

## CHAPTER 7

Murasako set the bricks down and flew down to Ginko.

"I just came to see how your 'training' was going, and it looks like I came at just the right time, you were almost out of a job."

Ginko pouted and crossed her arms.

"Yeah, well we were doing just fine without you here..."

Sora thought back to the reincarnation magic incident a little bit ago.

"Well then what was that I intervened in?"

Sora stepped forward, "I just lost my concentration for a moment, it won't happen again."

"I bet. So I guess you wouldn't mind me sitting in on some of this so-called 'training' then?"

"Certainly, you can see just how well it's going. Sora!"

Sora stood at attention.

"Yes, Sensei!"

"Do like we did before, but pick up just the wheelbarrow with 1 hand!"

Sora doubted his ability to do so, but complied.

He took shallow breaths, tensed his arms and legs and as soon as the aura appeared, with his left hand he lifted the wheelbarrow as a butler would a tray.

"Hah! I did it!"

Ginko clapped, "Good job, Sora!"

Murasako sat with her arms folded and her legs crossed.

"Meh, a novice royal knight could do that."

Ginko was losing her patience but stayed professional.

"Sora! More weight!"

"Huh?!"

So they filled the wheel barrow with stones they found around the lot, and Sora went again, though he was allowed to use both arms this time.

"Here goes something, Nggaaahhh!!!"

With a loud grunt, he lifted the wheelbarrow over his head. It was becoming apparent, however, that he was reaching his limit, so he slowly set the wheelbarrow down and sat on the ground to catch his breath.

Ginko shot a smug look at Murasako.

"See, I told you we were doing fine."

Murasako shook her head in disappointment.

"He's never going to grow fast enough at this rate."

She flew off, leaving Ginko confused.

"Uh, um." Ginko looked at the time. It had been nearly 2 hours since they started magic training, so they were on schedule enough. "Take a break, Sora! I'll be right back!"

She rushed after Murasako, leaving Sora to rest.

"Heh, fine with me."

Ginko caught up to Murasako around earth street, which branches off from stone street.

"Murasako!"

"What is it now?"

"What did you mean when you said he wouldn't grow fast enough?"

"Some teacher you are if you can't even figure that out."

"E-even a teacher can learn and grow!"

Murasako was surprised to hear that kind of attitude from her.

"Huh, you're really serious here."

"You bet I'm serious, the Princess's life is at stake!"

"Fine then, I'll show you a thing or two. I've got no pressing matters at the castle anyway."

Ginko felt a little awkward accepting help from Murasako of all people, but she couldn't stand to be picky.

They flew back to the catacombs and Ginko let Murasako take the reins for the time being.

"So, Sora, was it?"

"Yes ma'am?"

"How's your magic pool right now?"

"Well, I'm feeling a little drained from all the use just now."

"Looks like we can't do any more magic training for now then..."

Ginko spoke up.

"Ah, but there is another magic training session scheduled for later."

"Huh?"

Ginko passed the training schedule to Murasako.

Her face gradually grew more and more disappointed as she read over the list.

"It's good to be organized, but this has way too many problems to be effective."

Ginko's hopes were being shattered, and she flew into the house crying.

Sora stomped over to Murasako, who was a bit frightened by the intensity of his steps.

"Why did you say all that stuff to Ginko? She's just trying her best!"

"Y-yeah, well if she kept going with this schedule she wrote up, you would get about half as tough as my big sister by...about the end of next year."

Sora's angry face disappeared.

"That long?! What's so bad about this schedule?"

"Well, see these highlights here, and here too?"

She pointed to very small sentences written on the original list, which is the one Ginko had given Murasako, not the larger one for Sora's use.

"Uhh, the thing is, she had rewritten it because I couldn't read this."

"Oh, here."

Murasako set the schedule on Sora's hand and used water magic to create a disc of water. Lining it up to the paper, it magnified the paper so he could read it.

"Wow, water magic is pretty useful."

Murasako was surprised by the compliment and nearly blushed.

"Th-this is nothing."

The schedule had lots of things listed, specifically lining out the training they were to do, which was pretty accurate so far, barring the mishaps with the reincarnation magic and such.

"The one she rewrote for me didn't have all this."

"See? Anyway, you need much more varied training if you're going to amount to anything fast enough to matter."

"Maybe so, but you should still go apologize to Ginko."

"Ugh, fine."

Ginko was sitting in a teacup that, for whatever reason, was on top of a bookcase in the living room. She didn't exactly fit completely, but it was enough to hide for now.

Murasako flew into the room and called out to her.

"Ginko!"

She scoured the place but couldn't find her. Then she got a bright idea to flush her out.

"Your boyfriend wanted me to talk to you!"

Immediately, Ginko peered over the side of the bookcase and yelled at Murasako.

"He's not my boyfriend!"

"Ah, so there you are."

"Eep!" Ginko flipped the cup overtop of herself, trying to hide in vain.

Murasako flew up to her.

"Come on Chiyosei, grow up. You wanted this stupid job and now you run away when you get some constructive criticism? If you can't even learn from your own mistakes, then go home and let someone else train this guy. I'm no expert at reinforcement magic, but I bet I'd do a much better job than you've done so far."

"\*sniff\* But, what if, \*sniff\* I mess up again?"

"\*sigh\* I'll tell you what, for the sake of the Princess, I'll help you fix your

schedule."

Ginko perked up.

"\*sniff\* Really?"

"...Yeah. If you get outside and start working!"

Ginko leapt out of the cup and gave Murasako a hug.

"Thank you, Murasako!"

Back outside, the three of them sat in a circle on the ground, discussing a good way to fix the problematic schedule Ginko had written.

"So, the reason the previous schedule won't work is very simple, one's magic pool takes time to recover, sleep is definitely the best way, but that basically limits you to one session of magic training per day."

Sora and Ginko looked disappointed to hear this.

"However, a diet aimed towards magic growth can aid in your magic pool's recovery time, allowing you to eventually recover your magic like you would your physical stamina. Think of a magic pool like a tree, if you eat all the fruit from it, it takes time to regrow new fruits, but if you feed it the right nutrients, it will grow more fruit than before, and grow them faster!"

Ginko raised her hand.

"So what foods are good for magic pool growth?"

"It's sad to know that someone who's been living in the castle for years doesn't even know this much. Well, most root vegetables are great options, as well as nuts, berries and a lot of the fish from Sitnalta and Susagep. They even sell supplements in health food shops."

"I never knew you were so smart, Murasako."

"Well, I have to be good at something. I figure if I can't be tough like Aoko, I can at least be smart."

It was Sora's turn to raise his hand.

"What about the muscle training?"

"Oh, that part was fine. No need to change that."

Ginko fell over.

"The way you were talking earlier made it seem like everything was bad!"

"Well, against trolls, if your magic is trash, you might as well not have muscle strength. Those things are monsters! You would need a crazy amount of muscle and a couple of you to even dream of fighting a troll bare handed."

Ginko sulked a little.

"...So what do we do for now?"

"Well, we need to work on his diet, so..."

She pulled a scrap of paper out of her pocket and wrote down a few things.

"Go buy the stuff on this list while I write up a better schedule for you."

"I'll go with her, I can carry the stuff."

"I-I can carry stuff!"

Sora pointed to the 2 sacks of potatoes on the list.

"You can carry this?"

"...Okay, but I'm carrying some of it!"

"Fine with me. We'll be back soon!"

Murasako waved them off and reclined to think up a better schedule.

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