



"THE EVE OF A SPECIAL WEDDING"

TRANSLATION: NARU-KUN / K – PROJECT WORLD

### CHAPTER 3: RESCUE MEETING

"I can't find the people of Gonoshima or Jingi anywhere on the island. Also, the seas and rivers started flowing again. Well, I'm sure you're right, Amamiya-san. They took Jingi away."

The old man sitting across from Yukito, known as Kado no Gozen, grumbled bitterly. The next morning, he bathed, ate the rest of dinner, and climbed into bed, feeling anxious and worried. Momoko took Yukito once again to the community center.

Like yesterday, four people were waiting there. However, the residents of Gonoshima are nowhere to be found. They were there, but suddenly they disappeared in the middle of the night. The ship that Yukito and Momoko saw last night was, after all, from Gonoshima.

"Still, he was kidnapped. It was a very harsh method."

"They are spiritual beings, creatures different from us. I guess that means their moral principles are different too."

Mr. Ando and Yang spoke one after another. Yukito looked at them, then turned his gaze towards Kurama, his last and devoted brother.

Kurama kept his eyes closed. He seemed to be half asleep, with his hands on both sleeves of his robe.

But that is not the case. Among them, Kurama is the one who has the closest connection with Jingi. They grew up on Ayaka Island as true brothers. There was no way he could stay calm when his younger brother was kidnapped.

"I don't understand their reasoning."

The one who spoke with a clear voice was Momoko, who was sitting next to Yukito.

"However, as a member of the Amamiya family, I have no intention of simply following the rules they imposed on me. They ignored the rules of this island and took an inhabitant of Ninoshima. That's all and I cannot allow that to happen."

Momoko participated in yesterday's meeting as a representative of Ninoshima. The reason she barely intervened was probably because it was a closed discussion. Her policy was not to interfere with outsiders and follow the conclusions of experts.

It's different now.

Although her usual calmness remained, Momoko's eyes showed determined determination.

"I will bring back Sagawa Jingi. If you are against it, let me know now."

Everyone, Kado no Gozen, Ando, Yang, and even Kurama, said nothing.

Of course, Yukito too. It is true that Jingi is a desperate person. However, there is no reason why someone should be tied up like that, deprived of their freedom, and forcibly taken to a distant island.

Yukito looked at Momoko. Momoko also looked at Yukito. They both nodded at the same time. Momoko looked at everyone again and opened her mouth.

"We agree. Now, what we need to think about next is..."

"I wonder how we can bring him back."

Kurama, who had been silent until then, suddenly murmured.

All eyes were focused on him. Kurama Haruaki, the priest of the Kaizumi Shrine and the best disciple of the "great hermit" Makoto Yanagi, is the most powerful connector in Ninoshima. His knowledge is of great help in solving problems.

"Let's organize what we know. Jingi was brought to Gonoshima as the marriage partner of that woman, the princess of Kisui Palace, Lady Sango of Kisui Palace. In that case, Jingi must be the guest of honor. We should think that the possibility of finding danger is low."

"On the other hand, I don't think they would let someone so important to them go home easily."

Ando said as he crossed his arms, and Kado no Gozen snorted in disgust.

"So what are we going to do? Should we beat them up and force them to return him?"

"Would you like to fight with a fortress that can stop seas and rivers? That is not a wise choice. We do not even fully understand what kind of existence a spiritual person is. I cannot approve resorting to violent measures before there is a plan to achieve success."

"The reason Jingi was taken away was because he sold something called "Kisuirin", right? If we buy it back and return it, will Jingi be returned to us?"

"That seems like a better option. However, we don't know where he sold the "Kisuirin". If the wedding ceremony ends while we investigate this, there will be no turning back."

Kado no Gozen clicked his tongue and muttered.

"The premise is that we are looking for the "Kisuirin", but it seems that we have to go talk to him anyway."

At that, Yukito looked up. He timidly raised his hand and spoke.

"Um... I'll go."

Everyone stopped breathing and looked at Yukito.

Yukito flinched at the sight of them, but he continued speaking.

"Either way, I think someone has to go. Even if we ask those people, I don't think they'll give us Jingi-san back, but if we don't tell, nothing will happen, right?"

"No, no, don't do that! It's dangerous!"

It wasn't really a reprimand, but it was the first time Momoko had yelled at him like that, so he couldn't help but shrug. Kurama also showed disapproval.

"Momoko-san is right, Yukito-kun. It's too dangerous for you to do it. There are a lot of things we don't know about Gonoshima, so a more experienced person should probably go."

"For example, you, Kurama-san."

Kurama nodded at Ando's words.

"Yes. I guess I'll have to leave the role of priest at Kaizumi Shrine to someone else, but I'm Jingi's older brother. If I were to help him, I think I'd be the right person. What do you three think?"

The three connectors looked at each other and said in unison:

"We oppose."

That's what they said.

Kurama turned white.

"Why?"

Kado no Gozen shrugged and responded.

"Indeed, you are a powerful connector. You are stronger than any of us, we all admit it. But that's the problem."

"Problem...?"

"If you go there, the other party will definitely be wary. You are a direct disciple of Makoto Yanagi and the priest of the Kaizumi Shrine. If someone like that came on board, everyone would think, 'He has come to retrieve Jingi.'"

"I agree with Yukito Yanagi-kun going."

Yang said and looked at Yukito. Yukito stirred slightly, feeling as if his price was being judged as his eyes were seen through their eyes.



"Since you are still immature, the other party will not be cautious. The fact that you are Jingi-san's brother-in-law and disciple is also an important factor. If you say, "I am his disciple, I was shocked by the sudden breakup and that is why I came to see him", they will not treat you with malice."

"Maybe." Yang added. The residents of Gonoshima operate with a different common sense than your own. They don't know how true the prediction that "if they do that, so will the other side".

Momoko looked at the others with an accusatory look.

"Wait, Yukito-kun is still a kid! There's no way you're letting him go alone to an island where you don't know what's going on!"

"He's okay because he's a kid. They'll let their guard down."

"That's not what I'm saying!"

Momoko hit the tatami and screamed. Both Ando and Yang were overwhelmed by the force and stepped back slightly.

However, in front of Kado, he did not move in the slightest. He turned his sharp gaze from Momoko to Kurama.

"Haruaki. You have two disciples with you."

"Uh, yes. Chatarou and Yako."

"Let's unite them with Yukito. Then you won't have any complaints, Amamiya-san. You won't let him go alone, let's the three of them go together."

Momoko frowned and stared at Kado. Kado no Gozen looked at Yukito without changing his expression.

"Our purpose is to rescue Jingi. Although he is inexperienced, Yukito is a connector. He can probably do a job like reconnaissance. If you don't want him to do that, then don't call him a pulse connector in first place."

Yukito looked at Momoko.

Momoko looked at Yukito the same way. There is confusion in her eyes. His words are correct. If you want to achieve something, you need someone to take the risk. And in this case, Yukito is the perfect person for the role. Yukito spoke quietly to Momoko.

"Momoko-san. That person is my master. He may be a hopeless idiot, but thanks to that person, I think I found a place to belong on this island."

"....."

"So... please. Please let me go."

That word was the deciding factor.

Momoko shrugged, as if she was admitting defeat. Then, she looked at Yukito with weak eyes and said in a low voice.

"Yukito-kun. Just promise me one thing. You'll go see how things go, but never do anything dangerous."

When Yukito nodded, she smiled lightly and murmured.

"...Please take care of that boy, Yukito-kun."

Various arrangements were then made.

The other connectors are not simply waiting. Kurama was entrusted with the task of gathering information about Gonoshima from the large number of ancient documents left at the Kaizumi Shrine. The other connectors are to pacify the Aramitamas of Ninoshima instead Kurama, while searching for the jewel called "Kisuirin" that Jingi sold.

When those discussions were over and everyone was about to leave, Kado no Gozen called Momoko.

Naturally, Yukito stopped as well. He looked at Kado and then at Momoko. He wondered if it would be a good idea to leave first, but Gozen didn't seem to care and started talking.

"There should be another disciple of Yanagi. I thought it would be a good idea to tell him too."

Yukito took a deep breath.

Black suit, red hair, pistol grip, eyes full of anger. Images of "he" immediately came to his mind.

He couldn't help but look at the exit of the community center. Kurama was about to leave while he was talking to Ando. Then, when he looked back at Momoko, she nodded slightly.

"I asked Inou-san to give him a message. For him, Jingi-chan should be an important younger brother."

"I see, then it's okay."

Kado no Gozen also looked at Kurama's back and let out a sigh.

"Although they are direct disciples of the "great hermit", how long has he been fighting with his brother? It's embarrassing. When his younger brother is in trouble, they must always work together."

Momoko just smiled bitterly and did not answer clearly.

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Yukito was staring out the train window as the sea train rocked him.

Yukito was the only passenger on the two-car train. The only inhabited shrine in Minoshima is Kaizumi Shrine and very few people visit it. As he looked at the empty interior of the train, he couldn't help but wonder if that would be profitable.

Yukito then looked at what was next to him.

On the seat was a bulging backpack. The one who prepared it was Momoko, not Yukito. She maintained that since they don't know what will happen in the process of finding the ultimate goal and they don't know how long it will take, it is best to prepare as much as possible.

He only needed a change of clothes, a set of toothbrushes, etc., but it was full of tissues, medications, lotion, shampoo, body soap, a cell phone battery, a pillow, emergency food, and even a bag of sleep.

If he thought it was because Momoko was worried about him, he didn't feel like resisting. Yukito was given a considerable amount of money in case an incident arose and was fired.

(But I don't know if I can use this money.)

When he thought about that, anxiety began to increase. He doesn't even know what kind of place Gonoshima is, or even if he can sleep or eat there. Although he has never traveled abroad, Yukito probably feels something similar to the fear and nervousness that comes with going to a foreign country for the first time.

(It really requires a lot of effort.)

Just as he let out a small sigh, the sea train began to slowly slow down.

He could see Minoshima Station beyond the train window. Perhaps because there are fewer users, the sea train slowly approached the platform, which is much simpler than the one in Ninoshima. The door opened and all the people who entered were familiar faces. Kurama, Chatarou, Yako and...

"Hey, Ichijou-san? Why...?"

Ibara Ichijou, a beautiful girl with light purple hair tied in two buns and sullenly pursed lips, is the field supervisor of "Ayaka Security", a private security company based in Ichinoshima. Although it is called a private security company, it is actually a group of fighters trying to exterminate the Aramitas. Although she is the same age as Yukito, Ibara has the ability to lead the front.

She wears her usual clothes, but she is not equipped with her characteristic gauntlets. Instead, she carries a large backpack, as if she were going to embark on a solo mountaineering trip. As she grabs her shoulder strap with both hands...

"I'm going too."

Yukito was confused. He can't tell, but he's not very good at communicating. When he turned to Chatarou and the others for an explanation, they shrugged in confusion.

"We don't know, but she also insisted on going to Gonoshima."

"Is something wrong with you, Ichijou-san?"

At Yako's question, Ibara closed her mouth again and then looked at Kurama.

Kurama didn't respond in any way to that. However, he noticed a hint of a cold color in his usually gentle expression, like a spring breeze.

In any case, that color quickly faded and he asked with a soft smile on his face.

"If you're going to accompany them, can I take it that means you're helping us get Jingi back?"

After thinking for a moment, Ibara nodded. Kurama looked at Yukito.

"I don't know, Yukito-kun. She is a capable connector. I think it would be very comforting if she went with you."

"What, I decide?"

Chatarou and Yako spoke to Yukito who was confused.

"What are you talking about? Yukito, you're our leader, right? Who else is going to decide besides you?"

"That's right. Yukito-kun, please decide?"

"L-Leader? Um..."

He had never faced anything like this before. Ibara stared at Yukito, who was completely confused.

After a while, Yukito agreed.

"Okay. I wish you could come, or rather, I wish you came with me, Ichijou-san."

".....! Yes!"

Ibara's expression suddenly brightened, like that of a girl her age.

Her reason for heading to Gonoshima is probably not just to help Jingi. He doesn't know how much she knows about the situation. Or maybe Ibuki told her something.

However, if Ibara wants to go with them, she is welcome. She is an excellent connector since she is a field supervisor for "Ayaka Security" since a young age. Even if an unforeseen situation arose, Ibara's presence would be reassuring.



At this moment, the driver of the sea train suddenly poked his head out of the cabin.

"Kurama-sensei, just a minute."

The driver seemed a little anxious. Kurama looked at Yukito and the others, said, "Please wait a while." and entered with him into the driver's cabin.

Chatarou said quietly as he sat on the train seat.

"Well, anyway, it's Gonoshima. I've heard about it, but I never thought I'd end up going there."

Yako sat next to Chatarou and nodded.

"Although there is almost no interchange, the maritime railway tracks are connected."

"Oh, really? We're going on this train..."

"That's right. You didn't know that, Yukito."

"You probably found out yesterday..."

Surprised, Yako took out a book from his luggage. The cover is tattered and rotted, and signs of repair can be seen.

"This is a book that Kurama-sensei found in the archives. There are some descriptions about Gonoshima here."

"Really? What does it say?"

Yako spread the book on the seat. Chatarou and Ibara also looked on with interest.

"There aren't many, but there are stories about the spirits that live there. It says that they are a family that has the ability to make connections and that they use that technique to isolate the island from the outside world."

"Is it possible to isolate an island using magic?"

"They can use techniques that can stop the sea, so it would be easy to keep ordinary people away. Even if you approach with a normal boat, it seems that you won't be able to get there due to the strong currents."

"Does that mean this train is okay?"

At Ibara's question, Yako tilted his head.

"Maybe... I think so. I don't know why the tracks are connected. If they wanted to isolate the island, they wouldn't want the sea train to come, but..."

"Hmm.", the three thought. Chatarou was the only one among them who made a carefree voice.

"Well, there's no point in thinking about it. We'll understand when we go."

Yako looked at Chatarou with surprised eyes and Ibara looked at him with cold eyes. Chatarou shrugged slightly at them.

"Because you're right, let's go there now. If you don't know something, ask the people on that island. Even if you think about it, you won't get an answer."

"I hope I don't do something careless and end up at the bottom of the ocean."

When Ibara muttered to herself, Chatarou looked displeased.

"Don't say that! You. It's in bad taste!"

"I was only indicating the danger that could actually occur."

Hearing those words, Yukito looked at Chatarou and Yako again.

"Are you two really okay?"

"Eh?"

Chatarou and Iago widened their eyes. Feeling a little embarrassed, Yukito turned his gaze to his toes and murmured:

"No, because, like Ichijou-san said, I wonder if it's really okay for you to follow me, even if we don't know what kind of danger there might be."

The person who said that wanted to help Jingi, it was none other than Yukito. Due to the relationship between master and disciple, he should have been the one to take on that role.

However, that is not the case with Chatarou and Yako. They have no obligation to help others. They must have come with Kurama on his order, but depending on how you look at it, they were forced to accompany Yukito. He was constantly worried that they wouldn't like it or wouldn't want to do it.

Chatarou laughed at his anxiety.

"What's that? Since we're friends, it's only natural that we help each other. Right, Yako?"

Yako, on the other hand, just had a smug expression on his face.

"Kurama-sensei told me, so I can't help it. As Kurama's number one disciple, I must obey my master's orders."

"Huh? You were reading that book late last night! While you were saying something about wanting to help Yukito!"

"Oh, wait! I told you not to say that! Did you forget after sleeping all night?"

"Noisy! Most of the time, I'm Kurama-sensei's number one disciple."

Yukito's eyes softened as he watched the two begin to argue.

Friend.

That was a word that Yukito had never had a connection with until now. Whether he was at the facility or at school, Yukito was always alone. Instead of being afraid of others, he was afraid of hurting others. That fear still resides within Yukito.

Still, they call themselves friends and come with him to Gonoshima, where they don't know what dangers may lie in wait.

Even Yukito, who had little social contact with other people, had a vague idea of what to say in a situation like that.

"Thank you."

That voice reached them both.

Yukito noticed that Ibara, who was sitting next to him, was looking at him with calm eyes and quickly rubbed her eyes.

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The group then landed in Shinoshima.

By the way, there is also a sea railway station in Shinoshima. However, since Shinoshima is an uninhabited island, the station platform was basically closed. Even the drivers who operate the sea trains say that they almost never come to this station.

"...So, Kurama-sensei. I can go home, right?"

Kurama responded with a smile to the driver's anxious question.

"Yes, thank you. Good luck with your work."

"Eh... I don't know how you'll get home, Sensei. Please do your best there too."

Shortly after returning to the driver's cabin, the sea train left for Minoshima making a loud noise.

"Well."

Kurama slowly moved to the other side of the platform. The road out of Minoshima is blocked by traffic jams. Instead, on the other side a railway line was laid that started from Shinoshima and extended into the distance.

Beyond that, there is a shadow of black smoke.

That's Gonoshima. A place that is close enough to be visible, but has few visits.

Yukito, who was looking away, was really uncomfortable. Among them, only Ibara looked at Kurama and asked.

"What should we do from here? Walk on the road?"

Kurama smiled and shook his head.

"Of course not. I'll show you now, so wait a moment."

Saying that, Kurama touched the station name board in the center of the platform. The center is written "Yonnoshima", and at the bottom left is "Sannoshima", and "Gonoshima" is written at the bottom right. It should have been exposed to the sea breeze for a long time, but it has a beautiful white color like a new one.

Kurama closed his eyes. Developing the will to emerge and build it as a way of searching for it. Silently he twisted his words to make the image even more solid.

"Human path. Humanity does not die. This is a generation of Gen. The door, the roots of the heavens and the earth."

The station's nameplate began to glow white.

Yukito breathed and looked at the view. Kurama thought of such a thing in a corner of consciousness to focus on art, since he knows that track is set in Ayakashima's vibration.

Ayakashima, made up of seven islands, is connected by two runways. One is a track that connects from Ichinoshima to Yonnoshima. And the other is the track that connects from Yonnoshima to Shichinoshima, that is, in front of Kurama's eyes.

The waters starting from Ichinoshima are moving by diesel institutions. Because it belongs to the human world. However, what moved the end of Shichinoshima Island was a bit of wishful thinking. Because it belongs to another world.

What they are trying to open from now on is the "path" that leads to that different world.

"It's cotton, but it's young, and I can't use it!"

When the spell was completed, the glow on the station nameplate suddenly disappeared.

Nothing happened for a while.

As Chatarou and the others looked at their faces anxiously, Yukito pointed out.

"Here it comes."

According to the words. From far away, the shadow and vibration approached along the track.

It's a marine train. However, the situation is different from what Kurama and his colleagues have set up. A bullnose construction, painted wagon body and wooden frame,

sophisticated gold and silver work. It was the same appearance when the concept car was conveyed in the Meiji era for the first time in this country.

Anxiety was exposed, Chatarou and Yako asked.

"Who is driving?"

"I don't know, but isn't it a person in Gonoshima?"

The only thing there is the familiar sound of the rail. They looked into the driver's cabin and saw something was wrong.

No one was in the driver's cabin.

"....."

As with other trains, no one tried to enter the door that opened with the sound of air.

Kurama called out to the hesitant Yukito.

"If you want to go back, this is the last chance."

"Eh?"

As he looked at the driver's cabin and the door that opened by itself, Kurama said that in a low voice.

"I don't know what will happen from here. Even if something happens, I may not be able to come and help right away. I want to ask before you board this train, to know if you are ready or not."

"....."

"Even if you want to go back, no one will blame you. Even if you are a connector, there is no such thing that can open an unknown world. So if you are a little lost, you should go back."

Chatarou looked at Yukito, Yako and Ibara.

Kurama looked down.

Yukito was sorry for the situation. Ghosts have a different logic and ethics from them. It is unlikely that he sees what danger is lurking in Gonoshima, their base of operations. Originally, it is not a good place for an immature pulse connector to intervene.

That's why he had to ask his determination.

It's been about two weeks since Yukito arrived in Ayakashima and started spending his time there. Just because he once lived as a family, he doesn't remember that time. Whether he is really ready to take a risk in that regard or gamble with his life. He wanted to make sure.



The time Yukito took to think about it was not very long.

When he suddenly loosened his expression, he seemed shy somewhere.

"Because I have to take care of Jingi-san, I can't go back now."

That's what he said.

After hearing that, Kurama smiled silently.

"Yes. Then please be careful."

"Yes!"

Then, Yukito and the others boarded the sea train

A few seconds after the last one entered, the train closed itself. The unmanned train moved quickly, taking the children.

Kurama thought.

He had to send them outside. Originally, his brother, Kurama, should have gone.

However, if Kurama and the other pulse connectors went there, the spiritual beings would be very cautious. Being his disciple and his younger brother, Yukito, he will be able to handle them. Until Kurama finds the "Kisuirin" and they can be ready to formally claim Jingi, Yukito must observe the situation.

As he watched the sea train leave, Kurama said a prayer.

"Take care of Jingi, Yukito-kun."

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For a while, no one said anything.

Shinoshima Station was left behind. Everyone looked at the view in silence. It's as if it were their hometown that they saw at the end.

Only the sound of the wheels biting the rails continued to echo inside the carriage.

It was Chatarou who first broke the silence.

"Oh, yes, I brought snacks! Let's eat together!"

Ibara looked cold towards Chatarou, who shouted such a thing. However, Chatarou began to take out various things from the backpack placed on the side of the seat, without noticing that look. French fries, chocolate snacks, gum, cookies. Yukito sighed.

"Chatarou. We're not going to play."

"That's why we're not going to die. You don't have to be unnecessarily depressed!"

Chatarou looked at Yukito, tearing open the bag of chips he took out.

"Let's go help that idiot Jingi. We don't know what's in Gonoshima. That's the only thing that's certain for now. So why don't we enjoy the trip in the meantime? Besides..."

Chatarou took out some pieces of paper. Each one has its own features, such as a stripe-shaped one, a round cutout, and a human-shaped one.

"I have my master's amulets! In case of emergency, if we use this, we can handle it. Right, Yako?"

"It may be so."

"What do you say? If you complain, you'll go without refreshment."

"Ah, no one will complain!"

He sat next to the sweets that were there. Chatarou stiffened.

"What's wrong? Are you complaining?"

"No, this is more correct for you."

He stretched out his finger and pinched some chips. He threw it in his mouth and chewed.

"The train is already moving. So it's useless to think about it. It's important to predict, but if there is no material, it will just be a deception. Then it's better to eat snacks."

"Oh, uh... yes."

"What about you, Yukito-kun?"

After being shaken by Yako, Yukito picked up chocolate snacks, despite being puzzled. He put it in his mouth and ate it.

Suddenly, he remembered when he took a trip with the children of the facility.

The first memory of his power hurting and being feared. Memories of the place where the children who lost their place gathered.

If it were the Yukito from back then, he wouldn't have endured that space. No matter how nice they were, he would eventually lose them. He feared himself and that became abominable.

He thought it must be like this, he hid in a shell.

But now...

"What's wrong, Yukito? You have a strange face. Is something wrong?"

"Eh. Oh, no! Nothing's wrong at all! Delicious, thanks!"

"Hmm... well. Hey, I'll do this too, look! If you eat gum and chocolate together, the gum will melt and it's interesting!"

"Chatarou. Don't recommend strange things to Yukito-kun."

At the exchange between them, Ibara laughed. Yukito laughed too, and finally Chatarou and Yako started laughing.

That way, while everyone was having a snack, they noticed the train rushing into the fog.

"Wow. What an impressive fog..."

Yukito accidentally looked outside the train window and leaked such an impression. Fog is everywhere, and it is not possible to see for several meters. Ibara sat next to Yukito, narrowing her eyes and looking at the fog.

"Is this also their art? Or is it just a natural phenomenon?"

"Come on, how could it be?"

"It doesn't seem to be included, but do you want me to open the window and check?"

Ibara shook her head at Yako's words.

"I don't know the mechanism of this train, so don't do anything wrong."

"I agree."

Yako nodded honestly, and he also turned his gaze towards the fog outside.

Yukito looked seriously at the fog. He definitely has more experience fighting Aramitamas. His ability as a pulse connector is better than Chatarou and Yako. That's reliable, but on the other hand, he was worried.

Ibara looked at Yukito. His gaze was confused and blurry.

"What's happen?"

"Oh, nothing..."

Yukito remained silent. Chatarou interrupted when he couldn't hit the floating question directly, and he was careless.

"Well, tell me, why did you follow us, Ichijou?"

Ibara remained silent and moved her gaze from him to Chatarou.

Chatarou was not afraid, he pushed his glasses slightly and repeated the words.

"Because the master told us, we wanted to help Yukito. But that's not your case, right? Is there any other purpose?"

"....."

Wrinkles came between Ibara's eyebrows, and her eyes were slightly hostile. Yukito looked at her.

He wondered if she would get angry.

But Chatarou laughed. It was a careless smile that made the opponent's shoulders relax.

"No, it's not that I want to leave you behind. Our master and your boss are bad friends... but that doesn't mean we can't get along."

Ibara opened her eyes a little surprised.

There, Yako entered.

"Chatarou means that he will help you if he can. You help us. Then we will help you with your purpose. That's fairer, right?"

"I'm sorry. Well, if you don't want to say it, that's fine. It's awkward to keep asking."

For a while, Ibara was silent. After that, she chose her words.

"...The boss is in Gonoshima."

Yukito breathed.

There is only one person she calls "boss." He is the president of "Ayaka Security", a private security company that protects Ichinoshima, and is the brother of Kurama and Jingi.

Ibuki Aka.

"What, why? Oh, maybe, he went to help Jingi-san?"

At Yukito's shout, as expected, Ibara shook her head.

"That's not the case. The boss went to Gonoshima before Sagawa Jingi was kidnapped."

"But why...?"

"I don't know, but he just said, 'I'm going to Gonoshima for a while because of an illegality, so I'll leave it to you for a while.' Then my mission is to return to the boss."

That's it, Ibara squeezed her mouth.

Chatarou and Yako looked at each other. Yukito felt the same. There are too many things he doesn't understand. If he didn't go for Jingi, why did Ibuki go to Gonoshima? If that sea train was sealed until now, how did it get to the island of Gonoshima? Such a question turned in his head.

Ibara looked around her and said.

"Again, I don't know. The boss had business there."

"So it seems..."

"That's right. Makita said that if the boss is away, several payments will accumulate at the end of the year. So I'll take him back."

Chatarou nodded as if it was a good idea.

"Well, I understand what the case is. Isn't it encouraging to us? Ibuki is also Jingi's brother. If he knows the situation, I think he will help us!"

"Eh, but... that's okay? Surely Kurama-sensei will be angry later."

Yako's doubts showed an ambiguous expression.

Kurama and Ibuki are brothers and Yanagi's apprentices, but they are now on bad terms with each other. All of this is due to the death of Makoto Yanagi, Yukito's father.

Ten years ago, when the fire dragon awoke on the island of Shinoshima, Kurama and Ibuki worked together to calm it down in Yanagi's name. However, Yanagi was quick as he attempted to collapse with him, failing to strengthen the two. At that time, they made different decisions. Ibuki hoped to fight the fire dragon, and Kurama escaped from the scene with Ibuki in response to Yanagi.

Ibuki had a grudge for his choice, he began to eat Aramitamas to use their power. And Kurama did not forgive Ibuki, who fell into an external path.

From Chatarou and Yako's point, they will naturally have the idea whether it is okay to have Ibuki's help.

"Alright."

Then Yukito said that.

"For Kurama-san and Ibuki-san, Jingi-san should be an important person. I don't think he will say anything even if we get help for that."

Although it was an inseparable word, Chatarou grabbed his fist tightly.

"That's right! If Yukito says so, no problem!"

"Eh?"

"That's right! Anyway, Yukito-kun is our representative now!"

Chatarou and Yako nodded. Yukito opened his mouth and remained silent. He felt that his own responsibility was imposed on him, but he couldn't say anything because it made no difference to him that the person in charge was Yukito.

At that moment, Ibara raised her voice.



"We will arrive soon."

Yukito and his friends looked up at the same time.

They stood up and approached the unmanned driver's cabin and the door near it. The Gonoshima platform was approaching so clearly that they could see it.

Seeing the platform on a white sand beach, Yukito gulped.