Esper 681

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 681: Bat Fight

Since Alice and Rias had decided to leave, Rudy went to the next room to ask about the other girls.

Of course, he walked into them, changing their clothes, and he did that on purpose. Obviously, Ruby wasn't happy about that and lost her respect for him, which Rudy had gained before the auction started.

In other words, nothing changed... except their clothes.

"So Rias and Alice want to go home. What about you girls? Are you interested in the party? If not, I can teleport you all."

Jane glanced around to make sure Rias wasn't around and asked, "Rias is not coming?"

"No."

"Does that mean I no longer have to act as your sister-in-law once she leaves?"

"That's right. But remember, we are going to the party and not to have fun. So if you are thinking that we will sneak out and fuck, then that's not going to happen. Not to mention, there are cameras everywhere. Even in this room."

That's precisely why Rudy didn't try to make moves on Rias and Alice when he was alone with them in a closed room.

"Ehh... then that's boring. I will go home with you."

Rudy turned to Ruby and Alice and asked, "And you?"

"Lilim would be at the party, right?"

Rudy nodded and said, "She should be."

"I want to meet her, so I will stay."

Now, all the gazes were fixated on Ruby.

"I bought a few items, so I want to check them before the one-hour return policy expires. Once I am done with that, I will meet you at the party."

"Alright. So Everyone is leaving except Maria and Mia."

Jane hugged Rudy and looked at him with puppy eyes.

"What?"

"Are you still mad at me? I will never get immersed in the television or my phone. I promise."

Rudy chuckled softly and kissed her on the lips before saying, "I was never angry at you. I was just teasing you."

Jane bit her lips and said, "I have decided."

"Hmm?"

"I will tell Rias everything about our relationship. I don't want to hide it any longer. I feel guilty for betraying Rias' trust. And I can no longer hold myself from touching you in front of her."

'That's going to fuck Rias' plan up. But I won't say anything to Rias or Jane. They both made it personal, and this is my best chance to teach them a lesson. They had many chances to talk things out with each other and settle the matter, but they still made it a big deal.

I will let them do whatever they want. I will let the sisters handle this on their own. I have already done my part by telling everything to Rias— although she already knew everything from the very start— as I found out after my time travel. I will stay neutral in their cases and won't take anyone's side as neither of them are at fault.'

"Good luck." Rudy kissed her.

"Ahem!" Maria cleared her throat to make her presence known and said, "I know you two are having a moment, but this is not the time. And doing it in front of Ruby is a bad idea."

Rudy glanced at Ruby and said, "Excuse me, you can turn your face to the other side if you are jealous."

"I am not jealous!"

"Anyway, let's go." Rudy grabbed Jane's hand and walked out of the room. "I will be back. Maria, you stay here. Mia can go wherever she wants."

Rudy called out Alice and Rias and asked them to come out of the room.

"Let's go."

"Where is this island on the map, and how far is the pool house from here?" Rias asked.

"I have no idea but judging by the speed the copter was traveling, and the time it took for us to reach here, I would say we are on the other side of the globe. Like, not a straight way, but more like umm... yes, it's a straight way, but not a straight direction," Rudy explained awkwardly.

"Can I go there by myself?" Rias asked hesitantly.

"Hmm? Why on earth would you want to do that when I can drop you off in less than a second?" Rudy asked with a curious and confused look on his face.

"It's been so long since I used my wings and flew. And since we are surrounded by the sea, an open sky with no one to see us from the ground... I want to fly."

"But it would still take you an hour."

"Thirty-five minutes max, believe me."

"I want to say no to your request, but I don't want to sound like a bad husband who doesn't let his wife do anything or, let's say... give her freedom," he sighed in frustration.

"So...?" Rias raised her brow and asked. "Can I...?"

After giving it some thought, Rudy nodded twice and calmly said, "I will let you go if Jane tags along. It would be better if you went together. Maybe even talk things out?"

He said while glancing at Jane.

"..." Rias caught the sign exchange between Rudy and Jane and realized they were up to something.

"That's fine by me. Jane also needs to use something other than her legs," she remarked while looking between Jane's legs, seemingly referring to her recent sex session with Rudy.

"I mean, I haven't seen her flying ever since we came to the human world. Usually, she used to fly over the palace in the vampire world," Rias shortly added to avoid suspicion.

'I am actually having second thoughts about leaving them alone. These constant exchanges of remarks are fine, but what if they fight? I highly doubt that would happen because if they wanted to fight, they already had many chances in the pool house.'

"You two can leave at any time you want."

"Excuse me, I was told to tell you to not show your powers in public," the guard informed.

"Yes, yes. They will fly from the other side. I will drop them there."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 682: Party Dress

Rudy, Alice, Rias, and Jane left the building and proceeded to the exit. They got into the elevator and teleported to the backside of the island, where they had landed on their arrival.

"Why don't you come with us too?" Rias asked Alice.

Alice shook her head and hands and said, "I will pass."

"She is not used to the sky yet. She rarely lets me fly her," Rudy informed Rias so she wouldn't feel sad after Alice rejected her offer.

"Are you sure you don't want to come with me? You can always fly in the city, you know? You just have to fly above the clouds, and everything is fine. That's how I learned to fly in my early days. Damn, I miss them now."

"..."

"What? Don't you two always miss the days when you first sprouted your wings and learned to fly?" Rudy asked them with a judging look on his face.

"I would rather not talk about it," Jane said while glancing at Rias. "It wasn't a pleasant experience."

"Yeah... I completely agree."

"Now I am curious. I will have to find a way to extort that out from you two," he muttered while rubbing his hand on his chin.

"We are leaving."

"Do you even know which way you have to go?" Rudy asked with a judging look on his face.

"We can guess that from the stars. You are not the only one who knows how to read the stars and the sky."

Rudy shrugged and said, "I learned that on my own."

Rias and Jane spread their wings and soared into the sky with one flap.

Alice watched them disappear above the sky and mumbled, "So nice."

"Hmm? Do you want wings too?" Rudy asked with a grin.

"No, please."

He grabbed her by the waist and teleported directly into her room.

"And we are here."

Alice sat on the bed and clenched her bedsheet with her hands.

"So it's finally that time, huh?"

"Hmm?" Rudy raised a brow.

"You finally bought a place where every girl will have their own room. Once you have inspected and restored the castle, I will have my room, and... we will have sex..."

"Don't tell me you are nervous now of all time."

"No..." Alice shook her head and quietly said, "It's just... it's like the feeling when you know you have performed well in the exams, but you still feel uneasy when it's the result day."

"Oh, I get you."

Alice squinted her eyes and said, "I doubt you ever feel nervous about having sex with a girl."

"First time is always nerve-wracking."

"Your first time was with Angelica. Were you nervous?" she asked curiously.

"Technically, that wasn't my first time if I include my past life experience."

"Your first time in your past life was with..." Alice smiled awkwardly at Rudy while saying that.

"Yeah... let's not talk about it."

Alice looked at the table clock on the table next to her bed and said, "I will see if I can wake up for school."

"There is no need to. Sleep as much as you want."

"But you said you are going to check the castle after the party, and that would take a few hours. If so, Janet would be alone."

"Don't worry about her. I will handle her." He pointed his finger at Alice and said, "You focus on your health. As they say, a girl needs three things to have a healthy life. Enough sleep, enough happiness, and enough sex."

"You just made that up."

"I did, but hey... I am sure someone had said that before," he shrugged.

"Go now. Maria and Ruby must be waiting for you."

Rudy kissed Alice on the lips and said, "Good night."

He teleported to his room on the island and changed his clothes to the party suit he was given.

He went to Ruby's room while buttoning his shirt's sleeves and muttered, "Holy fuck... why are the sleeve buttons always so tough to do."

Had Rudy applied a little more force, the buttons would have shattered.

"Are you ready?" he asked Maria and Ruby.

"Yes, I was almost ready when you barged into the room earlier," Ruby responded.

"Maria, help me out with the sleeve button, please."

"What about the tie? You are not wearing that?"

"Hell no. That's not for me. I want to remove them from existence. Why would someone even invent that? I am genuinely curious about what the person who invented them was thinking when he designed them.

Like, hey, we need a piece of cloth around the neck that would make someone look cool when they wear a suit or whatever. No offense to those who like wearing them and to the company who makes them."

He said while looking at Ruby, as he knew Ruby liked wearing them in suits.

"You rarely hate anything. What did the tie do to you?" Maria asked while fixing Rudy's collars.

"Ugh... past life trauma..."

"I knew it. You always have a reason to hate something."

"Tell me about it. There are people in the world who hate something just because they don't like it."

"Isn't that the same thing?" Ruby wondered with a puzzled look on her face.

"Not liking something shouldn't be considered as hating them. They should just stay neutral or not give their opinion at all."

"Umm..." The guard standing at the doorway knocked on the open door and said, "Master keeps asking about you. Earlier, when I said you left the island, she seemed angry."

"Let her be. I bet she is currently watching me from the cameras."

"You look awesome!" Maria clicked a few pictures of Rudy in the suit.

"Come on, don't take pictures."

"I will set them as my lock screen wallpaper."

"What a torture."

"That makes me curious about your lock screen wallpaper. Give me your phone. I want to check."

"I gave my phone to Angelica. And I think I have the default lock screen wallpaper. Unless Angelica messes with the settings and changes everything according to her mood."

He facepalmed himself and continued, "She once set anime girls— who were almost naked— on my lock screen. I didn't know about it, and when I took my phone out on the bus, people were staring at me as if I was some kind of criminal."

"Makes it the best example of what you were talking about liking and hating."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 683: Cyberpunk City

"Wear your masks." Rudy said to Ruby and Maria. "You two are still targets of the other mafia syndicate. I trust Lu Bela's security, but it's also a rule to wear a mask at the party."

They left the room and met the guards.

"Uhh..." Mia has things to do, so one of you should go with her. I would prefer if both of you go with her and leave me alone with Maria, but I know you won't agree with that."

Ruby's guard followed Ruby and Rudy's guard followed Rudy.

They got into different elevators and parted ways.

"Where is the party?" Rudy asked the guard. "Center hall."

"Then it must be big enough for so many people to fit in. Do you have any information on how many people are invited to the after-party?"

"Rough estimate is five hundred."

"Oh, then it doesn't have to be that big."

The elevator stopped on the ground floor, where a car was parked for them.

"..." Rudy sighed after seeing the car and muttered, "Figured it would be like this. Is the hall far from here?"

"It's a twenty-minute ride."

"Wow. Maybe hosting the auction on such a big island was a mistake. If traveling from one place to another takes so much time, it's... well, never mind. The traveling experience was great, so it's not a big deal."

They got in the car, and the guard sat in the passenger seat beside the driver.

"Master actually selected this island for you. She said she wants to leave a strong impression of your first-ever Underworld auction."

"I guess one more thing added to the list. What is this car? Haven't seen something like this before. It looks like a flattened egg from the outside, but it's luxurious from the inside."

"You will know in a few seconds."

The car's speed increased as it passed through the busy streets and flyover bridges. If someone looked outside for the first time, they would think they were in a highly developed city, but that wasn't the case.

The streets were busy with other cars carrying the guests to the party hall, while some were leaving for the market to buy the local things and to inspect the items they had purchased in the auction; Ruby was one of them.

The rest of them were leaving the island as they had already bought enough things while some of them weren't invited to the after party.

The streets were surrounded by tall buildings of various shapes and sizes. Seemingly they are the hotels where the guests were staying.

Rudy looked at the building he stayed in and noticed it was the tallest one he had seen so far.

The buildings had neon lights on the borders to highlight them, and the streets had them on the sides. There were trees on the lanes and footpaths, and the sky had a clear view with nothing to obstruct the view even with such a high-tech city.

"It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call this island the best example of a cyberpunk era."

"Master made this with that intention in mind. This city, or rather... This country is way ahead of its time. And she quoted that this island has only developed 10% so far."

"Whoa!"

"She plans to launch this island publically after twenty years once it's ready. However, if she wants, she can finish developing this island within a year. She has infinite resources and unlimited workers."

"Publically? For the Underworld or like the whole world?"

"I am not privy to that information, but I believe it's for the whole world."

"But you can't just launch a country like that, right? I am not that knowledgeable about politics and shit, but I am sure the other country would oppose the idea."

"There have always been such cases. Even the current Underworld was in the same condition a hundred years ago."

"She can always make this island the new Underworld." He looked at Maria and whispered, "Should I book a nice beach house in advance?"

"The castle would make a better beach house."

"Can you increase the speed? I highly doubt there is a speed limit," he chuckled softly.

The driver changed the gear and hit the accelerator.

On their way, Rudy caught something moving in the distance. Of course, many things were moving, but something in particular, caught his attention.

He sharpened his gaze and zoomed his vision to see someone was running across the sea to the beachside.

'What the... why does that look suspicious?'

A second later, he saw a few dozen Underblade chasing after the person.

'Is it a criminal or someone who cheated in the auction? I shouldn't care about other people. But...hmmm? It's a girl.'

Rudy closed his eyes and activated his enhanced vision ability, allowing him to see everything, including all his vision abilities. It was a nerfed version of his all-vision ability that let him focus on one thing without making him blind.

'Okay... what the fuck?'

Rudy opened the door in the running car and jumped out after saying, "Be right back. You keep going, I will catch up."

Rudy walked to the side path and then jumped in the air to land on the beach, where he waited for the girl to arrive.

When the girl came into his sight, he ran to her and grabbed her by the waist, pulling her close.

"Let me go!" She yelled.

He pressed his lips on her lips to shut her up and hide behind the trees so the Under Blades couldn't see them.

The girl pushed him back and tried multiple martial arts moves on him, but Rudy blocked all of them except one.

He grabbed the girl's hands and said, "Relax, it's me."

He took off his mask to show his face.

The girl also took off her mask and revealed herself. It was none other than Cassandra.

"What are you doing here?" she asked with a confused look on her face.

"No, what the fuck are 'you' doing here?" And why were you being chased by the Under Blades?"

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 684: Cop

"Why are 'you' here?" Rudy asked Cassandra.

"I was invited here!"

"Yeah, right. And the UnderBlades were trying to welcome you just now."

"Well..." Cassandra turned her face to the side and muttered, "I wasn't invited by them."

"So you invited yourself to an event you weren't invited to?"

"No!" She whispered violently. "Today morning, I received an envelope in my office with this pass and a letter in it."

Cassandra showed Rudy the pass and said, "This one."

Rudy checked the pass and muttered, "Yeah, it's a legit one. But I don't see your name written on it. What was in the letter? Do you have it with you?"

"No, I sent that on inspection."

"Huh?"

"The letter said that the culprit behind the kidnappings and killings of 1989 to 1990 would be in this event."

"There is no way that's possible. No matter how you look at it, it's clearly a trap."

"I know it, but even if there was a slight chance this was true..."

"And what if it was true?" Rudy asked with an annoyed look on his face. "Would you have arrested him... or her— on an island full of wealthy and dangerous people?"

"No. I was just here to gather more intel and make a file on the culprit. No one has ever seen the culprit, so we don't know what he or she looks like."

"So how were you supposed to catch him... or her?"

"I was going to collect the data of everyone present here and narrow down the suspects."

"...is that why you were being chased by the UnderBlades...?" Rudy asked with a dumbfounded expression on his face.

"Yes... I was caught sneaking into their headquarters..."

"...." Rudy let out a weary sigh and face palmed himself. He shook his head in disbelief and asked, "How could you do something like that?"

"Desperate times require desperate measures."

"Which can get one killed," Rudy added. "That's just stupidity."

"What about you?! Why did you kiss me?! You do know that assaulting a police officer in any way is a serious crime, right?"

"Excuse me! Here is the girl you were looking for!"

"What are you doing?!" Cassandra shut Rudy up with a kiss on the lips.

"I am pretty sure a police officer assaulting a law-abiding citizen is also a crime."

"I did that to shut you up! And you and I, we both know you aren't exactly a law-abiding citizen."

"Same same. I saved you, and that is how you thank me?"

"What are you doing here?"

"Why are we starting that conversation again? I am a member of the Underworld, so it's natural for me to be here."

"No, why are you 'here'?" She pointed her finger at the ground and said, "At the beach."

"Oh, I was just... strolling around. It has always been my dream to walk on the beach alone at night under the starry sky and the heavenly breeze coming from the sea. It's a phenomenal experience."

Cassandra raised her brow and stared at Rudy without speaking a word.

"Do you want me to call the guards?"

"I can't believe you are threatening me after everything I have done for you."

"Hey, hey. I am not threatening you. I am saving you, but it's not my fault if you don't want to be saved. And as for the letter and that culprit, it's false news."

"How can you be so sure? And I am sure you weren't even born when that happened," she asked with a judging look on her face.

"I have been an avid reader of reading old crimes and case studies on killers."

"And what does that have to do with 'that culprit is false news'?"

'Because I dealt with that culprit already!'

"How about we first try to find out who sent you the envelope, and we can ask that person directly? Did you track the sender?"

"My team is working on that. We will get everything I need to solve this case... I don't know if I should even call it a case, but this matter is my priority right now. I was a victim of one of those kidnappings, which is also a personal matter for me. I can't rest easy until I solve this," she asserted in a solemn voice.

"You should have started your investigation from that rather than coming here first. If a fox enters the lion's den, you can't blame the lion if it eats the fox. Had something happened to you here, you would have been at fault."

"About that..." Cassandra gulped down nervously and muttered, "One fox has already been captured."

"Hmm?" Rudy raised his brow.

"I came here with Jonny."

"Oh, great! He is not a fox, he is a sheep!"

"He got caught because he tried to save me from getting caught!"

"That changes nothing. Whose idea was it to come here?"

"Mine."

"And he followed you. And surprise, surprise, that's what sheep do!"

"There is no point in yelling at me. I have to go save him!"

"No, you don't. I will bring John here. You wait by the harbor point."

"How will you do that? And what if the guards come back?"

"They won't. There is a helipad not far away from the harbor. It's my personal ride. I will send my driver to drop you two off at your desired location."

"Nothing will happen to John, right?" Cassandra asked with teary eyes.

'She always acts strong and keeps up that act, but right now, she seems so vulnerable.'

"Yeah, he will be alright. I have a friend among the guards. If I tell him, he will help me out. Now go."

"Thank you!" Cassandra ran towards the harbor point.

Rudy walked towards the street and saw a dozen guards standing there.

"Leave her alone. If anything happens to her, it won't be good for you," he said in an emotionless voice.

The guards turned around and left.

SIGH!

Then, he looked at the street lamp and said, "I know you are watching me. Tell me where they have taken John. Or I will be late for the party."

RING~!

Rudy received a message with John's location.

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 685: Saving John

"Listen! I am telling you, this is all a big misunderstanding. I am not the bad guy here. You have to let me go!" John pleaded with the guards who were taking him somewhere in an armored jeep.

"The real criminal is out there who has taken hundreds and thousands of lives of innocents and kids. Such a criminal shouldn't be roaming free in the world. You have to—"

"There is no such person on this island. Only the renowned are invited here, and you clearly are not one of them."

John gritted his teeth in frustration and asked, "So where are you asking me? The Mafia Lord or something? If you want to kill me, kill me here and be done with it."

"Master is going to ask you some questions about how you managed to invade the island."

"I didn't invade anything. I had a pass."

"Where is it then?"

"It's... I dropped it somewhere when you all were chasing me."

John couldn't say it was with Cassandra, or the guards would have tried to chase her down. Not knowing that she was already being chased by the other Under Blades.

'I hope Cassy managed to get off this island safely! Still, there is nothing but the sea surrounding this island. We came on a yacht with the other guests from the port. It was guarded by the same uniform guards, so there is no way she can return to the same yacht.

She would need to contact the headquarters and ask for a copter, but... she would be caught by the guards. I knew coming here was a bad idea, but she didn't listen. Only if there was an acquaintance on the island... we would have asked for help.'

Suddenly, the jeep hit the brake and lost control. It almost hit the tree but stopped a second before— as though someone had grabbed it.

The guards got out of the jeep with their weapons and glanced around, but they turned their weapons down when they saw Rudy.

He was wearing a mask, but the Under Blades easily recognized him.

He pulled John out of the jeep while saying, "I am taking him with me."

"Wha— who are you?!" John tried to break free. "Is he the master you mentioned?!"

....

"Hey, Listen, whoever you are. You can't let that criminal escape. Cassy and I have a personal involvement in this case, and that criminal must be captured. We can't let the past repeat itself."

"Calm down, mister. The criminal has been captured and executed. But you need to leave now."

"Wha—! How did you find that criminal? I need full details. I will have to make a report and present it to the high authorities!"

"Your country makes its own rules and expects the citizens to follow them. What other countries do is none of their damn business. So the same goes for this island. Its judiciary and rules are different. We don't have to cooperate or provide anything to you. If you don't want to leave, we can imprison you for a lifetime."

Rudy asserted in a loud and crisp voice, suitable for a leader.

"What about my partner?"

"She is safe and waiting for you."

Rudy jumped in the air while grabbing John with one hand and landed on the beach.

"Wait by the helipad. Your partner should be there too. I will send someone to drop you two off."

After saying that, Rudy flew away, while John watched him with a baffled look on his face.

"What the— was he flying?!"

John rushed to the helipad and saw Cassandra doing something on her phone.

"Cassy!" he called out to her.

"Jonny! Thank god you are safe." She glanced around as though she was looking for someone.

"Don't worry. No one is following me."

"Where is Rudy?"

"Rudy...? Why would he be here?"

"He is the one who saved me from the guards earlier... What about you? I sent him to save you."

"I... don't know. You won't believe me even if I tell the truth."

"And that is ...?"

"Someone grabbed me and flew... me in the sky. I don't know if I was hallucinating, but... Underworld is scary..."

"Judging by the technology I witnessed at the auction, I wouldn't be surprised if they also have a working jetpack for the guards."

"But... he wasn't wearing anything... maybe I missed it because it's dark. Anyway, what were you doing on the phone?"

"I was trying to reach you! Where is your phone?"

John checked his pockets and let out a sigh.

"I must have dropped it somewhere. Ask the IT team to block my phone and remotely erase all the data inside. I am sure the mafia has a technology to decrypt our most secure encryption, let it be software or hardware."

"Yeah, I did that already. I thought you would be dead by now."

"That would have been a lame death. And why did you wear their party dress? What if it has a tracker or something?"

"I checked before wearing. And I wore it, thinking it would be easy to blend in with the other girls, but who knew their security management would be so tight."

"The person who dropped me here said that the criminal has been executed. Do you believe it, or do you think they were lying?"

"Who was that person? If it was any random guard, we shouldn't believe it. But even if it was from a higher post authority, I don't think we should believe it without proof. Our police department and the

other departments have already labeled that case as unsolved at the headquarters because the murders had stopped, and we couldn't find any leads.

But I won't stop studying this case. Once I find out who sent us the envelope, we will start digging. And as soon as we have a strong lead, I am opening that case again! That is the only case in my career that I haven't been able to solve. And I am sure as hell that would be the only one."

Cassandra had made a commitment, and her resolution was stronger than it had ever been.

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 686: New World

Rudy landed at a certain location which was also a crossroad.

"Standing at a crossroad where there is no traffic and no traffic lights... feels unreal. I am used to seeing that, but not in a city."

A car stopped in front of Rudy, and he got in.

"Where did you wander off to?" Maria asked with a judging look on her face.

"I will tell you on the way." Rudy tapped at the back of the driver's seat and said, "Go as fast as you can."

He told everything to Maria on their way and found her reactions amusing.

"We are here."

"Thanks for the ride."

Rudy, Maria, and the guard got out of the car while the car drove to the parking area.

He expected to see a massive and unique hall, but he found himself standing on open ground.

"Uhh... I have so many questions."

"I am sure you do. Follow me, please."

Rudy and Maria followed the guard and reached a flat platform that was on the same level as the ground.

Soon, a car stopped in front of them, and Rudy was left speechless after he noticed it was the same car and the same driver.

"..."

"Get in."

They sat in the car again.

"Care to explain why we had to get off?"

"You will see soon."

The platform the car stopped moved as the car shook a little.

Maria held Rudy's hand as she was scared, but Rudy realized what was happening.

SIGH!

"Your surprise has been spoiled," he muttered.

"..." A brief silence later, the guard turned her face to the side and uttered, "Please don't tell that to the master. She went the extra mile just to make this possible for you."

"Don't worry. Even if the surprise is ruined, the experience hasn't."

Maria clenched Rudy's hand tightly and asked, "What are you two talking about?!"

Suddenly, the car dropped down the platform and fell into the sea beneath through a passage.

"This car can run underwater. That explains why it looked like an egg from the outside."

"Wha...t?"

"The hall is under the sea. Lu Bela is going all out in this event."

"All the other guests were taken to the port, from where they had to get on a submarine. But only you have been given an emotional ride," the guard informed them.

"Wait, so the other guests are sharing the submarine? Doesn't that mean—"

"No." The guard interrupted Maria and said, "They are in the same submarine but have different rooms. No guests would run into each other except at the party hall. Of course, the other lower rank guests who weren't invited to the party will share the vehicle to return home.

But there will be guards with them. Master only guarantees their safety as long as they are on the island. What happens once they leave doesn't concern her."

"I don't see anything wrong with that," Rudy shrugged. "The same thing happens in other events in the world."

"Indeed."

"Rudy, Rudy!" Maria tabbed on Rudy's hand and pointed her finger at the fishes swimming around their car.

"Oh, right. This would be your first underwater experience, right?"

"Yes!" she said cheerfully while pressing her face against the window so she could see more of the underwater world.

"Wow. There are all type and color of fish. I never knew the water could be so clean. I can even see the sky from here. The moon is wiggling."

"That's because we are not that deep yet, nor are we going that deep."

"Are there sharks, too?" she widened her eyes.

"There shouldn't be any sharks around. We made sure of it," the guard responded.

"You killed the sharks in this area?!" Maria exclaimed.

"No. We simply installed devices in the area that emits a frequency only audible to the sharks— which keeps them away. Which is also the reason why there are so many fishes in this area."

"I don't really understand, but okay. What about whales? Are they here? But they don't attack humans, so it's fine if they are here."

Rudy chuckled softly and said, "Even if they don't attack, they can accidentally eat us alive, and it won't even realize."

"That's scary!"

A few seconds later, Maria asked, "What would happen if I opened the door or the window?"

"We would die."

Rudy couldn't help but miss Angelica at that time.

'She would also ask such questions.'

Rudy was used to having Angelica around, and his life was incomplete without her. Even during his year-long stay in 1989, there wasn't a moment when he didn't miss her. He missed her the most, for he loved her the most.

She had become an inseparable part of him, which he wasn't ready to part away from.

He had asked Lu Bela to create a suitable body for Angelica that could work without a core. Although he had yet to receive any updates regarding that request, he knew that sooner or later, Lu Bela would make it possible.

If that happened, he wouldn't be with Angelica all the time.

'Well, that would be better for her. If she has her own body, she can live like a normal girl and have a life she couldn't experience before she died. She would become alive.'

A few minutes later, the car's speed decreased, and they entered an artificial passage that led them to the underwater parking spot, which was an air-compressed chamber.

"Is it safe to get out? What if we all drown?" Maria asked.

"Nothing will happen."

Rudy got out first and opened the door for Maria so she would feel at ease. He glanced back at the car and noticed extra cylinders beneath the car.

'So that's why we had to get off.'

"It's like an open, or rather a transparent submarine designed as a structure of an island. There is enough oxygen and food here to live for a year without leaving this place," the guard informed.

"Oh, so you are our guide too?"

"You may assume so. Please, follow me."

The night had almost ended. However, it was simply the beginning of something that was going to change Rudy and everyone's life around him.

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 687: Angelica's Realisation

While Rudy and Maria were at the party, enjoying themselves, Ruby was discussing matters with the sellers about the items she had bought.

Alice had already fallen asleep as soon as Rudy left, and Rias and Jane were slowly flying towards the city.

Angelica was at the pool house, sitting on Jane's bed and watching anime on Rudy's phone with headphones on.

Vriti and Niti were sleeping, and she was the only one awake in the dark room.

Even though Rudy had installed dim lights, the vampires liked to sleep in a pitch-black room for obvious reasons.

Angelica was earnestly watching anime on the phone, but she didn't seem to enjoy it, judging by her reaction.

She finished watching the Ending song and placed the phone down.

SIGH!

She lay on the bed and muttered, "I just finished watching the eighth episode. This anime only has twelve episodes, and as per the internet, it's an original anime with no source material. It will never get a second season, so the remaining episodes must be too heavy for the plot."

The anime was about a normal high school student moving to the countryside after his parent's death and meeting a ghost girl at the school. When Angelica watched the trailer and researched more about it, she was excited to watch it and couldn't wait for all the episodes to be out so she could binge it.

'I thought I would find it relatable and compare it with Rudy and my story, but... it wasn't even close. The first episode ended with them meeting, so I expected more progression in the second episode, but that didn't happen.

It turned into a romantic comedy anime, but the romance progression was so slow. I am already at the 8th out of 12 episodes, and the main character doesn't stop blushing whenever he talks with the ghost girl.

I am not sure what will happen in the next episodes, but does it really take so long to fall in love and confess their love to each other? It wasn't like that with Rudy and I.

We met, talked, shared a bond, and... had sex. Although it was me who seduced him... kind of... I think it was a natural approach. To be honest... I was embarrassed at first. I remember I used to blush whenever he called me by the name he gave me.

But I knew if I kept acting like that... nothing would happen between us. I am truly glad I made the right move at the right time. Otherwise, who knows what future I might have held.'

Angelica curled up and muttered, "It's only been a few hours since he went to the party, and I am already missing him so badly."

"I should have gone with him when he asked me to," she sighed. "But I wanted Alice to spend time with Rudy."

"I... can't survive a day without him... physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually." After a brief pause, she said, "Let's add sexually too. I am going to have lots of sex with him once he comes back."

When Rudy lived a year in the past without Angelica, it was only a matter of five minutes for Angelica.

'I feel... lonely. It reminds me of... that tunnel...' She hugged herself and trembled in fear.

"I spent eight long years in that tunnel. It sends chills down my spine whenever I remember it. Had Rudy not passed through that tunnel that day... I would still be caged there.

Rudy passed through that tunnel because he didn't know it was haunted. And he didn't know that because the tunnel never existed in his past life. In other words, had Rudy not died in his past life and transmigrated... regressed to this world's Rudy's body... he would have never decided to pass through that tunnel since this world's Rudy must have known the tunnel was haunted.

Isn't it too far-fetched to call it a coincidence? The odds were in my favor. Why would that happen? And how did I never notice it until now? I am sure Rudy had already realized that, but he never told me because he himself doesn't have an answer."

'Thinking about it, I don't know much about Rudy even though I live inside his body. Sure, I have been with him all that time, and I know everything about him ever since I met him, but he rarely talks about his past life.

I still don't know who r*ped him in his past life. I don't know who was his first kiss with. How many relationships he had before he started dating Elise. Did he ever cheat on her, or was he ever in an intimate relationship with someone before and after he met Elise?

How is he so great at sex and knows how to pleasure the girls? It's not because of his super libido... that's just increased his sex drive. I don't think he can be a master at sex by having sex with one girl.

Sure, he said he and Elise had tried all types of sex, and her sex drive was crazy too, but... I don't know. I feel like he is hiding something about his past life.

Moreover, I know nothing about Elise. I used to feel like he talked about her all the time... but what do I even know about her?

Nothing.

Rudy must have realized that he shouldn't talk about her when he is with his harem, but isn't it natural for him to remember Elise at that time? When we eat a certain item from the menu, we naturally remember where and with whom we ate the same thing before.

Rudy must remember Elise every time he experiences something he experienced in his past life. There must be so many memories and feelings he would want to share with us.'

Angelica chuckled wryly and muttered, "I am such an idiot. He gives all his harem members freedom and lets them talk about whatever they want to talk about... but we never let him share his precious memories.

We all are taking his love and kindness for granted."

Happy new year to everyone reading this!

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 688: A Sudden Discovery

Angelica couldn't help but miss Rudy badly after thinking about him, and she was severely regretting not going to the auction event with him.

She thought it would be best to do something else to divert her attention. She continued to watch the next episode of the anime but couldn't get into it because her mind was still lost thinking about Rudy.

She eventually decides to think about something related to Rudy, but not Rudy.

'He finally made a move on Rebecca. But somehow... it doesn't feel as exciting as before. I never expected to find out that she wasn't Rudy's biological mother. Well... what were the odds of that, though.

But Rudy was ready to make moves on her before he found out that she wasn't his biological mother. I wonder how he found out about it. I miss many things when I am sleeping. Usually, I would see, hear, and learn everything Rudy does, but only when I am awake.

Still, Rudy thought of her as a mother, so it should be a little exciting for him, right? Does it still count as incest? Well, he was ready to commit real incest, so it doesn't really matter.

Wait... now that I think about it... I read something similar. Something about... grooming. Rebecca raised him, and now she is his lover... does that mean she groomed him?

But Rudy wasn't attracted to her for his entire life until a few weeks ago. Moreover, their relationship stayed like a mother and son in his past life. So can it be called grooming? If I remember correctly, grooming means when someone gets close to an underage opposite sex with the intention of having an intimate relationship with them.

I don't think that ever happened with Rudy. He didn't lay hands on an underage girl... except... Alice. They both are turning eighteen soon. And he is mentally an adult who can make his own decisions, no matter what others say. And I know he doesn't care what other people think of his actions.

He is the lord, and no one can judge him. Of course, if he does something that is wrong, I will stop him myself. I would let him kill anyone he wants, but only if he has a reason to do so.

If he kills an innocent, I am sure even the other harem members would strongly oppose that. Although Rudy would never hurt an innocent soul. His soul is pure like light.

I wonder how Rebecca feels about everything. She seems to be going along, and Rudy wants to advance at her pace so she would feel at ease.

But... What's the point? That's the one thing I don't and will never understand. They love each other, and they know they will have sex one day, so what's the point of taking it slow?

The same goes for Rias. I understand Alice's reason... She wanted to have her first time in a proper way, but Rebecca and Rias already had many chances. I know Rudy wants to fuck them, but he doesn't want to impose on them.

Well, who am I to judge others' relationships? Just because I had my first time as soon as I confessed to him doesn't mean I should expect the same from others. It's their choice.'

Angelica was once again lost in her thoughts while staring at the paused screen of the anime.

'One thing this anime did well is to explore and reveal about the ghost girl's past. Who would have guessed that the main character and the ghost girl were related to each other. That was mind-blowing, really.

As for the other things... I hate the harem in this. It's obvious that the other girls have feelings for the main character, and it's evident to the people around him, so why is he so dense to notice them?

I know there are a few episodes left, but I don't think this anime is going to have a harem ending.'

SIGH!

She let out a frustrating sigh and muttered, "Why does a series have a harem if there won't be a harem ending? That's the one thing I will never be able to understand, no matter how many anime I watch or how cultured I become."

'Should I call Rudy and... his phone is with me. And...' She glanced over at Rias' bed and muttered, "Rias and Jane left theirs here. I can call Alice or Maria and ask them to connect me with Rudy.

If I asked him to pick me up, he would come but... maybe I shouldn't. Otherwise, there would be no point in me staying here for so many hours. The auction must have ended, and they will be at the afterparty, which is the best chance he would get to spend a moment with other girls."

SIGH!

"Love is... hard and painful. I respect those who can maintain and stay happy in long-distance relationships. They are sacrificing so much.... and it's an equal sacrifice. I haven't done anything for Rudy in return for what he has done for me so far.

Rias and the other vampires are powerful, and they can defend themselves in dire situations. Maria has given him her last name, and she is the reason he became rich. Reina has given him this waterpark.

Alice is his childhood friend, and she has been with him ever since they were kids. Rebecca is his mother. Everyone has had something for him or at least played a part in his development.

What have I done for him? I only annoy him all the time. I can't even live without him, as I feed on his power. I am useless. Nothing but a worthless burden to him. I am..."

Tears rolled down uncontrollably from Angelica's eyes.

"Do I deserve him? What if he threw me away one day? I would have no right to complain. Yet, I expect more things from him. I am so demanding. I am no different than the selfish gold diggers who only stay with a man to gain something without giving anything in return.

I should tell him to stop trying to find out about my past and my killers. It's useless. What will I even do after discovering all that? Take revenge? What after that? I am unnecessarily troubling him.'

Angelica suddenly felt like seeing Rudy, but she couldn't call him, so she opened the gallery as she knew Rudy had his pictures there.

However, she discovered the photos Rudy had taken when he was in 1989.

"What's... this...?"

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 689: Mysterious Happening

The first photo Angelica opened was the most recent one he took when he returned from 1990. It was the picture he took when he was chasing the fairy orb and landed on the sea.

"So beautiful..."

Then, she swiped through the photos and saw a picture of Rudy with Elena.

"Hmm? Who is that? A new girl? No... he rarely takes photos with anyone. And this photo... the background feels... familiar. It's... a school hallway? There are little girls wearing the same clothes, which is most likely a uniform, so this has got to be a school.

And he is smiling happily, so this photo is not taken against his will. But when did he take this? I am always with him unless it's during the time when I am sleeping. Let me check the date... that would help me remember... maybe."

Angelica tapped on the 'i' icon and checked the details.

"Huh...? This is... 1990? What? Wait... is this what he was talking about? He did mention that he went into the past or something, but I assumed he simply saw it from here. I didn't know he physically went there. Wasn't he gone for like five minutes only?

Hmm..." Angelica zoomed on the girl's face and muttered, "So this is a new girl he met there? And this is a selfie..."

Angelica bit her lips while staring at Elena's face. He felt somewhat jealous as she could never take a picture of herself with Rudy as she wouldn't be visible in the photos.

She swiped through other photos of Rudy with Elena and thought, "Wow... there are so many pics."

She kept glancing at the pictures while scrolling, but she swiped back to a certain photo of Rudy with a little girl. It was a candid photo taken by Elena when Rudy and Jessica were arguing about spending weekends at home or going out for a picnic.

Angelica stared at Jessica and sharpened her gaze, and raised her brow.

"Who the fuck is that? I feel angry when I look at her."

She scrolled through a few more pictures of Rudy with Jessica.

"Who is the other girl?"

She furrowed her brows when she saw pictures of Jessica and Rebecca together.

"Since when did he start hanging out with little girls? I am pretty sure he told me he finds the kids annoying in general. He doesn't hate them, though."

Most of the pictures were of when they went to the picnic every weekend.

"He seems to be enjoying his time with them."

Some pictures were with Elena, while some were with Jessica and Rebecca.

"It's a beach. Hmm... this one is... isn't this Reina's waterpark?"

After swiping through a dozen more pictures, she stumbled upon the pictures taken in their house with Jessica and Rebecca.

"Yeah, it's definitely the same house they live in. Wait..." Angelica zoomed on Rebecca's face and exclaimed, "Does that mean this is Rebecca?!"

Angelica covered her mouth as she accidentally exclaimed aloud. She shot a quick glance at Niti and Vriti's bed and sighed in relief.

'This has to be Rebecca, right? But maybe...' She looked at Jessica's face and muttered, 'Maybe this is Rebecca? They actually look similar. Are they sisters?'

Angelica looked at Rebecca and Jessica closely and muttered, "One of them could be Rebecca, and the other one is her sister. Where is she now? Rudy has never mentioned her. Well, I will ask him when he returns. I will see the rest of the photos now."

"What the—! There is one more little girl now!"

Angelica said as she saw Lilim. I don't even want to know who she is. She doesn't look the same as Rebecca and the other girl, but they seem close to each other.

Angelica saw all the photos from the past on Rudy's phone.

SIGH!

"I opened the gallery to see Rudy, but I found something else instead. Although I am happy to see Rudy happy in those pictures. But now... I miss him even more."

Out of a sudden, Angelica witnessed a video appear in the gallery.

"Hmm? This wasn't here before... right? Or did I swipe through it thinking it was a picture? But why is there no thumbnail? An accidental video, maybe?"

Angelica became curious and played the video. However, a prompt appeared on the screen instead.

'The file is corrupted.'

"Yeah, it must be a random video. That also explains why the video has no thumbnail because it's corrupted. I should delete it."

Angelica selected the video and clicked on the 'delete' icon. But another prompt appeared on the screen.

'The file could not be deleted.'

Angelica's face turned pale after seeing that.

'Is this a virus?! What should I do?! His phone will be hacked, and he will lose all the data! All these pictures are important to him! I have to do something; otherwise, he would think it's my fault!'

Angelica repeatedly tried to delete the video, but the same prompt kept appearing. She then closed the gallery app and opened the files app to delete it from there. However, she couldn't find the file anywhere.

'Where is the file?!'

She opened the gallery again and clicked on the 'i' icon to check the file's location. When she checked the date of the file, she was left puzzled.

"1999? Wait... it's the same date, month, and time as today, just the year is different. The rest of the photos have a date from 1989 to 1990. Why is a video of 1999 here? That was 9 years ago. Did he go to 1999 too?"

Angelica was panicked and confused. She couldn't delete the video, nor could she play it. She was worried that Rudy's precious data might get corrupted too, but there was nothing she could do.

She once again tried to play the video, and much to her surprise, it loaded.

"...!"

The video was taken at night, and the background was of Rudy's house, which showed an empty couch in the living room.

The room was dark, and the only light came from a lamp on the table, which illuminated the couch.

[See?! It worked?! I told you it would work!] a feminine voice said.

[Calm down, don't get too excited.] a child's voice followed. [This was just a first step.]

'What's... going on?'

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 690: Shadows of Past

Angelica continued watching the video with a curious look on her face. She tapped on the screen to see the video length, but it had no timer.

Soon, a girl wearing a half-face mask and pure white hair appeared in the scene and sat on the couch. Her hair was so white that it almost seemed translucent. Even Jane's hair wasn't that white— it had a silver shade.

She was wearing a white gown with golden linings and embroidery. She seemed to be in her late teenage years judging by her voice, but Angelica wasn't sure as her face was covered with a white mask.

She moved her hand forward and beckoned someone behind the scene.

[Come on! Come here already. Stop being so childish!] she said to someone.

A second later, a boy wearing a white mask and a white suit walked into the scene and sat on the couch beside the girl. He also had white hair, just like the girl.

[I am nine years old, so I am technically a child, and it makes perfect sense if I act like one,] the kid said.

The girl tapped on her lap and said, [Then come sit on my lap.]

[We should focus on what's important.] The boy looked at the camera and said, [We should explain to her first. I don't think she has any idea what's going on.]

Angelica raised her brows in confusion and muttered, "What's this? A comedy gig?"

[See? She thinks we are jokers,] the girl said to the boy. [I told you wearing masks was a bad idea.]

[But we need to hide our identity. As they say, precaution is better than cure.]

[Oh, come on. As if you really mean it.] The girl rolled her eyes. [You are just too shy to show your face on camera.]

[Well, not everyone is a pervert like you,] the boy scoffed softly.

[I am not a pervert!]

[You will be in a few years.]

"Lame..." Angelica mumbled. "They are making silly jokes that aren't even funny. Who are they, and what are they doing in Rudy's house?"

[Look! She still thinks we are clowns. I told you we should explain everything to her first,] the boy said to the girl.

SIGH!

The girl sighed and said, [Even if we do that, she won't understand. But go ahead and try it. Don't say I didn't warn you.]

The boy looked at the camera once again and said, [You must be confused, but let me explain. We can't tell you who we are, but we are your allies.]

"Is this what they call breaking the fourth wall?" she wondered.

[Ptt!] The girl let out a laugh after hearing Angelica's comment.

[Stop laughing and help me out!] the boy shouted at the girl.

[Okay, okay. Don't sulk now. I will try to explain in my own way.]

"..." Angelica raised her brow.

The girl looked at the camera and said, [Hey there, Angelica. This is not a comedy gig, nor are we trying to make you laugh. You called our earlier conversation lame, and I am deeply hurt by that.

Putting that aside, I am sure you are freaking out right now. So let's start with what's happening. This is not an ordinary or pre-recorded video. This is live.]

"..." Angelica stared at the screen without saying anything.

[Say something. If you keep staring at us like that, we will feel awkward.]

"Is this Rudy's trick to prank me?" Angelica asked herself.

[No. As I said, it's not a pre-recorded video. Nor a prank.]

"I don't believe you. This is a video file dating to the year 1999. How would it be live when the video is from 1999?"

[Then do you have any other explanation on why we are interacting with each other? Do you think that's possible? As you said, this video is from 1999, so how do you think we are having a normal conversation if it's not live? No one can guess questions and reactions accurately.]

"I am sure Rudy can do anything," Angelica shrugged with an unimpressed expression on her face. Seemingly, she wasn't convinced by the logical points made by the girl.

[That's... true. Damn, what am I supposed to say now?] The girl turned to the boy, seemingly hoping he would help her.

[Don't look at me. What happened to 'I will do it my way', huh?] the boy taunted.

[But you told me she is dumb, and she clearly is not. If she was dumb, she would have believed me.]

[Hey! I never said she is dumb.]

[You did! You always talked about how dumb Angelica is!]

[Lies and slander! I always said that Angelica asks stupid questions sometimes, and that's her charm.]

[Stupid questions are equal to stupid people.]

[How does that make sense?!]

[A doctor would ask questions about medical conditions. A lawyer would ask questions about the information. The police would ask questions about the crimes. A teacher would ask questions about school. Hence, only a stupid person would ask stupid questions.]

[Did you really just say something illogical in a completely logical way?]

[I made my point.]

[Again, Angelica is not stupid. Nor dumb. Don't call her that, or I will get angry.]

[Wow! I can't believe it. This is new. Anyway...] the girl turned to the camera. [What do you want us to do to make you believe this is not a prank?]

"How about you start by taking off your masks?"

[Uhh... He asked me not to do it, but sure. He will pout for a few hours and go back to normal.]

The girl took off her mask and revealed her face.

"....!"

Angelica's eyes widened upon seeing the girl's face, and she couldn't believe her eyes.

[I know you must be surprised, and you will be unable to comprehend what's happening, but don't worry. Everything will make sense once I tell you, but you will have to trust us. You can ask any question you want, but we are short on time, so let me explain everything first, and then you can clear all your doubts.]

The girl smiled and said, [Let me introduce myself first. My name is Jessica.]