

THE ACADEMY IS DOOMED

The Academy is Doomed

#C41 - Read The Academy is Doomed C41

Chapter 41

Sword Master.

Those who reach that level, whether swordsmen or knights, are commonly lumped together under that term, but strictly speaking, there are levels within it.

Absolute amount of mana, duration and sturdiness of aura blade, and so on.

According to numerous criteria, Sword Masters' levels are commonly categorized like this.

'Lower Sword Master, Mid Sword Master, Intermediate, Advanced, Supreme.'

Of course, this is just a classification for convenience.

Depending on talent differences, there were plenty of cases where lower ranks defeated mid ranks, and intermediates defeated advanced ranks.

In the end, 'experience' is not something that can be easily ignored.

'Of course, experience is just experience, it can never overcome talent. There are plenty who remain at the Lower Sword Master level their whole lives due to their talent.'

Alfred, Vestric's sword instructor, was one such person.

Despite dedicating his entire life to swordsmanship, he never reached the level of 'Mid Sword Master' beyond 'Lower.'

He felt the limit as a swordsman. That's why he gave up being a 'swordsman' who focused solely on swordsmanship and became an 'instructor.'

After all, he could still pass on his years of experience to those who came after.

'And Oliver is also a Lower Sword Master. But he's a rookie who just reached the level of Sword Master. Comparing him to me, who has lived as a Sword Master through thick and thin, is disrespectful to me.'

Therefore, Alfred assumed that Oliver's subjugation by Amon was due to Oliver's carelessness.

That's why Alfred swung his wooden sword toward Amon without any trace of carelessness.

In fact, whether Oliver had been careless or not, Alfred gave it his all because Amon's movement from earlier was unsettling.

'I'll break something and make you seriously regret it!'

Just as Alfred's wooden sword was about to touch Amon's chin.

'...Huh?'

Suddenly, Amon's right hand holding the wooden sword became blurry, and somehow Amon's wooden sword was right in front of Alfred's eyes.

'When did...?'

Before that question could even be completed, Alfred internally bristled at seeing Amon's wooden sword slowly approaching him.

'This bastard! How dare he hold back...?'

Alfred, unable to complete his thought, blinked his eyes.

No, he couldn't blink.

His body, which had been swinging the wooden sword at Amon, was already frozen.

The movements of the gallery watching their match, the dust raised by his charge, everything in the world was frozen.

A frozen world.

In that world, only Amon's wooden sword showed slow movement as it approached him.

'This is perhaps...'

The near-death experience on the battlefield that made him give up the path of a 'swordsman.'

The phenomenon he experienced in that extreme situation.

'Life flashing before eyes.'

Just before Amon's wooden sword touched his head, his life flashed before his eyes like a panorama in an instant!

Birth! Growth! Happiness! Hardships and adversity!

And the present.

'Death.'

As he realized this fact, Alfred's vision turned pitch black.

* * *

Amon tilted his head while holding out his wooden sword.

'Why is he doing this?'

Even though the wooden sword was right in front of him, Alfred just had his eyes tightly shut without any thought of counterattacking.

Since he couldn't just strike someone like that, he stopped, but he couldn't understand what Alfred was thinking as he trembled with his eyes closed.

"Hmm..."

Amon withdrew his wooden sword and patted Alfred's arm.

"Are you alright?"

"...hu, huck!"

Only then did Alfred open his eyes wide, look around frantically, and feel his body.

"Am, am I alive...?"

Then looking at Amon in front of him, Alfred collapsed and shouted while backing away.

"Mo, monster!"

"...?"

"Aaaaaah! Help!"

“...?”

Amon frowned as he blankly watched him flee completely out of the academy.

‘What’s this? Is he crazy?’

He had merely swung his wooden sword lightly in response to the other’s charge, but the man just kept his eyes shut tight and suddenly called him a monster before running away, which didn’t make him feel very good.

‘Hmm, looking at that guy’s behavior, Vestric Academy isn’t normal either.’

A strange sense of kinship!

Amon, who was looking at Vestric Academy with what seemed like pity, glanced at Supervisor Volbert and asked.

“Supervisor, how does this result get decided?”

To that question, Supervisor Volbert reached out his hand as if it was an unnecessary question.

“Friendly exchange match 1, Amonis Academy’s victory!”

“Wow! Wowowowow!”

To Anar’el’s enthusiastic cheer, Amon headed back to his original spot with a face like someone who found half a cockroach while eating a sandwich.

Then he whispered into Anar’el’s long ear.

“Let’s talk after the exchange match, Principal.”

A tone full of thorns!

However, Anareel assumed that Amon had stepped up for her honor as the principal, so she nodded with complete innocence.

“Yes! Teacher Amon!”

“...sigh.”

Meanwhile, the atmosphere on Vestric Academy’s side was miserable.

“Ah, why did Alfred...”

“It seemed like he ran away in fear...”

While fellow teachers worried about Alfred, Principal Benjamin was grinding his teeth.

‘Alfred, you’re getting a pay cut.’

Alfred, who fled in terror, would soon taste an even greater terror!

Benjamin clicked his tongue and approached, and Anar’el shouted with an overbearing face.

“How about it, Benjamin? The level of our academy?”

“...”

“Plus, as you just saw, each teacher serves me, their principal, with utmost devotion! Unlike certain academy’s teachers who ran away with their tails between their legs!”

Amon was looking at Anar’el again.

Though the content was somewhat displeasing, he planned to consider it as poetic license for provoking the opponent.

‘If I were Principal Benjamin, I would have ripped off Anar’el’s ears right away!’

That’s how excellent the provocation was.

Considering that Benjamin’s face, which had been somewhat pale, was now as red as a ripe apple, it seemed the provocation had worked properly.

Benjamin, who had been breathing heavily with his reddened face, forced a relaxed smile.

“That’s really something extraordinary. Why has such a great academy shrunk so much? Must be thanks to its great principal?”

“Well...”

As Anar’el shut her mouth after being hit right where it hurt, Benjamin decided to change his target of attack.

“You there, young teacher.”

“Yes?”

Amon blinked as he was singled out.

“Are you talking to me?”

“That’s right. Your match with Alfred, I watched it very impressively. You possess quite remarkable talent.”

“Ah...yes, thank you.”

“So I was thinking...”

Benjamin’s eyes flashed.

“Would you perhaps consider transferring to Vestric Academy?”

“...!”

Amon’s eyes widened.

‘Tr, transfer to Vestric Academy?’

Undoubtedly, Amonis Academy is a sinking ship.

‘And it’s already half-submerged at that.’

If a transfer offer came from a fairly decent academy, he would be ready to stamp his seal right away, but for an offer to come from Vestric Academy, which was not just any decent place?

And not just from anyone, but from the principal directly?

Of course, he knew that this was merely a means to provoke and taunt Anar’el.

‘But do I care?’

As long as you reach the capital, it doesn’t matter which road you take – what mattered was that he could work as a teacher at Vestric Academy.

Therefore, Amon opened his mouth wide.

“I...”

Before he could even finish saying “will transfer.”

Anar’el, who grabbed Amon’s arm forcefully, shouted.

“Hmph! Not a chance! Teacher Amon still has more than 2 years left on his contract!”

“...!”

Yes. That damned contract.

If the contract could be ended amicably by mutual agreement, that would be different, but in this situation, there was no way that devil wearing an elf's mask would allow that.

Just as Amon was despairing at that fact, Benjamin said in a powerful voice.

“That measly penalty fee, I'll pay it!”

At this point, Amon pledged his loyalty to Principal Benjamin.

However, the devil-like Anar'el shouted with veins popping on her neck.

“Hmph! How foolish! Even if there was no contract to begin with, Teacher Amon would never leave our academy! How much has Teacher Amon devoted himself to our academy until now! Isn't that right, Teacher Amon!”

“No, it's not.”

“What?”

Amon, who coldly shook off Anar'el's arm, straightened his collar and approached Benjamin.

“I look forward to working with you, Principal Benjamin.”

“Uh...?”

Benjamin was rather taken aback when Amon suddenly changed his attitude.

But isn't that how the transfer market works?

Benjamin quickly accepted the situation.

“Uhhohoho! Yes, yes. Work hard from now on!”

“I will dedicate my body and soul to Vestric Academy.”

“Hahaha! I like how straightforward you are!”

Amon quickly whispered.

“More importantly, Principal, I think it would be good to quickly recruit the students from Amonis Academy as well. As you saw during the exchange match earlier, they are students with remarkable talent and potential.”

“Hooh, I was thinking the same thing. I’ll seriously consider it.”

“Truly a wise decision, sir.”

“Then how about the teachers?”

“They’re trash, sir.”

“I see.”

Anar’el could only blink blankly at Amon’s appearance, who had instantly become Vestric’s loyal dog.

“T-Teacher Amon?”

“Principal Benjamin, we should leave this shabby place soon. It’s too crude for someone as noble as you.”

“Kekeke! I really like this fellow!”

“To be liked by you is an honor that will last three generations.”

Anar’el’s ears were trembling as violently as possible at Amon’s cloying flattery toward Benjamin.

Anar’el, with tears welling up in her eyes from anger, screamed at the top of her lungs.

“Benjamin!”

Benjamin smirked at Anar’el’s shout.

“Hooh, Principal Anar’el. Do you have something to say?”

“Ee, eeek...!”

The extreme of anger!

Anar’el, trembling with his ears almost at right angles, shouted.

“Benjamin, because you acted so cowardly like this!”

“Hmm?”

“That’s why I...!”

Anar’el pointed at Benjamin and shouted.

“Rejected your confession!”

“...What!?”

Benjamin stepped back with a start at the sudden shocking statement.

Amon, who had been bending his waist as if ready to polish Benjamin’s shoes at any moment, widened his eyes.

‘What...did she say?’

Benjamin showed strange hostility and anxiety towards Anar’el.

Anar’el appears strangely relaxed against Benjamin.

‘Principal Benjamin saw Anar’el as a romantic interest and confessed, and Anar’el rejected him?’

Finally, the subtle attitudes of the two principals made sense.

Anar’el was relaxed because she was the one who rejected the confession, and Benjamin had animosity because he was the one whose feelings were rejected!

At that moment, Amon felt the air change dramatically.

‘W-wait...!’

Anar’el, seemingly feeling there was nothing left to hold back, was going berserk.

“You understand? That nasty personality! That’s why I hate you, because of that kind of character that resorts to cowardly tricks at the slightest thing!”

“Uu, uuuu...”

“And what? You brought poetry? That poetry, I knew you paid someone else to write it!? Do you know how pathetic your face looked when you read that poetry without any sincerity!?”

“Uu, aaaah...!”

Principal Benjamin writhing in agony while pulling his hair at the memories of the past!

Amon quickly supported him.

“P-Principal! Please calm down! You must not fall for that vicious elf’s schemes!”

Anar’el snorted.

“Schemes? Wasn’t it scheming to pressure me with a confession in front of a crowd of people?”

“Uh...”

“Coming to find me dead drunk, rolling around and crying like a child, wasn’t that scheming!? And you weren’t even really drunk! It was just a ploy to make me uncomfortable!”

“...”

Anar’el’s threw revelations as if possessed while Benjamin was already on his knees, completely pale.

And Anar’el drove the final nail toward such a Benjamin.

“To begin with! You were never my type!”

At that cry, Benjamin finally planted his face on the ground.

Chapter 42

‘Ah, no. The flow is changing.’

This would surely mean the transfer to Vestric would be down the drain.

Benjamin, who was lying face down with shame and humiliation, was frantically pulling at what little hair he had left.

While stopping his hands, I said:

“Principal! Please calm down! You mustn’t fall for that wicked elf’s tricks!”

“Ugh...urgh...my head...”

“How could that mere elf know your deep inner feelings, Principal!”

“This, these memories, what...”

“Principal!”

Amon shouted while grabbing and shaking his shoulders.

“Please come to your senses! Let’s hurry and leave this filthy den!”

“Y-yes...”

“I’ll escort you, Principal!”

Amon supported Benjamin to his feet and hastily moved forward.

‘Good. Now we just need to get out of this filthy place.’

As time passed, Benjamin would calm down, and then they could resume the conversation about transferring to Vestric.

Therefore, it was the moment when they were trying to hurriedly escape from this place.

“Teacher Amon! No, Amon!”

Even at Anar’el’s voice calling him, Amon did not stop.

But then came Anar’el’s heartbreaking voice.

“I trusted you...!”

Hearing Anar’el’s heartbreaking voice holding back tears, Amon thought:

‘What nonsense is this?’

How could this elf who claims to trust him so much turn the working environment into a cesspool?

Amon let it go in one ear and out the other as he quickly led Benjamin away.

“Come on, come on. Let’s hurry...”

But what do you know, Benjamin was standing still in his place.

That’s when Amon looked at Benjamin.

“You...what’s your relationship with Anar’el?”

“Pardon?”

At that question, Amon’s shoulders flinched when he saw Benjamin’s eyes.

The emotions filling Benjamin's eyes were distrust, hatred, and.

'Oh no...'

The strongly felt emotion of 'jealousy'!

'N-no way, is this guy now...'

Benjamin, who pushed away the supporting arm with a smack, glared with eyes full of disgust and said:

"I'm asking you. What's your relationship with Anar'el?"

"A teacher and principal relationship...?"

It was nothing more, nothing less than that dry relationship.

However, Benjamin, already consumed by suspicion, was glaring at Amon with eyes full of distrust.

'B-but it's okay. I can prove my innocence.'

Just as Amon made this judgment and was about to speak of his integrity with his hand on his chest.

"Sob! Amon, after we promised to see the same future together..."

"What!?"

What kind of nonsensical elf talk is that again?

Of course, Anar'el meant it in the sense of 'let's make the academy prosper together.'

However, Benjamin, with his heart hurting as if salt had been rubbed in it, seemed to interpret it differently seeing Anar'el sitting there crying tears.

"You, you bastard, don't tell me..."

"N-no, Principal, wait..."

"Who's your principal!"

The thought of hiring Amon had already grown wings and flown far away from Benjamin's mind.

And why wouldn't it!

Some young bastard had defiled the woman he'd been in love with for decades!

Of course, that was a completely unfounded misunderstanding!

Pack-!

After pushing away the young bastard and fixing his collar, Benjamin strode toward Anar'el.

"Anar'el! Forget that bastard and come with me!"

"S-sob..."

"I'm not the person from your memories! So..."

Anar'el swatted away Benjamin's hand reaching for her shoulder and snapped:

"Ah, don't touch me."

Benjamin collapsed right there.

* * *

After Benjamin was carried away unconscious from excessive mental shock, Amon stood still, lost in thought.

'I'm screwed.'

The transfer to Vestric Academy was carried away on the stretcher along with Benjamin.

Then what was his current position?

Amon glanced back and quickly turned his head back around.

Aside from Anar'el who was sobbing, his reliable colleagues including Sloth and Marion were looking at him with eyes as if they were looking at a bug.

'I'm really screwed.'

At this rate, he might end up like an egg that can't go anywhere!

Marion cleared his throat and muttered:

"Amon, I knew you were trash before, but to think it was to this extent..."

Sloth added:

“I didn’t know you were such a scoundrel...”

Disgust! Revulsion!

His chest ached at the criticism from his one and only colleagues who were looking at him with gazes similar to what Benjamin had shown earlier.

“...Everyone, this is a misunderstanding.”

When he took a step forward to clear up the misunderstanding, they took a step back.

“What misunderstanding.”

“You’re talking nonsense.”

Sloth even blocked Anar’el’s front as if telling him not to come any closer.

At that sight, Amon said with a gloomy face:

“Everyone, please listen to what I have to say first.”

“Go ahead and speak. We’ll listen.”

“First of all, I won the first teacher exchange battle with Vestric Academy. That means there would have been a second teacher exchange battle, right?”

“...”

“The problem is, Vestric Academy’s teachers’ levels were quite high. Eventually, if we continued to have teacher exchange battles, victory wouldn’t have been easily guaranteed. Ah, of course, with the seniors’ skills, victory would have been natural! I didn’t want to unnecessarily trouble the seniors!”

“...”

“Therefore, I bit back my tears and volunteered to be the villain! How pathetic was the sight of the Vestric principal foolishly falling for my scheme...tsk tsk!”

“...”

“Well, in the end, Principal Anar’el ended up chasing them away, but even if it had proceeded according to my plan, the result would have been similar. After gracefully getting rid of them, I would have returned here, to my nest. Where else would I have to go?”

Amon said with a fresh smile.

“Principal, Vice Principal...where did they go? And seniors. Will you now understand my true feelings?”

To Amon’s heartfelt plea, Sloth answered:

“What a long load of bullshit.”

“...”

Marion also clicked his tongue and said:

“Don’t live your life like that.”

“...”

“Sigh, anyway Principal, what will you...huh?”

Perhaps she was very angry at Amon’s nonsensical excuse?

Anar’el was trembling with red ears.

Therefore, just as he thought he should quickly calm Anar’el down, she suddenly stood up and shouted with a bright smile:

“As expected of Teacher Amon! I believed in you!”

Amon also ran toward Anar’el in one breath and shouted:

“As expected, ‘Principal’ Anar’el understands my true heart!”

“Of course! How could Teacher Amon, who has worked so hard for our academy all this time, betray us!”

“Those are wise words!”

Seeing the two people hugging each other and jumping around, Marion and Sloth looked at each other.

“...Shouldn’t we transfer first?”

“...Indeed.”

They turned around with a sigh.

They went to have a meal following Brestle who had already left earlier to eat.

* * *

The next day.

'Hmm, this is a big problem.'

While the wise principal understood his deep intentions, his ignorant and blind colleague teachers were looking at him with cold eyes.

'To brand me as a traitor...how truly disappointing. Was our relationship only worth this much?'

As the trust relationship built with his colleague teachers crumbled in an instant, Amon felt deep disappointment and sighed.

"Sigh..."

"Why the sudden sigh?"

"No, it's nothing."

Amon, who was massaging the shoulders of Anar'el, his only remaining support, said:

"Should I massage your legs now?"

"Thank you!"

Service and dedication toward the respected principal!

While Amon was diligently massaging Anar'el's legs:

"Oh right, Teacher Amon."

"Yes, Principal."

"Shouldn't you get your teaching certificate soon?"

Teaching certificate.

Amon swallowed.

"Hmm...certainly it would be good to get it."

"Right?"

Of course, Amon's current position is also that of a teacher.

To be precise, he was a 'contract teacher limited to a 3-year contract period.'

In other words, he was employed through 'noble status and connections, and the principal's discretion' without a teaching certificate.

"I've been thinking about it too. But recently, I couldn't find the right timing because I was busy taking charge of subjects officially and creating curriculums."

"I see."

"But why suddenly bring this up...?"

Could it be they're planning to kick him out if he doesn't get the certificate?

To Amon's worried question, Anar'el closed her eyes gently and said:

"Your achievements have been remarkable lately, right? If it weren't for you, our academy would have disappeared long ago."

That's true.

While his head thought so, his tongue spoke different words.

"You're too kind. Even if I wasn't here, the brilliant principal would have handled the situation well. I only provided a little help."

"My, how modest."

"It's the truth."

Anar'el covered her mouth and laughed, then continued:

"Anyway, Teacher Amon's achievements are remarkable, but you can't stay as a regular teacher forever, right? So even though I want to give you a separate position, without a teaching certificate..."

Indeed, no matter how noble and well-connected one might be, giving a separate position to someone without even a teaching certificate was unprecedented.

"That's certainly true. Then those words mean..."

When Amon's eyes sparkled, Anar'el nodded and said:

“Once you obtain your teaching certificate, you’ll immediately take on the duties of head of academic affairs.”

“...!”

Amon’s jaw dropped.

‘H-head of academic affairs?’

The academy’s hierarchy went Principal, Vice Principal, and then Head of Academic Affairs.

‘From regular teacher straight to head of academic affairs...?’

Certainly, he had done a lot for the academy so far.

Who was it that brought the gasping, struggling academy this far?

None other than himself!

‘...No, wait a minute.’

What head of academic affairs for an academy that just barely recovered autonomous breathing? With only three teachers and three students.

‘I won’t even get a taste of power and just end up with more useless work.’

Just as he was about to humbly decline Anar’el’s offer:

“Since we won the exchange battle with Vestric Academy yesterday, news of our academy’s revival will spread throughout the continent.”

“...!”

“When that happens, new teachers and students will flood in, so naturally we’ll need a head of academic affairs to be responsible for overall operations.”

“...!”

Come to think of it, that was true.

‘Right! That was the purpose of the exchange battle in the first place!’

He imagined in his mind.

The image of 'Head of Academic Affairs Amon' reigning over numerous students and various teachers!

While diligently massaging Anar'el's legs, Amon said:

"I accept your words, Principal."

"Hehe, yes. And to be honest, my true feelings are..."

Anar'el said in a slightly sad voice:

"You're also the only one who can take on the role of head of academic affairs..."

"...Ah."

The lazy Sloth.

Marion who's always drunk.

Just imagining them taking on the position of head of academic affairs made him sigh naturally.

"I am indeed the right person..."

"Right..."

Anar'el, who fluttered her legs as if suggesting it was time to stop massaging, said:

"Then Teacher Amon, go prepare for your certificate now."

"Yes! Principal!"

As Amon was opening the door to leave the principal's office, he encountered an unexpected person.

"Huh? Elder?"

"Oh, it's you."

Reinbelt, the Azure Sky Sword King.

He who should be guarding the main gate had suddenly come to the principal's office.

Then he looked past Amon at Anar'el and said:

"Principal, there's a visitor."

“Yes? A visitor?”

“Yes. A young man who says he wants to work as a teacher.”

At those words, Amon and Anar’el looked at each other with happy faces.

Chapter 43

“Is that truly your intention?”

“Yes, father.”

The Emperor, Sandrio Argia Amonis, was having a private conversation with Crown Prince Kaias.

“Hmm, certainly there won’t be anything for you to do for a while. With me being healthy now, it would cause gossip for you, the Crown Prince, to be involved in political matters. Therefore, I knew you were feeling bored...”

The Emperor spoke while resting his chin on his hand.

“Why specifically Amonis Academy? If you simply want to perform teaching duties, there must be other academies.”

“Father.”

“I’m listening.”

“I believe it’s time to slowly shake off the old grudges of the past.”

“...”

“I felt it during your previous conversation with the Drake youth. He is not someone who should be held back by past grudges, by the grudges of previous generations.”

The Crown Prince spoke while placing his hand on his chest.

“That heart for caring about students. Isn’t it truly a model example of a proper imperial educator?”

“Hmm...”

He had roughly heard the Crown Prince’s intentions from the Empress.

The deep-seated animosity between the Emperor and the Drake family.

The Crown Prince wanted to go to Amonis Academy himself to cut off this long-standing grudge.

“So that’s it indeed. I wanted to hear those intentions directly from your mouth. Very well, if that is truly your intention, I won’t stop you.”

“Thank you, father.”

“However, make sure to thoroughly hide your identity as Crown Prince.”

“What? But...”

The Crown Prince, who was lost in thought for a moment, nodded.

“Indeed, if I suddenly face him as the Crown Prince, it would be difficult to hear his true thoughts. Your words are wise.”

The Emperor nodded and continued speaking.

“Also, a protruding stone gets hammered. Your power is far too great to be just an academy teacher. It would be better to hide your abilities.”

Despite his young age, Kaias was among the top Sword Masters, and also a powerful 8th Circle Master in magic.

Such overwhelming power couldn’t be wielded while belonging to an academy.

“I will keep it in mind. As they say, strike while the iron is hot, I will depart immediately.”

Crown Prince Kaias.

No, ‘Kai’, an academy teacher applicant, left the imperial palace.

* * *

‘Kai’, who arrived at the academy, blinked his eyes.

“Oh, oh my...?”

“Hm?”

An old man who was sweeping outside the main gate frowned and approached.

“You...aren’t you clearly the Crown Prince?”

“L-Lord Reinbelt? Lord, why are you sweeping here?”

The Empire Four Knights, one of the Grand Sword Masters, the Azure Sky Sword King Reinbelt.

How could he be sweeping outside the main gate?

Reinbelt smiled broadly and said.

“Well, it’s a long story. But what brings you here? With such crude magic on your face.”

Kai smiled bitterly.

For an 8th Circle Master’s appearance-changing magic to be called ‘crude’.

“As expected, you recognized me, Lord. Well, I have reasons to hide my identity.”

“Reasons...I suppose it’s not something I need to know?”

“Of course. It won’t cause you any trouble at all.”

“Hmm. Is that so?”

Reinbelt stroked his chin and said while swinging his broom.

“Hey, but seriously, what brings you here?”

“Hahaha, I plan to perform teaching duties here.”

“...Huh? You? Here?”

“Yes. I’ve already discussed it with father.”

“Hmm, so His Majesty approved as well.”

Reinbelt, who had been nodding his head, nodded again.

“I see. Follow me. I’ll guide you to the headmaster.”

“Yes, thank you.”

And now.

Kai was facing Anar’el, who had a stern expression.

‘Princess Anar’el, as expected, doesn’t recognize me.’

Even without the magic cast on his face, Kai and Anar’el had never met before.

Until now, they had only known each other through the Emperor and Empress's stories.

Anyway, Anar'el, who was looking at Kai with a serious face, opened her mouth.

"You said your name was Kai?"

"Yes, that's correct."

Anar'el, who was staring intensely at Kai's face over her interlocked fingers, spoke.

"Why did you decide to work as a teacher here?"

Kai was taken aback by the sudden question.

"W-Well... Amonis Academy is a prestigious academy with a long history, and I've always wanted to work here."

"...Did you come after hearing rumors about our victory in the exchange competition?"

"Pardon? Exchange competition?"

News of mere academy exchange competitions doesn't reach the Crown Prince!

Anar'el spoke with a hardened expression.

"Is that not it?"

"Th-That's right."

"...Tch!"

Anar'el clicked her tongue and handed a gold coin to the young man sitting beside her.

And the young man who received the gold coin, Amon, nodded with a bright smile.

"See, Headmaster? I told you the rumors haven't spread far yet."

"But we beat Vestric Academy..."

"They'll spread quickly soon enough."

Anar'el, who clicked her tongue in disappointment, continued speaking.

"Then, Kai?"

"Yes, Headmaster."

“First, do you have any preferred subjects you’d like to teach?”

At those words, Kai spoke confidently.

“I have some knowledge in all subjects, including swordsmanship, magic, history, mathematics, and other general studies. I will work hard with whatever subject you assign me.”

A shocking declaration of being able to handle all subjects!

While Amon’s eyes glinted with suspicion that such an outstanding talent would come to a failing academy, Anar’el expressed joy without any doubt.

“That’s amazing! Then you can handle any subject?”

“Of course!”

“As it happens, most subjects are vacant.”

Amon sighed.

There was no need to so blatantly state that the academy was failing.

‘He probably knew roughly what he was getting into, but won’t he be disappointed hearing about being half-ruined directly from the headmaster?’

He quickly looked at Kai’s expression, but he actually seemed pleased.

“That means there’s plenty of room for development! I’ll work hard!”

Seeing this, Amon nodded.

‘This guy’s crazy too.’

Well, the fact that someone capable of teaching all subjects came to an academy that could collapse at any time with its foundations completely gone was proof enough that he wasn’t in his right mind.

However, Anar’el seemed overjoyed at Kai’s enthusiastic appearance.

“You’re just the talent our academy needs! Good! You’re hired!”

A ruthless hiring declaration!

Even Kai was surprised.

“D-Don’t you need to verify my abilities? No, checking teaching credentials...”

At this point, Amon, who had something to feel guilty about, quickly continued.

“We can verify abilities gradually, and teaching credentials? You can get them later.”

“But...”

“Besides, as you probably roughly know, our academy is currently suffering from severe staff shortages. When you’ve come to our academy like this and shown such enthusiasm, what do abilities matter?”

Amon continued with a gentle smile.

“We can fill in and develop lacking abilities. Even if you have shortcomings, you don’t need to worry too much.”

Kai sensed Amon’s reassuring voice.

‘Amon Drake...as I expected, he was indeed a proper person.’

Isn’t this truly a model educator!

What do shortcomings matter? One can learn and improve!

Therefore, Kai was moved with emotion, while Amon watched Kai’s reaction and thought.

‘Good. I’ve convinced him well. At least I don’t have to worry about him running away immediately.’

You can’t just chase away a junior candidate who has come from far away by telling them to get lost!

‘Finally, I’ll escape from being the youngest.’

Besides, he had his own circumstances.

Until now, he had treated Sloth and Marion, who weren’t even like proper seniors, with respect, calling them “senior.”

Moreover, despite always working hard for the academy, their shamelessness in treating him like ‘trash’ and a ‘scoundrel’ over yesterday’s ‘small and cute incident’!

‘So I need at least one capable junior to support me.’

Anyway, realizing it was time for the headmaster to step in, Amon tapped Anar'el's arm as she was spacing out.

Then Anar'el made a strange sound 'Ungh!' as she snapped out of her thoughts and cleared her throat before speaking.

"Ahem, then Teacher Kai?"

"Yes, Headmaster."

"Getting back to the main point, do you have any specific subject you'd like to teach?"

Kai swallowed.

He had studied swordsmanship, magic, and such in depth.

'But swordsmanship and magic are unique secrets of the Amonis family, so it would be difficult to teach others. Then imperial studies? No, what imperial studies would be taught at an academy?'

After excluding several candidates, 'history' would be the most suitable as it was natural for the legitimate heir of the empire to have broad knowledge.

Kai said.

"I would like to teach history."

At Kai's words, Amon's eyes widened.

'This junior is already trying to kick away his senior's rice bowl!'

How dare he covet his subject!

His internal fondness for his junior was instantly halved.

However, Amon tried not to show it as he spoke.

"Ahem, history is the subject I'm in charge of."

"I-Is that so?"

"Since swordsmanship, magic, and history already have teachers in charge, it would be better to consider other subjects. Well, first..."

Come to think of it, the students' math levels were terrible.

“Right, how about mathematics?”

“Ah, I have some expertise in mathematics as well.”

“That would work well.”

Amon nodded in relief and asked.

“Then when can you start working?”

“I can start from today if needed.”

“You’re very enthusiastic. Good. There happen to be classes from the morning, so until you’re formally appointed, spend some time observing other senior teachers’ classes to build up knowledge about teaching.”

“Ah, so I won’t be teaching right away?”

Amon gave a rotten smile.

Enthusiasm was good, but his confidence was overflowing too much.

Feeling his internal fondness being halved again, he said.

“When I started too, I learned by observing classes and everything.”

“I-I see.”

Then Anar’el spoke.

“Right, I’m late in introducing this person. This is Teacher Amon Drake.”

“Yes! I look forward to working with you, Senior Amon!”

Seeing Kai politely greeting Amon, Anar’el smiled brightly.

“Teacher Amon is such an excellent teacher that he’s designated to be the head of academic affairs. So make sure to learn a lot from Teacher Amon!”

Kai’s eyes widened.

‘To already be designated as head of academic affairs...as I expected, he was indeed someone destined for greatness!’

As Anar’el praised him, Amon awkwardly laughed “Hmhm.”

“I hope you’ll work hard not to tarnish our academy’s reputation.”

“Yes! Senior!”

“Good. Then I’ll guide you, let’s start with class observation first. We can learn about other duties from the afternoon, that should be enough.”

“Yes! Senior!”

As Amon led the way, Kai followed like a chick following its mother bird.

Chapter 44

Morning’s first class, Swordsmanship.

Amon, who guided me to the training ground where the class would be held, left saying he would return when the class ended.

‘I’d like to observe the class with you for today at least, but I’m too busy with work to do so.’

‘Ah, you must be very busy with work.’

Actually, he wasn’t particularly busy with work, but needed to prepare for the ‘teacher certification’.

However, at Kai’s convenient interpretation, Amon nodded and said.

‘That too, but...there are circumstances.’

‘Pardon? What circumstances...’

To that question, Amon only showed a sad smile instead of answering.

Since the person himself wouldn’t tell, Kai had to deliberately put aside his doubts.

‘...What kind of story could it be?’

Soon, when class was about to begin, three students appeared.

And one of the students, a boy, spoke with wide eyes.

“Huh? Who are you?”

“I’m the new teacher who came today. Please take care of me from now on. I’m Kai.”

“Ah! Hello. I’m Boris.”

“Nice to meet you, Boris. And you all?”

At Kai’s question, Chloe briefly glanced at him like a cow looking at a chicken and said.

“I’m Chloe Aran.”

“I see! Looking forward to working with you.”

“Yes.”

“Then you are?”

“I’m Raymond Namark.”

Kai’s eyebrows twitched.

‘Namark? A descendant of the Azure Sky Sword King? Ah, so that’s why he’s here.’

Kai smiled with relief as he realized why Reinbelt was here.

‘But it’s almost class time, where is the swordsmanship instructor?’

Shouldn’t they be here early to prepare for class?

“By the way kids, where is your teacher?”

“Huh?”

Boris tilted his head at that question and pointed somewhere.

“They’re right there though?”

“...What?”

Kai turned his head with a start and opened his eyes wide.

In one corner of the training ground, something like a caterpillar had already raised its upper body and was staring this way.

‘A caterpillar...no, that’s a sleeping bag? Were they sleeping?’

Judging by the blindfold covering their eyes, it seemed so.

Soon, something wriggling in the sleeping bag lifted the blindfold and yawned.

“Hmm... ah, is everyone here...?”

“Yes! Teacher!”

“Mmm...then let’s start class....”

The wriggling caterpillar rolled over towards the students, and upon noticing Kai belatedly, startled and said.

“Hm? Who are you?”

“...I-I’m Kai, the new teacher.”

“New teacher?”

The caterpillar, Sloth, lifted her blindfold a bit more and frowned.

“Another new person in a place like this...?”

“...Pardon?”

“Nothing. Anyway, I’m Sloth Pid. Nice to meet you.”

Kai nodded with a bitter smile.

Sloth of the Pid family.

He already knew that she was a teacher here.

“Looking forward to working with you, Senior Sloth.”

“Mmm. So you’re here to observe class?”

“Yes.”

“I see. Then sit or stand, do as you like....”

Sloth, who had managed to crawl onto the bench despite her sluggishness, said.

“Now then, children.”

“Yes, teacher.”

“Chloe, continue what you were doing last time, Raymond and Boris, self-study.”

“Yes!”

“Then let’s begin.”

Kai’s mouth gaped open as he watched Sloth giving instructions to the students while wriggling on the bench.

Only Chloe was receiving anything like a proper lesson in front of Sloth, while Boris headed to the shade with some magic book, and Raymond was swinging his sword in a separate area.

‘Is, is this a class?’

Kai, seemingly bewildered, quickly approached Sloth and said.

“S-Senior, what is this?”

“What?”

“There must be a set curriculum, but one student is reading a book, that student is practicing swordsmanship alone...is this okay?”

Sloth tilted her sleeping bag.

“Is it not?”

“...Pardon?”

“Why not?”

“Uh....”

Sloth tried to point at Boris with her finger, but when the sleeping bag blocked her hand, she frowned and struggled to pull out one hand.

Then pointing at Boris, she said.

‘Boris seems to have chosen the path of magic. He said something seems to fit well after continuing to read and learn. So rather than learning swordsmanship he’ll never use, he’s using that time to read one more page of magic books.’

“...”

‘And Raymond belongs to a separate sword school, so he can’t train while showing others. He’s actually better than me, the teacher, to begin with.’

That’s why Boris and Raymond had to do self-study.

While Kai could understand this logically, he couldn't accept it emotionally.

"B-but isn't there a regular curriculum? There must be an education curriculum recommended by the Imperial Education Department, but to do this so recklessly..."

Sloth frowned.

"Are you a commoner or noble?"

"Huh? Uh..."

I can't exactly say I'm the crown prince!

He decided to use the fake identity he had prepared in advance.

"I-I'm a noble from the Straw Viscounty."

"You're from a noble family? Then do you know what size to cut seed potatoes?"

"...Pardon?"

How would the imperial crown prince know such a thing?

"I-I don't know."

"Right? You only need to learn and know what you'll use."

It felt like his educational views were being shattered!

Kai quickly collected himself and spoke.

'But Senior, even for a mage, learning swordsmanship would help prepare against enemy knights and build physical strength!'

No, that's what he tried to say.

But looking at Boris sitting and reading in the shade, Kai could understand.

Despite his young age, his somewhat solid build and correct posture sitting straight against the tree trunk made it easy to imagine his standing posture as well.

In fact, the students, including Boris, were doing separate physical training.

Class time was literally just for acquiring knowledge!

'It seems they're consistently doing physical training and their posture is proper. They seem to have learned enough swordsmanship to consider it cultured....'

Thus, Kai felt like his intended logic had been shattered.

Nevertheless, his mouth stretched out about ten feet to add one more thing.

"But there's a recommended curriculum..."

At those words, Sloth frowned and seemed about to say something as her lips moved, but then she closed her mouth, sighed, and squeezed out the words.

"Fine, I'll incorporate the regular curriculum from the next class."

"Ah...yes."

How much time passed like that?

While Raymond trained alone, Boris read his book, and Chloe diligently trained under Sloth's instruction, Kai just stood there blankly.

'...Nothing to do.'

He licked his lips and slowly approached Sloth.

After all, he felt the need to build rapport since they would be colleagues from now on.

Moreover, he also intended to hear some evaluations about Amon, since he came to understand that person.

"Um, Senior."

"What."

"There's something I'd like to ask..."

"Ask away."

"That, about Teacher Amon..."

As soon as that name, Amon, came up, Sloth said.

"That trash, why?"

"...Pardon?"

“No, why about Amon?”

“Ah, no. I just talked with him briefly earlier, and was wondering what kind of person he is.”

“Hmm...that trash, no. You’re asking what kind of person Amon is?”

“...”

“Simply put, he’s trash. Quite an impressive guy. That’s all.”

Kai had quite liked Amon even before coming here.

Moreover, his first impression when meeting him earlier wasn’t bad.

Yet here was Sloth, whose class attitude was a mess, who didn’t follow the curriculum at all, and who was currently rolling around wrapped in a sleeping bag, badmouthing Amon.

‘Who’s trash! You’re the trash!’

Though those words rose to his throat, Kai forcefully swallowed them and laughed awkwardly.

“Ha. Ha. Ha. I see.”

“Don’t get close to him either.”

“I. Un. der. stand.”

“That guy is such trash that...”

Kai wrote Sloth’s name and evaluation in his mental evaluation notebook while letting Sloth’s words go in one ear and out the other.

‘Sloth Pid. Aptitude as a teacher, 5 points.’

For reference, it’s out of 100 points.

* * *

After swordsmanship class ended, Amon, who came as promised, guided him to the classroom where magic class would be held and said.

‘Junior, how was your first observation?’

“Uh...that...”

He couldn't say that he only heard painful insults directed at Amon.

“It was...unique.”

“...I hope you mean unique in a good way.”

“...”

Kai sighed and carefully said while reading the atmosphere.

“Um, but Senior.”

“Yes?”

“...No, nevermind.”

Though he swallowed his words since it wasn't a question to ask suddenly, the perceptive Amon quickly understood what Kai was trying to ask.

“You were going to say that Senior Sloth seems to hate me, right?”

There really wasn't any other question worth hesitating over.

But Kai hurriedly denied it.

“N-no, that's not it.”

“What do you mean it's not? It's okay. I already know.”

“...”

“Well, it can't be helped that they hate me.”

“...Pardon?”

Amon muttered with a bitter smile.

“It's all because I'm lacking.”

“...”

At that sorrowful and pitiful muttering, Kai bit his lip hard.

‘This makes me so angry.’

Amon's proper mindset as an educator that he had directly heard!

The shower of praise from Principal Anar'el!

The trust and ability to be designated as the head of academic affairs!

For such a person to be slandered by a delinquent teacher who rolls around in a sleeping bag!

'And yet you, Teacher Amon, blame yourself saying it's because you're lacking... Ah, what a pitiful thing...!'

His anger towards Sloth who called Amon 'trash' gradually grew.

In fact, considering the exchange event, Sloth's evaluation was entirely justified, but Kai, who knew nothing of this, only felt sorry for Amon.

"Well, anyway, this is the magic class classroom. See you when it's over."

"Yes, Senior Amon."

As Amon walked away again, Kai heaved a deep sigh.

'...Well, the magic teacher must be a proper person. Wasn't it Viscount Marion Random who was a meritorious retainer from the Great War?'

Kai gathered his spirits and opened the classroom door energetically.

And the sight he saw as soon as he entered.

"Hic! This hits the spot! The alcohol's going down smoothly today!"

Kai's legs gave out and he collapsed at the sight of Marion drinking alcohol while eating peanuts.

Chapter 45

Marion Random!

The Great War she fought in had ended just a few years ago.

Her dignified appearance at the victory ceremony was still vivid in memory, but the woman before his eyes now was completely different from the impression I had then.

'She's a drunkard!'

Her eyes were unfocused, and her face was flushed red while she kept drinking!

Hurriedly checking the time, it was 5 minutes before class.

“Ma, Marion senior!”

“Huuuh? Hicc, who are youuu?”

“I’m Kai, the new teacher who started today!”

Kai, who was so flustered he almost revealed his real name, quickly continued speaking.

“There’s only 5 minutes until class, how can you be drinking!?”

“Huh? Oh, is it that time already?”

Marion grumbled as he got up and stretched greatly.

“Hnnnng, then shall we start preparing for class...!”

Kai sighed in relief at his show of enthusiasm for class.

But that was short-lived, as Kai soon realized the fundamental problem remained unresolved.

“But, senior. Are you planning to teach while drunk?”

“Burp! Why not?”

“...”

How did the educational standards of Amonis Academy fall so low!

Kai’s fists trembled endlessly with terrible despair.

That’s when Marion stepped back and said:

“Are you going to hit me?”

“Pardon? Hit you?”

“Guess not.”

Marion recalled how Amon had punched him in the stomach saying he’d sober him up when he was a newbie.

But fortunately, this new teacher didn't seem like he would do that.

"Ahem ahem, then shall we start class? The students are starting to come in."

As Marion said, students including Boris were entering the lecture hall.

At that sight, Kai sat down with a dubious look about how drunk Marion would conduct the lecture.

And shortly after.

"Yes, Boris! Excellent understanding of mana reduction!"

"Yes, teacher!"

"Then Chloe, which element of magic circle composition did we say needs to be examined to prepare against a magician's attack?"

"The center of the magic circle."

"Correct! Raymond, why do we examine the center?"

"Because usually the nature and purpose of the magic is written in the center of the magic circle."

"Excellent! Now, let me explain about irregular magic with inaccurate axes!"

Eloquent! Quick-witted!

Kai was frowning at the skillful lecture that seemed impossible from someone who was drunk.

'She thoroughly explains magic theory to Boris who aspires to be a magician, and explains defense against attack magic to Chloe and Raymond who aim to be knights...She's conducting the lecture considering each student's career path. Though it's not the Empire's regular curriculum.'

It was quite an excellent lecture.

If there was one flaw, it was that Marion's pronunciation was twisted due to intoxication.

Of course, Kai knew Marion was 'drunk' because he had just seen him drinking earlier, but those who didn't know would have thought 'Ah, he naturally speaks as if drunk.'

'But if he can give such an amazing lecture while drunk, what would it be like when he's sober?'

Marion flinched when he felt that questioning gaze.

He remembered getting hit around this time when Amon was new.

“...Are you going to hit me?”

“Pardon? Hit you?”

“Guess not.”

Anyway, despite being drunk, Marion gave an excellent lecture, and right after class ended.

Kai approached Marion who was cleaning up the liquor bottles and said:

“Um, Senior Marion?”

“Hm? What is it?”

Kai continued speaking to Marion who smiled gently at the newcomer.

“I really enjoyed today’s lecture.”

“Oh, yeah. Then...”

“However, I’m very concerned about the fact that you’re teaching students while drunk. According to the Empire’s student education and guidance policy, teachers must maintain proper conduct, and teaching in a state that could affect one’s mental and physical condition is specified in Education Department Ordinance Article 3 Section 12...”

“ ... ”

“Anyway, how about reducing the alcohol a bit from the next lecture?”

“ ... ”

Marion’s smile had grown even deeper by now, it was the so-called rotten smile.

“Ha, hahaha! Right, I’ll consider it.”

“Thank you for understanding.”

“Understanding what! We got such an enthusiastic new teacher! Oh my, what great misfor- no, fortune for our academy! Hahaha!”

“Thank you for the praise!”

“Hahaha!”

Marion burst into laughter and chugged his alcohol.

His throat seemed to be burning already.

“Burp! Phew, well you must be busy so hurry along!”

What could a newcomer who just started observing classes be busy with?

It was a signal to get lost quickly.

However,

“No, I’m free.”

“...cough!”

“More importantly senior, I have some questions about the academy...”

“...R-really? What are you curious about?”

After asking a few simple questions about the academy, Kai finally asked about Amon.

As mentioned, the reason he came here in the first place was to learn about Amon.

Marion answered without a moment’s hesitation to that question.

“What kind of person is Amon? He’s a thug.”

“...Pardon?”

“No, not just a thug but a complete thug. Yeah. That’s better.”

An assessment that didn’t conflict with Sloth’s!

Even Marion Rundown, a key figure in the Great War, saying such things left Kai quite perplexed.

“Wh-why is that? In what way?”

“Hmm, well...”

Marion was about to tell him about Amon’s betrayal that happened just yesterday.

But when he tried to speak, he realized it wouldn't be right to badmouth others to a newcomer who just joined the academy.

"Well, that..."

"Yes. That?"

"Hmm..."

After endlessly repeating what to say in his head, Marion suddenly grabbed the liquor bottle, stuck it in his mouth and turned it upside down.

Glug glug glug-!

After emptying half the bottle in one go, Marion shouted while drooling alcohol and saliva.

"Buuurp! I'm druuunk!"

"..."

"Urgh, s-so whatwasit? Amon? That guy, hehehe! He's just terrible!"

While it was somewhat bearable before, now she was completely drunk and rambling!

Seeing him slurring his words with unfocused eyes, Kai slowly looked up at the ceiling.

'I see. Now I understand everything.'

As he had guessed after hearing Sloth's assessment of Amon earlier, Amon himself was an outstanding teacher who was designated to be the academic affairs director at a young age.

'But these incompetent people, Sloth and Marion, must be slandering and defaming Teacher Amon. There's no way such a student-oriented teacher like Teacher Amon would do anything wrong.'

As proof, didn't Princess Anar'el, whom his father and mother talked about countless times, also say Amon was an excellent teacher!

'I see. Now I understand everything.'

Kai got up and glared at the drunk Marion who was mumbling.

"Gehgehgeh! Amon, that guy, just yesterday I couldn't tell if he was human or a bat, burp! Heheheh!"

Watching him spew slander about Amon while spitting, Kai wrote Marion's name and evaluation in his mental evaluation notebook.

'Marion Random. Aptitude as a teacher, 2 points.'

As mentioned, out of 100 points.

* * *

Amon came back after magic class ended.

"Finally done with morning sword and magic classes? Now it's lunchtime so let's go to the cafeteria."

"Yes! Senior Amon!"

"You know that after lunch there are general humanities classes in the afternoon right? Today there will only be the history class that I'm in charge of. When you're officially appointed, math class will be added too."

"Yes! I understand!"

Amon tilted his head while guiding him to the cafeteria at Kai's energetic response.

'What's with this guy, why did his voice suddenly get so loud?'

While it was due to sympathy and defiance after hearing consecutive slander about Amon from Sloth and Marion, Amon interpreted it differently.

'Hmm, this guy...after hearing others badmouth me consecutively, do I look pushover to him?'

His inner fondness for Kai was halved once again.

However, Amon said 'like an adult' without showing any sign:

"Then enjoy your meal, and I'll see you at history class later."

"Huh? Aren't you eating, senior?"

Amon slightly showed the book he had been holding and said:

"I have some backed up work so I'll eat simply in my room."

Actually it wasn't 'work' but 'studying to get a teaching certificate.'

'Given how he pressed about checking the teaching certificate in front of Anar'el, he must have it. Right?'

There was no need to let his junior know that he didn't have a teaching certificate.

As mentioned, Amon being 'adult-like' by not showing his weaknesses!

Kai interpreted that scene differently again.

'While those people Sloth and Marion are being lazy and just drinking, to skip meals to handle backed up work...How could such a true educator...'

He felt like crying but Kai forcefully swallowed his tears and bowed his head.

"Yes, I understand! Keep up the good work, senior!"

"Yeah, yeah. Enjoy your lunch."

"Yes! Senior!"

After Amon withdrew, Kai clutched his frustrated chest.

'To think such a true educator was suffering from such injustice...'

As the Empire's crown prince, to have been unable to see such a situation, it was simply deplorable.

After sighing, he glanced around.

Students were gathered together eating their meals.

'...Right, then this time let's ask the students.'

Kai soon got his food and approached the students.

"Hi, kids."

"Ah! Hello, Teacher Kai."

Kai sat down without hesitation and opened his mouth.

"Kids, I have something I'd like to ask..."

"Yes?"

"What kind of person is Teacher Amon?"

At that question, just as Boris and Raymond were about to answer without much thought, Chloe who had been eating suddenly opened her eyes sharply and said:

“Why are you asking that?”

“Hm? That’s...because he seems like such a good teacher, I wanted to know what kind of person he is.”

It was his true feelings, but Chloe thought differently.

‘Why is he suddenly asking about Teacher Amon?’

Is he a bad person? Is he trying to find weaknesses?

‘Especially after what happened just yesterday.’

Chloe, who was one of the witnesses at the scene, clearly saw the betrayal Amon committed yesterday.

Of course, Chloe, who firmly believed in Amon, thought it was a ‘wise strategy’ but public opinion is always harsh!

Therefore, Chloe decided to speak in the most favorable way about Amon.

“He’s a really good teacher. He’s always there for the students.”

At those words, Kai smiled brightly.

“I knew it!”

What’s this? Why is he so happy?

Chloe narrowed her eyes and said:

“He’s definitely different from other teachers.”

“So my thoughts were right!”

“He’s always wise.”

“As expected, Teacher Amon is amazing!”

“...”

Finally, Chloe made her judgment.

'A strange person has become a teacher.'

* * *

Shortly after, Kai was trying hard to hold back tears.

Amon's history lecture that followed after lunch!

"...And so His Majesty Emperor Amonis I, the founder of the Empire, successfully established the foundation of the Empire! However, when His Majesty Emperor Amonis V ascended to the throne, an incident occurred that threatened imperial authority. Does anyone know what that incident was?"

At that moment, three students raised their hands simultaneously and said:

"The rebellion of Marquis Mannoni!"

"Correct, children!"

The catalyst for strengthening imperial authority that was mentioned just yesterday during the history debate at the exchange competition!

Anyway, watching Amon continue explaining about the Marquis Mannoni rebellion, Kai let a single tear roll down while thinking as he tried to hold back.

'All three students are enthusiastically participating in class! Moreover, he's teaching according to the Empire's standard curriculum! To think such a true educator was suffering from such injustice...'

He came here to understand what kind of person Amon was.

But after actually coming, there seemed to be more serious problems scattered about.

Clank-!

The crown prince's token clearly felt in his pocket!

Using that would make uprooting the academy's injustice simpler than flipping one's palm.

However,

'Right now I'm not Crown Prince Kaias but Kai of the Straw viscounty. In this situation, I cannot arbitrarily use the crown prince's status to handle matters.'

Kai's eyes blazed.

'Right. I will resolve this injustice with only my own power.'

Kai made a firm resolution!

In the end, one of the most dangerous situations in the world occurred – a 'newcomer' burning with enthusiasm.

Chapter 46

"Nngh...!"

Late at night, in a dim room where only a single candle barely illuminates it.

Amon, who stretched at his desk, let out a deep sigh.

'Huh, has it been a week already?'

That much time had passed since he started preparing for the teacher certification exam.

'The principal doesn't call me for trivial matters saying to prepare for the exam, and other teachers misunderstand me as trash, so I won't get involved in troublesome things... There's no heaven like this heaven.'

It was an incredibly fulfilling day since he only needed to focus all his time and effort on preparing for the teacher certification and history classes.

"I wish it would always flow like this."

It was the moment he smiled slightly.

-Knock knock-!

At the sudden knocking sound, Amon tilted his head.

Since it was well past business hours, there shouldn't be anyone looking for him?

"Who is it?"

"It's Sloth, can I come in?"

"...cough!"

Amon took a sharp breath at the appearance of an unexpected visitor.

Sloth, one of the two pillars in the world of incompetent colleagues, suddenly came to visit, causing Amon to gasp for breath from the great mental shock as the door opened.

“I’m coming in? Why no answer?”

“Huk! Huk...”

“Ah, sorry. You were busy.”

Sloth quickly turned around, having greatly misunderstood due to Amon’s reddened face.

While it would be the right decision to let her leave like this, Amon, who didn’t want to receive such a misunderstanding, hurriedly shouted.

“W-wait! No, it’s not like that!”

“...it’s not?”

“Yes! It’s not! Phew.”

Taking a deep breath and wiping his cold sweat, Amon glared at Sloth and said.

“But what brings you here suddenly? You’ve been looking at me like I’m some kind of bug all this time.”

“Ah, that...”

After fidgeting for a moment, she said.

“Well, more importantly, eat this.”

“Pardon?”

“This, it’s dessert from a trendy shop in Amur these days.”

“...pardon?”

Amon frowned at the bag containing snacks.

‘She put poison in it.’

It was clear she was trying to kill him with this opportunity.

But if he refused here, Sloth might draw her knife and attack right away if the assassination attempt was exposed!

Amon extended his hand with a thoroughly rotten smile on his face.

“Ha. Ha. Ha. I’ll enjoy it.”

Sloth frowned as she watched Amon receive the bag using only his thumb and index finger as if touching something dirty.

“You’re thinking something weird again, aren’t you?”

“No, no. How could I? I didn’t think at all that you put poison in the snacks.”

“Sigh...”

After sighing as if dumbfounded, she threw a snack into her mouth, chewed and swallowed it, then said.

“What nonsense about poison. See, it’s fine right?”

“How could this be...impossible...”

No poison?

Amon, who was shaking the snack bag with an astonished face, cleared his throat and looked at Sloth.

“Ahem ahem, what wind has blown suddenly? For senior to bring me snacks?”

“Um, well...”

“I don’t have money. I can’t lend you any.”

“That’s not what I mean.”

She sighed irritably, fidgeted, then said.

“Well, I’m apologizing for ignoring you all this time.”

“...Pardon? What did you say?”

Amon, who was more shocked than when he was certain there was poison in the snacks, looked Sloth up and down.

‘I see. This time it must be an impersonator who has come.’

When he misunderstood that some crazy old man was impersonating Reinbelt, it was literally just a misunderstanding, but this time it was certain.

Therefore, just as he was about to rush in and split open the impersonator's head.

"I think I had some misunderstandings. Yeah, in your own way you were trying to sa-, sa...sa, saaa..."

As if unable to say 'save the academy', Sloth who was making sounds like a pigeon cooing, sighed and said.

"...right? Isn't that so?"

"What do you mean isn't that so?"

"Anyway! I'm sorry for everything until now, let's get along well from now on."

Amon frowned at Sloth's extended hand as if asking for a handshake.

What is this? Suddenly?

'...I see. Must be the Poison Hand from some family in the Eastern Continent.'

Seeing Amon just staring blankly at her palm, Sloth quickly withdrew her hand and said.

"Anyway, I apologized okay?"

"Huh? Uh..."

"Let's get along well from now on! Then I'll be going!"

Sloth left only her words and left the room quickly without waiting for Amon's answer.

Finally left alone, Amon muttered as if dumbfounded.

"What is it? Suddenly."

Well, the Poison Hand was a joke.

It was just that such an absurd thought came to mind because Sloth's sudden gesture of reconciliation was too sudden, that's all.

'She's been looking at me with eyes like I'm a pine caterpillar these days...why is she suddenly acting like this?'

Amon shrugged his shoulders as if dumbfounded and sat back down at his desk.

He was planning to continue studying for the teacher certification that he had been doing, as his head had cooled enough thanks to Sloth's bewildering visit.

'Well then, shall I start by grading the problems I solved earlier.'

Just as Amon picked up his pen and brought the pen tip to the answer sheet while looking at the answer key.

"Amon, are you in there?"

At Marion's sudden voice, the pen tip slid and marked it wrong.

'Oh shoot...it's wrong now?'

Marion inadvertently helped with the grading!

Amon, who sighed and got up, opened the door.

"Yes, senior. What brings you here?"

Dangling the bottle of alcohol she brought, he said.

"Hohoho, I happened to get some good alcohol."

"I see. You're giving it to me?"

"Huh? Ah, y-yes."

"Because you're sorry for treating me like vomit on the street until now?"

"U-uh? Th-that... well... no, vomit is going too far. It wasn't that bad."

"Anyway. And you want to get along well from now on?"

"...y-yes."

Marion nodded, and Amon sighed with his hands on his hips.

"Sigh, Senior Sloth just came by with some snacks saying the same thing, what wind has blown for you both to act like this?"

"...Sloth came and went too?"

"Yes."

"Hmm...is that so."

Marion scratched his head and smiled awkwardly while holding out the bottle.

“Anyway, take this. It’s a fine liquor I got with difficulty.”

“Oh...this is that hard-to-get...”

Could it be ‘Amur Party’, the famous liquor that’s closely chasing ‘D-Day Amur’, the most famous alcohol in Amur, the city where Amonis Academy is located!

It was much more appealing ‘goodwill’ than the snack pieces Sloth offered.

“Ahem...I’ll enjoy it well.”

“Hohoho, yes. Then.”

Amon firmly grabbed Marion’s extended hand and nodded.

“Yes, senior. I look forward to working well with you in the future.”

“Hohoho! Yes, yes. Looking forward to it.”

“But senior.”

“Hmm? What is it? Junior.”

Amon said with narrowed eyes.

“There must be a reason why you’re suddenly acting like this.”

“...”

“Don’t tell me it’s a reason you can’t tell?”

“N-no, it’s not like that but...”

“Then why won’t you tell me the reason?”

Marion swallowed but soon smiled with his characteristic shameless smile and said.

“Hohoho, my friend! I just want to get along well with you again!”

At those friendly words, Amon realized.

‘There must definitely be some scheme.’

While it might not be a secret that couldn’t be told, there was clearly something that was awkward to say outright.

Amon smiled a rotten smile and grinned.

“I see. I understand well.”

“H-hohoho...yes, then I'll be going now.”

After Marion left too, Amon who was left alone again was lost in thought while sipping Amur Party with Sloth's snacks as appetizers.

‘Why are they all suddenly acting like this?’

Although it was just over a week, he had no way of knowing what had happened since he hadn't been involved in any of the academy's deep work at all.

‘But if something happened that would warrant this, Anar'el, no, the Principal would have called for me.’

In other words, it meant no major incident had occurred at the academy itself.

‘And there's no way those ignorant and blind humans belatedly realized the meaning of my actions during the exchange match and repented...’

Amon let out a sigh at this truly puzzling situation.

‘Hmm, just in case I should ask the Principal...wait, the Principal?’

Amon opened his eyes wide and alternately looked at the snacks Sloth gave and the alcohol Marion gave.

‘Could it be that the Principal subtly let those humans know that I'm going to become the head of academic affairs?’

As mentioned, the position of head of academic affairs could be said to have supreme power except for the Principal and Vice Principal.

Moreover, given the Principal's personality, there was enough possibility that she might have casually leaked it in passing.

Anyway, that means...

“...hu, huhuhu.”

Amon, who burst into laughter while sitting crookedly in his chair, wore a sinister smile.

“Is my era finally coming?”

Sloth and Marion were bringing bribes to get on the good side of him who would become the head of academic affairs!

“I see. So this is the taste of power...”

Amon burst into laughter while eating the snacks and drinking the alcohol that were ‘presented’ to him.

* * *

~Early morning~

Marion, who found Sloth lying in a corner of the training ground covered in a sleeping bag, approached her.

“Hey, Sloth.”

“U, uung...ung? Ah, Marion.”

“I heard from Amon yesterday, you went to see him too?”

“Yeah. I did...”

Sloth, who raised her upper body while yawning, said.

“But why are you suddenly asking about that?”

“Well...I heard you brought snacks or something to Amon yesterday, I was wondering if you were thinking similar to me.”

“...what about you, Marion?”

“I also brought a bottle of alcohol and said let’s get along well again.”

“...”

Sloth slowly lowered the eye mask she had been wearing.

What appeared were dark circles completely covering under her eyes like a panda bear’s.

Although Sloth was always tired, her fatigue had recently reached its peak.

“I see. Getting along with Amon would be better, right?”

“That’s right. We need to improve relationships at this point.”

Marion's face was as haggard as Sloth's.

The reason Amon didn't notice such complexions of the two yesterday was partly because it was late at night and the room was somewhat dark with only one candle lit.

In fact, the biggest reason was because he didn't particularly care about the two, but anyway.

"Sigh...I hope Amon accepts the apology."

"He's not such a cruel and heartless fellow so he'll accep...maybe?"

Marion, who was nodding while crossing his arms as if unsure, flinched and turned his head.

"Eek, he's coming. I'll be going now."

"Oh, coming? Already? There's still an hour until class starts..."

After Marion fled swiftly, Sloth, who was left alone, burrowed deep into her sleeping bag as if trying to hide.

However, 'Kai' who had already approached, cheerfully laughed and shouted.

"Hahaha, good morning! Senior Sloth!"

Sloth trembled and poked her head out of the sleeping bag.

"Th-there's still an hour until class."

"Hahaha! How can an educator waste that time? Class preparation and teaching material preparation and training ground inspection and necessary mindset education before class and..."

Kai was literally demanding 'the ideal appearance and behavior of an educator'.

"...therefore, senior! Please come out of the sleeping bag! If you don't come out, I will sing the national anthem until you do!"

"U-uuuu..."

Last time when Sloth didn't come out of the sleeping bag, Kai really sang the national anthem next to her for 3 hours straight.

While hurriedly getting out of the sleeping bag and organizing it, she slowly turned her head.

It was in the direction of the faculty office where Amon would be preparing for class.

'...Amon.'

Use barbarians to control barbarians. Use poison to control poison.

Defeat enemies with enemies!

Defeat trash with trash!

'Please, Amon...'

That's why Marion and Sloth extended hands of reconciliation to Amon!

And the two didn't even know that Amon was designated to become the head of academic affairs!

Chapter 47

After history class in the afternoon, Amon was packing his belongings with a solemn face.

'Whew, finally today.'

It was the day of the teacher certification exam at the 'Imperial Regular Testing Center' located in each city.

'An exam you can take once a year...If you fail, you'll have to twiddle your thumbs for a year, but that's just an 'if.' The probability of failing is one in ten thousand.'

Amon's confidence was soaring to the sky.

From the start, every time he did recent mock tests, passing was a no-brainer, and he could even expect to be the top scorer.

Because of this, he had considered skipping the '2nd Grade Teacher Certificate' and going straight for the '1st Grade Teacher Certificate', but Amon was the epitome of safety and self-preservation.

'There's a saying to tap even a stone bridge before crossing it. Let's take it step by step.'

Anyway, as soon as today's test results come out, he will be able to become the head of academic affairs.

Amon smiled warmly while imagining his rosy future and left the room.

Rather than heading straight to the testing center, he first planned to report his departure to the respected principal.

“Principal, may I come in?”

“Ah, please come in.”

Thanks to the consideration given to focus on the exam, he hadn't seen the principal for almost a week.

“It's been a while, Principal.”

“Ah... yes, Teacher Amon. Come to think of it, today is your exam day, right?”

“Yes. But...”

Amon, who was observing the principal's complexion, carefully said.

“Your complexion doesn't look good, did something happen?”

To that worried question, Anar'el quickly tried to open her mouth.

But she hesitated and shook her head.

“No. It's not something Teacher Amon needs to worry about. Teacher Amon should just focus on today's exam.”

“Hmm...”

What an excellent principal!

As expected of the principal he trusted and followed.

Feeling his loyalty to the principal growing rapidly, Amon opened his mouth.

“Is it about the academy?”

“...Yes, it is.”

“Then please tell me quickly.”

“But...”

Amon said with a confident face.

“It’s not right for a head of academic affairs to pretend not to know about problems facing the academy. As head of academic affairs, I want to help solve the problems facing the academy, so please speak freely to me! Amon, the head of academic affairs!”

Looking at Amon speaking with a dignified face, Anar’el exclaimed as if moved.

“Ah! Teacher Amon! Indeed, your dedication to the academy...”

“Haha, it’s nothing. Anyway, please tell me quickly.”

Anar’el nodded and said with a sad face.

“There haven’t been any students wanting to enroll for the past week.”

“...Pardon?”

Did he hear that right?

Amon, who was opening and closing his mouth, said with a bewildered face.

“Our...academy has officially revived now, right?”

“...Yes.”

“We won the exchange match against Vestric too.”

“Yes. I saw it in the newspaper, and while they somewhat belittle us, the fact that we won was still reported.”

Amon narrowed his eyes as he scanned the newspaper Anar’el handed over.

As Anar’el said, while there was a somewhat condescending tone towards Amonis Academy, there were clearly parts praising it as ‘indeed a historically prestigious academy’.

‘Then rather than enrolling in a very small academy, it would make sense for them to knock on our doors, but not a single enrollment application...?’

The moment he noticed something strange, Amon realized one fact.

‘...What can I do in this situation?’

Even if the principal’s grandfather came instead of the head of academic affairs, he couldn’t solve this situation!

As Amon let out a sigh and put down the newspaper, Anar'el looked at him with sparkling eyes and said.

“Head of Academic Affairs Amon, do you have any good ideas?”

“Ahem, I'm not the head of academic affairs yet.”

“...”

Amon drawing a clear line!

He gathered his belongings and said.

“Then I'll be going.”

“Yes...ah right, and there's one more thing to tell you...”

“I'll hear it after I take the exam.”

Amon, who drew a sharp line as if he would cut something, left the principal's office as if running away.

‘Anyway, this damn academy has problems popping up non-stop.’

While grumbling, Amon was about to leave through the academy's main gate when he spotted Reinbelt sweeping nearby with a broom.

“Sir, it feels like it's been a while.”

“Hm? Oh, indeed it has. I haven't seen you for a while, did something happen?”

“I haven't been coming out of my room much because I was preparing for the exam.”

“Exam? What exam?”

“The teacher certification exam.”

“Ah, I see. So you didn't have a teacher certificate all this time...”

At Reinbelt's words which had a subtle sting to them, Amon muttered as if making an excuse.

“If you teach well, what does a certificate matter?”

“Well, that's true but...I heard something recently.”

“What did you hear?”

Reinbelt nodded and said while slowly moving his broom.

“I heard from Ray, it seems the students are having quite a hard time lately.”

“...The students?”

Besides Raymond, what could there be to stir up just two students?

“There weren’t any signs during history class...”

“Well, since you’ve been busy lately, maybe the kids were being considerate in their own way?”

“Hmm...”

True, he had been showing quite obviously that he was busy lately.

‘Having a hard time...but what could be hard these days? I should ask them when I get back today.’

That too is a teacher’s duty!

“Thank you, sir. I almost missed it without knowing.”

“Oh, it’s nothing. Anyway, have a safe trip.”

Amon bowed his head and headed towards the testing center.

The testing center wasn’t too far from the academy.

* * *

The exam ended quickly.

‘It’s too easy.’

Most were past exam questions he had already solved before, and questions about duties teachers should perform were also full of simple problems since he had plenty of practical experience so far.

Of course, the surrounding test-takers looked like death.

“Ah, damn...isn’t this exam too difficult?”

“Damn, I might have to take it again next year at this rate?”

“This is already my third attempt...”

Amon shook his head as if looking down on their complaints.

‘Pathetic fellows. That’s why you should have prepared diligently.’

Amon, who had only prepared for the exam for a week, was already looking down on the repeaters.

‘If I knew it would be this easy, I should have really applied for the 1st grade teacher certificate. Well, anyway, since they said they’ll notify the test results soon, let’s head back first.’

Since he was already out, he decided to buy some simple snacks before returning.

Eventually, when Amon returned to the academy, he first visited the student dormitory.

“Kids, are you in there?”

“...Teacher Amon? Yes, please come in.”

Boris quickly opened the door, and Amon, who went inside, handed over the food he bought outside and said.

“They say this is a trending snack. Everyone eat up.”

“Wow! Thank you!”

Boris was delighted, and Chloe and Raymond also slowly approached.

Soon, while looking fondly at the students munching on their snacks, Amon suddenly said as if he just remembered something.

“Right, kids. Are the classes manageable these days?”

Gulp, Boris swallowed his snack and said.

“O-Of course. It’s fine.”

“Really...?”

Although he said it was fine, judging by Boris’s expression and the way the other kids were acting, it seemed something had happened.

Raymond, who had given hints that something was wrong, was watching this side with a face that seemed to say 'You heard from grandfather.'

"How about Raymond and Chloe?"

At that question, Raymond hesitated for a moment before answering.

"It's, it's fine."

"Really?"

At that moment, Chloe, who had been lost in thought while munching on snacks, opened her mouth.

"Teacher."

"Yes?"

"You've been very busy lately, right?"

To that question, Amon answered with a slight smile.

"No, it's fine. I did have some 'work' lately but it just ended today."

"...Really?"

Chloe swallowed her snack and said.

"Then, could you possibly observe our classes tomorrow?"

"Observe your classes?"

"Yes. Like before."

Before probably refers to when he observed classes during class tours.

'But isn't Kai observing these days?'

Strictly speaking, there was no reason not to.

Moreover, once the test results come out, becoming head of academic affairs was the natural course!

'As head of academic affairs, entering under the pretext of guiding the new teacher and understanding the academy's education level shouldn't be a problem.'

Amon nodded.

“Alright, then let’s see how much other subjects have improved after all this time.”

“Yes! Teacher!”

After leaving the student dormitory, Amon decided to have an early dinner.

Therefore, heading to the dining hall, he discovered a familiar face.

“Oh, isn’t it Kai?”

“Ah! Senior!”

Kai, who was already having dinner, jumped up and bowed politely, and Amon casually waved his hand as if used to such treatment.

“Eat, eat.”

“Yes! Senior. Are you having dinner?”

“Yes. Mind if I join you?”

“Of course not, Senior!”

Soon after the meal arrived, Amon sat across from Kai.

Although he couldn’t say he was fond of him since their first meeting greatly decreased his internal affinity, still, as someone who would become the ‘head of academic affairs’, he planned to listen to the new teacher’s difficulties.

“By the way, are you having any difficulties these days?”

Although it was a question thrown without much meaning, Kai answered without a moment’s hesitation.

“There is one thing.”

“...There is?”

What could be difficult when you’re just observing classes?

Perhaps due to the low internal affinity, when the guy made a pitiful comment, he suddenly looked hateful.

“Ahem, hem! Really? What’s difficult? Tell your senior everything.”

After hesitating for a moment, Kai smiled bitterly and said,

“No, it’s not something Senior needs to worry about.”

A ‘crack’ sound suddenly came from Amon’s molars as he was wearing a rotten smile.

He had clenched his teeth too hard for a moment because he was so annoyed.

‘I noticed from when he tried to completely absorb my history class, but indeed he’s someone who knows how to anger people.’

With his current mood, even Kai’s breathing would probably look hateful!

However, Amon quickly succeeded in managing his expression and said with a bright smile.

“Well, since it’s only been a week since you started, there might be some difficulties. You’ll soon adapt, so hang in there.”

“Thank you for the encouragement, Senior.”

“No need to thank me.”

Amon chuckled and said.

“Ah right, I just finished all my accumulated work today? So I want to see how well you’re doing and observe your class...is that okay?”

Since he couldn’t say Chloe asked, Amon spoke roundabout.

‘Surely he won’t say no?’

But fortunately, Amon’s worry was unfounded.

“Ah! I’m nothing but grateful that Senior will join the class.”

“Haha, yes, yes...huh?”

Amon, who was looking at Kai’s tray while smiling brightly, opened his mouth.

“By the way, aren’t you going to eat the sausage?”

“Pardon?”

Kai tilted his head.

Since he particularly liked sausages and was trying to save it to eat last, why is he asking?

Therefore, he was about to answer 'I'm saving it' when.

"Can I eat it?"

Amon snatched the sausage!

Kai's face, which had been smiling brightly until now, twitched.

"Mm, the sausage is juicy. The dining hall here really gets it right."

"..."

"Come on, let's eat, Kai."

"...Yes, Senior."

A line of special note was added to Kai's mental evaluation note of Amon.

'Amon Drake, minus 10 points. Stole and ate the sausage I like.'

Chapter 48

~Early morning~

Amon finished preparing early to observe the class.

'Since Chloe asked, I have no choice.'

Among the only salt and light students in this academy, Chloe is truly like premium salt!

'Even if I end up in the worst situation where I can't teach anymore, if I just keep Chloe close, I might be able to benefit greatly from having her as a student.'

Well, of course, I'll do my best to prevent such a situation, but isn't it reality that we can't predict even a day ahead!

Frankly speaking, even Amon came to this academy dreaming of dazzling glory, but wasn't the reality he faced like a gutter?

Anyway, Amon, who arrived at the training ground earlier than when he used to observe before, frowned.

"Hic, sob..."

“Your voice is too quiet! How will you teach students like this!”

“Oh, ch-children of the Empire~! Oh glorious bearers of light~!”

“Louder! Faster!”

Amon rubbed his eyes vigorously, doubting the scene before him.

‘What am I seeing?’

Isn’t that Sloth running energetically around the training ground while singing the empire’s anthem!

Moreover, Kai was following behind Sloth, clapping to the rhythm.

“Senior Sloth! Louder! Faster!”

“Uh, sob!”

Amon hurriedly approached Sloth, who was running around the training ground mournfully, without the sleeping bag she always carried around.

“What on earth is going on here?”

When Amon, overcome with shock, came huffing and puffing, Sloth’s eyes grew round.

‘Amon! You came to save me!’

Yes, quite some time has passed since getting to know Amon!

And if he witnesses this scene of Kai crossing the line with such insubordination, given Amon’s personality, he wouldn’t just let it slide!

Defeat trash with trash!

Just as that plan seemed to hit the mark and color returned to Sloth’s face.

“Kai!”

“Ah! Senior Amon!”

Amon, who rushed to Kai in one breath, quickly whispered.

“How did you make that lazy person so diligent? Tell me your secret!”

The light disappeared from Sloth’s eyes as she overheard the whisper.

Trash defeating trash?

No, it's a situation where trash recognizes trash and attempts to form an alliance!

Kai laughed heartily and answered Amon's question.

"Hahaha, Senior Amon. It was simple."

"Simple? I tried everything to make that person human – stealing their sleeping bag, tearing it up, hiding it – but they never changed. How did you do it?"

"I told them I would report them to the Education Department."

"...!"

To think there was such a simple method! Amon couldn't help but admire Kai's skill.

"A-Amazing, Kai."

"You're too kind, Senior."

"But..."

Thanks to Amon calling Kai over, Sloth had stopped running.

She was looking at him with an empty face.

It was a sad look that seemed to be asking for help, but Amon lightly ignored that gaze and fell into thought.

'But is that person really someone who would care about being reported to the Education Department?'

She's the daughter of Marquis Pid, after all.

If she doesn't like something, couldn't she just kick down the academy's front gate and return to her family whenever she wants?

'Then why...?'

The reason was simple.

Sloth had thought she could defeat Kai using Amon!

Of course, as mentioned earlier, the end of the unpredictable future was in the gutter, but still.

'Anyway, reporting to the Education Department...Not bad. Much more efficient than tearing up and hiding the sleeping bag.'

Having gained this insight, Amon quietly tipped off Kai.

"You're doing well. Let's try to make a person out of that lazy one."

"Yes! Leave it to me!"

"Do you need anything? I think wearing sand bags while running would be good, should I prepare some?"

"That's a good idea. Please do."

"I'll have them ready by tomorrow."

Hearing that whispered conversation, Sloth made a decision.

'Alright. Let's quit. Right now, no, today I'll go to the headmaster and say I'm resigning.'

Truth be told, it would be hard to find another job this comfortable again, but returning to her family would be much more peaceful than staying here where Amon and Kai were conspiring.

Finally having decided to resign, peace came to Sloth's face.

The peace of mind that comes to a retiree!

As Sloth ran around the training ground more enthusiastically than ever before, Amon was impressed.

'It's working! Kai, it's working! To think that Sloth, that person would be so actively training their physical strength!'

The misunderstanding deepens!

Anyway, while watching Sloth desperately running around the training ground with a pleased expression, Amon turned his head.

Students were coming, perhaps because it was time to start class.

"You guys are here."

"Oh, Teacher Amon is here too."

"Of course, I promised you guys so I had to come."

“Yes...so what do you think?”

“Hm? About what?”

Raymond, pointing at Sloth who was practically rolling around the training ground, seemingly out of energy, said.

“That.”

“Hm? What about it?”

“Isn't it going well?”

“...What?”

At that moment, intense betrayal appeared on Boris's face!

“A-Even Teacher Amon...”

“Huh? W-What?”

As Amon was about to ask what they meant with a puzzled face.

“Hahaha, you guys are here!”

“Ugh!”

Kai, who had approached without notice, wiped his face dripping with sweat refreshingly and said.

“Well then, shall we start class right away?”

“...”

“Senior Sloth! Let's start class right now!”

“Ugh, huff, sob, gack...”

Seeing Sloth panting without being able to answer, Kai laughed heartily.

“Hahaha! Senior Sloth, I said let's start class right away!”

“Urgh...ugh...”

Seeing Sloth approach the students looking nearly like a corpse, Amon quietly stepped back.

Since his position was just to observe the observation, he had no intention of interfering with the class.

And seeing how the class progressed, Amon frowned.

‘...Huh?’

Chloe was practicing the Pid family’s swordsmanship under Sloth’s guidance.

As for Raymond...

‘...Why is that guy also learning the Pid family’s swordsmanship?’

Doesn’t Raymond have his own ‘Heaven Piercing Sword’ style that he’s learning separately?

Then why is he receiving guidance together with Chloe from Sloth?

That wasn’t all.

“Hic! Heack! Huff!”

“Haha, Boris! You need more physical training!”

“Y-Yes! Hyah!”

The problem was that Boris was also receiving the same guidance as Chloe and Raymond.

Realizing this fact, Amon quickly approached Sloth.

“Senior Sloth.”

“...What.”

When Sloth looked at him with a deadpan face, Amon continued.

“What do you mean what? Why did the class suddenly become like this?”

“...What about it?”

Amon pointed at Boris, who was slumped over and panting.

“Boris decided to become a magician, right? But this is clearly beyond just basic training, isn’t it?”

“...So what.”

“No, what do you mean ‘so what’? This way, proper education won’t be...”

To be frank, Boris could never reach the level of Chloe and Raymond in swordsmanship even if he died and came back to life.

Amon, Marion, and Sloth had agreed after discussion to conduct classes according to each student’s aptitude, such as magic self-study and independent sword training.

But why are they all suddenly receiving the same class...

“Senior Amon.”

“...Huh?”

Kai, who had approached at some point, continued.

“That’s not right.”

“...What?”

“All students should be given equal opportunities. Even if they have different paths they want to take, isn’t it right that they receive the same education as long as they belong to the academy?”

“...”

“It’s certainly sword training time, but having some learn swordsmanship, others different swordsmanship, and others magic is never right from an educational perspective. Don’t you agree?”

Kai smiled gently and whispered to Amon.

“I heard from Senior Sloth and Senior Marion that you were the one who first proposed education tailored to students’ career paths. But I don’t believe it. How could Teacher Amon, who is more faithful to the Empire’s regular curriculum than anyone and excellent as an educator, suggest such a wrong path?”

Kai really thought so.

In his eyes, Amon was more suited to being an educator than anyone else, while Sloth and Marion were unsuitable.

Therefore, no matter how much Sloth and Marion claimed otherwise, Kai wouldn’t believe it.

He just thought it was a means to avoid immediate pressure.

Finally, Kai smiled gently and said,

“You think so too, don’t you, Senior Amon?”

At those words, Amon frowned and said,

“What are you talking about, you crazy bastard?”

“...Pardon?”

Kai blinked his eyes as if he didn’t understand what he had just heard.

But regardless, Amon approached Boris and said,

“Boris, wipe your sweat, rest a bit, and then go practice magic in the shade.”

“Huff, huff...Y-Yes! Teacher.”

“Raymond, you move to a different spot and practice separately too. Try to erase the Pid family style from your mind as quickly as possible. It’ll give you a headache later if they get mixed up in your head.”

“Yes! Teacher Amon.”

Amon glanced at Chloe, fell into thought for a moment, then sighed and said.

“Senior Sloth.”

“Uh, yes...?”

“Go inside, wash up, and bring your sleeping bag. You can’t properly teach Chloe when you’re this exhausted.”

Indeed, Sloth was so tired that she was missing about half of the sword paths Chloe was displaying.

What’s the point of teaching like that?

“Is, is that okay?”

“When did you ever ask my permission to do anything? Hurry and go.”

“Uh, okay.”

A ray of light appeared in Sloth's eyes as she staggered towards the dormitory.

'As expected, Amon...! We've known each other for so long, you're the only one who thinks about your colleagues!'

That's not it.

It wasn't about thinking of colleagues but for the students.

Anyway, as Amon picked up the wooden sword Sloth had left behind, he turned his head to find Kai looking at him with an icily stiff face, saying.

"What are you doing, Senior?"

"Hm?"

Standing crookedly, Amon said.

"What are you doing yourself?"

"...Implementing proper education, aren't I?"

"Proper education?"

"Yes. Following the regular curriculum to ensure fair opportunities for all students..."

Letting out a hollow laugh at those words, Amon said.

"If people are different, is it fair to blindly teach them the same thing? Are you going to teach an eagle how to jump? Are you going to teach a frog how to fly?"

"...Pardon?"

"Education should be equitable, not equal."

"..."

Looking at Amon with a stiff face, Kai forced a smile.

"Ha, hahaha. Senior, but according to the Empire's Education Department guidelines, only equal education can lead to the empire's future and..."

"Hey."

"...Yes?"

“Shall we play equally too?”

“What...what do you mean...?”

Twirling the wooden sword, Amon said.

“I’ll hit you once with this wooden sword, and you hit me once with a wooden sword. Equally, that is.”

“...Pardon?”

Deep confusion appeared on Kai’s face.

Chapter 49

“Wh-what do you mean? You want us to hit each other once?”

“You heard right.”

“Ha, hahaha.....What kind of unfunny joke is that?”

“Does it sound like a joke?”

At Amon’s utterly serious face, Kai narrowed his eyes.

‘.....What is he thinking?’

Could it be that he sees him as a ‘common person’ and is trying to suppress him with force?

If that’s really the case, he’d have to change his evaluation of Amon.

From a true educator to a thug trying to break others’ opinions by flaunting power.

However, Amon’s following words.

“Why? Not confident? You seem pretty confident in your skills though?”

“.....What did you say?”

“Both your swordsmanship and magic, with skills like yours, you could boast anywhere you go, right?”

“.....!”

Kai’s face hardened.

'My skills were seen through?'

Sword Master highest grade, 8th Circle magician.

It was too specific a mention to think it was just a guess.

'Could he have noticed my identity? But that's impossible?'

He hadn't even met Amon when he was crown prince, let alone known of his existence until recently.

Moreover, isn't he currently hiding his face with magic?

'Someone like Elder Reinbelt might be able to see through magic...but this person is clearly just an ordinary person, nothing more, nothing less. Both in swordsmanship and magic.'

When his thoughts reached there, Kai let out a hollow laugh.

'Rather, I want to ask. If you noticed my skills, what confidence makes you want to challenge me?'

Suddenly such curiosity welled up.

Setting aside his fondness for Amon, it was curiosity as an 'Empire's expert' who had reached Sword Master highest grade and 8th Circle magic.

'Could he have a hidden card?'

With a faint smile, Kai said.

"Senior Amon, are you serious?"

"After saying all this, does it still seem like a joke?"

"Hahaha....."

Shrugging his shoulders as if giving up, Kai picked up the wooden sword and approached Amon while saying.

"Fine. You said we'll exchange one hit each, right? Who starts first?"

"Hmm....."

Fiddling with the wooden sword, Amon said.

“You start first.”

“Ha, hahahaha.....”

Laughing as if dumbfounded, Kai raised his wooden sword.

“Alright, senior. After saying all this, you won’t dodge, right?”

“Yeah, yeah. Just hurry up and hit.”

“.....Understood.”

Wiping off his smile, Kai swung the wooden sword toward Amon’s shoulder.

Of course, it wasn’t serious.

If he, a Sword Master of the highest grade, swung with full force, even a wooden sword could easily cut a person’s body in half.

‘It’s not serious, but enough to make you reflect on your own recklessness.’

Kai swung his sword toward Amon with ‘moderate force’.

And the moment his sword hit Amon’s shoulder.

Amon grabbed his shoulder and collapsed, causing Kai to gape.

“Gasp! Se-senior! Are you alright?”

“Ouch! My shoulder!”

“I-I’m sorry! I must have unconsciously used too much force!”

“Ugh! My shoulder.....”

Getting up while groaning, Amon glared at Kai and growled.

“You, you bastard.....hitting this hard?”

“I-I’m sorry.”

While bowing his head apologetically, Kai thought.

‘Hmm.....He acted like he had a hidden card but there was nothing?’

Well, he wasn’t disappointed though.

After all, in Kai's eyes, Amon was just an ordinary person with no proficiency in swordsmanship or magic, so this was just the natural result.

Anyway, while rubbing his shoulder and grumbling, Amon glared and said.

"Then it's my turn now, right?"

".....You want to continue?"

"Of course? I took a hit, so you should fairly take one too, right?"

"Hmm....."

Scratching his head, Kai nodded with a bitter smile.

"You're right, senior. Alright."

"Good, then....."

While rubbing his shoulder and grimacing in pain, Amon suddenly wiped his expression and said.

"You take one hit fairly too."

At that moment, Amon's right hand holding the wooden sword became blurry.

Simultaneously, a fierce sound of air being torn burst out.

Seeing the wooden sword rushing at him like lightning, Kai belatedly widened his eyes.

Thwack-!

For a moment, Kai thought his shoulder hit by the wooden sword had been crushed.

"Arggghh!"

With a ripping scream, Kai flew through the air, tumbled to the ground, rolled several times before stopping, and grabbed his shoulder while coughing.

"Cough! My, my shoulder.....! I, I flew.....?"

"No. It's still attached."

At the sight of Amon who had somehow appeared before his eyes looking down at him, Kai got up in great shock.

“Hu, huk.....!?”

“Are you okay? Does it hurt a lot?”

“.....”

While rubbing his shoulder that was throbbing as if it had been shattered, a streak of fighting spirit rose in Kai’s eyes.

But suppressing that emotion, Kai smiled faintly and said.

“Yes, it hurts quite a bit.”

“Really? The spot where you hit me still hurts too.”

“Is that so? Shall we continue then?”

“Huh? You want to do more?”

Kai gripped the wooden sword and grinned.

“Well, we’ve only exchanged one hit each so far, right? It’s more fun than I expected, so let’s continue.”

“Hmm, should we?”

When Amon nodded as if it was no big deal, Kai took his stance.

“Then here I come.”

“Yeah. Go ahead.”

Kai took a small breath and thought.

‘Wasn’t he supposed to have no proficiency in swordsmanship?’

But the impact he just felt was too fierce to believe it came from an ordinary person.

‘.....So he did have a hidden card after all. Good, then this time I’ll attack a bit harder?’

Having decided, Kai swung his sword with full force.

And the moment his sword was about to hit Amon’s shoulder.

Whoosh-!

Twisting his body, Amon dodged Kai's sword!

".....Wh-what!?"

Weren't you not going to dodge!?

While Kai was just opening and closing his mouth with his eyes wide in shock, Amon scratched his head as if he was surprised too and said.

"Sorry, sorry. I unconsciously dodged."

"....."

"Yeah, I wasn't planning to dodge but I think I unconsciously dodged because it hurt so much when I got hit earlier. Really sorry, Kai."

"....."

Gritting his teeth, Kai gripped his sword again and said.

".....Then I'll go once more."

At those words, Amon opened his eyes wide as if saying what are you talking about.

"What? It's my turn now, right?"

".....Excuse me?"

"You just attacked once, right? So it's my turn."

".....Bu-but you dodged! Then I should attack again, right?"

At those words, Amon sighed as if saying don't talk nonsense and said.

"Hey kid, we need to be fair. If you attacked, then fairly it's my turn to attack now, right? If I dodged, then you can fairly dodge too, right?"

".....Wh-what did you say?"

"Now, dodge."

Amon swung his sword.

Whoosh-!

Flying like a kicked ball, Kai rolled on the ground.

“Kuh, cough.....”

Though it was a sudden attack, Kai tried his best to dodge Amon’s sword.

But he couldn’t dodge it.

What that fact implied was clear.

‘Th-this guy.....is strong!’

Clearly from the aura he gives off, he’s an ordinary person who hasn’t learned swordsmanship or magic.

However, the intense pain in his shoulder testified to Amon’s strength.

In other words, he’s an opponent worth going all out against.

The emotion enveloping Kai, an Empire’s expert, was definitely ‘fighting spirit’.

Sword Master highest grade.

8th Circle magician.

As Kai used his mana at full power, a five-colored brilliant aura blade wrapped around his wooden sword, and the mana in the air violently swirled.

Whoosh-!

Facing Amon who was frowning at the wind hitting him head-on, Kai said.

“.....I’ll go all out from now on.”

To those words brimming with fighting spirit, Amon blocked the wind with his hand and said.

“Wait, wait.”

“.....What is it?”

“Going all out is fine, but.....”

Pointing at Kai’s sword, Amon said.

“Don’t use the aura blade?”

“.....Excuse me?”

Casually swinging his wooden sword, Amon said.

“I can’t use aura blade, you know?”

“.....”

“But if you use aura blade, that’s not fair, right? Don’t you think so?”

“Well.....”

“Don’t use magic either. I can’t use magic. If you use magic, that’s not fair either, right?”

“Wh-what kind of.....?”

About to say what kind of sophistry is this, Kai flinched and shut his mouth.

Educate all students ‘fairly’.

Amon was directly mocking such a claim of his.

“That’s nonsense.....!”

“Why is it nonsense?”

Amon, who had already lowered his wooden sword, continued in a cold voice.

“How is what I said different from what you said? Boris struggles to keep up with Chloe and Raymond’s sword training. But you forced Boris to follow them, right? Fairly, as you say. So I’m telling you fairly not to use aura blade and magic either, what’s different?”

“Non-nonsense.....!”

Nonsense?

Walking toward Kai step by step, Amon thought.

‘I’m exposed!’

As Kai said, his argument is nonsense that only looks good on the surface!

‘.....But I can’t say it’s completely wrong. Maybe that’s why that guy is shaking right now.’

Then what should he do now?

Agree with the opponent’s opinion!

“Of course, educating fairly as you say is important too.”

“.....What?”

“Educating all students without discrimination? Your words are certainly right.”

At the sudden affirmation, Kai’s eyes wavered.

“However.”

Speaking powerfully, Amon continued.

“Each student is absolutely not the same.”

“.....!”

Kai widened his eyes, and Amon continued.

“Chloe is deeply learning the Pid family’s swordsmanship. Raymond is separately learning his own unique swordsmanship deeply. Boris, as you know, is learning magic.”

“.....”

“As I said, each student is different. But you’re giving the same education your way?”

Placing his hand on Kai’s shoulder, Amon said.

“Is that really fair?”

“.....!”

The mana that had been swirling around Kai had completely disappeared.

The aura blade had also vanished, and his fighting spirit was completely broken to the point where none could be found.

Amon smiled faintly.

‘Hmm, he’s about half cooked now.’

Amon pressed on.

“As I said, being fair is important. But that means you should be ‘fair when treating students.’”

“.....Fair when treating students.”

“Yes. So you ‘fairly educate what each one wants and dreams of.’ Not mindlessly giving the same education to all students to make them all the same.”

“.....”

“That’s why I said earlier. Education shouldn’t be equal but should be ‘just.’”

“Equal and just.....”

Seeing Kai’s eyes slowly closing, Amon thought.

‘.....Is this right?’

I don’t know!

I just blabbered whatever came out of my mouth!

Meanwhile, Kai was deep in thought.

‘Equal and just.’

Though they seem similar at first glance, the two are clearly different.

Equal means not being biased to either side.

While just is.

‘Equality involving individual subjective judgment. That is what’s just.’

Kai looked at Boris.

‘A student who dreams of becoming a magician.’

He forced such a boy to receive ‘the same education as other students equally’.

But even if a student dreaming of becoming a magician trains in swordsmanship, could they achieve the same results as the other two students who set their minds on swordsmanship?

That’s impossible.

‘.....It’s not just.’

Kai tightly closed his eyes.

‘Is that why Senior Amon said it? To distinguish between equal and just.’

No! I just said whatever came to mind!

But not knowing this fact, Kai was deeply moved.

Drip-!

A streak of tears flowing down his cheek at his own ignorance!

“.....Senior Amon.”

“Uh, huh?”

Why is he suddenly crying?

Anyway, having reached enlightenment, Kai fell to his knees.

“To give such teaching to foolish me.....As expected of someone worthy of being designated as the head of academic affairs at such a young age.....”

Looking at the reaction, it seems to have worked properly.

Plus the words head of academic affairs! Putting on airs, Amon cleared his throat vigorously.

“Ahem! Kai, you’ve finally understood my deep meaning.”

“Sob, yes.....As expected of Senior Amon.”

“Hahaha, yes. Yes.”

“Please continue to guide me in the future, Head of Academic Affairs Amon!”

“Hahaha! Yes, just trust and follow Head of Academic Affairs Amon.....”

“Head of Academic Affairs?”

Suddenly a voice from behind!

Turning around, Amon’s eyes widened.

There was Sloth, frowning while vigorously drying her wet hair with a towel.

“You’re the Head of Academic Affairs? What does that mean?”

Chapter 50

Sloth was frustrated.

Her plan to hit Kai by wielding Amon had worked well. Kai was holding onto Amon's pant leg and repenting for his wrongdoings as if he had some great awakening.

Well, that part was fine.

".....Amon, you're the head of academic affairs? Did I hear that right?"

Seeing Sloth frowning as if this was news to her, Amon was rather taken aback.

".....You didn't know?"

"How would I know that?"

"Then what about the snacks you gave me the day before yesterday....."

Wasn't it a tribute offered to him as the powerful head of academic affairs?

However, Sloth said with a sour face.

"I just gave them to you....."

"Ack."

"You were thinking something weird again, weren't you?"

"....."

So it wasn't a bribe.

Amon cleared his throat awkwardly and said.

"Never mind then. Anyway, about being head of academic affairs....."

He paused briefly as he was about to continue.

'But can I tell her?'

From the looks of it, it seemed the principal hadn't given any hints either.

In other words, how would Sloth react when she found out that he was becoming head of academic affairs?

Of course, if it was the Sloth he knew well, she would lose interest saying 'I see. So you're appointed as head of academic affairs.' due to laziness, but power isn't such an easy thing.

Isn't there a saying that position makes the person?

'Power can turn even a lazy person into a fierce beast. Though someone of good character like me could handle power humbly.....'

Anyway, what would Amon think if he were in Sloth's position?

'I've taken out dozens more bowls at the academy than that bastard, yet he dares to push me aside and become head of academic affairs?'

Indignation! Anger enough to potentially cause a mutiny!

'She'll surely think that way.'

As he looked at Sloth while imagining those emotions, Sloth's normally drowsy eyes seemed ominously different.

'That look...She must be hating and distrusting me.'

At that time, Sloth was thinking:

'I see. So he's appointed as head of academic affairs.'

To Sloth who disliked troublesome things from the start, the title of head of academic affairs was nothing more or less than bothersome!

If Anar'el had offered the position of head of academic affairs to Sloth, she would have run straight back to her family house the moment she heard it!

Anyway, Amon continued speaking while receiving Sloth's gaze.

"Ahem! Well, nothing's been decided for certain yet. It's just that the principal is thinking that way."

"I see."

At that moment, Kai, who had been repenting for his mistakes until now, cut in.

"As expected of Senior Amon! Even being humble....."

".....What?"

“Even though it’s already certain you’ll become head of academic affairs, you’re being so modest!”

At those words, Amon flinched and turned to look at Sloth.

‘Kai you bastard, saying something like that at this time.....!’

Sure enough, Sloth’s face had hardened.

‘See! That’s clearly a dissatisfied face! She must be envious of me becoming head of academic affairs!’

At that time, Sloth was thinking:

‘I’m tired. I want to sleep.’

The thief called Amon soothed his aching feet and opened his mouth.

“Hahaha, Kai. Is anything certain in this world? More importantly, let’s stop talking about this. It’s regular class time now, so we should focus on the lesson.”

“Ah.....! Understood!”

As he smoothly changed the topic like a snake slithering over a wall, both Sloth and Kai decided to focus on their current class.

* * *

Marion had a deathly expression.

‘Phew, damn.....I’m really going to die at this rate.’

Because of Kai’s threat to report him to the education department if he kept teaching while drunk, he hadn’t been able to touch alcohol recently.

Though it had only been about a week of abstinence, to Marion himself it felt like decades had passed.

‘.....Should I just retire?’

Even Sloth had complained that she couldn’t take it anymore because of Kai, saying it would be better to return to her family.

So Marion was about to quietly pull out his resignation letter that he had kept without having a chance to take it out for a while.

'.....No, considering all the unpaid bar tabs here and there, I can't quit either.'

While Sloth could just return to her prestigious family, Marion was just a viscount with a title but no territory!

'Suddenly I felt like crying. By the way, will Amon really be able to control Kai well?'

Though Sloth was hopeful saying it would work out well, honestly Marion was pessimistic.

'Control trash with trash? No. Putting trash with trash will only create bigger trash.....'

Marion held his forehead with a sigh due to the headache from withdrawal symptoms.

'.....Sigh, damn. Besides, it's already this late. I should hurry to class.'

Soon after opening the classroom door and entering, an unexpected sight greeted her.

"Have you arrived, Senior Marion!"

".....Ah, Amon?"

Amon was standing there with Kai while wearing a bright smile.

'Damn it!'

The worst situation she had anticipated had come true.

The union of trash and trash!

An even more gigantic trash must have been born!

'Alright, let's quit.'

There's no need to weave spider webs in front of a mountain, so let's submit the resignation letter right away.

As Marion was thinking this and about to turn around, a bottle of alcohol was held out to him.

"Here, drink it down refreshingly."

"Uh...huh?"

Marion, who had reflexively taken the bottle, looked anxiously at Kai's reaction.

Though he thought Kai would make a fuss, despite seeming somewhat displeased, he didn't appear to have any intention of snatching and breaking the bottle.

'Why, how.....?'

Questions were rising in his head but Marion swallowed his saliva at the pleasant alcoholic aroma wafting from the bottle and said.

"Ca-can I drink it?"

Amon answered cheerfully.

"Of course!"

"Why so suddenly....."

"Haha! Don't you teach more smoothly after having a drink, Senior? So drink up quickly."

"....."

Marion stared blankly at the bottle and realized.

'They must have put poison in it.'

They must be trying to kill him with this opportunity but Marion, whose mind had gone blank from the smell of alcohol she hadn't had in a while, poured the drink into his mouth.

'Oh well. They say even a ghost looks prettier after dying from eating, so let me be a pretty ghost.'

The drink he swallowed with that resolution was incredibly sweet.

"Phew.....Now I can live."

"That's good."

"*smack* *smack*, but.....can't I have just one more bottle?"

At those words, Amon frowned.

"No matter what, excessive drinking is not allowed."

"No, think about it. I'm going to die anyway, so what's wrong with drinking more before dying?"

“Pardon? Die?”

As Amon tilted his head, Marion also tilted her head.

“Am I not going to die?”

“Why would you die?”

“Didn’t you put poison in it?”

“.....Why would we put poison in it?”

“Why didn’t you put it in?”

“.....Pardon?”

Amon, who had been lost in thought for a moment, burst out laughing and said.

“Ah, I see what you mean now. It’s not like that – I talked with Kai and we concluded that it’s better for you to teach after having a drink.”

“.....You concluded that?”

Marion looked at Kai.

Though he had only seen him for a week, Kai wasn’t the type to come to such a conclusion?

Receiving that gaze, Kai sighed and said.

“Though according to Education Department Regulation Article 3 Section 12, this should never be allowed.....after thinking it through, Senior Amon’s words were right. If it’s the same amount of lecture time, it’s right to provide quality lectures to students. Senior Marion shows quality lectures when slightly drunk on alcohol.”

At Kai’s suddenly flexible attitude, Marion’s jaw dropped.

“Yo-you guys.....”

“But as I said, excessive drinking is not allowed.”

As he emphasized again, Marion was touched to the point of tears streaming down.

“Of course. Thank you. Really thank you.”

Seeing how happy he was just to be able to drink while teaching, Amon unknowingly gave a rotten smile.

“It’s nothing. Your lectures themselves are excellent.”

“*sniff*! Yes, that..... huh?”

Marion suddenly frowned and said.

“But don’t I teach well even without drinking?”

“.....Pardon?”

At those words, the rotten smile on Amon’s face grew even deeper.

‘She had no self-awareness that she could barely speak properly while teaching without alcohol.’

Sometimes hidden truths can be beautiful!

Amon laughed and said.

“Of course, but when you’re drunk, your unique enthusiasm shows through and the lectures really stick in our heads! That’s what I mean.”

“Hahaha! I see, I do get quite enthusiastic!”

Soon the students arrived and Marion began his lecture.

Boris was so happy he shed tears at seeing the first great lecture since Kai had imposed prohibition.

* * *

After class, as he watched Marion organizing his textbooks, Amon carefully opened his mouth.

“Um, Senior Marion.”

“Hm? Yes, Amon! What is it?”

Marion’s fondness for Amon had become extremely inflated after he helped break Kai’s prohibition!

As he turned around pleasantly, Amon continued.

“Well, it’s not certain yet but.....”

“Hm? Hahaha, what is it? Don’t hesitate, just say it!”

Amon finally revealed it.

“The principal said I might become the head of academic affairs.”

Better to take the beating first theory!

Rather than having him find out by chance like Sloth, he thought it better to make the first move.

And at the confession that was difficult to say, Marion’s jaw dropped.

“Head of academic affairs? You?”

“.....Yes.”

“Hmm.....”

Marion scratched his head after letting out a puzzling sigh.

“Well this is.....”

“That’s how it turned out. But nothing’s certain yet.....”

Kai cut in without fail.

“Being modest again.....”

“Kai, let’s be quiet.”

“Yes.”

Anyway, seeing Marion crossing his arms with a serious face, Amon thought.

‘Was Senior Marion also aiming for the head of academic affairs position?’

Well, Marion was actually perfect for the head of academic affairs duties.

If only he didn’t drink.

He had experience, excellent ability, and a good reputation too.

If only he didn’t drink.

'Anyway, he must be uncomfortable about losing the head of academic affairs position to me.....'

It was at the moment he was wondering what words of comfort to offer.

"Sigh, Amon."

".....Yes. Senior."

"I don't know what words of comfort to give you."

".....Pardon?"

Amon suddenly went from being the one who needed to give comfort to the one who needed to receive it!

"Why, why are you trying to comfort me?"

"Hm? You're asking because you don't know.....from your expression, you really don't know."

Marion scratched his head and said.

"Think about it carefully."

"Yes, I'll think carefully."

"Head of academic affairs is third in the hierarchy, right?"

"That's right?"

"Given the nature of the head of academic affairs position, you know that they have to create the initial drafts for most of the work that the principal and vice principal want to promote?"

"Yes, of course....."

Why does she keep stating the obvious?

So Amon was about to nod mindlessly when he froze stiff.

"Wa-wait.....don't tell me....."

Suddenly Amon's knees wobbled.

The work that the principal and vice principal want to promote?

First, the principal?

'Promoting nonsensical projects like snail racing, unicorn racing.....?'

And the work the vice principal wants to promote?

'Cafeteria expansion, meal improvements, meal cost increases, ingredient sourcing, etc.....'

Amon shut his eyes tight.

Blinded by power, he hadn't noticed the true nature of Amonis Academy until now.