#### Esper 581

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

### Chapter 581: Date with Rebecca

Rudy and Rebecca left the house and went to the cafe he had gone to with Elena on their first date. They sat at the exact table and ordered the same thing Elena had ordered.

Rudy wasn't sure if he should go alone with Rebecca's wish, but he had promised her, so he didn't want to comment anything on that. Not only that, but he didn't like the idea of Rebecca trying to become Elena.

He thought for a while and decided to address his issue with Rebecca.

"You know, you don't have to do this," he said calmly.

"What do you mean?" Rebecca asked while sipping coffee.

"You don't have to act like Elena or try to be her."

Rebecca placed the cup on the table and looked into Rudy's eyes.

"Why do you think I am doing this?"

"You know better. But I want you to know that you cannot replace Elena; no one can. And no one can replace you. You all are better your own way, and I don't see why you would even want to change yourself to... well, it doesn't matter.

Let's enjoy this special day however you want. But in the future, you might regret spending this day trying to become someone else. And I don't want you to regret anything in your life."

"..." Rebecca puckered her lips and looked at the menu to order the things she wanted rather than what Elena had ordered.

After the cafe, they did the same thing Rudy had done with Elena, but in a little different way.

"What now?" Rebecca asked.

"After that, we went to the mountain hills and watched horror movies until it was already night. And before you ask— yes, we have already watched the movie at home, so there is no point of doing that."

"But I want to go to the mountains."

"And do what?"

"I don't know." Rebecca shrugged. "Maybe we will go hiking?"

"Let's go then. But we will return before evening."

Thus, they decided to go to the mountain hills in the woods.

"Be careful and don't touch any trees or plants. There are many insects and small animals here."

"Hmm."

After reaching the spot, they sat down, leaning on the tree, and enjoyed the amazing view.

"Kids are not allowed to come here alone. And even if they were, I don't think anyone would dare to come here. So it's my first time coming here," Rebecca informed.

She leaned on Rudy and placed her hand on his lap before lying down.

"Did you enjoy today?" Rudy asked.

"I did."

"We can do other things too."

"Such as?"

"We can go to another city. I would take you shopping, but we already did that yesterday. We can go to the beach, but it won't be enough fun with two people; the same with water parks.

Come to think of it, we have already done all the things in the past year that there are no new things to do." He chuckled softly and muttered, "I wish I... I had made a plan. But I wanted to leave everything up to you so..."

Rebecca looked into Rudy's eyes and asked, "You can fly, right?"

"Yes."

"Then I want you to give me a ride home."

"Sure thing."

"But for now... let's enjoy the view. Why is it cold here even though it's noon?"

"Because of trees."

Rebecca closed her eyes and muttered, "When I grow up, I want to become like you."

"Like me? Why would you want to become like me?" Rudy asked with a curious and confused look on his face.

"You are so kind and gentle. You are taking care of Jessica and me even though we have no direct relationship with each other. You have done so much for us, so when I grow up, I want to do the same things for others," she said in a low voice.

Rudy patted Rebecca's head and said, "That is a very admirable and noble life goal, but what you said about me is not true. I am not kind or gentle. I am doing this for myself."

"You are lying. I can tell."

"Do you remember what I told you a year ago?"

"Yes..." Rebecca sat up and said, "I remember it clearly. And I'm afraid I still have to disagree with your words."

"Why is that? I said the dark and bitter truth about what it's like to be an adult."

"You said I shouldn't have an idol or a role model whom I can look up to. But would you say the same thing if I told you that my role model is you?" she asked with a judging look on her face.

Rudy shook his head and let out a short sigh.

"It's good to have a role model, but you don't have to chase after them or try to become like that. You don't know what's the real personality of your role model. What if one day you were to find out that the person you admire so much turned out to be a complete... bad person?"

Rudy was going to cuss, but he stopped himself from swearing in front of Rebecca.

"Listen, Rebecca." Rudy grabbed Rebecca's hands and looked into her eyes. "No one in this world is perfect, and nobody's a saint. So how can you admire someone you know nothing about?

It's like saying you will score at the top when you haven't even studied anything. This might be difficult for you to understand, so I will explain it in simple words."

After a brief pause, Rudy uttered, "Don't trust someone even if you know them and always keep your guard up. And don't admire someone unless you have researched well on them and know every single thing about them."

Rebecca looked at her hands that were being held by Rudy and said, "I want to have you as my role model, so why don't you start letting me know more about yourself? If you truly want me to believe in your words, I should know you well, right?"

"Wow. I did not expect that." Rudy smiled at her and said, "I am impressed."

"So, will you tell me?"

"Unfortunately, I can't reveal more of myself to you. You are the only person I can't... reveal myself to. But I can tell you that I also have a role model."

"You do...?" she asked with a surprised face.

"Yes, and that person is... my mother."

# Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

# Chapter 582: Life Goals of the Lord

"Your mother?" Rebecca with a confused look on her face.

"Yes. She is the... the best person in the world."

"Even better than Elena?" Rebecca asked curiously.

"Yes. She is on the top. I... I tried to become like her, but I couldn't. She is far above my reach. But I recently found a new way to reach her, and I hope everything works out well."

"Was your mother a good person?"

"Yup."

"What is she like?"

"I cannot tell you..."

Rebecca smiled and said, "I understand. You don't want me to become like you because you think you are not how I think you are."

"That's one way to put it, yes."

"The other day... when I said I want to be your sister... I wasn't lying. I really do want to be your sister. But... sometimes... I wish that you were my father. It's been so long since I last saw him, and I have no idea where he is. Did he leave us behind? Were we a burden to him?"

Rudy had searched for Rebecca and Jessica's parents since day one, but he couldn't find any information about them. He had even talked with Anthony, who was supposedly Albert's best friend, but he didn't know anything about him either.

Anthony said they slowly became distant over the past decade, and the last time he saw him was when Jessica was born. Rudy didn't miss that opportunity to ask him about their mother, but even he was unaware of that.

Unlike in 2008, Rudy could use the internet or any other type of database to search for Albert. he had to rely on physical data such as newspapers. Daily, he checked the names of dead people in different newspapers and even visited the neighboring towns and cities' local shops to learn more about them.

He also regularly checked all the cemeteries and graveyards for the gravestone of his name. But even after searching for Albert for a year, Rudy gave up. The best way to make Rebecca and Jessica forget about Albert was to never remind them of him.

'I don't know where he went or if he is even alive, but I have no empathy towards that man.'

When Rudy was a kid, his classmates teased him as he had no father, so he would often complain about it to Rebecca, who would try to do the same thing Rudy was trying to do right now.

She wanted Rudy to forget about Albert, but that was impossible in Rudy's case as he was teased about it at school, and only Alice, Eric, and his twin sister— Erika, would come for his help.

Even Eric and Erika didn't have a father, but they were made fun of like Rudy because Rudy was poor.

One day, when Rudy asked Rebecca about his father, she lied to him by showing her father's picture to him and said that he died in an accident when he was small.

Rudy believed Rebecca and told everything the same thing, after which he was never teased for the same topic again.

However, now that Rudy had learned the truth, he blamed Albert even more.

'Still, something must have happened to him. Sadly, I can't find anything.'

To change the 'father' topic, Rudy decided to ask her about school.

"How do you feel after skipping school today?" he asked.

"Nothing in particular. I don't like going to school anyway."

"Wait, what?" Rudy raised his brow and asked, "Are you being bullied or something?"

"It's not like that. I just... I don't like wasting my time in school when I can do something better. I wanted to give Jessica a better life, but everything has changed ever since you came."

"But school is important, you know? Don't you have a dream you want to achieve? What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"I haven't thought that far yet. But to be honest... I don't have that kind of dream. What about you? What do you want to become?" she asked curiously.

That question hit Rudy right where he should be. In his past life, Rudy had goals, but for only one reason; he wanted to give his family a better life. He still had the same goal, but his ways had changed.

He no longer had to study or rub his head in front of other people. He could do everything on his own, no matter the cost or consequences.

"I guess... I just want to take care of my loved ones," Rudy calmly responded.

"I want the same thing."

"Well, I will be honest and say my life goal is not actually a life goal. That's something obvious and what every living being should do."

Rebecca pondered for a while and said, "I want to be a mother."

"Huh?"

"Uhmm... I want to be like you. To be a... guardian of someone who needs a parent. Just like how you found Jessica and me, I want to be there for someone who deserves better."

TING~!

Rudy's ears twitched after hearing the chiming sound.

'What was that? This is the third time I have heard that sound, and something happens every time I hear it. The first time was when I found out mom was not my real mother. The second time I heard it, I was time-traveling here. And now... I wonder what will happen now.

Wait... don't tell me... my time in this timeline is over, and I am about to return to 2008 soon?!' Rudy panicked.

He had no way of knowing that, so he decided to tell Rebecca his final words that could give her strength and wisdom. But he had already said the things he wanted to say.

It was a crucial moment, and he didn't have time to waste on other things. So he narrowed down his words and tried to tell them to Rebecca.

Those words later became a prophecy, some of which were written in the diary Rebecca possessed in the 2008 timeline.

**Esper Harem in the Apocalypse** Chapter 583: Above the Clouds Rudy placed his hands on her shoulders and looked deep into her eyes.

"Listen, you are an important person to me."

"More important than Elena?"

# SIGH!

"I should have expected that. Let me rephrase it." After a brief pause, he said, "You are a special person to me. Special than anyone else in this world. You are my Goddess, my queen, and my princess. Whatever I have done, I did it for you.

I don't know how long I can be with you, but don't lose hope. There will undoubtedly be tough times when you will feel like giving up. But you are strong. You have to be strong. Otherwise, this cruel world would destroy you.

But know that all that won't be in vain. One day, I will come to you and end everything. I will reward you for your hard work and your suffering. I will make you the happiest person in the world."

"Are you going... somewhere?" Rebecca asked reluctantly.

"I am not sure, but if I suddenly disappear, please don't think that I have abandoned you, Jessica, or Elena. I will meet you all again one day and make up for the loss you have suffered," he said calmly while looking into her eyes.

"But I... I don't want you to go..."

"I know. And I don't want to go either. You are my..." Rudy hugged Rebecca with teary eyes and said, "I... love you. I just remembered I have never said 'I love you' before. But it's a different love than I have for Elena. For now, I want you to focus on yourself and take care of Jessica, alright?"

Rebecca hugged Rudy back and hesitantly asked, "Where are you going...? Will you come back? Take me with you..."

Rudy felt something sharp on his fingers, so he looked at his hand and saw lightning was leaking out from the gap between his finger and his nail. He watched as the same thing happened with his other fingers.

'What's happening? I am losing my body?!'

Rudy's powers were emotion-based, and his feelings amplified his powers at his will. But something like that had never happened with Rudy.

He immediately used his restoration ability and fixed his body.

"Is everything okay?" Rebecca asked with an anxious look on her face.

Rudy hasn't moved for a minute, so she was concerned about him.'

"Yes, I am okay."

Rudy looked up at the sky and muttered, "It's evening already. Shall we go home now?"

"Okay..." she said with a gloomy face.

"You want to fly with me, right?" Rudy grinned at her and said, "So are you hopping on my back, or I carry you in my arms?"

"Which one is safer?"

"Both are safer. I am a great pilot with a five stars rating," he said with a smug face.

"Then... carry me in your arms..."

"Alrighty!"

Rudy picked Rebecca up and carried her in his arms like a princess. He looked at the sky and then looked at Rebecca to ask, "Are you ready?"

Rebecca nodded and closed her eyes.

"Come on, don't close your eyes. You are missing the fun."

Rebecca slowly opened her eyes and gulped down in fear.

"Don't worry. I was also afraid of heights before, but it's not that scary if you get used to it."

Rudy slowly took off and hovered in the air above the mountain hills.

The forest in the fountain was already the highest spot in the town, from where one could see almost the entire village. But now that Rudy was hovering even above the hills, the whole town was in clear view.

"Wow..." Rebecca awed. Her fear and anxiety vanished as soon as she laid her eyes on the scenery.

"Looking great, right?" Rudy asked.

"Yes! Look at the lakes! They look so small. I didn't know this entire town was covered by mountains and forests. And the farms look so green. There is also a river right outside the town."

Rebecca looked at Rudy and asked, "Where is our house? I can't find it."

She glanced around but couldn't recognize the area.

Rudy carried Rebecca with one hand and pointed his other hand in a certain direction.

"Do you see the lake near the forest?"

"Where? There are many lakes."

"Follow my finger."

"Oh! I see it! It looks so small!"

"Okay, now I am going even higher above the clouds so no one can see us."

After flying higher, all Rebecca could see was the floor of clouds.

"I want to touch the cloud!"

Rudy flew to the cloud and said, "Go ahead and touch it."

Rebecca tried to grab the cloud, but her hand passed through it.

"Why can't I touch it?"

"You are touching it, but you can't hold it. Clouds are not solid. They are just carrying water."

Rudy explained it in simple words so she didn't get confused.

"I was hoping for them to be fluffy and bouncy..." she muttered.

"That only happens in cartoons. If the clouds become even a little heavier than she should be, they will descend. But that doesn't happen often."

After flying for a few minutes and taking Rebecca around the time, they went home.

"Are you sure? We can fly more if you want."

"No. I want to go home and meet Jessica. But let's eat out at night!"

"Are you ready for tomorrow?" Rudy asked in a low voice. "I am getting married."

"As long as you don't stop spoiling Jessica and me, I have no complaints. I am actually happy because... I see Elena as my big sister and a mother. I will have a full family after tomorrow," she said with a happy smile on her face.

Rudy and Rebecca entered the house, expecting Lilim and Jessica to jump on them, but much to their surprise, the house was empty.

"The school ended a few hours ago. Why are they still not home?" Rebecca wondered with an anxious look on her face.

"Don't worry. They are probably with Elena as she knows no one will be at home. Let me call her."

### Esper Harem in the Apocalypse Chapter 584: Power Leakage

Rudy was about to call Elena, but she called him instead.

He answered the call with a grin on his face, as that would be his first time hearing Elena's voice after they left for school.

"Hey, did you miss me?" he asked.

[Rudy! Where were you?!]

Rudy could feel panic in Elena's voice.

"What happened?"

[I have been trying to call you for an hour! Why was your phone unreachable?!]

"I was in the mountains with Rebecca, and then... well, it was probably a network issue. Is everything alright? Where are you right now?"

[After the school ended, I took Jessica and Lilim to my house, and then I remembered about the dress you had ordered at the store in the mall in the next city. I didn't want to disturb your time with Rebecca, so I thought it would be a good idea to go there and fetch them.

I took Jessica and Elena with me and went to the store, but they were still working on it and said it would take about an hour. I was going to wait there, but Jessica insisted on exploring the mall.

I had nothing else to do, so I agreed, but after a few minutes, they said they wanted to eat ice cream, so I bought them ice cream and went to the park opposite the mall.

I had drunk juice and a lot of water, so I had to go pee, and when I returned, they weren't there. Not only that, but none of the kids were there. Their parents are also panicking right now, and I don't know what to do!]

"Okay, okay. Calm down. I will be right there."

Rudy kept his cool so Rebecca wouldn't catch on.

"What's wrong? Is everything okay?" Rebecca asked with a concerned look on her face.

"Yes, don't worry. Elena and the girls are at the mall to get the dresses. Apparently, they messed up in Elena's wedding dress, so I have to go and handle the matter," he said calmly.

"I will come with you!"

"There is no need."

"But I want to! You promised you would do anything I say!"

"Rebecca, just wait for me here, okay? I also have a surprise for you, and if you come with me, it will be ruined. If you don't want that to happen, I suggest you stay here."

"You are not lying, are you?" Rebecca asked with a judging look on her face.

"I really do have a surprise for you."

"Okay. Come back soon."

"Of course."

Rudy left the house and soared into the sky. He once again felt itchy hands, so he looked at it and saw his finger explode.

'What the—!'

He restored his body and immediately teleported to the park without worrying about being seen by anyone else. He had his priority straight.

He searched for Elena and found her asking other people about Jessica and Lilim.

"Is everything okay?" Rudy asked her.

"Rudy!" Elena hugged Rudy and burst into tears which she had been holding. "Jessica and Lilim... they..."

"It's okay. Tell me what happened."

"I have no idea. I left them on the bench, and when I returned, they weren't there. I thought they were playing with the other girls, but some parents came to me and asked if I knew where their kids went. They... they were..."

Rudy bought a water bottle for Elena and said, "Here. Drink it and calm down. I will be right back."

Rudy asked around to the parents, but they all said the same thing as Elena.

"We just took our eyes off them for a second, and they all disappeared!" they said.

"Did they leave anything behind? Or something they were carrying with them?"

"No.

'There aren't any cameras around. Obviously, there wouldn't be any.'

"Why did you take your eyes off them?" Rudy asked.

"Excuse me?" one of the parents said. "What do you mean? Why are you asking such questions?"

"Did something happen that made your people look away from the kids?"

"Yes... actually..." One lady pointed her finger at the street and said, "There was a minor accident. And almost everyone from the park went to look."

"Oh yes. It made a loud sound as if the lightning had fallen from the sky."

"What was the accident?" Rudy asked impatiently.

"A guy with a bicycle hit a car, and the driver started fighting with him even though it was the driver's fault for driving the car on the pavement."

'That accident was most likely caused on purpose to grab everyone's attention and kidnap the kids. But why the fuck would someone do that?'

"Can you... guess how many kids were there?"

The parents talked with each other and counted their kids.

"Twenty-three... or something."

'Twenty-three?!' Rudy exclaimed inwardly. 'Someone kidnapped twenty-three kids in broad daylight? What the fuck?!'

Elena rushed to Rudy and asked, "Did you find them?"

"Don't worry. I have marked Lilim so I can track her location. You need to relax."

"How am I supposed to relax?! What if something happened to them?!" Elena panicked even more.

"Nothing will happen. Lilim is already strong enough to defeat one hundred humans at once. And do you think it's easy for me to stay calm? Freaking out and panicking won't do anything, alright?"

"I am sorry... I am just so scared... if something happened to them while I was in charge of them... I would never be able to..." she sniffed.

"Hey... look at me..." Rudy looked into Elena's eyes and said, "Why don't you go to the mall and fetch the clothes? It has been exactly twenty hours, so the clothes should be ready.

And while you are at it, you should wear your dress and check if it fits you perfectly. And one more thing, yesterday I saw a cake shop in the mall on the way to the tailor shop. Order a large chocolate cake for Rebecca's birthday with her name written. She will be thrilled."

"Wha..t?"

Rudy's eyes sparkled lightning as he said, "I will bring the girls back in less than a minute."

He disappeared after saying, "Oh, there. I already found Lilim."

# **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# **Chapter 585: Sacrifices For God**

A while ago, a black-white van with a shade of gray stopped in front of a massive warehouse near the seaport. Following the van, two armed cars stopped near the truck, and a dozen armed men walked out.

They opened the van's door and aimed their guns at the kids in the van, and said, "Get out now!"

The girls screamed in fear and got out of the car, but Jessica and Lilim didn't.

"Hey, you! Get out, or I will shoot your skull!"

Jessica hugged Lilim with teary eyes and slowly got out of the car.

The men opened the warehouse door and ordered the kids to go inside. Five men entered the warehouse after the kids and closed the door from inside.

Then, one of the men rushed to the car and knocked on the window. A few seconds later, the window rolled down, but only a little.

"We have got them, boss!" he said.

"How many kids are there?" the boss asked.

"Twenty-three. Fifteen boys and eight girls."

"Good, good."

"Do you think God will be happy after this?" the man asked. "And for how long do we have to kidnap innocent people? I don't like doing this. I also have a daughter who is around the same age as the kids inside."

The man's voice sounded full of guilt and regret.

"We can't do anything. It's the order of God. If we try to defy him, our families and we will be killed. If we don't kidnap and sacrifice innocent blood for God, he will destroy our family and kids.

And each and every time, I would gladly sacrifice the lives of others to protect my family. Wouldn't anyone do the same?" the boss asked calmly.

"I... don't know. They are small kids who know nothing about the world. How do you expect me to go home and eat after killing them? I can't sleep after seeing their dead bodies. I can't even hold my own daughter with my blood-stained hands."

"I feel the same, but we have to do what we have to do to survive."

"How long will this continue?" the man asked in a broken voice. "We are the citizens of the underworld. We are the Mafias, but we are not heartless barbarians. The man who calls himself the God is not a God... he is a demon..."

"We all have seen what he can do. He took over the entire underworld by storm. Not only the underworld of this state or this country, but all the underworlds across the world are under his control.

Did you not see what he did to those who tried to oppose him? The strongest Syndicate — Lu Bela Syndicate, was wiped out by him in an instant. He is no ordinary human... he possesses the power... of a God."

The boss eventually rolled down the entire window and took off his glasses. He looked at the man and continued, "And no one can possibly defeat a God. One might challenge him, but that would be nothing but a suicide attempt."

"If he is so almighty, then why doesn't he do everything himself? Why does he seek the blood of five thousand innocent humans every day? Why does he want to sacrifice? What's his goal?

Boss, I am telling you... if we keep doing what he wants... he will take over the entire world. And once he is done using us, he will kill us too."

The boss looked at the man and said, "When that happens, we will gladly accept our fate. Our sins will come back to eat us... whether it be this world or... hell itself..."

The man gritted his teeth and banged his hand on the car.

"Why have you become such a coward, boss?! You are the leader of the 'Ross' syndicate! You were once the most feared in the entire underworld! And now you have become so pathetic!

You were supposed to protect us, but what are you doing now?! You have become that so-called God's dog! How can you even call yourself a—"

"Silence!" The boss calmly uttered. "Have you seen that so-called God?"

"Yes, I have!"

"Have you seen him face to face? Have you seen what he can do? Have you seen his true face? Believe me... you wouldn't want to see it. It will haunt your scariest nightmares."

The man looked at the gun in his hand and then at the other men guarding the warehouse.

#### "..."

#### "..."

"Screw it! If we are going to die anyway, I would rather die doing something good!"

The man pointed his gun at the boss, but the driver rolled up the window. He still pressed the trigger, but the window was bulletproof.

After hearing the firing noise, the other men came to look and were shocked to see one of their own men trying to shoot their boss.

They open-fired on the man, and the man fired back. While the other men were carefully aiming at the man so they didn't shoot the car behind, the man was shooting carelessly, killing three men at once. He shot the remaining three in the limbs and forced them to drop their weapons.

Of course, the man was also shot in his stomach, chest, and legs, and he was bleeding out of control. He dropped to his knees as his gun slipped from his hand.

However, he still crawled and grabbed his gun, killing two more men who were also trying to grab their weapons. While the remaining one hid behind the van to take cover.

"If God is so heartless and wants to kill the innocents, I would rather pray to a demon and ask him to protect us..." the man uttered his last words before he threw the grenade under the van and blew it up.

He wanted to throw another grenade under the boss' car, but he had already died.

After a few seconds of silence, the boss walked out of the car and looked at the dead bodies of his man.

"Oh... God...."

A few seconds later, gunshots were heard from inside the warehouse.

Meanwhile, Rudy was in the mountains with Rebecca, where he found out that his powers were leaking out of his body.

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

#### Chapter 586: Knock Knock

The boss ordered his driver to get rid of the dead bodies and clean the area.

"This shouldn't have happened..." he muttered.

He got into the car but got out the next second when he heard gunshots from inside the warehouse.

"Who is firing? The kids are supposed to be sacrificed at night under the full moon!" the boss yelled and rushed to the warehouse.

He banged on the door and shouted, "Open the door!"

Even after a minute had passed, no one opened the door while the gunshots were still being fired inside.

"Open the damn door!"

A few minutes ago, when everyone was still alive outside and the man was confronting the boss, something else was happening inside the warehouse.

It was dark, and five armed men were inside the warehouse with the twenty-three kids. There was a huge shipping container in the center, and its door was open.

"Go sit in the shipping container, and don't move!" the men ordered.

The kids did as they were asked to and sat inside the shipping container. They all were crying and sniffing, calling for their parents.

After a while, one of the men snapped and yelled while banging on the container, "Shut up! All of you! If I hear even a whisper, I will shoot you all!"

All the kids went quiet instantly. Even the other four men were shocked to see how angry the fifth man was.

One man was facing their back on each side, while the fifth man was standing at the door.

Soon after, gunshots were heard from outside as the men from inside glanced at each other. They walked to the door and discussed for a while as though they were pondering whether they should open the door and check or stay inside.

"Let's stay inside. Our priority is the kids. As long as we have them and we kill them at night under the full moon, we will be spared by God. We shouldn't care what happens to others."

"Yeah."

A few seconds later, the grenade went off, and the van exploded.

The men inside the warehouse gulped down as they wondered, "Who could it be?"

"Did the cops get them?" one of them asked.

"We didn't hear any sirens, did we?"

All of them stepped back and made the distance between the door and themselves. They pointed the gun at the door, thinking they would start shooting as soon as someone broke the door.

#### CLUNK!

There was a sharp noise of metal hitting another metal, and when the men looked back, they saw that the door of the shipping container was wide open.

"You idiot! Did you not close the door properly?!" one of the men yelled.

"I did," the second one replied.

"I don't want to hear your excuses! Go close the freaking door!"

The man rushed to the shipping container and closed the door. But when he looked at the broken lock on the door, he slowly turned to the other men and said, "Hey..."

"What is it?" The third man came to look and stopped in his tracks when he saw the broken lock in the second man's hand.

"leader!" The fourth man pointed his finger at the broken lock in the second man's hand and said, "The lock is broken!"

"Hah?!" The first man looked at the broken lock and said, "So what? It could be some malfunction. Use another lock!"

"leader... not just the lock... but the rod that was keeping the container closed is also broken..." the fifth man stuttered.

"So are you telling me that someone from inside kicked the door open? It's a freaking container! Not even a bullet can penetrate the metal, so how can a kid do that?!" the leader yelled.

"Use your brain a little, you dumbfucks! Obviously, something was wrong with the container. Just use another one," the leader then added.

Two men opened the door to the other container and asked the kids to switch. One by one, the kids moved from one container to another, but something seemed wrong.

"Hey..." the fifth man counted the kids and said, "How many kids were there again?"

"Twenty-three. Why?" the third man replied.

"Look... there are only twenty-two..."

"What do you mean? Count again."

"I did! Twice!"

The leader groaned loudly and uttered, "Why is my team full of idiots!"

He aimed the gun at the kids and slowly counted them one by one.

"Eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty... two..." He couldn't believe his eyes, so he counted again, but the results were the same.

"Who is missing?!"

"I-I don't know! I don't remember their faces!"

"What are you standing here for, then?!" the leader yelled. "Search the entire warehouse. One of the kids must have escaped since you left the container door open!"

The four men spread in each direction while the leader stood by the container.

"Argh!" one man yelled as he fired his gun.

"What happened?!"

The remaining four men rushed to check on the men, but the fifth man's head came rolling to them from the dark.

"What the..." The leader kicked the head in the dark again and shined a flash.

However, as soon as the flash illuminated the corner, a barrel was thrown at them, and they all fell down.

The leader immediately got up aimlessly at the corner and didn't stop until he ran out of bullets. He thought he had killed whatever was in the corner, but the next second, his hand was cleaved by sharp claws.

"Arghh!"

The leader screamed his pain as the three men chased the creature with their eyes.

Of course, it was Lilim, and she had transformed into her full demon mode.

She jumped from one place to another and while the men fired. It wasn't as though none of the bullets hit her, but Lilim's demon skin couldn't be penetrated by something like bullets.

Lilim killed the three men and once again hid in the dark corner. Her red eyes glowed in the dark, which gave away her location to the leader.

"Grr!" The leader grabbed a grenade and threw it at Lilim, but suddenly, another pair of red eyes glowed above Lilim's, and a demonic voice followed:

"Knock knock."

# **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# Chapter 587: Smoking Demon

Rudy had found Lilim within a second and teleported to her. He had learned a new ability to teleport where he could teleport to the people he had marked, just like the places.

However, that ability didn't work on humans. Lilim was a demon, and it only worked on her. It should also work with races such as vampires, but not on humans.

Of course, he had tried marking Rebecca, Jessica, and Elena, but he couldn't teleport to them. He could still use his 'find my prey' ability to locate them, but nothing more.

At first, Rudy couldn't figure out the reason why it didn't work on humans, but after researching for a while, he came to the conclusion that humans didn't have the power to hold his 'mark' in their bodies.

He was marking their souls, which couldn't be touched as they had no physical form. Hence, he couldn't find a connection between his mark and his teleportation ability. But that wasn't the case with other races whose bodies could hold their mark because of their different physique.

Lilim had already taken care of all the men, and only the leader was left alive. She was going to kill him too, but when she sensed another demon's presence that was much more powerful than hers, she decided to hide in the dark.

Unbeknownst to her, that the presence was of Rudy's rage, which she had never sensed or seen before.

Since Rudy's body had been malfunctioning and leaking his power out, he decided to change his demon form— although that form only had horns. Still, that made his body a little robust to hold his powers within his body.

When the leader threw the grenade in the dark, Rudy picked it up in his hand and slowly walked out of the darkness. However, the grenade was no longer in his hand.

It was in his mouth.

"...!" The leader was shocked and thought he had won as the grenade blew Rudy's head.

However, when the grenade exploded in Rudy's mouth, nothing happened.

"Hmm~" Rudy hummed in amusement as he let out a cloud of smoke from his mouth, making it seem like he just had a shot of a cigarette.

He threw the grenade particles from his mouth and said, "So I am invulnerable, even from the insides, huh?"

"Wh-What are you?!" The leader continuously fired his gun at Rudy, but it seemed as though he was throwing beans at him.

Needless to say, Rudy was unscathed.

Rudy stopped in front of the leader and said, "You shouldn't yell like a little girl, you know?"

The leader stepped back and tried to run, but he tripped and fell down, or so it seemed like, but in truth, his legs were cleaved by Rudy, and he could no longer run, let alone walk.

"How dare you kidnap kids? What are you, a monster?!" Rudy lifted the leader while choking his neck. He looked into the leader's eyes and uttered, "People like you are a worthless burden to this universe. Even the existence of ants is more important compared to you."

Rudy pulled a grenade from the leader's belt and stuffed it in the leader's mouth. The leader's eyes widened as his face showed nothing but fear.

He tried to spit the grenade out of his mouth, but Rudy had stuffed it deep into his throat.

"Go. To. Hell... bitch!"

Rudy threw the leader into the air as his body exploded into pieces.

SIGH!

Rudy let out a short sigh and turned to Lilim, who was still hiding in the dark.

"Are you okay?"

Lilim came out of the dark and hugged Rudy.

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"I was so scared... daddy."
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"Why?"

"Because they were the bad guys... and I killed them..." she muttered. "Am I a bad person too?"

"Listen, there is no need to be afraid of bad guys. There is a vast difference between bad people and evil people. And you are neither of them. You don't have to be afraid of anything.

You have to be fearless like daddy, alright?" Rudy patted Lilim on the head and said, "You are already so strong. And strong people never fear the weak."

"Now, let's get the kids out of here and—!"

Suddenly, an armed car came dashing into the warehouse, breaking the warehouse door. The car's speed increased as it tried to run over Rudy, who was standing in the middle.

But of course, that was a stupid move by the Boss, who had been banging on the door all that time.

Rudy swiped his finger in the air and cut the car into two but kept the Boss alive as he wanted to give him a painful death. However, he was left speechless when he saw that the Boss was none other than Rusher's father— the leader of the Ross Syndicate.

"What the.... fuck?!" Rudy grabbed the Boss by the collar and raised him in the air. "So the underworld was behind this? Don't tell me the deaths in the forest were you doing too?"

"Who... are you..." the Boss managed to utter.

"Oh, it doesn't matter who I am. You should care more about what I am going to do with you! You pathetic piece of shit! Kidnapping kids and killing the innocents? What the fuck is wrong with you?

I know you were total garbage, but to stoop so low? Honestly, I am disappointed. And I truly, truly wish I could crush your skull and kill you right here, right now! But unfortunately, I cannot do that!"

The Boss had finally noticed the horns on Rudy's forehead after his eyes got adjusted to the darkness in the warehouse.

"You are a... demon."

"That's right! I am a demon" Rudy crushed to the boss' shoulder and said, "I will let you live, but don't be relieved. I will come for you after eighteen years and drag you to hell to where you belong!

Take a look at my face and remember it. It's the face of a demon who is going to kill you for everything you have done in your life! Live in fear and watch your shoulder. Every time you are alone or in the dark, I will be watching you!"

He said in a rather demonic voice like never before, as though his inner demon was speaking for him.

# **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# **Chapter 588: Connection To a Future Event**

"Just... just kill me now...." the boss uttered.

Rudy raised his brow and asked, "Say what? If you want to die, then why do such horrendous acts in the first place?"

"I had no other choice..."

"What are you talking about? Aren't you the leader of the strongest syndicate in the underworld?" Rudy asked with a confused look on his face.

"I was doing it for... God..."

"What the fuck are you talking about?! I didn't know you were so religious. And why the fuck do you need to kill kids and innocent for your god?! Are you out of your mind?!"

"He gets... power from the blood of the innocent..."

Rudy's expression changed from confused to puzzled, with wrinkles on his forehead.

"I don't know what you are smoking, but go home and reflect on what you have done. I really wish to kill you, but I will give you a grace time of eighteen years to raise Maria."

"Who is... Maria...?"

'Oh well... I guess it was me who told him about Rusher and Ria, and therefore you knew everything. It also makes sense why he shot me when he saw me. All this was supposed to happen... sigh. He turned into a saint because of me.'

"You son and daughter fu—" Rudy stopped his words when he noticed Lilim was listening to them. He didn't want to use vulgar words in front of him, although he had already said many things.

Rudy let go of the boss' collar and placed his hand on his shoulder. He looked into the boss' eyes and calmly said, "Your son— Rusher, and your daughter— Ria, got bored. So they played a game and made a baby girl— Maria."

"What ...? Are you saying that ... that they ... "

"Yes. Their game got a little heated. Now, get the fuck out of here and send your men to bring them here. And yeah..." Rudy lowered his voice and whispered, "Never ever open your mouth about what you saw today."

Rudy told him the address Rusher had told him when he was narrating his story.

"But... I can't go back! God will kill me!"

"Who is this god you speak of? Is someone trying to be a god by doing shitty things? Listen here, there is no one as powerful as me in this universe. Tell that god of yours that I will be coming for him soon."

He turned the boss around and said, "Tell him to pack his bag because I have an express ticket to hell for him!"

The boss ran away without looking back.

"Daddy..." Lilim pulled Rudy's sleeve and said, "What is god?"

"It's nothing."

'I could have gone there and seen what the hell is going on in the underworld, but I don't have time for that. There are still a few hours left for Rebecca's birthday to end, and I don't want to fuck it up.

More importantly, what the fuck is Lu Bela doing? All this shit is happening in the underworld, and... where the fuck is she?! What happened to her big talk about 'purpose and peace'?'

"Daddy, Jessica, and the other kids are in that big box."

"Yes, yes. But before we open that, I want you to change to your human form."

"Okay!"

Lilim and Rudy changed to their human form and opened the container containing the kids.

The kids were obviously shocked and scared when the container opened.

Rudy's eyes searched for Jessica, who was sitting in the corner.

'There she is!" He sighed in relief.

CLAP~ CLAP!

Rudy clapped his hands and said, "Come on, kids, it's time to go."

"Who... are you?" one kid asked.

"Are you also with them?" another one asked.

"No." Rudy showed his hands to them and responded in a calm voice, "Do you see any guns in my hand? I am here to save you."

Jessica was in utter shock, but when she heard Rudy's voice, she glanced around and saw Rudy standing in front of her.

"Rudy!" She got up and rushed to Rudy and hugged him. "I knew you would come."

'If Jessica and Lilim weren't kidnapped, Elena wouldn't have called me, and I would have never known of this. I am glad I was able to save these kids, but... I wonder how many innocents were killed in the name of that so-called god.

I am sorry, Rebecca, but I will have to go check the underworld. Many more innocent lives could be in danger. I don't want my family to get involved in this mess, and thus I have to get rid of the threat who calls himself a god.

But first, I will have to return these kids to their parents and drop Elena and the two at home. And get a cake too, of course. Then, I will go to the underworld real quick, beat the shit out of that god, and return before Rebecca's birthday ends.'

"Alright, kids. Are you ready to go home?" Rudy asked with a smile on his face.

"How do you know where our home is?" a girl from the group asked.

"Well, I didn't mean home. I will take you to the park where your parents are, and they will take you home."

Rudy looked at the boy holding the girl's hand and wondered, 'Why do I feel like I have seen that face before? I recognize the face but can't remember where. I have a perfect memory, and because of that, I remember everything, but I don't know everything.'

"Anyway, boys and girls! Grab each other's hand and close your eyes. I will perform a magic trick and get you out of here!"

The kids did as Rudy asked them to do, but he made sure they were touching each other, and none of them was left behind. Then, he placed his hand on one of the kids' heads and teleported to the park.

He teleported them to a small maze tunnel in the park where kids used to go from one side to another and play in it. So when they all got out, it would seem that the kids were just playing inside the tunnel.

# **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

# **Chapter 589: Yet Another Related Event**

Rudy assumed if he teleported to the tunnel and made it look like the kids were playing or had gotten lost inside, the parents wouldn't freak out as much. Of course, the kids who had experienced everything would most likely tell their parents, but sometimes parents wouldn't believe unimaginable things.

Regardless, Rudy didn't truly care, even if his powers or existence were revealed. He could simply wipe everyone's memories and make it look like nothing ever happened.

However, when they left the tunnel, Rudy let out a weary sigh after seeing the cops and their cars all around the park.

'It didn't even take me two minutes to get the kids back. But they were missing for quite a while, so it makes perfect sense that they called the cops.'

SIGH!

'I can already guess where this is going,' he uttered inwardly and casually kept walking.

The kids rushed to their parents as they shouted their names.

"Jessica! Lilim!" Elena also rushed to them and hugged them with teary eyes. "I am glad you are okay!"

Rudy smiled after watching them, but it didn't last long.

"Raise your hand and turn around!" the cops yelled as they surrounded Rudy from all the sides.

Rudy slowly turned around without raising his hand and said, "This is a misunderstanding."

"That's what they all say!"

They all aimed their guns at Rudy and slowly closed their distance from him.

"Put your hands on your back and get on your knees!"

"That's a nice line. I will use it someday."

"Do you not understand what I just said?! If you do not cooperate, we will have to do it by force."

Rudy furrowed his brows and uttered, "Which part of 'this is a misunderstanding' do you not understand? Maybe the kids wouldn't have been kidnapped if you were better at doing your job. Perhaps if a guard had been patrolling around the park, especially the children's playground, everything would have been okay.

Look, I understand it's your job and whatever. And I understand, really. I don't blame you if you suspect me. That's what it looks like. But it wasn't me. You can either believe me, or I can make you believe.

The choice is yours. I don't want to play the bad guy here. But if you dare to press the trigger when these kids are around, there will be consequences."

"Daddy, stop!" One of the girls Rudy had saved came forward and stood in front of Rudy.

'This is the smart girl who asked me how I knew where their home was.'

The chief police lowered his gun after seeing the girl and asked, "Cassandra? What the hell are you doing here? And get away from that man! He is dangerous!"

'Cassandra? Isn't that the name of the hot chick who was the head chief in 2008?' Rudy wondered. 'Don't tell me...'

"No. This person helped us escape! He is not a bad person!" Cassandra shouted.

"Cassandra, move! You don't know anything!"

Suddenly, the boy with Cassandra stepped forward and said, "She is telling the truth. This person saved us all!"

"John?! You are here too? Why are you two here? Didn't your father send you home like an hour ago? Where is that driver?!"

The chief was now angry about something else.

'I knew it! So this boy is John, huh? No wonder I felt like I had seen his face before. But still... his face hasn't changed even after eighteen years. It's so easily recognizable. And... fuck me!

I remember John had mentioned that he and Cassandra were kidnapped when they were kids, and someone saved them. And ever since then, she decided to become a cop. So it was all because of me?

Argh... seriously! Fuck all this! All this was supposed to happen?! Once again, why the fuck am I even trying, then? All the time I have spent in this timeline, I worry about messing it up and changing the future, but almost all the things that happened because of me were supposed to happen.

How can all this be a coincidence? The fact that I was time-traveled to the 1989 timeline and so many things were related to me... I don't think it was a coincidence. The wallet indeed triggered the time-travel, but who was behind it?'

While Rudy was lost in his thoughts, Cassandra was continuously yelling at her father.

"Fine. Kid's testimonies aren't considered in a statement, but fine. Even if he just threatened the police, it's fine!" the chief said remarked with a judging glare at Rudy.

He then ordered his men to retreat and continued glaring at Rudy.

"Are you okay, mister?" Cassandra asked Rudy.

Rudy smiled at her and patted her head before saying, "Yes. You saved me."

"I did?"

"Yes. I am sure you will become one of the greatest and smartest detectives of all time."

Cassandra pointed her finger at John and asked, "Will he come one too?"

"Yes. I am sure he will too."

"Excuse me, mister hero." The chief called out to Rudy and said, "You would have to come to the precinct to give your statement."

"Oh, believe me. My statement would be the most ridiculous thing you would have ever heard in your entire career. So I think it would be better if you handled this on your own," Rudy shrugged with a sigh.

"Do you have an ID with you?" the chief then asked.

"I don't carry it with me. Now, if you would excuse me, I have more important things to do."

Rudy nonchalantly walked away and went to Elena, who was waiting for Rudy at the bench with Jessica and Lilim.

"Are you okay?" Elena asked with a concerned look on her face.

"Yes. And... I see you didn't go to the mall to get your dress."

"Did you seriously think I would go buy a cake while Jessica and Lilim were in danger?"

"Makes sense. I just wanted to get it off your head. But now that everything is settled let's go and do what's due. I also have a meeting with a wannabe god."

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

### Chapter 590: In the Dressing Room

The gang entered the mall and went straight to the tailor shop.

When the shop owner saw Rudy from a distance, he immediately rushed to the door to open it.

"Welcome, dear sir."

"Is it done?" Rudy asked while glancing around the shop to find Elena's wedding dress.

"Yes, yes. It is done. Our workers worked overnight and tried their best to complete it for you in one day," the owner nodded and rubbed his hands while saying that.

"Is that so?" Rudy raised his brow and said, "Call your workers here."

"Uhm... sure, sure."

The owner went to call the workers. A minute later, seven workers stood in front of Rudy, out of which four were females, and there were males.

Rudy turned to a female worker and asked, "You are the one who designed the dress, right?"

The female worker nodded in response.

"Well, I haven't seen the dress yet, but I know it's going to be good."

"Thank you."

Rudy glanced at all the workers and asked, "Do you know how much I paid for that wedding dress? Fifty thousand dollars."

"....!"

"How much do each of you get paid for working overnight to make the dress?" He asked curiously.

"Five hundred," they responded.

"Five hundred?" Rudy turned to the owner and asked, "Seriously?"

The owner gulped down and said, "I am the owner of this shop, and without this shop, they wouldn't have this job. I have many more things to consider when paying them. And frankly speaking, they made five hundred by working one night— which is well above what the average wage."

"That's true... actually." Rudy nodded. "You are not wrong. But they worked overnight without meeting their family. I know it's a very common thing when you do a job, but still."

"Am I... in trouble?" the owner asked hesitantly.

"No, no. Of course not. You paid thirty-five hundred out of fifty thousand. And as you said, it's well above the average wage. Only 10% of the people in this world make \$500 a day.

But today is a special day, and I would like to tip your workers, which wouldn't be counted as their wages but as their bonus. And I am giving it to them, not the owner. Consider it my thanks."

Rudy handed ten thousand dollars to each worker and said, "I hope that the dress doesn't disappoint me. Can I ask where the dress is?"

One of the workers pointed their finger at the room and said, "It's in the dressing room. The bride should wear it and check if everything is alright. So we can make some arrangements or fixes afterward."

"Of course." Rudy turned to Elena and said, "Go ahead."

Elena went to the dressing room to wear the dress, but a female worker followed her so she could help Elena.

"Daddy~ Where are our clothes?" Lilim asked.

'Daddy?!' All the workers and owners thought the same thing. 'He has a kid at this age?! He is rich, so it makes sense.'

"Where are their clothes?" Rudy asked the owner.

"They are in the other room. They had three pairs of clothes and..." The owner glanced around and asked, "There were three girls yesterday."

"She is not here today."

"Right, right." The owner asked the female workers to take Lilim and Jessica to try out their clothes.

Rudy shrugged his hand and asked, "And where the hell is my suit?"

"It's ready, but..."

"But?" Rudy raised his brow.

"We had a little time to prepare everything, and all the workers were working on the bride's dress. So they forgot to iron your suit," the owner informed nervously.

"That's it?"

"Yes..."

"I don't care about ironing. Bring it here."

"It's also in the dressing room."

"Well..." Rudy licked his lips and said, "I better go check it."

Rudy entered the dressing room and locked it from the inside.

"Who is it?" Elena jolted in surprise and hid behind the curtain.

"It's your husband."

Elena peeked through the curtain and sighed in relief after seeing Rudy.

"What's wrong?"

Elena shook her head and said, "I am just ... conscious about changing my clothes in places like this."

"Understandable. Are you done wearing it? I want to see."

"No, not yet. And..." Elena pointed her gaze to the side and moved her lips to say something.

Rudy was aware that the female worker was helping Elena wear the dress, but Elena didn't want Rudy in the room as the worker was scared of him.

"Excuse me." Rudy called out to the worker and said, "If you don't mind, can you leave the room? I will help the bride."

The worker walked out of the curtain and rushed to the door without looking at Rudy. She opened the door, but it was locked, so Rudy unlocked it using his powers and locked it again after the worker left.

Elena walked out of the curtain and asked, "What was that?"

"What do you mean?"

"You do realize that it's improper to walk into a lady changing her clothes, right?"

"You are my lady, so I don't see what's the problem," Rudy replied with a grin. "And I wasn't here for you, by the way. I am here to check out my suit."

"But you scared the worker away. Who is going to help me wear my dress now?"

"I can help."

Elena squinted her eyes and remarked, "You only know how to undress the girls."

"Ouch. Why does it feel more like a complaint than a compliment?"

"Shut up." Elena grinned and kissed Rudy on the lips.

After a few kisses, Elena hugged Rudy and said, "I can't believe I will be getting married tomorrow."

"Elena..." Rudy placed his hands on Elena's shoulder and moved her back a little so they could see at each other's faces.

"What's... wrong?"

"There is something wrong with me. My powers have been acting weird and... and I think I... I might be returning to 2008 soon. I don't know when, but it can be at any moment."

"But... we are... we are getting married tomorrow!"

"I know. But it's not under my control."

Elena bit her lips in frustration, but after a while, she let out a big sigh and said, "Well, then, let's get married right here, right now."