Welcome back.

Aren't you late.

Room number 211 was it...

Yea, stuff happened.

Ayato's roommate Yabuki Eishiro

Let's see...
HEHEH

THE
ROOM'S
MUCH
LARGER
THAN
I
THOUGHT.

IS THAT
ALL YOU
HAVE FOR
BELONG-
INGS?

SO
LITTLE.

IT'S CUZ
I'VE NO
INTEREST IN
ANYTHING
REALLY.

THEN AGAIN,
YOU'RE ONE TO
TALK. YOU'VE
NOTHING MUCH
EITHER.

WELL, ASIDE
FROM MY CLUB
ACTIVITIES, I
PRETTY MUCH
DO NOTHING
ELSE.

I REALLY
ONLY HAVE
SOME
SPARE
CLOTHES.
By the name of Lester?

Then, do you know a male student?

Newspaper club...

Oh? What do you mean "club activities"?

Guess you could say that it's the newspaper club.

You mean Lester McPhail?

Lester?

Lester McPhail.

During his first year at Seido-kan Academy, rose to ninth rank, one of the select twelve.

I heard he's ranked ninth.

I think that was.

He boasts unparalleled power as a close-quarters fighter that makes use of his build.

On the other hand, he's bag plenty of close matches against those with special abilities such as the witches "Strega" or magicians "Dante".

Then there's no mistake.

Furious axe of distant thunder (Gonodake Kros) Lester.
Oohhh! Incredible.

Well,

You can get all this information on the net, though.

Meaning?

If you want anything more, that's a different story.

You're gonna need this.

The first group is like our little princess who's aiming to take part in the Star Arts festival, the "Festa".

For the most part, you'll find two different types of people.

Basically, the students who gave up on the "Festa" long ago.

The other group is like us.

Oi! Isn't that obvious?

This academy's students—heck, no matter where you go, most people are like this.
ASIDE FROM THE "FESTA", JUST FIND IT ALMOST WORKS OUT YOU WANNA SO LONG AS YOU FIND A WAY TO EARN MONEY!

YOU'LL REALISE THAT THERE'S A WALL THAT YOU CAN'T OVERCOME.

WHEN YOU'RE HERE YOU'LL GET TO SEE WHAT THE DIFFERENCE IN ABILITIES MEAN, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.

PRETTY MUCH.

EVEN IF ANYBODY WERE TO SPOUT THAT I'M ALSO A STARMULSE GENERATION, GENESTELLA, IT'S NOT LIKE EACH AND EVERY PERSON HERE CAN REACH THE TOP!

THAT'S SIMPLE!

IT ALL WORKS OUT SO LONG AS YOU FIND A WAY TO EARN MONEY!

Wahaha

TO WORK OUT WHAT THEY WANT TO DO.

IT'S UP TO THE ONES WHO CAN'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING.

THAT MEANS,

WHAT COULD THAT BE?
OOF! Aren't you being quite rude...

You might say that, but it's actually quite a large sum, you know?

You've seen images and footages of Asterisk on the net or on TV, right?

But, I haven't heard anything about...

Is the Newspaper Club.

The Newspaper Club making profits.

You can think of it as the student-run journalism clubs taking the shots.

Due to agreements made with external news groups, the academies don't allow them onto the premises.

Of the stage that is inside of the academy.

To external news companies.

You got that right.

Basically, you guys are the ones who sell footage, images and information—

Hahaa I see...
Is there anything between Julius and him?

I want to know one more thing about Lester.

By the way,

Oh I see what's going on.

I was wondering why you suddenly asked about Lester, so that's how it is.

Really going for our little princess?

So you're... Fufu

Anyhow, like I said before,

Anything I say from now on's gonna cost you.

It's not like that.

Calm down, it's okay, you know.
The formal ranking matches are opened once a month as a selection test within the academy. And our little princess was ranked seventeen.

At the time, Lester was fifth rank.

It was her commemorative match into the page ones.

Our little princess won.

So, to keep the higher ranks from avoiding matches, it's set so that they have to participate in at least one match.

You cannot refuse a nomination from a lower ranked person. But, you can only nominate the same person in the same rank at most twice.

And as a general rule, in the formal ranking matches, and was splendidly defeated each of the next two times.

On the other hand, I suppose it's a humiliating match to Lester.

Lester did continue to challenge our little princess in the formal ranking matches.

Yea, it does come down to that.
HE PROBABLY WON'T SETTLE DOWN UNTIL HE DOES IT OVER AGAIN AND WINS.

LESTER HAS A LOT OF PRIDE AND A TEMPERAMENT JUST AS EXTREME.

CAN'T BATTLE AGAINST JULIS IN ANOTHER FORMAL RANKING MATCH.

I DON'T THINK HE HAS A CHANCE BUT,

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

So that's why he's fixated on having another duel to such a degree.

JUDGING FROM THE FOOTAGE YOU SHOWED ME.

WHAT JULIS IS LOOKING AT ISN'T HIM. IT'S SOMETHING ELSE.

BUT-

I DON'T THINK HE'S GOT ZERO CHANCE OF WINNING.

THANKS, YABUKI.

SO, ABOUT HOW MUCH WAS IT FOR THE INFORMATION?

HOOH...
Let's kay, head for food I say!

Uhm, I guess Japanese cuisine.

Which do you like, Japanese food or Western food?

Come on! Amagiri!

Okay! I'll take the thick-fried tofu with daikon radish then!

... Huh?

I see, Japanese... today's menu has Spanish mackerel yakiniku, thick-fried tofu with daikon radish, and boiled fish-paste cake.

If you weren't the one saying it.

How about it, ain't I a great guy?

This time, I'll let you off so long as you treat me.

More so.