



K - ONE YEAR LATER:

CHAPTER 5: "BEAUTY DRIFTER" (BY TATSUKI MIYAZAWA)

TRANSLATION: NARU-KUN / K-PROJECT WORLD

A year has passed since then.

"Miyabi-chan?"

"....."

"Eh, you?"

"Is Kuro-chan home?"

Yukari Mishakuji smiled gracefully and asked that.

Neko was completely silent.

First of all, she is not afraid of anyone, she has experienced much more problems than girls of the same generation as her, and she is confident. But she stiffened at the visitor as she was too surprised.

"Well, it looks like he's not here."

Yukari waved off Neko's answer, and he took off his shoes.

"Then, I'll wait a while."

Yukari walked past Neko with a tension not like that of a family member who comes often to play, and he headed to the living room.

Neko still stood still, but the scent of the sweet and seductive perfume that slid gently after Yukari walked past her came back to her.

"Hey! What are you doing? What do you mean?"

As she waved her hands, she asked him with a confused language.

Meanwhile, Yukari scratched his crossed legs in front of the chabudai, and put aside the cloth bag that he was carrying with his sword, "Ayamachi", that he had on his back.

He then she put his hands on his knees naturally, and...

"No matter."

He mumbled that and closed his eyes.

After that, there was no movement.

Neco was...

"Nya~~~!"

She pressed both fingers against the temporal region and thought desperately.

What does it mean?

What is his intention?

Did he come to harm the Silver Clan again?

Nevertheless...

Yukari with a slight smile on his mouth and meditating did not seem to be harmful.

(He used to say that he was Kurosuke's brother...)

Honestly, she didn't even know how to deal with it, or even what kind of emotions she should have for that beauty that suddenly appeared.

Yukari Mishakuji.

Former executive of the Green Clan and brother of Kuroh Yatogami.

During the turmoil caused by the Green Clan, he was the man who stood up and worked most spectacularly as a working unit of the "Green King" Nagare Hisui.

But now, it was different even for Neko, who used to be actively hostile towards him.

In the first place, even when she was seriously fighting with the Green Clan, wasn't hate or anger, but incompatible sadness and impatience for Nagare and others who were rushing to extreme actions.

When Neko was in the middle of the incident, Shiro muttered under breath,

"They are just like us. If I had made a mistake, I could have done something like Nagare."

She couldn't forget those words.

Like Nagare Hisui, she lost her family in the Kagutsu incident and has lived an unspeakable life. The insatiable desire for change that Nagare had accumulated was not clear.

However, it was not the case for Yukari Mishakuji, who appeared in that place, and he could be received without any shackles.

Honestly, Neko was in trouble.

She was afraid to go out, but it was uncomfortable to stay as she was.

Yukari was unfazed as usual.

Aside from the inner sympathy for Nagare and his group, there was also a slight soft spot for this man named Yukari Mishakuji.

A man with a striking face and style, who speaks words against his brother and is obsessed with "beauty", while he is a transcendental swordsman who overwhelms Kuro.

"Wagahai, it's amazing, I feel like you're an interesting person."

She believed that he was.

However, the other members of the Silver Clan, especially Kuro, were facing Yukari, and there was no tsukkomi at the "interesting point" that Neko thought, so Neko had somehow not talked about it until now.

Neko thought for a moment, but soon sighed and...

"So, you're not really bad."

Saying that, she sat down in front of the chabudai and continued studying. She took a break, but it wasn't long.

She thought of Yukari as if some strange youkai had walked in and was sitting there.

When she turned the reference book over for a while,

"You're studying. It's great."

Yukari, who had opened his eyes before she noticed him, was winking at her as he looked at her.

"Would you like to tell me that you study?"

(This person is a strange person after all.), Neko thought.

At first, Neko had a failing attitude, but as Yukari began to play the role of tutor in the middle, she reluctantly decided to obey.

Nevertheless...

".....!"

After ten minutes, Neko's eyes widened. Yukari's teaching was really precise and wonderfully easy to understand.

The problems that she had been struggling with until now could be easily resolved.

The concept that was difficult to understand fell easily into her mind.

It was a completely different approach than Shiro.

Although, Shiro's teaching method wasn't bad at all. Systematizing a girl who lacked all basic academic skills like Neko, that theoretically learned learning method is worthy of special mention.

However, Shiro's teaching method, which emphasizes understanding and rationality, left some parts that couldn't fit a special girl like Neko.

And in that sense, Yukari's teaching method was perfect for Neko.

Lots of metaphors. A solution that conveys only the main points, regardless of any corrections.

Still, sentiment is important.

Neko felt admiration for Yukari, who teaches everything from modern history to math by chewing on the dots with beautiful rhetoric and vivid expression.

That person is not just a strange person.

He is a very smart and weird person!

"What?"

Neko choked because Yukari tilted his head.

"Um... Thanks for teaching me. It's very easy to understand."

"Hmm."

Yukari laughed mischievously.

"If it was a sword, it would be more spartan. I didn't like studying at school because it wasn't beautiful. I was always trying to learn more beautifully and gracefully."

Neko wondered if such a place would be 'beautiful'. Yukari had tender eyes.

When Neko opened her mouth to ask more questions,

"I'm home! No, sorry. The meeting dragged on."

As he said such a thing, Shiro, the owner of this room, came back.

He washed his hands in the bathroom, gargled, went to the kitchen, opened the refrigerator, and poured barley tea into the cup.

"By the way? Did you study?"

When he gets to the living room,

".....!"

He finally noticed Yukari's presence.

Yukari giggled and when he stood up, he made an elegant bow.

"I haven't heard from you, "Silver King". Please forgive me for the inconvenience."

The words included deep respect.

Shiro opened his eyes and froze. However, although he is usually fluffy, he is the founding "King".

He then he laughed lightly right away.

"It's been a long time. I was surprised. I never thought you would come to my house."

At first glance, he seemed to have a calm demeanor, but he had a sharp sense of tension in the back of his eyes. His gaze then moved over to Yukari's sword.

Neko was tired.

Yukari put his hand on his chest and bowed his head again.

"....."

He remained silent. It seemed like gratitude for being disrespectful, an abrupt reopening, or a refusal to speak.

Shiro was confused.

"You... You and Sukuna Gojo are now officially wanted by "Scepter 4". You can't ignore that, right?"

Yukari had a smile on his lips. Shiro closed his mouth.

"Should I capture you here now? If you still feel uncomfortable with us."

At that moment, Yukari screamed.

"Uh, "Silver King"."

Yukari pushed his knees up, reached into the sack he was wearing when he came there.

Shiro grew stronger and moved like a cat on his back.

However, Yukari was smiling.

"Do you know the brand of rice "Pearl of Heaven"?"

Shiro was confused.

"Huh? "Pearl of Heaven"? I know it."

Track accumulated knowledge.

"It's a brand rice completed by a farmer in Aomori, isn't it? It has been rated Special A for five consecutive years in the rice flavor ranking, but the rice fields where they can be grown are very limited and almost is never in the rice market."

"Yes. Personally, while I was bleaching the grass on the pillows for the past year, I was able to connect with an old man who was making "Pearl of Heaven" by chance."

Yukari took out a bag of rice that contained 5 kg. On the package, it was written as "Pearl of Heaven" in a bulky brush character.

"I thought it was rude to visit the residence of the "Silver King" without bringing anything, so I asked him to share it with me. I would appreciate it if you could accept it."

Head bowed, he offered her the bag of rice. Shiro had a difficult face for a while.

Then he suddenly changed his facial expression.

"Yes. You've come a long way. I think Kuro will be here soon, so take your time."

Speaking so lightly, he received the bag of rice in a hurry. Neko sighed lightly.

It was written on Shiro's face as follows.

"I wanted to try this once!"

Yukari laughed softly.

When Kuro appeared in the room, the three of them were in the middle of a peaceful chat.

Shiro offered Yukari a special rice cracker and tea, and Yukari recounted his memories of the trip while enjoying the tea served with elegant demeanor.

It was the composition of the guest and the master who fully welcomed him.

Neko also stopped studying and listened to Yukari's story. Kuro, who saw that situation, had a bitter face from the start.

By the way, Kuro felt Yukari's signal before entering the dormitory building as a matter of course, and he was ready for battle. However, when he realized that Yukari was not harmful at all and that there was no particular danger to Shiro and Neko, he relaxed his shoulders and came directly to that place.

30% shame. 30% of sudden annoyances with Yukari. 10% of Shiro and Neko's emotions that carelessly receive their former enemies. The last 30% is probably something close to interest.

Kuro appeared in the living room with no sound and said the opening first.

"Yukari Mishakuji... what did you come to do?"

Shiro and Neko were surprised and looked back at Kuro's sudden return home, but Yukari noticed that he was approaching at the same time as Kuro, so he didn't move at all.

"Oh, you came home, Kuro-chan."

He waved his hand in greeting.

"....."

Kuro was cold and looked down on his former brother. Shiro and Neko looked at each other and shrugged, leaning back and taking some distance from the chabudai.

It was for the motivation of not getting in the way of the two people who were related to each other.

"Well, don't stand in a place like that and sit down."

Yukari hit the ground with a funny saying.

"....."

Kuro remained serious and quiet, but as he was told, he sat down with Yukari.

Shiro and Neko placed tea and rice crackers in front of him and quickly returned to the wall. Kuro never took his eyes off Yukari.

"....."

Yukari tucked his elbows into the chabudai, placed his chin on the back of his hand, and narrowed her eyes beautifully as he lost his posture a bit.

He seemed like he was appraising Kuro, ridiculing him or looking at him with love after meeting his "little brother" for the first time in a long time.

Kuro's expression towards him didn't change at all.

Though he didn't resort to passion-driven hostility like before, he was too alert.

Now, even if Yukari suddenly changed and attacked, it would be possible to deal with him without interruption.

"You have grown."

Yukari sighed.

At that moment, Kuro finally opened his mouth.

"You too."

The voice was bitter, but there was also a slight admiration. It was clear why Kuro had exceeded his limits.

In the final battle at the Green Clan's hideout, he managed to win against that man due to various luck.

And Yukari had also sharpened his skills since then.

Not that he would lose if he fought now, but it would definitely be quite difficult to win.

"Did you ask me why I came here? There's no big reason for that. Kuro-chan, I wanted to see your face."

Kuro looked confused. Yukari continued.

"You beat me. I wanted to meet you again to find out if you became proud or corrupt."

He said that with a light laugh.

"I was wondering if I could cut you down."

Kuro stiffened. Yukari laughed.

"It seems there is no need."

Kuro was confused.

"Are you kidding?"

"Oh, I'm serious. I also wanted to see Miyabi-chan and the "Silver King", as well as Kuro-chan."

He looks at each one, Shiro and Neko. Each of them mysteriously pointed to themselves.

First, Yukari told Neko.

"What kind of life does the girl called Miyabi Ameno currently have, who has survived the same circumstances as my lord, Nagare Hisui?"

He laughed softly.

"Are you really happy? How are you?"

Neko remembered it again.

Yukari lost the "King" he believed in. She could not sympathize with Yukari Mishakuji's meaning, thought or principle of action, but she could only understand the pain of losing an important person.

Neko answered out loud as much as possible.

"I'm happy!"

Looking at Shiro and Kuro. Neko clearly said it again.

"Wagahai, I'm so happy now!"

"Yes."

Yukari had a soft voice.

"I'm sure Nagare-chan is happy too."

Silence enveloped the place for a while. Yukari was silent, and Neko was looking at him. Kuro cleared his throat slightly.

While Shiro hesitated a bit.

"Is there something you want to ask?"

Yukari turned his gaze to Shiro.

"Yes, but..."

After cutting the words once,

"...I feel like I have the answer. I've been walking around the metropolitan area for the past few days, seeing things with my own eyes and seeing your face."

Shiro tilted his neck.

"What do you mean?"

Yukari laughed more brightly.

"I think that question is not so beautiful anymore. I think the answer is unsightly."

Saying that he quickly stood up.

"Uh, "Silver King", continue what you were doing. Please stay healthy. I think you're busy, but thanks for everything."

He bowed deeply with a movement so beautiful as to sigh. At that moment, Shiro opened his mouth as if he realized something.

Yukari then...

"Sorry."

He turned his back on him and walked away.

"Yes."

Then, he told Kuro,

"Kuro-chan. Someday. Let's bet our lives and fight each other."

He just looked at his face and laughed. And when he walked down the hall without a sound, he walked out the doorway.

Kuro had a sullen face and Shiro a bitter smile. Neko asked Shiro.

"Hey, what did he say at the end?"

The exchange between Yukari and Shiro was not very clear and she was confused. Shiro scratched his head.

"Hmm."

He laughed as if he was in trouble.

"Well, he probably meant this: Did they really beat the man named Nagare Hisui?"

Neko and Kuro looked at each other. For Neko and Kuro, it was obvious. Because Nagare Hisui lost to them, he was swallowed by a large amount of earth and sand and died with the "Grey King".

However, to Shiro, that question seemed to have a different meaning.

He continued to laugh with a complicated expression.

Yukari walked out of the bedroom and looked up at the sky. The full moon, which was surprisingly beautiful in shape, brilliantly illuminated the area.

"Oh, it's a good month."

The poetry suddenly made a noise in Yukari. He smiled and decided to go out on the town for the time being.

Because it is an island of learning, he couldn't get what he was looking for.

And shortly after that...

Rikio Kamamoto, who was closing the liquor store at his parents' house,

"Sorry for the night. Are you still doing it?"

When he called out to him, he took his hand off the crate of beer he was lifting and looked back.

Then he was amazed.

".....!"

Standing there was Yukari Mishakuji, a former Green Clan executive. He will never forget the fierce battle at the Mihashira Tower. He stood up with the same striking face and style as at that moment.

"Eh?"

It seems that Kamamoto noticed it there too.

"It's strange. You're a member of 'Homura', right? Is this your store?"

Kamamoto swallowed his saliva.

"What are you doing?"

"Greetings. I only came in because there was a nice store. I want some delicious sake."

Kamamoto was just as confused as Shiro had been at the time. However, he had also cultivated his courage in many shrines.

Judging that Yukari had no particular damage,

"What kind of flavor do you like?"

He decided to treat him like an ordinary customer.

"Yes.", Yukari laughed.

"Dry... Sake that looks good to see the moon."

Kamamoto used the best knowledge as a decanter and chose a bottle of sake for Yukari.

Yukari thanked him and casually walked out, carrying the sake in one hand.

"Throw a party for the moon. Love the beautiful moon."

Continued in Chapter 6: "Rikio Kamamoto's Questions and Answers."