

## A Ghost 241

### Chapter 241

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The day went on peacefully and I actually managed to nap until tomorrow, when I woke up it was already early in the morning and Emeraldine and Partner already had dinner last night and ended cuddling at each of my sides in the bed. Lucifer was sleeping in the couch at the side.

Through this week they had been taking turns to sleep at my side, but it seems that these two ended taking Lucifer's place and he didn't seem to mind, sleeping in the large couch at the side... this made me feel a bit bad, I also want to spoil my grumpy old dragon a bit.

I sneaked outside of the bed through becoming phantom, sneaking away from the physical bed, and arriving at the floor below, where I found that Lucifer was already awake, as an Undead, he seemed to be always kind of awake, and when we sleep is that we purposely turn off most of our thoughts, like a long meditation, but unlike sleeping, we are always perfectly aware of all our surroundings.

Partner has changed thought, now that she is a Lesser Vampire, she had gained several "life-like" traits, which seem to give her a sleep more akin to living beings, the typical sleep that vampires take that let them sleep for centuries without even being woken up at all, so she got a very heavy sleep after she began to slowly turn into a Vampiric being.

After she drank the blood of the Vampires we killed, she finally became a Lesser type of Vampire, and gained a lot of their strengths and weaknesses, such as sunlight, holy light, fire, and so on more than before...

As of now she had already developed Sunlight Resistance, although we are still in the process of making her learn Fire or Light Resistance, it is a bit sad because I don't want to set her on fire or something, I really don't want that! So she is asking the fire ghost brothers to help her build fire resistance, although she can regenerate wounds quickly, they don't seem to like it either... but she forces them to help her anyways.

I think she also asks Emeraldine to bathe her in holy light, which must hurt a lot as well, I guess Partner is really a hard worker by trying to mitigate her big weaknesses... Meanwhile, I guess my two weaknesses are Life and Light/Holy Light, the complete opposites of what I am.

But thanks to my Elemental Resistance Skill and Great Magic Resistance Skill, I am able to mitigate a lot of the damage I receive, even then, my weakness still hits me strong... It is something we have to deal with, I guess...

Anyways, going back to reality, Lucifer's eyes opened as he looked at me with curiosity.

"Hm? What is it? I was enjoying my nap... Let me sleep some more. Since we arrived here that I can finally relax..." he said.

"Come on, come with me, I want to spend some time with you." I said.

"Sigh..."

Lucifer slowly stood up out of the couch, moving away the blankets he was covering himself, and followed me from behind.

"Spend time with me?" he asked. "We always are together anyways."

"Yeah, but alone, the two of us." I said. "You're my second ever companion, you know? So I like to spend time with you, there's nothing wrong with that!"

"...I know."

Lucifer had been quite melancholic through this week, more than the common level of depression that he always has. Mostly because of seeing the people frozen in here, and how it has been impossible to free them no matter what method we tried to use.

We slowly walked around the castle and we reached a terrace area that led us to the outside world, where we could see the rest of the town, there was some people awake at these hours, cooking a large pot of stew outside, some were grilling meat, and even fish they caught in a nearby river.

Another group of goblins and people were together peeling off the fur of a large polar bear they seem to have caught, it is good fur.

"How have you feel lately?" I asked.

"I... I am okay now..." said Lucifer. "You don't have to worry so much about me."

"But I do... I am worried about everyone... But you, Emeraldine, and Partner are more important to me, so I have to pay extra attention to detail." I said.

"..."

Lucifer looked into the outside world, his eyes seemed a bit sleepy, but also held a strong sorrow that he always tried to mask with his expressionlessness.

I hugged him from behind, as he was taller than me, his figure seemed big like a pillar, it even blocked the light.

"You hold on too many emotions sometimes." I said. "I want to tell you that you can open up more to me."

"...You say that but when I do, you escape from me." He sighed.

"Eh? But that other time you were trying to kiss me! That's going a bit too far, you know? There are other ways to do it..." I said. "Also weren't you married? I don't know but I feel bad when I think about it... I feel like by kissing you... I am doing something wrong..."

"Ah..."

Lucifer looked at me with a bit of melancholy, as he looked down.

“Yeah... I was once married, almost a thousand years ago... I still love her, but she’s long gone...” sighed Lucifer. “You’re the first person I’ve met that gives me the feelings that she once gave to me.”

“Lucifer...” I sighed, as I smiled back at him.

“Maybe I might seem like I am sad all the time.” He sighed. “But when I am with you, I sometimes feel like my heart is lighter, and I feel more relaxed.”

“...”

“Maria... I... I love you.” He said. “I... Sorry, I shouldn’t had said that out of nowhere...”

“No, it’s fine... Dummy...” I sighed. “I think it’s pretty obvious already, but I also love you.”

“...Really?”

“Yep.”

Lucifer raised his eyebrows, as his pale face slowly began to grow redder.

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I can’t believe I actually just said it?! I was thinking for the perfect moment to say it, but I just couldn’t bring myself to wait any longer. I’ve been feeling bad for him lately for what I did back then, and I really didn’t wanted him to feel like I actually disliked him, because that seemed to be the impression that I gave to him back then.

But I can't believe that I just said it out loud and without any problem?! What is wrong with me and my stupid head? I am really me right now? I feel like I am just growing more and more stupid by the second. Is this how love makes people feel? That they're losing braincells? Well, I don't even have a brain.

However, when Lucifer said that to me, I really felt it... And while we watched the small town in front of us, I ended just telling him, so he can be reassured that I like him and that he is indeed needed in my life. I kind of like to spend some time alone with him, while the girls seem to have some good chemistry while we do fluffy stuff, Lucifer is more of a silent and too serious type, so being alone with him feels better than when we are with the girls.

Also, he kind of feels awkward while trying to be fluffy with me when the other girls are around, mostly due to their intense stares... so having me all for himself gives him a bit more of confidence, that's for sure.

Lucifer looked at me with a bit of surprise as I said those words, he really thought I disliked him...

"You really thought I disliked you, didn't you?" I asked. "Ugh... I am sorry, okay? I never wanted to create that feeling of insecurity within you..."

"I-Is that so...? I... Since then that I really thought you disliked me but..." he said. "Now that I think about it, I was very rough back then... So I won't try to force myself into you..."

"M-Maybe a bit forceful but it was still okay... You don't have to apologize too much." I said. "Don't worry, I already forgave you for that and I really do... do... do love... you."

"M-Maria..."

Lucifer seemed very embarrassed, as his pale face continued to grow redder, and his charming red eyes seemed to look into my very soul, his long silvery-white hair looked silky and his skin was like porcelain, his face's features were handsome too... Although his true form is a giant lizard with wings, so I also have to learn to like him in that form.

"You're feeling better?" I asked, as I held his hand.

“Yeah... I feel... Somewhat... Within my heart, it feels warm...” he said.

“W-Warm?” I asked. “How so?”

“I don’t know... But it feels like something in me is finally alive...” he said. “I’ve been dead for so long that I have already forgotten what it felt to be alive, and what it felt to have a beating heart... But somehow, my heart... It is beating.”

I touched Lucifer’s chest... and it was true.

What is this?

His heart shouldn’t be beating, he’s dead after all, he’s an Undead!

Yet somehow, his heart is beating...

I approached my head to his chest, to hear his heart beating.

Ba dump...

Ah... It is really beating, slowly... but it is.

How strange. I genuinely don’t know what’s going on with him.

Is this really just for love? Because he finally feels alive due to love, so his heart began to react to his passion, and it began to beat?

It even feels warm, the heart is really pumping warm blood across his body...

Wow... I don’t know why but this is pretty amazing.

Lucifer gently hugged me with his slender arms, as I slowly looked up to him, resting over the chest of a guy is not bad at all... I feel protected by his arms, and his face... Uwah, is he smiling?! Ahh... He's really handsome.

"Thank you for helping me feel alive once more, Maria..." he said.

"L-Lucifer..." I said, as I slowly approached my face to him.

"M-Maria..." he said, doing the same, as he approached his face to me.

"I-Is this okay? It is okay for you?" he asked before doing the deed.

"Yes... Kiss me." I said.

While being hugged by my beloved, he kissed me gently with his warm lips, giving me the warmth of love that I have given to him. I felt as if I was also slightly alive too.

His kiss was something else... It was warm, and soft, so gentle, yet filled with a strong passion. His arms hugging me from behind felt as if they were protecting me from the cruel world outside, while I immersed myself in the passion of our lips touching one another.

Without realizing it, our kiss lasted longer than we expected, and my tongue even slipped inside, both of our tongues touched for a little bit, and it felt so nice yet so tingly... it made me get a bit of chills down my body, is this lewd? It felt more like something even more personal.

I didn't wanted to stop kissing him, in fact, I suddenly felt the urge for him to embrace me, to hug me more, to kiss me more, to tell me that he loves me, to throw me into bed and... show me how much he loves me...

Ahh...

When our lips finally separated, we looked at one another lovingly.

I've never kissed someone with such passion before... Well, I actually did, with Emeraldine, but it would be rude to compare the two kisses, both are special to me.

"So? How was it?" I asked timidly. "D-Do I kiss well?"

Lucifer smiled as he kissed my nose and then my forehead, and hugged me back, caressing my hair.

"Yes, you kiss very good..." he said. "You're so beautiful and cute... Maria... As a dragon, I think I have finally found my treasure..."

"L-Lucifer..."

I think that's the most romantic thing a dragon can say to the woman they love.

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"Come here..."

"Huh? Ahh...!"

...

At the end, we ended kissing for a bit more, I just wanted to get more of the taste of his lips, I even ended kissing his tender neck, and his nose as well. He was way too cute and precious for me to not give him what he deserved.



As we continued to kiss, Lucifer's chest continued to grow warmer and warmer, until his entire body began to glow with a bright white light.

"W-What is... happening?!" he asked in shock.

"Uwaaah!"

FLAAASH!

And without previous warning, Lucifer evolved.

Yes... He had already reached max level.

But for some weird reason, he had yet not "met the requirements" to evolve.

He had been locked in this level for a while, and although his stats still increased over time as he fought, it wasn't that good of a boost as it is when one levels up.

Nonetheless, it seems that the requirements to evolve for him and finally break his level cap was... kissing me?

No... I think it was something else.

Thinking about it, when we kissed, his heart started to beat faster, and his blood pumped across his veins, he felt the warmth of life that someone like me, a ghost, shouldn't be able to give to someone.

It was this "life" that he gained... So what he needed to evolve was to revive? Wow, that's a bit too harsh of a requirement, we would had never been able to tell. What if I took too long to give him a kiss? He would had never evolved at the end! That sucks.

"I-I... evolved?"

Lucifer's light quickly gathered back into his body, as he had grown around six centimeters taller now, even taller than me now, although I could extend my size to be bigger! But I like to be small so he can hug me... Okay, I like tall guys.

His appearance had not changed much in his humanoid form, but his scales had turned deep black now, and had some purple colors on them, his dragon horns were now bigger and more demonic than before, and he... he had a third eye in his forehead which opened vertically, it was red-colored, and it looked quite intimidating!

And his entire body gained a phantasmal glow... Oh, he also had a blue jewel incrusting on his chest! And he was now warm forever, I think he became a strange being, between living and unliving, kind of like how Vampires are.

"I have truly evolved... I can't believe that a kiss with you would help me evolve... T-This is unheard of..." he said. "It is all thanks to you..." he smiled.

"M-Me?!" I asked. "W-Well... Maybe it was thanks to me..."

"Yeah, it was..." he said. "It was because... your love warmed me, it made me feel alive..."

He held my hands, as he smiled back at me... Uwah, he's like a handsome prince holding my hands now! Or more like the King? A handsome and ancient dragon king holding the hands of a ghostly queen... how romantic.

"In what... did you evolve?" I wondered.

"In... Apparently... A Death Dragon?" he wondered. "A Three-eyed Death Dragon King."

"Wow, that sounds cool..." I said.

I decided to check Lucifer's Status and see for myself how much he had changed.

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[Name: [Lucifer]

[Race: [Three-Eyed Death Dragon King]

[Level: [1/70]

[Rank: [A+]

[Status: [Filled with Motivation]

[HP: [35000/35000]

[MP: [20000/20000]

[Attack: [18000]

[Defense: [15000]

[Magic: [11000]

[Agility: [9000]

Characteristic Skills:

[Ancient Dragon: Lv-]

[Dark Element: Lv-]

[Death Element: Lv-]

[Fire Element: Lv-]

[Primordial Draconic Death Core: Lv-]

[Ancient Dragon Heart: Lv-]

[Morph: Lv-]

[Fiend Language: Lv9]

[Shapeshift: Lv7]

[Self-Regeneration: Lv8]

[Flesh Consumption: Lv6]

[Hardened Dragon Scales: Lv8]

[Death Embodiment: Lv1] (New!)

[Ancient Dragon's Domain: Lv1] (New!)

Resistance Skills:

[Status Effect Immunity: Lv-]

[Physical Damage Resistance: Lv9]

[Magic Damage Resistance: Lv8]

[Elemental Damage Resistance: Lv7]

[Death Resistance: Lv1] (New!)

Normal Skills:

[Life Drain: Lv10] – [Life Assimilation: Lv1]

[Phantasmal Flames Breath: Lv10] – [Abyssal Death Breath: Lv1]

[Phantom Claws: Lv10] – [Hellish Death Claws: Lv1]

[Fireball: Lv10] – [Phantasmal Flame: Lv1]

[Dark Sphere: Lv10] – [Dark Moon: Lv1]

[Mana Mastery: Lv8]

[Intimidating Aura: Lv10] – [Ancient Dragon's Aura: Lv1]

[Dark Shadow Spear: Lv6]

[Venomous Dragon Scale Powder: Lv5]

[Reaper of Souls: Lv1] (New!)

[Scythe of Death: Lv1] (New!)

[Third Draconic Eye of Death Perception: Lv1] (New!)

Title Skills:

[Servant of the Dark Witch: Lv–] – [Husband of the Apostle of Death: Lv1]

[Fallen Dragon: Lv–] – [Death Dragon: Lv1]

[Protector of Goblins: Lv5]

[Furious Berserk: Lv3]

[Guardian of Death: Lv1] (New!)

[The Gatekeeper of Helheim: Lv1] (New!)

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Woah...

Incredible.

Lucifer had really grown amazingly strong! His stats.... Everything! Even his skills, so many of them even ended awakening, and he got several title skills and other set of new skills as well, this is incredible! Lucifer, you're amazing.

But his race... it really intrigues me to see what it is about!

Due to that, I checked his race above all other things, although I am sure he skyrocketed in power based on stats alone and his new Rank at A+! A+! We don't have anyone in that Rank yet, not even me!

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[Three-Eyed Death Dragon King]

An ancient race of dragons rumored to have been given the task of guarding the gates that lead to Helheim. They stop wandering souls from trying to escape Helheim, while also stopping those that have yet to meet their end to enter the underworld.

Their enormous bodies and presences are utterly phantasmal, but despite being so close with Death itself, they're not Undead, but living beings that have accepted death as their primary element.

They possess incredibly hard scales capable of resisting the element of death itself, and their third eyes are able to see the "death" of people, and are even able to predict when or how will someone meet their end...

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Wow, that's quite the eerie description, but it is amazing nonetheless...

And he got a Title saying that he is my husband?! W-Well... I-I don't mind it, heheh...

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I looked into Lucifer's Status attentively, it seems that his Race was named Three-Eyed Death Dragon King, which is a race of dragons that gatekeep the underworld itself, but that are not dead.

This is why his [Undead] and [Chimera] Skills suddenly disappeared? He stopped being both of those and became a living dragon! I actually revived him with a kiss, this really feels like a fairy tale now...

And his stats skyrocketed very nicely as well! He got some nice and amazing boosts to his stats- actually, more than boosts, those are outright cheating stats! He just skyrocketed his status so much I feel like he should give me a few kisses to see if I can evolve too...

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[HP: [35000/35000]

[MP: [20000/20000]

[Attack: [18000]

[Defense: [15000]

[Magic: [11000]

[Agility: [9000]

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I mean, look at that! Not only his HP became super high so he's now incredibly beefy, but his MP went all the way to 20k, enough for him to conjure insane magic without his mana exhausting at any moment, and then he got 18k of Attack, that's almost the same number as my Magic stat, so he can do some very devastating things with his own claws and tail now.



And there is more! there is the Defense at 15k, further enforcing his beefiness as a tank more than Partner, as she now had evolved into a quick spear user and magician hybrid. And his Magic is at 11k, that's pretty good too, his magic before wasn't the strongest, but now it can truly be considered strong.

And then there is his agility at 9k, enough to easily outrun most of our group except me, barely. And that's on his humanoid form, maybe on his dragon form due to his change of size, he would be able to easily overrun just anybody!

He also had some new and amazing skills at his disposal, these Skills granted him all sorts of buffs, but mostly reinforced his already existing and successful playstyle to an even greater level.

There were a pair of Skills that seemed quite interesting from the bunch, more than the rest, those were Reaper of Souls and Scythe of Death! Just what were those about?

I briefly checked them, and they seemed to be kind of like some of my abilities. Reaper of Souls allow Lucifer to harvest the souls directly out of weakened foes, and devour them, while Scythe of Death literally lets him summon a materialization of his soul in the shape of a scythe which he can use to slice up people on his humanoid form- or dragon form, maybe.

It also seems to have a small chance to cause instant death on weaker foes that have a smaller connection with life, the chance increases further when they are detached with life more... I guess he'll serve very well as my new servant! ...I mean, h-h-husband...

"Y-You saw the Title you got?" I asked.

"Hm? Which one? ...Ah!" muttered Lucifer.

"Y-Yeah..." I said.

"H-Husband...?" he asked while swallowing a bit of saliva.

"Indeed... I didn't know that a kiss would make you instantly my husband though! That's a bit of cheating, isn't it?" I asked. "Even more because we have yet to do that..."

“T-That... Right...” he said. “Well, I don’t want to jump ahead of the two girls or something... So let’s take this slow... I know that it is what you want as well.”

“I do... You’re very good at understanding me, huh?” I asked, while petting his head. “How about you show me that dragon form now?”

“N-Now?” he asked. “I think I might look... even more hideous than before.”

“What? Come on, I love dragons, they’re cool, so show me what you got.” I said.

“Sigh... Hahah, fine... You’re really something else.” Said Lucifer, as he flew outside of the castle by extending giant dark wings out of his back and then exploded in black smoke above the sky.

TRUUMMM...!

It felt as if a storm had just fallen here, but it was just the effect of his transformation back into his original dragon form.

And oh boy was it big... it was very big.

His entire body looked like gigantic and fierce dragon, his body was covered primarily by black scales, and there were also purple and gray scales here and there, his scales were enormous and thick, like armor plates aligned together.

His two eyes were of a phantasmal blue color, while the third eye in the forehead was shining brightly with a red color, and it was vertically opened, shining with an eerie red light that only sent shivers down the spine of those admiring his appearance down below.

His long tail extended several meters, and it ended in a scythe-like blade, while his two arms also had enormous claws that were shaped kind of like scythes, which he could probably use to slice a mountain if he really wanted!

And he had two pair of wings, yes, two! One was bigger than the other though, and the membranes had tattoos resembling two enormous eyes looking directly at me...

And the other two wings, the smaller pair, also had tattoos in the shape of red eyes on the membranes... lastly, he had a gigantic blue jewel incrusting on his chest, which emanated a strong phantasmal aura. I think this might be his Core and perhaps connected to his heart.

It looks like a very obvious weakness too, so we'll have to find ways to hide it or protect it... I don't know why they got such an obvious weakness like that, but dragons in fiction are always like this anyways, they always got a very obvious weakness because they're made too overpowered.

I suppose it is a way to balance it, like Superman with his Kryptonite, everybody that is way too overpowered gotta have one of those, I suppose... Anyways, enough of bad comparisons.

"You look awesome!" I said.

"This body... It feels so natural to me for some reason... I feel like I am alive... Wait... I am not an Undead anymore... I am really alive!" he said.

"Yes, you are, dummy... did you just realized it?" I sighed.

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Chapter 244 Taking A Ride Into The Skies

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I looked at Lucifer's enormous form with a smile, I was happy that he felt so motivated out of nowhere. I never thought I could bring him this much happiness with just a few hugs and kisses. Perhaps I should had done it way earlier... And more importantly, he also evolved, his new abilities will surely come in handy, but it isn't as if I kissed him for him to evolve or something, I really didn't knew he would end up evolving to begin with.

"Lucifer, take me on a ride!" I said, as I flew towards Lucifer's side and sat down over his neck.

"A ride..." he said. "Sure."

FLASH!

Lucifer's enormous wings spread open as he began to flap them rapidly, and in a few seconds, he immediately shot up into the skies, leaving a trace of dark energy behind.

We continued moving higher and higher, as he reached the clouds atop the sky in no time. And from then on, we crossed those cold clouds that constantly formed snow, reaching even above them.

FLAAASH!

The clouds were left behind in a mere instant, as we reached a completely clear blue sky atop all the clouds, where the bright sun greeted our sight, shining as bright as it could possibly do.

It felt as if the entire world had suddenly changed, it was all clear, and beautiful at that. It truly felt as if we moved to heaven itself.

"T-This is amazing, Lucifer..." I said.

"Maria... I was always tired back then..." he said. "Although I was an Undead, it always felt like I was dragging my body around... But now I am filled with so much energy! I am even able to come all the way here, and fly even higher if I wanted!"

"W-Wow... Well, don't do that, I don't know what would happen to us if we went to space, it might be more dangerous to you now that you're a dragon." I said. "But this... This is enough, dear. It is enough..."

Lucifer nodded, as he looked into the bright sun rising from the horizon with me.

"It feels so nice to be bathed by the warmth of the sun without feeling it as if it was burning my skin..." he sighed. "Although it didn't really do any damage to me, as an Undead, the light of the sun always felt apprehensive and painful... But now... It is different."

"I can tell... I missed seeing the sun as well, it has been cloudy all the week..." I sighed. "This is a nice place to have a date, isn't it? Although I don't think we can properly eat while being up here..."

"It is indeed a nice place to be... Hm?" said Lucifer. "Look at that, in the distance."

"Eh?"

We both looked into the distance towards the west, as we found... a giant floating island.

What?

Where did that even come from?

It was indeed a giant floating island! It had a gigantic size, and it was as big chunk of dirt floating in the sky... Amazing, I never thought I would see something like this.

It seemed to have a big forest inside, and more stuff there.

"Interesting..." said Lucifer. "Perhaps we should come here for another occasion."

"Yeah, it doesn't seem to be moving? It is quite static, and even if it moves, it probably does very slowly, so we can come back later..." I said. "But I feel a strong mana aura coming from it, I think there might even be a dungeon there... Wow, a dungeon in a freaking floating island, now that's new."

"Interesting... Well, let's go back for now." Said Lucifer. "This dungeon could be a nice place to acquire resources, perhaps. And I am starving, since I evolved that I finally feel hunger, it has been such a long time since I actually felt any hunger... It is very... it is a good feeling."

"Okay, let's go eat. I don't know how much a dragon actually eats though..." I sighed. "When you were an Undead, you would eat just whatever, but now that you're alive you gotta consume enough calories and nutrients and everything else! I hope you don't end up eating all the reserves, the poor rats won't be able to reproduce enough to feed you."

"Come on, don't joke like that..." said Lucifer. "Well, let's go down."

FLAAASH!

And in a mere instant through Lucifer's incredible speed, we reached down into the ground, as he turned into his humanoid form midway through, and held me tightly with his arms, carrying me like a princess...

"Here." He said, as he let me step over the floor, reaching the terrace of the castle where we were before some minutes ago.

"Thank you, good sir." I said while giggling, only to find Partner and Emeraldine with sleepy faces looking at both of us a bit angrily.

"Where were you two?!" asked Partner while pouting. "I was worried! You two just disappeared, and there were some loud noises out of nowhere too!"

"I was also quite worried..." sighed Emeraldine. "I also thought something bad happened, but I am glad it was nothing bad... Huh? Lucifer, your aura... You've evolved."

"Yes, I have... It happened just now when-"

I quickly spoke through telepathy to him.

"(Don't say that I kissed you or Partner might go crazy angry with you! I don't know if Emeraldine would, but better be safe than sorry...)"

"Ah... W-Well... I just evolved when I felt like I was filled with enough strength. A core formed in my chest, and for some time I've been accumulating energy in my chest, perhaps it took some time because of that..." said Lucifer.

"Oh... I guess that's nice." Said Emeraldine. "I was growing worried you were never evolving, Lucifer."

"Hmmm... I guess that's true..." said Partner. "Though something seems off here..."

"Must be your imagination!" I said. "Anyways! Let's go eat something, we are starving!"

"Y-Yeah!" said Lucifer. "Let's go."

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## Chapter 246

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After Lucifer finally evolved, we went to take a trip into the skies and we found this one strange floating island, which I think might have a dungeon based in how much mana it emanated.

Aside from that, we moved down, and we pretended we were not doing anything weird to the two girls. They're also super sharp so they immediately realized that Lucifer had evolved.

But that was fine, he came out with a nice excuse and that was more than enough to make them believe our small white lie for the moment. After that, we moved to have breakfast, and after that, we were more than ready to travel to the nearby town which is actually one of the two duchies that the Kingdom of Iceland has.

The Kingdom of Iceland is one of those hard working and surviving kingdoms that has somehow adapted to these frozen lands for generations, and they're probably just as cold and harsh as the lands they live in, but even though they might be like this in my mind, they also seem to be gentle and open-minded (or maybe just desperate to survive) to the point they would do negotiations with ice giant tribes and even the dwarf nation.

They're obviously a human nation, and they don't shy away from admitting being humans even though they're surrounded by demi-humans at every corner of these frozen lands, they're hardy survivors so I am excited to see what they are like.

pAn,Da n<0,>v,e1 Aside from that, our main mission is buying as many provisions as we can, I believe it is a big enough place that they sell food and other stuff, right? So we'll buy as much as food as we can, and a lot of other materials if we can find them, which Darfu has already made a list of and wrote them down in a paper for me to remember.

We also... obviously, are going there because we need beer, so we are going to buy all the beer types we can find and bring them here for these two very special friends we got here, these two idiots of the dwarves that won't work unless they're given beer.

They better be worth the annoyance and pain in the ass! I really hope they make the best freaking things after we give them beer! Or I am really going to lose my patience by then and I might not respond if I go a bit out of my own control with my rage.

We decided to go atop of Lucifer, after evolving and filling his belly, he was very energetic, mostly due to being alive now, and he really wanted to fly some more and feel the breeze on his face, so we decided to hop over his back and let ourselves be carried by him.

We were going to go with the main party, Emeraldine, Partner, and me. And of course, Kuro and Raven are coming with me too, those are like my pets, so I cannot miss bringing them with me, they're my undead familiars at this point. Meanwhile, I am leaving Pyro to command the other undead spiders and protect the town from any nasty monster that might attempt to make a quick meal out of my people, and if that's not enough, there is also Catarina, the twin fire ghosts, and the other warriors.

Naturally, there are also many of my snake ghost clones everywhere, so they will take care of stuff and let me see through their eyes, if anything too urgent happens, I will be the first one to know it! They're like cameras directly connected to my mind.

With that said, everything was mostly ready, and the only thing we had left to do is depart! Thanks to Lucifer's speed, it shouldn't take that long to get there, so we'll go there, spend the night there, and then come back tomorrow morning, that's the plan.



"Alright, we are off!" I said. "Take care, see you tomorrow morning."

"Yeah, take care..." said the Goblin Elder.

"We'll protect the place while you're out." Said the Goblin Chief.

"Have a good trip, Auntie!" said Gofumin.

"Please bring me some sweets!" said Laura.

"Sister stop being so spoiled!" said Takeshi.

"Leave the rest to us." Said Syllis.

"Yeah! My brother is very capable." Said Bellerine.[please visit panda\(-\)N0ve1.co\)m](http://panda(-)N0ve1.co)m)

"Maria-sama! Please, make sure to bring the things I put on the notes! And if they are not available, at least make sure to bring some sort of equivalent to it!" said Darfu. "Make sure to not forget this!"

"Okay! I get it! Don't worry, Darfu!" I said.

Emeraldine and Partner waved their hands as we sat over Lucifer's back, I used my dark thread to wrap us tightly around him without making the threads sharp, so they were all secure and not dangerous.

"Then... we shall depart!"

FLAAAASH!

Lucifer's wings flapped rapidly as we were high into the skies in an instant.

"I know where this duchy is, I saw it before, so I am going there directly at a high speed, hold tight!" said Lucifer.

"On it, boss!" I said.

"W-Wait! Lucifer, I still don't get used to this so you could be a bit-"

FLAAAAAASH!

And without listening to Emeraldine, Lucifer's wings once more began to flap at an incredible speed, we were moving almost through supersonic speed, it felt as if we were in a literal jet from Earth!

The wind itself resonated as we pierced it through loudly! Emeraldine and Partner were surprised, but Emeraldine was the one screaming.

"Uwaaaaaaaaahhhh...! UUhggh... My stomach hurts! Aaagh!"

The clumsy elf began to get dizzier and dizzier, until I had to calm her down by possessing her body and turning off her mind for a bit.

"Ugeh..."

She fell into my arms while sleeping, as we moved through the sky.

FLAAASH!

And I just five minutes of crossing the icy clouds, we reached the area of the duchy we wanted to visit! That was awfully fast!

"We are here... This duchy is..."

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Chapter 247

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"I don't know the name of the duchy..." sighed Lucifer.

"Then why do you hype me thinking that you know it?!" I asked. "A-Anyways, Emeraldine, time to wake up." I began to caress Emeraldine's head and used my possession once more, turning on her brain and waking her up with a slight shock to her head.

"UWAH! ...Eh? Ah... What happened? Did I just fell unconscious?" she asked.

"Yes you did! It was totally that! That's exactly what happened back then, right, guys?" I asked to the other two.

"Yeah, definitely." Said Lucifer. "You're such a slacker..."

"Indeed, you fell asleep! I really am disappointed on you." Said Partner. "But I guess it is all forgiven because you're... erm... our favorite elf girl!"

"Yeah, right. That! Now that you're awake, we should move down and do some shopping." I said.

"Lucifer, move us down please."

"Sure."

Lucifer moved down into the ground as he let us jump out of his back, and then he transformed into his humanoid form once more, he modified his draconic parts, so he looked like a lugubrious human at most. Now that he was alive, he wasn't that pale, but he seems to just be naturally pale.

"Agh, I still feel a bit dizzy..." sighed Emeraldine.

"Come on, the duchy is right in front of us, keep moving, you'll get better eventually." Said Partner. "Let's go." Partner began to help Emeraldine move over the snow-filled field we found ourselves in, which was surrounded by pine trees everywhere.

The large duchy was surrounded by enormous rocky walls that extended over almost 40 meters, and they were tightly guarded by many guards spread all around, who made big bonfires to keep up with the snow and freezing temperatures. I am sure those bonfires were conjured with some magic because no matter how much wind and snow there was, that fire was not dissipating.

The duchy seemed to be surrounded by an artificially made river that was completely frozen now, maybe they had fishes there, it connected to other rivers we saw around, but they were all just frozen, I am sure there is still unfrozen water below the ice cape, and we even saw some fishers making holes in the ice and fishing some fish from there, Takeshi would love to talk to these people I guess, as a natural-born fisher.

The people we saw were mostly humans, elves seem to not fare good in very cold temperatures, but there were still exceptions, we also saw a big amount of beast-kin walking around towards the duchy, they were all wearing robes, but their natural fur also helped them resist the freezing cold temperatures.

We saw some beast-kin we never saw before, such as Buffalo-kin who were big, almost being two meters, with a lot of fur over their backs, arms, and legs, and two big horns atop their heads, then there were white-colored fox-kins that were quite pretty, and coiled their own bodies with their big and fluffy tails, they seemed to be named Snow Foxes, while there were also a few Ice Wolf-kin, that were like Snow Fox-kin but for wolves, they also have fluffy tails and a lot of fur to protect themselves, but not as big of a tail as the fox-kin, we even saw a pair of polar bear-kin, who were just as big as the buffalo-kin, and covered in fluffy white fur.

"There is a lot of diversity in here, none of these people are enslaved either..." said Emeraldine. "I am beginning to like this Kingdom."

"Yeah, this Kingdom accepted other demi-human races, they were originally just another racist human Kingdom but when they were forced to adapt and survive, a King surged, one that was even willing to cooperate with dragons and demons to make his people survive, and over time, the discrimination

towards other races slowly faded away, and just for the sake of survival, they ended turning very open-minded..." said Lucifer.

"I see, so it is the "If you pat my back, I pat your back too, scenario?"...?" I asked. "I suppose that the harsh environment as a common enemy for everyone does forces people to unit for a single purpose."

"Yeah, meanwhile, the richer Kingdoms are just way too filled with resources that they must find a way to direct the hate and anger of the population, so it is not directed to the corrupt governments. And what better way to do it than by discriminating demi-humans and making slave a daily life thing?" sighed Emeraldine.

"I guess it is all about circumstances and the situation at the moment, everybody is different at the end..." said Lucifer. "This Kingdom slowly turned into an open-minded one that accepts most other races easily, slavery is very rare too, although not completely nonexistent."

"Hmm, oh! There we are, the gates!" I said.

We quickly moved towards the gate, now that I saw my group, we all looked like freaks. Partner, Lucifer, and me all looked like some sort of Vampire, while Emeraldine looked way too holy to be with a trio of goth-looking weirdos like us, but that she was completely comfortable with us only made it more prominent, while we all wore dark clothes she wore some green and brown clothes with a lot of fur to warm herself from the cold temperatures, the rest of us were pretty cold resistant so we didn't really need to wear anything too big to warm us up, we just wore normal clothes for the most part.

This is why a lot of people was looking at us as we struggled to move across the annoying snow below our feet, until we reached the gates, which were being protected by a group of guards.

When it was our turn, the trio of guards looked at us from shoes to head in silence. They were two old humans, a woman and a man, and the other was a young adult man with some surprised look on his eyes.

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Chapter 248

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The old man with a white beard looked at me and decided to speak.

“Ahem... New to the city? There is a fee to enter for non-citizens, it is one fifty coppers for each person, children can enter for free.”

“Coppers... Alright... here.” I said, I paid the man 150 coppers, there were coins that counted for 10 copper coins, so I only had to give him 15 and not actually 150 coins.

“Alright... you can pass.” He said. “Make sure to wear something warmer, lady, you look like you’re freezing with such a pale skin...” he said.

“Ahahah... T-Thanks for worrying...” I said, as I waved my hand and walked away with everybody else.

“Well, that was weird now...” said Emeraldine. “I wonder if they had some suspiciousness that you were not really even normal demi-humans... I don’t know if Vampires are widely accepted here... Nor dragon people, even less a ghost...”

“I think Vampires are not accepted...” said Lucifer. “After the Demon King died, they turned drastically eviler over time, and their leaders had terrorized innocent people from all around Midgard... It is also pretty much widely known that they’re the masterminds behind some illegal organizations and the church treats them as the evil of the world that must be purged... Well, I blame them for doing such stupid things.”

“I-I suppose Vampires are not that well accepted...” sighed Partner. “Oh well, still better than being a skeleton! Or a zombie... or a ghoul... or... a half-vampire? I wonder what’s next for me?”

“Probably a True Vampire as you’re now a Lesser Vampire.” Said Lucifer. “Anyways, we are entering the big city so let’s not talk about these things or people might catch our conversation.”

“True.” I said. “Well, here we are! The Duchy’s name is... What’s the name of this damn duchy?” I wondered, as I decided to ask a local.

"Name? They call this place Snowfall because long ago a giant avalanche fell over here." Said a man, as he walked away after answering me.

"Ah... Quite the name." I said.

"Yeah, it is indeed quite the peculiar name..." said Lucifer. "Anyways, maybe we should move towards the shopping district and see what the shops there have to offer. Don't forget what Darfu left on a note, Maria."

"I won't! I won't! Don't worry about it." I said while winking back at him.

"Though I wish we could walk a bit more around the place. Can we?" asked Emeraldine.

"Yeah, I want to explore the place." Said Partner.

"Well, sure, let's go around for a bit." I said.

The entire duchy was almost completely paved, and mostly all houses were made of stone, gray stone, which was covered in snow, however the interior seemed to be made of wood, so the stone was probably a protective outer layer for the houses.

There were chimneys literally in every single house, and they were all leaving a lot of black smoke into the atmosphere... But I can't blame the people, it's pretty cold in here.

We walked around the streets, finding more and more people walking all around, it was a very busy place despite being in the middle of such desolate frozen lands, it was quite a beautiful place to be in, and although there was certainly something gloomy about the place, it was still a refreshing stroll.

In our way, we ended entering into the market district, where we first found people selling frozen fish that froze naturally, actually, and also all sorts of frozen meats too which also just froze naturally, so I guess these people never deal with decomposing food.

They got cattle animals in sheep, cow, buffalo, and wild boars which they domesticated, and they had big herds inside of the walls, there was a big chunk of the territory that was just for cattle and also large greenhouses they had made and supported with a lot of magic artifacts that produced greens all year long.

“Look at this fish, Master!” said Partner. “It is gigantic, and frozen into a whole block of ice!”

Partner pointed a big fish resembling a tuna that was frozen solid into a cube. It looked like it could be a nice meal if we could grill it or even use the meat to make a tasty and warm fish soup... well, it is big enough that we can make a lot with it.

“This is today’s biggest catch, lady!” said an old fox-kin man. “Only for you for five silver coins! This thing can feed you for half a month!”

“Wow, five silver coins... That’s a bit expensive...” Said Emeraldine.

“W-What? But it is a giant ass fish! What price do you want me to put it for?” asked the angered fox man. “This fish can literally feed you for days!”

“Okay, calm down, we buy it.” I said, as I gave the man five silvers.

“Ohooo! Thank you for the preference, dear customer!” said the fox man while happily grinning, as he moved the fish to me.

“S-So how are you carrying it?” he wondered.

“I got spatial magic.” I said.

“Huh?!”

FLASH!



The fish suddenly was sucked by the void of my inventory, and disappeared.

“T-The heck?! By Skadi! I’ve never seen a magic like that...!” he said. “I-Impressive...”

“It helps at storing stuff... Anyways, we are buying all of this fish too. That big shark as well... Did you fish it in the coast?” I wondered.

“E-Every fish?! And yes! I fished in the coast! L-Lady, do you really mean it?!” he asked.

“Yeah, we got a big family to feed.” I said, as I gave the man some gold coins.

“That should pay for all of them, right? Keep the change.” I said.

“T-Thank you so much! Please take away all my fish!” said the fox man, smiling and jumping around happily.

“Yipee! I’ll buy my daughter something tasty today! Thank you!” said the man.

I quickly sucked all the fish into my Inventory and moved on.

“You really made his day.” Said Lucifer. “But don’t you think you’re bringing too much attention?”

“Eh? Ah... I guess? I just want fish.” I said. “Also he said they fish giant sharks in the coast, so maybe we could get some food from there too.”

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## Chapter 249

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I just wanted fish!

Anyways, we moved around the market, and I decided to be less impulsive this time around, I had bought too many fish and attention was all around me, it took us a while for the people to stop looking at us, maybe they thought I was some sort of rich aristocrat lady or something.

We inspected the stalls of the market to see what they had available, aside from the fish, there was red monster meat that was very expensive! And aside from that, there were vegetables from the greenhouse which were just as expensive! I guess commoners only eat fish because everything else seems for rich people.

I didn't saw any ice plants, so that's probably not even in the market yet, nonetheless, we also found a bakery that makes freshly baked bread, and there is a shop at the side that sells flour and other ingredients to make bread! It is very expensive as well.

There are also several taverns that sell liquor, wine, beer, and other liquor named breeze that is made out of fermented strawberries with mint added, it has a refreshing and fragrant scent.

At the end, we bought everything we possibly could, without having to completely empty the market either, people gotta buy and eat as well, we cannot just buy everything and leave people starving afterwards. Nonetheless, we bought a lot of fish, meat, all sorts of vegetables, several bags of grains, a large bag of sugar and another of salt, a lot of flour bags, bread, some cakes, and other pastries we found around, herbal teas of several varieties, and then we moved into the taverns and began inspecting the beer.

As we bought all those things, the people in the shops glanced at me with surprise as I stored it all inside an Inventory. I had no time to pretend I didn't had such an ability and I didn't cared enough to not make it public, just saying I had the very rare space magic was enough for them, even though it was still surprising.

Some people asked me if I was an Adventurer and I told them that I was a F-Class Adventure, they didn't believed me, but I didn't needed anyone believing me anyways.

After our long journey across the Market Place, we finally reached the taverns, and we began to browse through them, there were approximately ten different taverns in the entire city, and they all made their own liquor and food for the customers, one of the largest taverns was also the Adventurer Guild, but we were going in order.

I entered the first tavern with my friends and spoke to the woman attending the table.

"I need all the liquor types you can offer, wine, beer, anything." I said. "Quick!" As I said that, I put a gold coin over the table and the woman's eyes opened wide, she quickly began to move while nodding.

"Very well, please wait a moment, dear customer!" she said, as she flew away into the storage.

Money talks more than words, I can see that, a simple gold coin really makes people serviceable.

"Ooh, look at that!"

"Who are those guys?"

"They look a bit... gothic."

"That's a cute elf girl..."

There were a lot of creepy old guys in this tavern, but that's to be expected, the majority were workers, it seems that Adventurers didn't frequent this place as much, even less women, so they always saw them as something exotic in here.

We ignored their attempts at flirting, although Lucifer was growing increasingly angered until he suddenly glared at everyone with an incredibly furious stare while showing them all his sharp teeth.

"Would you shut up already?!" He asked furiously, his aura alone made everyone become completely mute, but then they resumed their personal conversations after some minutes of silence.

"Did you had to do that?" I asked. "You went a bit too far."

"I dislike seeing people annoying you." Said Lucifer. "Don't worry, I can always take care of the annoying people for you."

"I think you're exaggerating a bit but sure, whatever..." I sighed. "More importantly, look, the lady is back with a few helpers..."

The lady of the tavern, who looked to be around her 30's walked towards us with two bottles holding purple-colored and yellow-colored liquor at each one, while another two men, apparently her sons, brought more liquors.

"Here lady, this taverns makes six different types of liquor! We got four types of wine and two beers..." said the lady.

There was a wine made out of grapes, another made out of strawberries with mint, another made out of just mint, which was green and quite strong-flavored, another that seemed to be made of some sort of fermented pine tree fruit, I think, it was incredibly aromatic and sweet, and lastly another that was like white wine. Lastly, the beers were the yellow-gold one and there was a darker, more toasty-colored one.

We decided to sit down and try it out with some snacks, we were starving and it was lunch time already. We sat down over the chairs as I gave the lady the gold coin.

"Here, can you bring us some cups and some food?" I asked. "Some fish with potatoes and bread for me."

"I want that too." Said Emeraldine. "And pickled vegetables."

"I would like fish too, salted fish if possible," said Lucifer. "And some bread with cheese."

"I want blood, do you got some?" asked Partner.

We looked at her angrily, as the lady wondered what did she meant by blood.

“Oh! We got blood wieners, they’re made out of animal blood, do you want some?” she asked.

“Sure! That would be nice!” said Partner. “And potato.”

“Okay, I’ll bring the food right away, ask anything to my kids, they’ll be around.” said the lady, walking away with the gold coin, she looked at it with a lot of happiness.

And like that, we began our liquor-tasting event! Let’s see if these are any good. The nice things about life have always been eating and drinking after all!

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## Chapter 250

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The duchy of Snowfall was a rather chill place, it wasn’t what we have expected, people wasn’t stiff at all, and everyone was just minding their own business, this Kingdom was way more relaxed, and it actually had less delinquency than places like the Albraun Kingdom. The people was just interested in surviving the frozen lands and eat something, they sold naturally frozen goods everywhere, which were convenient to buy as they wouldn’t get bad so easily. But well, it wasn’t as if people had it all, they seemed to be mostly poor people and they were having a hard time hanging out, but perhaps due to this reason, people wasn’t concerned about fighting one another and mostly just cooperated so they could get through the day.

Naturally, there were adventurers that we saw everywhere, even in this tavern there are a few of them, they do the same thing they do everywhere, they hunt down monsters for their meat, pelt, bones, and all they can extract from them alongside the magic crystal inside and make a penny out of it to keep on living like all the folk, sometimes they level up and grow stronger, but that applies to all folks, it just that Adventurers constantly fight so they constantly gain EXP.

Although some people in this world might have a bad misconception of adventurers, thinking they’re lazy bastards that only think of themselves and never help the duchy with military affair and protecting it as soldiers, it is pretty false. Adventurers help at thinning out monster populations. Although their intention is money, and they don’t hunt thinking about that, they’re doing it anyways, which in the long run helps the people have better lives without worrying about monster breaks attempting to attack the town or something.

But for now we came here mostly for supplies, not to hunt monsters that will give us almost no EXP at all, it would be a waste of time when we got so many things, we need to do first. So after we were given our alcohol, we began chugging it down! Yeah, that was the important thing we had to do, drink liquor!

As I had mentioned earlier, there was a wine made out of grapes, another made out of strawberries with mint, another made out of just mint, which was green and quite strong-flavored, another that seemed to be made of some sort of fermented pine tree fruit, I think, it was incredibly aromatic and sweet, and lastly another that was like white wine. Lastly, the beers were the yellow-gold one and there was a darker, more toasty-colored one, so we had a lot to taste! Of course, we cannot bring those dwarves some “piss” as they call anything that is not good, so we have to taste all of this first and see what’s so good about it... Hehehe.

As a Ghost, I don’t get drunk, which is pretty boring, but the taste of liquor is still interesting to me and I have begun to like it more than when I was alive in my previous life, perhaps because I am now dead, I like the taste of liquor because it is literally like rooting water made out of fruits and grains? And because of this, it is closer to death itself? Yeah, maybe that’s why... But nonetheless, that won’t stop me from enjoying it!

“Time to try out the wine made of simple grapes first.” I said, everyone nodded to my words, as we served one another a cup of this dark, purple-colored concoction, and we drank it off in a single go.

“Phew...”

The flavor of this wine was pretty mild despite being black wine. It had a pretty strong aroma but the flavor by itself seemed slightly diluted, as if they added water into it. I don’t know what to say but it was pretty okay considering it is the cheapest wine and most of the people here can only afford it with their meals. Although I wish they didn’t added water but maybe they wanted to make more like that.

“It was pretty mild.” I said. “It is the cheapest I guess.”

“Yeah, I cannot say I dislike it, but I wouldn’t recommend it.” Said Lucifer.

“Bleh, tastes like diluted with water...” Said Partner.

“Indeed... It is very bad, let’s not drink this one again.” Said Emeraldine.

The ladies had a more refined taste I suppose, but Lucifer and I were more forgiving of the wine, perhaps because wine is our favorite liquor and even the worst of them can make us happy. I suppose we are in the position where we cannot bring ourselves to hate wine even if it’s terrible.

“Now the next one is the wine made out of strawberries with mint, this one... I don’t know if you could call it wine to be honest, but it is made in the same way.” I said. “It has a nice red color.”

The “wine” that we were drinking now was the specialty of this duchy, they name it “Breeze” or something, and it is made of strawberries with mint, very interesting drink, so we decided to fill our cups with it and chug it down.

“Phew...”

The flavor was... pretty okay, the strong citric flavor of strawberries was there, it was mostly the citric part, there was barely any sweetness though, and if it was there any, it was diluted by the incredibly spicy flavor of the mint left on, which combined with the liquor left your mouth as if you washed it down with bleach, good lord this feels really like a breeze in my mouth now.

“It is pretty interesting; it left my mouth pretty fresh.” I said. “I suppose this is why they call it breeze?”

“Wow, my mouth is... Hmm...” Said Lucifer. “I can’t say I like this.”

“Well at the very least you won’t have stinky zombie breath with this!” Laughed Partner. “And well, it is ok.”

“Hmm... I like this one.” Said Emeraldine. “The citric flavor and the mint... Ah, it goes well together with the fragrance of strawberries.”

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