## A Ghost 251

## Chapter 251

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We have just finished tasting the normal wine and the strawberry mint wine named "Breeze" which was pretty okay in flavor. But there were way more liquors to drink today as well! There was the pure mint drink and then there was the pine tree drink, which had the same scent as those pines they drop, which are super hard, I don't know how they made wine out of that but people in these conditions are very desperate for a drink, so they just make liquor out of anything they can find.

The mint wine had a beautiful dark green color, and when served in a transparent glass cup, one could see how beautiful the green color was before the light of the candles, it was a beautiful liquor, and thanks to the Breeze we just drank, I can already expect it to be an interesting taste.

We slowly drank a small cup of it this time, we knew it had a strong flavor due to being mint, so we enjoyed it a bit slowly this time, Emeraldine was the one that liked mint wine the most out of all of us, so she was already serving herself a second cup after drinking the first one in a single go.

"Ahhh... Hey, this one is good." I said.

The taste was... to be expected, like the Breeze but without the strawberry part, it was pure mint, so strongly flavored that for a few seconds it felt as if it froze my mouth due to how much mint there was in this wine, I felt a bit surprised and chuckled a bit.

"Wow this is indeed strong..." Said Lucifer. "I almost got drunk... Well, now that I am alive, I could get drunk... Hic..."

"It has a lot of flavor, yeah..." Said Partner. "It just that mint is not my thing. But look at Emeraldine, she's loving it."

"Ahhhh...! I love it... Heheh... Hic..." Said Emeraldine, hugging the bottle of wine as she drank her third cup in a single go, licking her lips mischievously.

"Okay enough of that for now, Emeraldine, we have to drink the other wine as well." I said. "Don't drink all the mint wine either! I want to bring some back home..."

"Okaaaay" Said Emeraldine, she was weak to alcohol and got drunk pretty fast, she was already drunk, in fact! Seriously, this woman is something else.

I can see why people call Alcohol a poison now, it really is! Look what it did to my Emeraldine, now she became an addict of mint wine! I guess I know what to gift her for her birthday though, a nice mint wine and some chocolate with min, perhaps... Maybe mint toothpaste as well? Perhaps mint ice cream with chocolate chips... And that's all the mint I can think of for now.

I took a cup of the next wine made out of pine trees, I had never seen this before, but I am sure that there should be something like this back on Earth, I mean there is wine of everything in Earth, they're all insane for wine, they would make it out of anything and sell it and people would buy it, get drunk, and want more. Everyone just drank alcohol to get drunk anyway, the flavor was always secondary.

I drank the cup of brown wine without hesitating, and then suddenly felt as if I was surrounded by a forest of pine trees... the flavor and aroma were mystic in nature, I could tell why this one was also a people's favorite and why it was also god damn expensive! Wow...

When I opened my eyes again, I felt like I had gone through a small journey there. This wine is... mystical, what the heck? I never thought pine tree wine would be this good! I don't feel drunk or anything, but the flavor and aroma alone made me hallucinate or something, for real, I am a ghost! Maybe this has some holy water on it or something?

"This one is good, very good..." I said. "I never thought I would find such a good wine made out of pine tree fruit."

"Me neither, it felt like I walked directly into a forest of pine trees and was surrounded by their aroma." Said Lucifer. "This one is very good indeed."

"Hmm... Not bad." Said Partner. "Its actually okay. But I still prefer the red wine we drank from the duchy, that duchess girl gave it to you, that one... that one is good."

"Oh you mean the one that the girl from the duchy gave to us? I guess so, that one is very expensive and only drank by aristocracy though" I sighed. "You won't find something like that in a tavern."
"Geehh" Sighed Partner. "That wine raised my standards way too much now."
"It really did, dear." I said.
"Hmm It is pretty good! I think this is my second favorite of this batch!" Said Emeraldine.
"Well, now, time for the white wine" I said.
I served myself a bit of that one and drank it. It was pretty okay, white wine is well known for being rather good with seafood, I had drank a bit before but I felt like it was too strongly flavored and I didn't liked it, now that I drank it as a ghost, it was pretty okay, nothing too much, nothing too bad either, it was an okay liquor, nothing like the mint and pine tree one, I also prefer the Breeze over this one as well.
"White Wine is always a good choice." Said Lucifer. "I wish we had our food here already, liquor always tastes better for me with food."
"I agree, I am starving! I want my blood wiener!" Said Partner.
"You know that Blood Wiener really sounds weird" I sighed.
"Hmmm This white wine is ok." Said Emeraldine. "But I prefer Mint over it anytime! Heheheh Hic" Emeraldine giggled a bit.
"Here's your food!" And then, the lady finally came with food, we were starving here Actually, not me, I am a ghost.
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After tasting the wines, the food finally came and were able to finally fill up our bellies, I had a skill name phantasmal stomach that allowed me to eat and fill a stomach inside of my own phantasmal soul, which was pretty convenient, and it kind of gave me a sense of fulfillment that I didn't had before when I ate, because the phantasmal stomach was big but not endless, so I could fill it with food and leave it slowly being digested into energies, without having to go to the bathroom like my other three pals... Lucifer didn't had to do this before nor Partner, but now that they became pseudo alive, they have to, so good luck going to the toilet and all.

Anyways, with the phantasmal stomach I can store food and that also helps me store energy, the food I eat and the liquor I drink all slowly is digested into pure Mana and Aether, which I use to boost my energy regeneration even more than what Mana Siphon can already let me drain from others.

This way, it is as if I had endless Mana, but it is not endless, it just always regenerates a lot, but I cannot really conjure something above my own maximum mana capacity, which only increases when I level up.

"Phew, the food was pretty good, it has been a while since I felt this alive." Said Lucifer. "Filling my stomach with good without feeling this dreadful feeling of being dead and never satiated... It does indeed feels amazing."

Lucifer seemed happy after we finished eating, the two beers they served were pretty good, they had a smoky flavor too, meaning that the grain they used was probably toasted before, a bit, at the very last, giving it a unique touch, the food was also pretty good and filled the stomach, although all of us except Emeraldine ate enough to feed several families.

"Yeah, it was amazing, I loved those blood sausages..." Said Partner. "Master, can we buy more of those to have back home?"

Partner loved these sausages a lot, she was craving to eat more of those, but they were all the ones they had, she ended eating around twenty of them though, which costed us quite a bit of money as they're expensive, but she still ate them all without worrying about my wallet.

"Erm, not for now, dear..." I sighed. "Those bloody sausages costed me an eye, so let's leave it for another occasion, it is better to purchase things that are more convenient."

"Ugh... I guess you're right." Said Partner. "I suppose meat and blood is ok..."

"Partner you're getting a bit too greedy nowadays." Said Lucifer. "You were way too picky with food and the liquor."

"Well! I have evolved into a refined Vampire, so my palate and my likings have changed as well!" Said Partner. "I used to just like rotten flesh, but it has become quite disgusting now... I prefer fresh blood."

"Nothing we can do over it, that's just how Vampires are anyways..." I sighed. "For now, we should focus on what we are doing right now."

"I guess... Hic...!" Muttered Emeraldine. I was helping her walk by holding her in my back with her arms coiled around my neck and her legs sitting over my arms. She was way too drunk to walk by herself now, she drank too much Mint Wine I suppose.

And above all, we ended using a lot of money... I am a pickpocket so I could go stealing money to recover it, I guess... I mean, I am by no means a heroine so I don't mind stealing some money when I can, but it still makes me feel bad if I steal from the poor that already barely has anything, so I must first find some rich aristocrat to steal from if I want more money, or... well, the other thing I could do is make money by selling products or services.

But what services can I offer? I have no idea; I am only good at killing! I am only good at chopping off the heads of my enemies and ripping apart their souls, and then raising them as Undead. I guess I could work as a mercenary or an adventurer and sell monster carcasses or hunt down people that is being searched. But that's exactly what I'm going to do after we finish our affairs in here, we are going back to the duchy of Affnaria with the new young Duchess Julia.

With her I can make money by offering her my services as a "Witch" like I told her I was, she believed it pretty easily when I told her I was a witch of the Shadow Element capable of doing many things, and that I was hunting down slavers and destroying any illegal organization that profited out of bringing suffering to the innocents such as the creation of drugs and more.

It has been bit over a month since I saw her, but I promised her I was going to get back to her soon, so I am doing that in a bit more, I have to first secure the dwarves and a few other things to leave the village

on-going with projects while I am out of there, although I will still remain in there through my Snake Ghost Clones and Mini Phantom Clones, so I will never truly leave, which makes me more happy, this evolution into Gorgon was pretty useful, I can't really imagine what else I could evolve into now.

After we picked up all the things we wanted to buy today, we quickly moved into an Inn, and we decided to pass the night there. It seems that this place is pretty relaxed and there is no evil organization as we have not found any clues for anything like this yet, and I don't want to play the anti-hero for now, I just want to go back home tomorrow, I am already quite too busy.

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As a Ghost, I have the ability to see through spiritual entities and I am capable of seeing other ghosts like me that people normally cannot see, or dead spirits of people, which are like their bare souls that have yet to turn into any sort of Undead yet. And I cannot properly sleep either, I can rest my mind and turn it off, but there's always a part of it that remains awake, kind of like dolphins. Due to this, I sometimes see stuff that others don't see. Partner and Lucifer are kind of able to see spirits too, but only if they are willing, it is not like a passive effect that I got where I can always see them, which I believe comes from having Death Magic.

Nonetheless, the issue here is that while I try to sleep, many dead spirits go around the entire place. I have been mostly ignoring them, I find them all around the city, people that died out of natural causes, people that were killed several years ago, and people that just died out of starvation, or more. There are many of them, and they all follow me around the moment they see me thanks to my Titles such as Undead Queen and so on, which makes them all want to please and serve me, it is a bit like a brainwashing, maybe, but I've told them to scram off while I sleep.

However, while I slept, I still found one dead spirit that was very peculiar compared to the other guys, it wasn't someone that died out of normal circumstances, it was a young man on his twenties, perhaps, that seemed to have come out of a freezer, because his entire appearance as a dead spirit looked like his body was frozen. Indeed, he was literally frozen, he probably died while being frozen in the wilderness or something, he seemed to be like a floating statue.

Your soul often takes the shape of the traumatizing death you have, if you die while getting stabbed, you'll show the stab wound in your dead spirit phantasmal body, if you died burned, there is a chance you'll become red and look like you're always being burned alive, sometimes these people that is so

traumatized by their way of dying become ghosts, and are filled with resentment against those that did injustices to them and sometimes they try to avenge themselves from their perpetrators, but this doesn't happen all the time, or we would already have several cases of ghosts coming to kill people all the time, right? Not all people that is killed manage to become a ghost out of resentment, and sometimes they take years to become one, like I did. And even if they become a ghost, there is no guarantee that they'll not end up facing some challenges before they can even find their perpetrator, which they won't have any knowledge of where they might be after so long, such as facing natural ghost and soul predators such as Will-o-Wisp, other ghosts, undead, and more that feed on... well, other undead below the food chain.

But this was why it was interesting; this person had such a traumatic death that he ended becoming a literal ice statue even on his dead spirit/soul form... It was quite hard to believe that dying from coldness could shape you that way, most people would just die, perhaps with many regrets, but to the point that they look like the frozen body they left behind in their soul forms? That's very weird, and it ended picking my interest because I was honestly quite bored.

So I made him approach him to ask him some questions, but he couldn't talk, his face was covered in ice and the only thing he could do was make some weird sounds that were like the sounds a person makes when they're asphyxiating.

"Mmmffff... Mmfffff..."

"Yeah... I don't understand you at all..."

I decided to see what could happen if I touched him with my hand and gave him some mana to "heal" him, sometimes it works when souls are too broken or traumatized their minds are rearranged and they can speak and become more eloquent even.

So I infused some mana into him, and the ice slowly began to shatter into pieces, although his entire body still emanated a strong ice cold aura that made my figurative bones tremble, he was now capable of moving better and perhaps even speak.

"So tell me your story, how did you ended like that?"

"The Ice..."

"Ice?"

The man began to look at me with his red eyes, he had short white hair, and seemed completely pale... Wait this guy looks like a Vampire! Doesn't he? He got pointy ears too and those red eyes are very suspicious. I looked at him for a bit.

"The Ice that froze me... It frozen me whole, I died... I died frozen! By that... That thing..." He muttered. "T-The thing!"

"What thing? Relax for a bit and tell me..." I sighed. "Also, aren't you a Vampire? Are Vampires this far? What are you guys planning?"

"V-Vampire? Vampire... I was... No... I am not a Vampire, I was a Dhampir." He said.

"D-Dhampir?"

"My father... Was a Vampire... I never saw him again... I was an outcast... I lived near town..." He said in between stuttering. "I-I... I used to be friends with them, the Ice Giants..." He said.

"Ice Giants? You know them? I would really want to meet them, you know?" I wondered. "Did they froze you?"

"Yes... They froze me for trespassing their territory..." He cried. "It was very cold... It was... traumatizing... I... It is so cold... Bbbrrr..." The man began to tremble, he was very cold and seemed that if I gave him a bit more of Mana, he would turn into a weird ghost.

"So they killed you for getting into their lawn? I heard they're doing trades with this Kingdom, what's going on with that? I thought they were good guys trying to live." I said.

"Not until the Ice Queen Manifested..." He said. "I used to be friends with them... But the Frost Queen... she changed everything..."

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While sleeping, I found the poor Dead Spirit of a man that seemed to be a Dhampir from all things, this man was discriminated by society, even in here, and lived by himself in the forest near the mountains, where he met the Ice Giants and had a friendly relationship with them. However, a character known as the "Frost Queen" suddenly showed up and ruined his life... quite literally, he was frozen alive, and died.

But I do wonder, who the heck is this Frost Queen, and how does she has any relation to the ice in the Demon Kingdom? Could she had done something? And also if he was a friend with the Ice Giants for so long, how come she suddenly showed up and killed him? Why didn't she do it before? Or was there something that caused her to act this way? At the end, I decided to ask this man all these questions. He seemed willing and happy to answer them.

"The Ice Giants and I were friends... for around two hundred years..." He said. "Dhampirs can live long lives... Longer than humans and other races... I was an old man already, and I have accustomed to live in the forest, I even had my little house..." The man sighed a lot, he seemed to grow more and more saddened as he remembered when he was alive. Although he had a hard life, it was a life he liked living, and how it was suddenly taken away from him was quite sorrowful to hear about.

"I see... I guess you had a pretty peaceful life, the Ice Giants... Were they any good with you?" I asked. "Were they really your friends?" I asked these questions because ghosts sometimes feel like they had memories of good things, but they were actually fabrications of their own fragmented memories, or sometimes they just lose a lot of memories and recreate false and weird memories out of the fragments left behind. I am one of those ghosts that just forgot completely my life as the original Maria, and perhaps that's for the best in some cases.

"Yes, of course they were... They helped me many times and I also helped them..." He said. "I gave them tools and specific things they had a hard time crafting with their big hands. And they offered me food and the strange plants that can grow in the ice."

"Oh, well, well, that's interesting... Perhaps you could bring me where they live?" I wondered. "You would do this for your Undead Queen, right, good man?" I asked this question while smiling coquettishly, the man was already my servant the moment he was called by me, all undead respond to

me as their Queen, and would obey my words and commands no matter what. I have yet to find an Undead that actually fights against me when they met me now, maybe if I go into a Dungeon with Undead, there could be one strong enough to resist my Title Skill effects, but this little Dead Spirit? He's already within my grasp.

The man's dead spirit quivered a bit as if he was feeling a bit cold, there was barely any cold in this warm room, but his state of mind seemed to be still traumatized by how he died. He was even emanating a chill aura from around his phantasmal body, that might give Emeraldine, the closest to my bed, a cold.

"Yes... I would..." He said. "But the Ice Giants are... Being governed by her..." He said. "The Frost Queen." The man seemed to quiver even more when he said the name of this woman.

"Tell me more about her." I told to him, as he seemed to immediately obey me.

"She appeared some time ago before I died... The Ice Giants live around an ancient underground dungeon to known to anyone... Inside this dungeon there is a big landscape, like a small world by itself..." He said in between stuttering words. "And in this vast landscape there was a tower, an ancient tower... A group of Ice Giants entered it and found what was called... The Crown of Skadi."

"Crown of Skadi?" I asked while raising an eyebrow. "You mean an actual crown?"

"Yes, an actual crown. It was an item found by the Ice Giants which they had seen as an ancient artifact of old times..." Said the man. "They were afraid of it and its powers, and they left it inside the tower, to not be touched by anybody... But someone stole it and wore it, a woman known as Tear... This was an Ice Giant woman... that used to be the sister of one of my friends..."

Apparently, the Ice Giants live inside a dungeon! Well, that's quite interesting. And what's more interesting is that there is a tower inside a dungeon that guarded such an ancient artifact, which was found by the Ice Giants, but in fear of its powers, they left it in the tower and decided to not touch it due to how dangerous it could truly be for them, they ended leaving this crown on its own, ready to be snatched by the someone greedy enough, and well, that's exactly what happened.

Maybe they shouldn't had revealed the existence of the crown to everybody to begin with! Perhaps that would had made it possible for her to not find it, right? If she didn't knew about it to begin with! Or

maybe they could have guarded the damn tower entrance? I guess they might had done it and I am judging way too ahead?

The man looked at me while his eyes seemed to be filled with the fear of that day and how much of a trauma it caused to him. I understand how you might feel but relax for a bit, you should as they say... chill out a bit. Hahahaha! Get it? Because you're frozen! ...Okay I better not tell him this joke.

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Apparently, it all started with a magic crown. Who would had tell that I would gain such tasty and juicy intel from a random dead spirit? Well this has happened before when I visited the other duchies, so it is completely possible to be told many important things by just a random passerby dead spirit that has way too much backstory than his simply appearance implies. But this guy's appearance was really unique, so I was sure he had a crazy backstory, and it ended being pretty amazing to know he was even related to those Ice Giants which I have grown quite interested on.

"So she stole the Crown of Skadi and just became evil?" I wondered. "Why did she stole it to begin with?"

"The girl... no, the woman... Tear was someone good-hearted. But something happened years ago, when her brother was found dead..." He said. "She felt heartbroken and we later learned that the humans have killed him because he had approached the country. I don't know why they did this when they were so open to negotiations before... She went to grab the crown because she wanted the power to avenge her brother."

"Oh..."

That left me quite speechless. The humans here did that?! But they're so nice and all... Maybe it was a group of evil ones? It is more possible... Well, there is never a place that is truly freed from these people, they'll eventually find a way to appear everywhere you go. Because this girl wanted to avenge her brother, she went to grab this crown and then... she turned into the Frost Queen.

"How did this happen? She just put the crown and changed?" I asked.

"Yes... Since she put on the crown that Tear changed." He said. "Her entire personality... Everything about her changed, in fact. She wasn't the same anymore... She used to be such a sweet girl back then... Now, she turned into a tyrannical woman, she governs the Ice Giants with her Ice Magic powers, which developed into something incredibly strong too... She killed me when I tried to bring her back, to take out her crown... After that, I've drifted until I ended in this town."

"Oh Jesus... Okay, I see... I guess you lived through a whole Anime Arc there, didn't you, buddy?" I sighed. "Well now, you can stay with mama for now if you want to. I am not the Undead Queen for nothing, I'll slowly heal you up and we might go met your friend there once more."

"Really? Would you do this for me, my Queen?" He asked. He seemed to be excited about my proposal, but I was very interested in doing trades with the Ice Giants, and also see this Frost Queen and whatever happened to the poor girl named Tear, I feel like there's a lot of intrigue into this.

"Sure thing! But for now, come into my shadows and rest for the moment, I will conjure Undead Healing you slowly, and probably turn you into a ghost eventually, for now I would like you to rest and assess your thoughts and mind for the moment." I said, as I opened my shadows and the void of darkness emerged within the floor, the dead spirit quickly jumped inside, thanking me another time before entering into a "recovering" slumber.

And with that, I dozed off until the next morning, where the light of the sun barely entered through the window because the clouds covered the entire sky, so the sunlight didn't even reached us but the faint light of the day in general, which kept the entire room completely dark.

"Achoo! Hahh... D-Did I caught a cold?" Sighed Emeraldine. "I... Ugh, my head! Uaaggh! Uueeggh... Aaaghhhh..."

Emeraldine suddenly began to grab her head in pain, a yes, she's having a hangover. It is quite obvious why she's having one, yesterday she drank two whole bottles of mint wine, it was to be expected she would feel this way, this dorky elf really gets on my nerves sometimes.

She began to touch her head and started using healing magic on her own brain, but the healing magic was not working fast, but slowly, only making it even more painful for her... I wish I could do anything, but I really can't, this is just the hangover.

"Uuuggh... It hurts... I am never drinking again... Damned mint wine, it is a poison! A poison..." She cried, I moved to her side and caressed her head.

"There, there, calm down already, everything is fine." I sighed. "This is what you get for drinking way too much, I don't even know why you ended liking the mint wine so much."

"I-It was tasty... But now that I remember the flavor I want to throw up- Ueggh..." Emeraldine suddenly threw up over the bed.

"Well, what a way to start the morning..." Said Lucifer. As a dragon, he seemed to be pretty resistant to toxins, so he didn't seem as affected of Emeraldine.

"Uagh! Yuck... Emeraldine, stop throwing up in front of Master!" Said Partner. "Do you got some fetish about it or something?! You always do this!"

"I-I am sorry... My tummy hurts... Ugh... Sniff... Sorry..." Emeraldine began to cry and that broke my heart. I quickly helped her walk to the bathroom to wash her.

"Don't worry, let's go wash your face a little bit first, okay? You look all messy now, girl, just look at you! Geez..." I sighed, as I helped her wash her face with the water and then I took all her clothes out and decided to make her take a warm bath. They had fire stones and water stones, fire stones warm things or produce small flames when infused with mana, and water stones produce water when infused with mana, so the two can make a nice warm bath in a few seconds, by placing the stone in the water and waiting a few minutes, the water was warm enough and I let Emeraldine sitting there.

"Y-You're looking at all my nude body..." She said while blushing.

"Well, I think I saw it before, when I first saw you, you were almost nude..." I sighed.

"Oh"		
"Yeah…"		
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I had the fear that my poor elf girl would drown in the water if I left her alone, so I ended helping her take a warm bath by myself. She insisted on letting her alone because she wanted some privacy and felt embarrassed of having a hangover, but she still felt dizzy and could potentially drown in the water if she relaxes too much. I love her so I have to take good care of her, that's just common sense.

"Alright, now raise your arms..." I said, as I used a soap to wash her armpits and her entire arms, and then used some warm water to wash her arms and armpits afterwards again. She seemed to blush a bit more, but she regained most of her composure after being washed, the warm water and the steam really cleans the mind a bit and make you relax.

"Ahh... T-This is enough, please don't babysit me like this..." She sighed. "I-It doesn't sit right to me..." Emeraldine looked at me while blushing, her face was as red as a tomato and she looked utterly adorable, she was like my baby girl, so it was natural for me to take good care of her.

Her adorable ears were all red as well, and had moved down a bit, this was always an adorable thing elves did when they get embarrassed or surprised, Emeraldine does this all the time she gets too overly embarrassed, also their big ears get very red and hot when they grow embarrassed or are drunk like yesterday, so they look funny.

"But I am just merely spoiling my baby girl." I said, petting her head and caressing her pointy ears, which were the cutest.

"B-Baby girl?" She asked while blushing and raising her eyebrows. "D-Don't call me like that, I am a grown adult, not a little girl..." Emeraldine pouted even more adorably, my heart was melting.

"You really did bad things yesterday, huh?" I said while washing her back with soap. "You're a bad baby girl~ So mama is going to wash you really good."

"Geez... I-Is this some sort of roleplay?" She asked. "I-I am not liking it... But I guess I deserve to be punished a bit, I did bad yesterday..." Emeraldine seemed a bit down only because of that single thing, I had to give her a nice massage in the shoulders after washing her back.

"Ooohh! M-Maria-sama...! T-This is a bit...! Ahhh... So relaxing..." She sighed. "B-But it feels like you're rewarding me rather than punishing me!" Emeraldine had a point there, I was just enjoying giving her a good time and perhaps touching her nude body with warm water.

"W-Well! You're not supposed to enjoy it..." I said. "I am merely taking advantage of your body, so this is just a torture, in fact!"

"T-Torture? W-Well... T-Then take more advantage of me, please..." She said. "I've been a bad girl..."

"Oh yes, you've really been a bad girl..." I looked at Emeraldine's tender, white-skinned neck, it was so soft and white like porcelain, I slowly began to kiss her neck as she seemed to feel my cold lips kissing her body.

"A-Ahhh" M-Maria-sama..." She moaned, as she looked at me while blushing some more.

"You got a beautiful and tender neck... If I were a Vampire, you would be in grave danger." I said, sticking my tongue out and licking her neck slowly, the cold tongue I had made her shiver a little bit as she grew even redder.

"U-Uwawawawahh..." She moaned. "S-So cold yet so exciting... Ahh, the warmth of the water with your cold hands, kisses, and tongue... It makes for a refreshing experience..."

"Oh yeah? You like it?" I asked. "Oh my, look at these big ones... You really got some incredible breasts... You don't know how the men looked at them, don't you? Or you knew? Were you fantasizing about them grabbing them like I do? I bet they would die of envy if they knew I can do all I want with the pretty and sexy elf they saw yesterday getting drunk like a little bad girl..."

I began to grasp Emeraldine's large breasts gently, covering them in soap and them slowly washing them with warm water, while gently teasing the tip of her big nipples... She really had big breasts, I bet they could feed a child very well.

"I-It is not like that...! I-I was born like this..." She cried. "I-I only look at you... Maria-sama, I would never imagine such perverted things..." Emeraldine looked at me while sticking her tongue out due to the amount of pleasure she was receiving from me touching her body.

I stuck my tongue out and teased her, making her think I was going to give her a passionate French kiss only to move it back into my mouth.

"Did you thought I would kiss such a bad girl?" I asked. "Also! You threw up so you should wash your teeth first, mouth hygiene is very important!"

"Uuueeh... Such a turn off!" She complained, as she crossed her arms and then I threw a bucket of warm water over her head, washing her hair.

SPLAAASH!

"Uwaaahh...!"

"And done! I think you could wash your hair by yourself, right? I'll leave it up to you dear." I said. As I flew outside the room by crossing through the door.

"W-Wait! Geez... She really loves teasing me, doesn't she?" complained Emeraldine, as she continued washing her hair by herself.

When I moved outside, the first thing I found was two dorks stuck to the door with bloodshot eyes, when I crossed through their bodies, I looked back at them while raising an eyebrow and crossing my arms.

"Have you ever learned about personal space, you two?" I asked.

"W-What kind of lewd things were you doing with Emeraldine?!" asked Partner. "Explain them to me, master!"

"Ahem... I was merely... Just... Going with the flow." Said Lucifer, as he crossed his arms and looked elsewhere, attempting to make himself look as someone that cannot be asked questions.

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Well, what an unnecessary drama, Partner always freaks out when I get closer to the other two, but maybe I went a bit too far in the bathroom there by making Emeraldine moan... I guess I ended getting a bit perverted there, I don't have a body so there shouldn't be horny within me, but it seems I have gathered the horny somehow even in my phantasmal form. I suppose that when I am in front of such a babe, I cannot contain myself that well, especially when she's completely at my mercy. I get I awaken a bit of a sadist fetish there, I really like to tease cute girls.

When I asked the two about personal space, the two answered trying to justify themselves as to why they were spying on us by sticking themselves into the door like it was nobody's business for some weird reason.

"W-What kind of lewd things were you doing with Emeraldine?!" asked Partner. "Explain them to me, master!"

"Ahem... I was merely... Just... Going with the flow." Said Lucifer, as he crossed his arms and looked elsewhere, attempting to make himself look as someone that cannot be asked questions.

"I can do anything I want! Nobody is going to tell what I can and cannot do, okay, Partner? And look, I wasn't doing anything bad, I was just giving her a massage, Emeraldine is just a very dramatic actress..." I said while gazing at Partner fiercely, I wasn't lying there.

Partner gave me a defeated look as she sighed and rested over the floor, she seemed defeated. And began to weep like a little girl.

"Uwaaahh... I just want the same treatment... Sniff... I want love..." She cried. "Eh? S-Since when can you cry like that?" I asked while looking at her worriedly. Lucifer didn't seemed affected by Emeraldine's thing, and was just looking at Partner with a bit of confusion. We both thought the same thing, she was probably pretending to get sad and cry, she had become a pretty good actress since she became a Lesser Vampire. "She's definitely pretending." Said Lucifer through telepathy. "Oh, so you can also tell?" I asked to him. "Yes, it is very obvious, she doesn't feel sad for real..." Said Lucifer. "S-Should we do something about it?" I wondered. "It's up to you, you're the protagonist here... I am a side character now." Said Lucifer. "Well, thanks for nothing..." I sighed. I looked a Partner and walked at her side, petting her head. I tried to calm her down as I caressed her long red hair, she seemed to be trying pretty hard, so I decided to make her happy at least. "Come on, stop pretending to cry, it is pretty obvious..." I sighed. "Geh?!"

Partner was quickly found out, and she stood there and looked at me with surprise. Yep, I always knew you were just pretending, little partner, come on, don't make this harder for the both of us now.

"Come on, let's go eat some breakfast I am starving..." I sighed. "Anyways, what should we eat?"

"Guuhh..." Partner sighed as she looked at me with a rather angry demeanor, she seemed a bit disappointed that I didn't fell for her tricks... She has gotten a bit manipulative, hasn't she? But I guess she really does deserves some love, I'll make sure to spoil her and perhaps give her a kiss if the situation arises, I have already kissed Emeraldine and Lucifer before, so I am sure that I am quite good at it. I'll give her a good kiss so that she can stop being like this.

I petted her head and then helped her stand up, she looked like a puppet that lost her strings in the floor, so helping her stand up made her look better, I moved aside the hair covering her face and kissed her forehead.

"All good now." I said. "Damn you smell like wine too."

"I want something tasty..." She said. "D-Do you got any blood, Master?"

"I do, here." I said.

I gave Partner a small bottle of blood I had saved for her, this was one the last blood supplies we had from "bad guys" we have killed sometimes, it was also mixed with some animal and monster blood to make it last for long, but the monster and beast blood is not the same than human/demi-humans for Vampires, their craving for blood asks for these, in fact, the closer to humans the tastier the blood.

Due to that, I had sent my phantom clones to kill some people outside... Yeah, not good people, I made them look for people that nobody would miss and that were overall assholes without anyone that cared about them, bandits, people that kidnaped others, or that stole and extorted people, we found quite a couple of these good for nothing and they were brought to me swiftly as of now...

FLASH!

Several phantoms emerged into the room and opened portals to their shadows, where a handful of corpses of humans emerged. There was this one guy with dog ears that was completely insane, my phantom clones stopped him from stabbing an old lady that didn't had any more money to give to him, so nobody is going to miss someone willing to stab an old lady (I also used my clones to give that old lady all the money this idiot had).

I didn't destroyed their souls and decided to be merciful, using my divine protection, I just sent them off to Helheim where Hel welcomed them, and she gave me a thumbs up (imaginary visuals that I cannot actually see).

"Wow, did you killed all those people last night?!" Asked Lucifer.

"They were up to no good so don't worry..." I said. "I sent their souls off without breaking them, but they were irremediable people."

Partner was already finishing the small bottle as she looked at the fresh corpses, they were still warm, and their blood would be very tasty for her... But I stopped her before she jumped over one of them.

"Wait! These are for several days; do you think I can just leisurely kill so many people? There is a limited amount of people that deserve death, you know?" I sighed.

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I had caught a bunch of evil doers last night, some guys that do a lot of awful things and never get punished, so I punished them like the good anti-hero I am- Well, to be honest I am more of a villain at this point, but I am just hiding it.

Anyways, as the villain I am, I caught these dorks and killed them off really easily, they were no brainer for me, my little Partner needs her blood and I cannot just let her starve off. Yeah, she can drink beast and monster blood but eventually that won't do her good, she's still growing up so my little dear needs her fresh blood, I cannot really bear to see those beautiful red eyes getting sad so I decided to just bring her food out right away.

"There you go, its all for you, but remember that we have to first bottle it up." I said, as I petted her head.

"Y-You did this for me, Master?" She asked, her eyes began to shine brightly.

"Yeah! I am worried about my adorable Partner; I can't bear seeing you all tired and hungry." I said.

"Uwah, to think you were worried about me this whole time..." She said. "But you went a bit too far there though! Did you had to kill so many?!"

"Well they were all together in a group... Don't worry, I've forgiven their souls and now they're on Helheim, or somewhere else, I don't know well." I said while shrugging.

"Well, the thing is done now so there's no point in thinking about it too deeply. For now, Partner, use your blood manipulation abilities to fill up the bottles." Said Lucifer.

"Oh yes! Alright... Ugh, I am getting thirstier but I must resist..." Sighed Partner.

And like that, she used her Blood Manipulation Skills and began to extract the blood of all the corpses until they ended as dry as mummies, she concentrated all of the blood in a large floating sphere of blood, and for a moment she felt like drinking it all, but that would probably make her go insane.

Why? Well, some time ago we discovered that when she ends up drinking too much blood, she goes berserk, her senses become crazier and her reason begins to fade away, although she still recognizes us as allies, she begins breaking everything else around and makes a big disaster, so we can't allow her to drink all the blood she wants to. Sorry Partner but these are the laws you gotta obey if you want to be with us!

Agh, though, Vampires really got big drawbacks, maybe she should have evolved into something else than a Vampire now that I think about it... I remember she told me that she had options when evolving, just like I do... Back then she could have just progressively evolved into a scarier skeleton through every evolution instead of a cute zombie girl. Perhaps as a skeleton she wouldn't be so thirsty nor suffering so many weaknesses... Ah, well, not like we can do much about it now.

And now that I think about it, she's still pretty amazing anyways, a Vampire is pseudo alive, not completely Undead, like Death Dragons, so she's technically more alive than dead now and can sleep leisurely, have dreams, and all of that, so that's pretty nice.

I took out several bottles I had already cleansed and Partner carefully filled each one, then we sealed them and... done! As easy as ever. Now we got over 50 bottles of blood for Partner to consume, she usually drinks one per day to feel better, although she sometimes feels like drinking two, but for now giving her only one is more than enough, I believe.

"Here you go." I said. "Well done for your patience." I petted her head as she smiled while looking at the bottle, she began licking the bottle with her tongue as if it were a treasure beyond comprehension, and slowly opened it and drank the entire bottle.

"Gulp, gulp... Phew! Ahhh... Hehehe... I've never felt this happy before! Master, I love you lots and lots! Fufufu..." Partner suddenly acted as if she got drunk out of drinking too much blood way too fast, and began to hug me while groping my boobs and grasping them tightly.

"H-Hey, cut it off! Don't be a pervert..." I sighed.

"What's wrong? You didn't mind it when I did it back then, fufu..." She giggled.

"T-That's because I didn't had as much shame as now..." I sighed. "Probably because I have more physical sensitivity as well."

"Oooohhhh!"

Partner heard that and only began to play with my breasts with even more intent, grasping them tightly and then licking my neck with her long tongue.

"I don't know if this is alright at this time..." I sighed.

"I don't know but you don't seem to want to stop her!" Said Lucifer.

"Ahhh... Hahaha, I kind of like it." I said embarrassedly.

"See~? Master likes pervy stuff, she just doesn't admit it too often, fufu My Master~" Said Partner, as she began sniffing my hair and rubbing her face over my own. She was really getting lewder by the second.
"You like it?! T-Then!" Lucifer said, as he suddenly grabbed my breasts.
"Uwah?!"
What is this dragon thinking he's doing now?! Did he got jealous out of the sudden? Can't the two of them give me a break?
"Oi! D-Don't touch Master! She's mine!" Said Partner angrily, as she began to tightly grasp my right breast, while Lucifer grabbed my left breast and pushed his body tightly towards mine.
"S-She's also mine!" He said while blushing.
"No, she's mine!" Said Partner angrily, as she gritted her teeth against Lucifer. "Where did you got all this confidence anyways, grumpy dragon?!"
"If you're doing whatever you want then I will do so too!" Said Lucifer angrily.
The two began to discuss and bark against one another while grasping my chest and then they even began to touch my thighs and butt! W-What am I going to do? Ugh, I kind of like it though. Shit, I am kinky, aren't I?
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"J-Just stop discussing already! Lucifer, Partner, stop grabbing my body like I am some sort of item or something! Or I'm going to punish both of you!" I said angrily.

At the end, both of them ended kneeling in the floor asking for forgiveness when I unleashed a bit of my Aura of Death.

"I am sincerely sorry! I didn't know what happened to me, it just... felt right to do that for some weird reason... I-I think my Titles are affecting my judgement sometimes... T-That must be it!" Said Lucifer. "I am so old, I should act like an old dragon, not a teenager..."

"Sowy Master! The blood was way too good! It made me a bit too happy, hehehe..." Laughed Partner, before covering her face and realizing she was laughing in something that was supposed to be a serious apology.

"I shouldn't take it easy, sorry!" She apologized again.

"Eeeehh... I guess its okay... I should had stopped you as well, but something was also stopping me, perhaps one of your intimidation skills or something! Y-Yeah..." I said while averting my gaze.

I cannot possibly let them know that I am actually a kinky girl that had way too many sexual fantasies in my previous life but could not fulfill any, so when I am being groped like this by a handsome dragon and a beautiful vampire, I feel like just letting them do whatever they want with my body! No! I cannot tell them that overly specific truth!

Suddenly, the door of the bathroom opened and Emeraldine came walking in barefoot, with most of her clothes in, her white blouse, her tight leather pants to protect her from the cold, and holding her boots with her left hand, while trying to dry her hair with a towel.

"What's going on in here? You're screaming way too much today in the morning!" She complained. "Huh?! Why are you two kneeling before Maria-sama?!"

Emeraldine looked at the pair of dorks in front of me as if something was going on, she even began to imagine weird things as she looked at me, progressively growing redder.

"W-Wait, is this some dominatrix roleplay you're doing?" Asked Emeraldine, imagining me whipping these two with a whip made of shadows, most likely.

"What?! No! Agh, you two can stand up, and don't tell her why you were apologizing, it is better to just... keep it a secret for now." I sighed.

"Y-Yeah, I agree... It is too embarrassing." Said Lucifer.

"Okay..." Said Partner.

"Eh? Now I want to know even more than before, you're only making me more curious about what the heck is going on in here!" She said while pouting at me.

"Sorry but no... For now, it is better if you don't know... Hahaha..." I laughed while petting her head and shoulders.

If she were to know that I was being lewdly assaulted by these two she would probably try to do the same to compensate for it or something, when she misses out in stuff, she also wants to do them, in fact, that's how this trio of lovely dorks are. When one gets a better treatment or some privilege, the other two immediately complain and also want it... Seriously, give me a break.

"I will find out eventually!" She said angrily.

At the end, we ate breakfast in the Inn, they brought us some grilled fish for breakfast, with some freshly baked bread and a big piece of cheese, I guess this is the breakfast of the commoners from here? I mean fish is not bad at all, better than rat meat, I guess.

After I learned about the Frost Queen and the Ice Giants, I decided to speak about that with the trio for some time, they were filled with curiosity about the whole situation, and were constantly nodding as they heard all the things, I knew from the Soul I found, which I've put inside my shadows so he could rest there.

My shadows are way better suited for Undead and Souls to rest than for living people, they feel in peace inside of my shadows, as if they're being embraced, and can recover wounds and soul damage quickly, even mental damage can be slowly healed as well.

"So that's a thing... Is this Frost Queen... Could she be responsible for what happened in the Demon Kingdom?" Asked Emeraldine.

"Quite possibly... But I don't know why she would do that to the survivors of the Demon Kingdom though, it doesn't make sense, sadly this guy didn't knew anything more, so we don't know the backstory behind everything." I said.

"If her... If it was really her then I... I will crush her and make her unfreeze my people..." Muttered Lucifer. "No matter what..."

He began to emanate a strong aura of death and darkness; it was so strong it spread over the entire floor and it began to slowly make its way down to the first floor.

"Lucifer relax for a bit, we know she has ice powers and all, but do we really know if it was her? I only have a hypothesis, but we cannot jump to conclusions and end up hurting someone that wasn't in fault for this." I said. "So we have to do some research first! And for that we'll need time, we have yet to find where they live, I am sure that the ghostly guy will lead us there, but for now we have to wait until he wakes up. Also we have to grow stronger before we can think about beating the shit out of strong people."

"Yeah, I agree. We should wait and go back to our town first, we got people there that need us more for the moment, after we get our plans settled down there, we can continue doing our investigation." Said Emeraldine.

"I guess that's the best option for the moment, I apologize for getting a bit frustrated there..." Sighed Lucifer. "It won't happen again..."

"I don't believe you that much, but sure." I said. "Anyways, let's eat this up and then let's fly back home! We got a ton of beer now, if those bastards don't work, I'm going to beat the shit out of them!"

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After enjoying the simple breakfast and doing some last-minute shopping where we bought even more food reserves such as meat, meat, and more meat, alongside some vegetables, fruits, grains, fluor, and anything else we needed such as materials for construction that Darfu told us to buy, we flew back to our home, and after just an hour and a half, we finally reached our Kingdom. I already had my phantom clones there, so I would know if anything bad were to happen there, but nothing bad happened, everybody was doing fine.

The ones that greeted us were the Goblin Chief, Gofumin, the beautiful twins Takeshi and Laura, and Catarina who had a grumpy face.

"You're finally back, it took you pretty short time to get back." Said the Goblin Chief. "Was the trip fun?"

"Auntie!" Said Gofumin, the adorable little goblin girl walked towards Maria. She was wearing a lot of puffy clothes so she wouldn't get frozen in these cold temperatures and had a hard time moving around while being covered in them.

"Yeah, we got what we wanted and it was a pretty short trip, although there were some unexpected encounters... Hello Gofumin, did you miss me?" I said, holding Gofumin with my arms as she hugged me back. I think that Gofumin is like my adoptive daughter at this point... Wouldn't that make the Goblin Chief, her father, something like my husband then?! No, that's not how its supposed to work! I better not think that again.

"I did! Did you bring sweets?" She asked with an interested smile.

"We are happy to see you again as well, Auntie." Said Takeshi.

"Yes, yes!" Said Laura, as she and her brother suddenly stretched their arms and opened the palm of their hands, as if asking for something.

These kids are very interested! Are they only here for the off-chance I brought them some sort of sweet?! Sigh... Well, unfortunately for me, I love to spoil them, so of course I did. I opened my inventory and took out some candied apples I bought, there are more sweets inside because I also like them.

something sweet, we haven't gotten anything like that for a while, its always just meat and meat stew But good thing we got some more ingredients now so we can make more elaborate foods this time around.
"It seems that things went pretty well, huh?" Said Catarina.
"Why are you pissed out of nowhere?" Asked Emeraldine angrily.
"Pissed? You're the pissed one here shrimp." Said Catarina.
"Who are you calling shrimp, zombie?! I am going to exorcize you!" Said Emeraldine.
"Try it! I bet you can't even lift that staff of yours with those thin elven arms!" Said Catarina.
"Y-You!" Emeraldine was about to conjure magic but I stopped her. Wow, they're very quick at starting fights, what would they do if I wasn't here?
"Okay stop fighting so much for once! Don't fight! Fighting is bad!" I cried. "Just stay put and don't say weird things to one another, it is pretty easy when you try. Anyways, Catarina, why are you so angry?"
"I-I wanted to go"
"What?"
"I wanted to go!"
"You did?! But you said you were going to guard the place!"
"Yeah, but nothing happened so I feel like I just wasted an opportunity"

The kids grabbed the apples and began eating them happily, it seems that they were dying for eating

"Okay, I'll bring you next time..."

Seriously, she's really a handful. She's grumpy just because she wanted to come with us? And now that we came back, she's grumpy and annoying, seriously, I think I finally understand when they say that women are very hard to understand, even when I am a woman myself.

"Is that it? That's why you had that long face?" Sighed Lucifer.

"Aahahaha! We went there with Maria and not you!" Said Partner while sticking her tongue out mockingly.

"S-Shut up!" Cried Catarina.

At the end, we moved to the inside of the castle where we found Darfu, he was waiting for the materials and was happy to see us back. Alongside him there was the Goblin Elder, alongside a group of goblins that were all discussing something over a blueprint, it seems that Darfu was still planning things out.

"Ah, you're finally back you guys! Did you brough the things I asked you for?"

"Yeah, I did!"

I quickly opened the inventory and threw all the materials, a pile of such materials emerged atop the floor, from nails to other items, all pilled up. The Goblins celebrated as the dwarf seemed to approve them.

"They're good enough, well done." He said. "Now that we are done with the materials, did you... bring some beer?"

"We sure as hell did! We brought a ton of beer!" Said Partner.

"Too much, in fact." Sighed Emeraldine.

"Those two better drink it and like it, because we really took a lot of time finding all of it." Said Lucifer.

Indeed, we have bought around twenty types of different beers, hoping that one would be pleasing for the two dwarves. It was a lot of work to get them, but I hope, I sure HOPE one of them at least gets through them and can convince them to drink it, please, pretty please drink the damn thing.

"Oh, I see, then let's go together to met them, you can give them the beer there and I'll supervise it." Said Darfu. "I'll drink some too, I want some beer and I think I deserve it..."

"Yeah, sure, let's go."

We didn't wasted any other minute, as we moved back to the little house where these two dwarves lived, finding them lazing over their beds while reading some random books they found inside the castle library.

"Huh? What's up missy."

"Do you want something- UUUUOOOGH?!"

The two Dwarves suddenly jumped out of their beds as they saw that we brought several barrels filled with their liquid gold, beer, of many types to boot, so they can drink as much as they want and see what's the best one for their tastes.

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