#### Esper 921

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

# Chapter 921: Meanwhile at the Castle

As soon as Rudy and Maria left the castle, a wave of curiosity swept through the harem members. Among them was Ruby, Maria's half-sister and niece, whose energy seemed boundless as she embarked on a mission to find her beloved Maria. She wandered through the corridors, visiting the rooms of each harem member in search of her sister.

Eventually, Ruby found herself outside Alice's room, knocking lightly before pushing the door open. "Alice," she began, "have you seen Maria anywhere?"

Alice looked up from her book, a small smile on her lips. "Maria? Oh, she left with Rudy for a date," Alice informed her.

Recalling the conversation she had with Maria, Ruby's features lit up with understanding. "Oh, right, she did mention that." With a satisfied nod, she moved away from Alice's door, her mission accomplished.

Later, the castle's living room became a gathering spot for Lilim, Angelica, Alice, and Ruby. The camaraderie between them was evident as they exchanged stories and shared their day's experiences. Yet, the absence of a few members caught their attention.

"Hey, has anyone seen Rias, Jane, or Niti?" Ruby questioned, curiosity dancing in her eyes. "When I went to their rooms, they didn't answer. I couldn't dare to open or enter their room without their permission."

Lilim shrugged lightly, "I haven't seen them in a while. Maybe they're resting somewhere."

A mischievous grin crossed Angelica's lips, an idea forming in her mind. "You know, they might be passed out in Rias' room. Rudy must have fucked them pretty hard earlier."

Alice's eyes widened as realization dawned on her. "You're right! So that's why Rudy was walking naked in the castle."

The idea seemed too tantalizing to resist. The group exchanged glances, their grins conspiratorial. With Vriti's absence providing them with the perfect opportunity, they swiftly and silently made their way to Rias' room.

As they stood outside the door, they exchanged excited glances before Angelica turned the handle carefully, making sure to avoid any unnecessary noise. One by one, they slipped inside, their faces filled with a mix of shock and amusement.

There on the bed lay Rias, Niti, and Jane, completely naked, all peacefully asleep. Their positioning seemed as if they had succumbed to slumber mid-conversation, their limbs comfortably tangled with one another. The sight was both endearing and unexpected, causing the girls to stifle giggles and grins.

Giggles bubbled up among the girls, their shoulders shaking with suppressed laughter as they exchanged amused glances. Ruby raised an eyebrow playfully, her voice hushed. "Who would've thought we'd catch these three in such a cute moment?"

Angelica leaned in closer to Ruby and whispered, "Looks like Rudy fucked the shit out of them."

"Yeah." Lilim nodded, sniffing the air. "The scent of the room is filled with... fucks. It must have been an amazing foursome."

"Wait, what?" Ruby turned to Lilim. "This smell is... the scent of Rudy's... cum?!"

"Yeah."

"I thought it was the scent of a luxurious vampire room freshener or something! I even loved the smell!" She whispered violently with a flushed face. "Are you telling me that I was inhaling Rudy's cum?"

"Pretty much yes."

"How can it smell so good? Is this normal?"

"It is not. Rudy's cum is special. You would understand if you ever drink it."

Lilim leaned against the wall, her grin mischievous. "Should I take a picture of them and tease them about this when they wake up?"

"Nah, Rudy wouldn't like such pranks, you know?" Alice shook her head, her voice just as hushed. "Let them rest. They deserve it."

"Agreed," Angelica seconded Alice and turned to Lilim. "Don't do things that will make Rudy angry."

Lilim muttered, "That wasn't my intention. I just wanted to tease the vampire gang..."

Ruby looked at the vampires on the bed and uttered, "He fucked all of them together and managed to satisfy them? Girls are usually said to last longer on bed compared to boys, but not only did Rudy fucked all three of them, but he fucked them so much that they passed out. While he is currently out on a date with Maria, where he will most likely fuck her too."

Angelica grinned at Ruby and said, "Vampires. I hate to say this, but vampires last longer in bed compared to humans. I remember Rudy told me that Jane is the only girl in his harem who can satisfy him the longest."

As the girls stealthily exited Rias' room, the collective thought echoed in their minds: How intense could Rudy's fucking have been to exhaust the vampires this much?

Lilim, Angelica, Alice, and Ruby exchanged knowing glances, each imagining the wondering positions Rudy must have fucked them. They couldn't help but wonder how Rudy's unlimited libido managed to render Rias, Jane, and Niti completely spent.

As they entered the living room, Vriti's worried face greeted them. Her eyes widened in surprise at their return. "Where were you all? I was starting to get scared. I thought I was the only one in the castle," she said in a slightly trembling voice.

Lilim and Angelica exchanged knowing glances before Angelica spoke up, her tone reassuring.

"Oh, don't worry, Vriti. We just went for a quick stroll around the castle grounds. We're all here now."

Vriti let out a sigh of relief, her tense shoulders relaxing. "Thank goodness! I felt so alone."

Her next question was about the whereabouts of her mother, Rias, and Jane. Her concern evident, she mentioned not having seen them all day.

Lilim patted Vriti's shoulder comfortingly. "Don't worry, they're probably just asleep. You know, vampires sleep during the day."

After hearing the answer, Vriti's anxiety began to wane, replaced by a more relaxed demeanor.

They purposely didn't mention their covert visit to Rias' room. Their mischievous grins concealed their little secret as they worked to reassure Vriti. They couldn't tell Niti that her mother was one of Rudy's harem members and she was passed out in Rias' room after having an intense foursome with Rudy.

With Vriti now at ease, the girls turned their attention to their growling stomachs. The suggestion of dinner sparked excitement, and they all agreed that whipping up a feast was a great idea. With a burst of energy, they dashed to the kitchen, each of them taking charge of a specific dish they excelled in.

Amidst the clatter of pots and pans, laughter echoed through the castle's corridors. The aroma of various delicacies soon filled the air, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere.

# **Esper Harem in the Apocalypse**

## **Chapter 922: Meeting Kaguya**

The sleek black car glided into the hospital's parking area, and as Maria glanced around to find a parking spot, Rudy's voice halted her. "Hold on, Maria," he said with a small smile. "You don't need to worry about parking. The car has an automatic parking system."

Maria's eyes widened in surprise. She looked at Rudy with a mixture of skepticism and amusement. "Are you serious?"

Rudy chuckled. "Absolutely. Just sit back and watch."

As if on cue, the car's engine emitted a soft hum, and the vehicle began to maneuver itself. Maria watched in awe as the car perfectly aligned itself with an available parking spot and eased into it with precision. It was as if the car had a mind of its own.

"Wow," Maria murmured, genuinely impressed. "That's... pretty amazing."

Rudy grinned. "Told you."

After the impressive parking display, Rudy and Maria exited the car and made their way into the hospital. Inside the building, they followed the signs to the elevator and entered it as the doors slid open. The buttons for different floors awaited them, and Rudy pressed the button for the 13th floor.

The elevator ride was relatively short, and as the doors opened once again, they stepped out onto the 13th floor. The hallway stretched before them, illuminated by the soft glow of overhead lights. It was quiet and serene, with the muffled sounds of footsteps and hushed conversations drifting through the air.

Rudy's fingers interlocked with Maria's, his touch warm and reassuring. She looked up at him, her eyes filled with curiosity.

As they walked down the hallway, Maria couldn't help but feel a mixture of excitement and anticipation. She glanced around, taking in the neat rows of doors that lined the corridor. The hospital atmosphere was strangely comforting, even with the slight tension of the unknown.

Rudy released her hand momentarily to speak to the receptionist at the desk, providing their names and reason for the visit. Maria took the opportunity to glance around.

Once the necessary information had been provided, Rudy and Maria settled into the waiting area. Maria fidgeted slightly, her excitement mingling with a hint of nervousness. She caught Rudy's eye and offered him a playful smile.

Maria couldn't help but let her curiosity get the better of her. Leaning in towards Rudy, she whispered, "Hey, Rudy, can I ask you something?"

Rudy turned his attention towards her, his gaze warm and attentive. "Of course, Maria. What's on your mind?"

Maria gestured towards the reception area they had passed earlier. "I saw the sign at the reception desk. It said that the gynecology department is on the 20th floor. So, why did we get off at the 13th floor?"

Rudy's lips curved into a playful smile. "Good observation. Well, you see, there's something special about the 13th floor."

Maria raised an eyebrow, her curiosity piqued. "Special? Like what?"

Rudy's eyes sparkled with mischief as he leaned in closer, his voice a conspiratorial whisper. "It's a surprise."

Maria laughed softly, shaking her head. "You and your surprises. Alright, fine. I guess I'll have to wait and see."

Rudy's smile widened, and he gently squeezed Maria's hand. "Trust me, you'll like this one."

As they waited in the hospital's hallway, the minutes seemed to stretch on. Maria's curiosity was getting the better of her, but she patiently stayed put. Then, she noticed Rudy standing up, his expression expectant.

Intrigued, she looked up at him. "Rudy, what's going on?"

Rudy turned to her with a warm smile. "Come with me, Maria. You'll see."

Rudy's voice was calm and soothing as he spoke, breaking the silence. "We're almost there, Maria. Just a few more steps."

Maria nodded, her grip on his hand tightening slightly as she followed him down the corridor. She glanced at the room numbers as they passed, her heart beating a little faster with each step. The scent of antiseptic and the muffled sounds of conversations filled the air.

Maria's curiosity deepened as she followed Rudy down the hallway. They entered an empty room with two beds and a desk, and she looked around with a puzzled expression. "What is this room for, Rudy?"

Rudy's smile remained enigmatic as he gestured for Maria to wait. Then, as if on cue, the door opened again, and a young girl in a nurse's uniform entered the room. The girl's presence didn't seem to surprise Rudy at all, and he greeted her with familiarity. Maria's eyes widened in surprise as she took in the scene.

The girl sighed, seemingly addressing Rudy. "I was wondering if you were going to show up today. And here you are..."

Maria glanced between Rudy and the girl, her curiosity reaching new heights. "Rudy, do you know her?"

Rudy chuckled, his tone teasing. "Oh, we're old friends. Her name is Kaguya."

Kaguya entered the room with a playful smile on her lips. "More like frequent acquaintances."

Maria raised an eyebrow, sensing there was more to the story. "Frequent acquaintances?"

Kaguya grinned, exchanging a knowing glance with Rudy. "You see, Rudy here is quite the charmer. He always finds a reason to pay a visit to the hospital."

Maria's confusion deepened. "To the hospital? But why?"

Kaguya's eyes sparkled with amusement. "He fakes different illnesses— coughs, fevers, you name it – just to come and spend time with me."

Maria couldn't help but burst into laughter. "Rudy, are you serious?"

Rudy's grin widened. "Well, you see, hospitals have their perks. And she is overly cautious of me. She is an overthinker. She thinks her assumptions are always right, while in fact... I come to the hospital for my weekly checkup, not to meet her."

Kaguya nodded in agreement. "He's quite a smooth talker. And... a good liar, I must say."

Rudy winked at Maria. "I have my ways."

Kaguya then looked at Rudy with a bit of concern. "You didn't show up yesterday, and I was a bit worried. I thought maybe you got yourself killed with your stupidity."

"The only thing that can kill me is your merciless behavior towards me," Rudy remarked.

Kaguya tried to appear nonchalant, but a hint of relief shone in her eyes. "Well, I'm glad to see you here today."

Rudy's gaze held a hint of gratitude. "Wouldn't miss it for the world."

Maria couldn't help but find their banter endearing. She was witnessing a side of Rudy she hadn't seen before, and it only added to his charm. As they exchanged playful remarks, Maria realized that Rudy's ability to create connections in the most unexpected places was one of the things that made him truly unique.

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Chapter 923: Maria's Check-up

As Kaguya and Rudy exchanged banter about their hospital visits, Kaguya's curiosity naturally shifted to Maria. She glanced at Maria, then turned her attention back to Rudy. "So, who's the lovely lady?" she asked with a playful grin.

Rudy's gaze shifted to Maria, a fond smile forming on his lips. "This lovely lady is Maria. My wife."

Kaguya's eyes widened in genuine surprise. "Your wife? Really?"

Rudy nodded, his expression beaming with pride. "Yes, really. We're here for a pregnancy checkup."

Kaguya's eyebrows shot up, clearly taken aback by the revelation. She looked at Maria for a few moments, assessing her carefully. Then, without saying a word, she grabbed Rudy by the arm and playfully tugged him out of the room, leading him to a corner of the hallway.

"Hey, what's the rush?" Rudy protested, laughing.

Kaguya shot him a mischievous look. "Hold on a sec."

Once they were in a more private corner, Kaguya turned to Rudy with an intrigued expression. "Okay, spill the details. She's your wife and you're here for a pregnancy checkup? Are you old enough to be a dad?"

Rudy chuckled, slightly amused by her curiosity. "Yes, Kaguya. I'm old enough, don't worry about that."

"Wait a second," Kaguya said, her voice a hushed whisper. "Is she... old enough to have a child?"

Rudy chuckled at Kaguya's concern. "Yes, she's definitely an adult. Don't worry."

Kaguya shot him a playful, yet skeptical, look. "You have a tendency to get yourself into the most interesting situations."

Rudy grinned, his eyes twinkling with mischief. "Well, what can I say? Life is never boring."

Kaguya's lips twitched with a mixture of amusement and skepticism. "Well, I have to ask. Don't want to be responsible for causing a scandal here."

Rudy laughed softly, his eyes crinkling at the corners. "No scandals, I promise. We're here for a legitimate reason."

Kaguya gave him a playful yet pointed look. "Just making sure, Rudy. I wouldn't want your reputation as a frequent visitor to get tarnished."

Rudy leaned in conspiratorially, his tone mock-serious. "I'm a man of many talents, Kaguya. Smooth talking is just one of them."

Kaguya crossed her arms, giving him a skeptical look. "You're sure about this? I mean, you seem like the eternal playboy type."

Rudy leaned against the wall, a playful glint in his eyes. "Well, even playboys grow up eventually."

Kaguya let out a soft laugh. "That's one way to put it. But seriously, Rudy, take care of her. Pregnancy is a serious matter."

Rudy's expression softened. "I will, Kaguya. You can count on that."

Kaguya nodded, satisfied with his response. "Good. Now, go back in there and take care of your wife."

Rudy gave her a mock salute. "Yes, ma'am!"

As they returned to the room, Maria looked at them curiously. "What was that all about?"

Kaguya just smiled mysteriously. "Oh, just making sure Rudy's behaving himself."

Rudy rolled his eyes playfully. "Always keeping me in check, Kaguya."

Kaguya winked at him. "Someone has to."

As the light-hearted conversation between Rudy and Kaguya continued, Kaguya's expression turned more serious as she said, "Well, I guess it's time to take Maria to the 20th floor for the proper checkup. You can come with us if you want, or you can wait here."

Rudy hesitated for a moment, looking between Kaguya and Maria. He then smiled at Kaguya and said, "Actually, Kaguya, I think I'll need you for something else."

Both Maria and Kaguya looked at him with curiosity. "What is it?" Kaguya asked, raising an eyebrow.

Rudy's smile turned a bit mischievous. "I realized there's something I need to discuss with you, Kaguya. Something important."

Kaguya crossed her arms, giving him a bemused look. "Really? Important enough to interrupt a pregnancy checkup?"

Rudy shrugged playfully. "Well, you know me, I always have a knack for timing."

Maria chimed in, a smile tugging at her lips. "Rudy's timing has always been... unique."

Kaguya chuckled. "Alright, fine. What is it that's so important?"

Rudy leaned in a bit closer, his voice low and conspiratorial. "It's a secret. But don't worry, it won't take too long."

Kaguya's curiosity was clearly piqued. "Alright, then. Let's hear this important secret."

Just as Kaguya was about to prod Rudy for more details, she turned her head as a female staff member approached them. "Excuse me, Nurse Kaguya, we're ready to take Mrs. Maria to the 20th floor for her checkup."

Kaguya nodded, then looked at Rudy and Maria. "Well, it seems it's time. Maria, you can go with her, and Rudy and I will catch up later."

Rudy's expression shifted slightly, and he exchanged a glance with Maria. "Actually, you know what? I think I'll come with you guys to the 20th floor."

Both Maria and Kaguya looked surprised by his change of heart. "Really?" Maria asked.

Rudy nodded. "Yeah, why not? I don't want to miss out on anything important."

Kaguya chuckled. "Well, then it's settled. Let's head to the 20th floor."

As they entered the bustling 20th floor, the atmosphere was different from the lower floors, filled with the anticipation of mothers-to-be and the hushed conversations of doctors and nurses. Maria was led away by a nurse into an examination room, leaving Rudy and Kaguya standing together.

Rudy watched as Maria disappeared into the room, a mixture of excitement and nerves visible in his expression. He then turned to Kaguya, who was standing beside him. They leaned against the wall, watching the activity around them while waiting for Maria's checkup to conclude.

Before he could say anything, Kaguya turned to him with a thoughtful look.

"Rudy, can I ask you something?" Kaguya's voice was gentle, tinged with genuine concern.

Rudy nodded, his gaze fixed on her. "Of course, Kaguya. What's on your mind?"

"You still have time to think about it carefully. It's not something you can do alone, you know? The consequences of this can not be undone once you have made the decision. There is still time if you are not sure or have second thoughts about it."

Although Kaguya didn't mention what she was talking about, Rudy knew what she was referring to.

"I have asked you before and I will ask you again." Kaguya's eyes held a mix of curiosity and seriousness. "Are you truly ready to be a father at such a young age?"

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

### **Chapter 924: Test Results Report**

"Are you really ready to be a father at such a young age?"

Rudy's nod was confident, just like before. "Yes, I am. I know it's a big responsibility, but I've always believed in facing challenges head-on. I want to be there for Maria and our child."

Kaguya's gaze softened as she nodded in understanding. "That's good to hear, Rudy. I'm glad you're taking this seriously."

However, her expression became more pensive as she continued. "You know, I've seen many cases of teenage pregnancies in my line of work. Girls who are still in high school, their lives getting turned upside down because of unexpected pregnancies. I've seen relationships fall apart, dreams shattered, and futures compromised."

She hesitated for a moment before speaking again. "Sometimes, the boys leave when the girl gets pregnant, or the girl decides to have an abortion because they're not ready to be parents. It's a harsh reality, and it's not my place to judge or state opinions. I'm just a nurse, Rudy, and my job is to help my patients."

Rudy's jaw tightened slightly, showing that he understood the weight of those words. "I won't push Maria to make any decisions she's not comfortable with. Whatever choice she makes, I'll support her."

Rudy listened carefully to Kaguya's words, understanding the weight of her experience. He appreciated her honesty and her dedication to her work. "I understand, Kaguya. Thank you for sharing your perspective with me. We're prepared for the challenges ahead, and I won't let Maria face them alone."

Kaguya gave him a small, reassuring smile. "I believe you, Rudy. And I hope everything goes well for you both. Just remember, I'm here if you ever need any support or advice."

In a moment of privacy amidst the busy hospital floor, Kaguya turned to Rudy with a quizzical look. "So, what did you want to talk to me about on the 13th floor?" she inquired, her voice tinged with curiosity.

Rudy's lips curled into a mischievous smile as he reached into his pocket and pulled out a sealed envelope. He handed it to Kaguya and leaned in closer to her, whispering something into her ear. His words were hushed and meant only for her ears.

Kaguya's eyebrows furrowed slightly as she looked at him. "Rudy, what are you up to? You're not making me do something against the rules, are you?"

Rudy chuckled softly and shook his head. "No, nothing like that. Just a little favor. I promise."

Kaguya's eyes widened slightly in surprise, and she looked at Rudy with a mixture of amusement and disbelief. "You want me to do that now?"

Rudy nodded with a playful glint in his eyes. "Yes, I figured it's a good opportunity since we're here. Besides, it won't take long, and it's something I can't do myself."

Kaguya arched an eyebrow, giving him a scrutinizing look. "Rudy, I'm not your personal nurse, you know. Just because we've become acquainted doesn't mean you can make me do things for you."

Rudy chuckled, his tone light. "I know, I know. But it's just a small favor, Kaguya. I promise I'll make it up to you."

Kaguya crossed her arms, maintaining a mock stern expression. "And how exactly do you plan on making it up to me?"

Rudy grinned and gave her a friendly pat on the shoulder. "I'll think of something, don't worry. Maybe I'll owe you a favor someday."

Kaguya rolled her eyes, but there was a hint of amusement in her expression. "Fine, Rudy. I'll do it this time. But don't think you can get away with making me do your bidding all the time."

Rudy gave her a grateful smile. "Thanks, Kaguya. I appreciate it."

As they shared this lighthearted exchange, Rudy's attention was briefly pulled away by a notification on his phone. He glanced at the message and then turned his gaze back to Kaguya. "Looks like Maria's check up is done. Let's head back to the examination room."

Rudy and Maria found themselves in a quiet resting area of the hospital, away from the hustle and bustle of the hallways. They settled onto a comfortable couch, and Rudy let out a contented sigh as he leaned back.

Maria glanced at him, a warm smile gracing her lips. "You seem relaxed," she remarked.

Rudy grinned in response. "Yeah, it's nice to take a breather every now and then. Plus, it gives us a chance to have a little chat."

She nodded, her eyes sparkling with curiosity. "Alright then, let's chat. I've been wanting to ask you something."

Maria turned to Rudy, her eyes reflecting a mix of curiosity and anticipation. "Rudy, what are your thoughts on... this whole situation?" She gestured towards her abdomen, her expression a mix of emotions.

Rudy's expression turned thoughtful as he considered her question. He met her gaze with a reassuring smile. "Maria, whether the test results come back positive or negative, it really wouldn't change a thing for me."

She raised an eyebrow inquisitively. "Really? Why's that?"

He shrugged slightly. "Well, think about it. Our lives have been filled with ups and downs, unexpected twists and turns. We've faced challenges together, and we've supported each other through it all. If there's anything I've learned, it's that we can handle anything that comes our way."

Maria's lips curled into a soft smile. "You're right. We have faced some crazy situations together."

Rudy chuckled. "Crazy situations is putting it mildly."

Maria leaned in and rested her head against his shoulder. "I'm glad you're by my side, Rudy."

Rudy wrapped an arm around her shoulders and pulled her closer. "Always, Maria. No matter what."

As they continued chatting, Kaguya returned, holding two reports in her hands. She walked over to where Rudy and Maria were seated and handed them one report. "Here you go, Rudy. The test results are ready."

Rudy took the reports and nodded his thanks to Kaguya. He looked at the reports for a moment before glancing at Maria. "Are you ready to find out?"

Maria took a deep breath and nodded, her heart pounding in her chest. Rudy carefully opened the reports and his eyes scanned the contents. A warm smile spread across his face as he read the results.

Maria couldn't stand the suspense any longer. "Well, what does it say?"

Rudy's smile grew even wider as he looked up at her. "It's positive, Maria. You're pregnant."

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## **Chapter 925: Inviting Kaguya**

Maria's eyes lit up as she read the results herself. "Positive," she breathed, a mixture of joy and wonder in her voice.

Rudy closed the reports and set them aside, focusing his attention fully on Maria. "Positive," he echoed, his voice filled with happiness. "You know what this means, right?"

Maria nodded, her eyes shining with excitement. "Yeah, it means we're going to be parents."

Rudy and Maria looked at each other with excitement and happiness, their hands instinctively finding each other's.

They shared a sweet and joyful kiss, reveling in the news that they were going to become parents. Rudy's eyes sparkled with affection as he looked at Maria. "Can you believe it? We're going to have a baby."

Maria's face lit up with joy, her heart brimming with emotions. "I know, it's incredible. I can't believe I'm going to be a mom."

As the joyous news of Maria's pregnancy sank in, Rudy and Maria shared a tight embrace, their happiness palpable. Laughter and smiles filled the air, a celebration of their new journey together.

Amidst their celebration, Kaguya approached them, her presence bringing a brief pause to their happiness. She offered an apologetic smile. "I'm sorry to interrupt your happy moment, but there's one more thing I need to give you." Kaguya held out another report, a slightly amused glint in her eyes.

Rudy took the report, his curiosity piqued. "Is this...?"

Kaguya nodded. "Yes, this is the favor you asked for. I managed to get it done quickly."

Rudy's eyes lit up with gratitude. "Thank you, Kaguya. You're a lifesaver."

Kaguya waved off his thanks with a chuckle. "It's no problem. Just remember your promise to repay the favor someday."

Rudy winked playfully. "Don't worry, I won't forget."

Maria looked at Rudy with curiosity as he read the second report. "Rudy, what's the other report about?"

Rudy chuckled, tucking the report away. "Oh, it's just something related to some hospital paperwork." He skillfully diverted her attention. "But you know what? All this excitement has made me hungry. How about we celebrate with a nice dinner? I know a great place nearby."

Maria raised an eyebrow, her suspicions piqued, but Rudy's charming smile was enough to melt her doubts. "Hmm, alright. But you better tell me about that report later."

Rudy laughed softly, squeezing her hand. "Deal. Now, let's go celebrate this wonderful news."

Rudy looked at Kaguya with a charming smile, his eyes twinkling mischievously. "You know, celebrating good news is always better with good company. How about joining us for dinner?"

Kaguya's eyes widened in surprise, clearly caught off guard by his invitation. She glanced between Rudy and Maria, her lips forming a thoughtful line. After a moment of contemplation, she hesitated before speaking. "I appreciate the offer, Rudy, but I don't want to intrude. I don't want to be a third wheel."

Maria chimed in, her voice gentle and reassuring. "Oh, come on, Kaguya! You won't be a third wheel. We'd love to have you join us."

Kaguya's gaze shifted to Maria, and she seemed to consider the offer once again. "Are you sure? I mean, it's your celebration. I don't want to impose."

Rudy's smile widened as he joined in, echoing Maria's sentiment. "Absolutely! We both genuinely would enjoy your company."

Kaguya sighed softly, giving in to their persistence. "Alright, alright. If you're both so insistent, I'll join you. But I'll have to finish up some things here before I can leave. Can you two wait for me at the main gate of the hospital?"

Maria's eyes lit up, and she clapped her hands together excitedly. "Of course! Take your time, Kaguya. We'll be waiting for you."

With a small smile, Kaguya nodded. "Alright, then. I'll see you both at the main gate. Enjoy the rest of your celebration!"

As Kaguya turned to head back into the hospital, Rudy exchanged a satisfied look with Maria. Their invitation had been accepted, and they were looking forward to a delightful dinner in each other's company, celebrating the joyous news of their pregnancy with a friend who had unexpectedly become a part of their evening plans.

Rudy and Maria stepped into the elevator, their fingers intertwined as they shared excited smiles. The elevator descended swiftly, and the numbers on the display panel dropped as they neared the ground floor. As the doors slid open, they walked out and headed towards the parking area.

Maria's gaze flickered to the spot where they had parked the car earlier, but her brow furrowed in confusion when she realized it was no longer there. Panic momentarily flitted across her features, and she turned to Rudy, her voice slightly shaky. "Rudy, where's the car? Did someone steal it?"

Rudy chuckled softly, placing a reassuring hand on her shoulder. "No need to worry, Maria. I activated the car's automatic parking feature. It's on its way to pick us up right now."

Maria's eyes widened in surprise, and a mix of amazement and relief replaced her initial panic. "Wait, seriously? The car can come to us on its own?"

Rudy grinned at her reaction. "Yep, that's one of its nifty features. I thought it would be a fun surprise. Let's wait a moment; you'll see."

As they stood by the parking area, a faint humming sound grew louder, and within moments, the sleek, luxurious car glided into view. It smoothly maneuvered around the corners and parked right in front of them, its sleek black exterior gleaming under the artificial lights.

Maria's jaw dropped, and she looked at the car in disbelief. "That's incredible! I've never seen anything like it!"

Rudy opened the door for her, gesturing towards the interior with a flourish. "After you, my lady."

Maria giggled, playfully swatting his arm before stepping into the car. Rudy followed suit, settling into the passenger's seat as the doors closed with a soft whirr. With a grin, Maria activated the ignition, and the car purred to life.

As they pulled away from the parking area, Maria couldn't help but marvel at the car's advanced features. "You really know how to surprise me, Rudy."

He chuckled at her, his focus on the road. "Just wait until you see what else this baby can do. Our evening is just getting started."

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## **Chapter 926: A Sealed Report**

Rudy and Maria settled into the car, the excitement from earlier still buzzing in the air. As they got comfortable, Rudy discreetly placed the sealed report in a compartment without opening it, a small gesture that didn't escape Maria's notice. Curiosity danced in her eyes, but she respected Rudy's decision to keep it a secret for now.

Not wanting to pry, she turned her attention to the road as they drove towards the hospital's main gate. The city lights painted colorful streaks against the evening sky, casting a warm glow over their surroundings.

As they reached the main gate and parked the car, Maria couldn't help but steal a sideways glance at Rudy. "So, what's in that report you put away earlier?"

Rudy flashed her a mischievous grin. "Ah, you caught that, huh? Don't worry, I promise I'll tell you all about it later. It's just something that I thought could wait until after our dinner."

Maria raised an eyebrow, but she relented, a playful smile tugging at the corner of her lips. "Alright, you've got my attention. I'll be patient."

Their conversation was interrupted by a familiar figure hurrying towards the car. Kaguya was walking briskly, almost as if she was in a rush. The expression on her face seemed a mix of apology and urgency. She approached the car, and without hesitation, opened the back door and slipped inside.

"Hey, Kaguya," Maria greeted her with a warm smile. "Don't worry about being a little late. We just got here ourselves."

Kaguya offered a quick but sincere smile in return. "Thank you, Maria. Sorry for making you wait."

Rudy glanced at Kaguya through the rearview mirror, a friendly twinkle in his eyes. "No problem at all. Ready for a nice dinner?"

Kaguya nodded, her expression grateful. "Definitely. Thanks for inviting me."

With Kaguya now settled in the backseat, the car pulled away from the hospital's entrance and onto the city streets.

The car glided through the city streets, and as the silence stretched on, Kaguya found herself growing more and more nervous. She noticed Rudy stealing occasional glances at her, and each time their eyes met, she quickly averted her gaze, her heart fluttering inexplicably.

Sensing Kaguya's unease, Maria turned her attention away from the road for a moment. "Kaguya, are you feeling comfortable? If there's anything you need or want to talk about, feel free to let us know."

Kaguya offered a small smile, appreciating Maria's concern. "Thank you, Maria. I'm alright, just a little... unused to this kind of outing, I guess."

Rudy's voice, tinged with amusement, cut through the air. "Oh, come on, Kaguya. You're among friends here. Just relax and enjoy the evening."

Kaguya managed a nod but remained slightly tense. Rudy's playful teasing and the way he seemed to focus his attention on her made her heart race even faster. She felt a blush creeping onto her cheeks, and she couldn't help but notice his charming smile.

Breaking the silence, Rudy's voice cut through the air with a chuckle. "You know, Kaguya, I have to say, I've never seen you in anything other than your nurse uniform. You look really nice in that casual outfit."

Kaguya's cheeks flushed slightly at the unexpected compliment. She felt a mix of surprise and shyness, not used to receiving such comments. She glanced at Rudy briefly, her expression a mixture of gratitude and bashfulness. "Oh, thank you. I... uh, it's not often I get to dress like this."

Maria's eyes twinkled with amusement as she glanced at Kaguya through the rearview mirror. "Oh, you've caught Rudy's attention, Kaguya."

Kaguya's eyes widened, and she stammered slightly. "W-Well, I—"

Maria, picking up on the unspoken exchange, looked between Rudy and Kaguya with a knowing smile. She then turned her attention back to the road, steering the car with ease. "Well, Kaguya, I have to agree with Rudy. You do look great."

Kaguya smiled, still feeling a bit flustered. "Thanks, Maria."

Rudy leaned back in his seat, a playful glint in his eyes. "See, Kaguya? You've got both of us giving you compliments. You should take them to heart."

Kaguya chuckled softly, a mixture of amusement and embarrassment coloring her features. She then turned to Maria, her expression more serious. "Maria, I wanted to point something out."

Maria glanced at Kaguya, curious. "What is it?"

Kaguya gestured subtly towards Rudy. "Well, you see... I think someone here is quite the charmer."

Maria raised an eyebrow, her curiosity piqued. She looked between Kaguya and Rudy, then back at Kaguya. "Oh? And who might that be?"

Kaguya playfully pointed a finger at Rudy, her eyes dancing with mischief. "Him. He's been showering me with compliments since we got in the car. I think he's quite the flirt."

Rudy burst into laughter, caught off guard by Kaguya's boldness. He shrugged with a grin. "Guilty as charged."

Maria chuckled as well, finding Kaguya's observations amusing. "Well, Kaguya, I hope you're ready to handle his charms then."

As the car continued down the road, Kaguya turned her attention to Maria with genuine curiosity. "So, Maria, how did you two meet? And what led you to get married at such a young age?"

Maria exchanged a glance with Rudy before a mischievous grin spread across her face. She leaned back in her seat, clearly ready to share the story. "Well, it all started in a casino."

Kaguya's eyebrows shot up in surprise. "A casino?"

Maria nodded, her smile growing. "Yep. I was there, just looking for a gambling buddy to play with. I didn't know anyone and thought it might be fun to have some company. That's when I saw Rudy."

Kaguya turned her gaze to Rudy, her interest piqued. "Rudy, you were a gambling buddy?"

Rudy chuckled and shrugged. "Yeah, I happened to be there and decided to join her for a game. Little did I know, that was the beginning of our crazy journey together."

Maria nodded in agreement. "Exactly. And you know what, Kaguya? Rudy's kindness is what really caught my attention."

Kaguya's eyes sparkled with curiosity. "Kindness?"

Maria nodded, her gaze affectionate as she looked at Rudy. "Yep. He's a natural charmer, you know. His looks, his voice, his actions—everything just works in his favor. And before I knew it, I was falling for him."

Rudy chuckled, a hint of embarrassment in his expression. "Oh come on, Maria. You're making me sound like some kind of Casanova."

Maria playfully nudged him. "Well, you do have that effect on people."

Maria leaned in with a playful glint in her eyes, her tone conspiratorial. "Just a word of caution, Kaguya. Be careful of Rudy's charm. He might just sweep you off your feet."

Kaguya chuckled softly. "He is already married to you. Why would he want another girl? You are amazing, beautiful, and so friendly. And you are carrying his baby in your womb. You are going to be the mother of his child."

Kaguya's reaction was expected and Maria wasn't surprised. But she knew that if Rudy had set his eyes on a girl, he wouldn't let her go until she falls for him.

Maria laughed, shaking her head. "I can't help it. I have to give credit where it's due. The man has a talent for winning hearts."

Kaguya's smile grew. "I can see that. He certainly knows how to make an impression."

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

## **Chapter 927: Kaguya is Nervous**

Kaguya stepped out of the car and looked up at the grandeur of the restaurant before her. The architectural masterpiece seemed like a world of its own, a place where dreams and opulence intertwined. The awe in her eyes was unmistakable as she took in the elegant facade and the gleaming windows that promised a lavish experience within.

As the car was parked, Rudy gently nudged Kaguya with a warm smile, his gesture urging her to follow him and Maria. Her heart raced a bit faster, a mixture of excitement and nervousness bubbling within her. She took a deep breath and joined them, her steps carrying a blend of anticipation and uncertainty.

The moment they entered the restaurant, they were greeted by the courteous staff, who welcomed them with the utmost respect. Rudy's prior reservation ensured that they were led to a private, air-conditioned space, away from the hustle and bustle of the main dining area. Kaguya's gaze wandered around the richly decorated interior, taking in the soft lighting, intricate details, and the atmosphere of luxury that surrounded them.

They settled at their table, the plush seats embracing them in comfort. Kaguya's eyes flickered between Rudy and Maria, feeling a blend of gratitude and trepidation. Her fingers fidgeted slightly as she observed the fine cutlery, the polished glassware, and the exquisite ambiance that seemed to whisper tales of elegance and refinement.

Kaguya's nervousness became evident as she traced the rim of her glass with her fingertip, her thoughts swirling. This was an unfamiliar territory for her— a place she had never imagined herself in. Her modest nurse's salary and her dedication to her work had kept her grounded in her own world, and the lavishness of the restaurant seemed to widen the gap between her reality and this moment.

She stole a glance at Rudy and Maria, their presence offering a reassuring comfort. Maria's warm smile and Rudy's charismatic aura created an aura of inclusion, making Kaguya feel like an integral part of the experience. Still, her insecurities lingered, casting a subtle shadow on her expression.

Rudy, sensing her unease, leaned in and whispered softly, "Relax, Kaguya. This is a celebration, a chance for us to enjoy a special evening together."

Maria chimed in, her voice gentle and reassuring. "We're here to have a great time. No need to worry about anything."

Kaguya nodded, her lips curving into a tentative smile. She allowed their words to ease her apprehensions, to remind her that she was indeed deserving of this experience. She reminded herself that it was okay to step out of her comfort zone and embrace the luxury before her.

As they settled into their seats, each holding a menu in their hands, the ambiance of the restaurant enveloped them in an air of anticipation. The soft lighting and the elegant décor created a backdrop of sophistication that complemented the moment. They gazed down at the leather-bound menus, each page a treasure trove of culinary delights waiting to be explored.

Maria's voice broke the quiet as she looked up from her menu, a playful smile curving her lips. "So, Rudy, any preferences?"

Rudy met her gaze with a charming smile, his tone carrying a gentlemanly charm. "I'll leave that to you, Maria. Surprise me with your choice."

Kaguya's heart fluttered at the exchange, her attention shifting between the two of them. It was clear that their relationship was one of mutual respect and affection, a dynamic that resonated in their every interaction.

As the three of them perused the menu, Kaguya felt a wave of unease wash over her. Her gaze fixated on the intricate descriptions of dishes, but her thoughts were elsewhere. The prices, written in elegant font beside each item, sent her heart sinking. She felt a knot of apprehension tightening in her chest as she mentally calculated the costs – figures that were far beyond what she was accustomed to.

The disparity between her nurse's salary and the extravagant offerings of the restaurant was stark and disconcerting. The idea of spending on a single meal what she earned in months felt almost absurd, a reflection of a world she rarely ventured into.

As the waiter approached, his attentive gaze shifting between the three of them, Maria's confidence remained undeterred. "We're ready to order," she announced with a graceful smile.

Kaguya felt herself tensing as she realized it was her turn. The words caught in her throat for a moment, her palms slightly damp with nerves. She glanced at Maria, whose unwavering assurance was both comforting and intimidating.

"Um," Kaguya began, her voice betraying a hint of her unease. She cleared her throat, her eyes quickly scanning the menu for a familiar dish. "I'll have what she's having," she finally managed, her tone slightly wavering.

The waiter nodded professionally, his features giving away nothing as he jotted down their orders. He collected the menus and retreated, leaving the trio once again in the quiet embrace of the restaurant.

As Kaguya lowered her menu, she couldn't help but feel a mix of emotions. Embarrassment clung to her like a weight, her cheeks tinged with a faint blush. She stole a glance at Maria, her inner turmoil evident, but she found Maria's gaze warm and understanding.

The conversation flowed as they waited for their orders to arrive. Laughter intertwined with anecdotes, bridging the gap between their different worlds. By the time the first dish was placed before them, Kaguya's initial discomfort had softened into a sense of camaraderie.

As they delved into the culinary delights the restaurant had to offer, Kaguya's initial nervousness began to dissipate. She found herself savoring every bite, the flavors mingling on her palate like a symphony of taste. The engaging conversations and genuine camaraderie between Rudy, Maria, and herself gradually melted away her reservations.

As they savored the exquisite flavors and shared in each other's company, the restaurant transformed from a symbol of opulence to a setting for cherished memories. Kaguya learned that sometimes stepping out of one's comfort zone could lead to unexpected connections, bridging gaps between backgrounds and experiences.

By the time the evening came to an end, Kaguya had transformed from a hesitant guest to a fully engaged participant in the celebration. The restaurant, once a daunting space, now held memories of laughter, warmth, and a newfound sense of belonging.

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

## **Chapter 928: Helpless Nurse**

As the evening progressed, the enchanting atmosphere of the restaurant seemed to weave a spell around Kaguya. The worries that had initially weighed on her heart began to fade, replaced by a sense of belonging that she hadn't anticipated. The laughter, the stories, and the genuine companionship they shared turned the evening into a balm for her weary soul.

As the plates of delectable dishes were brought to the table, Kaguya's apprehension melted away, replaced by a growing anticipation. She found herself immersed in the flavors and textures, savoring

each bite with a newfound appreciation. The delicate dance of tastes on her palate stirred a sense of delight that she had almost forgotten amidst her daily struggles.

The easy camaraderie between Rudy, Maria, and herself made her feel at ease, as if she was catching up with old friends. The initial unease that had gripped her was now a distant memory, replaced by a feeling of comfort that wrapped around her like a warm embrace. She was no longer aware of the opulent surroundings, for in that moment, it was the connection and the shared laughter that painted her world in vibrant hues.

Kaguya's thoughts drifted as she listened to their animated conversation, momentarily forgetting the weight of her responsibilities and the disappointments she had faced.

Kaguya's life had been a relentless pursuit of her dreams, an unwavering dedication to her studies and the future she had envisioned for herself. As a child, she had harbored dreams of becoming a doctor, of making a difference in the lives of others through healing and compassion. She had worked tirelessly, her nose buried in textbooks and her mind focused on the pursuit of excellence.

But the pursuit of her dreams had come at a cost. Her singular focus had left little room for friendships or connections outside the realm of academia. While her classmates laughed, socialized, and formed bonds that would last a lifetime, Kaguya had been consumed by her studies. The rigors of her schedule and the weight of her aspirations had isolated her, creating an invisible wall that separated her from the ordinary joys of youth.

Her determination and hard work had brought her within reach of her ultimate goal - a coveted seat in a prestigious medical school. The scholarship program had been her lifeline, the promise that her dreams were within grasp even with her humble background. She had excelled, her dedication earning her a place among the country's academic elite.

Yet, fate had dealt her a cruel twist. The very institution that was meant to nurture her dreams had been tainted by corruption and greed. A student's admission was no longer based on merit, but on the thickness of their family's wallet. Kaguya's dreams were shattered when her rightful place was snatched away by the power of wealth, leaving her heartbroken and disillusioned.

Forced to change her course, she had chosen nursing as an alternative path. It was a decision born out of necessity rather than passion, a compromise that stung deeply. And as she delved into the world of nursing, she found herself further isolated. Her classmates had formed bonds during their training, but Kaguya struggled to bridge the gap that her years of solitude had created.

The walls she had built around herself grew thicker, her past experiences fueling a deep-seated belief that true connections were a luxury she could not afford. Friendships felt elusive, distant, and unnecessary when weighed against the practicality of her goals.

And so, as Kaguya sat in the luxurious restaurant with Rudy and Maria, a warmth she had long forgotten began to thaw the ice around her heart. Their genuine interest, the shared laughter, and the simple camaraderie began to chip away at the barriers she had constructed.

For the first time in a long while, she felt the stirrings of something she hadn't experienced in years - a sense of belonging, a glimmer of what it might feel like to have friends who cared.

As the evening progressed, Kaguya realized that perhaps there was more to life than her singular pursuit of a medical degree. Perhaps there was beauty in the connections she had been denying herself, in the moments of laughter and understanding that she had been missing.

The dinner had been a delightful affair, filled with laughter, shared stories, and the warmth of newfound companionship. As the plates were cleared away and the last remnants of dessert disappeared, the waiter approached their table with the bill in hand. Rudy, with his signature charm, signaled to the waiter that he would settle the payment at the counter. The waiter nodded, understanding Rudy's gesture.

Kaguya excused herself to accompany Maria to the ladies' washroom. With a friendly smile, Maria accepted the offer, and the two of them walked away from the table, their voices fading as they chatted.

Inside the restroom, Maria fixed her appearance in the mirror while Kaguya stood by, lost in her thoughts. She admired Maria's beauty and poise, her heart a mix of admiration and a tinge of envy. But she quickly shook off the negative feeling, focusing on the camaraderie she was experiencing tonight.

Upon their return, they found that Rudy had already settled the bill, and Maria offered a grateful smile.

They made their way to the parked car, and Maria quickly took the passenger's seat, knowing that Rudy was the designated driver for the journey back. Rudy and Kaguya followed suit, strolling leisurely toward the car. However, just as they were about to reach it, Kaguya paused, her fingers lightly curling around Rudy's arm to stop him.

He turned his gaze to her, an inquisitive smile on his lips. Kaguya's expression held a mixture of determination and sincerity as she spoke, her voice soft but resolute. "Rudy, I want to pay my share of the bill someday. Please let me do that."

Rudy's eyes held a gentle amusement as he regarded Kaguya. "Kaguya, there's really no need for that. We were all here to enjoy each other's company."

Kaguya's insistence remained unwavering. She nodded slightly, her gaze meeting Rudy's with earnestness. "I understand that, but I want to. It's not just about the bill; it's about showing my appreciation."

Rudy lowered his gaze as he thought, 'I wanted to cheer her up, but she is so... pessimistic...'

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

# **Chapter 929: Kaguya's Struggle**

Rudy considered her request before a mischievous smile played on his lips. "Do you know the meaning of the word 'treat,' Kaguya?" he asked, raising an eyebrow

Kaguya's cheeks tinged with a faint pink hue, but she nodded. "Yes, of course."

Rudy's hand affectionately patted her head, his touch comforting. "Then let me treat you all tonight. It's a small gesture to express how much I value your friendship. When someone treats you, it's because they want to do something nice for you. It's not about repaying, it's about sharing moments and making memories together."

Kaguya couldn't help but smile at his words, her heart warmed by the sincerity in his gaze. "Thank you, Rudy."

She bit her lower lip, her eyes reflecting a mix of gratitude and uncertainty. Rudy's presence had always been a source of comfort for her, a reminder that there was goodness in the world even when her dreams had been dashed before.

As their eyes locked, Kaguya felt a sense of trust and comfort she hadn't experienced in a long time. A moment of vulnerability overcame her, and she found herself sharing her worries with him.

"Rudy, I have a medical exam coming up. It could be my chance to become a doctor again, but I'm so nervous. I don't know what the future holds. If I pass, it might give me another chance to become a doctor. But if I fail... I don't know what I'll do."

Rudy's presence felt grounding, his voice soothing as he responded. "Kaguya, worrying about things we can't control only adds unnecessary stress. Focus on what you can do to prepare, and have faith in your abilities. Remember, you have the strength to handle whatever comes your way."

Tears glistened in Kaguya's eyes as she looked at him, her heart touched by his belief in her. She found herself drawn to his presence, the way his words had a way of calming her fears. He was like an anchor in the storm of uncertainty.

"I know, but..." Kaguya sighed, her worry still evident in her voice. "My dream was trampled once, Rudy. I don't want that to happen again. If I fail, I'll have to continue working as a nurse, and while I love my job, I've always wanted to be a doctor."

Rudy's hands cupped Kaguya's face, his thumbs gently caressing her cheeks. His voice was soothing as he reassured her, "Kaguya, you can't predict the outcome of everything. But what you can do is put in your best effort. The results will follow. And remember, your dreams aren't defined by a single moment. It's a journey."

Kaguya felt her heart lighten under Rudy's reassuring words. She leaned slightly into his touch, their faces so close that she could feel his warm breath against her skin. The moment felt charged with an unspoken connection, and Kaguya's heart raced. She was on the brink of something - a leap of faith that could change everything.

She moved forward to kiss Rudy on the lips, And then, as if a splash of cold water had jolted her senses, Kaguya remembered. She remembered that Rudy was married to Maria, who was pregnant with his child. Her cheeks flushed crimson with embarrassment, Cursing herself for not seizing the moment when it was right in front of her, Kaguya swiftly changed her course of action. Instead of moving in for a kiss, she went for a hug, wrapping her arms around Rudy as tightly as she dared.

Rudy's laughter rumbled through his chest as he returned the hug. "I can't wait for that day to come, Kaguya," he replied, his voice warm and full of genuine happiness.

As Rudy held Kaguya in the comforting embrace, his mind wandered through the labyrinth of his memories, piecing together the puzzle that was Kaguya's journey. He knew from the other worldline that Kaguya had never fulfilled her dream of becoming a doctor, and yet here she was, a dedicated and

skilled nurse. The incongruence nagged at him, and he found himself lost in thought as he held her close.

In that other worldline, Kaguya's dream had been trampled by some unseen force, and he couldn't help but speculate that money and influence might have been at play. He remembered how hardworking and dedicated Kaguya was, her relentless pursuit of her dreams evident in her every action. Doubting her efforts was out of the question.

As the memory played out in his mind, Rudy's conclusion began to form. Kaguya's path had been altered by those who valued wealth over merit, who manipulated opportunities to their own advantage. It was a realization that left a bitter taste in his mouth, anger simmering beneath the surface.

His mind flickered to a darker memory, one he had witnessed in that other worldline. Kaguya's life had met a tragic end at the hands of a mentally ill patient. The moment was seared into his memory, haunting him with its stark reality. He couldn't hold the mentally ill responsible for their actions, for their grasp on reality was tenuous at best. No, Rudy's blame was directed elsewhere, to those who had shaped Kaguya's journey to its unfortunate end.

His grip on Kaguya tightened slightly, his fingers unconsciously seeking solace in the touch of another human being. He couldn't change the past, but he could forge a different path for Kaguya in this worldline. A worldline where her dreams could still be realized.

Rudy's thoughts shifted, drawing parallels between Kaguya's circumstances and the metaphor of the jungle. If someone ventured into the jungle and was attacked by wild animals, the blame couldn't be placed solely on the animals. They were acting according to their nature. Instead, the responsibility lay with the person who had entered the dangerous territory and of course the reasons and the circumstances of the person.

Similarly, Rudy found himself attributing Kaguya's situation to the corrupt officers of the medical university, the ones who had paved the way for her dreams to be dashed. In a world driven by greed and power, their actions were a reflection of their own twisted values.

'This world...no, every world needs an order... a perfect world order... where everyone is treated equally. And I... will make sure that happens... I will create a world where they would have to work hard to even survive...'

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

### **Chapter 930: A Baffling Discovery**

Kaguya's voice interrupted Rudy's thoughts, drawing him back to the present moment. Her gratitude and hope had touched his heart, and he felt a renewed sense of determination. He knew he couldn't change the past, but he could make a difference in the present.

With a soft exhale, Rudy pressed a gentle kiss to the top of Kaguya's head, his embrace providing a silent reassurance. As they parted from their hug, his eyes met hers, conveying his unwavering support.

"Kaguya," he said, his voice steady, "You have the strength to overcome any challenge. No matter what obstacles come your way, remember that you're not alone. You have people who believe in you and your dreams."

Kaguya's eyes shimmered with emotion as she met his gaze, her lips curving into a grateful smile. In that moment, Rudy silently promised himself that he would do whatever it took to ensure that Kaguya's dreams were no longer trampled by the whims of the powerful. He couldn't change the past, but he could certainly shape the future. And as they stood there, bathed in the warm glow of streetlights, Rudy felt a renewed determination to protect and empower those whose dreams deserved to flourish.

Kaguya's heart raced as reality snapped back into focus. She quickly and discreetly stepped back from Rudy, creating a small but noticeable distance between them. Her eyes darted towards the car where Maria was seated, her mind awash with a mix of emotions. The warmth of their previous embrace still lingered, yet the abruptness of the situation was enough to jolt her back to her senses.

Anxiety gnawed at Kaguya as she battled to keep her composure. She didn't want to give the wrong impression, especially to Maria. The last thing she wanted was to come across as if there were some sort of secret, intimate connection between her and Rudy. Her cheeks flushed with a mixture of embarrassment and self-chastisement.

Internally, Kaguya scolded herself, wondering how she could have lost control like that. What had possessed her to embrace Rudy so tightly, to allow him to hold her so intimately? Her thoughts raced as she replayed the scene in her mind, berating herself for letting her emotions get the better of her.

She couldn't help but inwardly curse herself. What had she been thinking, letting Rudy's hands rest on her back, feeling the contours of her body? Allowing him to press a soft kiss to her forehead, a gesture that sent her heart into a frenzy? Kaguya shook her head, her inner dialogue a mixture of frustration and disbelief.

As she glanced back at Rudy, she saw him standing there with his usual easy smile, seemingly unaware of the whirlwind of thoughts raging within her. It was true that they were friends, and physical affection between friends was normal. But in this context, with Rudy's wife nearby, Kaguya felt like she had overstepped a line.

She debated with herself, wondering if she should offer some sort of explanation or apology, but the words refused to form on her lips. Instead, she mentally reminded herself of the importance of professional boundaries, of maintaining a sense of decorum and respect.

And yet, even as Kaguya's mind urged her to maintain that distance, her heart tugged in a different direction. Rudy had been a source of comfort and support, a friend who had been there when she needed someone the most. She found herself torn between wanting to protect their professional relationship and allowing herself to lean on him in moments of vulnerability.

With a silent sigh, Kaguya reconciled the conflict within her. She would find a balance, a way to keep their interactions friendly and genuine without crossing any lines. After all, their connection was one built on trust and camaraderie, something she valued deeply.

As she glanced once more at Maria in the car, Kaguya made a silent promise to herself. She would continue to navigate this delicate dance with care, cherishing the bond she shared with Rudy while also being mindful of the boundaries that should be respected.

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A while ago, when Maria sat in the car, her cheerful and energetic smile never wavered. She waited patiently for Rudy and Kaguya to join her, noticing their hushed conversation with a knowing smile. She had always been supportive of Rudy's friendships and interactions, so their moment didn't concern her in the least.

Her attention then shifted to the compartment where Rudy had placed the sealed report. Her curiosity piqued, and her mind couldn't help but wander to the contents of that report.

She turned her gaze back to Rudy, who was engaged in an intimate moment with Kaguya, his fingers gently caressing her cheek. Maria's thoughts were momentarily sidetracked, her heart swelling with affection for the man who had captured her heart. Rudy had an undeniable charm, and she couldn't help but feel lucky to have him in her life.

However, her curiosity about the report gnawed at her. She knew Rudy had promised to reveal its contents after their dinner, but the temptation was too strong to resist. With a surreptitious glance around, she decided to take a peek. After all, what harm could it do?

With deft fingers, Maria opened the compartment and retrieved the sealed report. Holding it up to the light, she wondered if there might be some way to catch a glimpse of the contents without fully breaking the seal. But her hopes were dashed as she realized she couldn't discern any words through the envelope.

In the end, Maria couldn't resist the temptation. She knew she was crossing a line, but her curiosity got the best of her. Carefully, she broke the seal, making sure not to damage the report inside. As she unfolded the paper, her initial excitement turned into shock and disbelief.

The contents of the report hit her like a wave. Her wide grin gave way to a mixture of emotions she couldn't quite put into words. She looked at Rudy and bit her lips. Before Rudy and Kaguya could come her way, she quickly folded the report and placed it back in the compartment.

"Why..." She muttered to herself. "Why would he need a DNA test..."