#### Esper 491

### **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# Chapter 491: A Bigger Place

"Have we met before?" Rias asked Angelica.

"I... don't think so." Angelica shook her head. "I don't have any memories of who or what I was before dying."

"Then do you remember your—"

"Rias." Rudy placed his hand around Rias' shoulder and said, "How about we finish what we were talking about first?"

"...okay."

"You have been to the human world before, so you are familiar with things such as smartphones, the internet, and general directions, laws, and regulations of this world. I want you to teach all that to the rest of the gang.

And, of course, feel free to do whatever you want. You can roam around, you can go out if you are bored. Just don't catch anyone's attention. I wish I had arranged a place before I brought you all here, but I was quite busy in the last few days," Rudy uttered without any pause.

"When will we meet again?" Rias asked.

"Whenever you want. I will buy you all a smartphone so you can use it. I have various meetings planned, so my schedule is kind of tight. But all that doesn't matter if you want to meet me.

Also, there are tons of movies, stories, and television shows you can watch to pass your time, but don't get too addicted to them and forget about me, okay?"

"I am interested in watching everything related to vampires," Jane quipped. "I want to see how humans have depicted us vampires in their stories."

"Uhh... sure, I guess. I will give you a list later. Actually... you know what, let's get you a bigger place to live, right now."

"What do you mean?" Are we leaving already?"

"No, of course not. But I do realize this place is a bit too short for five girls to live at once. Even with the beds, I don't think you all will be comfortable. And Reina will be sleeping at night while you will be awake.

If I get you phones and television, the only possible time you would watch is at night. And that would disturb Reina's sleep. I knew it was a bad idea but didn't realize it was that bad," he sighed while shaking his head slightly.

"But where will you take them?" Reina asked with a puzzled look on her face. "You can't take them to your house, and there is no other place you can take them except the underworld. You don't have to be considerate of me, you know? I can sleep with the television on."

"That's not the only problem, Reina. They can't live under the sun. I was planning to cover this area with thick clouds, but that could ruin the experience and satisfaction of the customers of this place. I don't want to interfere in your business in any way.

With that said, I am not taking them anywhere. I am going to... err, just follow me. It would be better if I showed you around."

After saying that, Rudy left Reina's office and stood in front of it.

"..."

The girls followed him in confusion and stood in the same manner as Rudy.

Then, Rudy placed his hand on the wall of Reina's office and uttered, "Copy."

After that, he jumped and landed on the empty land next to the water park, which also belonged to Reina's parents.

He placed his hand on the ground and muttered, "Paste."

The next moment, an exact copy of Reina's office appeared on the land.

Rudy went inside to check whether it had also duplicated the things inside the office, but it had only copied the exterior of the office, not the furniture that was inside her office.

"Well, I can copy-paste beds in no time," he muttered.

He waved his hand to the girls and asked them to come there, so Rias grabbed Reina and flew away. The other girls followed soon after, but Angelica stayed there for some reason.

Rudy teleported there and grabbed Angelica in his arms.

"What's wrong? Are you sulking?" he asked.

"No. I was waiting for you to come to pick me up," she replied with a grin.

He entered Reina's office with her and touched one of the beds, saying, "Copy."

After that, he teleported to the new office and pasted five beds, but the office room was now filled with beds with no space for anything else.

"Hmm~" he hummed in wonder and thought, 'If I want to make it bigger then...'

He touched the office wall once again and uttered, "Expand."

The next second, the office room expanded and became big enough for even fifty people to live in.

"Wow!" the girls awed.

Rudy turned to Reina and said, "This is only temporary for a few days until I get a new and better home."

"Yeah, it's fine. But... you said the builder will be coming here tomorrow to check the place."

"Yeah. About that...." Rudy turned to Rias and Jane and asked, "Do either of you know how to cast an illusion?"

"I don't," Rias responded instantly. "I don't have vampire powers."

"I have never tried it, but I don't think I can do it," Jane shook her head. "It's extremely difficult to pull that off. And grandma never thought of me when I asked her to. She said illusion is poison. The more you use it, the deadlier it will get and it will slowly kill you from inside. And I have no idea why she said that because it makes no sense to me."

She shrugged her shoulders.

'It makes complete sense to me,' Rudy uttered inwardly.

"Illusion is a fragment of a dream, except you will have complete control over it. For example, you want something so badly that you would create an illusion in which you would get that thing. And you would want to live in that illusion. You would want it to stay forever. You would want it to become a reality.

And that's a slow poison. It will kill you from inside. You will be detached from reality and embrace an illusion that is fake. Whatever Nyxia said is completely true, and it makes total sense to me."

"..."

"But let's put that aside and focus on what matters now."

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### **Chapter 492: Copy and Paste**

Rudy pondered for a few seconds and said, "I don't think it will be a problem if this big office stays here. The builder would still be able to make a blueprint out of it. And as for the sun..."

Rudy jumped in the air and created a thick cloud to stop as much sunlight as possible. And then he expanded it to cover the entire area with it. To prevent it from flying away with the wind, he created a barrier using telekinesis that would block the air from entering the zone.

He could do the same with the sun but couldn't block the sunlight without covering the sky with a hard substance. But that would have made it an attention-grabbing spot. Clouds were the best alternative as they were the only normal thing in the sky.

#### SIGH!

Rudy landed and said, "Now that everything is taken care of, I will arrange electricity, phones, television, and a stable connection. Wait here for a few minutes, I will be right back."

"..."

Rudy teleported somewhere and returned after a few minutes with one television, four phones, one DVD player, dozens of discs related to vampire shows and movies, one fan, one tube light, one air conditioner, and one refrigerator for everyone.

Then, he duplicated one television into five, one DVD player into five, one fan into ten, one tube light into twenty, one air conditioner into eight, and one refrigerator into five.

"I just saved thousands by doing this," he scoffed softly and praised his genius.

"Did I forget anything?" he asked the girls.

"I don't even know half of the things here," Jane responded.

"You bought too much..." Reina muttered.

"You think so? I mean, even if this place is temporary, we can take these things to the new place when we move."

Rudy placed the four refrigerators next to each other, seven air conditioners on all the walls, placed a television next to each bed, handed the new phones to the girls, added fans on the ceilings right above their beds, placed DVD players next to televisions, and added lights everywhere.

"Wow. This place now looks much better. Now, let's arrange electricity. I have a few ideas, but let's try it the safe way."

After saying that, Rudy teleported once again and returned with a large battery to store electricity. Then, he made twenty copies of it and filled them with electricity. Then, he connected that to the power grid of the office and then connected all the appliances using the power cords.

"Alright! Everything is done!"

"You just built a house, got furniture and everything else in less than five minutes."

"Copy-pasting stuff takes a toll on me since I am actually creating it again from scratch using my powers."

"You forgot the main thing," Angelica said.

"Hmm? Oh, do you mean the washroom? They can use the pool's washroom since they will only be using them at night."

Angelica squinted her eyes and said, "I was talking about the internet."

"Oh! Well, Reina's office has a connection, so they can just use that. I will pay the bill."

"I don't think they will have a strong connection from my office," Reina muttered. "Isn't it too far? I doubt it will even catch it."

"Don't worry about it. I just increased the signal length and intensity, and yeah, it's still on the safe level."

"Then everything is done, I guess?"

"I feel like I am forgetting something..." Rudy tapped on his pockets and took out four sim cards. "Yeah, this."

Niti smelled it and asked, "What's this?"

"Don't eat it, please."

"I wasn't going to."

"They are sim cards; you insert them on the phones I gave you. With that, you will be able to call me and talk to me whenever you want," Rudy explained politely.

"That's like a magic device!"

"Yeah, I expected this reaction. Anyway, they are postpaid so go all out. Angelica will teach your house to use it. And I could only find a few discs about vampire shows, but you can find more netflex online.

I also set the clouds in a way that they would follow the sun's movement, so this place stayed covered in shadow all the time."

Angelica bit her lips and asked, "Can I stay here for the night?"

"Hmm?"

"I will teach them everything about this world and the technologies. And... for the first time, I feel like having a girl's party."

"Well... if you want to stay here for the night, then sure. I will come to pick you up in the morning." Rudy turned to Reina and asked, "What about you, Reina? Do you want me to move your stuff here so you can live here?"

"No. I have to wake up early tomorrow and also have to do work. And you said the builder is coming tomorrow, so I need to find the old blueprints of the waterpark too, right?"

"Yeah, but it's fine if you don't have them. The builder would just charge more money, which is not a big deal now. I think I myself can build an amazing theme park here once we get a blueprint. We are so close to fulfilling your parent's legacy," he said with a gentle smile on his face.

"I don't have words to thank you enough, Rudy." Reina wanted to jump on Rudy and hug him, kiss him, but she couldn't do it in front of the vampire girls.

"If you need any help, you can ask the vampire gang," he added.

"Yeah," she nodded.

"Wait, what about food?" Jane suddenly asked.

"You can order all types of food online. And if you want to eat... vampire-ish food, I will buy you some ingredients, I guess."

"Why don't you stay here for the night and spend some time with us?" Rias suggested.

"I would love to, but... I have something important to do."

Rias raised her brows, and so did the other girls except for Vriti.

"What could be more important than me?" Rias was the only one to ask that, as everyone knew about their relationship.

"Well... my mother."

"...."

Rudy had never received such suspicious glares before.

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### **Chapter 493: Rewarding the Girls**

Out of all of girls, Rias was the only one who was aware that Rebecca wasn't Rudy's biological mother. Sure, Lilim also knew, but she wasn't present there. And Angelica was the only one who was aware of Rudy's feelings toward Rebecca.

Rias wanted to comment something after hearing that, but she decided to stay quiet until she learned more about Rebecca and who she truly was.

"Alright. So I will take my leave now. See you all in the morning. And... yeah! I will bring Alice too. I messaged her a while ago, but she never replied, so she is most likely sleeping since it's already past midnight."

Rudy grabbed Reina and said, "I will drop her at the office."

He teleported to Reina's office with Reina and let out a weary sigh.

"Alright then, Reina. I will see you tomorrow, and don't forget to call me when the builder comes."

"Hmm," Reina nodded. But she suddenly wrapped her hands around Rudy's neck and missed him a few times before saying, "Are we not going to have sex? It's been a while since we last had some fun together."

"The vampire gang is here."

"So?"

Rudy squinted his eyes and squeezed Reina's breasts as he asked, "Did you forget what I told you about?"

"I remember."

"Repeat it."

"All the girls know that you have a harem. Jane, Niti, and Rias know that you are in a relationship with them. Niti knows about Jane and Rias. Rias knows about Jane and Niti. But Jane doesn't know about Niti and is also unaware that Rias already knows everything," Reina repeated Rudy's words.

"Nice."

"And I will not mention anything about harem in front of Jane when Rias is around."

"Good."

"So, where is my reward now?"

Rudy looked at the time and muttered, "I guess we can have some fun."

Rudy returned to the vampire gang after forty minutes. The girls had already made themselves comfortable, and they hadn't expected Rudy to return.

"Hey, Jane. Can you come with me for a while? Since you have vampire powers, I should show you the areas you shouldn't go as they are under surveillance."

"Okay."

Rudy and Jane left, and after showing her around, they went to an alley because Jane wanted to go there.

"What's wrong? An alley is not a safe place for girls, you know?" he remarked with a grin, knowing well that Jane could effortlessly obliterate anyone.

Jane pushed Rudy against the wall and said, "I want mister dick! It's been so long!"

"Oh! Yeah, I should have expected this."

Rudy and Jane returned to the vampire gang after thirty minutes of 'rough' exploration.

"Niti, let me tell you your duties," Rudy called her out.

After telling her about some things about the human world, they went to the locker room of the pool, where Rudy 'mined' Niti's cave for half an hour.

When they returned to the vampire gang, Rias was waiting for her turn.

"Rias, can you come with me for a while? I want to talk to you," he asked calmly.

Unlike other girls, Rudy could invite her without any worries as her relationship with Rudy was official between the harem members.

Rudy took Rias to a nearby forest where no one was around. There he found the tallest tree, and they sat on the highest branch of the tree.

Rudy was leaning toward the trunk while Rias was leaning on Rudy. They were cuddling with each other while looking at the beautiful starry sky.

"It's so beautiful..." Rias uttered while gazing at the full white moon.

"You are more beautiful."

"Geh! Don't use these cliche lines on me."

"Heh!" He kissed her on the cheek and said, "Do you like this world?"

"Obviously. What's there to not like?"

"Well... there are actually many things, but let's not talk about it." Rudy hugged her tightly from behind and closed his eyes.

"What happened to the 'mother matter' you were talking about?" Rias asked curiously.

"I can do that after a little while. She is currently working the night shift at the convenience store, so she will be there till the morning," he said in a low voice.

Rias lowered her gaze from the sky and glanced around at the forest and far away city. She could see tall buildings and lights and hear the cars racing on the highway streets.

The cold breeze passed through the woods, making a howling-like sound as it swayed the tree leaves and spread the smell of fruits and flowers from the nearby farms.

Even though it was past midnight, there were people busy with their work and life. Whether they were enjoying it was a different matter, but looking at them made Rias chuckle a little.

"This is what I love about the human world. Knowing that we are not the only ones awake at this time calms me down for some reason."

Rudy's eyes were still closed, and he was enjoying Rias' embrace. For him, sitting like that with Rias calmed him down.

A few minutes later, Rias finally gathered her courage and asked, "Why did you stop me?"

"Hmm?" Rudy reacted with his eyes still closed.

"I wanted to ask something to Angelica, but you stopped me on purpose and then changed the topic. Do you not want her to find out about herself?"

Rudy slowly opened his eyes and rested his head on Rias' shoulders.

"I am scared."

"Of what?"

"Of losing her."

After a brief silence, Rudy uttered, "Whenever I had free time, I went to search more about Angelica. She died eight years ago; that is in the year 2000. The internet was still a thing at that time, but it wasn't that widely known for news and blogs.

I am not trying to claim anything, but I am saying this based on the non-existent information I got. I can hack into any database, but I couldn't find anything related to Angelica.

Not. A. Thing. Nothing... at all."

### **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# Chapter 494: Case Study of Angelica's Murder

"I don't know Angelica's real name so finding out about her was a little hard. The only way to know about her death incident was to read physical newspapers, but that was all futile.

Due to the pandemic, everything before it is destroyed. The entire world was affected by it except my town and the neighboring ones, and it was nasty. Watching it on the internet made me realize how bad it was."

"You... didn't say why you are scared of losing her... I mean, how would you lose her?" Rias asked with a calm and curious look on her face.

"First thing first, I cannot look for clues about anything related to Angelica when she is around. She lives inside me, so she is always around me. So I have to make sure she is sleeping before researching more.

I want to tell her everything, but I want to know it first. I wanted to find her killers, her family, her friends. But the clues I have obtained so far lead to only one possible reason.

The tunnel was the first mega project of this town, and it brought revolution, quite literally. When it was made, everyone came to look at it— even from the other towns and villages.

And teenagers are obviously more interested in that type of stuff.

When Angelica died, she was eighteen years old. And when I saw her for the first time... or should I say, found her? She was wearing her high school clothes, which would imply that she had gone to the tunnel before or after school.

I tried to search for the school using the uniform, but no school had such a uniform. And there is a possibility that Angelica wasn't from this or the neighboring towns or cities.

After thinking about it for a while, the murderer could be a serial killer who just enjoyed killing people, or... it was someone Angelica knew. Or else, why would anyone let someone come near them if they didn't trust them enough?

Unless, of course, it was a surprise attack from a serial killer, who just loved killing the victim in a barbaric way, or it was someone Angelica knew. She was stabbed 112 times, and that's not the work of a normal killer. Anyone would run or try to run after getting stabbed once and I am sure Angelica did too, but she was stopped and stabbed again and again.

She was left to die like that... she was still alive after the stabs as the killer had missed the vital organs. She waited for help but she died... helplessly... in pain. What I concluded is... that Angelica was killed by her classmates. I am not completely sure about it, but that's what I think.

I could tell everything I knew to Angelica, but... she could become evil and seek revenge. I honestly don't care about that. Even if she turns evil, she will still be Angelica, and I will gladly be her accomplice in revenge.

However, there are high chances that her soul will pass away once she has taken her revenge. I don't know how it works, and until I am not entirely sure about that, I don't want to learn more.

The only thing Angelica has asked me is to find who she was and who killed her. She never asks me about it, but she sometimes mentions it subtly. I want to find out, and I want to tell her.

But... that has to wait until I have sorted out everything. I am going to take care of that once I get you all a better house. Maybe a palace or a castle would suit you."

He chuckled softly in Rias' ears and smiled distantly before continuing, "And... I never thought I would actually say this, but..."

"...?"

"Angelica... no, all the girls in my harem think that I love Elise the most, and then you are my second favorite. But... the truth is that Angelica is my favorite."

"Oh! Now that's something I had never expected to hear. I was defeated by a ghost, huh?"

"I will never say this to Angelica or the other girls. I don't want them to fight over me to become my next favorite. There is no point in doing that, in my opinion. And obviously, I will treat you all equally regardless of your statuses," he added.

"You had sex with all the girls a while ago, didn't you?" Rias asked with a knowing look on her face.

"I knew you would notice it. That's why I called Jane first because had I taken Niti with me, Jane would have sensed and smelled my scent and essence on Niti. So I took Jane first, so even if Niti returned after swallowing a few loads, Jane wouldn't notice and think that it was coming from herself.

That reminds me..." Rudy pulled Rias' cheek and asked, "When are you going to tell Jane? I won't play along with this act if you keep stalling it."

Rias bit her lips and frustration and asked, "Why do you keep asking me that?!"

"Because you have the responsibility."

"What about her, then? She is the one who laid her hands on my lover! She never came to tell me about it, so why should I initiate this matter?"

"It's not about that. And she was going to tell you, but I told you first in her stead. If you want, I can tell her in your stead too. I just want you two to get along. You two are sisters, twins at that. If you want time, then you can take it, but do it as soon as possible. I want to get sister sandwiched," he uttered in a neutral tone.

"Sisters sandwich? What's that?" Rias asked with a puzzled and curious look on her face.

"Threesome with two girls who are sisters."

"..." Rias shot a glare at Rudy and remarked, "I can't believe you just said that."

"I don't think there are many lucky men like me who have had threesomes with sisters, twin sisters at that.

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# Chapter 495: Rudy's Wishes

Rias shot a soft glare at Rudy and said, "Is that why you are being so eager and keep asking me to tell Jane?"

"Yes, obviously."

"At least try to deny it."

"I am an honest person and a man of culture. And a sex addict. Sex has become routine for me, just like eating, sleeping, and drinking. And hey, I can't help it if I am surrounded by a bunch of gorgeous ladies, you know?

The innocent me can't handle that much horniness. And the... legendary threesome... I want to experience that. I have had lots of sex in my past life but never had a threesome. It would be my first time experiencing it, and you..."

He squeezed Rias' breasts as he finished, "My love, you are holding the key to my threesome virginity."

"Mnh~"

"Also, want to have sex?" he asked suddenly.

"Here?!" Rias explained. "On a tree?"

"You are a bat, so I think it suits you," he chuckled. "What do you say? We were interrupted last time by Vriti, but no one here right now," he whispered seductively in Rias' ears.

"No. I don't want my first time like this. I want to have it on a bed. And that's where I will tell Jane."

"Uhh..."

"I will tie her up on the bed, and we will have sex right next to her. Only then will she realize how I felt when she was having sex with you while I was in a slumber."

That night, Rudy unveiled a new side of Rias that he had never seen before.

If Jane had yandere tendencies, it was no surprise that her twin sister would have similar tendencies. Even though Rias hadn't widely shown it like Jane— who hasn't openly done anything but indeed claimed to hurt Rudy and others if she couldn't be part of his harem.

Rudy realized that he better not make the twins angry, or his life could be in danger one way or another. Sure, Rias simply wanted to take revenge on Jane by doing exactly what she did to her, but her way was severe.

Rias' fangs elongated as her eyes shined red. She licked her lips and said, "So... if you want to have sex with me, get a better place first."

After saying that, she buried her fangs into Rudy's neck and began drinking his blood.

"Is it okay to drink as much as I can?" she asked after stopping for two seconds.

"I will give you ten minutes. You can drink as much blood as you can, but drink it slowly and gently," he responded while stroking his hand on Rias' back.

"Does it hurt?"

"No. But it turns me on, and the rougher you are, the more horny I will get. You turned down my offer to have sex, and I already had sex with the other girls. Angelica plans to stay the night with you girls, so I will be all alone tonight. And I don't want to spend my lonely night with a boner," he uttered as he grunted in pleasure.

"You don't have more girls?"

"There is Alice, but she is sleeping. And Rize... well, I need to take a slow approach there as I have to make her fall in love with me so deeply that she stops caring for her shitty parents."

"I truly wish I could kill them..." he added.

When vampires drank blood, they could feel the host's emotions. According to them, the blood tasted different depending on their emotions, so the vampires often charmed the host before drinking their blood so the blood wouldn't taste bad in case they were in pain or angry.

After drinking Rudy's blood for a while, Rias kissed him on the lips with her blood lips. Rudy could taste his own blood in his mouth, but that taste was mixed with Rias' taste.

"I think the vampire gang will be fine feeding on your blood," Rias scoffed softly.

"Give me a break. I am not your diary... or... hotel," he shrugged. "And if you really want to taste something of mine so badly, then my dick can milk thick cream whenever you want."

"I have heard that cream tastes better if you preserve it."

"Uhh... that's the Rias I know," he chuckled. "Being annoying at the right times."

Rias squinted her eyes and said, "I could say the same to you."

"I am not annoying. I am always pure and innocent."

"And awkward, and sometimes dumb, most of the time lost in thoughts, and always overthinking," Rias finished the rest of Rudy's statement.

After spending time together and cuddling for a while, Rudy teleported back to the vampire gang to drop Rias.

The vampire gang was busy watching horror movies in which the vampires were being hunted.

'Let's hope they don't get too addicted to the human lifestyle.'

"Rias, look at this! We were being lied to!" Jane shouted. "There are so many vampires in this world that we never knew about!"

"..."

Rias smiled awkwardly at Jane and glanced at Rudy to ask for help, but Rudy showed her a thumbs-up sign and said, "I will leave that to you."

"Jane... they are not real vampires," Rias said to Jane.

"What do you mean? Look, they have fangs and wings. And silver and sunlight are hurting them!"

"Yeah, but they are humans playing as a vampire. Everything is fake."

"Fake?! You mean nothing is real?!" Jane exclaimed in shock.

"Yeah."

"Wait... so why are we wasting our time watching this if this is fake?"

"That's what movies are. And one more thing you should know is that vampires can't be seen in a photo or a mirror."

"...." Jane made a troubled face and muttered, "Human world is weird."

After watching them, Rudy realized something important that had completely slipped from his mind.

'I... forgot to buy them headphones.'

Rudy walked to the television and placed his hand on it. Then, he uttered, "Expand."

"Whoa!"

The 32-inch television had turned into a 98-inch television.

"I am using my powers like this," he sighed.

He looked at the quality of the screen resolution, and sure enough, it was normal.

'I thought the pixels would become large as well, but I am glad they stayed as the original.'

"Alright, girls, I am leaving." He looked at Angelica to find her staring back at him. "I will pick you up in the morning."

"Okay," Angelica nodded in response.

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# **Chapter 496: Defenseless Rebecca**

Rudy was on his way to the convenience store where Rebecca worked. When they were eating dinner earlier, Rebecca had asked him to come with her as she was the only one in the store, and she was scared.

Of course, Rudy immediately agreed without thinking, but he had to go to the vampire world, which was as important as Rebecca for him. So he told Rebecca that he would come later after a few hours.

When he was waiting for the portal to open, he received a message from Rebecca which said that someone had come to fill in for the shift, so he no longer had to come. However, Rudy had planned to go anyway.

One thing after another, Rudy finally got time to visit Rebecca, even though it was nearly 5 AM at night, or morning as one would call it.

SIGH!

Rudy let out an annoyed and frustrated sigh after remembering what had happened a few days ago.

As Rusher had promised, he gathered the entire family—except Ria's husband—and told them everything about Maria and his blunders in the syndicate.

Rudy didn't know any details, but when he called Rusher the next day to confirm if he had lived by his promise or chickened out at the last minute, he didn't answer the call. Naturally, his next step was to call Maria, but she didn't pick up either.

Rudy was worried, so he called Lilim immediately, and much to his surprise, the phone was answered by none other than Maria. After talking with her for a while, Maria only asked him one thing:

"Did you know about it?" she had asked.

Rudy's heart sank after hearing that. That was the last thing he wanted to hear from her. The only reason Rudy had pressured Rusher to reveal everything was because he didn't want to get into a mess when the secret was leaked.

However, regardless of what he did, he was asked that question. Of course, he answered to her honestly without hiding anything.

After that, there was a minute-long silence, and neither of them spoke a word. And then, Maria asked him not to contact her or anyone from the underworld until the VVIP tournament.

She asked him to meet him at the colosseum on the night of the VVIP tournament. And she also made him promise not to use his powers to teleport there or 'watch' her in the meantime.

Rudy had no choice but to agree to Maria's terms, and he wasn't worried as Maria's voice didn't sound angry but rather a little disappointed.

However, after the call ended, Lilim had secretly sent him a text saying [Everything is alright. Don't worry. Lady Maria just needs some time to process and accept everything.]

"The VVIP tournament is in two days. Let's hope I can manage that."

Rudy landed near the convenience store and casually walked in. The store had no guards inside or outside— as always— and that worried Rudy as if something happened, no one would be there to protect the staff.

The nearest police station was not anywhere near to be called 'near'. But the store at least had cameras and such for obvious reasons. And it wasn't as though Eleanor didn't want to appoint the guards; it's just that no one was interested in such a job.

In people's eyes, the jobs such as watchman, security guards, delivery people, waiters at hotels and restaurants, drivers, Pune, and janitors, were inferior, and only illiterate and unemployed people did—which wasn't always the case.

However, those people were never treated with respect in any regard, and such jobs were never the first choice of most people. But they didn't know that the world wouldn't run without them. And on the night shift, finding someone for such a job was even harder.

After entering the store, Rudy scanned the area to find Rebecca as she wasn't at the cashier as her usual iob.

'There she is.'

Rudy found Rebecca fixing the shelves and making space to add more stuff to the shelf. He quietly walked to her and stood behind her, hoping that she would notice him or get surprised.

However, that didn't happen. Rebecca was so lost in counting and adding things to the shelves that she had no sense of her surroundings. Due to that, Rudy was a little angry.

'What if someone else came and did something? She is so defenseless! And where is the 'someone' she messaged me about? There is no one else in the store to cover the shift. Was she lying to me?'

Since Rudy was staring at Rebecca for a while, his 'see-through' ability had begun doing its work. His gaze automatically fell on her butt.

He immediately blinked a couple of times to reset his vision and inwardly uttered, 'Tonight is not a safe night to perv on mom. I am left horny after Rias sucked my blood.'

Even after three minutes had passed, Rudy was still unnoticed by Rebecca. Annoyed, he hugged Rebecca from behind without saying anything.

"...!" Rebecca's eyes widened in shock. She elbowed Rudy on the stomach with her left hand and elbowed him on the face with her right. Then, she turned around and kicked Rudy in his precious place—or she would have done that if she hadn't noticed that it was Rudy.

"Wha—Rudy?!" Rebecca grabbed Rudy and asked, "Oh my Lord! What are you doing here?! Are you okay?!"

"Yeah... I am okay..." he said while touching his stomach and face. Of course, he was acting, but it was realistic.

"I am so sorry!"

"I am glad you didn't go with that kick...." he muttered. Even he wasn't sure if his balls would have been safe after the kick.

"Why would you suddenly grab me from behind like that?!" She yelled with a flushed face to hide her embarrassment.

"I... slipped when I was walking," he responded while averting his gaze to the side.

He used the same excuse Rebecca had used when she kissed him for the first time after he returned from the vampire world.

#### **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

#### **Chapter 497: Mother and Son**

"Why are you here? It's 5 AM in the morning. Shouldn't you be sleeping?"

"I woke up early, so I thought I would check up on you. And I also wanted to buy some stuff," Rudy replied calmly to act normal.

"You shouldn't get out of the house so late at night. It's dangerous!"

"What about you? You also lied to me."

"No, I didn't. What are you talking about?" she asked with a confused look on her face.

"You did. You are the only one—"

"Rebecca, is everything alright?" a female voice asked from the other side, and it got closer. Seemingly, the person was coming their way. "I heard some noise. What's going... on...?"

The girl stopped speaking when she saw Rudy.

"You are..." Rudy immediately recognized the girl and asked, "What are you doing here, Janet?"

"No, what are 'you' doing here at this time?" Janet asked, pointing her finger at him.

"I didn't want to admit it, but..." Rudy sighed and said with a serious look on his face, "I came to rob this place."

"..."

Rebecca pinched Rudy's cheek and smacked him gently on the back before helping him get up from the floor.

After seeing the playful interaction between Rudy and Rebecca, Janet raised her brows as many thoughts crossed her mind.

"So..." Janet chuckled awkwardly and asked, "Did you call him here?"

"No... yes, I mean, I did, but then you came, so I asked him to not come."

Rudy sneakily took out his phone and snapped a few pictures of Janet in a staff uniform.

"Why did you take my photo!" Janet hissed.

"Our school doesn't allow part-time jobs, and I just caught you doing the night shift. I got proof on my phone, so I can show it to the teachers."

"Don't you dare!" Janet rushed to Rudy to snatch his phone and delete the pictures, but Rudy made a run around the shelf, and Janet couldn't catch up to him.

"Delete the pictures, now!" she shouted and turned to Rebecca, "Please tell him to delete the pictures, or I will be in serious trouble at school. I recently got into trouble after fighting with Andrew."

'Andrew?' Rudy raised his brows with a curious look on his face and asked, "What did you do?"

If Janet told him why she had snapped at Andrew, then her feelings for him would be revealed, so she chose to lie.

"Nothing."

"Well, Andrew is a dick, so I don't see a problem," Rudy shrugged. "And don't worry. I was just lying about showing the pictures to the teachers. I won't do such a thing."

He reassured her with his gentle smile, which was her favorite.

"I-It's not like I c-care!" She said with a flushed face.

"Anyway, back to my question." Rudy placed his phone back in his pocket and asked, "Why are you here?"

"Well... my mom is sick, and she told me your mom will be the only one working. And... There was this new cute dress I wanted to buy, so I asked my mom if I could cover her shift and use that money to buy me a dress. She was reluctant but agreed in the end."

"You really love those girly things, huh?"

"Duh! I am a girl!"

"Yeah, right. You are too boyish to be a girl," Rudy teased her with a scoff.

"What did you say?!" She shouted and began chasing after Rudy again.

Rebecca furrowed her brows angrily and muttered, "He said he came here for me, but he is talking with her."

Rebecca's jealousy was something else.

"Rudy! Stop running around in the store!" Rebecca shouted at him. "And you too, Janet! You are an employee right now, and you can't do such things! What if a customer saw this?!"

"Sorry..." Janet meekly apologized.

"Come on, mom. I understand that running inside the store is a no-no, but no one is here. And obviously, she has enough brains to know to not run when someone was here. And hey, it was my fault. So if you are going to scold someone, it should be me," he said calmly.

Rebecca squinted her eyes with a dead glare and said, "I already scolded you, and you had no effect."

"That's because I am used to it." Rudy turned to Janet and said, "I have been going through this for the eighteen years of my life. Can you imagine how much I have suffered?"

"My mom also yells at me all the time. And it's completely natural for parents to yell at their kids. But if someone else yells at you, such as your boss, teacher, manager, or maybe even a stranger, you would be frightened, right?" Janet asked curiously.

"I was trying to play the pity card, but you used the logic card," he muttered. "Mom, when will your shift end?"

He asked Rebecca.

"Not anytime soon. I might even be a little late today, so in case you are planning to stay here, I wouldn't recommend that."

"You know..."Rudy cleared his throat and said, "You don't really need to work here anymore. Why don't you quit?"

"I can quit anytime I want, but there is a high shortage of employees for the night shift. And this place belongs to my friend, so I am just helping her out." She shrugged and added, "And I like to work. And I get paid. And... I don't have any issue with working."

'I already knew her answer, but it was worth a try.'

"Okay," Rudy nodded. "But promise me that you would guit when there are more employees."

"...sure."

Rudy was staring at Rebecca with an alluring gaze, so Janet nudged him and asked, "You didn't answer my question. Why are you here?"

"Hmm? I already replied that I am here to rob this place."

"Then I better call the cops, right?"

"I am here to buy stuff..." he sighed.

Rudy had no other choice but to buy stuff, so he decided to buy some snacks for the vampire gang. He wanted them to try more human world food.

After buying and paying for the stuff, he bid goodbye to Rebecca and left the store. However, after stepping out of the store, he was called out by Janet for some reason.

### **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# **Chapter 498: Sudden Revelation**

"Rudy!" Janel called out to him.

Rudy turned around and asked, "Hmm?"

"If you don't mind, can you wait for a few minutes? One employee is going to come soon, so I will be free!"

"Oh, you want me to drop you off at your house?"

"Yes!"

'Well, it's still dark, so I guess she is scared,' Rudy uttered inwardly.

"Okay!"

Rudy returned to the store and waited for the employee to come so Janet could leave. While doing that, he was only focusing on Rebecca.

Now that the sun was about to rise, customers had begun to floor. That was the time when most people would wake up and do their daily things. And the store was exactly on a street that was used by all the people as that was the one and only avenue to enter and leave the town.

After sitting there and watching the store, Rudy recalled his old memories, which were filled with nothing but nostalgia.

He smiled slightly as he remembered how often he used to accompany Rebecca when she went to work. When he was a kid, Rebecca only worked dayshift as she couldn't bring Rudy with her or leave him alone in the house at night.

'Seriously, she has been with me all my life. She has done so many things for me. I keep saying it, but I can't help how much she sacrificed for me. Is that what it is to be a mother?'

Deep down, Rudy felt guilty for having indecent thoughts about Rebecca.

'Maybe... I shouldn't do it? Putting everything aside, she is still my mother. What would she think if I told her that I lust after her? How would she react? I do find it disgusting, and I can't believe that I have fallen so low, but... I want her.

No, Rudy. It's still not too late. You can back down. Toss these thoughts out of your mind and control your desires. You can still become a normal high school boy. You can keep a normal relationship with her.'

#### SIGH!

Rudy let out a frustrated sigh and muttered, "If only she wasn't my mother."

#### TING!

Rudy's ears twitched as he heard a sharp chiming sound. He raised his head and glanced around but couldn't find the source. At first, he thought it was just the door alarm malfunction, but soon after a customer walked in, the sound was normal.

A while later, the employee came for her shift, and Janet immediately got changed.

"Let's go," she said to Rudy.

"Yeah." Rudy glanced at Rebecca, who was busy at the cashier. "Mom, I am leaving."

"Yeah, take care."

Rudy and Janet left in a hurry. After stepping out of the store and walking for a few seconds, Rudy looked at the sky and said, "It's not that dark anymore."

Janet bit her lips and glanced at Rudy from the corner of her eyes to ask, "Does that mean you won't come to drop me off?"

"I already promised you so..." Rudy shrugged his shoulders and said, "And your house is kind of on the same way, so I wouldn't mind taking a detour."

Janet smiled from the corner of her lips and asked, "So... how is your relationship with Rebecca?"

"Hmm?" Rudy turned to Janet with a surprised look on his face and thought, 'Did she see me gawking at mom?'

"Whatever do you mean?" Rudy played dumb.

"I mean... she is young and at the age where a woman's beauty is at its peak. And... you have been living with her for such a long time. I was curious what you think about her."

"Wait... wait, wait. What do you mean... by young? I mean, I don't want to say it, but she is thirty years or so old."

"What, no?" Janet raised her brows in confusion and said, "She is 29. What are you talking about?"

Rudy stopped on his tack and turned to Janet with a baffled look on his face as though he had seen a ghost, even though he was used to that.

"She is not 29. What are you talking about? I am 18, so if she is 29, then wouldn't that mean she gave birth to me when she was like.... 11?!" Rudy exclaimed.

"Uhh..." Janet took a while to process what Rudy had just said. Then, she gulped down anxiously and asked, "Could... it be that you don't know?"

"Know what?"

"That... she is... not your mother?"

"What the fuck?!"

"So you really didn't know, huh?" Janet suddenly gasped and covered her mouth. "Could it be that it was supposed to be a secret, and I messed up a big time?"

"Wait." Rudy placed his hands on Janet's shoulders and pulled her close to him. Then, he looked into her eyes and asked, "How do you do all this? And what else do you know?"

"How do I know.... well..." Janet averted her gaze and said, "I know about her age because I looked at Rebecca's resume not long ago. And... as for her relationship with you...."

"Hmm?"

"I heard from my mom."

"And why does she know?"

"Do you remember we met at the store the other night not too long ago?"

"When you were yelling at your mother?"

"Yes, and I wasn't yelling," she retorted. "So after going home, my mother wouldn't stop talking about you and how disciplined you are. And then she said, 'Even though Rebecca is not his real mother, they get along so well. Why don't you learn from him a little?'

And then she added, 'I am glad she made it through. I wasn't sure if she would be able to handle everything after her sister's death'. That was my first time hearing it too, and that's the reason why I looked into your mother's resume because I was curious about her age."

Rudy let go of Janet, but he was still baffled by what he had just learned.

'Why was I never told about this?'

#### **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

#### Chapter 499: Breakthrough

'Calm down, Rudy. Stop panicking! You didn't know anything about this because it was kept a secret from you! Yeah, so stop overthinking! But why did no one ever tell me about this? And who else knows about it?

Most importantly, why did this happen today of all times? Was it because I came to meet mom? Or was it because Janet's mom was sick and Janet came in her stead?

No, even if that's the case, why today? I meet Janet every day, so she could have told me... no, no. That's not possible. In truth, I know why it happened today, I just didn't want to admit it.

It happened today because I wished for it.'

'Only if she wasn't my mother.' Rudy recalled his words.

'Is it because I wished for it? But that was just a frustrating thought of mine. I wasn't serious about it. I had no idea my wishes even worked like that! Wait... could it be that my wish actually changed everything?

What if mom was truly my mother, but everything changed because I wished for it? That's hard to believe, but it's totally possible. What should I do... Angelica?

...she is not with me. Why do things like this always happen when I am alone? But wait... if I look at the bright side, doesn't that mean I can have an actual real, legal, official relationship with mom?

No one would ever question our relationship, and mom also wouldn't feel too repulsed by that idea... right? However, why... was she hiding this from me? Was it because she didn't want me to feel sad or bad?

And if mom isn't my biological mother, then who is? Janet mentioned something about mom's sister's death... oh...'

Rudy realized whose grave Rebecca had visited.

'Jessica. So she is mom's sister? So... my aunt? But... why would mom keep that a secret? I had no idea about this in my past life, too, and I never learned of it, of anything. So had Janet not told me everything, I would have never known... just like in my past life.

Uhh.... please tell me it's not what I am thinking....'

Rudy shook his head after a sudden thought crossed in mind.

'The only possibility I can think of is why mom never told me that I was adopted and why she never took me to her sister's grave is... that Jessica... is my mother.

And if that's true... then that would make mom my aunt." Rudy sighed and mumbled, "I tried to look at the bright side, but there is no bright side. She is either my mom or my aunt."

SIGH!

Janet bit her tongue and anxiously asked, "Am I in trouble for telling you this?"

"No... you are not. I am glad you told me."

"Please don't tell your mom that I told you everything."

"Don't worry. I need time to think more and find some clues before confronting her about this. I am sure she has her reasons, so I want to be a dick and annoy her," he uttered in a low voice.

"Anyway, let's get you home."

Janet and Rudy began to walk again, but there was an awkward mood between them after what had just happened.

'Do something, Janet. You messed up the mood by making everything awkward. Now you should do something to talk about. This is a one-in-a-million chance I will ever get to be close to him!'

Janet took a deep breath and opened her mouth to ask, "So... how is it going with Alice?"

'Argh! Why did I have to ask that of all things! I still don't know whether they are going out or not, but if they are... I have no chance at him! I am an idiot! I shouldn't have asked that!' Janet cursed herself inwardly.

"How should it be going?" Rudy responded. "Is there something that should be happening between Alice and me?"

'Does that mean they are not going out?' Janet wondered.

"Nothing. I see you two coming to school and leaving together. I sometimes see you two together in the park. You two must be close," she uttered with a judging look on her face.

Janet decided to take a direct approach if she wanted direct answers from Rudy. However, she still chose an indirect way to confirm whether Alice and Rudy were dating or just very close friends.

"We come and leave for school together because her house is on the way to school. And we both are childhood friends, so it's not that weird for us," Rudy responded vaguely.

'What's with him? Why is he avoiding answering my questions?! Well... he did answer what I asked him, so I cannot complain. Should I just ask him, 'Are you dating Alice?'? Then, I will get a direct reply with a yes and no.'

Janet gathered her courage and asked, "You know, you two are so close that some of our classmates think you two are dating. Are you two dating?"

"Hmm~" Rudy hummed in amusement and replied, "I wouldn't say no, but it's not a yes either. It's complicated."

"..."

'What's that supposed to mean?! Come on! Here I am, trying my best, and he is fooling around with his answers! Argh! I want to punch him so badly!'

Of course, Rudy was well aware of what Janet was scheming. She had confessed her love to him in his past life, but he didn't know when and how she fell in love with him. However, it was different this time; Rudy and Janet had interacted more in the past few days than they had in their entire lives.

Rudy didn't want to say 'yes' as that would have broken Janet's heart, and she would have made a wrong choice in her life like she did in his past life when she was in high school. He didn't want Janet to go through the same suffering and humiliation.

Sure, Rudy hadn't forgiven her for what she had done to him, but he didn't hate her. After all, she had changed completely and become good friends with him.

He wanted to give Janet a chance to redeem herself so she could one day confess her love to him once again.

## **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

### **Chapter 500: Janet's Scheme**

Rudy and Janet were still on their way, but Janet couldn't stop repeatedly shooting her glancing at Rudy.

Of course, he knew that, but he was acting oblivious to everything.

'What should I do now? All my plans have failed! Why does he not just answer me clearly?! It's not that hard, is it?' said the girl who couldn't even look him in the eyes.

'Should I just tell him about my feelings for him? But what if he rejects me? I will become a laughing stock in the school. And wait... why should I confess to him? I don't like to brag, but I am plenty pretty. If I do just a little touch-up with makeup, I can even be cuter than Alice!

No, no, no. Why do I even think that I love him? I am not that type of girl. And why should I care about his relationships? I am known as a delinquent in school, and that's how I should act!

Instead of confessing to him or knowing his relationship with Alice? I can just make moves on him without caring for anything! At the end of the day, if he can become mine, that's all that matters!'

Thus, Janet embraced her delinquent side to run away from the pressure and anxiousness.

'Alright, Janet! This is a perfect chance to make a move on him!'

"If you go to school with Alice because her house is on the way to school, why don't you go with me too? My house is also in the same way," Janet suggested.

"No, it's not. Your house turns in the opposite direction to the school."

"I was talking about the street!"

"That's true. But I don't know what time you go to school."

"At the same time as everyone else."

"Hmm~" Rudy hummed in amusement and said, "Then I guess we can go to school together if you want to."

"Really?!"

"Sure, why not. It's not a big deal."

"Okay!"

"But you better be there on time 'cause I am not waiting for you to come, okay?"

"Don't worry about it!"

"I better not."

"Okay!" Janet walked a few steps ahead and said, "It's not dark anymore! I will go to sleep! Thank you for walking me home!"

After saying that, Janet rushed ahead.

'This habit of hers is the same,' Rudy chuckled softly. 'She gets excited over small things but also gets depressed about the same. I still don't know what to do with her, to be honest.

Obviously, I don't want her to commit the same mistake as she did in my previous life. We weren't that close in high school, and since everyone was dating, she began to date a delinquent in the school, and that piece of shit ruined her life.

He made pornos of her, blackmailed her, and used her as a slave. Every day she would come to school, she would have a new bruise on her face. Everyone in the school knew what was happening, but no one did anything... including me.

I hate to admit it, but... I didn't care what happened to her. She was nothing but a bully to me. I had even thought, 'Serves you right' when she was suffering.

Of course, I hated her for everything she had done to me. But... I was just using that as an excuse to feel good. I was bullied by all the bullies, and Janet was one of them. Only one of my bullies was getting punished, and I was feeling good.'

#### SIGH!

'I was pretty pathetic in my past life, not going to lie. But I was weak and wanted to avoid as many things as possible. I tried to focus on school and study. But that's not happening in this life.

Back then, my field of view was limited to one thing, but now it's as vast as the universe.

If I have to say, Janet did live a decent life afterward, but still, I am not letting the same thing happen to her again. I now know her reasons and circumstances. I may not love her, but she was still one of my best friends in my previous life. I cannot... see her cry.

If someone dares to hurt her, I will send them to hell, quite literally. Putting everything aside, what should I do with her? Falling in love with a bully is kind of... like a trope. I personally don't care about it, but I won't add her to my harem unless she makes me fall in love with her.

And as for forgiving her for bullying me... I will tease her a little in return. And...'

Rudy recalled everything Janet had told him today.

"Yeah, I should be grateful to her for telling me that."

After that, Rudy jumped in the air and landed in front of his house in one jump. Of course, he made sure to not make any noise and also landed quietly without making a giant hole on the ground.

"That... was a big jump. Wait, was it actually a jump in the first place? If I jump into the sky, fly the rest of the way and then land, would it still be considered as a jump? I was in the air, so..."

Rudy decided to stop thinking and walked to the door, but it was locked. He took out his keys and unlocked the door in a hurry.

'I could have teleported, but I wanted to confirm something.'

Rudy glanced around the house and scanned it to look for Lucy, and he found her sleeping in Rebecca's room.

"I knew it..." he sighed.

Rudy tried to enter Rebecca's room, but it was locked from the inside, so he stopped.

'Imagine her waking up on me in the room. I will probably trigger her trauma of the night Paul had brought his friends over.'

There was still at least an hour left before Rudy's regular waking time, so he jumped on the couch of the living room and fell asleep.

However, he had no idea what he would wake up to. And that his relationship with a certain someone would change permanently.