Despanie Hey, Mikhail; aren’t you drinking too much already?

Mikhail You’re so noisy.

At least let me drink this much.

Despanie But you always say that.

Mikhail Hey Despanie!

Come, sit here too.

Drink with me now.

Despanie [Laugh]

Alright, alright.

If you’re okay with me, then I will.

Mikhail By the way, it looks like all of this tavern’s employees have strong arms.

I wouldn’t be surprised if they’re actually stronger than the youths in the current Royal Guard.

Despanie That’s right.

You see, I was actually part of great pirate crews that sailed the seven seas, you know!

Mikhail Hey, that story of yours, even I would know soon that it’s just a made-up story.

Despanie I’m telling you the truth!

When the time comes, my mates will come to pick me up.

So if you want to savour this place’s cooking, you should do it now before that happens.

Mikhail Hey, hey; hasn’t it been two or three years already since you said that?

Despanie Don’t worry about that.

Mikhail Good grief.

Looking around, even in this country the mercenaries started to gather in this kind of tavern, huh.

The Royal Guard in the old days were more reliable. But the youths nowadays, somehow they won’t even listen to you. It seems like they’re also doing something behind my back.

Despanie Aw, come on, Mikhail, you’re always concerned with those kinds of things.

Don’t worry.

It will be bad, you know, if the people standing at the top worry too much like that.

You should behave with some more self-importance, you know!

Mikhail [Snoring]

Despanie Huh, he’s fallen asleep.

Hey Mikhail, wake up! Mikhail!

Mikhail [Mumbling]

Despanie I wonder what kind of dream he’s having now.

Mikhail Soon… I will definitely kill…

Despanie Eh!?

Mikhail [Mumbling]

Georik.

[Door opening]

Marcello Oh my, Captain! Why are you blackout drunk in this kind of place again?

Despanie What good timing! If you guys would be kind enough to take care of him, I would be much obliged!

Marcello Haha. Yes, it’s the usual thing.

You see, Captain has a habit of starting to mumble when he drinks too much.

Royal Knight 2 Oh yeah? How about.. we give him more to drink?

Royal Knight 3 Hey, please stop that! Don’t you know last time he even rode on horseback in the middle of the city while still in that state?

Marcello Although it was in the middle of the night, so maybe he wasn’t able to see clearly.

Royal Knight 3 Nope. You see, in my place there are lots of dead drunks lining up.

But instead of being dead drunk, the Captain actually has the reputation for being able to see clearly.

Royal Knight 2 But this is definitely being dead drunk.

Mikhail Georik, draw your sword!

Marcello Well, he’s fallen asleep now. Magnificently.

Royal Knight 2 Hey, if you look at him like this, don’t you think he has a cute sleeping face?

Royal Knight 3 Hey! You put the blanket on him just now, right! It’s my job, you know, to put the blanket on the Captain!

Royal Knight 2 When and who decided such a thing?

Royal Knight 3 Shut up! It has always been like that!

Didn’t you notice that before?

Royal Knight 2 Then my role will be to brush his hair.

Marcello Oh then, I will take the role of eating with him.

Royal Knight 3 Damn, that’s a better role than just putting a blanket on him...

Mikhail All of you are noisy!

You guys talk as if I’m sleeping, huh?

Come! We’re going back!

Despanie, the bill?

Despanie Hmmmm. It’s 8 thousand zeks.

Mikhail Ummm…

Put it on my tab…

[Snoring]

Marcello Captain… He has no money?

But he’s a Viscount, right?

Royal Knight 2 We’re sorry.

We will take him back now.

Despanie Yes, yes, don’t worry.

Good night!

Good grief, looks like it’s a wrap for today.

Well then Mikhail! Have a good dream!

[birds chirping, dreamlike]

Eliphus Mikhail.

Mikhail What’s this?

Disturbing my peaceful sleep like this...

Eliphus Mkhail, are you okay?

Mikhail Huh? Sir Eliphus?

Eliphus What’s wrong, Mikhail?

You’ve got such a surprised look on your face.

Mikhail Eh, no…

(I amsurprised. Why is Sir Eliphus here? He should have been killed in action when he joined the battle.)

Eliphus Anything wrong?

You seem as if you’re looking at a ghost.

Mikhail Ah, that’s…

Oh, it’s you guys.

Marcello Captain! Good morning!

Eliphus Good morning, Marcello.

Marcello Captain Eliphus, may I request the list of guests coming for today?

Eliphus Here.

Well then, I’m looking forward for your support for today.

Mikhail (What!? Did he mean Knight Captain? Sir Eliphus is…? Does that mean… Really? He came back alive?)

(But… then… what about my position as the Captain?)

Royal Knight 3 Hey Mkhail. Did you oversleep again?

Mikhai; Huh?

Royal Knight 2 Captain Eliphus, did you know that Mikhail fell asleep dead drunk at the tavern again last night?

Mikhail Ah?

Eliphus [Sighing]

Is that true, Mikhail?

Mikhail Err… That’s… I’m really sorry.

Eliphus Can’t be helped, then. Please remember to have more pride representing the Royal Guard of Hardland Kingdom when doing your job.

Mikhail I will!

(It’s really him…)

Eliphus What happened, Mikhail?

Weren’t you supposed to accompany me for today’s patrol?

Mikhail Yes!

Eliphus Mikhail, it’s not good, you know, to drink until you get hungover the next day.

Although, I also had the experience of getting the liquor pushed on me when I was still around your age.

Mikhail Yes… Err… Sir Eliphus, actually I have a request.

Eliphus What is it?

Mikhail May I request a bout with you, Sir?

Eliphus [Laugh]

And here I was wondering what you wanted to say.

Yes, sure.

You are the first ever to take the initiative to request something like that.

Mikhail Actually, I have no confidence that I would be able to win against you, Sir Eliphus.

But I thought it would be a such waste to only have you take care of me while you’re right next to me.

Eliphus What an interesting kid you are.

[Soft laugh]

Sorry, I didn’t mean to treat you like a kid.

Rather, it’s the opposite, actually.

Yes, if I were to be gone, I would like you to succeed me as this Royal Guard’s Knight Captain.

That’s how I’m feeling right now.

Mikhail Such a thing…

(Or rather, actually I’m supposed to be a Captain already though…)

(But I’m really happy. To know that Sir Eliphus really was thinking of me like that. It’s just, ever since I became the Captain, I only ever caused trouble. Not only do I have a bad habit with liquor, I always get involved in fights, destroying things…)

I have… I have always been desperate to catch up to you, Sir Eliphus, every step of progress I’ve made. But the other royal knights, they’re acting as if they’re taking part in some kind of game, and I wasn’t able to forgive that.

Eliphus Of course I know that. Just by looking at that uniform of yours, I can understand.

Although you’re still just a novice, your uniform is already tattered.

It’s solid proof of how you, without complaining even once, have been so dedicated in your training.

Mikhail Sir Eliphus…

Eliphus I feel some power inside you that I can’t find in any other people.

I don’t know the details myself, but I believe you’ll be able to become stronger than anyone else. Definitely.

Now then. It’s about time for lunch break, isn’t it?

If you’re ok with this, let me be your opponent in sword training.

Mikhail Yes!

Then, please take a good care of me!

Eliphus Of course. Now, you may attack me from anyplace.

[Sword clashing]

Eliphus What’s wrong? Are you finished already?

[Sword clashing]

Mikhail Ughh… Sir Eliphus… Just once more…

Royal Knight 2 Sir Mikhail! Please wake up!

Mikhail Huh? What’s wrong, you guys?

The Captain is my opponent right now, you know.

{Snore}

Royal Knight 2 What are you talking about, Sir?

Aren’t you the Captain?

Mikhail Huh?

What did you say?

Was I… was I dreaming?

ALL Captain Mikhail!

Happy Birthday to you!

Mikhail Ah…

Royal Knight 3 Actually, we wanted to surprise you, so we cooked you something.

Mikhail Stupid guys.

This is not some game, you know.

Good grief…

Everyone, thank you.

From now on, I’ll really going to whip you into shape, OK!

Royal Knight 2 Ughh… Please spare us…

[All laughing]