

Half a month from that rotten valentines day.

A half month after and we were still being haunted by all the damage from valentines day. In any case, the chick-festival of Imia's had started, a Lumo species minions are very handy guys, and are running everything for me, letting the festival proceed without any issues.

On the subject of the damages due to the Chocolate Monster.

It's painful to think about....In the end, the original cause of the chocolate monster, Galeon, at that time it happened, I used the portal shield to escape to Zeltbur. At first I thought I'd escaped successfully, but the chocolate monster took Firo's weapons and gave chase. After that I kept running away... and the damage kind of snowballed from there.

While there was a huge sacrifice, there was a bright spot, I was able to defend as many people as possible. That was the saddle that let us ride on so much debt, thus, we planned to use Firo and Kiru to host white day events.

"Hey, Naofumi. Is it really ok to buy white chocolate gifts for the 'return chocolate' event we were having for the white day fans?"

Ahh, those limited edition goods type fans, originally, it was the responsibility of the one who received such goods to give a gift back in return.

The handmade chocolate gifts Firo received from everyone, to have to get return gifts for everyone "from Firo"... It'll make for an amazing white day... We need to narrow down what we're going to do for that.

We headed over to a particular shop to deal with Firo's return gifts.

I'd wanted some things to possibly use as a distraction.

After the chocolate monster, it may just be that there was a glut of sweets inventory for a cheap price. The exchange rate for good money vs the original currency seems to be a dependant factor.

"Ahh.. Right now there's some very well made ones"

It seems it's impressive enough to just make some molds with a mark on them and pour the candy in. Then, just wrap it up in pretty packaging and it's fine, especially because I recycle things like that.

There's also my chocolate production know how I've accumulated.

From all this influence, it seems things are progressing smoothly. (TL: seems he's put a lot of work into chocolate before...hmmm.)

If this keeps up, it'll be a wonderful holiday.

"Naofumi, You never'll lose that cunning side of you, will you..."

Melty muttered as she looked out at all the White Day related gifts he was manufacturing.

"It can't be helped" I said, "after all, were responsible for almost half the kingdom in compensation."

The places we ran to as we were chased down were bad...sorry.

It would have been nice to defeat the monster with just Raftalia and Firo who it was chasing. With that in mind, flying to Zeltburou was just bad luck.

"Naofumi, please consider running away quickly!"

"I guess your right. Still, If I ran, the month after next is likely to be full of vomit and morning sickness".

"Eww... guess your right. I don't really want to see Naofumi's belly gradually swelling."

"SERIOUSLY... Don't talk like that!"

Something like that could only be considered a nightmare.

What a raw visual.

That koGaleon bastard.

Well, that jerk and the bastard in his mind (kogaleon and galeon) helped to some extend with the conflict with the Lars dragon, like the last second escape plan I'd been working on.

In any case, he was now being punished with confinement and house arrest.

Now, very adultlike, Valley girl (Tani-ko) came by periodically to give reports.

It seems that guys developed a hobby like Atlas, collecting old discarded things I'd used.

Lately, as soon as kogaleon finds out I've gone to use the bath, he's rushed over and waited until I've gotten out, then drinks all the hot water. Its made Galeon quite distressed.

Its an highly disgusting feeling.

As if to top it all off, it feels like I'm coming apart like Firo's Carriage...

Well, for now it still works, so I guess I'll keep my spirits up too.

"After this are the Kiel collectibles. Imia, how are things progressing?"

"Present- The first 3,000 stuffed Kiel-kun dolls are ready. Would you like us to keep making more?"

"That number is about right. The lower number will allow us to sell them for a higher price. For the next project... I want a musical about that crepe loving dog who moved me to work so hard."

"At the time we plan the next event, please let me be spoiled by working with Firo."

It makes sense, having a musical, to incorporate that bird with the amazing repertoire.

It seems Firo's schedule has become quite crowded lately.

Keil also has a busy schedule with a handshake/meet and greet coming up.

They're completely Idols in every way.

“Yep, got it”

Imia has followed along all this time without ever once complaining.
Her work is very demanding as well.

“Thank you, for all you do”
I gently pat her head from behind.

“Gu.....h. I”LL DO MY BEST!”

Keil trotted away over to where Kiel was.
Well, Keil seems to enjoy it, so she’ll probably be ok.
The sense of guilt, having Keil and Firo work so hard to pay off my debt...no, lets say paying compensation for all the damages due to that time, I don’t feel any.

The debt itself, I can’t do anything about, but when it starts to take even my pocket money, I get a little anxious.
Thats why I keep a pretty healthy monetary fund going.

Even then, I have the position of Grand Duke in Melromark, which has become a superpower.
In addition to gold, I have a reserve of land, and even a place in ruling this world. (TL: I think he’ll be ok).

In terms of the real world, I’ve reached mid-billionaire status.
With that in mind, I have a pretty real backup savings.
Well, that and the habit from when we were on the run, so making money now wasn’t the only source for reconstruction funds, but even with gold, the prospect of rebuilding everything that was destroyed has made my life a bit opaque.

“After that....”
“Naofumi-Sama” (Raftalia)
I heard Raftalia’s voice coming closer.
Oh well, next challenge...Would I make anything if I sold goods about me?

“Did you need me for something?”
“Ah, yes. We recieved a letter from the chocolate farmers from that time....Also, from the shadow-san”.

Oh, I regularly recieved reports from them.
I opened the letter
....and suddenly found myself with my hand to my forehead.

“What is this!?”

"No way....What had that Damn old man reported." (TL: He said fucking old man, should I leave it?)

"Is...Is something the matter?"

I'd met that damn Geezer when I was out buying valentines chocolates.

I think the chivalrous thief had mentioned something about that damn person being their father.

That F'er had been been arrested and was held responsible for being behind the curtains orchestrating as the chocolate monsters boss.

Once a distinguished shadow, his service won't be remembered as such.

-Was the summary of the letters contents.

That guy unjustifiably resented me... and apparently had escaped and likely begun life on the run.

After that bastard witnessed the irreconcilable differences between myself and him, as he saw all the strange and unusual plants and monsters in my village, it seems it resulted in him being arrested in a neighboring country simply staring into space.

Going back to my house, it seems stories about it render it into a place beyond recognition.

Where would be a good place to start describing it.

First, a security line runs in front of it. Its amazing the enthusiasm with which people have taken up at my place.

I found myself at a loss for words looking out over the plants and monsters there.

But tamely standing there radiating talent, they also began to rumble, and words like "Tasty food" were being mumbled.

In my land... There's all kinds of successful people with various kinds of whiskers present.

All these talented individuals from my land are working to clean things up.

If your mouth were to fall open due to my genius at it all, I won't stop you from it.

Well, its not as if it turned out this way, I've been working to collect such talented people.

Well, I'm not a gifted person myself though.

What would you say, "an ordinary person", I guess.

Legendary weapons are not limited to just shields, and can enter into someone's possession regardless of their abilities.

Just having it means one can use it, but I'm not so confident in my mastery over the sheild as to say I've completely mastered it.

Well, if a person is like me....The story will probably turn out fine.

Back on topic, that damn old man never gave up.

In order to prevent a recurrence of my things ever being used against me. We required advance planning and monitoring between us and the neighboring town organizations.

It turns out the Chivalrous theif also sent a letter of thanks to me.

His work has recently turned out a larger than normal payment amount, well, whatever keeps them working happily...

"And with that we've resolved all current problems"

"Well... what can I say, one more things probably left to do"

"Really?"

From two days later, there came a letter from the chivalrous theifs sister.

"Yesterday I was going through my fathers things and managed to find a hidden tool he'd been creating. He's still in the middle of it, and its rough, but I sent it along for you to examine."

Enclosed was a piss poor drawing.

Reading it, I decided to hurry over to my desk to write a letter for the messenger in the shadows.

The letter depicted something that couldn't be determined at first glance.

If it were just some random drawing it would be fine.

But it was made by that old geezer.

It just seems like some terribly done art in chocolate.

The instructions seem to float around a bit, the invention itself if likely still on the lab bench.

The majority seems to involve white chocolate..

A lot revolves around a fountain.

Why did such a problem have to show up on white day after we already dealt with so much before on valentines?!

I got up early this morning and proceeded to begin dessert production in the village kitchen. I'd recieved chocolate from all the people in my village after all.

A little snack is probably a good enough return gift for white day.

I made them dohnuts wrapped in marshmallow then dipped in white chocolate.

It was hard to do first thing in the morning, but I'm going to put them all in a special corner for those who love food.

"Good morning Onii- Thats a lot of candy!" (Kiel)

Kiel stared at the corner with all the chocolate in it waving her tail.

“Don’t eat them, they’re going to be for everyone in a minute”. (Naofumi)

“Everyone! Its Onii-chans white day return gifts!” (Kiel)

“Whaaaa...”. Everyone crowded over.

How on earth did it come to be that a return gift meant a present to a child, but represented ones feelings, when returned to a woman?

Well, even Kiel is all grown, but just a child on the inside.

Come to think of it, when I came to this place, I was a child too.

“Good morning Naofumi-sama” (Raphtalia)

“Rafu” (...Rafu)

“Morning. Raphtalia, raf-chan” (Naofumi)

Raphtalia and Rafu-chan came over while I was giving out the white day return gifts.

I’d made Rafu-chan a cake as a return gift earlier, but had to hide it in a safe place as a precaution.

You know, Raftalia doesn’t really like the wacky me, she’s into more of a stylish kind of feel. With a “for better or worse” kind of feeling.

Raf-chan’s cake looks pretty good, but is more of a dangerous trap.

I wonder if he’ll eat it?

He’s likely to regret becoming a cannibal... Don’t do it Raph-chan!

“Whaa.... THank you!” (Raphtalia)

“Raph” (Raph...)

Raphtalia and Raphchan happily received their gifts.

“Good for you two..” (Kiel)

“Kiel, your presents over there” (naofumi)

“Raphtalia and Raph’s presents look better..” (Kiel)

“Its over there by the lawn. Stop complaining” (Naofumi)

That idiot lusting over other peoples delicious things.

Especially coming from you who always puts an emphasis on quantity over quality!

Its because you eat more than Raftalia.

I’ll make you a little of the same thing later, so keep the noise down.

“Ara- This looks interesting!”

A certain Killer Whale-woman very involved with the disastrous valentines day has arrived.

