

## Esper 441

### [Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

#### Chapter 441: Adapting- Mutating- Evolving

"My face? What's wrong with my face?"

Rudy turned to the side mirror of the car to see what Lilim was surprised about. However, before he could see himself, he had a sudden pain in his head.

"Argh." He even groaned in pain, which was rare for him as even after bearing unbearable pain many times, he had never shown a sign of pain on his face.

He grabbed his head in his hands and ran towards the forest.

"Hey! Are you okay?!" Lilim yelled and chased after Rudy.

She ran into the forest, but suddenly, a heavy wave of wind sent her flying to the car. Luckily, the car wasn't damaged as it was armored, but everything else was destroyed.

When Lilim looked back into the forest, all the trees were burned to ashes, and the ground had shattered completely.

"Daddy!"

Lilim rushed into the forest despite her fears. Her body was trembling, and her legs wouldn't stop shaking as she ran further into the woods.

After a while, she found Rudy sitting on his knees in the middle of nowhere. The upper part of the body was drooping to the ground while his hands were still over the part of his head.

"..."

She quietly made her way to him and asked, "Are you okay?"

"Yeah. But I feel like my head just exploded over a million times," he replied.

SIGH!

Lilim sighed in relief and said, "You will be—"

She once again stopped on her words and gulped down in fear.

"What's wrong?"

"Your face and head...." she muttered.

"Wait, don't tell me my eyes are bleeding again."

She shook her head and said, "It's..."

Rudy glanced around and noticed everything around him was destroyed.

"I did this?" he asked himself.

He immediately placed his hand on the ground and restored as much as he could. Then, he grabbed Lilim and made his way back to the car to see what was wrong with him.

He looked in the mirror and yelled, "What the— fuck?!"

He had grown horns on his forehead, which were similar to Lilim's but a bit better and bigger.

He touched them with a curious and confused look on his face and asked, "How did this happen?"

"..." Lilim had no words to say.

"Come to think of it, I did feel like something was emerging from my head." He turned to Lilim and asked, "Are they demon's horns?"

Lilim nodded in response without uttering a word.

"Hmm~" he hummed in wonder and said, "This is the second time my body is adapting.... mutating? Or perhaps evolving? What should I call it?"

'Wait, wait, wait. Wait a freaking second. I might be thinking too much, but this can't be just a coincidence. I had sex with Jane, who is a vampire— and because of that, I grew fangs like a vampire.

Now I had sex with a Lilim, who is a demon— and because of that, I grew horns? Humans don't have special traits, so I can't confirm anything about humans.

What about Angelica? She is a ghost, but I don't think having sex with her has affected me in any way. If anything, I provide her power through my cum, so she can manifest her form.

Hmm~ Why did I not think about this before? And if my theory is actually true, what's causing it? Is this dual cultivation? No.

After Nyxia mentioned dual cultivation, she gave me a book about it to read. I read the benefits and dangers of dual cultivation, and it was clearly mentioned that humans, vampires, and demons can't dual cultivate.

So how are my body features changing like this? It's surely because I fucked them, but how? I should ask Nyxia about this if we meet again next time.

Now putting everything aside, how do I...'

"How do I retract them?" Rudy asked calmly.

"Umm... just think about it?"

"..."

'I could control the fangs, so I should be able to control the horns too.'

Rudy tossed all the thoughts out and cleared his mind, but the scene of Lilim sucking his snake kept flashing before his eyes. And due to that, his horn between his legs woke up and poked Lilim's legs.

"..."

A few seconds later, his horn retracted, leaving no sign of anything on his face or head.

SIGH!

He sighed in relief and muttered, "Thank fuck, I am used to this."

Lilim squinted her eyes and pointed her gaze at his erect snake. "If you can do that, why don't you do something about that too?" she remarked.

"That's... out of my control," he chuckled softly. "Anyway, I should leave now."

He wore his pants and patted Lilim on the head before saying, "Bye."

"Hmm."

"Actually, I can teleport you to the city if you want."

"The car has a tracking device, and it tracks all the movements. So I have to drive to my destination."

"What about the four hours we spend here?"

"I can just say the engine had malfunctioned," Lilim responded with a shrug.

"Oh, by the way, I told Maria everything about you being a demon and also that we were fucking while she was taking a bath."

After saying that, he teleported to his room, took a bath, had breakfast, and reached on time to pick Alice up.

Meanwhile, Lilim was driving the car with a dazed expression on her face. She was sweating after Rudy told her Maria was now aware of everything. She was afraid to face her, but for now, she had something else to do.

After driving for more than an hour, she reached Rudy's town and stopped in front of his house. She got out of the car and headed to the front door.

KNOCK! KNOCK!

After a few knocks, Rebecca opened the door slightly and asked, "Yes?"

Lilim rolled her eyes and said, "Can I come in?"

"Of course not! Who are you?!" Rebecca asked with a frowned face.

"Oh, come on. You don't remember me?" Lilim asked in disbelief.

Rebecca glanced around to make sure no one else was with Lilim.

"Are you some kind of salesman or a scammer?"

SIGH!

Lilim closed her eyes and changed to her demon form.

"What about now?"

"...Lilim?"

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### **Chapter 442: Doesn't Matter**

"Lilim?" Rebecca asked with a confused and curious look on her face.

"So you do remember me!"

Rebecca immediately closed the door, but Lilim inserted her leg between the door and stopped Rebecca from entirely closing the door.

"Why the hell are you closing the door?!"

"Why should I believe that you are really Lilim?"

"Oh, come on. Have you met any other demons?"

"No."

"Then why are you acting like this?"

"Even if you are Lilim, why are you here?"

Lilim shrugged her shoulders and said, "Can't I come to meet my friend?"

"I don't recall ever being your friend. Now, if you are done. Please leave." Rebecca said as she constantly tried to close the door while kicking Lilim's leg out.

"I am here to talk about Rudy," Lilim stated with a calm smile.

"..." Rebecca opened the door a little and asked, "What about him?"

Lilim took that opportunity to dash into the house while Rebecca stood dumbfounded at the door.

"Excuse me! You can't just enter my home without my permission! I will call the cops on you!" Rebecca yelled as she closed the door.

"Go ahead and call the cops," Lilim scoffed softly. "What will you say? A demon broke into my house? And it's not even your house in the first place, so stop acting like a master."

"..."

Rebecca folded her arms beneath her bosom and stood in front of Lilim with an annoyed face.

"Why do I feel like I am not welcomed here?" Lilim asked with an awkward smile on her face.

"Because you are not."

SIGH!

Lilim sighed and sat on the couch with a sad look on her face.

"To think that we were once friends."

"As I said, I don't recall ever being your friend. We spent like two days together in this house. And that was twenty years ago!"

"Doesn't matter." Lilim yawned and laid down on the couch in a relaxed manner to make herself comfortable.

"..."

"Won't you give me water or juice? Where are your manners, girl?" Lilim then said.

"Excuse me! I am older than you! And why are you here anyway? The diary had no mention of this!"

"Argh! Diary, yeah. Diary this and diary that. You are still following everything in that diary?" Lilim groaned with a sigh. "You don't even know who gave you that diary or how it came to be. Why do you trust the random things you don't even know?"

"I didn't trust it at first. But the events began to happen, and they matched with what was in the diary."

"You have been following that for the past twenty years?"

"Eighteen."

"Doesn't matter."

"So...?" Rebecca gulped down nervously and asked, "You said you were here to talk about Rudy."

"Oh yeah. I met him... accidentally."

"How?"

"Doesn't matter."

"You were here to tell me that?"

"No. I wanted to ask why he still doesn't remember you, me, or others."

Rebecca walked to the kitchen after saying, "Because it's not the right time yet."

"What's that supposed to mean?"

"Doesn't matter," Rebecca chuckled softly before opening the fridge and taking out a water bottle.

"Don't play with me, Becca."

"You are not allowed to call me that, Lily."

Rebecca filled the glass with water and handed it to Lilim.

"..." Lilim shook her head in disbelief after seeing the glass of water. "Seriously? I was expecting juice."

"Take it or leave it."

"Actually..." Lilim sat up and grabbed the glass while saying, "I will take it. Something sticky is stuck in my throat."

She said while licking her lips.

"Then don't eat strange things."

"It was a drink."

"Then don't drink strange things," Rebecca shrugged.

"Well..." Lilim drank a few sips and said, "That drink was created by Rudy, so I had to drink it."

"What? Wait... don't tell me you found him in the bar!" Rebecca exclaimed. "Was he hanging out with girls?"

"Oh, Rebecca. You are so innocent and naive to think that Rudy is the same as you."

"What... do you mean?" Rebecca asked with a curious and confused look on her face.

"Are you sure you want me to tell you? It might be against what is written in that so-called diary."

"Argh!" Rebecca clenched her fists and muttered, "Don't tell me."

"Heh." After drinking the water, Lilim glanced around and muttered, "Nothing has changed here. Except there are a few extra things here."

"What else?"

"You know, if you hadn't followed that diary, you could be living a different life. You would have had a better home. You could have given Rudy a better life— instead of this... well, old house.

You chose to live this life. You gave Rudy a tough childhood because that's how it was supposed to be. But you know, I don't blame you. You were tasked to raise him, so you had the most responsibility, and you couldn't risk anything.

You sacrificed everything to make it right. I do sincerely hope you find the happiness of your life soon," Lilim calmly said with a smile.

"I will. In three weeks, everything will end."

"Hmm? What's after three weeks?"

"I will turn thirty."

"And...?"

"That's when Rudy is supposed to remember everything."

"I see~" Lilim nodded in amusement and asked, "Was that written in the diary?"

"Yes."

"Can I see it?"

"Obviously not."

Lilim rushed to Rebecca's room and opened her closet.

"How do you even know that's my room?!"

"Because of your scent. Now, show me the diary," Lilim demanded. "I want to know what will happen next."

"No way in hell. What if it changes?!"

"It won't. Only I will be looking at it."

"..." Rebecca reluctantly opened the locker in her closet and handed Lilim the diary.

Lilim turned around and flipped through the pages.

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#### **Chapter 443: Friends and Goals**

"But I can, right?"

"Well..." Rebecca averted her gaze.

Lilim flipped a few pages and began

"..."

After a few seconds, she closed the diary and handed it back to Rebecca, saying, "Here you go."

"..."

"What? Do you want me to tell you what's in it?" Lilim chuckled.

"No!"

SIGH!

Lilim walked out of Rebecca's room and dashed upstairs.

"Hey!" Rebecca chased after her while yelling, "What do you think you are doing?!"

When Rebecca reached upstairs, she found Lilim in Rudy's room.

"So this is his room, huh?" Lilim checked the closet and under the bed as though she was searching for something.

"Get out!" Rebecca dragged Lilim out of Rudy's room and said, "Why are you doing all this?! I was going to sleep after a long shift, but you came here to annoy me! If you have nothing to do, then please leave! You may come back once Rudy remembers everything!"

"Fine, fine~ Sheesh~You are the same as ever. Unfriend and cheeky brat~" Lilim groaned. "I bet you do this to every girl Rudy brings here."

"He doesn't bring any girls. He is pure and innocent."

"..." Lilim stopped breathing for a second because of a shock. "Well, it seems that the diary didn't mention it."

"What do you mean?"

"Oh, by the way. I haven't seen Jessica. Where is she?" Lilim asked while glancing around. "I didn't see her stuff in your room, and there are only two bedrooms in this house. Did she move out or something?"

"She is... dead."

Lilim furrowed her brows and turned to Rebecca with a confused and pale face.

"Wha...t?"

"You heard that right. I know now you want details, but I am truly not in the mood for that. Please," Rebecca muttered in a disdainful tone.

Seeing the dejected look on Rebecca's face, Lilim decided to not pry further into the matter. "Alright."

'She has always been alone? She raised Rudy without anyone's help at such a young age? I can't fathom how she must have felt every day. No wonder she was chosen to play the role of his mother.

I don't think any other girl would have been able to endure so much alone. But rest assured, Rebecca. I read the nineteenth chapter, and if everything turns out as mentioned, you will be the happiest girl in the world.'

Lilim gazed around the house for the last time and headed to the door.

"I lied about my reason for coming here," Lilim muttered.

"Hmm?"

"I was here to meet you. Believe me or not, I have missed you so much in the past twenty years, but I never came to meet you. I was tasked to be Maria's protector, which was the reason for my existence.

However, I did once in a while check up on you from a distance to make sure you were alright— although I stopped that ten years ago as I couldn't resist my urge to meet Rudy. That's probably when Jessica... you know.... I am sorry for not being there when you needed someone.

You might not consider me your friend, but to me, you are the first friend I have made. You are as important to me as Rudy is to me. If I offended you somehow or my visit annoyed you, I apologize for the inconvenience caused to you. I didn't mean to—"

"Stop." Rebecca placed her hand on Lilim's lips and glared into her eyes before saying, "Don't say another word."

"..." Rebecca pushed Lilim back and led her to the door.

"Whatever you have to say, you can say it when we meet again. Hopefully, I will say the same thing as you that day. But for now, let me play the role of Rudy's mother for a few more days," Rebecca said calmly.

"I understand."

Lilim then left the house and drove away.

"..." Rebecca watched Lilim leave and then closed the door. She had to make sure Lilim had truly left.



After locking the door, she went into the kitchen and chugged down a glass of water in a matter of seconds.

"She dropped by all of a sudden. I didn't even recognize her at first, but I am glad nothing changed."

She touched her lips and muttered, "I was sure I messed up a big time when I kissed Rudy that day. Even the other day, we kissed again. I have to keep my distance from him in a way he doesn't feel like I am avoiding him.

I don't want to destroy everything I have done for the past eighteen years. Three more weeks, and I will finally be free. I have kept my feelings and emotions in control for only three weeks.

It's kind of sad that I will have to stop being his mother. I just hope I played the role of a perfect mother for him and gave him a good life."

After that, she went into her room and fell asleep.

Meanwhile, Rudy was showing Alice the footage of Lilim sucking his snake that he had recorded. The class was ongoing, and still, he was doing something like that shamelessly.

"..."

Alice was watching it with attention and making varied expressions on her face.

"Wow. She gulped everything down without choking or showing any sign of... uhh... uncomfortableness? Is that a word?"

Rudy closed the video and put his phone back in his pocket, saying, "You have also gotten better at it."

"But I still can't move that fast and sometimes chokes."

"That's fine. You are a human, and she is a demon. They have different body traits. Not to mention, she is twenty-six, and you are only eighteen yet," he stated in a neutral tone.

"Seventeen," Alice corrected Rudy.

"What?"

"I am still seventeen years old."

"Wait, wait, wait. Your birthday was three months ago, no?"

"No. It's after three weeks. Umm, the same day as your mother's birthday." Alice squinted her eyes and asked with a judging look on her face, "Don't tell me you forgot my birthdate."

"No..." Rudy raised his brows in confusion and muttered, "In my previous life, your birthday was on a different date."

"How is that even possible?"

"I... have no idea. Let's discuss this after the school hours end."

Rudy had discovered yet another anomaly in the strangest way possible.

## Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

### **Chapter 444: Yet Another Anomaly**

After school ended, Rudy went to meet Rize and talked with her for a few minutes before leaving with Alice.

They were passing through the park as a shortcut, but Rudy was busy on his phone while Alice kept glancing at him to seek attention.

"Who are you trying to call again and again?" Alice asked curiously.

"It's Elise's number," Rudy responded.

"Oh? Is she not picking up?"

Rudy put the phone on the speaker and let Alice hear what it said.

[The number you are trying to call does not exist. Please enter the correct number and try again.]

"She got this number after moving from overseas. So the best way for me to know whether she has arrived here is to try calling her. If the call goes through, that would mean she or her relative has bought a sim card for her," Rudy stated calmly.

"Makes sense. Even I want you to meet her soon, so everything ends well."

"Hmm?"

"The only girl you want in your harem is Elise, right? If she joins your harem, you will have no worries in life. You have so many cool powers, so much money, a harem, and the ability to do anything you want," Alice said with a resolute expression on her face.

"Well, yeah. Once Elise was here, all my worries would become non-existent. But keeping that aside, let's talk about you." He wrapped his arm around Alice and asked, "Out of everything I have shown you from my past life, is there anything else different? Except for your birthdate, of course."

Alice shook her head and said, "Not that I can think of, no. We wouldn't have found out about the birthdate if you hadn't mentioned it."

"Yeah. But just to be sure, let's confirm everyone's birthdays."

Rudy stated everyone's birthdate, and sure enough, everyone's birthdays were on the same date as they were in his previous life.

SIGH!

"At least, that's the same. I am curious about what could have caused your birthday to change. Maybe... just maybe, your birthdate was faked in my previous world?" Rudy wondered.

"Why would you jump to that conclusion," Alice groaned. "Even your birthdate is the same as mine."

"Yea.... what?" Rudy stopped on his track and asked, "What did you just say?"

"Your birthday is also the same date as mine, which is also the same as your mother's," Alice repeated calmly.

"What the fuck?! So even I am underage?!"

"Uhh... yeah?"

"To be honest, I did see that coming. This world revolves around me... or rather, around my power. So the anomalies should be related to me. I mean, even if there are other anomalies, I would never know because I would have never noticed other people's lives in my previous world or this world."

"Are you not curious to find out?"

"I am, but... Nah. I feel like I will get my answers eventually. For now, I want to focus on the gambling tournament."

"You kept saying that and ended up adding two new girls to the harem," Alice remarked.

"Maria was always a candidate, although I never expected Lilim. She just feels so... familiar."

"You already said that like ten times now," Alice sighed and held Rudy's hand in her hand. Alice kept glancing at Rudy as they walked but couldn't bring herself to do anything.

"What is it?" Rudy asked. "You are touching me so I can feel what you are feeling. And you are currently feeling anxious. Is there something you want to ask or say?"

He asked politely.

"It's not important, but I was wondering what it would feel like to have a family with you. It has always been my dream to marry you and have your kids. And that dream is now close to becoming a reality, except there are other girls who will also bear your children," she chuckled softly.

"Do you..." Alice paused for a second before continuing, "Do you think everything will be okay?"

"Depends on what you are talking about."

"The girls... do you think everyone would get along?" Alice asked curiously.

"If I am honest, I think the answer is no. I know Rias, Jane, Nyxia, and Niti would get along with each other, like you, Reina, and Angelica. Now there is Maria and Lilim, and I am sure there will be more.

If what Lilim said is true, then once the universe learns of my identity as a Lord, they will approach me with tempting offers. But if you ask me, I just want to live my life in peace. I want to... find the happiness I couldn't find in my previous life."

He said with a distant smile on his face.

Alice chuckled softly and uttered, "You know, I got my answer."

"Hmm?"

"Even if all the girls don't get along with each other, they will surely get along with you. They will love you more and more and fight for your love and attention. I am desperately waiting for the day when all you harem members will live together under one roof."

"That day is not far away. Just let this tournament end. Speaking of which, I am somewhat nervous about tomorrow's match. I am now worth seven billion, and because of my challenge, people might be trying to stop me from winning.

And I expect cheaters too. If I play safe and sound, people might get suspicious of me. And now that I have made so many plans, I am tired of that. It's honestly a pain in the ass to rethink the entire scenario, imagine the possible outcomes, and play according to it."

He groaned with a sigh.

"So... what exactly are you nervous about?" Alice asked with a confused face as she couldn't understand Rudy's reasoning. "Are you afraid that people might find out about your powers?"

"No. I am anxious that I might go all out without caring about anything and finish the tournament in a mere minute."

"How is that even possible?"

"The rules... of VIP underworld gambling tournaments are different from all the tournaments I have played so far. The games are already decided in this one, and the players can't choose any."

### [Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

#### **Chapter 445: The Day**

A day passed by like every other day for Rudy, and the night of the VIP tournament arrived.

Rudy was in his room, waiting for Maria to contact him as she hadn't been responding to his calls or messages. He was worried about Maria, so he contacted Lilim, who told him that Maria was still sleeping.

She didn't want the night of the tournament to end the same as it did last time when she fell asleep in the car and didn't get a chance to spend time with Rudy.

On the other hand, Angelica had just fallen asleep after a few rounds with Rudy in the bathroom.

"Everyone's sleep schedule is fucked," Rudy muttered.

There was still enough time left for the tournament to start, and even if Rudy was late, his match was at the end as he had qualified for the quarter-final.

"I already ate, and mom left for work. Lucy is taking a bath, so I am all alone." He said as though he was a loner boy that no one talked to.

Rudy wanted to clear his mind as he felt a bit sluggish after using too much of his brain lately. So he jumped out of the window of his room and soared into the sky.

He laid on the cloud by changing its properties while still keeping it lightweight. He also used telekinesis to keep it flying. That was his ride to the underworld as he relaxed on the cloud while it flew to the destination.

'The cell towers are kind of wacky at this height, so I better make sure the phone stays in range, or I will miss Maria's calls.'

Rudy could simply teleport to Ross estate or even to Lilim's room, and no one would have noticed. But he was expecting a little bit of drama that he couldn't miss.

'If one has millions of fans, it is evident that they will have at least a few thousands of haters.'

The best way to gain fame in the underworld was to become well-known among fans and haters, all the citizens. If something happened in the underworld, it would surely be on the underworld news channel, where more people would learn about Rudy and get curious to find out more.

All that without Rudy even trying to accomplish anything on his own. He just had to prove the haters wrong and show them their place. After all, if they had the courage and passion like Rudy, they could do the same.

Rudy closed his eyes and enjoyed the cold air hitting his face as the moonlight shimmered around. His phone was on his chest, and he was using it with the help of electrification to chat with Lilim, who was giving him updates about the underworld.

He was also curious about how and what Maria did to Lilim after Rudy told her everything. But when he asked Lilim, she asked him to come to the estate first.

After a few minutes, Rudy fell asleep, but the cloud still headed toward the underworld. However, suddenly, Rudy was covered by a shadow, and the airflow around him stopped.

When he opened his eyes, he saw a giant winged creature flying in the sky with his blurry vision. His first thought was that it was a dragon Alice had mentioned. But after his vision got cleared, he realized it was just an airplane.

"...."

Rudy was confused as to why the plane wasn't making the noise as all planes did-- only to realize that the fog from the cloud had entered his ears and obstructed his sense of hearing.

He had deactivated his super senses as he was in the sky, from which his sense-radius could capture all the noises from the surface, which no one would want to hear while sleeping. Without acting his super senses, his ears functioned as a normal human.

Rudy messaged Lilim and asked her to come to the main entry gate of the underworld to pick him up.

"I feel somewhat refreshed after a nap, although I would have preferred a longer one."

He stretched his hands in the air and tossed away all the laziness from his body. Then, he jumped from the cloud and landed after traveling a few kilometers in the air. He made a massive hole in the middle of the street as he jumped again and landed a few kilometers away.

However, he didn't forget to restore the street as soon as he jumped again.

"I don't know what it is... but jumping like this feels a lot better than flying around. While flying, I only feel the air hitting me, but my whole body feels crazy while jumping.

That incredible feeling in the gut before landing is what makes it a lot better. It's like a rollercoaster where everyone yells when going down the slide," he muttered as he tried to reason his statement.

After a few minutes of jumping, he reached the pick-up point and waited for Lilim to arrive.

'It shouldn't take her more than thirty minutes to exit the underworld, and it has been like twenty minutes.'

Rudy used 'find my prey' and saw Lilim was still in the Ross estate for some reason.

"You have got to be kidding me."

Without wasting a single second, he teleported near the gate of the Ross syndicate and said, "The son-in-law is here. Open the gate."

The guards glanced at each other as though they were having trouble deciding what to do.

"Oh, come on, guys. I was here just yesterday. You haven't forgotten me, right? I am famous here."

"We know who you are, but we are not instructed on what to do at your arrival. Please wait until we get a response from the other side," the guard calmly said.

"And... when is that?"

"We are trying to connect to them."

Even after waiting for a minute, there was no reply.

"When was the last time you heard from them?" Rudy asked impatiently.

"Three hours ago."

'Something is wrong. First, Lilim didn't come to pick me up. And now, they are not getting any response from the inside.'

Rudy pushed the guards aside and said, "I have a bad feeling about this."

"Hey! You can't enter without--"

All the guards were left baffled and speechless when they saw Rudy jump all the way to the final check post, which was five kilometers away from the gate.

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#### **Chapter 446: Super Processing**

After Rudy landed near the last check-post, the guards standing there rushed to him and attempted to attack him. But they lowered their guns when they noticed it was Rudy.

Rudy asked the guards to open the door of the estate, but one of the guards responded that they hadn't been receiving a response from the other side.

Rudy kicked the massive door open without wasting any time and shattered it into pieces.

"No way... that door is not only bulletproof, but it can also survive several explosions..."

Rudy dashed inside, hoping to encounter more guards and expecting something worse as his mind made various theories about it. However, much to his surprise, the estate was empty.

When he came the last time, there were dozens of maids and butlers roaming around, but now it was empty with no sign of a single soul.

Rudy used electrification and hacked into the estate's security system to see the live footage, but that was also empty. He looked into the database to fetch the past footage, but everything was deleted.

"...."

Rudy's anxiety was growing immensely every passing second. Without caring for anything, he activated 'all vision' and scanned the entire estate and the surrounding areas.

Thermal vision, infrared vision, array vision, X-Ray vision, and see-through ability at once. When he tried that last time, he got blind, and he had to pay for it by plucking his eyes out.

However, he didn't have time to worry about that. Fortunately, he only used 'all vision' for a mere second, and nothing happened to him or his eyes.

"It's empty. Everything is empty. No one is here!"

The guards finally arrived at the estate with weapons and stood behind Rudy.

"Is everything alright?"

"They are not here."

"That's impossible. Everyone should be here! No one has left this estate!" the chief guard yelled in panic.

"Is there any other entry or exit to this estate? Perhaps for emergency cases?"

"No! You are underestimating the security of this estate. No one can break in and stay alive after stepping a foot on the syndicate ground," the chief responded.

"Well, I did. And someone else did too."

"..." the chief guard was left speechless as he had nothing to say in response.

"If anything happens to Maria and Lilim, then I will bury the underworld."

Rudy once again hacked into the estate's security system and began recovering all the files. Meanwhile, he tried to connect to Lilim's phone again.

'It's more than strange. I was talking to her a while ago, and when I used my 'find my prey' ability, I saw her in the estate... wait, was it actually this estate? I only saw a room and thought she was still in the

estate. So there are chances that she might not be here, and I was mistaken. However, what about her phone? I was talking with her, and she kept me updated with what Maria was doing.'

Rudy used 'find my prey again', but he couldn't see anything. Unlike the last time, everything was dark.

'Usually, I should be able to see in the dark, unless what I am looking at is actually black... as in space?'

After a few minutes, the files began to recover one by one from the last three hours to the current time. Rudy played the first footage, which was of three hours ago, while the later footage recovered rapidly.

Everything seemed normal. The maids and butlers were doing their work. Rusher was in his office, handing paperwork. Maria was supposedly sleeping in her room, and the rest of the members were also doing what they had to do.

Lilim was patrolling the estate while trying to contact Rudy, but at that time, Rudy was in the bathroom (having sessions) with Angelica.

That footage lasted thirty minutes, and there were over ten thousand cameras located on the estate, watching everything from every angle and spot. Had Rudy watched each of them in playtime, thirty-minute footage from ten thousand cameras would have made footage worth 300,000 minutes footage, which was equivalent to five thousand hours, or one could say, over two hundred and eight days.

Similarly, three hours of footage would have six footage of thirty minutes, which would mean it could take Rudy more than three years to review all of them, and that too without taking a second long break.

Of course, Rudy didn't have any time, so he played ten thousand footage of each thirty minutes at once and then fast-forwarded them by sixteen times at first, but changed the speed to thirty-two times and later at sixty-four times.

Everything was processing so fast in Rudy's brain that it began to ache. He was watching over ten thousand videos at once and inspecting all the details simultaneously. A thirty-minute-long video ended in less than a second.

By the time all the other footage was recovered, Rudy was done watching the rest of them.

"The first two hours of footage has nothing wrong. So something must have happened in the third one."

A minute later, the footage was ready, and Rudy saw what had actually happened.

Lilim had just finished her patrolling and was heading towards Maria's room to wake her up. She knocked on her door but didn't get a reply, so she assumed Maria must be in a deep sleep.

Maria's door was obviously locked with tight security such as a pin code, hand, and pupil scanner, so even if someone had managed to break in, or if someone from the syndicate had decided to betray the Ross and kill them, they would never be able to enter their private rooms, which were located in the inner area— the safest and the most secure place area in the syndicate.

Lilim entered the pin and scanned herself to gain permission to enter Maria's room. Once that was done, she opened the door and walked inside Maria's room.



She looked at the bed and saw the air conditioner was on at the coolest temperature, and Maria had covered herself in the blanket.

SIGH!

Lilim turned off the air conditioner and pulled the blanket from Maria, only to see it was empty with pillows on it.

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#### **Chapter 447: Two Maids**

Lilim searched the entire room and turned it upside down but couldn't find Maria. She immediately rushed out of the room and rang the alarm. However, the alarm didn't go off.

"Security!" Lilim yelled. "Security!"

She rushed to the main security room to manually ring the alarm as the maids and butlers rushed to Lilim after hearing her yells.

"Is everything alright?!" one of the maids asked.

"No! Lady Maria is missing! Inform everyone and start the search! Close every gate and initiate the lockdown!"

After that, Maria ran straight to the security room, where two maids were watching over everything.

"Ring the--"

Pssssp~

Lilim's body suddenly fell to the ground with a loud thud.

THUD!

The maids had used a spray to make Lilim unconscious.

"All according to the plan," one of them said.

"I thought we would be able to escape without getting noticed, but this bodyguard of Maria surely is very perceptive. One would try to find the girl, but instead, she came here to ring the bell."

"It's good that we noticed it."

"All the credit goes to me, who suggested wearing the maid outfits to get unnoticed."

"What should we do now?" the maid asked.

"Rusher, his wife, Maria, and their parents have already been taken to our hideout. Let's take this bodyguard too."

"Yeah, good idea."

The maid not only deleted all the footage and evidence left but also destroyed the physical servers present in the room.

"Are we done here?" the other maid asked.

"Not yet. This bodyguard has informed the other maids and butlers, and they will soon inform the others. I have already destroyed all sorts of communication from the outside, so they can't contact them even if they try to.

However, we have to take care of the ones inside. They can ruin our planning and destroy everything we have done so far."

"Let's finish them off then."

"That's easy for you to say--"

The maid stopped speaking when she felt something sharp poking her leg. When she looked down, she saw Lilim trying to stab her with a dagger. However, Lilim was still in a dazed state and didn't have enough energy to do so.

The maid quickly grabbed the spray and used it on Lilim again.

"Are you kidding me?! That dose was enough to knock out an elephant for hours! How was she still able to move after that?!" the second maid asked in disbelief with a baffled look on her face.

"That's because she is not a human, you idiot."

"Oh~ Is she one of us?"

"No."

"Well, whatever. What do we do now?" the second maid asked.

The first maid pointed her gaze at Lilim and said, "You carry her. I will take care of the ants outside.

"Outside as in outside the estate? Wasn't our plan to not alert anyone?"

The other maid smacked her on the head and said, "Outside as in outside this room, you idiot!"

"Oh, okay."

The second maid carried Lilim with one hand while the other maid rushed out of the room. She saw everyone was running here and there and not paying attention to her.

"Listen, you fools!" the second maid yelled. "You all are useless! Even as a maid or assassins, and as butlers or bodyguards! You had only one job, and you couldn't do that!"

The maids and the butlers were confused as to what the maid was talking about. But they all realized what was happening when the second made came out while carrying Lilim with one hand like a grocery bag.

She was carrying Lilim in her suit shirt with one hand and using a phone with another.

The maids and the butlers who were present immediately took out their guns, but it was too late. The first maid had thrown a black ball similar to a grenade.

**BEEP! BEEEP! BEEEEP!**

It beeped louder and longer with every bounce as it rolled and stopped amid the ground of maids and butlers.

They all tried to run, but a bright light enveloped them all and engulfed them. All of them had disappeared into thin air.

After hearing the commotion, more maids and butlers came from all sides, but the first maid threw more balls and did the same thing with them.

The maids and butlers thought she had thrown a grenade, so they ran in the opposite directions, but they couldn't escape the bright light that could reach any and everywhere.

That continued for over fifteen minutes until they finally stopped arriving.

"I guess that's it, huh?" the first maid muttered. "They had around five hundred assassins and bodyguards as maids and butlers. Far more than mentioned on the record. However, no matter how trained they were, they couldn't win against the advanced technology.

"Did you kill them?" the first maid asked while typing on the phone.

"No. Our task was to bring the Ross family to the boss, by force or any means. These maids and butlers were just doing their job," the second maid replied while picking up the balls and placing them in her bag.

"I have captured them in this ball. We will give them to the boss, and it will be up to them what to do with them. Regardless, this mission was one of the most tiresome missions I have had in the past decade.

It's so guarded from inside and outside. The security system of this estate was top-notch. And the lock combination in everyone's room too. However, none of that matters if we can just enter and leave anywhere we want."

"I know, right?" the second maid chuckled. "Two maids infiltrated the most secured estate and abducted all the family members. This should be tomorrow's headline in the news."

The first maid stared at the second maid in disbelief.

"Also, they should have my photo on a full page and mention how awesome I am!" the first maid added with a proud and confident look on her face.

"You didn't even do a single thing. Why are you talking so big?! And put that phone down! What have you been doing all this time?!"

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#### **Chapter 448: Two Maids (ii)**

"What are you doing— wait, that's not your phone! What are you doing?!" the first maid shouted furiously at the second maid.

"Well... this bodyguard's phone was ringing, so I checked it and accidentally ended up replying to one of the texts."

"..."

"What the fuck did you do?!" the first maid snapped at the second maid and yelled, "Are you out of your fucking mind?!"

"Don't worry. I read all their chats, and I am talking exactly the way this bodyguard talks."

"Who are you talking to anyway?"

"Uhh..." the second maid showed the screen to the first maid and said, "It's someone called daddy. So it's her father."

The first maid read the chats between Rudy and Lilim and raised his brows with various expressions on her face.

"I am pretty sure it's the other 'daddy' here," the first maid sighed in annoyance. "Now that you have started chatting, don't stop. Or that person will get suspicious."

"Are we done here?" the second maid asked. "If we are, then let's leave. This person seems to be on his way here."

"We are done, but let's scout the estate. There might be someone hiding somewhere, which could be trouble for us. I don't want to take any risk ruining this mission, or the boss will be angry," the first maid stated.

"You are right." The second maid nodded and carried Lilim to the nearest couch.

After placing Lilim on the couch, she sat beside her and continued talking with Rudy over the chat.

"..." The first maid's face twitched in anger as she yelled, "What are you doing?"

"Didn't you say you are going to scout the estate? And this estate is massive. It will take you a few minutes even with your prowess, so I was just sitting here instead of waiting for you," the second maid replied with a smile.

"You are also going to scout!"

"Ehh. I don't want to."

"If you don't, then I will tell the boss that you didn't do shit! You were a useless and worthless burden to the mission. And guess what the boss will do to you then?" the first maid asked with a wide smirk on her face.

The second maid's face turned pale as she nearly dropped the phone from her hand. She gulped down anxiously and muttered, "You wouldn't do that, right?"

"You bet I will."

"How can you do that?! We are friends, right?! We are best... no, we are childhood friends!"

"..." The first maid's face twitched again as she said, "We are sisters, you bitch!"

"Oh! Right. I forgot about that."

SIGH!

The first maid facepalmed herself and shook her head in disbelief as she let out a sigh.

"Why are you an idiot," she muttered.

The second maid squirmed and said, "Stop praising me."

The first maid took out a ball from her bag and said, "Why don't I trap you with the others."

"Wait! I have a reason to stay here!"

"And that is?"

The second maid pointed her finger at Lilim and said, "I am keeping my eyes on her. What if she wakes up like the last time?"

"She won't wake up for the next twelve hours... hopefully."

"But you said she is not a human! So there are chances that—"

"No." The first maid interrupted the second maid and said, "We gave her the double dose, which is enough to knock out even a dragon. And this girl is... Ummm...."

The first maid's eyes suddenly shined purple for a few seconds.

"She is a demon."

"Oh! A demon?" The second maid poked Lilim's cheek and said, "She seems awfully like a human. Demons are more... dark-skinned and kind of ugly, right?"

"Stop with that and go scout the left. I will go right."

The maids left and returned after fifteen minutes.

"Yeah, no one is here. I used my powers to scan every corner of this estate but didn't find anyone. What about you?" the first maid asked.

"Yeah, same," the second maid replied while chatting on the phone with Rudy.

"I don't even believe that you scouted the area. But oh well, I don't care."

"This girl's father is a funny person. He is talking to her... well... me, like she is more like his lover or something."

"I already said that's a different kind of 'daddy' here."

"What should we do about this girl, though? We were only ordered to bring the Ross family member. Should we kill her?"

"No. We are not tasked to kill anyone. And this is just a bodyguard. She is innocent. I could capture her in the ball, but I am out of them. And... I have a feeling that the boss will be happy when she learns that we brought her a demon."

"Yeah, we should hurry!" the second maid yelled in panic.

"What's wrong?"

"This person just asked me to pick him up at the entry gate of the underworld. We shouldn't keep him waiting, right?"

"Argh!" The first maid groaned and snatched the phone from the second maid's hand. Then she turned it off and threw it on the couch.

"Let's leave, you idiot!"

She took out a flat-rectangular device from her bag and placed it on the floor. A transparent screen appeared from the device with a strange beeping sound in sequence. Soon, the screen became more and more visible and began to glow in a peculiar manner with a number of coordinates in it.

"Come on, let's go."

That was when Rudy had used 'find my prey' to check up on Lilim and had found her in the estate.

The second maid picked up Lilim and passed through the screen like the other maid. However, instead of passing through the screen, they never came out from the opposite side. They had disappeared after touching the screen, almost as though they had teleported using that device.

The screen on the device once again slowly became transparent, and it began to beep loudly. A few seconds later, the device exploded and was destroyed into ashes.

A few minutes later, the door was shattered, and Rudy walked in.

"...."

Rudy opened his eyes, watching all the footage, and muttered, "Knock, knock."

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#### **Chapter 449: Failure**

Rusher opened his eyes and realized his hands and legs were tied to something. Everything around him was dark, and he couldn't even see his own body. He felt like he was on the ground, but at the same time, he felt there was nothing beneath him.

He tried to speak but soon realized his mouth was also tapped. With no other choice left, he somehow managed to roll his way until he hit something hard and robust.

'Is this a wall?' he thought to himself.

He pushed himself against the wall and used it as a support to stand up. Then, he walked while rubbing his body against the wall so he could scan the place with his body.

Even after a few minutes of walking, Rusher didn't reach the end of the room. He soon realized that he was walking in a circle, and the room he was in was a round structure.

'Why is there no door?!'

Rusher left the wall and began walking aimlessly in the room, hoping to find something or a clue that could help him in that situation.

THUD!

But suddenly, he tripped and fell down flat on his face. But instead of grunting or groaning, Rusher was quite happy.

When he fell, his phone fell out of the pocket and landed near his face as the screen lit up. He noticed the phone had no cellular network, but that wasn't his main goal. He somehow managed to remove the tape from his mouth by twisting his jaw and applying pressure with his tongue.

He brought his face close to his phone and used his tongue to operate it. However, he couldn't even unlock the phone as it had a thirty-two-digit pin code lock.

That was the first time he regretted having such a long secured pin. Still, Rusher kept trying to enter the pin with his tongue, but the saliva was messing up the touch. Hence, he kept his tongue outside his mouth and let it dry so he could enter the pin without mislicking the numbers.

After several failed attempts, Rusher was able to unlock his phone. He then swiped by the screen and turned on the flashlight, which changed nothing as the phone's rear side was facing the ground.

He slowly sat up and moved his back towards the phone to pick it up with his tied hands on the back. He couldn't get it the first time, but he got it the second time and illuminated the room with a flashlight.

It was then he saw that the room was not only circular, but it was ball-shaped. Seemingly, he was locked in a small ball the first maid had also used on the butlers and the maids.

Rusher turned his phone to the thing he tripped to and saw a pair of legs that belonged to his wife. His heart stopped beating for a second before he sighed in relief when he found her breathing.

He slowly stood up with the phone and walked around the room to find an exit. Upon walking, his gaze fell on two more bodies that belonged to his father and mother, who were also alive and sleeping.

'If everyone is here, Maria should be here too!'

He searched the room to look for Maria, but sadly he couldn't find her.

'No, she should be here. I must have not searched properly!'

Rusher checked the room a dozen times, and he was convinced that Maria wasn't there.

'What's going on? I don't understand. I had made sure to have the tightest security possible, and we were still abducted like this?!

The last thing I remember was entering the bathtub to take a bath. Even if some toxic gas was released in the bathroom— which is not possible— there is no way the kidnappers managed to take us out of the estate.

Wait... could it be that someone from the syndicate betrayed us? But why would they do that? Did...'

Rusher's eyes widened as he gulped down anxiously.

'Did they find out what I did with all the fortune of the Ross syndicate?'

The phone slipped from Rusher's hand in shock. He fell to his knees and didn't bother to do anything else. He had no will to survive, and he had given up on living.

Rusher had admitted defeat to whoever had done this to him. However, he was worried about Maria.

'Why did this happen? Even as a Mafia, I spent the first twenty years of my life being an asshole, but when I got my sister— Ria— pregnant, I changed. I swore to become a better man for everyone, but....

I wasn't a good son. That was obvious to anyone at first sight. My father was a son of a bitch, an evil man with no heart. He killed his brothers to get his hands on the throne of the Ross syndicate.

Everyone feared him, not as a human or the leader of the syndicate, but because of how dreadful he was. He married my mother to expand his reach and made the strongest syndicate in the entire world.

He killed many, guilty and innocent together. He showed no mercy to women or children. And that's how he made the Ross Syndicate the wealthiest.

I am the son of a man like that. Typically, parents would raise their children and teach them manners and discipline; my father didn't. When I was four years old, he asked me to kill a maid who had accidentally served me sugarless coffee.

I did what he asked me to do, and I didn't feel a thing. I killed many people and did whatever he asked me to do. I wanted him to be proud of me. I wanted to follow his footsteps to become like him.

But I failed.

I am glad I failed. I am blessed that I didn't become like him; still, I failed as a son.

I destroyed the pure and wholesome relationship between a brother and sister. I got my twin sister pregnant; I failed as a brother.

I am constantly cheating on my wife with Ria; I failed as a husband.

I couldn't raise Maria and Ruby like a father should; I failed as a father.'

"I... am a failure."

"No, you are not... brother-in-law. Or should I say, father-in-law?"

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**Chapter 450: Father-in-Law**

"You are not a failure, father-in-law. You are worse than that."

Confused, Rusher glanced around and asked, "Who is that?"

"Oh, come on. I just called you father-in-law. Who else would call you that?"

"Rudy...?"

"Yes."

"So you are the one behind all this!"



"Whoa, whoa. Calm your tits, man. I can't blame you for thinking that, but that's sad, actually. Anyways, is Maria around?" Rudy asked curiously.

"No... wait... where are you, and how am I talking to you?"

"I don't have time to explain all that. Answer my questions so I can find you quickly."

"..."

"Do you have any guesses where you are?"

"No. Everything here is black. The walls, floor, and ceiling. Even when I am using the phone's flashlight, it looks like a small star in a vast space," Rusher responded.

"Yeah, I saw that. You are most likely in that ball-like device. Do you know anything about it?"

"I..."

"Come on, answer fast. I don't have much time!"

"A few months back, a merchant approached me and showed me the gadgets. They were really advanced and futuristic, something that obviously didn't belong to this world.

I was interested in buying that, but he didn't ask for money in return, he asked for Maria. So I got him kicked out of the estate. There were many gadgets, and the ball was one of them," Rusher reluctantly uttered.

"Hmm~ Let me guess, that ball was like a fourth-dimensional storage device that could store an infinite amount of objects inside?" Rudy wondered.

"I am not sure, but that merchant said something similar."

"I witnessed the ball in action at the bank not too long ago. At first, I thought the ball was something like a teleportation device, but it was a storage device. Still, the ones the thugs had were different," Rudy muttered.

"So, what do you think? That merchant is behind all that?" he shortly added.

"I... have no idea. But Maria is missing, so there are chances that..."

"No need to finish that sentence. Maria is currently safe and locked in a ball similar to yours. If she was outside, I would have been able to see her."

"What are you..."

Everything was confusing for Rusher. He couldn't understand what was happening, but he knew he had no choice but to put his trust in Rudy.

"Do one thing for me. Grab your phone and check if there is any network."

"There isn't..." Rusher replied in a low voice.

"Hmm~ I had expected that. The ball is blocking all the signals." Rudy let out a weary sigh and paused for a few seconds before asking, "Rusher, tell me one thing. Did that merchant say anything else about the ball?"

"Like?"

"Something about its power. Since it's an electronic device, did he mention battery or its efficiency or something something?"

"Err... I think he mentioned something called nano-technology...."

"That's not helping... hmm..." Rudy hummed in frustration and asked, "You said the floor is also black, right?"

"Indeed..."

"Is it hard like a marble? Or like wood?"

"I can't quite tell the difference."

"Try jumping."

Rusher slowly got up from his knees and jumped.

"I think it's neither of them. It's hard yet soft. It's... more like a rubber..."

"Arghh..." Rudy groaned.

"..."

"Is there any electric substance present in the room? Like a socket, wire, outlet, or even a board?" Rudy asked in a neutral tone.

"No. As far as I checked, I didn't see that. The flashlight from the torch only reflects to a small distance," Rusher responded.

"So this ball can only be operated from the outside. I can't do anything in such a situation... But, Rusher, I am going to send some electric signals there. Let me know if it affects you."

"..." Rusher couldn't understand what Rudy was talking about. Everything was so baffling for him that his mind couldn't process a simple thought.

Suddenly, lightning sparks appeared in the room, but they were absorbed by the floor.

"Did anything happen?" Rudy asked after that.

"No."

"Alright, I am going to send more."

A few more lightning sparks appeared, and they were also absorbed.

"They are getting sucked into the floor," Rusher informed.

"That room is shockproof. But there is always a limit to everything. Rusher, I am going to send tons of high voltage lightning bolts, but this might go wrong, and everyone inside that ball might die."

"..."

"This is the only way I can think of to save you all. I cannot trace your location. And even if I did, I haven't seen the underworld, and I have no idea what place where. I need time and information, which currently none of us have," Rudy stated calmly. "So, are you ready for the risk?"

"..." After a few seconds of silence, Rusher opened his mouth and said, "Will Maria be saved?"

"You bet she will. I swear on my mother's name that I will do whatever it takes to save Maria. She is my responsibility now!"

"Then... do it."

"Before that..." Rudy sent a sharp lightning and cut the ropes binding Rusher's hands and legs to free him.

"Hmm?"

"I want you to take everyone into the corner of the room, so the risk can be lowered by 0.1%."

Rusher grabbed his phone and rushed to find everyone. He found his wife first and carried her to the farthest spot he could.

Since the room was circular, it had no corners, and it was impossible to find a spot in a dark room as space.

After searching for a while, he found his parents and carried them to the same place.

"Done."

"Okay. Now throw your phone in the middle."

"Huh?"

"Just do it."

Rusher threw the phone and went back to the supposed corner.

"I am ready!" he said.

"Alright. Close your eyes, just in case. Dying is scary."

"Just curious, before I die, what will happen if you succeed in doing whatever you are trying to do?"

"You will get out of the ball. And... if I fail... you all die."