Esper 251

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 251: Royal Bathhouse

After that, Rudy left Jane's room and made his way to the royal bath house.

"Wow..." that was the first word to come out of his mouth as soon as he entered.

It was almost twice the size of a soccer field. And there were many ways to bathe.

Rudy's gaze fell into the bathtub that was as big as a pool, which seemed to be filled with hot water. He got into it and spread his legs before relaxing himself. He leaned at the edge and closed his eyes.

The heat from the water filled his body with a warm feeling that he had been missing ever since he stepped into the vampire world.

'A word without sun is supposed to be icy, but it's not that cold. Or maybe it is, and I simply can't sense it as my body is tolerant to such stuff. So why can I feel this warmth from this water?' He wondered.

"It's probably altered using magic or something. The vampires' bodies are cold, so no wonder they like to feel the heat. This temperature is perfect, even for me."

Just by staying in the pool for a minute, Rudy felt like falling asleep. All his tiredness vanished, and he felt refreshed.

"Hmm~ It's bigger than I thought~" a seductive female voice uttered.

Rudy immediately opened his eyes and saw Nyxia sitting on the opposite side of the pool in the same relaxed position as Rudy.

Her beautiful blonde hair was wet and looked even more imposing than before. The steam had made her body look softer and shinier, almost as if it was glowing with her hair.

Her blazing red eyes were piecing the steam, clearly visible. And most important of all, her naked voluptuous body was better than Jane's or any girl Rudy had seen.

Rudy avoided seeing through her clothes when they met earlier in the academy, but now that he had seen the perfect curves and shape of her body, he had no complaints.

He wasn't sure if that was a charm of an ancient vampire who looked just as his age. But now Rudy knew why Nyxia was so confident.

Rudy noticed something rising between his legs, and it wasn't the temperature of the water.

"Arara~ It got even bigger~" She said while licking her lips. "Did my body please it?"

Rudy felt like hiding his little brother as it was inappropriate, but he stopped caring.

"I didn't know you were here. My bad..." he said while staring at Nyxia's body.

"Oh, no. It's my bad. I walked in even though I saw you."

'What the—! She came after I entered? Dammit! I didn't even feel her presence!'

"But I am glad I did~" Nyxia took a deep breath while gazing at Rudy's snake and said, "I guess you have passed the first test. You can surely please Jane... no, any girl with that monstrous—"

Rudy got up and said, "I will go somewhere else. You continue—"

"Arara~? Are you embarrassed?" She teased. "Men who are shy and get embarrassed easily are the first to get left behind, you know?"

The corner of Rudy's face twitched as he heard that. He let out a deep sigh and reluctantly sat back into the pool.

"By that logic, women who are shameless are the first to get thrown aside. I doubt you have any reputation for how shameless you are," Rudy remarked with a smile on his face.

Nyxia raised her brow and nodded: "Not bad, really. I am impressed. It seems you do have the backbone to stand against someone when needed. That's the most important trait for a man."

"Hmm~" Rudy nodded and continued, "I am also impressed. It seems you have the morals to praise someone when needed. That also happens to be the most important trait for a woman."

Rudy had no idea what he was saying. He was simply imitating Nyxia and changing a few words.

"..." Nyxia seemed annoyed after hearing Rudy's comment.

"Why are you here anyway?" Rudy asked calmly.

"This palace is mine. I can enter or leave anywhere I wish. Who dares to stop me?" she scoffed in an arrogant manner.

'Yeah, Jane is a lot like her...'

"I didn't mean it that way. I asked because I wanted to know why you were here, naked in front of me. Are you trying to seduce me?" he asked with a judging look on his face.

"Arara, boy. I don't need to 'try' to seduce anyone. They get seduced automatically just by looking into my eyes."

"That's why I am not making eye contact with you..." he muttered.

"Did you say something?"

"I don't think you are seducing anyone. You are only charming them using your vampire abilities."

"Is there a difference between the two, boy?"

"There is." Rudy noded. "Charm is like ordering food from outside and heating it in the microwave. While seducing someone is making food at home. There is the effort needed in seducing someone, it doesn't happen automatically."

Rudy recalled his last night's effort to seduce Jane.

"So what you are doing is charming people. They are not truly smitten by you," he added.

SIGH!

"I asked it as a joke. You didn't have to deal a blow like that. And obviously, I know what's the difference between charming and seceding someone."

"I am amazed you know the terms I used to explain."

"Well, we need to stay updated with the human world and know what they are doing," Nyxia stated nonchalantly.

"I thought it was prohibited for vampires to make contact with humans," Rudy remarked with a judging look on his face.

"Well, we have many rules regarding that. Virgil only told you one." Nyxia stretched her arms in the air, revealing her armpit as her twin mountains lifted a little.

"Then do you know about the zombie apocalypse?" Rudy asked with a curious yet calm look on his face.

"Heh." Nyxia scoffed softly and shook her head with a slight smile on her face.

"What's with that look?"

"You of all people... I expected you to know the real truth about it."

"What do you mean?"

"There was no zombie apocalypse."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 252: Gaining Intel

"There was no zombie apocalypse? What do you mean?" Rudy asked with a confused and curious look on his face. "I have read the news and enough articles about the damage and casualties. How can you say there was no apocalypse?"

"I never said there was no apocalypse. I said there was no zombie apocalypse."

"...?"

"Let me explain." Nyxia let out a weary sigh and said, "There was indeed an apocalypse, but it wasn't a zombie apocalypse. It was something else."

"I got that part when you said it the first time. I want to know why it wasn't a zombie apocalypse?"

"Long story short, there was no zombie. Zombies don't exist. They are undead."

"Okay... that's a fantasy term for a zombie..." Rudy nodded.

"How do you know about the so-called zombie apocalypse? That way, it would be easier to explain everything to you if we are on the same page."

Rudy told everything he knew about the zombie apocalypse that he had learned after researching as much as he could in his free time.

"Hmm. So, according to you, the government wanted to create superhuman soldiers, so they performed an experiment called super-gene. But they failed, and that resulted in an apocalypse, correct?"

"Yes," Rudy nodded in response.

"So first of all, you are writing about the human leaders wanting to make superhuman soldiers. But the experiment they called 'super-gene' is not the correct word for it," Nyxia stated calmly.

She furrowed her brows and said, "Listen, this is extremely confidential information, and not many know about this. So don't ever share this with anyone, you understand?"

"Earlier, you had my curiosity, but now you have my attention."

"Humans... ever since the old times have always been crafty. They stole everything and took credit for the things that never belonged to them. They called it myths, called us fake, and drove us out. They made stories about us, stating we are monsters, which soon turned into fiction. There are many things that even your smartest scientists can't explain, and they name advanced science. There was this other word, too... uhh... Quantum! Yes!"

The tone of Nyxia's voice turned from calm to furious.

Rudy could feel how angry she was.

RUdy thought it would be best not to comment on anything. Otherwise, he would lose the source of valuable information.

"Tell me, boy. To whom does your world belong?" she asked with a lifeless glare in her eyes.

"Humans? I mean, it's called the human world, so..."

"It wasn't until a few thousand years ago. Precisely, a millennia ago. All the races used to live together in harmony, or so one would think."

"..."

"There was never any harmony. You might get offended by what I am going to tell you, but it's the truth written by my ancestors, even more, our Lord, who had seen and known everything from the beginning of the world.

A brief pause later, Nyxia stated, "Humans are petty. The pettiest race ever born. And I am being generous when I say that, by the way."

"That's a very offensive statement. But let's hear how you justify it," Rudy said calmly.

"Of course, not all humans, but most of them. Ever since forever, all the races have always helped humans evolve. They are a special race since they have this... soul in their body. But that's another topic. Let's not get distracted."

"You see, it's a simple thing. If someone wants something, but they can't get it or achieve it, even by trying their best, and another person gets the thing without even trying, how would they feel?"

"Envy? Anger? Frustration?" Rudy guessed.

"Exactly. Here, the former ones are humans, and the latter ones are the other races who are obviously better than them in every single thing," she scoffed arrogantly.

"What are you referring to? Sure, humans can't achieve things like other races. They can't fly. They can't use magic or any other things you claim. And it's natural for them to feel jealous. I would be jealous, too," he responded with a shoulder shrug.

"The other races thought the same. After all, it was natural. So they came up with a solution. And that was what you call 'super-gene'. Except here, it's magic, not science. Obviously."

Nyxia raised her finger in the air and let the water drop back into the pool from the tip of her finger.

"The experiment was nothing but a ritual to share their powers with the humans to make them strong like others."

"Listen, I wasn't there when all this happened, but one thing I am sure of is that there is no way the other races would be dumb enough to do that solely for humanity's sake." Rudy raised his brows and asked with a judging look on his face: "What's the catch?"

"...." Nyxia squinted her eyes at Rudy and nodded with an amused look on her face. "Not bad, boy. I have to say you are not all about talks. You have got a brain, and you are actually using it."

"No, that was common sense. And I am sure even if it was someone other than me, they would have had the same question as me. You see, humans are smart," he asserted with a proud face.

"I hope you don't compare smart with sly," she muttered.

A brief silence later, Nyxia raised her leg in the air, showing how flexible her body was.

'Doing something like this in the middle of a conversation is a sin! How am I supposed to concentrate on the topic?!' Rudy yelled inwardly.

"As I was saying, they all performed—"

"No, no. Answer my question first," Rudy interjected.

"Tch!" Nyxia clicked her tongue and muttered, "I thought he would forget about him if I diverted his attention to my body. What should I do? He keeps making me more and more interested in him. I don't want to steal my lovely great-granddaughter's lover, but Lord forgive me, I might make him mine."

Of course, Rudy heard that crips and clear. But he wasn't a dog in heat that would get swayed by anyone's beauty. Then again, Jane got him good. However, that was only because of the super libido that he lost his morals, although he was dead-set on making Jane fall in love with him, which he achieved after nine rounds of temptation.

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Chapter 253: Thirsty Nyxia

"Say, boy. It's an off-topic question, but what do you think of me?" Nyxia asked with a gentle smile on his, which pierced Rudy's heart.

"..." Even Rudy was surprised. He placed his hand on his chest and wondered, 'Did my heart just flutter after seeing her smile? No, wait. It's mostly because I have often seen that smile on Rias' face. Yes, don't think too much, Rudy.'

"Hmm?" Nyxia smiled again.

"If I have to answer honestly, I would say... you are a mixture of Rias and Jane," Rudy answered with a chuckle.

"Oh? So should I take that as you have been smitten by me?" she asked curiously.

"Of course not. I find you extremely beautiful, and you look no different from Rias or Jane. Heck, if you three stood next to each other, people would surely think of you as sisters. But that's it."

Rudy shrugged his shoulders and said, "Just because you are beautiful doesn't mean you can make anyone fall in love with you, at least not me."

Nyxia curled and bit her lips before saying, "The way you rejected me makes me want you even more. Boy, it will be your fault if I end up seducing you."

"Oh? Then you have to get ready to be hated by Jane and Rias," he scoffed softly.

Nyxia glared at Rudy and said, "Don't bring them into this conversation, boy."

"I am just stating the future for you."

"They don't have to know."

"....?"

"We can fool around behind their backs, and no one would know. What do you say? And I dare say, the 'fun' you have with me would be better than any of the girls you have slept with," she said in a haughty tone.

"Oh? So... is this your thing? No offense, but you are giving me the vibe of an unfaithful wife. How many times did you cheat on your husbands? Or rather, how many men have you been with?"

"How rude, boy. The only man I have been with is my husband. He died around 2000 years ago, so am I not allowed to move on and find someone else?" she asked in a calm voice, which surprised Rudy.

He expected Nyxia to get angry since what he said was offensive. He questioned her character that would make anyone mad, but Nyxia remained calm, which was proof that she wasn't lying.

"Oh, I didn't know your husband was dead..." Rudy muttered.

"Wait, are you thinking that I am some kind of loose woman who flirts and sleeps with every man I see?" Nyxia asked with a disgusted look on her face.

"Sadly... yes..." Rudy nodded.

SIGH!

Nyxia shook her head in disbelief and muttered, "All humans are the same."

"You gave that kind of vibe, okay! Not my fault. Now, can we get back to the topic where you were supposed to answer my question?"

"What was your question again?" she asked in an annoyed tone.

"Why would the other race do something like that for the humans? How did they benefit from them?" Rudy asked again.

"Love. Many loved humans, both friendly and romantically. Just think about it, you and your friend grew up together and fooled around, but you stopped aging while your friend grew old and one day died. How would you feel?"

"..."

"That's what they felt. They wanted to help the humans so they could become bigger. However, out of all the races, one race was against that."

"Let me guess..." Rudy pondered for a while and uttered, "The dragons?"

Nyxia raised her brow with an amused expression on her face and asked, "Why would you think that?"

"I don't know..." he replied awkwardly. "Please don't call me racist."

"It wasn't the Dragons; it was the Eldritchs," she stated in a neutral voice.

"I don't know what that is. But it sounds scary."

"Eldritchs are one of the original race. They were almighty and could defeat both vampires and dragons single-handedly. Just think of them as abominations, supreme beings born directly from the cosmos itself. However, fortunately, they were low in numbers," Nyxia stated.

"So... you are telling me that they opposed the idea of the other races." He gulped nervously and asked, "What happened next? A war, I gather?" Rudy asked curiously.

"That could have happened, but sadly, they never got a chance."

"Hmm? What do you mean? Weren't they the strongest of all races?"

"Let's say that their arrogance and ego got the best of them. They challenged the Lord and went extinct," Nyxia uttered nonchalantly.

"It seems they had everything but lacked brains," Rudy scoffed out loud. "Anyway, please continue. We are wasting too much time here."

Rudy glanced at the closed door of the bathhouse and muttered, "Jane could be coming here at any moment, and I don't want her to see me naked in the same pool as her great-grandmother."

'She is already jealous. Not to mention how she was acting weird a while ago. Maybe I said too much?'

"Back then, there were so many ways to use our powers for the greater good. There was nothing forbidden, and almost everything was allowed. Of course, crimes happened back then too, but they were punished accordingly."

"So, they only shared the powers with one hundred humans as a test. They didn't know if that would work or not, so only the humans who volunteered were permitted for this."

'That sounds like what happened to me. The super-gene experiment conducted on me and the others was a voluntary act,' Rudy uttered inwardly.

"They separated a hundred humans into the group of tens to make it easier. First, the vampires shared their blood and successfully granted humans eternal beauty. The dragons shared their flesh and granted humans superstrength. Elves shared their tears and granted them magic. And the other races did the same."

"However, that was the biggest mistake in history, which led to a thousand-year-long war. Resulting in the separation of all the races and secluding in their own world, created by the Lord."

"..."

"Which is why the Lord forbids us to make contact with humans."

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Chapter 254: Tampered. Forgotten. Forgiven

"Humans started the war?" Rudy asked in an emotionless voice.

"Not the humans, but the one hundred evolved humans," Nyxia responded. "Do you want to know what they did after acquiring the powers?"

"What?"

"They became greedy. They wanted more powers. It was natural, after all. But the races asked them to wait for a few months to see how the humans cope with the powers. However, the humans didn't have patience."

"They began to— by 'they', I mean the evolved humans, by the way." After a brief pause, she continued, "They began to hunt the other races and used their blood, flesh, tears, hair, nectar, and the other things to feed that to the other humans."

"Hence, their army grew day by day. They even made the merge two races. But of course, that didn't end there. The hunt continued until the leaders of the other races found out."

"The war was inevitable at that point..." Rudy muttered.

"Yeah."

"What about the lord? If he wished, he could have stopped them, right?"

"Back then, the Lord also wished to live between us. But that also changed," she uttered with a distant smile on her face.

'Hmm? Us? Why did her story change from third person perspective to second person perspective?' Rudy wondered.

"The Lord was angry at us. You see, when we decided to grant powers to the humans, we never consulted the Lord about it. We did it on our own. Of course, the Lord knew about it, but he didn't stop us. However, once the war started, it mattered even less."

"We begged the Lord to stop the war. We didn't ask him to eradicate the humans. We simply asked to put a stop to the war. But the Lord said- 'Thou shalt know the despair of thee choices and must taketh responsibility for thee actions. Thine not giveth, thou not taketh'."

"In short, he refused to help us. However, after seeing the war for a thousand years, he lost his patience. He realized that the war would never end if he didn't intervene. Hence, he warned us all. Just warned, and that was enough for us to stop. None of us wanted to become extinct."

"So he created different worlds for different races, and now you all are here?" Rudy guessed.

"Yes, the story would have ended there, but it didn't. The humans never stopped seeking more powers. They used the knowledge they had and created their own creations. Deadly and dangerous. They changed the world's formula without caring for anything, which brought them plagues and calamity."

"Up until then, they had us to protect them from such things. But they didn't have anything. Still, of course, they managed to survive with the powers they gained from us. Those who adapted evolved further. But the ones who had powers remained unharmed. They knew that humans were a versatile race, so they continued their experiments."

"After failing countless times, they succeeded. They altered history and removed our trace from the world. They lied to their descendants by feeding them a false story, and they fed it to their descendants."

"The normal humans lived and lied, but those with powers had gained eternal life. They helped humanity advance faster than ever, and they became what they are today. Over time, the hate they have been holding vanished, and they realized their mistakes, but obviously, it was too late."

"After numerous attempts, the gates to the human world were open, and everyone was allowed to enter and leave. Humans were permitted to take the initiative, but the other races weren't."

"Are they still alive? The evolved humans you mentioned?" Rudy asked curiously.

"Who knows?" Nyxia shrugged her shoulders and said, "They also started a family and had kids. They grew up and started their family. The powers they held were passed down from generation to generation."

"In the end, they became.. human again. Their blood became diluted, although the powers remained dormant. Sleeping inside their body, waiting to be awakened again."

Nyxia chuckled and uttered, "But judging by how humanity has been advancing, I doubt they would ever believe such tales even when they were given proof. It's all a myth and fairytale for them, and that's for the greater good."

"They will eventually forget about you all, and you all will forget about them? You will live in a world where your existence wouldn't be known by them. Forgotten for forever?" Rudy asked in a solemn voice.

"That's the plan."

"That will never happen," he sighed. "You see, the myths were once legends, and legends were once tales. If someone stops telling stories, they become a legend that is known and admired by others. Once the legend is forgotten, it becomes a myth, which is strongly believed by some, but not all. What do you think happens when the myth is forgotten too?" Rudy asked with a knowing look on his face.

"What? They become history?" Nyxia responded with a random guess.

"To be honest, I don't know the answer myself," he scoffed while laughing.

"Boy, you truly are an interesting human, I will give you that. But I don't understand why I am feeling attracted to you. Tell me, boy. What have you done to me?" Nyxia asked with a calm yet distant look on her face.

"I haven't done anything to you. Also, I think you are just horny. When was the last time you... uhh.. relieved yourself?" Rudy asked with a straight face.

"Hmm[~] That pleasure is temporary. It has no feelings, no love. Playing with myself leaves me with regret and a sense of loneliness that I can't get used to even after thousands of years," she said with a wry smile.

"If others heard this, they would be crying in the corner," Rudy chuckled. "I think I get what you are trying to say. But I can't understand... ummm... accept? I don't know."

He shrugged.

"When I was young— although I am still young— around Jane's age, I was a rebel!" She looked at Rudy and uttered, "Did I mention I am royal blood? My husband was a commoner whom I married, and you..."

She sighed and shook her head before murmuring, "Nevermind. This is a useless conversation."

She curled up and hugged her knees before burying her head between them.

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 255: Powers and Knowledge

"Okay, is there anything else I need to know about the true world history?" Rudy asked while looking at Nyxia's body.

For some reason, his eyes couldn't stop looking at her beautiful body as though they were locked.

"If I tell you everything I know, it would take hundreds of years. But tell me, what do you want to know?"

"Well, you told me all that because of the zombie apocalypse. But now that you explained to me the history, I get what you are talking about. According to you, the zombie apocalypse was yet another ritual."

"Indeed."

"But..." Rudy raised his hand in the air and looked at his palm before saying, "I think you are wrong. The super-gene experiment does exist. I can guarantee you that."

"Did you read that somewhere too?" Nyxia scoffed softly.

"No." Rudy's gaze finally moved and looked into Nyxia's eyes. "I was part of that super-gene experiment."

"Oh..." Nyxia lowered her gaze and asked, "Did you receive powers after that?"

"I am not sure. At first, I believed that was impossible since it couldn't grant the powers I had, no matter how advanced the gene experiment was. But now that you said the powers belonged to the other races, maybe I did become a superhuman after the experiment."

Rudy played with the drop of the water on his fingertip, which rolled from his palm, wrist, and between his finger, but he didn't let the drop fall from his hand.

Nyxia glanced at Rudy from the corner of her eyes and uttered, "There is a way to find that out."

"Oh? Let me guess, you will need to make direct contact with me which would require us to do some sort of sexual activity, am I right?" Rudy asked with a judging look on his face.

"That's one way. But I am an ancient vampire. I know the ways and techniques to use my vampire abilities unlike any other. So I simply need to suck your blood. I can also read people's memories by sucking their blood, make them my slave, bind them with a contract, and of course, marry them," she said with a proud and confident look on her face.

"I don't mind. In fact, I want to know too. But give me one reason why I should trust you?" Rudy asked with a judging look on his face. He still had his suspicion of Nyxia.

" ..."

"Given how you have constantly been trying to seduce me. What would I do if you make me your slave or bind me with some stupid contract? I would never realize it if you did that. What if you wipe my memories of this conversation? I would never know," Rudy shrugged.

"Fair enough. If I was in your place, I would be thinking the same. I don't even trust my children, so trusting a stranger is surely a big no."

"To be honest..." Rudy moved his gaze from Nyxia's eyes to her twin mountains to her cave before saying, "I am not that curious to know about the origin of my powers. I don't want to get into another mess."

"Let me tell you what happened after all the races were secluded in their own worlds. When the thousand-year-long war occurred, no, even before that up to that point, the Lord used to live within us. Of course, as an incarnation. At that time, an elf was the Lord's incarnation."

"Unlike recent times, the incarnations were also aware that they were the Lord's incarnation. And they could freely use the Lord's unfathomable powers. However, that also changed after a tragic incident..." she muttered in a disdainful tone and a dejected face.

"What happened? Don't keep me in suspense like that. It's bad for my heart," Rudy jokingly said to ease up the mood.

"After all the races secluded in their own worlds, the wars between the races never stopped. It was inevitable. The trust and friendship bonds they had with each other had completely shattered. But that's another story. I want to tell you about the fate of the Lord."

Nyxia splashed her hand in the water and said, "After the incarnation of the Lord died, new incarnations were born throughout the years, all of them aware of from birth. But as they say, when the powers get into the wrong hands, calamity ensues."

"One of the incarnations of the lord went rogue and used his powers to do evil things?" Rudy guessed once again.

Nyxia nodded and said, "The way you are guessing everything makes me worry. Just like how powers shouldn't get into the wrong hands, it's the same about knowledge."

Nyxia pointed her finger at Rudy and said, "You boy, have power, and I am sharing my knowledge with you. I hope you have a good heart, and I don't regret having this lovely moment with you."

Rudy stared at Nyxia with a straight face, but he soon smirked viciously at her, which made Nyxia anxious.

She gulped nervously and asked, "What's with that evil look?

"I feel thrilled when I realize that peoples' lives are at my mercy. I feel... evil?" he wondered.

"That's not something you should admit like this..."

"No, no. You seem to misunderstand something. Just because I think of something or want to do something doesn't mean I would do it. I have no reason to do that. Why would I do that?" he scoffed jokingly.

Nyxia raised her brow and asked, "What if you have a reason?

"I would do it without thinking twice," Rudy answered instantly.

"..."

After seeing the worrisome look on Nyxia's face, Rudy let out a weary sigh and uttered, "Let me ask you something."

"What is the difference between a hero and a villain?" he asked.

"There are many differences. I possibly can't state all of them," Nyxia responded.

"For me, there is only one difference."

"Hmm?" Nyxia raised her brow with a curious and amused look on her face. "And that is?"

What could it be?

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 256: Hero and Villain

"There is only one difference? Surely, you jest. Even if you do the simplest comparison between the two, you can't possibly narrow it down to only one—"

"I said 'for me'. It's more like the most basic difference," Rudy interjected.

"Still..." Nyxia sighed after looking at Rudy and said, "Sure, go ahead and educate me, boy."

Rudy stayed silent for a while to increase the suspense. Then, he looked into Nyxia's eyes and uttered, "A hero would sacrifice his loved ones to save the world, and a villain would sacrifice the world for his loved one."

"Oh. I never considered that since this was about perspective. If I sacrifice the world for my loved ones, I wouldn't consider myself a villain, to be honest."

"They say it's lucky to be a hero and that to be a hero is a blessed job. I consider it a cursed job," Rudy uttered in a low voice. "They say heroes are the chosen ones, but I say they are pitiable."

"Why, may I ask?"

"Just like everyone else, a hero also wants to be a coward and save his own skin. Of course, unless the person voluntarily became a hero. It's about risking their own lives to save another. I would do that, and I bet anyone else would too. But it's also about someone who doesn't want to die."

"Hmm." Nyxia quietly listened to Rudy with a curious face.

"Back then, when I didn't have any powers and was a human, I saw many bad things happening around me. But I couldn't dare to stop them. I could if I wanted to, but I didn't. Because I knew that I would be of any help even if I tried to help. I was powerless. Instead of helping, I would cause them more trouble. But that was the mentality of a weak person like everyone else."

"Now that I have power, I will do my best to help others and punish the evildoers. But am I a hero? Nah. If doing a good deed could make one a hero, the world would be filled with them. Besides, people nowadays care more about the reward than the act itself," Rudy scoffed with a sigh.

"You wouldn't save the world?" Nyxia asked curiously.

"I would save the world anytime. But if I have to choose between my loved ones and the world, let the world be doomed. However, if it's my life on the line instead of my loved ones, then I would gladly sacrifice myself to the world. Do note that the world also has my loved ones living in it, so you can say I would do that for them, and the world is just an extra," Rudy asserted with a smile on his face.

"Now, tell me. What does that make me? A hero or a villain?" Rudy asked Nyxia with a charming smile on his face.

Nyxia's face flushed for the first time in centuries, and she broke eye contact with Rudy.

"I don't know. How am I supposed to know? I am neither a hero nor a villain," Nyxia responded.

"Well, that wasn't the response I was expecting but okay." A Brief pause later, Rudy asked, "Hey, I have been curious about this superstition if it can be considered one. Is it true that humans can become a vampire? Earlier, you said that the vampire's blood granted eternal beauty to the human but didn't mention anything about them becoming a vampire."

"Yeah, it's true. A human can become a vampire. In fact, it was a common practice back then between the lovers," Nyxia nodded in response.

"Can a vampire who was a human before become more powerful than the natural born vampires?" Rudy asked curiously.

"No, never. Even if they were high vampires, they can't become powerful just by becoming a vampire."

"What if the human is smart and knows what they are doing?"

"That's a different factor. If I have to explain it in simple words, what tastes better in your world, a chicken or an egg?"

"Chicken, obviously," Rudy replied instantly.

"Exactly. The chicken is a vampire, and the egg is a human. They can't beat the taste."

Rudy raised his brows and asked, "But the egg eventually hatches, and a baby chick is born. They grow and become a chicken, which I bet would taste the same as other chickens."

Nyxia furrowed her brows and said, "That's called evolution. Advancing from one stage to another. It takes time, a lot of time. And don't forget that the vampire would also become stronger as time passed. Just accept it. A human-born vampire can never catch up to a natural vampire."

"Whoa, lady, no need to get so angsty. I just asked because I was curious. I don't care about it. I am not a vampire. I am a human through and through."

"Do you seriously believe that you are a human with powers such as yours?"

"I believe."

"You can be a human and not at the same time."

"What's that supposed to mean? It makes no sense unless you are talking about morality, of course."

"The apocalypse; who do you think was responsible for that?"

"Humans? Scientists? Descendants of the evolved humans?"

"The leader of the so-called zombies, do you know who it was?" Nyxia stretched her arms in the air and legs in the water and yawned loudly before asking, "Who do you think he was?"

"I couldn't find his name, but he was called T. A. And he was said to be a human," Rudy answered.

"Teigo Anderson, a human. One of the last remaining survivors of the thousand-year war. He had an unfathomable amount of knowledge he acquired before and after. He realized that his time had come, so he decided to start experimenting on himself."

"He hunted down the descendants of the evolved humans and gathered their blood to get the powers stored in the genes. He probably did that for decades and had been preparing it for a long time, gathering every sample he could."

"He eventually died and revived himself. He came back from the dead. He... became a necromancer."

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Chapter 257: Truth about the Apocalypse

"Wait, wait, wait. I don't get it. It was said that T.A was a soldier who was experimented on. How did he become the mastermind behind all this?" Rudy asked with a curious and confused look on his face.

"How am I supposed to know that? Just like the leaders of the human world reported to their citizens, I was informed by the representatives of the other worlds, or rather, other races. And I bet my hair that the human world's report was fake."

Nyxia shrugged her shoulders and said, "It could be that T.A was the one pulling all the strings and manipulating the world leader? Do you know who or which country first started these supergene experiments?"

"No." Rudy shook his head and said, "They were doing it in secret, but it was permitted by the government, just wasn't made public. But after the apocalypse, they said they stopped all the experiments for the greater good. But I bet you wouldn't be surprised if I tell you that they are still doing that in secret."

"Yeah. Not surprising. Perhaps, they are trying to repeat history." Nyxia frowned her face and said, "Listen carefully, boy. If humans became a threat to us or any other races and tried to initiate the war, it won't end well."

"Is that a threat? Or a warning?"

"None. It's a statement. So if that ever happens, please don't interfere. You can take your loved ones and move to a different world."

"As long as you don't harm the innocents, I won't interfere. But don't worry." Rudy winked at Nyxia with a smile on his face and uttered, "That won't happen. I plan to look into every secret the human world is hiding and destroy everything before it gets messy. After all, a threat to you all is a threat to me and my loved ones too."

"I can't..." Nyxia shook her flushed face and glared at Rudy with teary eyes. She opened her mouth to say something but stopped and continued glaring at him.

"What? I don't think I said something wrong."

"The Lord will punish you for playing with me like this," Nyxia muttered.

"Hmm?"

SIGH!

Nyxia sighed and thought, 'Even though he is smart at other things, he is dense sometimes. Oh, my Lord. Why didn't I meet him sooner? Had I met him before Glorias or Jane, I could have had him for myself!'

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Unfortunately for Nyxia, fortunately for Rudy, he heard everything.

Rudy's telepathic ability was broken for some reason. He couldn't hear people's thoughts unless their thoughts were directed towards him with strong feelings and emotions such as love and hate.

To counter that, Rudy developed a new ability that was awfully similar to his telepathic ability but better, and it worked all the time. However, there was one demerit, which was that he needed to be in direct contact with a person to read their mind.

Even if he touched a person over their clothes, it wouldn't work. He had to touch them directly on their skin, which was a little awkward for him. After all, touching someone all of a sudden was weird.

However, for some reason, Rudy heard Nyxia's thoughts even though they weren't making direct contact.

That was solid proof of how strong Nyxia's feelings for Rudy were. Unbeknownst to him, he seduced the Mad Queen, who was feared by not only the vampires but the other races too.

'Should I let her know that I can hear her thoughts? That could make the situation worse or better depending on how she reacts to it,' Rudy uttered inwardly.

"So let's say it was T.A who pulled all this. How did he become a necromancer? Is that like a...uhh... summoning or something?"

Nyxia squinted her eyes and said, "Did you read some fiction about it?"

"No, I don't have time for such things. Even if I read or play games at my friend's house, I only go with a calm genre that has no sad or complicated stuff. For example, the slice of life genre is my favorite. And I mostly play adult visual novels and complete all the routes. But that—oh..."

Rudy stopped when he realized he was blurting out his personal tastes on things.

"I feel like I shouldn't have mentioned the word 'fiction' in front of you. But anyway, yes. A necromancer is someone who can revive and control the dead. They are called undead, or in a human term—zombies."

"Ah!" Rudy suddenly exclaimed and slashed his fist in the water before saying, "That's right!"

"What happened so suddenly?"

"That article... It said that T.A gained the ability to control and command other zombies, but it was just the necromancer using his powers. Wow... just wow. This mixture of fantasy magic with modern science is blowing my mind!"

"Well, now you have answers to all your questions."

"No, I have one more question about the apocalypse." Rudy stared at Nyxia with a serious look on his face and asked, "T.A disappeared all of a sudden. What's the reason behind that? I am sure the other races did something, but I want to know what."

"Heh." Nyxia chuckled and said, "I should have expected this question."

"And I am hoping for an answer."

After a brief silence, Nyxia continued, "Anderson wanted to become the king of humans since all the races had their own kings, but humankind didn't. The era of monarchy had ended, and everything of democracy, which in my opinion, was worse."

"...." Rudy shot an amusing glance at Nyxia but didn't say anything.

"It didn't matter if he ruled over the humans when they were alive or dead. Of course, he wasn't a natural-born necromancer, so there were limitations to his powers. He couldn't revive the already dead humans, so he decided to kill those who were alive and revive them as his servants."

"The vampires and the other races were unknown to that until it was too late."

It feels good to finally unravel a big mystery. But there is more!

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 258: Rendezvous Point

"Too late?" Rudy asked with a curious and confused look on his face.

Nyxia raised her brow and asked, "Why are you talking like you don't know about this? Sure, even if you didn't have powers at that time, you should know what happened, right? Now that I think about it, all this time, you have been saying 'I read this and that', but you never said you saw it with your own eyes."

"Well... the cat was out of the bag a while ago, but it took you a while to catch it..." Rudy muttered.

'This was bound to happen since I have been asking so many questions and trying to make sense of it by relating them with me. I guess telling Nyxia about it would be okay? To be honest, I am not sure. But if I want more answers, I should tell her,'

"Listen carefully. I am actually a—"

"Wait, wait. Don't tell me now. Let me finish what I was saying. The conversation is getting mixed, and it's becoming more and more confusing. I am not smart like you to understand everything," Nyxia interjected.

"Okay."

"As I was saying, Anderson wanted to rule over the human world and become their king. The vampires and the other races had nothing to do with it. It was none of our concern. But we were mistaken."

"He wasn't planning to rule only over the human world, but the other worlds too?" Rudy guessed.

"Indeed. And a human, even as an undead, can't be stronger than an undead vampire or undead dragon or the undead of other races."

"Vampire zombie and dragon zombie. Damn, that actually sounds cool for some reason..." Rudy muttered.

Nyxia ignored Rudy's words and continued, "Anderson had already taken over 30% of the humans, and his powers were increasing."

"Huh?"

"Did I mention that a necromancer's powers grow strong as their army increases?"

"You didn't..." Rudy shook his head.

"Now you know."

"..." Rudy shook his head in disbelief and recalled how Virgil did the same thing when he was telling him about the Lord.

"However, that much power wasn't enough. And besides, he didn't know how to open a portal to the other world or the requirements to open it. But fortunately, our spies informed us about his plan, and we had to take action."

"A war?" Rudy wondered.

"Of course not. Virgil single-handedly took care of Anderson and his army of the undead," Nyxia uttered nonchalantly.

"Single-handedly?!" Rudy exclaimed.

"Yeah. The leaders of the other races wanted to help, but Virgil went to the human world and wiped them out. If it was any other race, they would have brought their army full of warriors, and things could have gone nasty."

"True. And the humans could have learned about the existence of the other races too. I still don't know if that would have been a good thing or not. If all the races lived on the same planet...no, that's practically impossible since earth isn't that big. Rather, if we all co-existed together, I wonder what type of world would that be," Rudy uttered with a distant smile on his face— as though he had seen that before—which surprised Nyxia.

'So my suspicion was right. He truly is....'

"Still, I didn't know Virgil was that strong..." Rudy muttered. "30% of the total human population is still more than two billion. That's a ridiculous amount of—"

"Virgil is the strongest vampire. The strongest. Why do you think no one dares to challenge him for the throne?"

"Not going to lie, I expected you to be the strongest."

"I am the second strongest, and ironically, Jane is the third."

"Uhh..."

"Are you surprised?" Nyxia grinned and said, "The three strongest vampires are from the same kingdom. The other vampire kings and the kingdoms fear us. They go to war against each other and also form alliances. But this kingdom has been alone and always will be," Nyxia stated.

"How did Virgil manage to kill the necromancer?" Rudy asked curiously. "Since you can't kill a dead person."

"You are right about that. And Virgil couldn't kill Anderson. Even after killing him hundreds of thousands of times, he revived himself. That's why, Virgil sealed him and his powers and locked him in the prison realm, where the most deadly criminals are locked up. Of course, all of them are immortal, so we can't kill them."

Rudy furrowed his brow and uttered, "What if they escape? You should find a way to kill them. Even if one person managed to get free, he or she could also free all the prisoners there. All the worlds would be in chaos if that ever happens."

"That's impossible."

"Guess what? This ignorance is the reason why the evildoers are so confident. There is nothing 'impossible' in the world. Anything can happen. The world is unpredictable."

"The prison realm was the first thing the Lord had created. It's a never-ending realm, disconnected from every other world. There are thousands of heavenly guards guarding every corner, with each chamber having another ten guards per prison. Even if someone managed to escape, they would have nowhere to go. The prison realm itself is a big prison," Nyxia asserted.

"Do you think we never considered that possibility?" Nyxia frowned her face and said, "We are not dumb."

"I just got angry because I didn't want any of them in my world..." Rudy muttered.

He lowered his gaze and pondered for a few seconds before uttering, "My house...or rather, my town and the neighboring cities were unaffected by the apocalypse. I heard that T.A didn't allow any undead to enter the area. What's the reason behind that?

"That's the place which is closest to the other worlds. The portals can only be opened from there. Think of it as a rendezvous point," Nyxia responded calmly.

"Just like there is one in the world where the summit occurs?" Rudy asked in a neutral tone.

"You can say that, yes," Nyxia nodded.

"Now, all my questions have been answered. I feel relaxed. Thanks for cooperating with me. Now it's my turn."

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Chapter 259: Not So Casual Conversation

Rudy told Nyxia everything, including about the girls in his harem and his actions. He also told her about his past life and how his loved ones met a tragic end.

"Hmm. So you are from another world... no, another universe?" Nyxia didn't look surprised, but she was amused.

"Something like that. But it's only my soul... or rather, the memories that traveled through the universe."

"Unfortunately, I do not possess knowledge about the multiverse, but I did believe that it was real."

Nyxia looked at her hand and said, "Do you think that we have met in your past life too?"

"No...? I never came to the vampire world. In fact, I never remembered Rias," Rudy responded in frustration.

"Can I ask why you think you are Rudy from another world? It could be that you only gained the memories because of some strange phenomena, you know?" Nyxia asked curiously.

"I thought of that possibility. But I debunked it. Firstly, when I came into this world... in this universe."

The conversation was getting weird since, so far, Rudy had been using the word world, but currently, he was in a vampire world, and things could get confusing.

"When I woke up in the universe after dying in the other one, I was back in time. I didn't wake up at the present time. Secondly, I didn't remember anything about this world. I didn't know about the apocalypse or anything else. And thirdly... Well, there is none."

He shrugged his shoulders.

"I wish I could help you more with that."

"It's okay."

Nyxia smirked from the corner of her lips and said, "Are you aware that polygamy is not allowed in the vampire world?"

"That's a lie. Virgil married three times."

"Not at the same time. He married his second wife after the first wife died. And he married his third wife after the second wife left him. While you are fooling with Jane and Glorias at the same time," Nyxia retorted.

"No offense, but I don't give a fuck about the vampire world rules. I don't care if polygamy is not allowed. Who is going to stop me?" he scoffed arrogantly.

"Still, if you had to choose one between Glorias and Jane. Who would you choose?" she asked with a curious and amused look on her face.

"Rias, anytime," Rudy replied instantly. "It's not like I don't love Jane, or I love Rias more than Jane. It's just that I came here for Rias, and that hasn't changed."

Nyxia licked her lips and uttered, "I see. So you are a loyal cheater."

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"And I was kidding about the polygamy part. There is no such rule," she groaned.

"I figured."

"Say, are you not curious where this vampire world exists? Like your human world is a blue planet. Do you not want to know if there is a Vampire Planet or something?"

"It's called earth," Rudy commented.

Nyxia shrugged her shoulders arrogantly and said, "Why should I care? It's named after a human. I will never call a human by their name. I despise them."

"I am a human too. And is that why you have been calling me 'boy' all this time?"

"I do not hate you personally, but I don't think I will ever call you by your name."

"Oh? And here I was longing to hear my name in a sweet voice from your lovely mouth. But I guess that is never going to happen," he said with a dejected look on his face.

He made a gloomy face on purpose to tease Nyxia, and it worked.

Nyxia was flustered. She gritted her teeth and muttered, "You are so cocky..."

"Heh." Rudy grinned and said, "It's okay. I don't mind it. If I hate someone, I wouldn't call them by their name either. I respect your ideals."

"..."

"Also, I was curious about what you said, actually. But I don't want to know. It's probably because of magic, and it messes with my head since it contradicts my favorite subject, science."

"You look awfully exhausted even after relaxing in the hot sprint," Nyxia commented.

"This is mental exhaustion. Physically, I rarely feel tired."

"I am more curious about your powers. Where do they come from? How do you create them?"

Rudy shrugged his shoulders and responded, "I don't know. But it sucks my mental strength, so I guess my powers come from my imagination?"

"I have never seen such phenomena in my entire life... except..." Nyxia uttered in a low voice.

"How old are you, by the way?" Rudy asked with a curious yet calm look on his face. "You mentioned yourself as an ancient vampire, so you must be thousands of years old. Then again, that's every vampire."

Nyxia furrowed her brows and uttered, "Don't you know it's inappropriate to ask a girl about her age?"

"I expected that line. Come on, tell me."

"I am sorry, but that's the only thing I can't tell."

"Why not? What if I give you something in return?" Rudy asked with a judging look on his face.

"Like ... ?"

Rudy pointed his gaze at his snake and said, "Whatever you want?"

Nyxia stared at Rudy's snake and licked her lips. She gulped down with an alluring gaze and took deep breaths.

"That won't do. Even if you sleep with me, I cannot tell you that."

"Okay."

'Was he serious about that?" Nyxia wondered. 'No, he was probably joking. He wouldn't agree to do something like that just to know my age. I may not know him well, but he doesn't seem like that type of person.'

'But...' Nyxia shot a glance at Rudy's erect snake and thought, 'What if he was serious. It's not a bad offer. I can just lie about my age and get laid too... no, I can't do that to him.'

Rudy raised his brows and wondered, 'Why is she being so agitated about her age? It's not that big of a deal, right?'

"Say, boy." Nyxia squinted her eyes and uttered, "There is a spirit living inside you. Your lover, as you mentioned her. Do you know the risks of letting a spirit possess you?"

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Chapter 260: Nyxia's Children

"I don't care about the risk. Even if it's dangerous, I am never forsaking Angelica," Rudy said in a solemn voice.

"Your choice." Nyxia shrugged her shoulders and said, "Also, she can't leave your body as long as she is in this world."

"Is this because she didn't pass through the portal?" Rudy asked curiously.

"That's a minor reason. The real reason is her energy."

"You mean her frequency?"

"No, that's different. You see, the universe is filled with one or another energy. When the races with spirits die, they turn into energy and become a part of the universe. Some call it an everlasting life," Nyxia stated.

"So Angelica's energy is not suitable for this world? Is that what you are trying to say?"

"When a person is alive, they have a different energy. But when they die, the energy changes into something more chaotic since there is nothing to bind or hold it. But it gets lost in this vast universe. However, if the energy or rather the spirit is bound to something such as a place, a person, a memento, or even the feelings and emotions, it won't pass on."

"That's a better take on explaining about the ghosts..." Rudy muttered.

"Of course, it depends on the culture you follow. I am not intending to nor trying to disparage anyone's belief, by the way. Since humans are sensitive about this topic. I don't know about now, but the old times were nasty."

"You know when I first learned about this world and entered here. I assumed that the vampires would be braindead mindless barbaric creatures living a moronic life. But I was left speechless after learning that they have an established civilization. They even have houses, clothes, schools, hospitals, gardens, and many more things. I am genuinely impressed. And the fact that we can have this serious conversation like this shows how knowledgeable you all are."

"Oh, you jest. Not everyone is like me, and not all of them want to live this life. Things are much better in this kingdom than the other ones, but not as much as they used to be," Nyxia chuckled. "And it's normal. Even in the human world, no one likes to go to school. Maybe till tenth or twelfth grade. Except for the ones who truly want to study and get a job. Most of the youngsters nowadays look for an easy way to get money, don't they?"

Rudy raised his brow and remarked, "You surprisingly know well about humans even though you claim to hate them."

Nyxia shrugged her shoulders and rolled her eyes without saying anything. But after a few seconds, she got a glance at Rudy, who was feeding his eyes with her beautiful naked body.

"What year is it in the human world?" Nyxia asked curiously.

"Uhh... 2008..." Rudy replied with a puzzled look on his face.

"Oh. So they finally crossed two thousand years. I am surprised they managed to survive this long."

"You have been making fun of the humans and passing comments for a while now. I can't say I am not offended."

"You have also been doing the same about the vampires."

Nyxia and Rudy stared at each other before moving their gazes to their private parts.

"Hmm~ So Virgil is already 2008 years old," she muttered. "I want to say time passed quickly, but it didn't."

"Can I know more about you?"

"Arara? Could it be that you are finally interested in me?" Nyxia teased.

"Yes."

"Huh?" Nyxia's face flushed a little as she said, "Wait, really?!"

"I am interested in you as a person. Not the romantic type of interest, though."

"Gah!" Nyxia frowned her face and said, "You purposely did that to tease me, am I right?"

"I don't know what you are talking about." Rudy acted dumb.

"My name is Nyxia. I was born in bla bla, grew up in bla bla, became infamous when I did bla bla, bla years passed by, and I bla bla. I married 2020 years ago, and I have seven sons and two daughters, out of which three sons are dead, and I have no idea where the daughters are," Nyxia stated sarcastically.

"So Virgil is the oldest. It's good. If someone else was the eldest, this kingdom would have been the same as the others," Rudy muttered.

"Oh no. Virgil is the youngest son. In this world, the strongest becomes the king. If a random vampire challenges Vigil and wins, he or she will become the next king or queen. If no one challenges him, the next ruler will be Jane."

"Hmm?"

"As I already said, Virgil is the strongest vampire; he is blessed by the lord, after all. Then I am the second strongest, but I have already ruled over this kingdom for a long time, and I am not interested anymore. So that leaves Jane, who is the third strongest vampire."

"But won't the royals and nobles oppose that?" Rudy asked curiously.

"That doesn't matter. As a king or a queen, the ruler has the right to do anything they want, and I mean everything. Who in their right mind would dare to offend the strongest? The answer is no one."

'Well, there is me.'

"Who is the fourth strongest?"

"Probably someone in the other kingdom," Nyxia replied without seeming to care much. She was rubbing her hands on her body as though she was washing it.

A brief silence later, Rudy uttered, "I am asking in this kingdom. I plan to take Rias and Jane with me, so who will be the ruler if not Jane?"

Nyxia squeezed her breasts and moved her hand to her neck before frowning her face and glaring into Rudy's eyes.

Rudy didn't flinch and stared back at Nyxia.

"What did you say, boy?"

"I plan to take Rias and Jane with me," Rudy repeated casually.

"Did Virgil allow that?"

"I haven't told him that yet." He shrugged his shoulders and said, "But I don't plan to change my mind even if he doesn't agree with me."

"I cannot allow you to take my lovely great-granddaughters to that despicable world!"