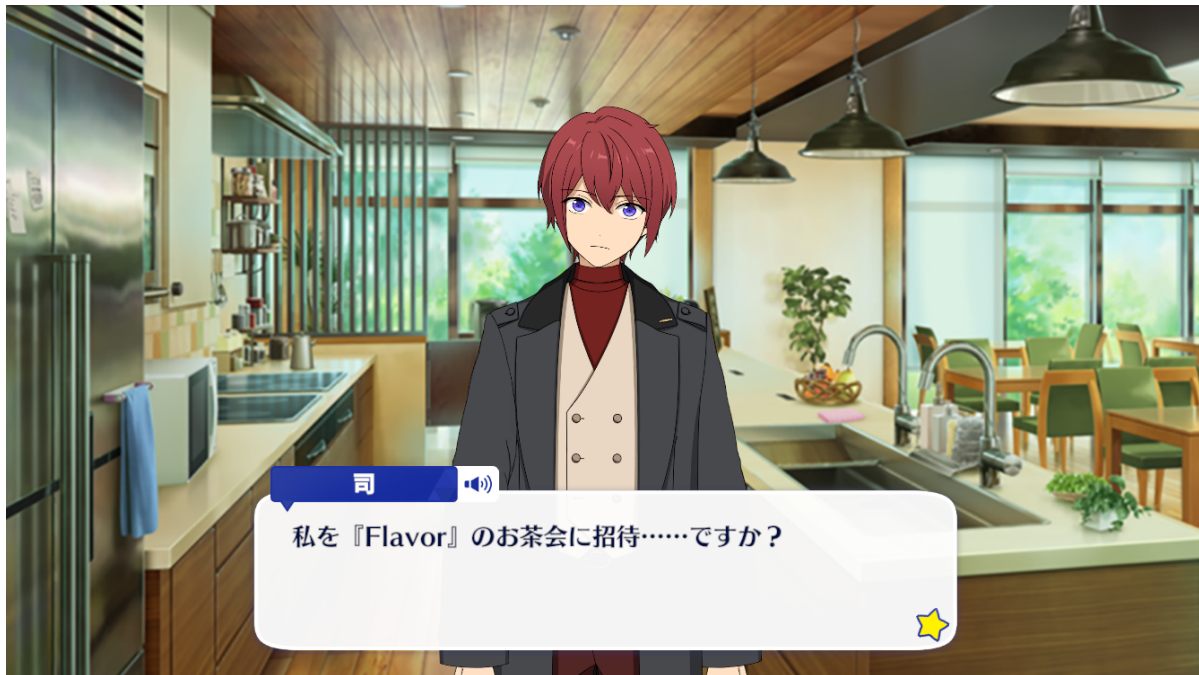


Variety Time

Writer: Suika

Characters: Tsukasa, Hiyori, Ritsu, Hajime, Tatsumi

Season: Autumn



Tsukasa: An invitation for me to join a tea party with *Flavor*...?

Hiyori: Mhm. I hope you'll come visit ♪

Tsukasa: I'm happy to be invited, but what could be the reason for inviting me, when I'm not a *member of Flavor*?

Is it a recruitment event for the *circle*? I do apologise, but I'm already a part of three *circles*...

Hiyori: You don't have to take it that seriously, you know.

To tell the truth, we were preparing for our next tea party when two of our members suddenly couldn't participate anymore.

Usually we would just reschedule our plans in a situation like this... But this tea party was the first circle activity we'd have in a while, so everybody was looking forward to it.

That's why - apologies to the two who can't come, but - we're still planning on hosting the tea party!

Tsukasa: Uhuh. I understand the situation, but I still don't see the reason for inviting me.

Hiyori: That's simple! We were originally preparing for a tea party of five, so we decided to ask an extra person to come so that we don't have excess food.

Tsukasa: Ah, I see. So that's how it is.

Understood. I have no reason to decline so I shall take you up on your offer.

Hiyori: Mhm mhm, a good response ♪

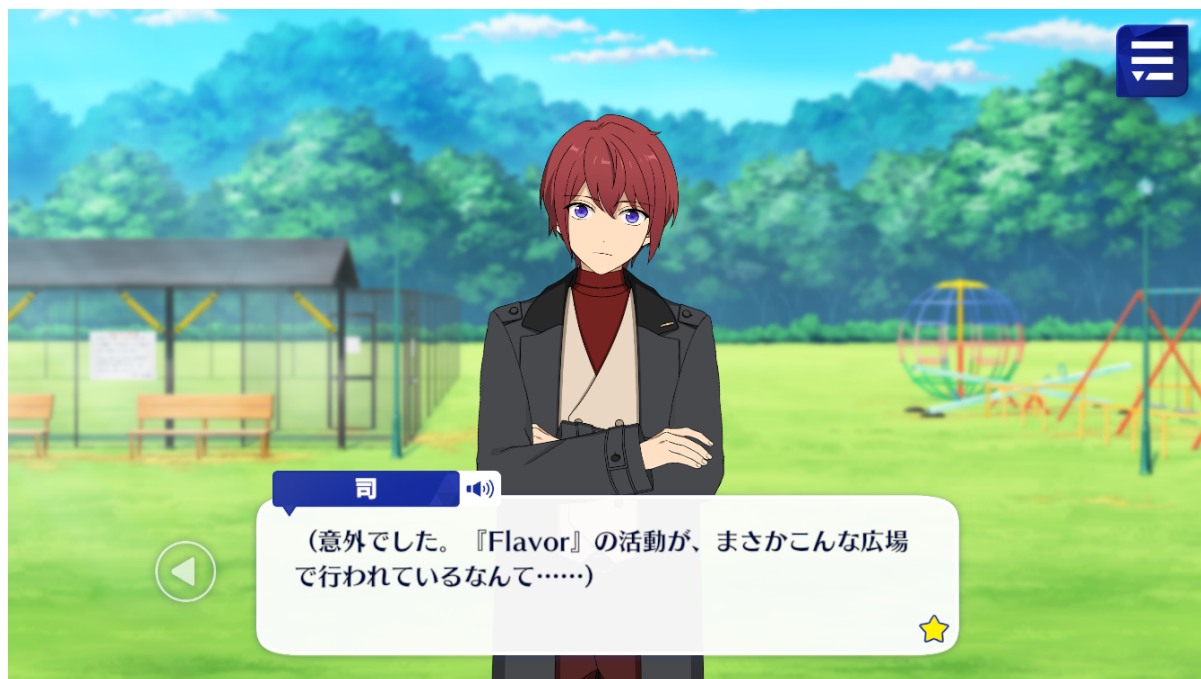
Well then, I'll send you the program for our tea party. I want you to be on time, okay?

Tsukasa: Understood. I'm looking forward to the day.

(It was coincidental, but *lucky me* for being invited to *Flavor's* tea party.

I sometimes hear about *Flavor* from Ritsu-senpai, but I only know that they drink tea and chat.

As a member of *Kaori*, this is a *chance* for me to learn about how other *circles* hold their tea parties ♪)



Tsukasa: (This is unexpected. I wouldn't have thought that *Flavor's* activities took place in an open area like this...

Oh? There's an appetising smell coming from somewhere...)

Hiyori: ...Tsukasa-kun, over here! The tea party is already underway!

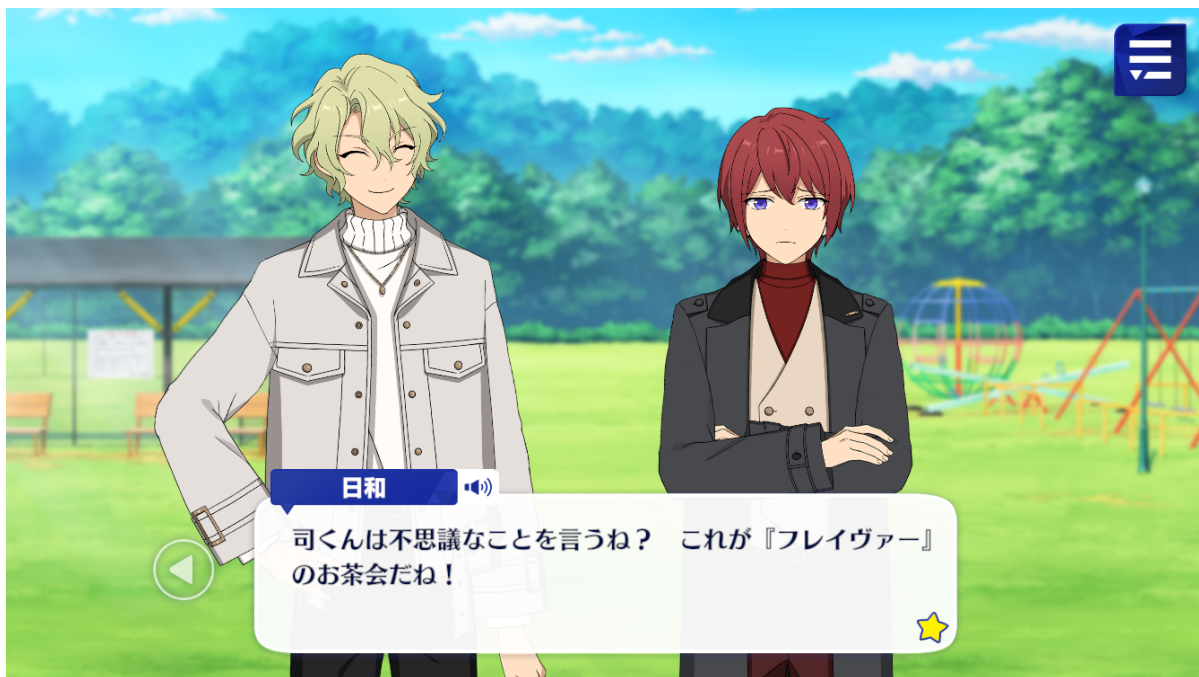
Tsukasa: That's a relief. It seems that I'm in the right pla-- !?

Hiyori-sama!? What on earth are you holding...!?



Hiyori: What are you so shocked for? Isn't it obviously kushiyaki?

Tsukasa: I can tell that from looking at it...! Weren't we having a tea party today!?



Hiyori: You do say curious things, Tsukasa-kun? This *is* Flavor's tea party!

Look, we have some freshly-grilled. Hurry along and have a bite, Tsukasa-kun ♪

How is it? Delicious, right?

Tsukasa: (Munch, munch) ...Delicious. It's delicious, but...

Ritsu: Heya~ ♪ I didn't expect you to invite Su~chan to our tea party~

Ah, the meat Ha~kun grilled for us is delicious, isn't it? I can say with confidence that the grilling is superb... ♪

Hajime: Oh no, it's thanks to Tomoe-senpai for preparing delicious meat.

Hiyori: Mhm mhm. I ordered the highest-quality meat for us today. I'd like you to savour it to your hearts' content.

Ritsu: There you go, Su~chan. Don't just stand around, sit down.

Tsukasa: (whispering) Ritsu-senpai. Um... Is this really *Flavor's* activities? I've heard that it's a tea party *circle* with Tenshouin oniisama and Hiyori-sama as members, so I thought that surely...

Ritsu: Fufu... We're usually like this though? Eating delicious food, drinking delicious tea and chatting happily.

There's nothing particularly strange about that, is there?

Hajime: Welcome to Flavor's tea party, Suou-kun.

Please have some tea prepared for today.

Tsukasa: Thank you very much, Hajime-kun ...hm?

This tea smells somewhat like...

Hiyori: Mhm, that's because it is oolong tea.

Tsukasa: Oolong tea!? Flavor's tea parties serve oolong tea!?

Hiyori: What's so strange about that? Oolong is a splendid tea! Furthermore, it goes perfectly with the barbecue ♪

Tsukasa: I suppose that is true...

I've been nothing but surprised today. I thought for sure that *Flavor* would conduct elegant tea parties...

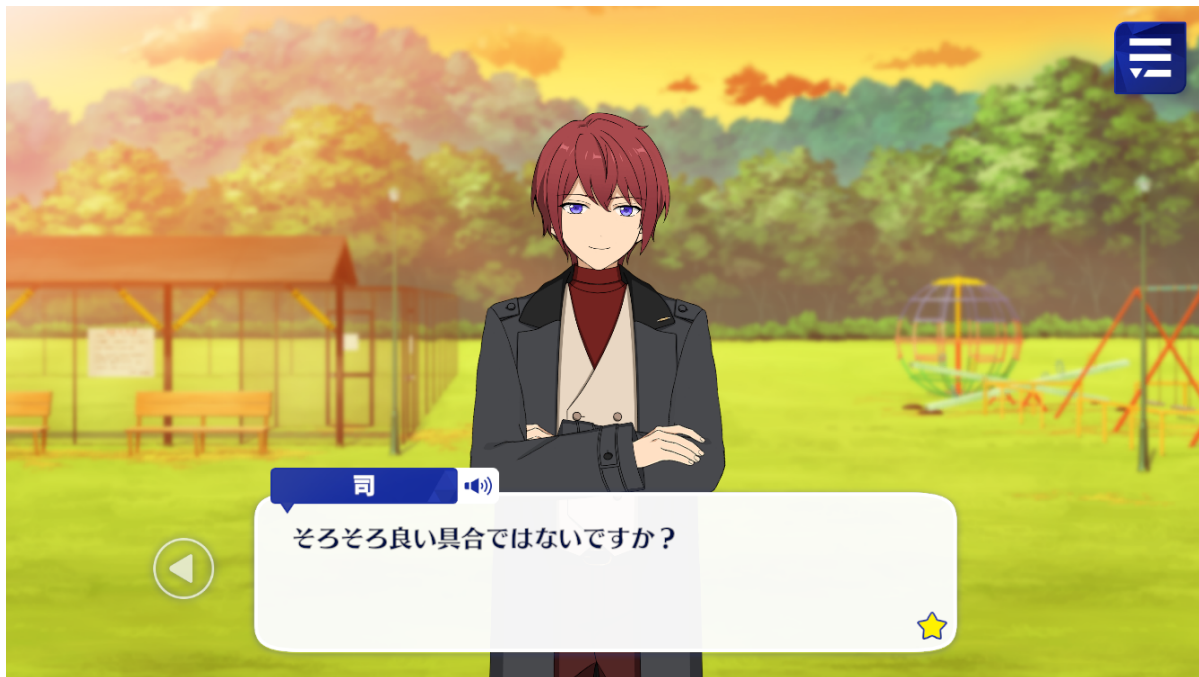
Hiyori: Fufu, when it comes to me or Eichi-kun, we've already exhausted our fill of tea. Rather, this wilder kind of tea party is more novel for Eichi-kun.

Tsukasa: I see. In other words... you're exploring different ways to have a tea party.

Ritsu: Fu~ fufu...

Hiyori: That's right. Eichi-kun also often enjoys our tea parties while holding a skewer in each hand.

Here, here! It looks like the corn has been grilled! Eat up lots, Tsukasa-kun!



Tsukasa: It looks to be in a good state now, right?

Hajime: Yes. Then, please sandwich the marshmallows between the biscuits.

Hiyori: Don't forget the chocolate either.

Tatsumi: Fufu, it smells quite sweet.

Hajime: Kazehaya-senpai! Wasn't your work supposed to last until the evening...?

Tatsumi: Yes. The recording ended more smoothly than expected and I headed here as soon as it was over.

However, is the tea party already over? If only I got here a bit sooner...

Hiyori: Do not fret! We still have meat left over. Look, you must eat this one, Tatsumi-kun.

Tatsumi: Oh? Then I'll accept your kind offer ♪

...Fufu, it's delicious. Both the flavour and the grilling are exquisite.

Hiyori: We still have more, so eat to your heart's content!

Tatsumi: Thank you very much, Hiyori-san.

-However, why did we have a barbecue today?

Tsukasa: ...Huh?

Hold on, please. Are *Flavor's* tea parties not usually like this?

Tatsumi: No, we normally have tea parties in the Garden.

The designated location is different from usual today; I thought it was strange...

Ritsu: A~ah. There's no helping it now that it's all revealed.

Hiyori: I was about to expose our jest anyway so it's no problem.

Tsukasa: What on earth is the meaning of this...!?

Hiyori: It's as Tatsumi-kun says. We changed up our design a little today.

Ritsu: You wouldn't know the details of our circle activities when you're not a circle member, right?

Among other things, Flavour's active days are pretty scarce due to our members' circumstances.

You probably only vaguely knew us as a circle that drinks tea.

Hajime: That's what Eichi-oniichan said. That it might be amusing to invite somebody who doesn't know anything and see their reaction.

Hiyori: And I, riding along that plan, happened to bring Tsukasa-kun along as that 'somebody' ♪

It's a shame that Eichi-kun, who suggested the plan, wasn't able to come because of sudden work. That's just the usual, I suppose.

Tsukasa: No way... Tenshouin oniisama is being mean too...

Ritsu: Now, now. We can have a regular tea party any time, so isn't alright to have a day like this too?

You had fun today too, didn't you, Su~chan?

Tsukasa: That's, well... The food was delicious too.

Hiyori: Fufu. We had delicious tea and had fun topics to chat about; It's a tea party anywhere!

Tatsumi: Fufu. What a wonderful way of thinking. It's good to have fun instead of getting caught up in the form.

Hiyori: I'd love to try more kinds of tea parties in Flavour from now on!