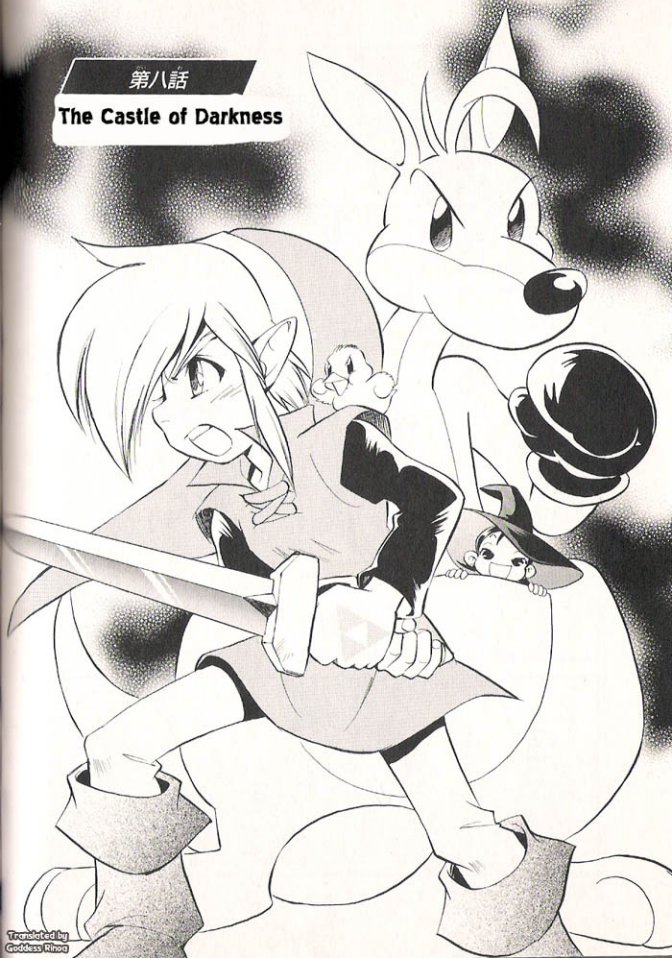


第八話

The Castle of Darkness





Look, Din.  
What a  
beautiful  
sight.



It's the land of darkness I have always yearned for!

The earth will be ruined...

The seasons are in disorder...  
Crops will disappear...  
Living things will die out...



Too bad for you, but I've already dispatched one of my minions to the temple.

Anybody who comes... well...

Even if you seal me like this, the buds of the earth will not die!

**GORGON!!**

And I have the beautiful Earth Sage as a nice little bonus.

The Rod of Seasons still sleeps within the temple! Someone will surely...



It looks like in the end, the only thing you'll be destroying is yourself.



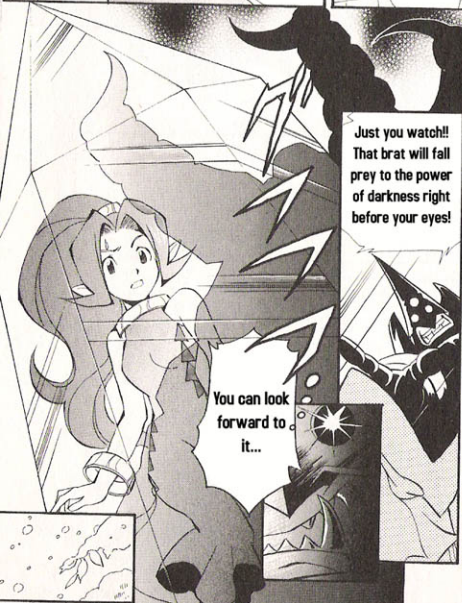
Lord Gorgon!!  
Medlock was destroyed by Link!



And I heard that he's already made it into the northern mountains.

Argh! That little brat...

WHAT ?!



Just you watch!! That brat will fall prey to the power of darkness right before your eyes!

You can look forward to it...



SILENCE !!



Take care of him before he even gets into the fortress!!  
Instead of casually reporting stuff to me, go and secure the perimeter!!



You'll catch a cold--!

Master, what's wrong? What are you doing sitting in a place like this?



You're worried about your girlfriend, aren't you?



The seasons are all in disarray...  
If the earth is ruined...



I was just thinking that it'd be awful if the Earth Sage was gone.

Like I TOLD you, she's NOT my girlfriend.



All right! Let's call forth spring!

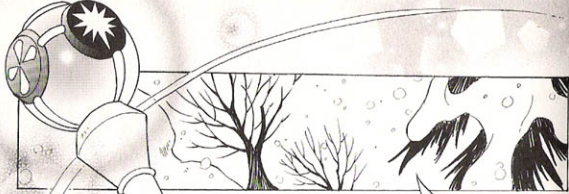
Hey, yeah!

Hey, Link, cheer up! Give that Rod of Seasons a wave!



Din, who loves nature so much, would be so sad.

Aw, you really love your girlfriend, dontcha?



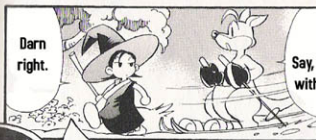
**WOW~!!**  
So this is the  
power of the Rod  
of Seasons?

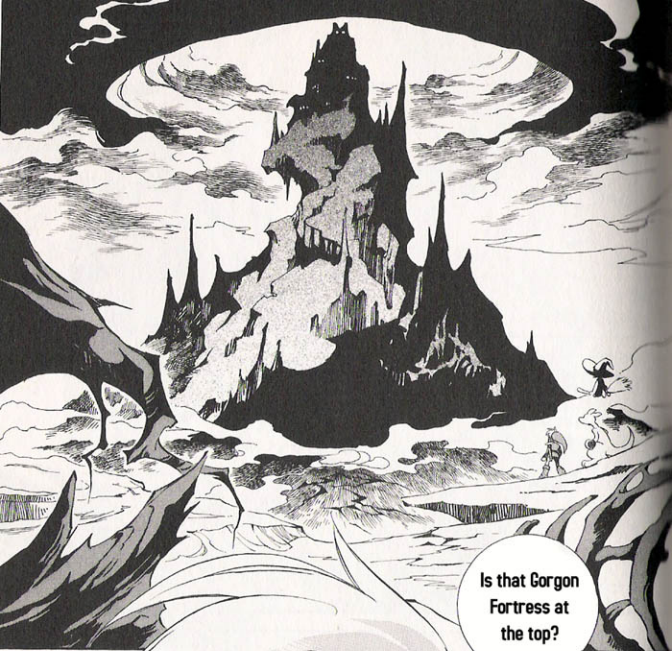
A field of  
snow became  
a bed of  
flowers in the  
blink of an  
eye!



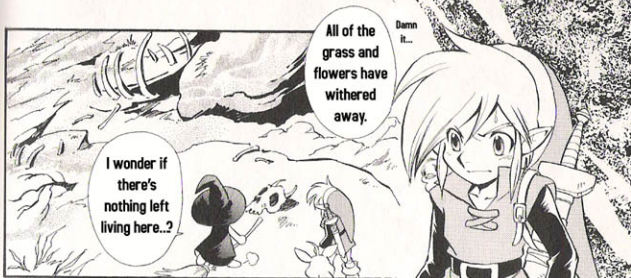
Being able  
to change  
the seasons  
is great!

You can ski and  
look at flowers at  
the same time!





Is that Gorgon  
Fortress at  
the top?



If a monster  
were to come at  
us now, we'd be  
sitting ducks.



I'm  
scared~!



Continue  
on to Link!!

**FIGHT ON!!**



There  
we go!



Ricky--!

Ack!

Ooohhhh...

What's wrong, obaa-san?\*

A person?

Man, Maple, you're lucky to be able to fly...

It's just a little farther to the fortress.

Are you okay? Oh man, what'll we do? We can't go back to the path we came in on.

Maybe she can wait for us here.

I'm old and my hips are weak...

I can't walk...

Please help me.

Oh, thank you. You're so kind.

Okay, Obaa-san, we'll go together.

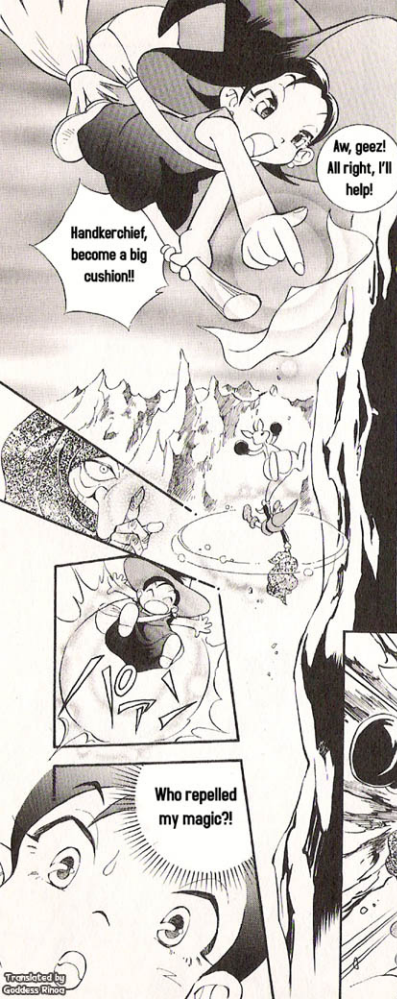
Well, then, I could stay behind. I'll even watch the Rod of Seasons for you.

We can't just leave a senior citizen alone in a place like this!

How did an old woman with weak hips who can't walk get up here by herself?

Still, it's weird.

**FORGET IT!**



Aw, geez!  
All right, I'll  
help!

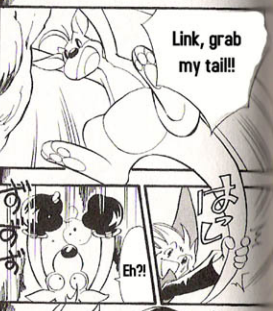
Handkerchief,  
become a big  
cushion!!



Who repelled  
my magic?!

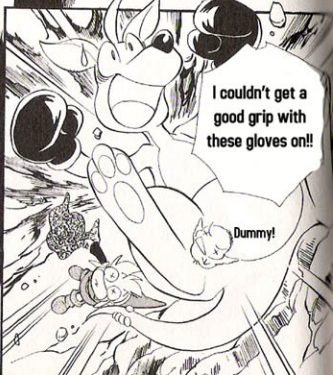


W-  
Watch  
out!!




Link, grab  
my tail!!

Eh?!



I couldn't get a  
good grip with  
these gloves on!!

Dummy!



What a nice young man. That'll be the end of you, Link! And your little friends, too...

Poor little things. Your journey ends here, before Din's eyes!



Well, my magic was...  
Dwie...



Why you, too, Maple?



Ow ow ow...



Wh-Where's Obaa-san?!



Taking advantage of peoples' kindness-!

Dammit. We've been completely tricked.

Grr...

Come on,  
then!!

YAAA!!

LINK!!

But if you  
get hurt  
here...

What  
the  
hell,  
Ricky?!  
Let me  
out!!

And there's  
nowhere to  
run!

There's  
too  
many!

...you  
won't be  
able to  
beat the  
Dark  
General!

Don't worry! I  
can KO all of  
these small fry  
by myself!

WAH!!

Maple, get as  
far away  
from here as  
you can!

**RICKY**  
**!!**