

Emilia's Starry Sky Classroom

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Emilia, who was walking down the corridor, stopped her steps when she was called from behind.

---Are you leaving at this hour, miss?

The long silver hair swayed as the girl turned. Then, her amethyst eyes reflected the silhouette of the person who had asked the question.

---I'm just going to go to the garden. I still haven't been able to talk to the spirits today because of the confusion this morning... And I can't break the pact --- she replied with a gentle smile.

Hearing this, the other person, in this case Rem, closed her eyes slightly.

---Confusion... Do you say Subaru?

---W-well ... yes, but ...

Rem's tone of voice was a little harsh, which made Emilia smile uncomfortably. Seeing this reaction, the maid added:

--- Any problem you have, please don't be shy to talk to us. Especially considering that Subaru became an employee of the mansion.

---It's not that I feel shy ... It's true that it all started because of Subaru, but I have a part of the blame for being so entertained with his conversation --- Emilia admitted with a small sigh.

As a spirit user, despite her main companion being the Pack, she had the

help of several lower spirits. Therefore, keeping the promise made to them was an obligation that she could not neglect.

---I can't be privileging only Pack, otherwise the others will be upset. So I usually take the time to talk to them every morning, so they can help me when I need it most.

---I didn't know about these details of the technique of manipulating spirits. I know very little about it.

---It is normal, not least because there are very few spirit users. Did you learn to use magic with Roswaal?

---Yes. I learned the basics from my sister when we were children, and since we came here, I have been instructed by Master Roswaal.

The Marquis de Mathers, despite all his eccentricity in terms of language, dress and other personality details, was also the magician in direct service to the royal family, known and recognized as the greatest magician in the kingdom. Thanks to that, both Rem and Ram, both under his instruction, had a high caliber in magic technique in their respective elements of preference, water and wind.

---I hope I don't get involved too much in situations that you both need to use magic ... --- commented Emilia.

---I understand your concern, but it will be inevitable. What happened in the capital was only the beginning, I am sure that similar incidents will be repeated throughout your candidacy.

Instead of consoling, Rem chose to alert her master of the risks. And her strict stance was not only with others, but mainly with herself, which Emilia considered a great quality.

---I know. I can't be naive forever, let alone look down after receiving so much help from Roswaal and the two of you.

---My sister and I just obeyed the master's orders. Of course, it will be a great satisfaction to be able to help you, Miss.

Then, seeing the maid bow, Emilia also threatened to do the same, but gave up when she remembered the last time she was scolded for it. Even simple gestures like that, now, carried a greater meaning for the candidate to the throne and she needed to get used to it.

---So, I'm going to go to the garden. I promise not to stay long.

---Yes ma'am. Ah, one last thing.

Rem, before Emilia started walking again, asked:

---What should I do if Subaru asks me where to find you?

The maid's concern was natural, since they had just talked about the boy having hindered Emilia in conversation with the spirits. Despite this, the silver-haired girl shook her head sideways and said:

---Don't worry, you can tell him I'm in the garden.

---Are you sure?

---Yes. I don't want to treat Subaru as a hindrance and I just need to take

my obligations more seriously. In addition... I'm a little curious to know the continuation of the conversation I had with him in the morning.

---Miss Emilia, or you take obligations seriously, or listen to Subaru stories.

---I-I know! But I will really do everything right.

---By the way, if I may ask the question, what was the conversation you were having with Subaru about?

---Hum... Do you usually look at the night sky Rem?

---The night sky...? I don't think much... At most, I am guided by the stars when I have to go out at night.

---I know, and I was like that too. But that is not it.

So, Emilia went to the hall window and looked up at the sky. The world had already lost the sunlight, and what lit the landscape in its place was the moonlight and the scattered brightness of countless stars.

---...

Rem also did the same and went to the window, to which Emilia added:

--- When you have an opportunity, ask Subaru about the stars. I'm sure that, like me, you will also have fun looking at the sky at night.

--- Beatrice, can I get Pack back...?

---...You can't, right? But do what...

The girl Emilia talked to did not hide her dissatisfaction as she hugged the gray kitten tightly in her arms.

---What is it, Lia? Are you hypnotized by my cuteness?

--- Pack, Just yourself. In fact, I kept thinking that Beatrice always makes a face at me.

---Natural, isn't it? For Betty, you are a bad girl that keeps the brother from me. Ideally, I would never see your face or that idiot's face again, okay?

If it was anyone else, those words would have hurt Emilia, but she knew Beatrice didn't really have bad feelings about her, so she just laughed.

---I have a pact with Lia and you know the importance of that, Beatrice. But I promise I'll play with you again.

---Do you really promise? Do you promise to come back to Betty as soon as you can, brother?

After the dramatic farewell, the kitten jumped on Emilia's shoulder and settled in his usual place, between the silver strands of hair, and said:

---For a change, I didn't see time go by in the library. It's already night, isn't it? Because of your clothes, I imagine you're going to talk to the spirits in

the garden, am I right?

---Right. I didn't have time to talk to them in the morning and I can also see the stars that Subaru spoke ... Hey, I know! Beatrice, are you busy now?

--- If Betty is busy...?

Once again, the girl frowned at the question. Everyone at the mansion knew that the librarian never acted sympathetic to anyone, but Emilia was under the impression that Beatrice was especially harsh with her and Subaru. Even so, she suggested:

---If you have no appointment now, how about going for a walk with me? I want to be more friends with you, Beatrice. And today I have a very interesting subject to tell you!

---Too bad it was Subaru who told you first...

---Do not disturb, pack! And then? what do you say?

She stared into the girl's eyes, but without giving too much time, Beatrice turned her face and replied:

---A pity, but I'm very busy right now, understand? Not to mention that I have no interest in knowing about the stars.

---Not even if it's quick? Rem was so interested...

---Don't think you'll be able to convince Betty with stories about that idiot, okay? I bet he stays giving random names to stars and is having fun like a fool.

---Wow, incredible. How did you know?

Emilia was truly surprised by Beatrice's precise comment. According to Subaru, the dispositions of the stars were different in his homeland, and apparently he was suffering from knowing which was which.

---Subaru seemed to understand a lot about astronomy, only he said that the stars are not the same here, and there where he grew up. He spoke of Vega, Altair ... B-Betelgeuse?

---...Geuse...

---Hi?

---...It's nothing. Now go quickly, do you hear?

After popped the tongue, the librarian expelled visitors from her library. Before the Door Crossing was activated, however, she just said goodbye to Pack by waving her hand, and then immediately disappeared.

---I really wanted to be friends with Beatrice...

--- Believe it or not, but in the beginning, she and I fought every day. But look how intimate we are today. All thanks to the long time we spent together... Just like you, Lia.

In other words, Pack was telling Emilia not to be in a hurry, which seemed to convince her. Then she headed back towards the garden and, when she

left, she was greeted by a pleasant night breeze.

---...I think it's good here...

Saying, the girl sat on the grass in one corner of the garden. Then she looked unconsciously at the sky and laughed. As Rem told herself, she never paid much attention to the night sky. Of course, there were times when she looked up and was amazed by the beauty of the starry sky, but it was never something that would make her repeat every night.

---Subaru is so excited when he talks about the stars...

At first, the boy was confused by the different disposition of the constellations, but that soon changed to curiosity. For Emilia, Subaru's eyes that saw the starry sky shone more than any bright spot above.

---You are very happy today, Lia --- Commented Pack.

---You know, I really am. The sky remains the same as always, but just because I changed the way I saw it a little bit, it became much more beautiful.

He also said that the name "Subaru" was taken from a group of stars, the "Pleiades" in the language of his homeland. And that is why he was always interested in astronomy and knew so many mythologies about it.

---That band full of stars is the Milky Way, if I'm not mistaken. In the legend, two lovers cross it once a year to meet, on a day called Tanabata.

---Why do I get the impression that this story is more cruel than beautiful?
--- wondered the kitten.

---How was the story? The lovers Hikoboshi and Orihime were separated

as a form of punishment, but Hikoboshi is allowed by the star king to cross the Milky Way once a year and go to find his beloved.

---Well, I guess it's no use talking about it now...

Emilia's eyes sparkled as she told the supposedly romantic story, but Pack was still not convinced. Despite him, the girl was very fond of the myths about the stars, and looked forward to hearing stories from Subaru.

In any case, she could not lose focus on the initial objective:

---So, Pack, I'm going to call the guys.

With that, the kitten moved away from her a little. The reason for this was so that the lower spirits would not be intimidated by the Pack, which was a Great Spirit.

---I'm sorry for not being able to talk to you this morning. But now we have all the time in the world.

Following her whisper, warm flashes began to emerge around her. Each was an inferior spirit who had answered the girl's call, and the clarity of the lights showed that they were happy, making Emilia smile.

And so, the conversation between them began, serenely, only in their world. Until...

--- H-hey! W-w-what a coincidence we meet here, huh?

... A boy in a butler's uniform came up raising a hand. Another astronomy class was about to begin, under the tutelage of the blinding moon.

