Claire had Sebastian spread the instructions on how to prevent getting ill in the first place.

Well, it was mostly just posting notices in the plaza, but even if only a few people followed it, it was still better than nothing.

“Mr. Takumi. You’re going to the orphanage today, remember?”

“Ah... That’s right.”

During breakfast, as I was thinking back on the past few days, Ms. Claire reminded me of something that was very important.

Yes, we were supposed to pick up Milina.

As she would have her personal belongings, we thought it best to pick her up.

It would be very difficult for her to carry them and come here alone.

“I have matters to discuss with Sebastian, and will not be able to go...”

“I understand. Leave it to me. I’ll send Ms. Anna your regards.”

“Thank you.”

Ms. Claire had something to discuss with Sebastian regarding the store.

While they hadn’t heard from Mr. Ekenhart yet, they wanted to do what they could as they waited.

“Let’s go, Leo.”

“Wuff.”

“Kyau.”

“Are you coming too, Sherry?”

As we were about to leave from the entrance hall, Sherry jumped onto Leo’s back.

She spent a lot of time there these days.

“Kyau. Kyau.”

“Wuff. Wuff.”

I still could not understand what Sherry was saying, but Leo would sometimes translate...

She said that Sherry wanted to go so she could get used to humans...

“Well, I suppose it can be educational. But don’t you want to stay with Ms. Claire and Tilura?”

“Kyau! Kyau!”

“Wuff. Wuff-wuff.”

Uhhh. They are talking about boring things. This seems more fun.

But we’re not going to play.... Well, I suppose it was more interesting than being with Tilura as she studied, or listening to Sebastian and Ms. Claire talk.

“All right. Then you can come. But you better behave.”

“Kyau.”

“Wuff.”

After seeing them nod, I left the mansion.

Outside, a carriage was waiting, along with a butler and Ms. Lyra.

“Mr. Takumi. We will be accompanying you.”

“Thank you.”

The butler went to the driver’s seat, and Ms. Lyra and I went into the carriage.

I suppose Ms. Lyra was coming because of Milina’s belongings...it was best to have a woman accompany us.

“Now, we will depart.”

The butler said, and the carriage moved forward.

“Wuff.”

“Kyau!”

Leo ran happily alongside the carriage.

Sherry seemed like she was having fun as well.

“Ah.”

“What is it?”

“Uh, I just remembered that I didn’t give Nick today’s herbs...”

He usually came just before lunch.

It took him longer to travel from Ractos, as he wasn’t riding a horse...

However, as we had left shortly after breakfast, I was not able to give the herbs to him. Even though I had made them last night.

Chapter 138

I Almost Started Talking Heatedly About Customer Service

“We should stop at Mr. Kalis’s store on the way there. I took the liberty of bringing the herbs with me.”

“You did... Thank you.”

Apparently, Ms. Lyra had loaded the herbs into the carriage.

I had been hoping that someone in the mansion would hand them over to Nick, but Ms. Lyra had expected us to stop by the store.

She was a capable maid.

“Well, I will follow after you in just a moment. Please go ahead to Mr. Kalis.”

“Yes, thank you. Let’s go, Ms. Lyra.”

“Yes.”

We left the butler and the carriage and hurried on to Mr. Kalis’s store.

As we hadn’t seen him on the way, it was probably fine. But I wanted to get there before he departed for the mansion.

“Mr. Kalis.”

“Oh? Mr. Takumi. What can I do for you today?”

I saw Mr. Kalis making preparations in front of the store, and so I called out to him.

Mr. Kalis turned to us with a puzzled expression.

Well, we hadn’t told him that we were visiting.

“We had business in this town, and so I thought that I’d bring the herbs as well.”

Thank you for being so considerate. Your herbs have been received very well, and they are practically flying off the shelves.”

Mr. Kalis accepted the bag of herbs and could not stop laughing.

While it was probably the fact that they were proper herbs that were effective, unlike that other store, it was still nice to have your work praised.

“Huh? It’s you, brother. Why are you here? I was just about to go to the mansion.”

“Nick. I happened to have business here. And so I delivered them for you.”

As I was talking to Mr. Kalis, Nick came out of the store with an expression of surprise.

I was relieved to see that he hadn't departed yet.

“Mr. Kalis. Has Nick been working hard? Judging by his regular visits at the mansion, he seems to be doing his job.”

As it was a good opportunity, I decided to ask Mr. Kalis about him directly.

I had heard from the other clerks, but perhaps they had differing opinions.

“Surprisingly, he is doing his job. As he only just started, there is a lot to learn. But I would have expected a lot less from such a violent man.”

“Ah. Hahaha.”

Nick chuckled with an embarrassed expression as he scratched his head.

Hmm. That was better than I was expecting.

“However...”

“So, did he do something after all?”

Mr. Kalis paused with a stern expression.

What had he done?

“He really must learn how to deal with customers properly... He was quite rude towards them the other day.”

“Oh, that... No, it was the customers fault. They were whining about your herbs, brother...”

“Ha... Nick... Regardless, you have to be polite when dealing with customers.”

There would always be people who had unreasonable complaints.

I suppose Nick was just offended on my behalf, but this was still a customer.

Besides, other customers might have been watching his reaction... You had to be very careful.

Up until recently, he was quick to argue and fight without thinking of the consequences, and so he had to be taught when it came to such things.

“Mr. Takumi, we should be...”

“Ah, pardon me. Mr. Kalis, can I leave it to you then?”

“Yes, don’t worry. Customer service is something I can beat into him.”

“...Please be gentle...”

“We must leave then.”

“Yes, thank you for delivering the herbs.”

“See you later, brother!”

Ms. Lyra reminded me that we had to go to the orphanage.

I didn’t want to keep Milina waiting... And so I left Neck in Mr. Kalis’s hands, and the two of us left the store and headed towards the orphanage.

“Sorry, Ms. Lyra.”

“No, not at all. But it looked like you were going to start lecturing Nick, and so I had to intervene. We still have some time.”

“I see. But I’m glad that you stopped me.”

I talked with Ms. Lyra as we made our way to the orphanage.

We reunited with the butler shortly after leaving the store.

As for Ms. Lyra’s fear, I could not deny that I would have likely become carried away as I instructed him...

“Excuse me. We came to pick up Milina.”

“Ah, Mr. Takumi. Thank you for coming. Milina and the headmistress have been waiting for you.”

When we arrived, we were greeted by the woman who was sweeping the entrance.

I think...she was the same person who was here last time.

I couldn’t help but imagine Milina waiting restlessly, and I chuckled as we were let in.

“Excuse me, Ms. Anna. We have come to pick up Milina.”

“Thank you for coming, Mr. Takumi.”

“I’ve been waiting for you, master!”

We were led into a drawing room.

I then greeted Ms. Anna and Milina.

Upon seeing me, she broke into a bright smile and rushed towards us.

She must be very impatient.

“Are you ready to leave?”

“Yes. I have all my things together!”

“Mr. Takumi, please...take good care of her.”

“Yes. You have nothing to worry about.”

Milina picked up some of her things and left the room.

And then Ms. Lyra went to help her.

I assured Ms. Anna that I would take full responsibility for her, and nodded.

She bowed deeply in reply, and then I too left to help Milina.

“Is that all?”

“Yes. I never had much to begin with.”

Together, we were able to carry all of her luggage, and so we stepped out of the orphanage.

As furniture would be provided for her at the mansion, she only needed her clothes and small personal belongings.

But while Milina assured us that she didn't have much, she was still a girl, and so it was actually a decent amount.

Chapter 139

We Took Milina Back With Us

“Well, let's depart then.”

“Indeed.”

“Yes!”

“Goodbye, Milina!”

“Everyone...”

Just as we were about to leave the orphanage, the children came out to see her off.

Behind them stood Ms. Anna. There was a mixture of pride and sadness in her face as she saw Milina leave.

“...Headmistress. Everyone. Goodbye!”

Milina closed her eyes once as if to ward off tears. And then she bid them farewell and walked away from the orphanage with us.

“Wuff...”

“Good Leo...you are so kind...”

After we had walked for a while, Leo pushed gently against Milina as if concerned.

While it was a little awkward with her carrying her belongings, she leaned against Leo and was enveloped in her fur.

“Milina...”

“I’m fine...”

“Wuff?”

“Thank you, good Leo. I feel better now!”

After feeling the soft silver fur, Milina raised her head and answered cheerfully to Leo.

I could tell now that she had the resolve to not regret her decision.

“Sorry to keep you waiting.”

The butler arrived with the carriage, and so we loaded it with Milina’s luggage.

Once it was all in, the only thing left to do was return home.

“Milina.”

“Yes, what is it, master?”

She seemed to hesitate to ride in the carriage with us, and so I called her.

“I think you should ride with Leo.”

“With Leo? I can do that!?”

“Aye. Right, Leo?”

“Wuff!”

Milina was very surprised by this.

Leo then nodded as if to say that she could take it from here. And then she moved in front of Milina and lay low so that it would be easier to climb onto her back.

“Are you certain?”

“It’s fine. She won’t shake you off. See?”

“Wuff. Wuff.”

“Kyau!”

I encouraged her, as she seemed to be hesitating over whether she should ride on Leo’s back. And so she did.

Leo looked happy to be able to carry someone, and she wagged her tail and barked.

Even Sherry, who had been riding on Leo this whole time, barked as if welcoming Milina.

“She’s so soft... Also...uh, Sherry, was it?”

“Kyau!”

Sherry replied happily and then jumped onto Milina.

Once I saw that she was holding Sherry securely, I got into the carriage.

“You are very kind, Mr. Takumi.”

“Do you think so? I only said that because Leo looked like she wanted to carry someone.”

“...Or because you saw that Milina was looking lonely?”

“...Well, leaving the people and place that raised you...it would make one lonely.”

“So you are a kind person.”

Apparently, Ms. Lyra knew my intention.

It was a little embarrassing, especially since we were sitting so close to each other...

While Milina said that she was fine, it would still be sad to leave the place you had been living in for so long.

At least when I came to this world, I had Leo with me. But I remember when I first started living alone as a student. It had been difficult to leave the uncle who had raised me.

“We will depart now.”

Said the butler, and the carriage moved forward. Leo started to run alongside it.

Around the time that we left the town, I could see Milina through the carriage window as she looked back towards Ractos.

...She really was sad to be leaving.

“Thank you, good Leo.”

“Wuff.”

“How was the ride, Milina?”

“It was wonderful. Due to the soft fur, it was a lot more comfortable than a rocking carriage.”

As Leo’s fur acted as a cushion, it was fine even when she moved.

Indeed, you felt a lot of the shaking when in a carriage... I wonder if they don’t have suspensions?

“Let’s bring your things in then.”

“Thank you.”

“Ah, let me help you. It’s mine after all!”

“You must take it easy today, Milina. While you will be treated as a servant from tomorrow, you are a guest for today.”

“...Very well.”

As Ms. Lyra unloaded her things from the carriage, several other servants came out of the mansion and helped carry them inside.

So Milina was a guest today... Well, I suppose it was fine for one day.

“Now, let’s go inside!”

“Yes! Though...I do feel nervous about going into such a fine house...”

“There’s no need to be so nervous. Everyone here is very kind.”

I said to Milina, who was standing still by the entrance. And then we stepped inside.

“Welcome back, Mr. Takumi. Welcome, Lady Milina.”

“Ah!”

“Ahaha. Don’t be frightened. They always greet you when you come here.”

When we entered the mansion, several of the servants greeted us all at once.

Milina looked a little tense by this sudden occurrence.

She was nervous enough as it was, and this hadn’t helped things at all.

Also, I suppose they were calling her ‘lady’ because she was a guest for now.

“Milina, it’s been a while. But I’m glad that you’re finally here!”

“So you came at last... I feel old already...”

“You’re going to be Mr. Takumi’s apprentice? How very bold of you, Milina.”

“Everyone...”

A few of the servants seemed to recognize her as they started to talk to Milina.

Apparently, they knew each other from back at the orphanage.

I see... Ms. Claire did say that she tried to hire from there when possible...

And Milina won’t be as lonely if she has acquaintances here.

“Welcome back, Mr. Takumi.”

“Ms. Claire. And Sebastian. We’re back.”

“Ah, Lady Claire. Thank you for having me.”

Ms. Claire and Sebastian came down the stairs and greeted us.

Milina became tense again and greeted Ms. Claire awkwardly.

“Welcome to the Liebert house, Milina. I’m pleased to have you.”

“Yes. Thank you.”

Ms. Claire smiled cheerfully as she welcomed Milina.

After that, the servants took her away to show her the room where she would be sleeping in.

Ms. Lyra and Ms. Gelda were among them.

Now that I think about it, they were also from the orphanage...

Chapter 140

I Had Them Check On Nick

“Good work, Mr. Takumi. Thank you for picking up Milina.”

“Not at all. It was easy, as she didn’t have any heavy luggage. Also, we stopped by at Mr. Kalis’s store, as we had to deliver the herbs.”

“I see. So that’s why Nick didn’t stop by today?”

“Yes. Thankfully, Ms. Lyra had loaded the herbs onto the carriage.”

After Milina and the others left, we moved to the dining hall as we continued to talk.

It was so we could have a late lunch.

Apparently, Ms. Claire and Sebastian had been talking so much that they hadn't eaten yet.

Tilura had eaten ahead of them and was training now... I would join her after I ate my own lunch... Ah, but I also have to spend time for my Weed Cultivation research... I still haven't figured out my limits for using it one day.

"Mr. Takumi. About your request..."

"Yes, how was it?"

Sebastian brought it up as we were eating.

I felt bad, as I knew that he was busy dealing with the malicious store, but I had asked him to look into Nick's past.

While Mr. Kalis said that he was working seriously now, there were other things to consider, depending on the number and nature of his past crimes.

He had made a scene in public, and regardless of whether he was capable of reform, if people started spreading rumors that I was hiding him, then it could cause trouble for Ms. Claire and the others.

And I might have to do something for the other victims as well... Apologizing would not be enough.

"As for Nick...there were fewer offenses than I thought. While he looks like he's accustomed to threatening people, it was mostly him imitating his friends."

"Is that so?"

"Yes. However, there are other offenses, even when ignoring the time he threatened Lady Claire, as well as his escape from prison."

“Uhh, can you tell me the details about how many there are?”

“Let me see. First, there are four counts of threatening merchants. This includes Mr. Kalis’s store, as well as the malicious one. If you include the event with Lady Claire, the number would be five. Also, he escaped from prison... He escaped right after being caught.”

“Hmm... The malicious store is one thing, but what about the others?”

“He apparently did this while alone, so they were able to drive him out before he caused any damage.”

“He didn’t cause any damage?”

While I had been able to deal with him when I had only just started my training, he had looked so intimidating... He had a shaved head now, but I wouldn’t have been surprised if some places gave him money out of fear...

“Well...it seems like he didn’t look like that until recently. My guess is that he changed his appearance in order to intimidate others.”

So that explained it.

And it had been quite effective, I suppose.

“Apparently, he changed shortly before we first met him with Lady Claire. It was around then that he met the others by chance.”

“So...what happened to his friends?”

“They had many more offenses, when I looked into it. My view of the matter is that they pulled Nick in and made him take part in their crimes.”

So he was trying to be bad, but failing, and it wasn’t until he changed his appearance that he caught the eyes of some gang, who then asked him to join them...

It was a very...typical pattern for delinquents in Japan...

“While it was a coincidence, it gave us information about that store. And while there was no damage, I think it would be best if he went around and apologized to each store, and then the matter can be explained to the guards.”

“I see... Thank you.”

“No, it was no trouble at all.”

“Not only am I grateful that you looked into it...but you agreed to let me hire him in spite of the possible damage to this house... Thank you.”

“That...indeed, yes...”

“But Mr. Takumi. I do think you were right back then. While he is hardly an innocent man, I don’t think that merely punishing everyone who has made a mistake is right.”

I was thankful towards Sebastian for allowing it, especially because of the possibility that it could affect their reputation.

But it seemed like Ms. Claire was of a similar mind as me.

It wasn’t that I believed that everyone could be reformed...there were unforgivable crimes that could not be undone.

And Nick had done something that no person should do.

However, he was working seriously now, and it seemed like he could be reformed. And according to Sebastian, his past crimes were rather light.

Though, he would still need to make some apologies.

“Well...it seems like with this case, he was struggling to feed himself, which could be taken into account. However, you will be more careful from now on, won't you?”

“Yes, I understand.”

While it was no excuse for going around and threatening people, it made things a little more understandable.

Though, Sebastian gave me a warning there at the end... I would have to be careful...I think.

We finished eating lunch, and just as I was thinking about joining up with Tilura and training, Milina came to the dining hall.

“Excuse me.”

“Milina. What do you think about the mansion?”

“I'm relieved that there are people here who I know. And the room was very nice... Thank you, Lady Claire.”

Milina was asked what she thought about the mansion, and so she answered.

She had looked lonely as soon as she left the orphanage, but now that she saw familiar faces, she seemed more cheerful.

“What are you going to do now, master?”

“Me? I was thinking about doing some sword practice.”

“A sword...? But when will you be studying medicine?”

Ah, right. Milina had come here in order to learn about medicine... We were supposed to study it together.

“Well...let me see... I’ll train for a little, and then we’ll study. uh, How about one hour from now?”

“I understand. I’ll do my best!”

I left the enthusiastic Milina in the dining hall, and then I went out into the garden to join Tilura.

There, Tilura was training quietly.

...She was working so hard and seriously, so I couldn’t slack off.

Studying Weed Cultivation, sword training, and learning about medicine. I had a lot to do, but I felt more motivated after seeing Tilura.