

Esper 721

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 721: Bad Move

Rudy placed the breakfast on the dining table beside Lilim.

"Get off the table, Lilim. You are not a kid anymore."

"I will eat my breakfast, you eat yours."

"..." Lilim grinned and spread her legs. "Here."

Rudy grabbed Lilim's leg and pulled her off the table.

"Mom is standing outside."

"She is eavesdropping on us?"

"I want to say no, but yes, she is. She has placed her ear on the door and is trying to listen to our conversation. You start eating, I will be right back."

Rudy walked to the front door and placed his hand on the handle to open it, but he thought it would be better if he surprised her instead. So he teleported outside the house behind Rebecca and tapped on her shoulders.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"Shh! Let me..." Rebecca stopped on her words and turned around with a confused look on her face.

"You are?"

"Wait, if you are here then... who is..."

"Hmm?"

Rebecca knew that if she told she heard Rudy talking with a girl in the house and hence she decided to listen to them, the truth would be exposed.

"It seems Lucy hasn't left for school yet. And she was talking with someone.... do you think she brought a guy home? Maybe her boyfriend?"

"Let's go and check."

"Yes."

Rebecca unlocked the door with the key and went inside without making any noise. 1/3rd of the living room was visible from the hallway's entrance, so Rebecca stretched her neck to get a full view of the couch, but it was empty.

She then walked towards the living room and heard the tinkling noise, seemingly the sound of a fork and spoon hitting the plate.

She saw Lilim eating breakfast with messy hair and clothes.

"Lilim?! What are you doing here?!" Rebecca exclaimed.

"Oh, if it isn't Rebecca. You came at the right time. Daddy and I just finished our moment." She pointed her finger at her hair and the loose laces of her top.

"I had to wear clothes in a hurry, though. Daddy wanted to continue, but I stopped him~"

Rebecca glared at Rudy with an angry face. She didn't say a word, but her glare said thousands.

"Lilim!" Rudy shouted her name. "Are you out of my mind? Sex is taboo in front of her."

He then turned to Rebecca and said, "Mom, she is lying. She is just trying to tease you."

"Anything else? Her hair and clothes are messy, and you two were alone in the house. And you are still lying about it?"

"Oh, come on, mom. Trust me for once. Why do you always assume that I am lying? I have never lied to you. I am not like you who hid things from me because of some stupid diary!"

"Don't raise your voice, and don't talk back to me! And it's not about trust, it's about what I see and hear. If there is a dead body that was stabbed and someone is holding a knife, it's normal to draw the conclusion that the person is the killer."

"And drawing conclusions without seeing the full picture is stupid."

"Are you calling me—"

"I am sorry!" Lilim lowered her gaze and gulped down anxiously. "That was a lie. I just wanted to tease you, as always. I didn't know you two would start fighting like this. Really, I am sorry. You can slap me or beat me if you want. I will never do something like this again."

She got up from the chair and walked past Rudy after saying, "I will take my leave now."

"Hold up!" Rebecca stopped Lilim by grabbing her head. "You said we could slap and beat you, so where do you think you are going without taking your punishment, huh?"

"Go sit on the chair and eat your breakfast. I will do the same." She turned to Rudy and calmly said, "You should eat too."

Rudy turned around and went to his room after saying, "I am getting late for school."

"Hey, wait—!"

Before Rebecca could stop him, he teleported to his room, changed his clothes, and left the house through his room's window.

Lilim gulped down once again and avoided eye contact with Rebecca.

"I am sorry. I shouldn't have done that. I truly regret it. You two had a fight because of me."

"It's not the first time we have fought. I think it's for the best if I let him cool down before talking to him again."

"Are you... going to beat me...?" Lilim asked hesitantly.

"Your punishment is due for later. But you better be ready at any time. I hold my grudges very lightly... no matter how petty it is."

SIGH!

Lilim held her head in her hands and cursed herself.

"Why did I even pull a prank like that? I guess I was excited that Rudy remembered everything and we could go back to normal again... but... I got ahead of myself."

Rebecca watched Lilim in distress and rolled her eyes.

"That won't work on me. Seriously, I was in such a good mood today because I talked with Jessica, but then you ruined everything."

"Do you think... Jess is still angry at me?" she asked in a low voice.

"Huh?"

"We met earlier, but she didn't even talk to me. Forget about talking, she never glanced my way. I was waiting for her to look at me so I could talk with her, but... she treated me like a stranger..."

"I was asking about the 'still angry' part. What did you do?"

"Don't you remember the last time we all were together? You were at the school, and Jess and I were playing with Rudy. And then Jess tried to hog Rudy all to herself, so I got angry and took Rudy with me somewhere far away..."

"And then you forgot your way back..." Rebecca finished Lilim's sentence.

"Yes..."

"I don't think Jessica even remembers that. You both were the same age and fought all the time."

"Then why didn't she talk to me earlier?"

"Ask her when you meet her again," she responded with a shrug.

Meanwhile, Rudy was on his way to school with Janet.

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Chapter 722: Janet's Effort

Rudy and Janet were walking to school, alone. Usually, Janet would have been happy to spend some alone time with Rudy, but she wasn't.

Rudy seemed to be in a bad mood, and he hadn't spoken a word since they began their walk to school.

Janet felt anxious.

"Where is Alice?" Janet asked hesitantly, seemingly afraid to start a conversation.

"She is sleeping."

"I see..."

"..."

"..."

Once again, the atmosphere had turned quiet. Janet didn't know what to say or how to start a conversation.

"I... I am surprised you came to pick me up when Alice isn't coming..."

"I had something to do at school. And I didn't want to stay at home," he replied without moving his gaze.

"Is... that so..."

"What about you? Why are you going to school if you are not going to participate in any sports activities?"

"Because I don't want to stay at home."

"..." Rudy glanced at her without saying anything.

"I am not trying to copy you. I really don't like staying at home. Mom is sick again and can't go to her night shift. Or she would sleep during the day, and I would be bored.

I can't even watch television when she is sleeping, so there is nothing I can do." She shrugged and continued, "I don't have siblings either, so I can't annoy them."

"Understandable," Rudy nodded.

"Come to think of it, you now have a sister. How is she? I mean... Do you get along with her? Step siblings usually don't get along well with each other in early times."

"What do you mean by early times?"

"Like... the time after your parents get married, and you get step-siblings."

"Oh, you mean that way. Yes, you are right. It was pretty awkward between Lucy and I, but now everything is alright."

Rudy's mood no longer seemed grumpy, so Janet was relieved, and she could talk with him without being scared of him snapping at her.

"What about your step-brother? Eric told me your stepfather had two kids. One son who is older than you, and the other is a daughter who is a week younger. Do you get along with him? What's his name?"

Rudy's mood once again turned grumpy.

After noticing the sudden change in his mood, Janet gulped down and added, "Sorry if I am going personal. You don't have to answer if you don't want to."

"It's not like that. My step-brother's name is Paul, but we haven't talked since the day after we first met. Actually, he hasn't contacted anyone since that day. Maybe he wasn't happy with his father's marriage? Who knows... but I certainly don't."

"That's possible. But since he was a university student, he can take care of himself."

"He sure can," Rudy smirked from the corner of his lips.

They talked for a while and reached the school on time. The first half of the school had classes, while the second half had sports. Still, there was no attendance as they only did the revision of the syllabus.

Sadly, Rize's lecture was in the second half, which was canceled in exchange for the sports activities.

Rudy had nothing else to do, and he was bored, so he decided to watch the sports event.

Janet only came to school because she wanted to talk and spend time with Rudy, and she had decided to leave with him, But when she learned that Rudy was going to stay and watch the event, she decided to participate in the girl's race.

The girl's race was the same as the boy's race, but they had to get a flower from the boys instead of the ribbons— like the girls did. However, some girls were against the idea and didn't want the boys to give flowers to them.

So they changed the rules and made it so that girls were also allowed to stand instead of boys. The couples, of course, wanted to give and receive flowers from their lovers, so they prepared themselves for the race.

Janet was unaware of all that before she wrote down her name in the participant's list. Obviously, she didn't want to receive flowers from any boy other than Rudy, but she didn't have the courage to ask him to hold a flower for her.

Nevertheless, Rudy got himself a beautifully bloomed flower and stood in Janet's lane without even asking.

Janet saw a boy standing in her lane, but she didn't know it was Rudy.

'What should I do? Someone is already standing in my lane. I don't want to get a flower from someone else, even if it's just a sports activity. Should I run away? But I will be punished if I don't participate in a sports activity after writing my name down.

What if I pretend to be sick and go to the infirmary? But that will get everyone's attention on me. And it's... cliché. What if I run but fall on purpose and get myself injured? I will be automatically disqualified from the race.

Yeah, let's go with that. And maybe... Rudy will come to see me if I am injured? I have to make sure I fall carefully and do not hit my face. I don't want any visible scars on my body or face.'

[Get set! Ready! Go!]

The race had started, but Janet was lost in making her plan. She was already the last and lost her chance to get a headstart. Still, she wasn't worried as she had no intention of finishing the race.

She first planned to fall at the very start of the race, but now that she was the last, she had to put some effort into making her fall look convincing. She changed her plan and decided to run at least halfway.

Just as she was about to execute her perfect fall, she glanced at the boy standing in her lane and realized it was Rudy. She was confused and happy at the same time. Regardless, she decided to continue the race.

However, it was too late. Her legs had stopped working when she saw Rudy, and she fell flat on her face. Luckily, she fell on the grass, so it didn't hurt, but her knee started bleeding.

"I... suck... I suck at everything."

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Chapter 723: Girl's Race

'I suck at everything. I always mess things up. Even when the situation is in my favor... I somehow find a way to destroy everything. I attract bad luck... from the very start... ever since I was born.

Mom must have hated me and wanted to kill me. Her life was going well... she was beautiful and intelligent, but then she got pregnant with me, and I destroyed her life. She got kicked out of her own house and had to live alone.

Being a single mother, she had to take care of everything from house expenses to everyday needs. She wanted to study more and become a doctor. But the money she had saved since childhood was all used on me.

She didn't have a penny left to continue her study. Even if she had taken a student loan, she couldn't possibly have completed her studies, given she had to raise me. I destroyed her future beyond repair.

It was her dream to become a doctor and help others... but when she needed help, no one came to her aid... except one person. Miss Eleanor... She is a goddess.

Mom told me Eleanor came into her life when she was at her lowest. We lived in a rented house, and the rent wasn't even that high. But... mom didn't have enough money to pay the rent.

The landlord was an elderly lady who was kind and never came to claim rent unless mom herself went to her and gave her the money. Once she hadn't paid the rent for six months, but the landlady still didn't come.

However, when she died, her son took over and increased the rent. Still, it was cheaper than the average rent price. But he came to claim the rent on every first day of the month.

That time, mom hadn't paid rent for three months, and the landlord had asked her to empty the house. Mom had lost all hope, but Eleanor came and saved her.

She bought the house from the landlord and gave mom a job at one of her stores. That was thirteen years ago, and nothing has changed since. Eleanor always cut the rent from mom's pay before giving her the salary.

She pays well, too, and gives an unlimited day off. She also took care of our medical bills and school expenses. It's not just mom, but all the people who work for and under her are the ones who had once lost their hopes in living.

She gave life to all of them and saved them from doing the worst. She also gives out bonuses to random employees every month. And they also conduct a wheel of fortune every 15th of the month.

Even the rewards are crazy. This month, one employee got a car. Truly, Eleanor is a Goddess. I wonder why she does all that. No one has any reason. Had she not saved mom and me, we might already be dead by now.

I won't call my life perfect, as I mess things up whenever I need to try my best. Rudy is the only one I don't want to lose. I have loved him since kindergarten, even though he has never noticed me.

I know he doesn't even remember that I considered him my childhood friend. We used to play often whenever his mom brought him to the store. I used to hate it when mom took me with her to her store so she could watch over me.

But after Rebecca started bringing Rudy with her, I was always in a hurry to go to the store. At that time, mom used to do the day shift as she couldn't possibly leave a kid home alone at night.

Everything has changed now. I have changed... and so has Rudy. He gives off a strange vibe sometimes, and... he looks sad. Even when he is smiling... his eyes don't shine like they used to.

This... race... what am I even doing? I have already lost. Everyone is ahead of me, and they are about to take the flowers. Even if I get up, I am not sure I can run. I didn't notice until now, but my knee hurts.

It's bleeding, and it's burning. I don't know what to do. Rudy is standing there with a flower in his hand... waiting for me...'

"He is... waiting for me. I shouldn't keep him waiting. I may never get another chance."

Janet placed her hands on the ground and pulled herself up. She slowly got up while stumbling on her feet and glanced at her bleeding knees.

"It's okay, Janet. You can still run."

Janet took one step, then another, and slowly began to walk. After a few steps, she increased her speed and started running, but her speed was no different than what one would have while walking.

Meanwhile, the other contestants had already reached the end of the lane.

"I have to hurry!"

She increased her speed and barely managed to reach Rudy. She looked at him in the eyes and took the flower from his hand.

"Good luck," he said to her.

Janet nodded and turned around.

'I don't care about winning or losing, but I will at least complete the race, even if I come last!'

Janet started running without caring about her injury. Her wound ached every time she took a step forward, but her pain was acting as fuel to her strength.

She caught up with the other contestants, but she was still the last.

'Come on, Janet! You can do better! Is this the extent of your love for Rudy?'

Janet pushed herself to run faster, and she got ahead by two positions.

'More!'

Jane tried to run faster, but she ended up tripping. She stumbled for a few meters, but she didn't stop running. She managed to stop stumbling and got ahead of three more contestants.

'I don't want to be greedy, but I will! If...!' She panted, seemingly out of breath.

'If I manage to get into the top three, I will confess my love to Rudy!'

Janet ran, holding a thin thread of hope and courage that could either snap or strengthen depending on her will.

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Chapter 724: Janet's Score

Amid everything, Janet had decided that she would confess to Rudy if she scored in the top three. She was in the seventh spot, so it was a risky gamble for her. Still, she didn't give up and tried her best to run as fast as she could.

She had held the flower tightly in her hand as it was the first thing Rudy had ever given her without asking.

She went ahead of number six and five to become number four.

'Now I only need one! If I beat number three, I will become number three, and then I will...'

Janet successfully managed to beat number three and became number three. All she had to do was to maintain the third spot and pass through the finish line.

'Only a few meters more, and I will win!'

Janet took a deep breath and passed through the finish line. However... the number four got ahead of her, and she came in the fourth spot.

"..."

Before Janet would even catch her breath and process what had happened, she fell to her knees and passed out.

When she woke up, she found herself in the infirmary on a bed surrounded by curtains from all sides.

She glanced around with a confused look on her face and sat up.

"Argh."

She looked at her knees and saw they were bandaged.

"What happened?" she wondered.

She looked at her pillow and saw the flower Rudy had given her.

SIGH!

She sighed in relief and muttered, "I thought it was a dream."

She picked up the flower and sniffed it. The flower was black as an abyss, but it had three colors in it. Green, purple, and red, but it wasn't spread out to the entire flower. Only the bud and the petals around it were colored.

"The smell is so sweet and mesmerizing. I can smell it all day." She looked at the flower closely and wondered, "What type of flower is this? I have never seen anything like this. I mean... school doesn't have a flower like this. The boys must have gotten the flowers from the plants in the school.

The boys didn't know that they would need flowers. So why did Rudy have this flower? Unless he knew about it beforehand or had he brought this flower with him for a different reason?

I want to ask him, but I am too scared to know the answer. Not to mention..." She sighed wryly. "I had decided that I would confess to him if I scored into three, but I couldn't make it.

Should I take it as a sign that I shouldn't confess to him? Rudy and Alice are close, and even if they are not currently dating, I am sure they plan to. It's clear as day that they love each other.

So even if I confess to him... I am going to get rejected. In that case... do I even need to confess and purposely get hurt? Only an idiot would hurt themselves knowingly. Argh! This is stupid!"

Janet placed her feet on the floor and glanced around to look for her shoes.

"Where are my shoes?" she muttered.

She looked under the bed to her side but only found a table.

Regardless, she got up and moved the curtains to walk out.

"The sleeping beauty is awake," a young woman with glasses said. She was wearing a white coat.

"Miss Judy..."

"I am not a teacher anymore," Judy said.

"Yes, sorry. Nurse Judy, have you seen my shoes?"

"I am not a nurse anymore, either."

"Uhh... what?"

"Guess what?" Judy asked with a smug face.

"Did you..." Janet raised her brow and asked, "Did you perhaps pass your exams?"

"Yup! I am a full-fledged doctor now."

"Wow! That's great!" Janet hugged her and said with a wide smile on her face. "Congratulations! You finally did it!"

"Relax now, it's not confirmed yet. I just calculated my score according to my answers and made an estimate. And passing the exam is not enough. I have to score at the top, or I wouldn't get recommended anywhere."

"You will make it! I am sure!"

"If that happens, then my days here are almost coming to an end."

"Please keep me contacted. I will visit your clinic whenever I am sick."

"Why would you even want to be sick?" Judy sighed. "And as for your shoes..."

She pointed past Janet's shoulder and said, "They were on the other side of the bed."

"Geez! I don't even know how I got here and now this... today was a bad day..."

Janet wore her shoes and tied the laces.

"Rudy brought you here."

"Huh?"

"Yes. He carried you in his arms and placed you on the bed. I wasn't here, but he took care of everything. Even those bandages."

"Where is he? Wait, how long have I been out?"

"Err..." Judy looked at the wristwatch and answered, "About twenty-five minutes."

"Did he leave after you came?"

"No, he was here. He just left when his friend... umm... What was his name... Eren... Eric! Yes. Eric came here and called him out. Like... a few minutes before you woke up. He looked panicked for some reason."

"Should I go after him?"

"Why are you asking me? I am sure he will return eventually. His bag is here, and you are here. Why would he leave you or his bag behind? And you are injured, so I think you should stay and wait for him to return.

And if you feel bored, you can watch sports activities from the window. Though, I am sure you would rather prefer to use your phone instead."

"Well..."

"Alright, then. I need to go back to the playground. I came here to check up on you. And if I see Rudy on my way, I will let him know that you have woken up."

"Thanks."

Judy fixed the curtain and walked towards the door to leave the infirmary.

"Wait, Miss Judy!" Janet called her out.

"It's not Miss anymore."

Janet showed the flower to Judy and asked, "Have you seen a flower like this in this school?"

Judy inspected the flower from all sides with a confused look on her face.

"Forget about school... I have never seen a flower like this, even in an encyclopedia."

"..."

"I will leave now."

"Okay..."

Janet sniffed the flower while using her phone. She was scrolling through social media until she saw a hashtag trending.

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Chapter 725: Panicked Eric

A while ago, Rudy was sitting by the bed, watching over Janet.

After she passed out, he carried her to the infirmary and patched up her wounds, but he never noticed she was holding the flower in her hand.

"She has been holding onto it all this time?"

He tried to get it from her hand, but she had closed her fist tightly and wasn't letting go.

'I don't want to force it open, or I might end up breaking her fingers...'

Rudy snapped the flower from the peduncle and pulled out the remaining from the other side. Then, he used his restoration ability and restored it back to how it was before.

'This is a blood moon flower. A beauty before it became a fruit. I didn't want to give her something that anyone could have given her.'

Since Rudy plucked the flower before it became a fruit, it would wither in a few days.

"I only gave her this because I wanted the flower to be unique... I had no idea she would like this much. Hmm~ I have an idea."

Rudy stopped the time of the flower and made it so that it would never wither again unless all the petals from the flower were plucked.

Rudy's ears twitched as he heard footsteps approaching the infirmary, so he leaned back and relaxed himself.

A few seconds later, the door opened, and Judy walked in.

"Oh. I am sorry I am late!" Judy grabbed a disinfectant and said, "Let's start disinfecting her wound first."

She moved the curtain and saw Janet's wounds were already patched up.

Judy looked at Rudy and asked, "Did you do that?"

"Yes."

"Did you wash and disinfect the wound first?" she asked with a judging look on her face. "And don't lie about it, please. Infections are nasty."

"Yes, I did."

"Is that so?" Judy checked the patch and said, "It's well done, actually. Is there a doctor in your family?"

"No."

"Then how did you..."

"Maybe it's natural talent?" Rudy chuckled softly.

"An adult would know that there is no such thing as talent."

"Now that's a wild take."

"If you have already done everything, then I should leave. I need to be at the playground. Actually, we could have patched Janet up in the playground itself, but it's good that you brought her here. She will have a nice rest."

"Yeah."

"And keep in mind that just because you are alone with her in the infirmary doesn't mean you can play doctor-doctor with her."

"..."

"I hope you know what I meant. You are too young for that. I despise teenage intimacy."

Judy opened the door to leave, but Eric walked in instead.

"Is Rudy here?!" he asked with a panicked face.

"Eric? What's wrong?" Rudy got up and rushed to him. "Why are you sweating like crazy?"

"Come with me. I need to show you something!"

"Umm...." Rudy glanced at Janet and Judy and nodded. "Okay."

He didn't want to leave Janet behind, not even for a second, because he knew Janet could jump to extreme conclusions. But after seeing the panicked look on Eric's face— who was always calm and sassy—Rudy couldn't say no to him.

He turned to Judy and said, "Doctor, can you stay here until she wakes up? I will be back in a bit."

"Okay."

Rudy and Eric left the infirmary in a hurry, while Judy closed the door.

"Wait... how did he know that I am going to be a doctor soon? I haven't told anyone yet..."

Meanwhile, Eric was running outside the school grounds.

"Calm down. What happened, Eric? Why are you in such a hurry? And where are you going? Don't you have the finals once the girl's races are over?"

"Now is not the time for that!" Eric yelled.

"...?"

'Why is he freaking out like this? I have never seen him like this. Never. Even when I killed Paul, he was calm. That's his specialty. So if he is freaking out when something must have happened.

Wait... did he find out that I am his father...? If that's the case, then... I better keep my mouth shut and wait for Elena to return. I want her to be with me when we tell Eric and Erika.

However, I don't think that's the case. There is no way Eric could have possibly found out that I am his father. I haven't told that to anyone, not even any of my harem members.

Of course, it's easy to figure out if they thought about it, but it's still not confirmed that Eric and Erika are truly my children. Maybe Elena adopted them or something? I know I am being too optimistic, but I will know when Elena returns.'

"What is it, then? You brought me all the way here where no one is there to see or hear us. Did something happen?" Rudy asked calmly.

Eric took out his phone and showed it to Rudy.

"See this!"

"...?" Rudy took the phone and saw what Eric was trying to make Rudy see.

It was a video taken from the airplane above the city.

"What's this? I mean, I know what this is, but why are you showing me this?"

"This is a video from the same flight mom is in."

"And...? It's not strange for people to clip videos in an airplane."

"It's not a video. This motherfucker was live streaming!"

"...what the... fuck?"

"Yeah, and because of that there was a malfunction in the plane's radar and they hit a drone. One engine is down, but that's nothing serious. The main issue is that the plane's tires are not coming out.

They are trying to figure out the solution and have kept the plane flying in a circle about the city. However, they are out of fuel and need to land the plane in the next two minutes— one minute now.

I don't know what to do! Experts said there is an 88% chance the plane won't be able to land successfully. They have already arranged three hundred ambulances and firetrucks.

Mom can die!"

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Chapter 726: Saving Elena

After hearing the situation from Eric, Rudy suddenly remembered something.

'I... remember now... This incident happened in my past life too. Eventually, the plane ran out of fuel, so the pilots took the plane to the sea for an emergency landing. In case if the landing went wrong, at least it wouldn't crash on the city.

Unfortunately, the plane crashed on its way to the sea and crashed in the area near the beach. All 319 passengers, 8 crew members, and two pilots... died.

That crash was in the headlines on every news channel and social media. The clip from that guy's live stream also went viral, and everyone blamed him. He died in the crash, too, so they could do nothing.

I remember reading the news, but I brushed it off like any other major headline. That's what everyone does. No matter how many casualties there were, people forget about it in a few days.

The news channel gets something more interesting, and they make that their next headline. How was I supposed to remember a random plane crash from my past life from years ago?

But wait... Eleanor... nothing happened to her. She made it back safely. Yes, she came home later that day.'

"Are you sure she is on that plane?" Rudy asked Eric. "Maybe you got the wrong flight?"

"No, she is in it. I am the one who booked that flight for her last night."

'I am missing something. Elena was safe, but how? Something must have happened. Why can't I remember it?'

"What if she missed her flight?" Rudy wondered.

Eric let out a groan and showed his phone to Rudy. The screen had the text conversation between Eric and Eleanor.

The last message was from Eleanor early in the morning that said— and Rudy read, "Hey, I am about to get into my flight. I almost missed it. I woke up from a call from an unknown number, and thanks to that, I made it on time. I will contact you once the flight lands."

'That's right! Elena had missed the flight because she couldn't wake up on time. And thanks to that, she didn't get on the flight and died in the crash. She didn't receive a call in my past life because I am the one who called her early this morning from Maria's phone. She will die because of me!'

"What should I do, Rudy? Should I tell Erika? She doesn't know anything about this! What if something happens to mom?!" Eric panicked with a pale face.

"Calm down. Nothing will happen. The pilots and the crews are trained for situations like this. There is no need to worry. Everything will be fine."

"How can you say that?! Would you still say and think the same thing if it was 'your' mom on that flight?!"

"Yes," Rudy said with a composed look on his face. "We will gain nothing from worrying. Nothing is going to change if you worry or you cry. What's supposed to happen will happen. Just leave everything to... to fate."

"I am going to the airport in the next city!"

After saying that, Eric rushed to his house to get Eleanor's car and drive it to the next city.

A second later, Eric returned while asking, "Rudy, can you come with... me? Where did he go?"

However, Rudy was nowhere to be seen.

Rudy had teleported to the next city and was flying towards the plane.

'It's been since the drone hit the plane and damaged the engine, so I can't fix it using my restoration ability. The plane is going to crash no matter what I do— because that's supposed to happen. Everyone in that plane is supposed to die, so I couldn't care less about them.

However, Elena is not supposed to die. I only have to save her.'

Rudy landed on top of the plane and scanned it with his vision ability. Once he had located Elena, he went inside through the door.

Everyone was surprised to see Rudy as they clearly saw him opening the door and entering the plane. The first ones to see him were the flight attendants, who became cautious after seeing him.

While the passengers saw him as the curtains and the way was visible to them. The passengers were making a ruckus after the pilot announced that they would be doing an emergency landing.

That was an obvious and natural reaction. While some of them were cooperating with the flight attendants, the others were making the situation worse.

On top of that, the man who was live streaming was being beaten to death by the angry passengers. Even before the plane's engine failed and they encountered a malfunction in the system, some of the passengers were asking the man to stop live streaming.

But the man replied with, "It's just a video clip."

However, he was lying, as they could see comments flowing on his screen. Even the viewers who were watching the live stream were asking him to stop, but the guy didn't.

While some questioned how one can get a cell network in an airplane, some called it a fake video. It was obvious that the cell network was in range because the plane was on top of the city and preparing to land.

Regardless, the damage was already done, and now all the passengers were heading straight to their death— except one.

Amid the chaos in the plane, Elena was trying to help the flight attendants in calming down the passengers. She hadn't seen or noticed Rudy.

"..." Rudy walked to her and pulled her away from everyone.

"...!" Elena was baffled at first and thought an angry passenger was trying to hurt her. But when she realized it was Rudy, her glare softened.

"What are you—"

Before Elena could even comprehend the situation and get her answers from Rudy, he teleported to Elena's house.

Elena glanced around in surprise and looked at Rudy with teary eyes. She hugged him tightly and squeezed him.

Rudy hugged her back and calmly uttered, "Relax, you are safe now."

"The passengers! You have to save them!"

"..."

"Please! There are kids on that plane! You have to save them! I know you can do it! Please! Save them!"

Rudy nodded slightly and said, "Hmm."

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 727: Plane Crash

"Go save them!"

Rudy teleported to save the plane from crashing while Eleanor grabbed the television remote and turned on the news.

Rudy had teleported to the plane and went into the pilot's cockpit.

"What's the status? he asked.

"Excuse me, Sir. But you shouldn't be here. Please go back to your seat and tighten your seatbelt. We are going to land soon."

Rudy checked the status on the screen and noticed that the other engine had also failed.

'Even if I get more fuel in the tank, the plane will crash. I don't have enough time to teleport everyone out of the plane. I can't repair the engines either.'

Rudy closed and spread his arms in the air.

'The plane will explode before it can land. I can't stop this plane from crashing. I can't save anyone on the plane. They are not supposed to live. I am sorry, Elena, but I tried.'

Elena watched the television as the plane exploded near the beach, and everything was engulfed in fire. Fortunately, the beach was emptied a few minutes ago, so no more lives were lost.

The television's remote slipped from Eleanor's hand, and she covered her mouth in shock. She was at a loss for words. She had sent Rudy to save the passengers, but Rudy also got involved in the crash.

Eleanor thought Rudy died in the crash, but she didn't know that nothing could harm Rudy.

The news on the television was being recorded from a helicopter at the crash site, but it was suddenly interrupted, and everything went black. The screen was then redirected to the studio, where an anchor continued the news.

[Due to unseen problems, our connection with the team has been terminated. But we will keep you updated regarding any and all the information. For now, let's discuss this with the experts.]

The screen then switched, and three people appeared in three small blocks with their names written below them.

[Mister Jordan, can you prove your thoughts on this incident? Is there any possibility of survivors of the passengers on the plane?]

[Umm... first of all, thanks for having me here. And second, I don't think it's appropriate to talk about such a topic when we don't know anything. In fact, we all should pray that everyone survives.]

[Of course, we all want that. But you are here to give your valuable thoughts so that the people watching this news could be prepared for the worst,] the anchor insisted.

[I am a retired pilot, and I have experienced several such cases in my career where I had trouble landing a plane. Even if there was a minor error, I was scared. I had a family, and the passengers also had families.

But it seems like you certainly don't have one.] The second person remarked.

[Excuse me?]

[Do you not have any humanity left in you, Miss? The people watching this news might be friends and families of the passengers who were on the plane. How can you even say something so outrageous in front of the whole world?]

Mister Jordan's screen suddenly disappeared from the screen, and the anchor continued, [It seems Mister Jordan was having trouble connecting with us. They must be facing an internal issue on their end. But worry not, we will continue this discussion after a short break.]

After a seven-second break, the news started again, but this time from the crash site.

[We are back with the live footage of what seems to be a bizarre scene to look at it. Since we are not allowed to show dead bodies on the news, we will have to blur it. Early reports suggest that the scanners didn't detect a single sign of life.

It is a sad moment for all of us, and I regretfully have to inform you that we lost 320 passengers and 8 crew members and both pilots lost their lives in this unfortunate tragic incident. We will contact the airline soon and receive a statement from the officials.

They must compensate for the lives lost today in this incident. Now, moving back to the live footage. Get ready to witness hell itself. If you have a weak heart, I suggest you get prepared to call your doctor.

As you can see, even the surrounding of the crash site has been obliterated. The local officials made a good move by emptying the beach before the crash, or there would have been more casualties.

Our cameraman will now land near the crash site with our crew members to provide you a close-up look. We will take the questions from social media with the trending #AirplaneCrash and ask them to our reporter present on the crash site.]

The chopper landed, and everyone got out of it. Local officials, ambulances, and other reporters were already present at the site.

They had formed a search party and lined up the ambulances. Even the streets leading to the nearby hospital were emptied so the ambulances could reach the hospital in the shortest amount of time.

Dozens of doctors were called to the hospital to treat the injured.

However, the search party returned from the crash site and said, "There is no body in the area."

The chief officer pushed away the reporters and cameraman and walked to the leader of the search party.

"How is that possible?" he asked in a whisper.

"We have no idea. There is a possibility that the bodies sunk into the sea. We will have to call in other search parties. It's going to take a long time to retrieve the corpses."

John and Cassandra arrived at the scene and went straight to the in-charge officer. The officer saluted Cassandra and said, "You didn't have to come, ma'am."

"Now is not the time for the salutes. What's the status?" Cassandra asked.

[The search party didn't find any bodies. They will have to check in the sea.]

"What about the remains or body parts?"

The officer shook his head in response.

"Blood?"

"Nothing, ma'am. It's almost as if the plane was empty."

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 728: Crash Site

"There is no sign of anyone being on the airplane?" Cassandra asked with a puzzled look on her face.

"Yes, it seems to. But that's obviously not possible since the plane can't fly on its own, and it won't take off with zero passengers."

"So where did they go? I am asking you because you were the first one to arrive here. Did you not see anything?"

"It is true that I was the first one to arrive here, but I still arrived 5 minutes after the crash."

"One thing is clear if anyone was on the plane when it crashed, they are most likely dead. But we haven't found a single body."

"As I informed you, Ma'am. The bodies could be in the sea."

"The plane crashed on the beach, and the shore is twenty meters away from here. How do you explain that all the bodies somehow magically ended up in the sea? Not leaving even a single drop of blood?"

The officer shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Do you have any other explanation?"

"Yes. What if everyone jumped out from the plane before it crashed?"

"Come on, Cassy!" John nudged Cassandra and whispered, "That's so stupid. Who in their right mind would jump out of an airplane. Even if they survive, they aren't going to be able to walk again."

"Since they were going to die anyway, they chose to test their luck. I would totally jump out of an airplane that's about to crash. If I die, then... we'll, I die. But if I managed to survive with one or two broken bones, I would appreciate my life for the rest of my remaining years."

"You aren't going to break just one or two bones, You are going to break your entire body. Even if you survive the fall, you will be on the bed for the rest of your life... and that's worse than dying."

"I will not die until I see my hero again."

"Not with that hero topic again," John groaned. "Anyway, I will search around the beach. You get into that chopper and scan the area from the sky. It would be better that way."

Cassandra squinted her eyes and said, "Who made you the boss?"

John left with a search party, while Cassandra got into the copter with two female officers."

John was with seven other officers, but he got separated from them as they all went in the separate direction.

At the end of the beach, John noticed a cave, but that wasn't a surprising part. He saw a pair of footsteps leading into the cave but not coming out.

'Even if the search party went to check in earlier, they should have come out. And if they came out, there should be signs of footsteps. Did someone go in there and still haven't come out?' John wondered.

He took his torch and turned it on, but it wasn't turning on.

"Oh, for fuck's sake. Why now?!"

He took out his phone and turned on the flashlight.

"I don't think I will need this, but... just in case..."

He took his gun in his other hand and went into the cave.

He shined the light on the ground to see the direction of the footsteps, but after a while, they disappeared.

"Uhh... this is not good. I should probably leave and return with the team."

John turned around to leave the cave, but his phone suddenly died.

"...!" He tried to turn it on, but that didn't work.

'I am sure I had 69% charge left!'

John decided to dash out of the cave, but he noticed something standing behind him, so he turned around and pointed his gun at it with his finger on the trigger.

"..."

However, he was surprised to see two men in pilot's uniforms.

"How did you get in here?"

His phone suddenly turned on, brightening the cave and expanding John's view.

"What the..."

When she shined his light behind the pilots, he saw hundreds of people were standing in line as though they were waiting to board a plane.

'This is freaky!'

One by one, everyone started walking outside the cave. First, the pilots, then the crew members, and finally, the passengers.

'There is something wrong with them. They are walking like puppets, and their eyes have no light. It's as if... they are zombies... no... ghosts. Are they ghosts?!'

John didn't move from his spot until everyone left the cave. When he gathered his courage and went outside, everyone was back to normal, and they were glancing around with confused looks on their faces.

John took everyone to the team, where they were diagnosed with possible disorders, but surprisingly, all of them were in perfect condition, with not even a scratch on their bodies.

When they were asked about the plane crash and how surprised they were, they looked at each other's faces as though they were wondering the same thing. None of them had memories of what happened after the plane exploded, nor did they have any idea how they ended up in the cave.

They didn't even remember seeing John in the cave, even though they passed right in front of him. Of course, John immediately informed Cassandra about everything that happened after she left. And obviously, she couldn't believe a word she heard.

"Okay. Don't let any of them leave. I will be there in a few minutes. And make sure you record everything even though this is not an official case yet."

[I am already doing it. I have been with you for years, and I know how you study all your cases and start the investigation. I can even replace you now.]

"Good luck with that."

Cassandra turned to the pilots and said, "Can you lower the copter? I want to jump."

"But, Ma'am, this is not the crash site. There is nothing here," an officer informed.

"I know. But I still want to inspect the entire beach. They can wait for me to arrive."

"Then we will come with you."

"No need."

Once the copter was low enough, Cassandra jumped down without informing anyone.

"You can go now! I will be there once I am done!"

Cassandra was on her way to the crash site when she noticed something glowing from the dark corner near the mountain. She saw a shadow of what it seemed like a figure with two horns.

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 729: Who is the Culprit?

A while ago.

The plane was supposed to crash, one way or another, and everyone on it was inevitably going to die.

The only person who wasn't supposed to die was Eleanor, whom Rudy had saved already. While he felt sad that he couldn't help the innocent victims on the plane, there was nothing he could do to stop that.

It was their fate to die. That was a situation, and it was challenging Rudy. Hence, Rudy took it personally and decided that he would change the fates. What could stop him from doing that?

That's what he wanted to know.

However, he still didn't have time to teleport each and every passenger out of place. Rudy was left with no options to try, and that's where he made his own option.

Situations like that were the best to come up with new abilities and try them. Sure, the risk was there, but it was better than not trying.

Rudy touched the plane and closed his eyes. He enhanced his senses to select everyone on the plane. And then... he teleported all of them to the cave without even touching them.

It was the same beach Rudy where used to bring Rebecca, Jessica, Lilim, and Elena during his one-year stay in 1989. It was also the same beach where he had brought Reina on their first date.

Naturally, they had explored the beach since they had traveled there many times. And the cave was a part of it. So teleporting there wasn't a big deal. The challenging part was to teleport them without touching them.

Rudy's mind was always coming up with strange ideas to try out new powers or to enhance an old ability to make better use of it.

The next second, a loud explosion of the plane crash echoed all over the beach and the outside streets.

Of course, everyone was confused. Some of them thought they had died and were standing in front of the grim reaper, while the rest couldn't even think straight.

"Who are you?!" the pilot asked.

"What's this place?"

"Are you behind the plane crash?"

'Ouch. I get blamed for nothing.' Rudy sighed.

"I know you all are confused and curious. But relax, I will answer all your questions. But first, I want all of you to look into my eyes."

Rudy had already activated his 'Commandment', so they had no choice but to obey his words.

"You remember nothing. You know nothing. You saw nothing. No one was here other than the passengers. No one saved you. No one talked to you. You will leave this cave — one by one— after someone enters it and forget everything!"

CLAP!

Once Rudy clapped, the lights in their eyes vanished as though they had become mindless puppets for the time being.

"They are taken care of. Now..." Rudy searched in the crowd and found the person who was responsible for everything, the man who was live streaming.

"There you are."

Rudy grabbed him and flew out of the cave. He first planned to take him to the sky into the earth's atmosphere and drop him from there, but Rudy sensed the incoming signals approaching the beach, so he aborted that idea and took the man to the other end of the beach, far away from the crash site where no one was going to come.

He threw the man against the mountain to release him from his hypnotization.

The man grunted in pain and glanced around with a puzzled look on his face.

"Where...?" he wondered.

He checked his hands and legs to confirm he was okay.

"The plane's engine failed and... it crashed?"

Even though they were far away from the crash site, the smoke was covering the sky, and it was a clear sign that the plane had crashed.

"I survived the crash?" he wondered. "Damn, I am lucky. Even god is by my side. He saved me because I am a pure and innocent person."

"No, you are alive because I am going to kill you."

The man was suddenly covered by a shadow from the sky.

He looked behind him but was blinded by the sun.

Rudy landed in front of him with vampire fangs and demon horns.

"Wha—! Who are you?!"

"That is not the right question." Rudy grabbed the man by his head and crushed it a little. "You should have asked what I am going to do with you!"

The man began to chant a religious spell, hoping it would save him from Rudy.

"That won't work, not because it's not supposed to work, but because it is useless in your current situation. You are a killer responsible for mass genocide!"

"What do you mean?! I am innocent!"

"Oh really? Then why do you feel guilty, huh?" Rudy asked in a rather demonic voice.

Since Rudy was touching the man, he could feel his emotions and hear his inner thoughts. The man was well aware that he was responsible for the plane crash, yet he wanted to play innocent.

"The plane crashed because the drone hit it. The person flying the drone should be responsible for this crash, not me! I was on that plane. I am a victim too!"

"The drone was flying at the safe and recommended height. But because of the interference in the plane's radar— caused by your live stream— the plane changed its course and flew at a height lower than it was supposed to.

You can't blame the bullet for killing someone, the one holding the gun is the culprit! Because of your stupidity, everyone on the plane would have died! There is no saving you, mothersucker!"

"Wait, what?! They 'would have' died? That means they survived?! Then how come you are blaming me for their deaths?"

It was true that no one died, and the man wasn't responsible for any deaths— although he was responsible for the crash. However, in Rudy's past life, everyone on that plane had died.

Could he still be considered responsible for the mass genocide his version did in a parallel world?

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 730: Punishment Time

Had Rudy not saved them from the crash, they would have died. And they were supposed to die regardless.

The man responsible for the crash didn't have the blood of innocents on him, but he would have if Eleanor wasn't on that flight.

If Elena wasn't on the flight, Eric wouldn't have told Rudy, and Rudy wouldn't have remembered the tragic incident.

Rudy was conflicted about whether he should punish the man or not. Even if he let him go, he was going to be prosecuted in court. Rudy knew what was coming for the man, and he was satisfied with whatever punishment and the allegation that man was going to get.

However, that was a different matter.

The man endangered Eleanor's life, too, and Rudy would never let him go unpunished.

"Prepare to experience hell."

The man suddenly started to scream like a maniac, as though he was experiencing unbearable pain.

"This is just the beginning. I have decreased the PH from your blood from 7.11 to 4.11. Your blood is basically acid now, and it's burning and melting your organs from the inside. Each and every cell will taste this acid.

But that's not all because you will die in a few minutes in this condition. Thus, I set a timer inside you. Whenever your body is damaged beyond 70%, it will automatically heal all your organs by increasing the cell growth and your healing ability.

Once you are fully healed, the process will start again... over and over. Isn't that awesome? You will never die until and unless your head is removed from your body. All your wounds, no matter how deep and bad they are... they will heal."

The man continued screaming in pain, and Rudy enjoyed that. The screams of the man were melodies to Rudy's ears.

"Now, it's time to leave."

Before Rudy could teleport back to the cave, he heard footsteps approaching towards him. He used his vision ability to check and confirmed it was Cassandra.

'What is she doing here? She has a habit to be at places she shouldn't be. I can easily escape, but... I should finish the unfinished business of eighteen years ago.'

Rudy tossed the man on the beach to lure Cassandra closer.

As expected, Cassandra rushed to the man to help him and contacted an ambulance to her location.

Rudy placed his hand on his face and burned it so Cassandra wouldn't recognize him. Then, he walked out without changing his form.

Cassandra looked at him and pointed her gun at him.

"You have a death wish, girl!"

Cassandra's hands were trembling, but her eyes showed no sign of fear.

"I am not scared of you! Whatever you are, you can't stop me!"

"You have to stop. Or I will stop you... for forever."

Cassandra moved her finger to the trigger and prepared to press it, but she suddenly lowered her gun and let out a short sigh.

"You can drop that act, Rudy Ross."

"..."

"I know it's you. It's always been you."

"I have no idea what you are talking about."

"Eighteen years ago... you saved me, Johnny, and the other kids who were kidnapped by the mafias. I know it was you. And I know you are Rudy. I don't know what... what you are... but you are not evil."

Rudy healed himself and changed to his human form. But the expression on his face didn't change.

"Do you remember what I said in your office that day when I came for your help with the property papers of my home?"

"Yes, you were very vague and indirect, but you meant to say that we shouldn't cross paths as enemies because it will not end well. And you said, Let's hope we don't come to that."

"I am surprised you remember it that well. I guess that's the head chief of the police department for you."

"Are you not going to ask how I knew it was you?"

"Usually, when someone achieves something, they go and show it to everyone without asking. I expected you to reveal everything without me asking."

"Yes, I was going to, and I will. Do you know that some officers carry bodycam with them?"

"Yes. In encounters and stuff? I am not really interested in such stuff, so I never researched it."

"When we were kidnapped, and you saved us, you brought us back to the park, where officers were searching for us. The chief at that time was my father... I am sure you remember him.

He was wearing a body cam and had recorded everything. I was doing solo research on that case after... You know what happened at the auction yesterday. And I found that recording... and I saw you.

At first, I couldn't believe my eyes and thought it was someone else who happened to look just like you. But... your voice, humor, and personality... everything matched. Then I tried to connect the dots and noticed you happened to be at every crime scene that happened between 1989 to 1990.

Even now... we have met so many times in many incidents, even in this plane crash where you definitely shouldn't be as you wouldn't have been on that flight since we met last night.

And you couldn't be on this beach either... roaming in your... monster form. Just..." Cassandra touched Rudy's face and asked, "What are you?"

"What makes you believe that I will tell you anything? In fact, you already know too much, so now I have to erase your memories of me."

"Please don't do that. You are my hero... I always wanted to meet you again. You are the reason I wanted to be a detective. I wanted to... be like you. I will never say a word to a soul. You can trust me."

Rudy raised his brow and said, "I have planted a timer in your head. If you ever try to say, write, or even hint anything about me to anyone... your head will explode."

"...!" Cassandra gulped down nervously.

"That was a joke. You will simply forget everything about me. And that includes all your memories of Rudy too."

"That's fine."

"And you will have to erase all the clues you have found from the past. Can't risk it falling on someone's hands."

"I will do that."

"Good."

"Umm... can we meet at dinner... or something?" she asked nervously. "If you are free!"

"I will think about it. For now, take this man in custody. I am sure you know the reason."