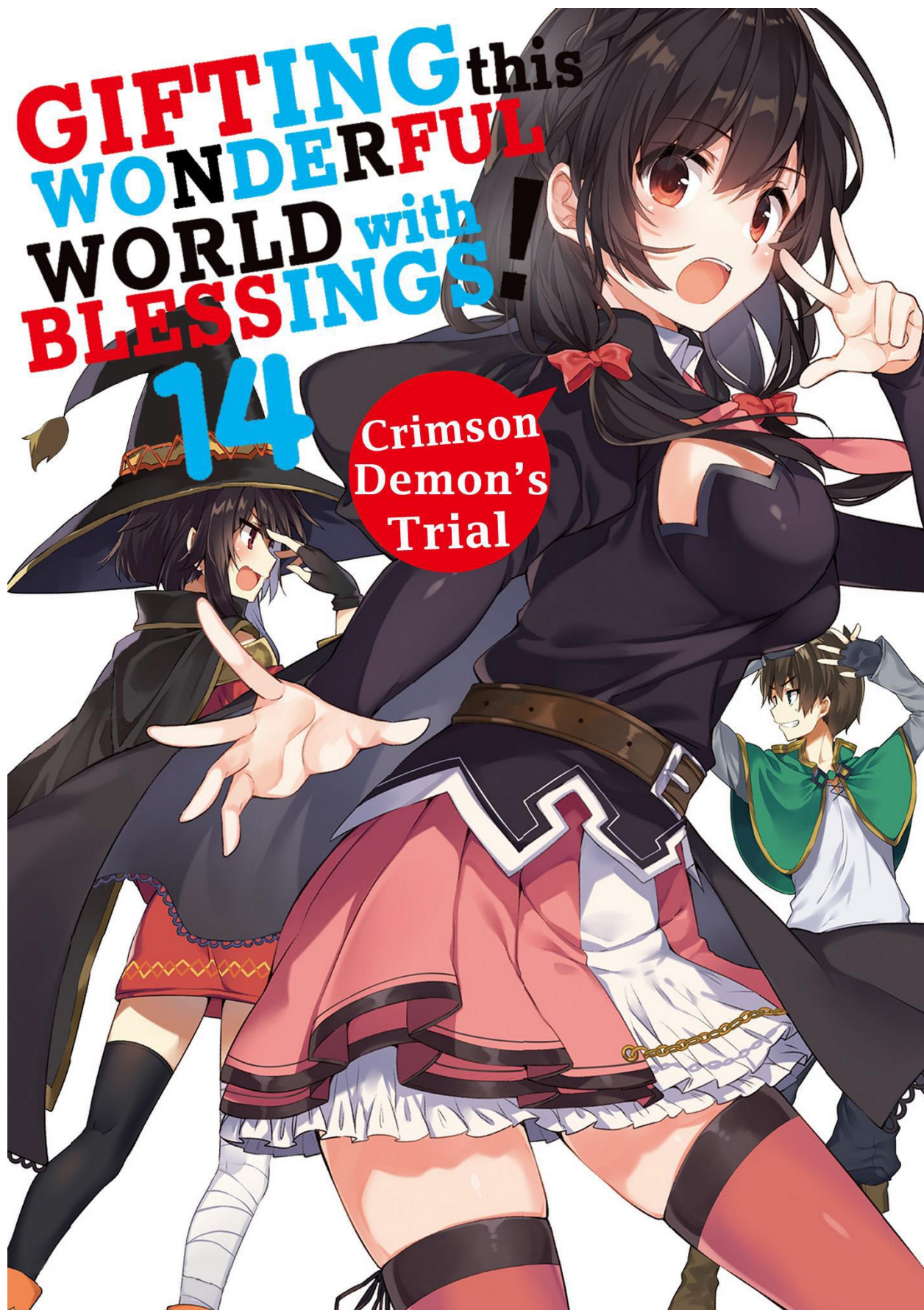


**GIFTING** this  
**WONDERFUL**  
**WORLD** with  
**BLESSINGS!**

**14**

Crimson  
Demon's  
Trial





**GIFTING** this  
**WONDERFUL**  
**WORLD** with  
**BLESSINGS!**

Crimson  
Demon's  
Trial

14









SUMMER VACATION



SUMMER VACATION



# GIFTING this WONDERFUL WORLD with BLESSINGS! 14

Crimson  
Demon's  
Trial



PROLOGUE  
P003



CONTENTS

CHAPTER  
1

DIVINE PUNISHMENT UPON  
THIS HOLY ARMOUR!

P005

CHAPTER  
2

THE TRUTH UPON  
THIS MAN MADE RACE!

P045

CHAPTER  
3

PEACE UPON THESE  
MOMENTARY ORDINARY DAYS!

P096

CHAPTER  
4

A CONCLUSION UPON  
THESE FATED RIVALS!

P142

CHAPTER  
5

AND THUS BEGINS  
THIS LEGEND!

P201

EPILOGUE

P236



AFTERWORD  
P249

# Prologue

“Hey, are you guys done with your preparations!? You properly maintained your equipment, right!?”

“Aah, my armour is really glittering after all that polish! My beloved greatsword too has been sharpened to a fine edge, so expect great things from me!”

As we were gathering outside the mansion, Darkness, clad in equipment that has been polished to the point where it looked brand new, excitedly replied.

Even as I was looking over everyone’s equipment, I didn’t slack off myself.

In addition to my usual equipment, my bag was also stuffed full of various expensive magic items and scrolls.

“Say, Darkness, maybe you should give up on fighting with a sword and just use your fists instead.”

“Well, then, if you’re going to say that, maybe I shall start making use of my fists right now. Come over here, Aqua.”

Bearing a backpack just like me, Aqua ran away as soon as she heard Darkness’s words.

In direct contrast to us, who have been extremely excited since morning, Megumin bore the bare minimum of equipment as she joined us.

“... Why’s everyone so motivated? In the first place, there are stores in the Crimson Demon village, so I don’t think there’s any need to bring so much stuff with us...”

“What are you saying!? It’s a trial, you know!? A trial! One that can challenge even the tribe of elite mages, the Crimson Demons! No matter how much preparations we make, it will never be enough!”

Hearing my words, Megumin returned a bewildered look-

## Part 1

### Devine Punishment Upon This Holy Armour!

Just the other day, a candidate for the position of a Demon King's general, the boyband-esque fallen angel, Duke, was defeated.

As a result, the heartbroken Wiz cooped herself up inside her shop. Since then, Aqua went to console her almost every day.

Today was no different.

As we were making our way back from the magic item shop, we ran into Yunyun, who was waiting outside our mansion with a basket of gifts in her hand.

"Can you please stop blaming others for you failing the trial!?"

"Then just whose fault could it be!? I told you not to use Explosion, so why!? Why must you fire it off at the worst possible place!?"

I invited Yunyun inside and tried to ask for more details, but...

"Now, now, calm down, Yunyun. It's unreasonable to expect a girl like her who lives like an exploding firework not to use Explosion magic. I mean, it'd be like expecting Axis Cultists to act mature and reserved. It's just not possible."

"W-When you put it that way, it feels like I'm the one who was in the wrong..."

"Kazuma, that example is being rude to Axis Cultists. My children are a little free-spirited, but they aren't as bad as Megumin."

"Right, come at me, all three of you! I'll show you what happens when a Crimson Demon gets serious!"

— It seems that the Crimson Demon Village is currently holding a trial to determine who will become their next chief.

And Yunyun was currently running for that position.

The very same Yunyun who's been introducing herself as the future chief of the Crimson Demons for as long as I can remember.

She went back to the Crimson Demon Village and undertook the trial, but...



“A single person can only undertake the trial three times, so after failing it twice, this is your last chance, right? I’ve actually heard about this trial before. The Dustiness house has dealt extensively with the Crimson Demon Village. The beloved armour that my house uses is a high-quality product made by the Crimson Demons.”

Darkness, who was listening attentively while sipping a cup of tea, summarized.

Placing her cup down on the table, she continued.

“The Crimson Demon’s Trial is designed to be undertaken by a team consisting of a strong vanguard and a Crimson Demon as a rearguard, or so I’ve heard... This must be some kind of fate. Megumin is already like family to me, so I’ll take care of her messes. Leave the vanguard position to me!”

“R-Really!? I’ll be able to rest easy if someone capable of using Decoy like you is my vanguard! P-Please lend me your strength!”

Yunyun broke out into a bright smile after hearing those words, to which Darkness returned with a gentle smile before raising her cup to her lips...

“Darkness, you’re just looking forward to having a chance to shine after all this time, aren’t you? I mean, all you did back during Wiz’s incident was seduce that guy.”

“Bluh!”

Darkness spat out her tea in response to my prodding.

Still...

“Say, would it be really problematic for you if you didn’t become chief? Like, your family has been the chief for generations, so if you fail this trial, they’ll disown you or something...? Becoming the chief means being the best amongst the Crimson Demons, so I guess competition would be pretty fierce...”

Ignoring the angry gaze Darkness was shooting towards me, I asked Yunyun who was looking down at her feet, but...

“No, if I have to say, most of the Crimson Demons are pretty ambivalent about the position of chief. The position ties them down and comes with a lot of responsibilities, so...”

Raising her head up, with a very serious expression on her face, she continued,

“I don’t have any traits or skills that stand out or any other special ambitions, so it’ll a problem when I introduce myself as a Crimson Demon...”

“Let’s just give up on being the chief. We’ll help you think of a new way to introduce yourself.”

“As expected of Kazuma! We’ll have this solved in five minutes!”

Hearing the exchange between Aqua and me, Yunyun frantically stood up.

“Please wait, you’ve got it wrong! That’s not all there is to it! The Crimson Demons are pretty free-spirited, so who knows what will happen if there isn’t a chief... but, as I just said, there isn’t anyone else other than me who wants to be chief badly enough to undertake the troublesome trial...”

True, it feels like they’d cause all kinds of chaos if the Crimson Demons were to be left to their own devices.

Yunyun always was pretty grounded and serious. In fact, her disposition is almost like a class rep, so if she became chief...

Just then, Megumin, who had been playing with Chomusuke on her lap, said.

“I guess there’s no choice. In that case, I shall become the chief-”

“You can’t even use advanced magic! Plus, becoming the chief means you have to go back to the village, you know!? If you’re only saying this because you think the title of chief sounds really cool, I’ll get angry!”

Apparently, knowing advanced magic is the minimum requirement to become the chief of the Crimson Demons.

“Now now, calm down you two. At the end of the day, Yunyun just needs a strong partner, right? In that case, leave it to me. I’ll show you why everyone runs to me whenever there’s a crisis!”

Megumin and the others seemed taken aback by my words.

“W-What’s wrong? Normally, Kazuma would think of this as a chore, so why are you so agreeable today?”

Megumin voiced the opinions of everyone present. Following her, Darkness, seemingly having made some kind of connection, slammed her fist against her palm.

“Oh, I know, it’s because there are a lot of beautiful girls in the Crimson Demon Village!”

“Oh, does the slutty lady with extensive knowledge of seduction techniques think I’m some kind of raging beast or something? I think I’ve been looked down upon lately. Maybe I’ll take this chance to remind you of what I can do.”

Seeing me wriggle my fingers in her direction, Darkness raised her fists with a frown but also sort of not...

“Oh, I get it now! Kazuma’s name just appeared in the newspaper a few days ago, so you intend to hole up in the Crimson Demon Village until the heat dies down, right? That Duke fellow came here to challenge Wiz after all, so I’m sure he’s worried that he might be the target of some adventurers too!”

And Aqua perfectly revealed my thought process with a shit-eating grin.

Just why is she only this sharp at times like this?

“T-That’s not it! Unlike the three of you who do nothing but cause trouble for me every day, Yunyun is an important friend of mine who has common sense. Of course I’d help her if she’s in trouble!”

“Wait, I think the amount of trouble we create has really gone down recently... Why are you blushing, Yunyun!? This man is just saying some superficial compliments like he usually does! You’re being way too easy right now!”

Yunyun probably latched onto to the ‘important’ and ‘friend’ bits from my speech.

“Hey, Kazuma, do you seriously intend on becoming Yunyun’s partner? The Crimson Demon Village is surrounded by nothing but strong monsters, you know? I can serve as a meatshield even if I can’t land my attacks, but you...”

“Yeah, the weak Kazuma-san would be eaten up by the monsters over there. Why don’t you stay and watch the house together with me? Let Darkness have her turn in the spotlight for once. She hasn’t really stood out much recently. There might be more follow-up interviews from the newspapers, so I kinda feel sorry to have her most recent achievement be seducing... Ouch! Hey, Darkness, I was supporting you, so why did you hit me- Ah, stop! Stop!!”

Hearing the two of them say that gave me second thoughts.

W-Well, now that I think about it, there probably wouldn’t be any adventurers who are free enough to come to this town of beginners just to challenge me...

Just when I thought that, as Darkness was driving her knuckles into Aqua’s temples, the doorbell rang, and the front door opened.

“Is Satou Kazuma-san here?”

The person standing there was one of the ladies from the guild.

“Um, a high level adventurer who travelled here from the Capital is requesting a meeting with Satou-san. If you have the time, could you join us at the guild?”

“Sorry, I’m heading over to the Crimson Demon Village right now to help an important friend of mine. I probably won’t be back for a while, so please have them come again another day.”



Everyone turned to face me after my instantaneous reply.

“Ka-Kazuma-san...!”

Ignoring Yunyun’s touched voice, I smiled at the guild lady and continued.

“So, tell this to that adventurer... ‘Satou Kazuma has left on gruelling journey for the sake of a friend. He might not make it back alive, so forget about him and go on ahead to fight the Demon King...”

“S-Satou-san...”

Perhaps she was influenced by the atmosphere, but the guild lady’s voice seemed full of admiration as well.

I didn’t expect to suddenly head off on a journey like this, but this is way preferable than duelling a high level adventurer from the Capital.

If I leave in a cool way right now, and come back after everything’s died down...

Just then, the guild lady said to me with sparkling eyes-

“I got it! I’ll be sure to relay that to the beautiful adventurer who claimed to be a fan of Satou-san!”

“Eh?”

## **Part 2**

The next morning.

“Is Yunyun not here yet!? I’m all done with my preparations here! We’ll blow through the Crimson Demon’s Trial in a single day!”

I already finished my preparations last night, so I was just impatiently waiting for everyone else to get ready.

It was quite early in the morning, and the sun has yet to fully rise.

“I can’t wait, Kazuma. Protecting the backline is the job of a knight, so leave the trial to me!”

Standing next to me, and as restless as I was, Darkness excitedly said to me.

“I refuse. After all, there’s a beautiful female adventurer waiting for my return. How can I not take this chance to show off?”

“D-Don’t get in my way for such a foolish reason! Come on, Kazuma, give me a chance at the spotlight too! This isn’t like you at all. Why didn’t you go meet up with that fan of yours yesterday?”

Darkness grabbed me by the shoulders and started shaking me. It seems like she really wanted a chance to shine as an adventurer, but...

“If I were to meet up with a fan on the very same day they asked, that’ll make me seem desperate and lame, wouldn’t it? It’d be best to resolve Yunyun’s issues first, then walk back into the guild saying something like ‘Well, well, this incident wasn’t that big of a deal after all...’ in a loud voice. Afterwards, I’d naturally run into the fan and everything will progress naturally.”

“W-What’s with that elaborate act? Your everyday behaviour couldn’t be any more slobbish, yet you care so much about this...”

Darkness exasperatedly said, but she can say whatever she wants.

“I need to bring back some tales for my fan, so I’m going to get a lot of accomplishments this time. You can just stay here and watch over the house.”

“N-Not a chance! The Crimson Demon’s Trial is modelled after a famous legend and requires a vanguard and rearguard working together to overcome many challenges. My admiration for that legend is what set me on the path to become an adventurer! Come on, Kazuma, chances like these rarely come by, so please grant me this!”

In the face of Darkness’s stubborn pleading, I couldn’t help but retort.

“What really set you on the path to become an adventurer is something far more perverted! Don’t think you can get away with lying now! I want to play at being a hero too!”

“T-That isn’t a lie! I won’t deny that I had my eyes set on something less upright when I became an adventurer, but I really did start admiring adventurers as a child because of those legends! And you said you wanted to play at being a hero, right!? Don’t get in my way with such a cheap motive!”

An exasperated voice called out to the both of us as we started fighting with each other.

“Do you two really want to play hero and mage so badly? I’ll play with you however long you want when you get back from the Crimson Demon Village, so behave yourself for now.”

Standing at the entrance was a sleepy looking, and lightly equipped, Megumin.

There’s a reason why Darkness and I were so obstinate about this issue.

One of the legends in this world is the tale where a girl and a guy work together to overcome numerous challenges, eventually ending with the girl becoming the queen of a country.

The twin leads of that story are the brave female mage and the taciturn male knight.

After overcoming all manner of hardships together with the male knight, the girl eventually achieved her dream of becoming a queen and wedded the knight. It's a classic, happy story.

And it seems like the Crimson Demon's Trial was modeled after that legend.

Still...

"Protecting Megumin doesn't quite, how do I put it, it doesn't have the same feeling..."

"Y-Yeah, rather than recreating a legend, it feels more like heading out on a pleasant trip..."

"Fine, then instead of playing the role of the princess, I'll play the role of the last boss! I'll be the evil magician that appears at the end of the first book! Now, bring it on!"

Just as Megumin started indignantly waving her staff around, a carefree, singsong voice wafted over from the yard.

Looking over, I saw Aqua watering the fields with magically conjured water.

"We'll be going on a journey for a while, so maybe we should get someone to water the fields? Wiz is already taking care of Chomusuke and Zell, so maybe we should get her to water the fields too..."

The words died in my mouth as my gaze fell upon what was in that field.

The plant that Aqua was cheerfully watering is a seedling that resembled a palm-sized girl.

Yes, it's the Tranquility Girl.

"Oh, yeah, I completely forgot about it with everything that's happened, but that thing was planted on our field! Hey, Darkness, Megumin, restrain Aqua for a while, I'll take care of this thing before we head off!"





“Wait, what are you saying!? I won’t let you do that, you cold-blooded NEET! It’s fine, if I water her with divine water provided by a goddess, she’ll definitely grow up to be a good girl!”

As I stepped closer to finish it off, Aqua hugged the Tranquility Girl protectively as she tried to appeal to me.

“No way! We don’t need another pet at our house! We already have our hands full taking care of Chomusuke and Zell and Aqua, we can’t have yet another one!”

“Please, I’m begging you! I’ll properly water her every day and take her for walks... Wait, did you just say my name as well?”

The Tranquility Girl was probably too young to understand our words yet. She cheerfully beamed at me.

... Do I really have to kill this girl?

“H-Hey, Darkness, isn’t ensuring the safety of the town the duty of the nobles? You wanted your turn at the spotlight, so I’ll let you take this.”

“N-No, you have the lowest level out of all of us despite being our leader of sorts, so you should have this.”

... ..

“Don’t get attached to her just because you’ve been watering it with Aqua for a few days! Hey come on, Lady Dustiness, protect this town from monsters!”

“You sure love to shoot your mouth off. Fine, since you’re involved with this as well, here’s an order from your Lord. Take care of this Tranquility Girl... T-Tranquility Girl...”

Possibly thinking that she’s playing with her, the Tranquility Girl laughed as Darkness jabbed her finger in her direction.

Seeing that, Darkness visibly deflated.

“... How about replanting it somewhere deep in the Crimson Demon Forest where people don’t go...”

— It was almost time for us to meet up with Yunyun.

All the pets of our house apart from Aqua have been entrusted to Wiz, so we’re ready to leave at any time.

“Now all that’s left is to wait for Yunyun to show up. Knowing her, I expected that she’d show up a few hours early or something, but...”

“No, she’ll show up right at the appointed time. There was a time back in the Crimson Demon Village where she was invited by her friends to play, and ended being so excited for it that she showed up half a day early. She was later advised that coming off this strongly will scare off her friends.”

That’s being way too excited.

Then, as the bell that signified our meeting time rung, a magic circle glowed brightly in front of the mansion, and Yunyun stepped out of it.

“Yeah it’s the exact time we agreed to meet, but appearing just in time isn’t charming either!”

“E-Eh? Why are you angry at me even though I’ve just arrived!?”

Seems like Yunyun used Teleport to arrive.

As she was being scolded by Megumin, she looked around the area...

“Good morning, everyone. Please treat me... Eh, u-um, the thing Aqua-san is holding is...”

“This girl is the one who will eventually become the chief of the Crimson Demon Forest, Deadscream Bloody Mary. She’s moving to a place close to your hometown, so please treat her well.”

Looking at the potted Tranquility Girl that Aqua was holding, Yunyun leaned in for a closer look.

“That’s a Tranquility Girl, right? That name sounds like an alias, so I would like to give it a different one if possible... Come to think of it, the villagers often tell me never to get close to a Tranquility Girl for some reason...”

“Tranquility Girls are like the natural enemies of loners. Don’t let your guard down just because it’s small, okay?”

Perhaps gaining some understanding of what kind of monster a Tranquility Girl is, Yunyun smiled with expectations for a brief moment before hastily shaking her head.

“Now then, everyone, let’s be on our way. Teleport-”

A magic circle engulfed all of us and carried us off to the Crimson Demon Village-



## Part 3

The Crimson Demon Village.

This is the village burdened with the responsibility of monitoring the Demon King's castle, and spends day and night making a large variety of magic items.

“E-Eh? Yunyun? Megumin!?”

It's the gathering spot for the world's strongest mages, and could be said to be humanity's greatest concentration of combat power...

“Oh crap! Megumin and Yunyun brought in outsiders! Everyone, hurry up and change!”

... ..

“Wait a minute! I had to throw my Crimson Demon robe out because it got eaten by bugs! I need to buy one right away!”

“Hey, lend me that broom! I need a staff!”

“Cloak! Where's my black cloak!? Ahh, Mom, where did you put my cloak!?”

The Crimson Demons erupted into a frenzy after we suddenly appeared in the middle of the village.

The two Crimson Demons who were watching over the entrance called out to us.

“Hey, you two, you should tell us in advance if you're going to bring someone from outside the village with you!”

“Yeah, yeah! Everyone's in a panic thanks to you! It's fine if you're walking here, but you gotta give us some advance notice if you're arriving by teleport!”

I think I've seen those two somewhere before. If I recall, they are Megumin's classmates...

“Oh, if it isn't my classmates Sakiberi and Nerimaki. It's been some time.”

“It's Funifura and Dodonko! Nerimaki isn't even here! We properly named ourselves back in Axel recently, didn't we!?”

Yeah, it's that pair of girls, Funifura and Dodonko.

Clad in the robes that seemed to be like a uniform for the Crimson Demons, the two of them ran up and stood in front of us as if to hide the general panic that the rest of the Crimson Demons have fallen into.

“Yo, it’s been some time. Say, if you don’t mind me asking, why is everyone in the village in such a panic?”

I greeted them and asked.

“Visitors would be really disappointed if they were to visit a village of mages only to find everyone clad in normal clothes, right? Normally, the patrolling NEETs would come and inform us of any approaching visitors, but...”

“Yeah, it’s really troubling when you suddenly teleport in like this.”

“You don’t have to change for visiting tourists like us, put that effort towards fighting the Demon King’s Army instead.”

As we were talking, the Crimson Demons who rushed back to their homes a while ago started walking around the streets again, now clad in black robes.

They tried to act as naturally as they could as they went about their business, though it’s a little irritating how they kept glancing at us out of the corners of their eye.

Just then, Aqua excitedly pointed at one of the Crimson Demons who was stirring a large cauldron in front of her house.

“Look, Kazuma! A mage is stirring a mysterious cauldron!”

Seeing a black-robed mage stirring a cauldron like that really makes you think that she must be making some kind of dangerous potion...

“Outsider young lady, it’s best to keep your distance... What I’m making right now is the forbidden...”

“It’s curry! She’s making curry, Kazuma! I can smell it from here!”

The Crimson Demon awkwardly averted her gaze at Aqua’s declaration.

“Kazuma, that girl is drawing some kind of magic circle. It seems like she’s preparing for some kind of ritual...”

Directed by Darkness’s words, I looked over to see a young Crimson Demon lady writing something on the ground while muttering to herself.

As we continued observing from afar, the magic circle slowly started glowing and flickering.

Seeing that, Aqua moved closer with interest...

“You over there, it’s dangerous to get too close! I’m about to start a forbidden ritual to break the seal of a powerful devil that’s been sealed here since ancient times... Magic has already started leaking from this magic circle. Don’t worry about me and just go. This is but a regular occurrence for us Crimson Demons. Vanquishing a simple ancient devil would be a piece of cake-”

Saying that, the lady flashed us a fleeting smile before raising her hands in a determined manner.

This village had dangerous things like evil gods and goddesses and giant weapons sealed away here in the past, but they even have something as dangerous as an ancient demon-

“Leave devils to me! With the high level Archpriest Aqua-san here, I’ll blast him away the moment he appears!”

After hearing the lady’s warning, Aqua shouted such dependable lines and jumped out.

After a short wait, she started sniffing the air.

“... This is strange, I can’t sense any sinister magic in the air at all. There isn’t any of that stench that comes with devils either, so maybe he isn’t coming out anytime soon? Ah, but it’s fine, I’m really free right now! If it’s to vanquish a devil, I’ll wait here for an entire day!”

Saying that, she sat down as if to watch over the circle.

Looking at Aqua sit down with the Tranquility Girl seedling by her side, the Crimson Demon lady started breaking out in cold sweat for some reason.

“Say, Megumin, doesn’t that lady seem a little troubled?”

“Oh, is that Soketto? I was wondering what she was doing... That magic circle is just an attraction for tourists. All it does is glow and sparkle. It’s probably the first time Soketto has seen someone react like Aqua, so I’m sure she is quite troubled.”

Why is everyone here shot in the head?

Eventually, the lady shook her head in an exaggerated manner.

“... Damn, this devil started fiercely resisting all of a sudden. It seems like he’s scared by your presence. Unfortunately, I don’t have enough mana to break through the seal... But, well, this is fine too. Thank you. The village is saved thanks to you...”

“Don’t worry, leave it to me! Hey, Kazuma, transfer my mana to this lady! If it’s for dragging a devil out here, I’ll give you as much of my divine mana as you need!”

The lady’s face suddenly stiffened.



“Right, leave it to me! If it’s to vanquish a devil, I’ll happily lend a hand!”

“As expected of Kazuma, you catch on fast! Don’t worry, my mana is inexhaustible, so you can take as much as you want!”

“Soketto-san is about to cry, so please stop!”

## Part 4

After we were done teasing that lady, we parted with Yunyun and made our way to Megumin’s house.

Walking beside me, Megumin sighed as she said.

“... Seriously. That cool and strong-willed Soketto ended up almost being driven to tears. She’s the Crimson Demon’s best fortune teller. If you tease her too much, she’ll start spreading stuff about you that you don’t want revealed.”

“Sorry, she looked really pretty, so I just... Anyway, what do you mean by that? After all this time, there’s nothing I particularly need to hide, so threats like that won’t work.”

We’ve formed a really strong bond after knowing each other for so long.

After all that, there isn’t really any secrets I’d want to keep from my companions...

“Back when a NEET named Bukkoroli made her angry, she revealed stuff like when he usually takes a bath or uses the toilet, his past embarrassing incidents and fetishes, and even what he gets up to at night, and caused him to coop himself in his room for quite some time.”

“I’ll definitely apologize when I see her again.”

After my immediate response, I once again took in the sights of the Crimson Demon Village.

It seems like a peaceful village you’d see anywhere else at first glance, but there are quite a few differences that set it apart from a regular village.

Take, for instance, one of the houses that Darkness took an interest in as she passed by.

“S-Say, Megumin, what is that person doing? He seems to be directing that golem to attack a rotating pot, is that some kind of ritual or something?”

“That person is the best potter amongst the Crimson Demons. He’s rotating that pot using clay magic and shaping it with that golem. He doesn’t use his hands because they’ll get dirty, so he uses the golem instead.”

I really want him to apologize to the potters of the world.

“Hey, hey, what are those people over there doing?”

Aqua was pointing to where a group of Crimson Demons, carrying baskets filled with clothes, were gathering.

“Tornado!”

A Crimson Demon that looked like a housewife chanted, and a large tornado sprung forth in front of her.

“Create Water!”

Next, the other housewives started spraying water towards the tornado.

Once the powerful magical tornado was filled with water and stabilized-

The housewives started throwing their clothes into it one after another.

“They’re just doing laundry.”

“You people are really great at using magic for frivolous purposes.”

Just as we said that, we arrived at the edge of the village...

“...Well, this should be the right spot, but...”

To Megumin’s bewilderment, what lay in front of us was a newly built house that was fairly large even compared to the other houses in the village.

It’s similar to, but at the same time wildly different from the house we stayed at in the past.

After standing dumbstruck for a while, Megumin hesitantly approached the house and rang the doorbell.

Shortly afterwards, the pitter patter of running feet could be heard from beyond the door, followed by a voice.

“Who’s there?”

“Fufu, who do you think it is?”

Megumin was probably trying to surprise her younger sister after suddenly returning and all.

As she put on a wide smile in front of the door, a loud click could be heard from beyond it.

It seems like the door has been locked.

“Our house might look impressive, but we have no money. Please go away.”

“It’s me! Your older sister Megumin! You can tell from my voice, right!? Please open up!”

The door opened slightly in response to Megumin’s desperate cries.

From the way she peeked out through the gap in the door, it seemed like she was still wary of us.

“... I don’t have an older sister. She died in an explosion.”

“What are you saying!? I’m well alive and here in front of you! Come on!”

Komekko slammed the door shut after confirming her sister’s presence.

“My nee-chan would show her face at home after coming back so many times..”

“Ah! N-No, umm, that’s... I came back to help Yunyun with her trial, not to play around, so... Komekko, are you sulking because I ignored you? I’ll play with you a lot tonight, so please cheer up.”

Megumin put on a mollifying smile as she said that, and Komekko...

“I don’t really care about playing with nee-chan, I just wanted a souvenir.”

“You don’t actually mean that, right!? You’re just saying that because you’re pouting, right? It really hurts, so please stop!”

Sensing things at an impasse, I pulled out a gift from my backpack.

“Yo, Komekko, it’s been some time. It’s Kazuma onii-chan. Here, I’ll give you a snack.”

“Welcome home, Onii-chan.”

“Komekko! You don’t have a brother, only a sister! Please properly welcome me back!”

-After being welcomed into Megumin’s house, we looked around the newly renovated house.

“Have some tea.”

“Oh, my, thank you. You’re a pretty thoughtful girl, aren’t you, Komekko-chan?”

After receiving Komekko’s warm reception, Aqua looked down at her with a gentle expression.

“Is this a present?”

“Komekko-chan, this girl isn’t food or a gift. In the first place, you shouldn’t eat any creature that looks this much like a human.”

Komekko started drooling as she eyed the potted Tranquility Girl on the table.

“Now then, as the sister who’s been sending back money every month, I would like to learn more about this newly built house.”

“The old house went boom, so they built a new one.”

Oh, yeah, come to think of it, they said something about Megumin’s house getting destroyed before, right?

“I’ve heard about that before, but, be it the furniture or everything else about this house, they all feel like they are of far better quality than the stuff I’ve been using...”

Megumin had a complicated expression on her face as she said that.

Seeing that, Komekko, while stuffing the snacks I offered her into her mouth, said,

“Nee-chan’s a cheapskate.”

“Where did you learn such words!? It must be that damned NEET Bukkoroli, right!? I’ll definitely ask Mother and Father about this house when they get back!”

## Part 5

That night.

“That’s how it is, so even though the house has been renovated, we are still broke! If you spare any thought for your mother at all, please don’t stop sending back the money!”

“I get it, so please stop pulling on my cloak! Everyone’s watching! It’s embarrassing, so please stop!”

After getting the story from her mother after she returned home, it came to light that her family took out a loan in order to rebuild the house.

“Well, it’s a good thing to have a bigger house. Ah, I’ll be in the village for a while, so Kazuma and the others will be staying here for a few days. Anyway, where’s my room?”

Megumin let out a tired sigh...



“...Eh? Umm, your room is...”

“Hey, hurry up and show your own flesh and blood daughter to her room. Otherwise I’ll stop sending money back to my cold-hearted parents.”

Yuiyui grabbed on even tighter after hearing that.

“You were living in such a gorgeous mansion, so I didn’t think you’d ever come back! There are several rooms free, so just take whichever room suits your fancy! I recommend the room at the back of the second floor! That room is wide and has thick walls, so you’ll be able to sleep together with Kazuma-san!”

“We’re obviously going to sleep in different rooms if you have the space! Don’t put your own daughter in the same room as a young man!”

Looking away from the indignant Megumin, Yuiyui affixed me with a serious gaze.

“Kazuma-san wants to have the same room as my daughter, right?”

“Of course, isn’t that obvious?”

“You’ll just make things more complicated, so please shut up!”

Megumin snapped at me after my instant answer.

“Hey, wait, didn’t you just ask me how many children I wanted the other day!?”

“That isn’t something to say in front of my parents! Anyway, that’s just talking about the future!”

Aqua beckoned Komekko away from us as we argued.

“You can’t listen to what those two are talking about, okay? I’ll fold some origami for Komekko-chan. Behold, Bomber Majin Moguninnin.”

“So cool!”

What the hell is a Bomber Majin? What’s a Moguninnin? That sounds really interesting.

As Aqua drew Komekko’s attention away, Darkness slowly started getting worked up.

“Megumin, you... ! You keep calling me Erosader and Erolady and all that, but since when did you come up with a family plan!? You closet pervert!”

“H-How rude! Who is a closet pervert!? Argh, nevermind! Kazuma, let’s go! I haven’t done my daily routine yet. We’ll just find a place to let it off.”

Probably realizing that she'd be at a disadvantage if this were to drag on, Megumin grabbed my hand and tried to leave...

"Daily routine? Darkness-san, what exactly is my daughter's daily routine?"

"Megumin does something that drains her stamina to the point where she cannot move every day."

"Darkness, please don't put it in such an easily misunderstood way! That sounds like I'm doing something really obscene!"

Darkness probably still holds a grudge over being called Erosader or whatever, because...

"By the way, because of the loud noises she makes during her daily routine, it's become somewhat of a local spectacle in Axel. Recently, people have even come to watch..."

"Just what is my daughter doing in public!?"

"Explosion magic! I'm just shooting Explosion! Darkness, if you say any more misleading things to my mother, I'll really make you suffer later!"

To Megumin who was blushing bright red, Darkness put on a serious expression and,

"Don't think I'll be happy just because you say you'll make me suffer. I don't hate you, Megumin, but I don't think that sort of thing should be done between women."

"I didn't think about making you happy at all! Did the monsters knock something loose in your brain!? Enough of this, Kazuma, let's go... Huh? Kazuma?"

I activated my Lurk skill and snuck away before I could be dragged into anything troublesome.

## Part 6

Let's leave Megumin's daily routine to Darkness.

Stepping out into the village at night, I found myself in front of a store that caught my interest while I was walking around the village this afternoon.

Written on the flashy pink sign hanging above the entryway were the words "Succubus Lingerie Pub."

There exist an actual Succubus service in Axel. It wouldn't be too surprising for there to be such stores outside of Axel too.

What really caught my interest was the Lingerie part.

There are pubs known as lingerie pubs back in Japan that only serves adults.

From what I've heard, it's a place where you can get ladies in their underwear to drink with you.

I can see lewd dreams whenever I want.

But I want to get fawned over in real life from time to time too.

After all, due to the dominance of the succubus service, Axel is mostly devoid of other stores that caters to adults.

They do say that what happens on a trip stays on the trip, after all. It's fine to cut loose every once in a while.

To be honest, I don't really mind being away from the succubus service out here.

After all, there are a lot of beautiful girls in the Crimson Demon Village.

I feel like there'd be some people who'd criticise me for doing this even though I have Megumin, but these types of stores don't count.

I'm just drinking with an older lady, that's all.

Having repeated that excuse to myself multiple times, I strengthened my resolve and opened the door-

"Oh, welcome, outsider. If you're alone, will a counter seat be fine?"

Seeing nothing but men sitting inside, I instantly knew that I've been tricked.

Still, I held onto a small glimmer of hope as I moved to the counter.

"Umm, is this a regular pub?"

"Ah, the most intelligent Crimson Demon thought up the name for this pub and inn. Customers from outside the village all end up asking the same question."

... The most intelligent Crimson Demon.

"Is that person also the same one who gave the name of "mixed hot springs" to the public bath that is neither mixed nor a hot spring?"

“I’m surprised you know that. That very same person thought up the names for most of the tourist attractions in this village too.”

I really wish these people would put that intelligence and useless uses of powerful magic towards fighting the Demon King’s Army instead.

Leaving right now would be the same as admitting that I was tricked by the name, so I’ll buy a drink before getting out of here.

As I was thinking that while sipping on beer that I ordered,

“Welcome, customer. My name is Nerimaki, daughter of the owner of the number one pub in the Crimson Demon Village, and the one who will eventually become its owner! Onii-san seems to be a friend of MeguYun, so I’ll give this to you as a special service. In exchange, would you please tell me how they are getting along in Axel?”

A girl with long, black hair placed a dish I didn’t recall ordering on the counter before sitting down next to me.

If she’s referring to Megumin and Yunyun at the same time like that, she’s probably one of their classmates or something.

She’s probably interested in how her classmates are doing outside the village.

In a voice loud enough for the surrounding Crimson Demons to hear, I started talking about the achievements of those two-

“W-What did you say!? That Yunyun has a male friend!? Go on! Tell me more about what kind of people those two guy friends of hers are like!”

“One of them is a blonde delinquent. The other one could be said to have a devilish personality, or even a devil himself...”

At my words, Nerimaki shook her head and slammed on the table.

With this, Yunyun won’t be called a loner by the Crimson Demons.

I didn’t originally set out to do this, but I am looking forward to hearing Yunyun’s thanks in a few days.

“How could this happen? Where did the pure Yunyun who helped me work on my finishing pose go... ! Those two always had a yuri-like air about them, so I’m sure they would’ve clung onto each other...!”





Nerimaki seemed to be deep in thought about something as she mumbled to herself, but I clinked the ice of my glass together and continued talking for the benefit of the others present.

“By the way, I’m currently building an adult relationship with Megumin. I don’t dislike seeing yuri, but it’s a loss for humanity for two beautiful girls to get together. I intend to put my all into fighting the loss of population caused by the Demon King’s army.”

“That sounds really cool and all, but at the end of the day you’re just talking about making children.”

The moment Nerimaki shot that towards me, the pub suddenly grew noisy.

As for why, well...

<“Bro!? Is that you, bro!?”>

The second floor was an inn, right?

The thing that came down the stairs is a boisterous set of full plate that I couldn’t forget even if I wanted to.

<“It’s me! The strongest, toughest, dancing and singing Divine Relic amongst Divine Relics! Your bro, Aigis-san!”>

The holy armour that was supposed to have been taken away by Eris was standing there.

## Part 7

<“What a coincidence to run into you here, bro! Could this be fate!? We might have pretty good compatibility with each other! If Kazuma-chi ends up reborn as a beautiful girl, I might let you get inside me!”>

“Who the hell is Kazuma-chi? And don’t just call me bro.”

Sitting down next to me, Aigis pointed at Nerimaki and said.

<“Ojou-san, you probably can’t make any breast milk yet, so just give me some milk that’s the same temperature as your body.”>

“Armour-san really sexually harasses everyone every night, don’t you?”

Aigis is the same as ever.

<“Sexual harassment is a demonstration of affection, Ojou-san. You want to stick your finger inside me? It’s quite warm, you know?”>

“You know the Crimson Demons are the strongest, most combative group there is, right? Picking a fight with them... You’re really amazing. There really is a fine line between bravery and stupidity.”

Probably having already gotten used to it from dealing with drunken customers, Nerimaki disinterestedly stuck a finger into Aigis’s visor.

As I was looking at such a surreal scene,

“So, what are you doing here? Didn’t you get taken away by Eris-san?”

<“Oh, yeah, listen to this, Bro! She’s outrageous! She tried to give me to a swordmaster nii-chan! And yet another intolerable pretty boy too! He got mad when I teased the girls around him, so I ran away from home!”>

Having his own equipment run away... That guy doesn’t have it easy, huh?

“Well, I get that, but why did you come to the Crimson Demon Village of all places?”

<“... The Crimson Demon Village is surrounded by nothing but strong monsters. That’s right, I gave him a trial! One to determine if he truly is a man fit for me!”>

The Chief’s trial and now this one, why does everyone here like trials so much?

“Dear customer, didn’t you say ‘Ah, the Crimson Demon Village is full of beauties just like I heard! I’ll stay here from now on!’ the other day?”

<“Now now, Ojou-chan, don’t say such things in a conversation between gentlemen. Here’s for the milk. Keep the change.”>

Aigis handed over something to Nerimaki as she handed over the glass of milk to him.

“...Are those fragments of some sort?”

<“They are pieces of my shining body. I’m made of Orichalcum, after all. You can probably make enough to buy a castle by selling me... You two are kind of scaring me here, so can you please stop looking at me like that?”>

Well, he’s a Divine Relic, after all.

He’d be easily worth more than a castle.

<“Your face is too close, bro. Here’s the body temperature milk that this ojou-chan just brought me. It’s my treat, so chug it down.”>

“Why did you order it if you can’t drink it? Anyway, will you be staying here for a while?”

<“Well, I’ll probably go to an Eris Church to meet with my master again after I’ve had my fill of playing with the beautiful ladies here... Ojou-chan, haven’t I already paid for my stay in advance? Could you please stop scraping me?”>

Nerimaki was scraping away at the side of Aigis’s head with a spoon.

With the glass of warm milk still in my hand, I said.

“Well, it’s great if you’re staying for a while. The truth is, I’m here to help someone with the trial to become the chief of this village. I might need your help at some point, so can I count on you if that happens?”

<“Well, I’ll be free anyway, so I don’t really mind, but can you please stop this girl before she scrapes all of me away?”>

## The Truth upon this Man Made Race!

### Part 1

It'd be a bit of a pain to find my way back after having a few drinks, so I ended up spending the night at Succubus Lingerie.

Then, next morning.

What awaited me as I made my way back to Megumin's house was-

“Sorry, I’ve come to pick up our two idiots.”

For some reason, I’ve come to the guardroom of the Crimson Demon Defense Corps.

“Oh, it’s good that you’re here. Hurry up and take the two of them away.”

The leader of the Defense Corps, Bukkoroli the NEET, I believe, seemed quite exhausted.

I turned towards the two of them who were locked up in the cell and said.

“... I’m really reluctant to do so, but I’m here to pick you up.”

“Where did you disappear off to last night, Kazuma? If you were here, we would’ve been able to avoid the Defense Corps with Enemy Detection and Lurk.”

Beside Megumin who said such rebellious words was...

“... You know, I really expected you to stop her.”

“I have nothing to say...”

Darkness, blushing bright red all the way to her ears, buried her face between her knees.

Apparently, these two went off to complete Megumin's daily routine after I went to the pub.

"This will happen every day as long as I stay here, you know? So it's best if everyone would just get used to it."

"I have no idea what you're saying."

Bukkoroli seemed utterly confused by Megumin's words.

"Well, this girl claims that she'll die if she doesn't cast Explosion every day. The town of Axel is now treating it like a natural occurrence of sorts."

"I really don't get what you're talking about at all."

A problem child that stumps even the Crimson Demons who seemed like they wouldn't be perturbed by anything.

"Well, I guess it can't be helped. I'll try to finish it as early as possible from today onwards, so please inform the other villagers so that they won't be surprised."

... ..

"Say, I don't suppose you could keep her here until we're done with the trial? I can even pay you a fee if you want."

"Please don't, the Defense Corps isn't a daycare for problem children. Please properly do your job as a guardian..."

"Hey, would you please stop treating a tender young girl as a troublemaker!?"

The troublemaker shouted from within the cell.

Next to her, an embarrassed Darkness tried to make herself look as small as possible-

"- It doesn't seem like we can take the Chieftain's trial just yet. The grounds for the first trial have yet to be fully repaired..."

After retrieving Darkness and Megumin, we met up with Aqua who went to fetch Yunyun, and she apologetically informed me.

"What do you mean the trial grounds aren't prepared yet? I've only been away for a short while, but it seems like the villagers have really let themselves go since then."

Megumin sighed as though it had nothing to do with her.



“You were the one who destroyed the grounds in the first place! Actually, if Megumin could go somewhere else to play while the trial is going on...”

“Hey, why don’t you tell me exactly why are you treating me like an outcast!?”

Faced with Megumin’s sudden angry outburst, Yunyun frantically waved her hands.

“N-No, I’m not treating you like an outcast... It’s just, considering your personality, there’s no way you’ll behave yourself during the trial... and if there’s a place to show off at the end of the trial, there’s no way you can restrain yourself, right?”

“Yeah, makes sense.” x3

“Don’t just agree with her! Do you guys think I’m some sort of feral beast or something!?”

“Did you just forget where you were five minutes ago? Most people never see the insides of a jail cell.”

Megumin hastily averted her gaze.

“Still, that doesn’t leave us with much to do. We already walked around the Crimson Demon Village the last time we were here, so what should we do now?”

According to Yunyun, they should be able to retake the trial tomorrow.

I guess we could go back to Axel until then...

Just as everyone was deep in thought-

“I want to plant this girl in the forest.”

Aqua had a longing in her voice as she hugged the pot that now housed the Tranquility Girl.

Come to think of it, we did want to do that, didn’t we?

“Umm... As a Crimson Demon myself, it’s a little troubling if you plant it close to the village... If possible, I think it’s best to exterminate it...”

Yunyun started, but Aqua pushed the Tranquility Girl close to her face and said,

“Can you really kill a girl this young!? Was Yunyun always such a cold-hearted person!? Come on, look her in the eye and say that again!!”

“I’m sorry, I’m sorry, it’s impossible, forgive me!”

## Part 2

“Let’s put her on that hill overlooking the village. She won’t get lonely that way...”

“Aqua-san, that’s the Hill of the Demon God. It’s a popular spot for couples, so we can’t put her there. How about placing her deeper in the forest?”

Together with Aqua who was looking for a place to plant the Tranquillity Girl, we toured around the Crimson Demon Village.

“This is starting to be a chore. Why don’t we just plant her in Yunyun’s backyard? The people who live here won’t fall for the Tranquility girl’s tricks, so why don’t we just turn her into a new tourist attraction and be done with it?”

“As expected of Kazuma. She won’t be lonely like this, and Yunyun will end up making a friend too. It really is perfect.”

“I think it’s perfect too. I’ll properly treasure her.”

“What kind of stupid things are you saying!? Yunyun too, don’t agree so readily! Making friends with monsters is the one line you shouldn’t cross!”

They were just one step away from falling for it, but Megumin hastily interjected.

“Say, Megumin, I thought of something that I’d do once I become the chief.”

“W-Where did this come from...? What do you have in mind?”

Towards the hesitant Megumin, Yunyun somewhat bashfully said,

“I’ve been thinking about this for some time. Is it possible to capture monsters that have high intelligence and are capable of communicating to create a monster ranch in the village...”

“Isn’t that the same as what Kazuma was thinking!? Are you planning on turning them into experience points once they are grown up!?”

Megumin grabbed onto Yunyun’s chest and started shaking her, but Yunyun hastily denied.

“T-That isn’t it! If they are provided with food, clothing and shelter, I’m sure the intelligent monsters will have a change of heart! This is the first step in finding a path of coexistence between mankind and monsters...!”

“What do you mean by coexistence!? What a barefaced lie! Do you want friends so badly that you’ll even turn monsters into NEETs!?”

“Of course I do! Isn’t that obvious!?”

Yunyun finally admitted it.

Ignoring the two of them who started fighting, I racked my brains over what to do with the Tranquility Girl.

“You know, I really don’t think there’s any option other than to put her in the forest far away from the village...”

“But she’d be lonely if we do that. Come to think of it, do Tranquility Girls have a gathering spot or something of the sort? She wouldn’t be lonely if we plant her next to others of her kind.”

“If such wicked creatures do have a gathering spot, I would burn it all to the ground.”

“Kazuma, you fiend! You’ll scare this girl, so go away!”

Watching Aqua try and forcefully shove me away, the Tranquility Girl stretched her tiny hands at us and laughed-

-Outside the gates of the Crimson Demon Village lies a large mountain range and vast forest.

We were deep inside that forest right now...

“Waaaah! Yunyun! Yunyun!”

“Light of Saber!”

The One Strike Bear that was attacking Aqua was instantly taken care of by Yunyun.

“Snipe! Snipe! Snipe! Ahh, Yunyun! Yunyun! Save me!”

“Lightning Strike!”

The giant tree-like monsters that surrounded us were turned to charcoal upon being hit by Yunyun's lightning.

"Oh! Those are the famous Paralyze Slimes! It's a dangerous monster that paralyzes its prey before taking its time to digest it with its acidic body! Ordinary people would be dissolved along with their equipment, but if I were to be caught, my clothes and armor would go first! But don't worry, Kazuma, I won't give in to such humiliation..."

"Inferno!"

The horde of slimes that were slowly approaching Darkness were swept away in a sea of flames.

"... Yunyun, can I have a word?"

Ignoring Aqua who was putting out the smouldering flames and Darkness who was cradling the remains of the slimes while crying, Megumin, who was at the rear of our party, started.

"What's wrong, Megumin? I'm busy looking out for monsters with my Search spell right now... Ah, there are some monsters lurking around a short distance away from us. Leave it to me, I'll wipe them all out in an instant."

"You don't need to! Actually, what's with you today? You're being unusually aggressive."

We've received a warm welcome from the monsters living around the Crimson Demon Village ever since we entered the forest, but there were easily taken care off thanks to Yunyun.

"Do you really think so...? I mean, thinning out the monsters who are living around the village is also one of the duties of the chief, right? Plus I still have plenty of mana to spare, and I've brought plenty of manatite in case I run out..."

"You're way too into this! Which country are you planning on going to war with by bring so many high quality manatite with you!? We're a party, so there's no need for you to charge on ahead!"

Megumin waved her staff and lectured Yunyun who brought out several stones from her pocket.

But Yunyun simply broke out into a huge smile...



“Party... Hehe, Ehehe...”

“Stop doing that, it’s creepy! Why are you smiling when someone is lecturing you!? It’s rude!”

Seems like being accepted into a proper party for once has made Yunyun really motivated for this.

“Isn’t it fine? We should be thankful to Yunyun for taking all of them out. There’s no danger to us, and it’s smooth sailing, so there’s nothing to lecture her about.”

“Slime... Slime... Paralyze Slime...”

Let’s just ignore the one who’s mumbling something with a sorrowful expression.

“There absolutely is! If Yunyun hogs the spotlight, there won’t be any chance for me to shine! I’m going to find strong monsters around here to use my Explosion on!”

“What did you come home to do!? We aren’t here to adventure or raise your levels, you know!?”

Perhaps realizing that the safest place to be is by her side, Aqua stuck extremely close to Yunyun as she interjected.

“Say, Kazuma, Megumin is being really troublesome, so let’s just let her shoot her Explosion off somewhere and carry her the rest of the way.”

“Yeah, she’d be less likely to do something unnecessary if she were to transform into luggage, so let’s do that.”

“I didn’t expect Aqua to say that! I won’t fire it off here! I came back home after all this time, so I am definitely not going to blow it on some small fry!”

Just when I sighed while thinking of how to lecture Megumin who was saying such selfish things-

The hairs on the back of my neck stood straight up.

“EXPLOSION!”

The Explosion spell that Megumin casted without chanting snaked its way past the trees in an exquisite demonstration of control and exploded deep in the forest.

“What are you doing!?”

Yunyun screamed as the blastwave sent her flying along with battering down the trees around us.



## Part 3

“Hey, I heard a really loud noise coming from the forest...”

Bukkoroli, standing at the entrance of the village, asked us as we returned.

“Megumin’s brain fried itself.”

“Wait, please, I know it’s my fault for letting loose without warning, but as I’ve said before, there’s a proper reason for that!”

Megumin hastily started making excuses in response to Aqua’s words.

“Yeah, yeah, sure you had a reason. Did you get too irritated? Or were you surprised after seeing a giant bug?”

“This man!”

And started strangling me from behind as I was piggybacking her.

“You just want us to listen to your excuses, right!? Stop stalling and tell us already!”

“Ugh... But you guys definitely won’t believe me....”

Megumin started mumbling as Yunyun put on the pressure.

“I know that you won’t say anything irresponsible. Don’t worry, even if the others won’t believe you, I’ll properly hear you out.”

“Darkness...”

Ignoring the two who were re-enacting a really touching scene right now, Bukkoroli once again asked.

“So, what exactly happened?”

Megumin assumed a serious expression and started...

“The Bomber Majin Moguninnin appeared.”

“If you are going to say such stupid things, I’ll throw you off!”

I moved to lower Megumin from my back, and she clung onto me even tighter to prevent me from doing so.

“That why I didn’t want to say it! I knew none of you will believe it! Darkness, please lecture this man!”

“Er... umm... Well, I’m not that familiar with monsters... So Moganinnin was about to attack us. As expected of Megumin, you did a great job.”

“You didn’t even remember the name right, and your voice is completely monotone! Darkness, I thought I could trust you!”

Bukkoroli let out a sigh.

“Claiming that Moguninnin appeared of all things... couldn’t you have found a better excuse?”

“Leaving other monsters aside, there’s no way I of all people could mistake any monsters that are related to Explosion! Moguninnin was staring at Kazuma from the depths of the forest! It’s that Bomber Majin we are talking about, so I doubt that my chantless Explosion could’ve destroyed it.”

Judging from the unusually serious atmosphere that the Crimson Demons had about them, I’m starting to get the feeling that this whole thing isn’t just a joke.

“Just what is a Bomber Majin? You didn’t come up with it just to mess with us, did you?”

Megumin shook her head.

“Bomber Majin Moguninnin. It’s a mysterious monster that used to lie in a certain Mysterious Facility within the Crimson Demon Village. It is well versed in Detonation magic and can talk in a halting imitation of human speech, but no one can understand what it’s saying. It’ll attack anyone it sees apart from Crimson Demons, and will unleash Detonations without rhyme or reason at night.”

“That sounds like it has a really problematic personality. So, you’re saying that mysterious monster that sounds like it could be one of your cousins had its eye on me?”

Detonation Magic is a weaker version of Explosion Magic.

If a monster that can use that is coming after me...

Just then, Bukkoroli said,

“The Bomber Majin Moguninnin doesn’t usually come out from the depths of the forest, though...”

“You didn’t come up with that just so you’d have an excuse to let off your Explosion every day during your stay here, did you!?”

“How could you say that!? Do you really think I’ll come up with such a ridiculous story just because I wanted to let loose with my Explosion!?”

Hearing Megumin say such things without even a shred a credibility, Bukkoroli shrugged.

“Megumin was always saying strange things. Stuff like seeing a mysterious glowing object fly off towards the east, or that she was a God of Destruction in her previous life, or that a mage who uses Explosion will end up with big breasts...”

“You don’t believe a word of what I’ve said, do you!? You sure are bold for a NEET!”

“S-Shut up, me being a NEET has nothing to do with this! Anyway, stop using your Explosion magic in the forest. It gets really troublesome when you rile up all the monsters like that. At least behave yourself while the Chief’s trial is going on.”

After saying that, Bukkoroli left us and went off on his way.

“-Bomber Majin Moguninnin really was there. Kazuma, you mustn’t leave the village. Moguninnin has it in for all non-Crimson Demon men, particularly those with black hair and eyes.”

“Why does it have a grudge against such a particular target? In the first place, it doesn’t come out from the depths of the forest, right? Are you sure you didn’t misidentify a giant rhinoceros beetle or something?”

“There’s no way I could’ve mistaken a beetle for the Bomber Majin! Anyway, Kazuma, don’t participate as a partner in the Crimson Demon Trial. I’ve also been asked not to participate, so just leave it to Darkness or Aqua to be Yunyun’s partner.”

“Leave it to me.”

“Wait a minute, that’ll be a problem for me! Ah, no, I don’t mean I don’t want to partner with you two or anything!”

Darkness gently smiled at the panicking Yunyun.

“The duty of a Crusader is to protect others. Don’t worry, just leave it to me. I’ll definitely protect you.”

“D-Darkness-san...”

“There’s nothing you need to worry about with me here. Even if you get killed by a powerful monster, I’ll bring you right back with Resurrection.”

“Aqua-sa... No, I’d prefer it if we didn’t have to use Resurrection in the first place...”

Yunyun’s expression seems to be stuck between being touched and something else.

“Eh... Trials and partners and all that gives it a proper fantasy feel for once, so I really want to give it my all...”

“Just watch the house with me, Kazuma. I’ll guide you around the village. There’s a pub that the parents of a classmate of mine runs.”

“Can we not go there? There’s a troublesome person staying over there.”

And thus, despite coming over to the Crimson Demon Village, I ended up being a NEET.

“Say, we didn’t manage to find a place to plant this girl...”

“Ah.” x4

## Part 4

That night.

“So, yeah, I really don’t have much to do tomorrow, so is there anything I could do to help out?”

I offered to help Megumin’s mother after coming home.

I’m not at all like the thick-skinned goddess who appropriated the warmest spot in the house and took an afternoon nap like she owned the place.

Since she’s letting me stay over, this is the least I can do to repay her.

“Oh, my, you’re offering to help? I’m going to gather materials for creating magic items from the deepest dungeon in this country tomorrow...”

“Sorry, is there something easier, like laundry or dishes that you could use some help with instead?”

Seems like it’s a little too early for me to be helping with their work.

“In that case, I’m a little concerned about Moguninnin, so would you like to explore that Mysterious Facility tomorrow?”

“Are you still stuck on that strangely named monster?”

Yunyun will undertake the Chieftain's trial from tomorrow onwards, and her partner for the first trial will be Darkness.

"I wanna go too! The name 'Mysterious Facility' makes it sound like there'd be a ton of treasures hidden within it!"

Aqua, who was happily helping herself to a drink, cheerfully said.

"I've heard that it's been explored many times in the past, so there probably wouldn't be much left."

A mysterious facility whose reason for existence is unknown to even the Crimson Demons.

I've heard that it's been turned into a tourist attraction...

"Come on, isn't it fine to act like proper adventurers and go exploring every once in a while? Plus, with Kazuma's luck, we might end up finding something good."

"... Why must you choose precisely the times when I'm not around to act like proper adventurers..."

Darkness muttered to herself, regret slightly creeping into her voice.

"Right, let's turn in early in preparation for tomorrow. Don't get too drunk now, Aqua. Now, then, I'll go on ahead..."

Saying that, Megumin stood up and made her way back to her room-

"Yes, I suppose it'd be best to turn in early. Sorry, Kazuma-san, we don't have much in the way of entertainment in my house... Though, playing around with my daughter in the same room should be pretty entertaining, heheheh."

Megumin's face cringed at Yuiyui's words.

"What is this parent of mine saying!? Just what are you asking your daughter to do!?"

Yuiyui seemed unperturbed by Megumin's sudden outburst.

"When we talk about entertainment out in the countryside like this, there's only one thing I could be referring to. Hurry up and let me see the face of my grandchild."

"Please stop making lewd jokes in front of your daughter! Kazuma, you say something too!"

"Well, from a physical standpoint, I think it's a little too early for your daughter to be giving birth. Maybe after she grows up a little more..."

“I’m already grown up enough to bear a child! No, wait, that’s not- Ah, what should I...”

I calmly admonished Megumin as she started making a fuss.

“It’s already night out, so do try and keep it down. Also, you really should choose your words better. It’d be really embarrassing if the neighbours hear you say that you can bear a child and what not.”

“I don’t want to hear that from you! Just whose fault do you think it is in the first place!?”

“By the way, physically speaking, I think my body is ready to bear a child at any time.”

“What kind of stupid things are you saying now, Darkness!? Don’t butt in and go to sleep already!”

“Sleep.”

Megumin collapsed to the ground in response to Yuiyui’s incantation.

The person who put her daughter to sleep without any reservations smiled brightly at me.

“Now, now, whatever happens next is completely up to you! The nights are long around this time of year, so go ahead and do as you please!”

“I’m sorry, even for me, laying hands upon a sleeping girl’s body is a little...”

As I was trying to gently turn down Yuiyui who was pushing her daughter to me, Darkness suddenly stood up.

“Such stuff should be done with the consent of both parties! I definitely cannot accept them crossing the line like this! Even if you are her mother-”

“Sleep.”

Yuiyui cast her spell on Darkness without even looking at her.

“... Even if you are her mother, I can’t overlook that! The duty of a Crusader is to protect others. I’ll protect Megumin’s chastity!”

Darkness has strong willpower, high magic resistance and is resistant to bad status effects.

“Y-You managed to resist it!? My sleep is supposed to be fairly powerful...”

Yuiyui seemed quite surprised that Darkness managed to resist her spell.

“Tch...! Seems like you’ve leveled up quite a bit since the last time you were here!”



“Hmph, do you really think the same trick would work on a member of the Dustiness house twice!? Is Sleep the only spell you can cast!? Go ahead and render me helpless if you can!”

After saying such impressive lines, Darkness squared up against Yuiyui...!

“Then how about this? Paralyze!”

“Weak! The Paralyze Slimes I saw in the forest today could put out a better numbing attack!”

Behind the triumphant Darkness, Aqua was lying dead drunk on the floor.

Ignoring all three of them, I carried the sleeping Megumin to her room—

## Part 5

A ray of moonlight shone through the window.

It fell upon Megumin’s gentle sleeping face, illuminating her in the darkness.

Of course, as a gentleman, I wouldn’t lay a hand on her.

Using my own arm as a pillow, I laid down next to her and watched over her peaceful sleeping face.

“... Mmm.... Behold my power... Release the forbidden seal... lay waste to all creation...”

Mumbling something that’s in no way peaceful at all, Megumin rolled over in her bed.

Perhaps noticing something off with me sleeping next to her, she slowly opened her eyes—

“... Sorry, can I ask what are you doing?”

“I was watching the sleeping face of the person I love.”

Megumin jumped off the bed.

“What do you mean person you love!? Why are you naked from the waist up!?”

“Well, when you wake up next to a half naked person of the opposite gender, you would normally think that something happened, right?”

After distancing herself from me, Megumin hastily patted her body down to check for anything off.

“Of course! Isn’t this a really big deal!? Ah, wait, my bra is missing!?”

“I thought you might have trouble sleeping if you had something constricting your chest. Also, I heard that you’ll grow bigger breasts if you sleep without a bra.”

I pointed over by the bedside, and Megumin grasped the bra placed over there tightly in her hand.

“I don’t need your concern over such matters! You don’t usually pay much heed to me, so why are you so concerned only at such times!? Even if it’s you, removing my bra while I’m sleeping...”

“Oh, don’t worry, I properly removed it with Steal like a gentleman.”



“Oh, how considerate of you! That goofy smile of yours is really infuriating! What would you have done if you accidentally took my panties instead!?”

Covering her body with her robe, she looked a little like a teruterubozu as she squirmed around underneath it.

<TL note: [\*These things\*](#)>

“Now, now, calm down. It’d be boring if you thought nothing happened despite us sharing the same bed just like all the previous times, so I thought I’d give you a little surprise. Did I scare you?”

“Yeah you did! You really didn’t do anything, right!? I don’t want to become an adult without remembering any of it!”

Seemingly having finished putting on her bra, Megumin brought both arms out from underneath the robe.

“Don’t worry, you know me. I’m not that gutsy.”

“That’s pretty convincing, but it’s quite pathetic to hear that from the person I like!”

Megumin, who had been breathing heavily since she woke up, finally started to calm down.

“Seriously, what kind of person is my mother... Casting Sleep on her daughter and letting her share a bed with a man, just how little common sense does she have...”

“Well, that lack of common sense just means that the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.”

Sighing, Megumin sat down next to me and stretched her legs.

Despite her complains, she still had no qualms about getting close to me. Is this a sign of how close we are?

“I’m not exactly opposed to that sort of relationship, you know? It’s just that, crossing the line because of my mother’s schemes while in my own home is a little...”

“Well, even if you say that, something will definitely interfere, right? I’ve been wondering if I’m under some sort of curse to remain a virgin for life. I’ve asked Aqua to check if I’m actually cursed several times, but she keeps saying I’m fine.”

Why exactly does something always end up interfering every single time I’m about to cross the line?

I’m supposed to have high luck too. Isn’t it odd?

Though, if it was because Eris-sama is harbouring a secret love for me and is interfering, I might be okay with that...

“Just who exactly would put such a pointless curse on you?”

“There could be quite a few fans who wish for me to keep my purity. I’ve been exceptionally popular recently. I’ve heard that a beautiful adventurer who introduced herself as a fan of mine appeared in Axel’s adventurer’s guild.”

Upon hearing those words, Megumin’s eye twitched.

“... Will you meet with that person when you return to Axel?”

“Well, it sounds like she travelled a long way to meet me, so of course I’ll see her. Anyway, I’ll just give her a handshake and a signature and the like. I thought this might happen someday, so I’ve been practising my signature. I secretly left a signature on one of the pillars in the adventurer’s guild as thanks after all they’ve done for me.”

Heheh, so this is what jealousy looks like.

Megumin seemed a little troubled, but occasionally teasing each other like this was one of the methods of courtship that adults practice...

“The guild lady was really angry when she was cleaning it up. She told me to tell you not to scribble all over the walls.”

“What!? That pillar would’ve been able to fetch a high price in a few decades with my signature on it!”

Facing my indignation, Megumin let out a soft giggle.

“Then let me have your first signature... Satou Kazuma... I think that’s a very good name.”

“Hearing you praise my name makes me feel really conflicted somehow...”

“Hey, I just praised you, so explain exactly what you mean!”

I might have made her angry there, but as the eldest son of the Satou clan, I couldn’t just keep quiet.

Just then, despite her complaints, Megumin laid down besides me and used my arm as a pillow.

Doing that despite being alone with me this late at night... she must really trust me.

I would’ve thought that’s she’s trying to signal me to do something, but I have the ability to learn from the past.

Plus, doing that sort of thing in the same house where her parents are living is a little...

“Um, Kazuma, can I say something?”

“I don’t think you should.”

... ..

“It’s kind of hard for me to say, but it’s hitting me. And it’s getting bigger...”

“Please don’t mind it.”

I can’t help it, it’s a natural physiological reaction.

It’d be stranger still if a boy undergoing puberty doesn’t have this sort of reaction when a girl is hugging onto him.

“I should say this, but don’t attack my precious son. He’s delicate on top of being shy.”

“I wouldn’t do that over a natural reaction. Plus, I’m the one who hugged you in the first place. Just how unreasonable of a person do you think I am?”

I recall being unreasonably attacked back when something similar happened between Darkness and me.

... Just then, I noticed that Megumin’s gaze is focused squarely on a problematic part of my body.

“You’re a girl undergoing puberty too, so I can understand having some interest in the body of the opposite sex, but you still shouldn’t stare that much.”

“Ah, n-no, that’s not it! It’s just, I thought it might be hard on you on to have to bear with it every time...”

Yeah, it totally is!

And I can’t make use of that store now that we’re here in the Crimson Demon Village.

At the very least, I’d like five minutes to myself!

“... Umm, should I give you a hand?”

I really wish I’d stop getting subjected to such cockteasing situations-

“Wait, what did you just say?”

“Your face is way too serious! I-I asked if I should give you a hand...”

Wait...

“Eromin! You really are a closet pervert like Darkness said!”

“And you’re being way too loud! Who exactly is a closet pervert!?”

No, I mean...!

“You were the one who said something really outrageous! Do you understand what you’re saying!? You want to give me a hand with this...!”

“Please stop emphasizing that part! I just thought that it’s a little hard on you to put up with these sorts of situation all the time, that’s all!”

Does this girl understand what she means when she says that?

What does she mean by give me a hand? Does she mean give me something to think about?

Or does she mean something more physical...

No, wait, in the first place...!

“Hearing a girl younger than me with no experience offer to do something like that somehow feels more immoral than the act itself...”

“Your words are getting more and more obscene! You keep saying that I’m a vixen that does nothing but tease you without following through... I’m not very sure what to do, but, well, after getting excited like that, isn’t it pretty tough on you...?”

I don’t know if it’s because she’s nervous or excited, but her eyes were glowing bright red before she turned away.

“Of course it’s tough! I even thought of you as a complete temptress!”

“Please stop calling me a temptress! I already said I’m fine with it if you’ll properly take responsibility!”

What the hell am I talking about while spending the night in the house of a girl who’s younger than me?

What exactly am I planning to do after this?

And, I just realized, I’m currently naked from the waist up!



“So are you going to do it or not!? This situation is really embarrassing, you know!?”

“I’m embarrassed too! I’m about to instruct an inexperienced and awkward girl to do all sorts of things right when her mother is sleeping right below, you know!? Just how much do you think I have to pay for this sort of play in the shop!?”

“If you are going to do it, then hurry up and do it already! Stop explicitly spelling things out!”

“You suddenly sprung this on me! I haven’t mentally prepared myself! Yeah, yeah, I know, we’ll definitely be interrupted right before the good parts! I’m under that sort of curse after all! But even so, I can still get my hopes up! If anything, this sort of bittersweet back and forth is making me more excited!”

“Oh, I get it, I get already, so just take it off! No one has come in even after all the fuss we made, so I’m sure tonight will...”

— Just as Megumin said that.

A loud explosion resounded from the direction of the forest.

The two of us looked at each other.

“.... See?”

“... .. Let’s have Aqua cast Break Spell on you tomorrow.”

## Part 6

The morning after that explosion took away any sense of romance.

“Hey, what exactly is this all about!?”

“That’s what we want to ask you, Megumin!”

We were having breakfast and pretending as if nothing happened last night, when Bukkoroli, followed by a few other Crimson Demons, barged in and restrained Megumin.

“I don’t know what’s happening, but for now can you please let me go? I don’t think this is really something you should be doing to a girl.”

“... Well, I agree, but can you promise not to run away or start rampaging?”

After confirming Megumin’s affirmation, Bukkoroli loosened his grip...

“You let your guard down! I’m going to choke the life out of you!”

“Argh! M-Megumin you liar!”

The moment she was released, Megumin pounced on Bukkoroli and put him in a sleeper hold.

“Would you keep a promise you made to the Demon King’s army or monsters? NEETs are existences even lower than slimes! Upholding a promise you made with such a creature is plain retarded!”

“H-Hey, Megumin, that guy is going to die, so let him go! And don’t pick on NEETs like that!”

After I restrained Megumin, the other Crimson Demons managed to pry the limp and blue-faced Bukkoroli from her grasp.

Next to us, Aqua was nonchalantly sipping tea as though two Crimson Demons weren’t having a wrestling match right beside her.

“So, what’s all this about? What has our Megumin done this time?”

The other Crimson Demons turned to face Aqua.

“You know about the explosion that took place in the forest last night, right?”

“We are very sorry! We’ll make sure this never happens again! Hey, Megumin, hurry up and apologize!”

Darkness immediately prostrated herself.

“Don’t just apologize on your own, Darkness! Actually, stop assuming that it’s my fault just because there’s an explosion involved!”

Next to the prostrating Darkness, Megumin’s words had absolutely zero persuasive power.

“Then exactly who else would do this sort of thing?”

“Well, let’s start with establishing Megumin’s alibi. Who were you with and what were you doing last night?”

Megumin's face blushed bright red upon hearing the other Crimson Demon's question.

"... I-I can't say that."

She said in a soft, almost inaudible voice.

"See, I knew you were behind it! Apologize for calling me a NEET and strangling me! ... Actually, now that I think about it, that rash of explosions some time ago was done by you, right? You were the one who testified that those explosions were caused by a Devil that snuck into the village, right?"

It seems like Megumin had some idea of what Bukkoroli was talking about, the back of her head started overflowing with cold sweat.

"Megumin just reacted! And you can't provide an alibi either, so that means-!"

"Why are you turning on me too, Kazuma!? The reason I can't say it is because I was together with you last night! It's too embarrassing to say out loud!"

The Crimson Demons let out a soft "oh".

"I see... The Megumin I thought of as a younger sister has become an adult before I knew it... Sorry for disturbing your meal..."

"To think that Megumin, of all people... The world really is full of surprises. I had her pegged as the one furthest from any concept of romance..."

"We were just together, we didn't do anything! Please don't spread any strange rumours!"

Megumin's face was bright red as she shouted at the Crimson Demons.

"Just to be sure, it really wasn't you, right?"

"You were there with me, Kazuma! In the first place, I already used Explosion yesterday when we were out trying to find a place to bury the Tranquility Girl, so why are you suspecting me!?"

The three of us fell deep in thought after hearing Megumin's words...

"So what's up with this situation? Is there another Megumin running around or something?"

"She isn't a Slime, and I've never heard of Crimson Demons duplicating like that. Maybe she got her hands on some really high quality manatite without us knowing?"

"I'm not an accomplice, by the way. In the first place, I can't transfer any mana to her without Kazuma."

“Hey, I casted magic right in front of you three and have a proper alibi, so please stop suspecting me!”

After Megumin’s outburst, the other Crimson Demons who were listening in seem to have made some sort of realization.

“So, that explosion was...”

“The thing that Megumin was talking about...”

“Bomber Majin Mogunnin!?” x4

“Could you guys please stop saying that name.”

So it really wasn’t something that Megumin made up?

Come to think of it, I think I felt the hairs on the back of my neck stand up just before Megumin unleashed her Explosion yesterday. Could it have been my Enemy Detection skill...?

The Crimson Demons surrounding Megumin fell deep into thought.

“If that’s the case, now’s not the time to be holding the Chieftain’s trial. If someone from outside the village gets hurt by that ninin, the number of tourists we get will go down...”

“Let’s discuss this with the chief. After that, we should send out a large party to go ninin hunting.”

Megumin seemed oddly flustered upon hearing those words.

“H-Hold on a minute, there isn’t a particular need to call off the Chieftain’s trial, is there?”

“There’s no particular rush to choose our next chief, but we need to deal with ninin as soon as possible. Besides, according to tradition, in order to become the next chief, one needs to either successfully complete the trial, or take down an impressive target with just two people. We can just let whoever takes down ninin become the next chief.”

“I might consider becoming chief if I don’t have to undertake that annoying trial to do so...”

I have a really bad feeling about this.

At this rate, it’s going to turn into a free for all where the first person to arrive at the scene become chief.

The identity of that loner girl will be swept away just like this.

...Just then.

“I’m sorry!”

“Megumin? Why are you suddenly apologizing?”

Megumin suddenly fell into a deep bow.

“... The one who caused the explosion last night was me. I was surprised by a large rhinoceros beetle while taking a night stroll and casted my spell by reflex.”

“What the hell did you do!?”

Bukkoroli shouted.

“See, I knew it was Megumin’s doing! My eyes aren’t made of glass! Apologize for strangling me and calling me a NEET!”

“I’ll apologize for strangling you, but I won’t apologize for calling you a NEET.”

“Why do you hate NEETs that much!?”

—Bukkoroli and the others left after giving Megumin a stern talking to,

“Why did you say that!? Weren’t you having fun with me last night?”

“Having fun!?”

“Please don’t put it that way! And you didn’t need to respond, Darkness!”

Well, I can probably guess why Megumin took the blame for that.

And Aqua, who’s been leisurely having tea the entire time, said,

“Well, knowing our tsundere, I bet she just didn’t want to interfere with Yunyun’s chieftain’s trial, right?”

“I see. Yeah, she can’t be honest whenever Yunyun’s involved.”

“Oh shut up, you two! Who exactly is a tsundere!? I’ve been disqualified from taking the trial, but if I can sneak away and take down ninin myself, I can steal the position of the chief...”

Darkness pulled on my sleeve as Megumin was weaving some really transparent excuses.

“(Hey, Kazuma, what exactly did you mean by having fun last night...? Megumin’s mother still managed to render me immobile in the end...)”

“(We slept in the same bed, and when that came up, Megumin...)”

I whispered what happened last night into Darkness’s ear...

“(W-W-W-What!? Just what did you make an innocent young girl do...!?)”

“(Don’t make it sound that bad! Unlike you who keeps leaving me whenever things start going, Megumin offered to take proper responsibility when that came up...!)”

“I can hear you two! What the hell are you talking about this early in the morning!?”

Megumin screamed at us.

At the same time, the doorbell rang.

It’s probably Komekko returning.

The rapid sound of footsteps accompanied the sound of the door sliding open.

And the person who finally appeared in front of us is Yunyun, clearly nervous about the upcoming trial.

“G-Good morning, Darkness-san! I’ll be in your care today... Megumin, why is your face so red?”

“Hey, Yunyun, listen to this. Yesterday, Megumin and this man-”

“Nothing happened! Come on Darkness, hurry up and get out there!”

## **Part 7**

“-And this is the Mysterious Facility. We visited this place the last time we were here, but we never went inside, did we?”

After sending off Yunyun and Darkness, Megumin led us to the Mysterious Facility that was but a short distance away from the underground bunker that we explored the last time we were here.

From the outside, it looked just like a giant building made out of concrete.

As Megumin said, we’ve been here before, but now that I had the chance to see it again...

“Kazuma-san, Kazuma-san, this is a laboratory, right?”

“Yeah, it totally is a laboratory.”

“What’s a laboratory? You two say some really strange things sometimes.”

I didn’t notice it the last time I was here, but there’s a sign hanging right over the entrance.

“Noise Research Laboratory, huh.”

“You can read those words?”

Megumin seemed surprised, but it’s only natural. The sign was written in Japanese, after all.

If I recall, Noise was that magically advanced country that created the Crimson Demons a long time ago.

Judging from the sign and the appearance of the building, this is definitely the work of that annoying Japanese cheat user.

“Say, Aqua, that Bomber Majin is the work of that cheat possessing Japanese guy, right? He made it and the Crimson Demons gave it that name, right? I’ve been thinking this for some time now, but aren’t most of the annoying problems in this world your fault?”

“What are you saying you shitty NEET!? It’s not my fault, it’s the fault of the Japanese with abnormal common sense. All I do is give them power and send them on their way. The ones who give monsters strange names and disrupt the ecosystem and spread strange words and bits of culture are the Japanese. I’d really wish they’d have some self awareness.”

That’s really more the fault of the one who sent them to another world without doing a proper background check.

“Stop talking about incomprehensible stuff and head inside already. There are a few traps lying around, so watch your step.”

“Then leave this to me. I picked up the Trap Detection skill for exactly these types of situations.”

“You can’t get any great accomplishments, but you’re really handy when it comes to little things like this.”

“Oh shut up.”

Ignoring Aqua who was saying something that could’ve been taken as praise but also not really, the three of us walked right up to the facility...

Megumin’s word of warning made us all stop in our tracks.

“Right, here’s the first trap. The door will suddenly open, but that’s just to make you let your guard down, so watch out for it. It might seem very inviting, but it will close after a second.”

...What stood in front of us was a standard glass automatic door.

After issuing that warning, Megumin carefully prodded in front of the door with her staff.

“Say, Kazuma, can you let me handle the traps in this facility?”

“That’s no fair, I want to show off to Megumin by deftly avoiding these traps too.”

“Please don’t let your guard down! The area ahead of us is particularly dangerous!”

It seems like the various convenience infrastructure of my world come off as traps to the people of this world.

Eventually, we followed behind a very serious looking Megumin as she lead the way into the facility-

<“Up ahead is a clean room. Please change into dust-proof workwear before proceeding.”>

“Kazuma, Aqua, did you hear that? That mysterious voice is a warning. One must acquire and equip a Gustproof Workwear before carrying on. A violent gust blows at you if you enter the small room at the end. Right now it’s just air, but it must have sprayed a deadly acid in the past to prevent anyone without the proper equipment from entering...”

“It’s probably just an air shower to prevent dust from being brought into the clean room.”

“Kazuma-san, Kazuma-san, Megumin is really cute right now. She’ll definitely provide a really cute reaction if a TV was here.”

Probably trying to protect us, Megumin blocked the air nozzles before allowing us to step into the entrance into the clean room.

Inside the clean room was a conveyor belt, and right next to it was a giant machine...

“That’s a fearsome trap that has resulted in a lot of casualties. A vile trap that devours anything that steps on that platform. It’s currently disabled now, but don’t let your guard down.”

“It looks to be some kind of assembly line. Did it break down?”



“The sign on the side says ‘Game Girl production line’.”

Megumin gasped.

“You’re saying that this thing uses what it has consumed to create something... Could that thing be us Crimson Demons... Kazuma, I think I’ve just stumbled upon a truth that should never have been revealed...”

“This thing probably creates a toy.”

“The toy we found in that underground bunker, right?”

In response to our instant rebuttal, Megumin sadly looked at us.

“You two don’t need to be that considerate. The Crimson Demons are a man-made race that goes against the laws of the gods... I’m sure my ancestors were created right here...”

“In the name of Aqua-san, I’ll forgive the existence of the joke tribe. After all, the Crimson Demons are really amusing.”

“Please don’t call us that!”

Just then, I noticed a small machine at the back of the facility.

“Hey, Aqua, that’s a gachapon! There’s a gachapon here!”

“Oh, there really is. It’s empty, but that really is a gachapon.”

“Do the two of you know what that box is?”

“This is a gachapon machine. It spits out a capsule stored within in exchange for coins. Occasionally it’s used for raffles. I don’t know what it’s doing here, but it sure is nostalgic.”

“I don’t quite get it, but it’s a machine aimed at children, right? Then it has no relation to the creation of the Crimson Demons.”

Just as I was lost in my memories, Aqua, who was fiddling with the machine, seemed to have found something.

“Crimson Demon modification rights available for a limited time only, it says.”

“Oh, it really is. First place, prototype Playscation, second place, Game Girl Color, third place, Crimson Demon Modification rights- Hey, what are you doing?”

Megumin wordlessly scraped away the words.

“You two didn’t see anything, okay?”

“It isn’t okay at all, but I get it. Just buy me some wine later.”

“Don’t just erase the history of the Crimson Demons...”

— We explored the facility for quite some time afterwards, but we still didn’t manage to find anything related to the Bomber Majin.

“The only thing we learned is that Megumin’s ancestors came out from a gacha...”

“Wait, putting it like that will invite misunderstandings. At least say that the modification rights came from the gacha.”

Megumin, riding on my back, lazily said.

In the end, we didn’t get much out of the facility.

After settling Megumin’s routine on our way back, we safely arrived at Megumin’s house.

“I’m back~ Komekko, let’s have dinner. Has mother returned yet?”

“Welcome back, Nee-chan. Mom’s gone into a dungeon, so she won’t be back today. The golden onee-chan is back, though.”

Golden onee-chan is referring to Darkness, huh.

I wonder if Yunyun managed to successfully complete her trial.

“Komekko, have you heard anything about Yunyun’s trial?”

“Yunyun said she passed the trial! But she was crying!”

... She was crying?

I wondered what happened as I entered the house.

Darkness was hugging her knees in the middle of the living room.

“Yo, Darkness, I’m back. What happened with Yunyun’s trial? I’ve heard that she succeeded from Komekko, but...”

“...No more Crimson Demon Trials... You can be her partner tomorrow...”

Darkness, who was so confident this morning, tiredly mumbled with tears in her eyes.