



MINI EPISODES: UNDER THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS

TRANSLATION: NARU-KUN / K-PROJECT WORLD

"Cherry blossoms."

Suddenly, the Lieutenant muttered in a lonely voice and stopped. He was tangled, stopped, and followed the Lieutenant's view. A tree with pale pink blossoms was there. An unintentional smile escapes.

"No, Lieutenant. That is an almond blossom."

"Oh, seriously?"

The Lieutenant's eyes widened slightly at the innocent surprise. The Lieutenant's facial expression, which always has a rigid face, is rare, and he observe his profile.

Lieutenant Kokujoji Daikaku is the Lieutenant of the Japanese Army who has come from Japan to his ally to study the "Slate", and in that country he has been "the current head of the Yin and Yang family" for a long time. Although he has just arrived and still cannot measure distance, his knowledge of unknown fields and his exceptional ability to think shed light on his world from a new angle. The conversation with him moved him greatly.

He is intrigued by the slightly different appearance of the Lieutenant.

"Lieutenant, do you like cherry blossoms?"

"So is. I hadn't realized that much. Almond blossoms are very similar to cherry blossoms."

The Lieutenant said with childish eyes as if touching something he knew for the first time.

He just smiles deeply. It's fun to teach the Lieutenant what he doesn't know. Whether it's a technical question related to research or such a trivial and irresistible question.

"It seems that the Japanese feelings for cherry blossoms are quite strong. I wonder if the appearance of flowers that bloom beautifully in a short period of time stimulates a feeling of inconsistency."

"Oh, that's the theory. That's the way cherry blossoms are. There are many examples of life's dreams."

"Yes, yes. For a long time, the Japanese often thought about cherry blossoms and wrote poems, right? Ever since I heard that the Lieutenant was coming from Japan, I read several Japanese books, I know!"

He remembers some of the old Japanese poems, poems he saw in a book he read recently.

"Hopefully, in the Kisaragi Mochidzuki, which dies in the spring under the flowers."

Among them, a piece that impressed him while reading in Japanese, the Lieutenant looked at him.

"It's a Saigyo Hoshi song."

"Is it correct in Japanese? It's amazing, I want to die under the cherry blossoms on the full moon in the spring when the cherry trees are full. Until then, I really wanted to see the cherry blossoms that the Japanese think of in Japan."

When he murmured, imagining the sight of a foreign land that he had not yet seen, the Lieutenant said, "Yes."

"So if the war ends, you can come. With Dr. Fraulein... But flowers are just flowers. It depends on your sensitivity if there is anything to feel."

"Fufu, by then, I have to learn more about Japan."

"Before that, we will have a lot of work to do. We haven't even started working on the Slate yet.", he said.

"Oh, first of all, I have to get through this frozen and stagnant situation so we can reach the spring of hope. I am looking forward to working with you again, Lieutenant."

Beneath the almond blossoms, the Lieutenant returned a slight smile as he laughed.

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The opportunity to go to Japan certainly came a few years later.

But he never stopped on the ground to see the cherry blossoms.

Despite the seasons over and over again, his time stood still, froze without blossoming or scattering, and he was just looking at the cherry blossoms on the ground blossoming and scattering.

"Hey... Shiro."

Open his eyes at the call.

Then, he could see the cherry blossoms in full bloom.

Little pale pink flowers cover the sky, and when the wind blows, the petals spill and fall like snow.

He woke up with a lazy head, and for a moment he was fascinated by the sight.

"Shiro. Do not sleep soundly in this place. You will catch a cold."

Kuro sighed in amazement, his hand on his shoulder.

He wasn't sad, but he muttered with the feeling of wanting to cry.

"I also had the feeling that the cherry blossoms shook my heart..."

When he was alone, Kuro apologized.

"Shiro? Are you asleep?"

"Shiro, Shiro! Don't you eat anymore?"

Neko laughed with a grain of rice in her mouth. What she has in her hand is a cherry blossom nigiri that mixes salty cherry blossoms with shiso and has a faint spring color. It was one of the bentos that Kuro made when he got up early, to see today's cherry blossom.

"I suppose you ate a lot that you didn't eat anymore. I did so many..."

The contents packed in a large, heavy box seemed to be close to heaven. He looked at Neko and Kuro regularly and narrowed his eyes.

Again, he lies down and looks at the cherry blossoms. He was drawn to the dreamy and beautiful view of the arrival of spring and the end of winter.

"Hopefully, in the Kisaragi Mochidzuki, which dies in the spring under the flowers."

A poem I recite once in front of the Lieutenant, is much softer than that time.

"What? It's from Saigyō Hoshi."

"Oh, do you know him?"

"I am a disciple who loves phrases and I can't help but know such a famous song."

"What? What do you mean?"

Kuro responds to Neko who bows her head.

"It means he wants to die in the spring when the cherry blossoms are in bloom. Mochidzuki's Kisaragi was in the middle of the lunar calendar, and Saigyo Hoshi who actually wrote this song died at that time."

Neko's expression turned into a Neko threatened by "I want to die in the spring.", And she leapt to his chest in the midst of Kuro's comment.

"Shiro! Don't die!"

Neko's head is pressed against his chest. He laughs and hugs Neko's body.

"I will not die. I will live with you, guys."

Beneath the cherry blossoms, Kuro gave him a happy smile, saying that and laughing.