

Full-Moon 971

Chapter 971 Night of the Hare Moon

Upon getting close to Mavenna earlier, he realized that her scent helped clear his mind.

It was not because of her being a Rosadonna Succubus, but it was because the Hare Moon encourages any Werewolves, an Alpha in particular to mate, and thus anything that leans to intimacy would feel way more pleasant and calming than normal.

Even pulling back from Mavenna took a big chunk of Rex's willpower to do.

He really needs to get out of her as soon as possible/

While he was heading to the Executor's quarter, the same place he went first when he got here, his mind traveled to the others. Rex already made sure that Adhara and Evelyn were taken care of with his clone, but the others were completely alone.

Flunra will probably be fine, but what about Prof. K and Giana...?

Since Flunra doesn't even mention the Hare Moon, he should have a way to protect himself.

On the other hand, Prof. K and Giana who were doing the Kingdom Quest that Rex assigned them were completely clueless about the Hare Moon. Though as a researcher, Prof. K would know a thing or two about the Full Moons' effects, he wouldn't know how to deal with the influence the Hare Moon brought.

Just the thought of this made Rex shake his head, knowing what would've happened.

He remembered the rune he branded on Giana made her more vulnerable, and thus, the Hare Moon's effect would dawn on her harder than normal. At that point, if something didn't happen between the two, it would've been a miracle.

I just hope that she won't get pregnant, that would be bad for the pack.

<Outer pack members weren't able to reproduce or even engage in copulation without permission from the user, and Betas such as Kyran and Flunra wouldn't be able to make others pregnant without the permission of the user>

"I didn't know this was a thing" Rex mused in surprise as he read the notification.

Perhaps, this has to do with the Werewolf pack dynamic.

Rex knew that the normal culture of Werewolves doesn't allow Betas or lower-standing Werewolves to mate. Only Alphas were allowed to mate, and it was done in order to make sure that their offspring were nothing less than strong.

But he didn't know that the System has the ability to even manage this kind of thing.

Then does that mean I could also manage when I have my offspring?

<Yes, the user could manipulate the offspring except for a few specific instances>

<It could be done through the Fertility function>

Upon reading this, Rex shrugged his shoulders and chuckled. He doesn't need to think about this when he's not in a time of peace. It would've been a dangerous move to have a kid when enemies are crawling everywhere.

Each of them is vying against each other to take him down.

Having a kid right now would only mean that he would have another major weakness.

Just to make sure, keep the Fertility function off.

...

Meanwhile, Dargena City.

It was the same as every night, the people were helping each other to survive.

With food production going well alongside the distribution of work, the citizens of the city enjoyed the peace they were given within the imposing walls. Despite the situation being tense, they were still able to enjoy themselves.

Many questioned the absence of Rex or even Evelyn, but that didn't last long.

Remembering the opening speech that Rex gave to them, leaving a deep impression on them because of what he did back then, the citizens didn't question for too long. Their lord stated that danger lurks everywhere, and he would be the bulwark for the peace of the city.

Instead of questioning, the citizens started praying for Rex's safety.

Even the Supernatural citizens did their own ritual to their Origin, all to pray for his safety.

"Sir Gelmar, the Green Messenger, and Lady Giana have returned," A city guard reported to Gelmar, who was looking at the dark blue moon in the sky. The guard gestured towards the entrance, awaiting Gelmar's instruction.

Nodding his head, Gelmar then heads to the entrance.

Upon reaching the entrance, he found that it was true that the Green Messenger and Lady Giana were waiting for the gate to be opened. However, he noticed that the two didn't seem to be well, both were grasping their face and head in migraine.

"I don't know what happened to them, but the two came like that" The guard chimed.

But this made Gelmar point to the sky.

Gazing skywards, with the Hare Full Moon shining brightly, the guard came to a realization.

He was a human, and he forgot that the two were Werewolves.

Coming down from the top of the wall, Gelmar instructed to open the gate. He stood calmly as the gate was opened before him, and he now saw Prof. K and Lady Giana's faces that were seemingly at the edge of breaking.

Pain was palpably shown through their expressions, and it was killing them inside.

Just as Prof. K was about to get inside, Giana stood rooted on her spot before she suddenly fell forward. With a quick reflex, Gelmar came and caught her before she fell down, and quickly inspected her to find her entire body was heating up.

Giana was half awake, but she couldn't move at all.

All she could do was moan under her breath and struggle to endure this hardship.

Signaling to the other city guards, Gelmar told them to bring Giana to the hospital before he turned to look at Prof. K, "Do you need to go to the hospital too? I'll assign some strong city guards to guard you in case you go berserk"

"No, I'll be fine... I think" Prof. K replied, he was sweating profusely despite the cold night.

Reaching for his pocket, he took out a glowing item.

From a cursory examination, the object revealed itself as a diminutive arrow, sized to fit an adult's hand. Its fiery form bore intricate runic engravings, runes that Gelmar had never seen before, and emitted a heat capable of devouring other mana in the air.

In addition, apparently, this item was also generating a more potent iteration of fire mana.

Prof. K handed it to Gelmar and said, "Give it to Lord Rex"

"Lord Rex is not inside right now, so I'll probably give this to Lady Adhara or Sir Flunra. But do you want me to give this arrow to Lord Rex?" Gelmar asked, he was confused as a bow is not Rex's choice of weapon.

But Prof. K waved his hand nonchalantly, "It's something important, so do that for me"

Although he was a bit skeptical, Gelmar didn't push any further.

With that out of the way, both of them then entered before the entrance was closed again.

Meanwhile, inside the castle.

Heeding Rex's request to not go out for too long, knowing full well that dangers lurked around the city and also the incoming Hare Moon, Flunra got back this noon and continued his research about the Slave Mark.

Immersive himself in work, he didn't realize that it was already night when he came out.

"Maybe I should check on the others" He uttered to himself.

Flunra coursed through the hallway alone.

Upon walking by an unglazed window, he was exposed to the Hare Moon's light.

Despite being seemingly nonchalant even though the night was heavily suppressed by the Hare Moon, direct exposure sent powerful dizziness to his mind. But by engraving a rune to the center of his chest, he managed to endure the Hare Moon's effect.

Looking down at the rune, he smiled wryly, "Ancient Rune of Seniority, it's quite handy"

Compared to the other Werewolves that were completely rendered lustful by the Hare Moon, the reason for Flunra not being affected was because of this rune. It was a rune that could completely disregard any lust-inducing effect done by the full moon.

However, the reason for his wry smile is that it could only be used by old Werewolves.

Essentially, he's too old to feel lust anyway.

Sighing to himself, he continued through the hallway and realized that it was very empty.

He was evidently disturbed by this.

Remembering the Prince's castle back before the Supernaturals got sealed, there were a couple of guards in the hallway, he wanted to tell Gelmar to station some guards inside to keep a lookout in case of some intrusion.

But he need to halt that thought for now with the Hare Moon shining brightly in the sky.

Soon, he neared the main bed chamber.

Not even needing to get close, he could already hear the loud and vigorous moans from Evelyn and Adhara engaging in a fierce sexual act with the clone. Flunra nodded at this as the two of them seemed to be fine.

Just then, he glanced over his shoulder as he sensed someone.

"Green Messenger is back. Lord Rex said that he was a scientist, which is some sort of a scholar, right? Maybe letting him take a look at my work would give some insight" Flunra mused before he intends to go out.

However, not even a step, his ears suddenly perked up.

"Kyaaaahh!!"

Upon hearing a muffled, feminine scream, Flunra's gaze swiftly shifted to the opposite end of the hallway. His brows dipped into a frown instantly, concern etching across his face, "That scream—it comes from the other side. Could it be from Kyran's room? Naela...?"

No movement came from the main bed chamber.

Since Adhara and Evelyn were too occupied with their thing, the two didn't hear the scream.

Without even hesitating, he dashed to the other direction with incredible speed.

It took a couple of seconds to reach Kyran's room.

Having no courtesy to knock, expecting the worst, he barged inside and scanned the room.

"Naela, what's wrong?!" He exclaimed questioningly.

Flunra saw Naela near the door, her back was against the wall with both hands covering her mouth. Evident shock could be seen on her face, and she seemed to be looking at the bed direction which made Flunra's heart thump even faster.

If she was looking at the bed, then that means something happened to Kyran.

Owing to the peculiar angle of the room's layout, he couldn't catch sight of the bed from the entrance. Stepping forward, his gaze swept towards the bed, and in an instant, his eyes widened in absolute shock seeing that Kyran was still lying on the bed, but had his eyes completely opened!

Yes, Kyran was awake!

Even though the time until his awakening was still far, he managed to open his eyes.

"K- Kyran...? How is this possible?" Flunra gasped in shock.

...

The Scarlet Bane Kingdom, inside the King's castle.

Similar to the condition of Adhara and Evelyn, the entire kingdom was indulged in fantasy.

Like animals, the Alphas of each pack were having their way with their female Werewolves who gladly do their roles in order to keep their entire race strong and alive. The time of Hare Moon is the time for them to increase their numbers rapidly.

Unlike the other races, the Werewolves have trouble keeping their population up.

All of that was caused by Rex.

Rex held the mantle of the most powerful Werewolf in general, and according to their Enchanters and Shamans, transforming individuals from other races—humans, for example—into Werewolves necessitated the involvement of the mightiest among the Werewolves, which happened to be Rex.

Due to that, they couldn't use the forbidden ritual to increase their numbers.

But that was about to change.

With the awakening of the Storm Prince, there was a contender, and the mantle might shift.

However, right in front of the throne room's door, a Werewolf stands.

Dorlus is the trusted Beta of the Storm Prince's pack, he had accompanied the Storm Prince through thick and thin, and thus he was the one tasked to guard the throne room's door while the Storm Prince indulged in the reproduction process.

Similar to Flunra, Dorlus doesn't seem to be affected by the Hare Moon.

At that moment, a silhouette emerged from the shadows at his side, startling Dorlus deeply as he had failed to sense the figure's presence. Despite his adeptness at maintaining a composed countenance, the sight of the mysterious figure and the aura it exuded prompted a subtle break in his stoic expression.

"W- Who are you...?" He asked whisperingly, fear tinting his voice.

Chapter 972 Power is Power

Clank...

Clank...

Several echoing steps from the dark corners of the hallway piqued Dorlus' attention, he was utterly stupified as nobody was able to sneak around without being noticed by him. But this silhouette, veiled by the shadows was able to do that easily.

Dorlus widened his eyes as he stared into the shadows.

His eyes had night vision, able to peer through any kind of darkness, but it was not working.

Even though the sound of footsteps approaching was unmistakable in his ears, indicating that someone was heading over to him, Dorlus found his vision shrouded in obscurity. It was as if the darkness had thickened, rendering his eyes incapable of penetrating its veil.

Nothing like this has ever happened to him before, even against dark users.

In a moment, the silhouette eventually emerged.

"Who are you...?" Dorlus asked, his eyes scrutinizing the silhouette that came out of nowhere.

Judging from the appearance alone, it was a Werewolf, some kind of unknown mutation of a Werewolf that even Dorlus had never seen before. On his hand is a staff with a full moon head, shrouded in the enigmatic power of the moonlight, and his face was covered with a deep purple hooded cloak that encased his entire body.

Additionally, Dorlus couldn't sense anything for this figure.

He couldn't sense any aura or scent, but he instinctively knew that the figure was strong.

'No doubt, this person is as strong as the Storm Prince or even more. I don't see his King or Herald Mark. How come he could alert my senses with danger signals, without actually having any substantial energy exposed? He's almost like a ghost, and his presence alone is enough to boast about his power' Dorlus thought with a deepening frown.

Instinctively, he needs to take this Werewolf seriously.

Pivoting his body to face the figure, he elongated his claws, ready for a sudden battle.

Earlier, Dorlus was dawning with utter shock, he was not expecting anyone's visit at this time of the night. But his body responded differently, the presence of the figure made his legs tremble, depicting the instinctive fear he was experiencing right now palpably.

Despite not wanting to feel this way, he couldn't suppress it.

Almost as if his own body has a mind of its own, and wouldn't listen to his control.

Clank!

Only when the figure fully emerged did he stop.

For a brief moment there that felt like an eternity, there was only silence, heightening Dorlus' nervousness about this figure. But then, the figure finally spoke, his voice was haunting and dominant at the same time.

"My child... Do not fear me" He said, raising his gaze to look at Dorlus.

A sharp pair of eyes greeted Dorlus from underneath the hood, bringing a lethal effect.

.com Upon seeing the eyes underneath the hood, an immense effect hits Dorlus, he isn't able to keep his alertness and is forced to be relaxed. He wanted to fight back the effect, but he simply could not, even raising his own claws became a problem.

One look makes the prospect of attacking the figure completely impossible for Dorlus.

Looking at Dorlus who was stunned on his spot, the figure strides forward.

Stopping right before Dorlus, the figure caressed his head with a tint of love in his eyes as he continued, "Recline, my child, for I am no adversary. I am here solely for the Storm Prince, bringing an unfortunate pressing matter"

With the touch of the figure, Dorlus finds himself being forcefully calmed down.

It was almost like the touch of a God.

He couldn't rebut this enigmatic figure in front of him, he was utterly rendered helpless.

Amidst his confusion regarding the figure's identity, a subtle clue emerged, solidifying his certainty. Though skepticism lingered, the dangerous yet calming presence, shroud of mystery, and distinctive appearance of the figure made it challenging to think otherwise.

Not resisting any longer, Dorlus kneeled and bowed his head down.

"The Storm Prince is inside, I can inform him of your presence and ask him to prepare"

"Nonessential..."

Declining Dorlus' offer, the figure walked past him and entered the throne room.

Even though the Storm Prince was trapped in an indecent act, the figure didn't seem to mind and vanished behind the closed throne room's door. Almost instantly, after the figure entered the throne room, the subtle moans and lusting voices inside ceased.

However, Dorlus remained kneeling and looked over his shoulder.

"His identity is beyond doubt," Dorlus muttered, his pupils dilating in surreal shock. "Such an occurrence has never happened before, I am certain only the Origin has experienced such an encounter. To think... an actual Lunirich God descending to the mortal realm, what urgent matter demands personal discussion in this manner?"

Realizing that it was an actual Lunirich God, an avatar at the very least made Dorlus gasp.

Additionally, he questioned the problem at hand.

No Lunirich God came down to the mortal realm like this without a substantial reason, and he wondered what this Lunirich God's concern for him to actually come down and talk with the Storm Prince like this.

But one thing is for sure, it must be because of something catastrophically important.

...

Meanwhile, back to the human army's encampment.

Oblivious to what was transpiring inside the Werewolf Kingdom, Rex took a huge inhale before walking into the Executor's quarter to report that he had done his share of the deal, and now would demand Gistella back.

I'm only doing this out of courtesy, he won't give Gistella back. I just want to get out of here.

Contrary to what others were thinking, he didn't have much expectation.

Rex understood that the Executor wouldn't release Gistella, even though Rex had done what he wanted. She's a vital hostage, to manipulate Rex which is very much needed, especially in the midst of lingering uncertainty regarding the Supernatural Elders. In the Executor's shoes, Rex would employ a similar strategy, so he has close to zero expectations of reclaiming Gistella.

But then again, he was secretly hoping that the Executor wouldn't give Gistella back.

Having her would make him feel secure, and that's what I want.

Stepping inside, he was greeted with the same scenery with the exception of the others.

Only the Executor was inside, sitting on his pompous makeshift throne.

"You don't look well, perhaps some refreshments will help?" the Executor mused as Rex strode over to the throne, a playful smile gracing his face. Being aware of the onset of the Hare Moon, this was more akin to a teasing gesture on his part.

Rex stopped a distance away before he creased his forehead, "Give Gistella back"

Deciding to not idle, he went straight blatantly.

Upon hearing this, the Executor crossed his legs pridefully with his chin tilted upwards.

"Gistella...? Unfortunately, since the disrespect you did to me, I decided that you won't be getting her back" He replied, pointing out the act that Rex did earlier, deliberately avoiding Kurt's attack so that it would hit the Executor instead.

Precisely as he had expected, the Executor denied him of getting Gistella back.

It was an outcome that Rex had foreseen from a distance.

"Just say it when you were not planning to give her back from the start. Surely, a little attack like that won't be able to hurt you, so why would you need to be angry about it?" Rex rebuts, his eyes were unwavering.

The Executor chuckled in hubris when he heard this.

He kept the same smile and shook his head, "Don't get me wrong, I'm a man of my word, and I was planning to give her back. But disrespect is not something I take lightly, and also, she doesn't want to go back to you, at least not now"

"What...?" Rex's eyes widened in shock, he wasn't expecting the latter part.

Smiling at the sight of Rex's shocked expression, the Executor then asked, "Have you come to admit that I was right, Royal Black Prince?" His eyes gleamed with chaotic intensity. "Back then, you asserted that I lacked the authority to speak on matters of power, your reasoning was that my privilege of inherent strength precluded me from understanding the hardships to achieve power. Yet, I said power is power. All of the glories you extolled from earning strength through adversity are but the clamor of the weak"

"All of that experience, camaraderie, and willpower you gain from hardships are nothing more than a justification of inferiority. Power will always be power, no matter the source. Even Gistella seeks me for help instead of you, doesn't that prove enough that my statement is correct? Only I alone am pure and clean in this new era"

Rex's expression darkens as he hears this.

Obviously, the banter between them would always end up back at the talk of power again.

Both were still aiming to make their opinions reign above the other.

The Executor drove home a compelling argument, revealing that hardships were not needed, only the stronger had the power to dictate the entire world and bend it to their will. With Gistella willingly coming to him for help, he effectively demonstrated that the comrades Rex acquired through adversity were nothing but fake power.

Only inherent power is real, and the Executor stands firm on it.

However, Rex remained stubborn and shook his head, "Liar, you lured Gistella to be here"

Employing the ancient method to lure the weakest link in a Werewolf pack, it should've been evident that Gistella was coerced rather than coming here willingly. But it was not the case, the assumption proved false as the Executor clarified, "I thought that too at first, but I was wrong. She did come here willingly"

"But I know that believing me is not possible, so why don't you ask her yourself?" He added.

Rex's heart skipped a beat when he heard this.

Although it was within his decision to send Gistella here, he couldn't shake the feeling of unease because he hadn't been able to contact her for days now, and meeting with her was something he desperately wanted right now to ease his worry.

Just then, he groaned and suddenly grabbed his face when a painful sting hit his mind.

It was a crippling pain that disorientates him completely.

<Warning! The user's sanity stat has been decreased!>

<The user's sanity stat will continue to decrease until the user has sexual intercourse>

Damn it, the Hare Moon!

Suddenly, the influence of the Hare Moon surged to the point that his vision became blurry, and even his own body started steaming. His eyes flickered from blue to red multiple times, and his body went back and forth to his Werewolf form.

Rex fought back with his mental power, trying to desperately remain in his human form.

Upon seeing this, the guards around moved back in panic.

Only the Executor seemed undisturbed and even found it amusing to watch Rex struggle.

After a moment of hazardous retaliation, Rex's breaths returned to normal.

Even though he managed to retain his human form, he was sure that this was not going to be the last time the Hare Moon would annoy him. He would need to get out of here as soon as possible, or better yet, meet with Gistella to ease the Hare Moon's influence.

The Executor then suddenly flicked his fingers.

One of the guards hesitantly stepped forward and turned to face Rex, sweating bullets.

"Go and follow him, he will lead you to Gistella" the Executor suddenly instructed. "I am a magnanimous person, and I acknowledge your help. I'll not let you take her back, but I will let you have a moment with her, especially seeing that you need it dearly..."

At this instruction, Rex, for a brief moment remembered what Mavenna said.

However, he simply had no choice.

I need to meet with Gistella, she should be able to help me, or else I'm going to lose it.

Just like that, he was escorted out, following the guard who would lead him to Gistella. In his mind, Mavenna's words kept on ringing repeatedly, but he still decided to trust Gistella, she would never do anything bad to him.

On the other hand, the Executor smiled eerily when he saw Rex get out.

"Now, the time has come... After this, I can finally kill you. Be prepared, Royal Black Prince"

Chapter 973 Fallen for the Honey Trap

Smiling from his throne, the Executor exhibits a terrifying malice.

His excitement was exposed on his face, and the guards inside the place were truly horrified, trembling from head to toe as the smile he wore was something of a nightmare. One thing that crossed their minds was the fact they were thankful to not be the target of this smile.

If it had been them, they couldn't imagine what would happen to them.

Meanwhile, the other army arrived back.

Brigitta's army already come back while Rex was talking with the Executor, and now, another army has come back with wounded soldiers. Ryze and Edward were the ones leading this army, and both seemed to be exhausted.

Similar to the Blue Demons, it seems fighting the Vampires was also not easy.

Immediately upon his arrival, Ryze went back to the quarter to find Rex. He doesn't feel safe being alone in the enemy's compound, and he also doesn't want to encounter Brigitta after what had transpired between them.

Thankfully, Edward didn't say or do anything to him, focusing solely on the fight.

So nothing happened today at least.

Returning to his quarters, he entered to find Mavenna inside who seemed to be preparing to leave again. She had exchanged her armor for ordinary clothing, the revealing outfit that she had worn before, and was taken aback when Ryze suddenly barged inside.

"Ah! You scared me" Mavenna exclaimed, her hand above her heart.

Ryze raised an eyebrow, "I didn't even hide my aura, how come you're surprised to see me?"

"Eugh... My senses are not as sensitive as yours" She replied, rolling her eyes.

Having followed Rex for the last couple of days, she heard the banter between them and knew that Ryze was way younger than he looked. So she decided to drop the formalities with Ryze, as he's considered a teen in a human lifespan.

Looking around the place, he couldn't find Rex anywhere.

"Where's Rex?" He blurted.

Mavenna replied as she walked past him, "He's with the Executor, just wait here"

Upon hearing this, Ryze ran after her outside to ask where she was going when she should have been here, he was too late and found her already striding away quickly into a direction, to do what she needed to do.

Sighing lightly, he decided to go back into the quarter.

lightsNovel.com However, he saw someone, sitting on top of crates of weapons in his peripheral vision.

Glancing to the side, right beside the entrance to the quarter was the person who he didn't want to see the most right now. It was Brigitta, and she was eyeing him with an indifferent look but obviously had something to say.

Not wanting to talk to her, Ryze strode inside but was stopped by her, grabbing his arm.

"Let me go" He warned with an icy tone.

Ignoring his warning, Brigitta then stated, "This is your last chance to change your mind"

"I won't ever change my mind, I thought I already made myself clear to you" Ryze sighed in vexation as his choice was as solid as a rock, he wouldn't budge no matter how many times Brigitta asked him the same question. "Don't ask me about this ever again"

Opposed to what he thought she would do, Brigitta instead nodded in understanding.

He was surprised, assuming that she would try to convince him again.

Standing up from the crate, she cast a look at Ryze, "You're making a big mistake, but if that is your final decision, then I'll accept it and won't push any further. But don't come crawling back to us when things don't go your way"

After saying that, Brigitta turned around and simply left.

Even though this doesn't budge his decision, Ryze found her action quite odd already.

It was almost implying that he would actually regret his choice.

'But why she seemed so confident that I'm going to regret it? Is he that arrogant to think that the Executor would win against Rex?' Ryze pondered, his frown was deepening as being in this kind of environment made the gear of his mind turn almost constantly.

Like an engine that was left on to keep warm, his mind is in constant clarity for threats.

Silent for a moment, his eyes suddenly widened in realization.

Ryze instantly darted away from the quarter, ignoring the eyes of the onlookers who were confused or annoyed by him. 'No, I think that homewrecker is right! Something is going to happen, and I need to warn Rex about this!'

Swoosh!

...

Meanwhile, back to Rex.

Following the guard closely behind, he still tries to suppress the Hare Moon's influence.

But the influence made it hard for him to think as if his mind was being covered by a thick fog, and he couldn't think properly. However, his thoughts wandered to a question that he doesn't seem to have the answer to.

I swear, I thought he would attack me. I'm prepared for it. But why hasn't he done it?

Rex already made countermeasures for possible attacks.

In fact, he was already expecting to be attacked when he demanded Gistella back.

Unexpectedly, the Executor showed no inclination to harm him and appeared intent on keeping a calm atmosphere between them. Obviously, this deviated significantly from Rex's expectations, particularly considering that the last time they met, the Executor seemed to be adamant about eliminating him for the intermingling of the Human and Werewolf races.

Like a paradox, he couldn't find the answer to why the Executor didn't try to kill him.

It was completely illogical and odd.

Since he was inside the heart of the enemy's territory, he wouldn't have a backup, and the Executor could've tried to kill him right now when he was vulnerable. But that didn't happen, and this clouded Rex's mind even more.

Eventually, he arrived in front of a robust tent.

Compared to the others, this one is smaller, about the size of a pool to be exact.

Following the guard's indication, Rex stepped inside cautiously.

He was greeted by the entire floor adorned with soft cloths and sheets, cushioning his steps, and in the center lay a makeshift bed with a figure on it. Naturally, the sight of the figure gave light to Rex's eyes as she was none other than Gistella.

Gistella was still as beautiful and gorgeous as he remembered.

She was wearing all-white clothes that paired nicely with her silver hair and a tiara.

It was a sight that Rex had been craving for a couple of days.

Upon seeing him, Gistella smiled widely and spread her arms open, awaiting to embrace him.

But even though he was overwhelmed by emotions right now, Rex resisted the urge to go over to her hastily, instead challenged, "Prove it to me that you're real, not some kind of imposter..." Simultaneously, his eyes gleamed as he scanned Gistella with the System.

"I saw you trying to kill yourself not too long ago" Gistella replied blatantly with a smirk.

Rex was taken aback when he heard this.

He already confirmed that the person in front of him was the real Gistella with the System, but that comment makes certain of it. "It's a misunderstanding. I wasn't trying to kill myself, I was trying to clear my mind with a little pain"

Just as he said that the two stared at each other before eventually reuniting.

Not realizing how much he had missed Gistella already for being away, he hugged her and stayed like that for a moment. He enjoyed the moment before eventually pulling back with his hands on her shoulders.

"Wait, how come you are not affected by the Hare Moon...?" Rex asked.

Knowing the influence was so strong, seeing Gistella being composed like this is shocking.

She then pointed at the tiara on her head, "The Executor has given me this"

Although he doesn't know why the Executor decided to give her the tiara, at the very least, this eliminates the need for him to worry about her becoming too lust-filled in hostile territory as that would be a problem.

I should probably not say anything about the progression of the plan.

Despite being given some time by the Executor, he doesn't know whether they are secured.

Someone might be eavesdropping right now.

Judging by the look that Gistella is giving him, it's obvious that she is also being careful to not say anything that would expose them. With the final battle so close already, a problem arising right now would have horrendous implications.

"What about the others? Are they fine...?" Gistella suddenly asked.

Gistella was worried that the others might've blamed themselves too much for her situation.

But in truth, it was not their fault, and she felt guilty.

Upon hearing this, Rex thought for a second before he smiled assuringly, "All of them are fine, they certainly felt guilty but they can manage. When you get back home, you should talk to them about this"

Learning that the others were fine, she smiled pleasantly, a little bit relieved.

However, in the next second, Rex's expression turned serious.

Assuming that someone is watching us, I should ask her that question to be convincing.

Knowing that his time is not long with the Hare Moon's influence growing on him, he decided to ask the main question, "Gistella, be truthful to me," He opened, his voice stern. "I heard from the Executor that you are here willingly, not lured, is that true?"

Instantly, Gistella pinched her own hand and averted her gaze away.

"What is the reason for you to come here, Gistella? Answer me" Rex pressed further.

Just then Rex saw a cascade of liquids trickling down Gistella's beautiful face. The edges of her eyes slowly reddened as she began to cry, her gaze turning watery, and her limbs trembling, rendering her unable to articulate any words.

For a moment there, Rex was stunned, not expecting Gistella to cry like this.

What in the hell...? She's crying?

Rex instantly pulled Gistella to his embrace again out of instinct, he was always weak to a woman's tears, especially some dear to him like Gistella. In his embrace, she started crying even louder, wetting the armor he was wearing.

Even though the Hare Moon was encouraging sex, he didn't do that.

He instead lay down with her in his embrace.

Similar to when he whiffed Mavenna's scent to calm him down, Rex got the same thing from Gistella but felt even better. He could feel the Hare Moon's influence ceasing a bit, but this would definitely change soon into lust again.

Before lying down, he already engraved a rune to cover the entire place from prying eyes.

Now, their auras and voices were trapped within the place.

Rex doesn't know what to do as he's not good at dealing with this kind of thing, he could only resort to embracing Gistella for a moment. But when he looked down, he could see Gistella's expression seemed to be troubled.

He tried calling her a couple of times, but she didn't answer.

Maybe she needed some time to think. Was telling her to come here alone the wrong choice?

"Are you going to win against the Executor...?" Gistella suddenly asked.

Upon hearing this, he was taken aback as the question didn't seem to be random. It was perhaps something that she was pondering about earlier and demanded to be answered seriously, "Yes, I will win. No doubt about that" He answered.

"I talked with the Executor, and he said that your battle with him is not only a normal battle. It's about power, much deeper than meets the eye. Is that true?" Gistella asked again, voicing her thoughts.

Rex paused before he eventually nodded, "It's true, it's more than a battle"

"I believe inherent power is bullshit, as it doesn't prove him worthy of that power. Hardships are the factor to prove someone is worthy of power, and the benefit gained from those hardships such as meeting with comrades that would grow strong alongside you is also a form of power. Hardships lead to true absolute power" He explained, looking at the ceiling with a peculiar gaze.

But as he said that, Gistella bit her lips, and her expression darkened.

Since Rex is focusing on the ceiling, he doesn't see this change. And after a long pause, Gistella then said again, but her voice was now trembling, "You- Both of you seemed to be rivals then, won't you agree? Rivals of power?"

"Huh? Well, if you say it like that, yes, you can consider us as rivals" Rex replied nonchalantly.

However, right in that second, he sprung up with shock in his eyes.

<The user has admitted a candidate for absolute invincibility as a rival!>

<Warning!>

<System Relaying Bet Quest has been initiated!>

"What...? System relaying bet?!" Rex muttered in utter surprise, his eyes contained horror.

Chapter 974 Shock of His Life

Gistella also sat up in surprise when Rex suddenly sprung up.

She saw the horrified expression that Rex was wearing and her heart began to thump even faster. His look was akin to him seeing his own nightmare coming true right before his eyes, and the pure shock was palpable through his eyes.

It was even more worrying knowing his usual demeanor.

Across his journey from the bottom all the way to here, he faced numerous impossible problems that were thrown at him by the world. He managed to overcome them all, and through those hardships, he developed himself to become the man he is right now.

His stress tolerance was inhuman, way beyond the normal because of that.

When facing a problem, he's usually indifferent.

But it was completely different this time, Gistella could see him reacting strongly.

Despite being unaware of the circumstances, as this came suddenly, she could sense the gravity of the situation from Rex's intense reaction alone. More profoundly, she felt extreme heartache knowing that she was the one that caused this.

'What have I done? I shouldn't have accepted his request without thinking it through!'

...

A couple of days ago.

Maintaining a composed demeanor, she was granted the liberty to explore the room despite the restraints. She could now peer out of the window, where she noticed the return of the Executor from the Great Barricade.

Gistella saw him giving the spear to Edward who was waiting for him near the castle's gate.

In addition to that, she also heard their conversation.

"Why three days? Is there something going on in three days?"

"It's going to be the Hare Full Moon soon..."

Even though the exchange between them was short, it was insightful, and now Gistella could deduce that the Executor had ominous plans involving Rex during the Hare Moon. A talk about the Full Moon undoubtedly linked to the Werewolves.

Rex is definitely at the top of the Executor's hit list, so it must be for him.

But she was surprised when a moment later, the Executor barged inside with wide steps.

Dismissing the Awakened from the room with a mere glance, the space cleared, leaving only Gistella alone with the Executor. His grin stretched from ear to ear, suggesting a malevolent agenda lurking within his thoughts, poised to be unveiled.

"It's time for you to perform, Gistella..." the Executor suddenly said.

A frown appeared on Gistella's face, "I haven't seen you fulfilling your end of the deal"

"With these hands, I've killed countless high-ranking Vampires" the Executor replied, raising both of his hands facing up to his waist level. "Killing Calidora is nothing more than a mere child's play for me, as easy as killing a lesser human. I could do it right after you fulfill your end by assisting me with this"

Gistella kept an indifferent look despite frowning inwardly at this.

However, the Executor approaches slowly, his feet thudding against the soft carpet floor.

Many would be scared shitless at the approach of the Executor, but Gistella stood on her spot unwavering, her countenance remains indifferent. As the Executor towered over her, casting his imposing shadow, he reminded her, "In case you forget, you came here voluntarily, seeking my aid..."

"I am power, I am the Executor, and I really can dictate our deal however I want" He added.

Having no other choice, she decided to follow along.

Anything more than this then the Executor would be unstable, and she would be in trouble.

"As per our accord, you volunteered to assist me in incapacitating Rex, rendering him no threat to me in exchange for sparing him and eliminating Calidora. Now, I know the perfect thing to do, one that only you can do" the Executor explained, his malevolent smirk widening.

Upon hearing this, Gistella asked, "What do you want me to do?"

"I want you... I want you to make Rex admit that I am his rival. Make sure that he says it clearly. I will provide you with the place and time to do that. Employ a subtle approach, don't be direct, and don't fail or our deal will be off" the Executor replied, his tone containing a tint of mystery that Gistella couldn't grasp.

...

Gistella did as she was told by the Executor.

In fact, she was even excited that she would get to meet Rex as she missed him badly.

Aside from meeting with him, she also initially dismissed the Executor's request as nothing but a yearning to stroke his own ego, wanting to be acknowledged by Rex as a rival. But it seems that was not the case at all.

Judging from Rex's horrified expression, it was definitely not the case at all.

On the other hand, Rex was tunned.

During this moment of trance, all of his senses become numb as his attention solely fixed on the notifications from the System that was appearing in his vision. Compared to the normal, the writings were now written in crimson red, depicting the severity of his blunder.

He let his guard down with Gistella, and he realized that it was a mistake.

Target: Fifthborn, the Executor.

-> Acknowledged by the System as a rival

-> Acknowledged by the user as a rival

In recognizing the Executor as the user's rival, a resolute commitment to an all-or-nothing endeavor has been made. Former quests linked to the Executor have been annulled, and replaced by the System Relaying Bet Quest. All features of the System shall be temporarily suspended until the resolution of this quest.

Potential outcomes of the System Relaying Bet Quest is listed as follows:

-> Victory against the Executor - the user will retain the System and will be eligible to pursue Absolute Invincibility once again, gaining a substantial boost to reach the next stage of invincibility as a reward from the System for overcoming a rival.

-> Tie against the Executor - the user will retain the System with a shared function with the Executor, both would vie for absolute invincibility together until the last step where the user and the Executor will be pitted against each other for the zenith of existence.

-> Defeat against the Executor - the System will be transferred to the Executor, making the Executor the new user that would be burdened to reach absolute invincibility. While the user would be revived, but lose all power gained from the System.

Rex's breaths instantly became rapid when he read this long notification.

W- Wha... I never knew, wait- the Executor knew this much about the System...?!

Completely flabbergasted, Rex couldn't catch his breath as he realized that the Executor had been aiming for this from the moment he was requested to be here. He didn't expect the Executor to know about the System to this extent.

Judging from the past cues, the Executor wasn't the one who wielded the System.

It was someone close to him.

But to actually know to this extent, even better than Rex himself is completely unexpected.

Rex now comprehended the Executor's strategy—why he didn't resort to attempting to kill him instantly, considering that he was gullible inside the enemy's territory right now, after he took care of the Supernaturals in the shifting realm.

Turns out, it was because he was aiming to trigger the System Relaying Bet Quest.

He would do that before killing Rex.

With this, if he won, then he would gain possession of the System!

Something that Rex wasn't expecting, he was completely speechless at this turn of events.

Additionally, he regrets the fact that he let his guard down when he was with Gistella, as now that he thinks about it, whenever the System mentioned the Executor, it always hinted specifically that only the System acknowledged the Executor as a rival of absolute invincibility.

He should've known that if he also acknowledged the Executor, something would happen.

Now, it was too late, the Executor got what he wanted.

With a slow movement of his head, he turned to look at Gistella with an absent gaze.

Gistella appeared extremely distraught, consumed by guilt and fear as she witnessed his expression was pale. Sweating profusely, she clenched her hands together in anxiety. "R- Rex... Something is happening, isn't it? C- Can you please tell me what's going on?"

In that moment of shock, Rex's eyes burned with anger as he looked at Gistella.

A gaze that terrified Gistella to no end.

Just the mere sight of it triggered memories of the past when Rex had been furious at her for revealing her identity as a Werewolf to his mother, Mrs. Greene. Yet, in comparison, this time his fury seemed fiercer, as though he was staring at the killer of his parents.

She was utterly terrified, and her body froze in complete shock.

But that lasted only a few seconds as in the next second, Rex grabbed his head painfully.

"Arrghh..." He groaned in pain.

Upon seeing this, Gistella quickly grabbed him, fearing for the worse, "Rex?! What's wrong?!"

Despite the gravity of the situation, the Hare Moon was relentless and continued to inflict agony upon Rex's body due to his resistance to engage in sexual intercourse. He found himself immersed in a realm of pain as the night grew darker, and the Hare Moon was at its zenith of power.

It was a sensation rivaling the torment he experienced when his soul was being torn apart.

Every fiber of his being was screaming pain at him.

However, this is not the time to be like this, time will not wait for him.

I need to get out of here, the Executor is going to kill me if I don't leave right now!

Fearing that the Executor would realize that his plan has worked and quickly come to kill Rex when he was like this, he quickly forced himself to stand up, veins bulging across his body, almost as if his body was about to explode.

Rex cast one last look at Gistella, conflicted severely.

No, I can't blame her for this. She doesn't know anything about the System.

Although for a moment there, in the heat of it all, he was furious at Gistella for causing this, he quickly realized that it was not her fault. It can't be her fault. She was probably doing as planned, and the Executor wanted her to do this which was light since she didn't know about the System.

For her, it's probably a selfish request from the Executor, and he's spot on in assuming that.

"I need to go," Rex said before he quickly left the place.

Even though Gistella tried to reach out to him, she couldn't, and could only see him leaving.

Knowing that she had done something terrible to cause Rex to look at her like that, Gistella felt her heart being pierced by a knife slowly. She didn't know what was in Rex's mind and assumed that he was furious at her.

Meanwhile, Rex quickly ran out and headed back into his quarter with extreme alert.

Barging inside, he saw that there was only Mavenna.

Seeing him coming back with a pained and pale expression, Mavenna felt her throat dry up. She stood up and looked at him with a peculiar look. It was obvious what had happened, "Did... Did it already happen? Did the Executor succeed?"

"Yes..." Rex replied heavily, he should've trusted Mavenna to not meet with Gistella.

Upon hearing this, Mavenna turned away and sighed.

Even though she tried to warn Rex very hard, it was simply impossible to convince him, especially since she came from the Executor's side. Basically, this was inevitable, and Rex would need to deal with it.

"We need to go, right now" Rex said quickly, he was struggling with the pain.

In a hurry, Rex grabbed Mavenna's hand and pulled her outside. He then took a deep breath, ignoring the pain his mind was experiencing to let out a long howl, signaling to Ryze that it was time to leave.

...

A moment later.

Rex and Mavenna materialize somewhere, teleporting away from the encampment.

Out of the two, Mavenna was the one to stand up as Rex was on his knees, being influenced by the Hare Moon. She scanned the place before a frown appeared on her face, realizing that the place they were in was not as she expected.

"A castle...?"

Chapter 975 Beyond My Concern

"Are you sure you're going to let him get away right now?"

"Yes, it's not the time yet"

"We might not have a better opportunity than this in the future, is this really okay?"

Standing in front of the quarter were the Executor and Brigitta, both were watching Rex rushing in a panic toward his quarter after his meeting with Gistella. It was obvious that Gistella had done what she needed to do, and the plan was a success.

But even without witnessing this, the Executor could already tell that it was a success.

Appearing before his eyes was a magical blue panel.

He saw this panel the first time when he met with Rex and ended up in a fight, and now, he could see this blue panel again, informing him that he was targeted by the System Relaying Bet Quest, where winner takes all.

It was so exhilarating to see that the Executor couldn't hide his smile anymore

Now he has the chance to obtain the ultimate power.

'From what I remember, this System is the power that made Father very powerful. He relied on it to create me and my brothers too. If I win, If I gain this System, will I be able to become as strong as him...?' the Executor wondered, his future prospect looked promising.

With him gaining the System, nobody would be able to oppose him, even his brothers.

The Executor turned around as Rex disappeared into his quarters, and soon after, his entire presence vanished completely. "This is not the opportune moment, it's the Hare Full Moon—the third most strongest moon for Werewolves, trailing only behind the Super Moon and the Blood Moon. Striking now would only be a foolish move"

Brigitta looked at the Executor's back with a questioning frown on her face.

Curiosity loomed inside her head.

'Never have I witnessed such an extreme reaction from Rex, not even when the Executor awakened, he was panicking. What could the Executor have done to induce such panic in him?' She wondered, intrigued by the mystery that had shaken Rex to his core.

However, she would probably never know that the Executor is not really a talker.

Glancing to the side, she went ahead in a direction.

In a moment, she scoured the entire encampment which was quite surprised at the sudden howl from Rex, and didn't find who she was looking for. 'Huh... The kid is also gone, that last howl must be a signal to escape'

Despite finding it a waste for Ryze to still be stubborn, there's nothing she can do about it.

Brigitta went to Rex's quarter leisurely.

Entering the quarter, she surveyed the surroundings at ease. Her eyes then landed on the bed in the center, covered completely by a veil, "Mavenna, Rex is gone already. It's time for you to return to your cage" However, she was met with silence and found it weird that the space was vacant. "Mavenna...? Come out immediately, or I shall report this to the Executor"

Finding yet no answer, she quickly went over to the bed and pulled the veil to the side.

It was at that moment, her eyes widened completely.

"She's not here? Where did she go?" Brigitta questioned and quickly rushed outside.

Navigating the vicinity, she sought the guards assigned to monitor Rex's quarter including Ryze and Mavenna. Perplexingly, they eluded her notice, she couldn't find them anywhere. However, her focus shifted to the neighboring tent, zipped shut, drawing her attention.

Upon opening the tent, she frowned and bit her lower lip.

Inside were the guards she was looking for, all of them were sleeping peacefully.

But they were not slacking off as they were also dreaming pleasantly, reaching into the air to squeeze something or even mimicking sexual acts, which only leads Brigitta to one possible scenario that instantly comes to mind.

"Useless good for nothing!" Brigitta cursed, kicking a guard in sheer frustration.

Obviously, this is very bad for them.

Placing her hands firmly on her waist, she looked around with a troubled expression, "While our attention was fixed on Rex, she exploited the opportunity to flee. Damn it, the Executor would be furious about this. But he's the one who gave those instructions, so he shouldn't be excessively angered, considering it's mostly his responsibility"

"No..." Brigitta massaged her forehead. "Knowing him, I would be blamed for this. Damn it!!"

Meanwhile, in the Executor's quarter.

"Executor!!"

A roar came from outside before a figure barged into the quarter.

Many of the Awakened guards tried to step in the way, attempting to stop the figure's rush but none of them were able to remotely do anything. Those who tried were only met with a slap to their faces that sent them to the ground.

Gistella came rushing in and instantly fixed her eyes on the makeshift throne.

Inside was the Executor and King John.

Contrary to the Executor who was smiling widely at her reaction, knowing why she was this furious, King John was completely surprised. He was shocked to see the fierce expression that Gistella was wearing right now, far different from her usual graceful demeanor.

Now, her eyes were gleaming with bronze light as she made her way to the Executor.

"I see that you succeed, that's good" the Executor teased.

Upon hearing this, Gistella screamed hysterically, "What did you make me do to him?!"

"Something that you don't need to know. John, go and escort her to the other room. Assist her accommodation and ensure her stay is nothing short of a royal treatment," the Executor instructed King John with a theatrical flair. Casting a sly glance at Gistella, he added, "After all, she earned her right as our highly esteemed guest, and nothing but the absolute best is what she deserves for what she had done"

Knowing that his words were nothing more than sarcasm, Gistella became even more furious.

Even though she needed to calm her emotions, she simply couldn't.

Seeing that Rex was looking at her with a potent mix of disappointment, disbelief, and anger, something within her broke. The pain in her chest became intolerable, and while she was glaring at the Executor, she found herself crying profusely.

A poignant blend of frustration and sorrow amidst the shimmering anger.

It was probably also because she was previously an Undead.

Emotions were not a thing for her back then, Undeads' emotions were naturally suppressed.

But now, with the surge of emotions within, tears began to flow down.

Gistella's body started to steam with bronze energy and she started to transform, the anger was so powerful that her body reacted by transforming into her Werewolf form. Not stopping at that, she quickly lunged in for a strike.

However, right before she reached the Executor, King John blocked her advancement.

"Stop it, or you're going to get yourself killed!" He whispered.

Despite King John trying his best to snap her out of this outburst, Gistella ignored her and kept on attempting to push forward. It was only then that King John resorted to hugging her tightly, stopping her in her tracks.

Even then, Gistella began to surge with more strength and push King John back.

"Karghk!" King John grunted when her claws stabbed his back, a couple of inches deep.

Following that, Gistella bites his shoulder fiercely with her canine teeth.

Blood gushed out from the point of impact, dying the carpet crimson. King John keeps on desperately trying to tell her to stop, as the moment she lays a hand on the Executor, there's a big chance that she will be killed.

All of this was happening with the Executor keeping stern eye contact with Gistella.

His eyes were serene and calm despite the escalating situation.

"Listen to me. If you do this, then you can forget to make amends to Rex again, as you will be dead!" King John whispered again, gritting his teeth to endure the pain. He then repeated loudly, his voice penetrating Gistella's ears clearly, "Dead!!"

Upon hearing this, Gistella blinked and regained control of her own body.

It was the anger that made her act like that.

Despite being reluctant, she turned back into her human form, still in King John's embrace.

"Okay... I understand..." Gistella mused, seeking to dispel her anger with a measured breath. The intensity in her expression gradually waned as she reverted to her usual composure, even though still felt bitter. "I'm fine now... you can let go of me" She stated, finding that King John was still holding her.

King John quickly pulled away when he heard this, smiling awkwardly.

"Our agreement specifies that I'm allowed to incapacitate Rex, not kill him, and I did exactly that. I didn't cause him physical harm, ensuring his continued existence without any problem. But as for your relationship with him," the Executor suddenly interjected, his smirk widening as he said this. "that remains beyond my concern..."

Listening to this, Gistella's expression turned hideous.

Now her relationship is strained, and the worst thing is, she doesn't know what she did.

It happened so fast, and nobody was explaining the situation.

Although she really wanted to know which made her gradually feel frustrated the longer she didn't get the answer, she realized that getting a straightforward response from the Executor was an unattainable feat. His penchant for ambiguity and indirectness will only fuel her escalating sense of madness.

Right now, it's best for her to get out of here and take a step back.

"King John, please lead the way," Gistella said dejectedly.

Upon hearing this, King John glanced at the Executor and found him nodding in approval before he escorted Gistella away. He knows that letting Gistella be here is not the best idea, so he quickly leads her to the other room.

...

Meanwhile, somewhere in the Supernatural territory.

Rex and Mavenna were teleported away, arriving in front of an ominous black castle.

Not a trace of light could be seen inside the castle.

Even the surroundings of the castle were filled with an open place before houses could be seen across the bridge, medieval houses that spanned as far as their eyes could see. Judging from the layout of the place, Mavenna is quite sure that this is some kind of abandoned city or some sort.

"Where are we? And where did Ryze go?" Mavenna asked in confusion.

She expected that she would be brought to the hideout of the Silverstar Pack with Rex.

But this is definitely not the hideout.

It was not that Mavenna couldn't believe that a castle could become the hideout, but because near the entrance of the castle were two Blood Bunyas. Not normal ones either, a higher-rank mutation that supplied thick blood energy to the surroundings.

Upon hearing this, Rex replied, "Ryze was teleported back to my place"

"You were supposed to be with him, not with me. But with the situation earlier, I have no choice but to bring you here" He added through gasping breaths, trying his hardest to sustain the increasing Hare Moon's effect.

Mavenna frowned, she pointed at the place and asked, "And where are we exactly?"

"Vampire territory, help me go inside" Rex struggled to stand up.

Looking at this, Mavenna quickly rushed in to help him before she trained her eyes on the castle with a peculiar expression. Only one entity resides inside the castle, and she wondered who this entity was that has a connection with Rex.

Even though it should be relatively safe, she couldn't shake this odd feeling within her.

It feels like someone is watching her from the shadows.

'No matter who was inside this castle, it must be someone very powerful' She thought.

...

A moment later.

Rex and Mavenna entered what should be the throne room's entrance, the door slowly opened with a loud grating sound before the view of the throne room greeted them, with a silent entity sitting on the throne with her legs crossed.

"Hands off, Succubus..." the entity said commandingly.

Upon hearing this, Mavenna raised an eyebrow, "And who are you again?"

"Me?" responded the figure, a sinister silhouette emerging as she leaned forward, revealing her vampiric countenance from the shadow that concealed her earlier. "I'm not someone you'd wish to make an enemy of..."

Chapter 976 Undercurrent Tension

It was very cold, the night wind was piercing her body, even though she was not a Werewolf.

While supporting Rex on her side to stand up properly, she scanned the place and she found that the two were at the end of a bridge, connecting to the castle's entrance with cliffs on either side, leading to the nothingness.

Aside from the Blood Bunyas, the air reeked with the scent of blood.

Just like what Rex said, they were in the Vampire territory, in front of an otherworldly castle.

Upon reaching closer to the entrance, Mavenna gazed up, finding that the ceiling was very high. Her body as a Succubus was way bigger, she stood around 6'2, but the ceiling easily reached ten or even twenty times her height.

Whoosh!

A group of bats suddenly descended from the ceiling, shrieking in high pitch.

"Can you tell me whose castle is this?" She asked.

Rex replied with a nonchalant shrug, "Even if I told you, you wouldn't know who she is"

Knowing exactly that Mavenna was not from the new era, or rather a recently awakened Succubus, she is probably foreign to the state of the world right now. He came to this conclusion when he saw her wings from earlier.

None of the Succubuses he met have wings like her.

Standing before the entrance, the two stopped before several glyphs glowed crimson.

Containing the knowledge from the dark depth of the Vampiric prowess, these glyphs shimmer lightly, almost as if welcoming them to the castle. Following that, the gate opened outwards slowly before the two finally walked inside.

Inside the hallway, it was completely dark.

But with their eyes as nocturnal creatures, it provides no obstruction for them.

While being supported as the pain wringing his mind severely, Rex saw that Mavenna had a deliberate small cut on her finger, leaving a trail of her own blood as a marker along their path, which was rather weird for her to do.

Rex looked at her and asked, "Why are you leaving a trail behind?"

"Hmm...? Oh— I don't know who the Vampire inside this place is, but I know that she has illusion abilities. I was only making sure to leave behind my scent so that we know the way out if it comes to it" Mavenna replied, answering as if it was natural for her to do this.

However, this only furthers the danger of ancient times.

For Mavenna to be this cautious, the time of her days should be filled with extreme danger.

Shaking his head, Rex replied, "I vouched for her, no need to be on guard"

Upon hearing this, Mavenna nodded her head, but she didn't lower her guard at all. Having learned of the legendary exploits of the anomaly Werewolf known as Rex Silverstar the moment she awakened, she recognized Rex's meticulous nature and understood that he was not someone to be taken lightly when even the Executor was scheming against him.

Many would find it assuring if Rex vouched for someone.

Not for Mavenna though.

Living in the cruelest and bloodiest dominion imaginable, she knew the unforeseen danger.

While it was reassuring that Rex vouched for the Vampire, the thought lingered that this seemingly trustworthy act could be a manipulation. Anticipating the potential danger of the Vampire deceiving Rex, she deemed it wise to maintain vigilance rather than growing more relaxed.

Soon comes the end of the hallway, another big gate, engraved with a big vampiric glyph.

It takes the shape of an inverted V letter with fangs and bat wings.

Upon sensing their arrival, the big gate was opened automatically with a fluid motion, and crimson water instantly seeped out from inside and brushed against their feet. 'Another illusion... the Vampire must possess the Eye of Phantasm, quite strong but manageable' Mavenna pondered.

Raising their gazes, the interior of the throne room greeted their eyes.

As opposed to the regal carpet that typically graced the throne room floor, this one is overflowed by a sea of ankle-length crimson water. Black fences constricted the path to the throne, and towering black metal pillars ascended like roots, gradually blossoming to the ceiling.

Grand stained glass windows, adorned with abstract drawings were placed around the room.

Finishing it off was a black chandelier, its candles burning with ethereal red fire.

Overall, Rex and Mavenna had never encountered a throne room quite like this. Typically, throne rooms adhered to a strict design protocol, each vying to rival the opulence of other Kings' throne rooms. However, this one didn't follow the norm, opting for a completely different aesthetic.

Soon, their eyes landed on the throne at the far center where a figure sat comfortably.

It was not a regular throne either, but a deep red single sofa.

Seated upon the throne with her hands laid on the handles strongly, the figure dominates the scene, her presence alone demands attention even though her upper half is shrouded in darkness. Her eyes were the only thing that could be seen about her, they were crimson with swirling black patterns.

No doubt that she is a Vampire, her blood aura is exposed to see.

'I should avoid directly looking at her eyes if it's really the Vampiric Eyes of Phantasm'

Not wanting to be influenced, Mavenna tilted her head down.

Rex, on the other hand, raised his gaze briefly before he lowered it again, finding that the pain in his mind becoming unbearable by the second. He would need to ask for a place for him to restrain himself in solitude.

With a gesture from the Vampire, the two approached the throne.

Each step splashed the crimson water.

"Hands off, Succubus..." the Vampire opened her mouth when the two got close enough.

Upon hearing this, Mavenna raised an eyebrow, "And who are you again?"

"Me?" replied the Vampire chillingly, leaning forward to emerge from the shadows. Her sinister vampiric countenance, marked by a hostile gaze, met Mavenna's eyes. "I'm not someone you'd wish to make an enemy of..."

Just as Rex expected, Mavenna didn't recognize the Vampire before her as someone familiar.

It was Calidora, and it was natural for Mavenna to not know her.

As opposed to making trouble for Rex, who was in dire need of help, and surely came here exactly for that, Mavenna chose to step back, allowing him to stand independently without her assistance in compliance with Calidora's command.

"For what reason do I have the honor of your presence here, Lord Rex..?" Calidora asked.

Mavenna frowned when she heard this.

Contrary to speaking to her, Calidora's voice was now refined, almost inviting to a degree.

'Do they have some history? No, it can't be. A Werewolf and a Vampire? It's simply not possible. But then again, what's with this alluring voice she's using?' Mavenna pondered, looking at Calidora suspiciously.

Pausing briefly, she then continued, "If I'm not mistaken, it's the Hare Full Moon outside"

"Even someone like you, a Royal Black Prince is not immune to its influence. I presumed you would be with your Luna and Female Alpha, especially considering your less-than-optimal condition, if I may speak candidly" She assessed Rex, her sweet gaze traveling from top to bottom, noting his evident distress.

Rex sighed, trying to stand upright, "You know why I'm here, it was you who planted the idea"

"Oh— Does that mean you're accepting my offer, staying with me until the matter regarding the Executor is over?" Calidora asked, her countenance remained calm, but the corner of her lips could be seen quivering, almost breaking into a smile that resorted her to covering her mouth with her hand with a natural movement.

Upon hearing this, Rex nodded firmly.

As it came to this already, there was no possible way that he could delay anything longer.

He would be a fool to not feel the urgency of finishing his plan with what the Executor had done to him. If he lost, then he would lose the System, and everything that he had built throughout the entire year, everything he had will be gone.

This includes the power he bestowed to the others, all of them will be retrieved.

Something like this is truly unacceptable, it was truly a devastating blow from the Executor.

"Yes, I'll be staying," Rex replied, his expression resolute and without hesitation. "I also want to express my thanks for what you did for me back then, when I went berserk. If you hadn't helped me through our connection, I don't know what I would have done"

Calidora cracked a smile, she wasn't expecting him to thank her personally.

'Excellent, truly excellent! I initially thought the Hare Moon would pose a hindrance, giving Evelyn the opportunity to sabotage my plan, but the fact that he's here instead of going back is a pleasant

surprise indeed. I can't afford to mess this up' She contemplated within, striving to mask her bubbling excitement.

Even though she was usually good at this, it was hard to do this time.

It was an unbearably pleasant surprise.

She failed to anticipate the Hare Moon, but the stars suddenly aligned for her that night.

Positioning her legs better, seemingly rubbing her thighs slightly, Calidora's eyes glowed red before she proposed, "I'm willing to let you stay here, but as you might know already, nothing is free in this world. Do you know what I mean?"

However, right this instant, Mavenna tilted her head up with an obvious frown.

Not that she cared about what Calidora was saying, but she suddenly smelled an odd scent.

It took a moment for her to register what the scent was.

'Wait a minute, is she actually...?' Gazing at Calidora's thighs, her frown deepened.

For a brief moment, Calidora and Mavenna locked eyes, each wearing a peculiar expression as they assessed one another. But then, Calidora's gaze shifted to a stern intensity, seemingly giving a subtle but potent warning to Mavenna.

Only then that Mavenna realize that her assumption was correct.

'Even though I could stay clear of this, I couldn't stand by and do nothing' She pondered, glancing at Rex from the side who was oblivious to this. 'Just think of this as a thanks from me, Sir Rex. I'll help you out'

Rex then eventually asked, he would do anything, "What do you want from me?"

About fulfilling the necessary preparations for his plan, cultivating his cursed source, he couldn't do it the usual rough way. It required a more delicate approach. If Calidora wasn't willing, he couldn't force her, knowing she was as much of a lunatic as he was.

Due to that, he would comply with Calidora's demands, as long as it's not too much.

Smiling widely, she then answered, "I want your blood, and I want it this night"

"Come to my bed chamber after you settle down, and I'll drink your blood" She added.

Upon hearing this, Rex was surprised as the request was not that hard to do. If it's his blood, then he wouldn't have any problem with her taking some. Even if his blood was almost drained to the bottom, he wouldn't necessarily die.

He would probably only be forced to sleep by the System to recover faster, but that was it.

Just as he was about to agree, Mavenna intervened, "Can I come?"

"Succubus, I believe you are not a part of this. Who is she exactly, Lord Rex?" Calidora asked.

Instead of Rex answering, Mavenna answered the question herself, "I am indebted to Lord Rex, and is now his assistant. As for why I asked to come, it's because the Hare Moon is strong, and I would be able to help if the influence got too strong, and Lord Rex would try to land a hand on you"

"Good idea, fine, let her come, Calidora" Rex requested, finding that it was quite logical.

Since Mavenna is a Succubus, she could definitely help.

Calidora smiled in return, "If that's your wish, then so be it. Bringing her along won't be an issue. After all, I'm only interested in drinking your blood" She said with a hint of sarcasm. "However, I do have to warn you, Succubus, that when I'm drinking blood, I can be quite aggressive..."

"No problem, I can handle myself" Mavenna replied, also with a smile.

Despite Calidora's friendly demeanor, an undercurrent of murderous intent emanated from her, causing the air around her to vibrate to its rhythm. It could only be seen by Mavenna, who was the target of that murderous intent.

While Rex remained oblivious to what was happening, struggling against the Hare Moon.

'This Succubus, Mavenna... She's one annoying old hag'

Chapter 977 Concealed Beauty

Rex settled inside a bed chamber that was surprisingly tidy and clean.

Inside was dominated by the somber hues of black and crimson, embodying the perfect imagery of a Vampire's castle. He first made his way to a glazed window, and manipulated his Lunar element to conjure a curtain that shielded him from direct exposure to the glow of the Hare Moon hanging in the night sky.

After, he felt way better and took a seat on the edge of the bed with a light groan.

Nothing seemed to be working.

For a solid five minutes, he attempted to access various features of the System—the Shop, Inventory, and even the stats window to no avail. He was completely suspended from using any of them, all because of the System Relaying Bet Quest.

Right now, he could only lean on his own abilities to actually get out of this situation.

And that is perhaps the purpose of this quest.

How did it come to this? Am I not being careful enough? Is the Executor smarter than me?

No, that can't be right, he didn't even realize my plan.

Or is it best for me to assume that he knew and pretend to not know?

In contemplative silence, a myriad of questions plagued his mind, the setback prompting deep introspection of what caused him to be in this situation. He realized, in hindsight, that the Executor had anticipated Gistella's loyalty, even though she needed his help.

Knowing this, he managed to make a move around it.

Gistella doesn't know about the System, and she wouldn't suspect his weird request.

Had she known about Rex's possession of the System, she might've suspected that this weird request was an attempt to sabotage him. However, at that time, it only raised a faint alarm, and Gistella remained oblivious to the devastating aftermath that would follow.

Deep inside his pompous arrogance, the Executor is also a master trickster.

No need to contemplate this too much, my plan is already set, and the System Relaying Bet Quest changed nothing. All I need to do is defeat the Executor, and I will grow leaps and bounds. And if I lose...

Rex's expression darkens as he thinks about this, both of his fists are clenched.

His mind wandered to the others.

All he did to reach this position in the world after taking vengeance for his parents was to create a safe world where nobody would need to experience what he experienced, and also protect others so that they could live their lives free from danger.

That's the only thing he wanted.

Of course, he has some bad blood with certain entities that he needs to resolve.

But deep down, that is not what drives him further.

Just the thought of suffering defeat against the Executor and losing his power stung greatly in his heart, knowing that when that happened, all of his enemies were going to come in for the kill, and the others would suffer from their wrath.

Adhara, Evelyn, Kyran, Ryze— Gistella... I can't afford to lose, not now!

Until my enemies' demise, I can't lose!

It was at that moment, a flicker of determination flashed inside his fierce, red eyes.

He had too much to lose right now before the System Relaying Bet Quest. If he died, the Executor would come and wipe the others easily. But now, the Executor found a way to heighten the stake that is already terrifyingly high.

With the System Relaying Bet Quest, if Rex died, it would be devastating.

Death is too grand of a fate for them now, considering that they would all lose their powers, and the Executor might not see them as threats anymore. He would resort to making their lives a living hell, being his plaything until the end of time.

Rex couldn't let that happen, not when he still has time to change that outcome.

Even if he didn't have the time, he would still do something.

I'll inform the others that I'm fine, all of them should be worried when only Ryze comes back.

Although he couldn't rely on the System for this, he was never a person that is too reliant on something. He had relied on nothing but himself ever since he was in the military, and finding alternatives is not something he found hard to do.

"Tell me, who is that Vampire, and how do you know her?" Mavenna suddenly asked.

Likewise, she was also inside the room with him.

Upon hearing this, Rex glanced at her briefly before sitting in a meditative position, preparing himself to do something, "Her name is Calidora, a Vampire Princess from the Blodirra Family. As for your latter question, I don't see why you need to know that"

Mavenna paused for a second, her lips were sealed.

'No point in warning him about her, he wouldn't listen to me anyway' She sighed softly.

Even if she tried warning him, Rex would just brush it off.

However, compared to earlier with the Executor, she decided that she would not be saying still and would do something. 'Blodirra Royal Family, huh... Then she must be a very young Vampire. But her bearing didn't depict being young, it was almost as if I was standing in front of Queen Elizabeth'

'No matter, if she's young, then I can pull this off...!' She added with a light nod.

On the other hand, oblivious to what Mavenna was thinking, Rex closed his eyes in serenity.

Recognizing the need to communicate with the others about his condition, he decided to utilize the duplicate he had summoned to assist Adhara and Evelyn in relieving themselves. He was glad that he left behind the duplicate, now that he could use it to contact them.

Some time passed, and Rex eventually opened his eyes.

Rubbing his temples, trying to alleviate the headache brought on by repeatedly rephrasing the message he intended to send, he eventually completed it. "Let's get this over with. Once I've fulfilled my part to Calidora, I'll have to confine myself in an underground chamber, optimally, before the Hare Moon takes full control of my mind and body"

Glancing to the side, Rex's eyes widened slightly at the sight of Mavenna.

Hmm...? I didn't know Demons need to sleep.

Instead of being awake, as she said that she would be coming to keep an eye on him while Calidora is feasting on his blood, she fell asleep instead. Rex headed over to her and tried to wake her up, shaking her body a couple of times.

"Mavenna? Wake up. Aren't you coming with me?" Rex muttered.

But even after a moment, he found that Mavenna had no indication of waking up.

I suppose I'll have to go by myself. As long as it doesn't drag on for too long, it should be fine. Rex sighed internally, resigned to the situation. Nevertheless, he was aware that Mavenna was quite clumsy, and falling asleep when she was supposed to awake was consistent with her clumsiness.

Going outside of the chamber, he found himself in the hallway again.

Rex saw that the torches on the wall light up, seemingly guiding him in a certain direction.

He decided to follow along, thinking that it was Calidora who already prepared this for him when he came out. Soon, about two minutes later, he stood in front of a door that should have led to the master bed chamber where Calidora waited for him.

Taking a deep breath, he grabbed the handle and pushed the door open.

Oddly enough, his heart was beating very hard, even though he was only meeting Calidora.

Maybe the fact that it was Calidora's room that made him feel this way.

Upon swinging the door open, his gaze was immediately drawn to the far end of the room, where a bathtub of elegant design awaited. A blend of steel, crimson, and white hues adorned the tub, showcasing an intricate vampiric glyph that he recognized, beautifully carved into the side.

Bending over right beside the bathtub was Calidora, glancing back at him.

Rex felt his throat tighten and his body froze in place.

It was all because Calidora was completely nude, her mistifying, flawless body was bare for his eyes to see and marvel at. Every contour of her was the epitome of perfection, an aspect he had overlooked amid her usual eccentricity. Her breathtaking physique, concealed beneath the veneer of craziness, was an unexpected revelation.

Everything about her is just right, perfect to what he desired from a woman's physique.

During that trance, his eyes unconsciously looked her up and down.

Moreover, he could only gulp harshly, realizing that above the bathtub hung an ornate mirror, perfectly positioned to reflect the front side of Calidora's body, ensuring Rex's mind that neither the front nor back side lost even a hint of its allure.

Her raven black hair, dripping wet, daunting lips, and her surprised face were there to see.

Snapping out of his trance, he quickly turned away.

"I'm sorry, I forgot to knock, and I didn't know you were like this" Rex apologized awkwardly.

Despite his apology, a lingering thought that Calidora was deliberately showing this to seduce him crossed his mind. However, that notion was swiftly dismissed when Calidora replied, "Considering your state, I reckon you would take longer to arrive, so I took a bath first. Forgive this unpleasant sight, I'll change immediately"

"Here, done..." She added, prompting Rex to turn towards her again.

Now, Calidora is wrapped around a dress made of blood from the water inside the bathtub.

A breathtaking crimson dress, woven from the essence of blood itself. Its fabric, rich and velvety, cascaded down her form, embracing her curves with a haunting elegance. The off-shoulder neckline revealed the smooth contours of her shoulders, one that he praised earlier when she was bare.

In addition, the dress flirted with the concept of modesty, daringly exposing her right leg.

But as he scanned her form, his eyes fixed on a part.

Rex was surprised by a writing on the inner part of her right thigh, its font is hard to read.

However, he could decipher that it was his name, Rex Silverstar.

"Calidora... What is that writing on your right inner thigh, is that my name?" Rex asked softly.

Upon hearing this, Calidora cast her eyes down to her thigh, a flicker of surprise passing across her features before embarrassment took its place. "Ah—It's a milestone of the Eternal Curse binding us together, and for some reason, it manifests into a tattoo of your name on my thigh. I wasn't planning to show you that"

Despite what she said, Rex could hear a hidden, inviting undertone in her voice.

It only serves as more temptation, softening his walls.

"Am I mistaken, but shouldn't Mavenna come with you here?" Calidora asked questioningly.

Rex rubbed his throbbing forehead, a painful expression on his face. With a nonchalant shrug, he wrestled with the burgeoning lust ignited by this encounter internally, repeatedly persuading himself that he could go through this night without succumbing to Calidora's allure, mindful of Evelyn's genuine concern for her.

"I found her asleep, and I couldn't wake her up. So I came here alone"

"Is that so...? Well then, come and lay down, we need to be quick"

Agreeing with a nod, he entered the bed chamber, surprised to find it infused with a pleasant scent, contrary to his anticipation of a blood-tinged atmosphere, considering that her dress was made entirely of blood. But turns out it was wrong, the place smelled fragrant, relaxing to be exact.

Reclining on the bed, Calidora approached.

Instead of proceeding to feed on his blood, she used her own blood to meticulously sketch a complex rune array, albeit not overly huge, just above the bed's head. She did it with so much focus that Rex almost felt reluctant to disturb her.

However, when the rune array glowed crimson, he finally spoke.

"What is that for? I feel like you're planning something right now" Rex said skeptically.

Upon hearing this, Calidora fixed him with her eerie Eyes of Terror, smiling at his cautious demeanor. "Did you forget? Mavenna isn't here, so I'm creating a protection for myself in case you go berserk. I thought your words held significance. If you're having second thoughts about this, then just say it, and I will gladly escort you out"

Rex paused when he heard this, dwelling in his thoughts.

Normally, I would've scanned that array with the System. But I can't, not in this state.

"I'm not backing out, let's get this over with" Rex replied with a sigh.

He laid down on the bed again with his eyes fixed on the ceiling, while Calidora was smiling widely, a hint of excitement can be seen in her eyes. "Don't worry, I'm going to only drink your blood. Nothing else..."

Chapter 978 Situation in the Castle

Hearing the howling signal, Ryze quickly crushed the teleportation crystal with his hand.

Anticipating the potential dangers of being so close to the Executor, Rex had already readied a safe route to escape if deemed necessary. It was through a special teleportation crystal, unlike conventional ones, was able to bypass dimensional locking spells.

It's recommended by the System, knowing the Executor's chaos elements is able to do that.

Ryze was still searching for Rex when this happened.

Despite trying his hardest, he couldn't find Rex's trace anywhere around the encampment.

He doesn't know that Rex made the place he was in with Gistella secure.

Suspecting Brigitta's certain tone to be bad news, he searched for Rex fearing that he might be lured into something that the Executor prepared for him. From the start of arriving in this place, he already felt uneasy, feeling that something might go wrong.

Now, that feeling was proven to be true when the howling signal came from Rex.

Engulfed by the blinding light, Ryze was forced to close his eyes.

He wasted no time to get out of the encampment as soon as he heard the signal.

Only when he felt his senses returning to normal that he open his eyes and blink a couple of times, orienting himself to the surroundings. It took a moment for him to grasp the reality that he had returned to Dargena City, right in front of the castle to be exact.

"Rex...?"

Instantly, he called out for Rex, worried that something happened to him.

However, he found himself standing alone.

Knowing that Rex also has the same teleportation crystal as his, Ryze thought that he would be here too with him. But even after sweeping his vision around, he couldn't find any clues of Rex being teleported anywhere near him.

Something must've happened to him, that's what Ryze thought.

Even the notion of Rex setting the destination to be different didn't cross his mind right now.

But then again, it was natural for him to think like this, all due to Brigitta.

'He'll come, I'm sure of it. If not then I don't know how to explain to the others...' Ryze mused.

Meanwhile, Gelmar who was the one guarding the gate of the castle was the first one to sense Ryze's sudden appearance. He quickly made his way over to look and was surprised to see Ryze standing alone with a worried expression on his face.

His worry was palpable, seeing him biting his nails.

"Wasn't he supposed to be with Lord Rex...?" He uttered inwardly, frowning at this sight.

Not wasting a second, he made his way to inform the others.

...

Inside the castle.

All of the individuals inside the castle were rejoicing when Kyran miraculously woke up.

Evelyn and Adhara, having successfully subdued the effects of the Hare Moon, received the news from Flunra and wasted no time making their way to the bed chamber. Both of them widened their eyes when they realized that Flunra was not joking.

Despite what Rex said, Kyran managed to regain his consciousness.

It had been a couple of hours since his awakening, but he hadn't said a single word.

"What's wrong with him, Flunra?" Adhara asked.

Upon hearing this, Flunra shrugged his shoulders, he also found it surprising that Kyran was able to awaken from the Ice and Snow Full Moon's induced hibernation. Such an awakening was a feat achieved only by the exceptionally gifted—those born under the Ice and Snow Moon or possess the Ice and Snow Moon, King Mark.

Kyran has neither, but he somehow managed to wake up from the hibernation.

"I also don't know, there could be a lot of reasons, and we could only be glad that he was able to wake up for now" Flunra replied, shaking his head as deciphering the reason as to why Kyran was able to wake up was simply impossible.

On the side, Evelyn also frowned, looking at the absent-minded Kyran.

Something seemed to be wrong.

Currently, he was sitting on the bed, his gaze fixed on the emptiness in front of him, wearing an absent look. However, upon a knit of Evelyn's eyes for closer inspection, she could see a subtle glint in his eyes, tinted with a mysterious, dark bluish hue.

Instinctively, Evelyn walked closer and sat on the edge of the bed.

Examining her hand, she noticed a subtle response from her Luna energy as she approached Kyran, prompting a profound expression to grace her features. 'If my Luna energy is reacting, then his condition might have something to do with Rex. Although I don't know what, I think I should try and find out'

Just as she was about to caress Kyran's face, her hand halted when Kyran suddenly spoke.

"Ryze is outside." He said with a monotone voice.

Upon absorbing this revelation, Evelyn and the rest were left momentarily stupified. True enough, when they expanded their senses, it became evident that Ryze stood just beyond the castle's threshold, weirdly not coming inside.

Subsequently, the bed chamber door was knocked before Gelmar stepped inside.

"I'm here to inform you that Ryze has come back," He said with a slight bow.

Almost instantly, Adhara's and Evelyn's eyes sparkled with excitement as they sprung up.

"Naela, stay with Kyran. We're going to go and greet Rex and Ryze outside. I'm sure with Rex being here, he should know what's going on with Kyran" Evelyn said before she and Adhara quickly made their way out, leaving the bed chamber without waiting for Naela to answer.

Soon enough, the two arrived outside and opened the gate quickly.

Finding that the gate was being opened, Ryze's anxiety heightened, particularly upon seeing Adhara and Evelyn coming out. Both of them were the last individuals he wished to meet at this moment, given the circumstances.

It was also worse to see both of them exceedingly excited at his arrival.

"Ryze!"

Both of them yelled in a union, greeting him with a big smile on their faces.

Arriving in front of Ryze, Adhara and Evelyn gave him a big, excited hug before surveying their surroundings, and discovering Rex's absence. Slowly, their expressions shifted from anticipation to disappointment, and in unison, they inquired.

"Where's Rex? I don't see him anywhere, he's not here"

"Did he still have something to do? The full moon is still here, I want to spend time with him"

Examining Ryze's expression, Adhara's face darkens, seeing his emotional aura.

"Tell me what happened, Ryze" She said demandingly.

Beneath the combined pressure from Adhara and Evelyn, Ryze found himself nervously toying with his fingers before he eventually told them everything. He began with the Executor's blatant ploy, Brigitta's attempt to recruit him back, and also her tone of confidence that made him worried that something was going to happen to Rex during his meeting with the Executor, after the battle in the Shifting Realm.

It was only when Ryze ended his story that Evelyn and Adhara contemplated.

Realistically speaking, both of them are already expecting that something will happen during Rex's visit to the Executor. Such a situation is simply impossible to go by smoothly, it's the perfect opportunity for the Executor to try something.

Although Rex thought that the city might get attacked, it turned out that he was the target.

Now, the three of them were left with nothing to work with.

However, at the peak of their worry, a figure suddenly came out of the castle.

Seeing that Ryze's attention fixated on a presence behind them, the two pivoted around and found that it was Rex's clone that came out. Unlike before, its eyes now contained vitality, leaving no doubt that Rex had taken control of the duplicate.

Looking at the two with his eyes, Rex stepped closer to them.

"I made a blunder and was caught by the Executor's trap," He said, straight to the point. "I'm not in trouble and safe, but the trap changed the situation, so I won't be coming back for the time being. Just know that I'm fine, and don't wait for me..."

A moment later.

Evelyn and Adhara head back inside the castle with an entirely different atmosphere.

Both were troubled immensely.

Moments ago, Rex had informed them that his return was not going to be imminent. When pressed about his whereabouts, he cryptically mentioned being in a secure place, beyond the Executor's grasp—a response that left them unsatisfied.

However, the lack of will to mention his whereabouts confirmed his exact location.

It was obvious that he had gone to Calidora.

Since he was already deliberating whether it was a good idea to stay with Calidora, all due to her successful ploy, the Executor's trap inadvertently provided the motivation he needed, solidifying his resolve to stay by her side.

Evelyn and Adhara could only clench their fists to hold back their anger.

'Had the Executor refrained from summoning him during the Hare Moon, none of this would have happened! We could've persuaded Rex to remain with us, leveraging the influence of the Hare

Moon. Alas, now everything has taken a devastatingly, unfortunate turn' Adhara bit her lower lip, seething with frustration at the Executor's ill-timed intervention.

Now, his action benefitted Calidora, which was the worst-case scenario.

Mainly because it was the Hare Moon, and Rex is definitely having a hard time holding back.

Despite the fact that Rex had promised them that he would be able to hold back against the Hare Moon's influence, she knew that Calidora wouldn't take no for an answer. If the two did the deeds, then Calidora's influence would grow.

Especially since she now has a portion of Evelyn's Luna energy at her disposal.

"What should we do?" Adhara uttered whisperingly.

Upon hearing this, Evelyn remained silent, her eyes fixed forward with a glint of savagery.

Instead of answering Adhara's question, she ignored it and walked forward, heading to the hallway to the side of the throne room. On the other hand, Adhara was stupified, but she knew that Evelyn was thinking of a way to fix this.

No matter what, they wouldn't let Calidora get what she wanted.

Pausing for a fleeting moment, Adhara suddenly remembered something and took out an item from her pocket. It was the arrowhead Prof. K had given to Gelmar. Although it was supposed to be given to Rex, she was entrusted with safekeeping it.

However, she found herself captivated by its mysterious allure.

Appearance-wise, it wasn't special, but the fire energy that came out of it was different.

Driven by the desire to convince Rex to stay with them more than Calidora, Adhara sought a singular solution—by becoming stronger, strong enough to be able to hold Rex back when he unexpectedly went berserk like the last time.

Only then will he be able to trust that their safety wouldn't be endangered.

Which is why she ended up checking this arrowhead out.

Located on the back-bottom of the arrowhead was a sigil shaped like a flaming fire. It was so intricate that the person who engraved this should be a master craftsman, and the fire mana that oozes out of it could even suppress Adhara's early-ultimate element.

Although it's not necessarily stronger, it feels like the fire mana is that of a higher realm.

Just as she was inspecting this arrowhead, a voice startled her.

"It's the Sigil of an Elemental..."

Upon hearing this, Adhara raised her gaze and found that it was Flunra who was standing on the other side. He then pointed at the arrowhead in her hand and repeated, "It's the Sigil of an Elemental, not a hostile one, so they must be trying to make friendly ties"

"Elemental...? You mean the Elemental Race?" Adhara asked, surprised by this realization.

Flunra nodded in confirmation.

A smile then crept to his face as he shared his assumption, "In the ancient eras, the Demons hunted down the Primordial Fire Elemental, absorbing them to make their hellfire stronger. Elementals were probably starting to awaken by now, so if I had to guess, killing the Rastrikan Demons is a huge help for them..."

Meanwhile, on the other part of the castle.

Coursing aimlessly, Evelyn found herself standing in front of the underground chamber.

It was the Witch of Chaos' chamber, and she stepped inside brazenly.

Gazing at the Witch of Chaos, who was disturbed in her meditation, she then said with a clear and demanding tone, "Witch, I want us to quicken our move. No matter what, I want it to be done now. Help me do it"

Chapter 979 Puzzling Construct

Aside from the time when Evelyn asked her to help her when Edward came to visit, the Witch of Chaos has been doing nothing but meditating. She wasn't disturbed by anything that had transpired above ground, completely ignoring everything aside from her meditation.

But this was all possible because she had already done everything that she needed to do.

Now, it was only a waiting game for her.

Rex's part must be completed first before she can do her part in taking down the Executor.

It was all on his shoulders now or the plan would be a complete failure.

Even though she was meditating and being idle inside the underground chamber, in order to keep on the good side of Rex, she asked her children to surveil the surroundings, searching for any potential threats that were silently approaching Dargena City.

Thus far, their findings indicate nothing out of the ordinary.

However, her peace was disrupted when a figure came barging into her chamber brazenly.

Not even needing to open her eyes, she knew that it was Evelyn.

An obvious concern could be seen on her face as she barged inside, indicating that there was an urgent matter that was haunting her mind, "Witch, I want to push forward our move. Regardless of the challenges, I want it to be done now. Help me do that"

Upon hearing this, the Witch of Chaos' eyes twitched lightly.

"It's not possible, go back, Luna" She replied, still keeping her eyes closed in meditation.

Evelyn wasn't accepting any refusals, she advanced and seized the Witch's collar without a trace of hesitation. Her eyes radiated with a violet glow, revealing the surging Luna energy on the brink of unleashing its power.

Only then, the Witch of Chaos opens her eyes and sees Evelyn's determination.

"I want it to be done, now..." Evelyn repeated.

Despite being angered at the audacity of the Luna to do something like this to her, the Witch remains calm and reiterates, "If I said it's not possible, then it's really not possible, Evelyn. If we move right now, then it would jeopardize the plan for the Executor"

"Calidora is still an essential piece for this phase" She explains as clearly as possible.

But this made Evelyn's legs tremble a bit.

Seeing this, the Witch moved a soft cushion from the side to support Evelyn as she slumped to the ground in helplessness. She was dealing with stress, compounded by the relentless times everything was going in the opposite direction of what she wanted made it agonizingly difficult for her to come to terms with the situation.

Inspecting Evelyn's expression, the Witch knew what this was all about.

It was written clearly on her face.

"If it's about the Hare Moon and the Alpha, then you don't need to stress about it," She said.

Evelyn raised her gaze questioningly, "Why is that...?"

"After the Executor is done, you will get your revenge on Calidora. A little loss right now in exchange for that in the future, I don't know about you, but I'll gladly play the long run and savor my inevitable triumph" the Witch continued, giving some sort of console to Evelyn.

Surprisingly, it made Evelyn feel a little bit better.

However, there's one thing that stuck in her mind, 'I hope she's right, this is just a little loss...'

Contrary to what Evelyn was thinking, the Witch also seemed to be troubled.

'Eternal Curse... It shouldn't be stronger than my curse as the Witch of Chaos, I should be at the very top of the cursed prowess, but how come that Vampire Princess, Calidora is able to break through faster than me...?' She pondered, finding Calidora annoying.

As the Witch of Chaos, she's sensitive to the growth of curses in the world.

Over the past few days, she detected a surge of cursed energy emanating from the direction of the Vampire's territory. It was unmistakably Calidora, she was growing rapidly, and the Witch of Chaos couldn't understand why.

'Based on the grimoire, her curse must've mutated. But how did she trigger that?'

It was puzzling her mind recently.

The Witch of Chaos couldn't fathom how Calidora was able to outpace her in becoming stronger. But this could be through luck, something she achieved unknowingly. Nonetheless, this didn't diminish the looming threat Calidora posed to her dominion of power.

Despite her contemplation, she also has another troubling thought in her mind.

Her advancement is starting to slow down.

Almost as if something was hindering her growth, which is why she sought alternative paths to bolster her strength. But through helping Evelyn needs to wait. Despite Calidora's threat, the Executor remains the paramount threat, and she needs to focus on that.

Inside Kyran's bed chamber.

Ryze and Naela were the only ones left behind as the others went outside.

Both of them feel uneasy as Kyran didn't seem to be moving from his spot, he was immobile, akin to a statue with his gaze steadfastly fixed ahead. However, to Naela's surprise, she saw a peculiar gleam in his eyes that appeared out of nowhere.

Abruptly, Kyran stood up from the bed and stood upright.

Upon seeing this, Ryze and Naela exchanged looks at each other before suddenly,

Crash!

Kyran hurled the bed to the opposite side of the room with one swift motion, leaving the two observers astounded. Disregarding their gasps of surprise, the tip of his index claw glowed a bluish light as he began to inscribe something on the ground.

Snapping out of their dazes, Naela quickly approached him, "Kyran, what's wrong?"

Her question was answered with silence.

In a reflexive move, Ryze also jumped in and tried to stop Kyran from drawing something on the ground. However, he was taken aback by the unexpected strength Kyran displayed. It feels like an immovable rock, Ryze couldn't budge him at all.

Despite he should've been stronger, Ryze found himself unable to stop Kyran.

Soon enough, the drawings came to be.

As Ryze attempted to stop Kyran from what he was doing, Naela's gaze remained fixed on Kyran's fingers meticulously tracing patterns in the ground. She couldn't shake the concern that he might be possessed, sketching something that could pose a threat to them.

If it's a summoning then that's not going to be good for them.

However, it was not a summoning.

Naela knitted her eyes and found that it was a puzzling, yet carefully crafted construct.

Having no idea about what this construct was, which didn't look like rune formation or array, Naela hurried outside to call for Flunra who was in the throne room. Returning back to the bed chamber, Flunra and Adhara instantly saw what Naela was talking about.

Looking down at the construct, Flunra frowned, he also couldn't decipher what it was.

From a glance, it looked like a weirdly shaped form.

Since it didn't emanate any form of energy or gatherings of energy, Flunra was certain that this construct was not a rune or anything similar. Despite his extensively vast knowledge, he found himself unable to comprehend what lay before him, prompting him to turn his gaze towards Kyran, who knelt on the ground.

"Kyran, can you tell us what this is?" Adhara asked, trying to see if he would answer.

But he didn't, he remained silent and absent-minded.

Upon seeing this, Flunra knelt in front of him and examined him. He was searching for any sign of possession as from the start, waking up from hibernation of the Ice and Snow Full Moon ahead of the designated time is not something ordinary.

If he had to guess, something might've happened.

'I distinctly recall a Werewolf describing the Ice and Snow Full Moon hibernation as more than just sleep—it's akin to being ensnared awake in a dreamland of the Ice and Snow realm, forced to endure extremes of bone-chilling cold. One can have better treatment if they won a duel against monsters in that realm'

Based on that Werewolf's description, Flunra assumed that Kyran did something.

Something that allows him to wake up sooner.

However, Flunra couldn't tell what Kyran did, this was all completely foreign to him.

"Naela, go and call Prof. K here. I assume he might be able to help with this" Flunra said, he has absolutely no clue about the situation and hoped that a researcher like Prof. K would be able to understand the situation better.

Wasting no time, Naela quickly headed outside and did as she was told.

On the other hand, Flunra's gaze returned to the intricate pattern Kyran etched on the ground with his claw, his frown deepening. 'I may not understand the full picture, but this drawing should be able to offer some insights into the situation'

...

Meanwhile, back to Calidora's castle.

Profound silence enveloped the castle, the midnight hours having long elapsed, rendering the air inside this hollow castle colder. Additionally, the absence of any discernible source of heat would undoubtedly send ordinary humans into severe shivers.

A whistling sound was the only sound in the background.

Created by the night air, dancing through the glazed window, and produces this relaxing melody of ethereal whistles. It was a melancholic serenade, a lullaby that was able to put even a baby asleep, echoing through the silent bed chambers.

Inside this bed chamber was a single figure.

Under the hypnosis of the night, Mavenna was sleeping soundly on the sofa to the side.

An unknown amount of time has passed since Rex left.

Just then, a solitary droplet of water traversed the ceiling like a slithering snake, coalescing into a lump before gracefully descending, meeting Mavenna's face with a soft impact. Even though its touch was tender, it gently disrupted Mavenna's slumber.

Her eyelids trembled as she positioned her body to a more comfortable position.

Another droplet fell again to her face.

But this time, it landed right on her eyelid, forcing her to slowly wake up from her slumber.

Mavenna took a very deep breath when she woke up, as if she wasn't naturally breathing when she was asleep earlier. Still swathed in drowsiness, she sat up, rubbing her eyes in an attempt to reclaim the fragments of her soul still lingering in dreamland.

"Eugh... That was refreshing" She moaned in delight.

Pausing for a second, she then turned to scan the entire chamber absent-mindedly.

Observing the lingering Hare Moon on the verge of fading in the sky through the glazed window, Mavenna also discovered the bed vacant, devoid of any trace of Rex. With a languid yawn, she wondered aloud, "Hoam~ Where could he be? If he's awake already, why didn't he roused me as well?"

However, as she thought of that, her mind soon clicked that she was inside a castle.

It was only then her eyes widened and she sprung up instantly.

"What...?" She uttered, completely in shock. "Did I doze off? Wasn't I meant to be with Sir Rex, accompaning him to fulfill that Vampire's request?" Mavenna's mind raced, she was totally aghast on how she could be that reckless and fall asleep.

But then again, she has never fallen asleep suddenly like that, not even once in her life.

Thus, she reached to one solitary conclusion.

'She did something to me, I'm certain. Otherwise, I wouldn't have been so reckless' Mavenna thought, laying the blame on the sole suspect, Calidora. However, considering Calidora's tone dripping with sarcasm and threat, it was very likely that she was the culprit.

Not idling any longer, she quickly made her way out to assess the situation.

Mavenna hoped that it was still in process, Calidora taking Rex's blood that is so that she could anticipate if she tried to do anything. Just as she roamed about the hallway, she abruptly stopped when she sensed a presence inside the throne room.

Frowning, she took a peek inside and found Calidora sitting on her throne again.

Her triumphant look could be seen from a mile away.

Announcing her presence blatantly, Mavenna walked into the throne room with her gaze fixed on Calidora. Her eyes then squinted before she stopped, "Seems like I was wrong... Those eyes, they are not the Eyes of Phantasm, aren't they?"

Upon hearing this, Calidora chuckled sweetly, her cherry lips curving into a daunting smile.

"No... No, they are not indeed" She replied condescendingly.

Chapter 980 That's Not Natural

Across the immemorial of the Vampire race's existence, there were a few Vampiric eyes that could bestow a monumental surge in power, along with unique abilities that elevated those possessing them to unparalleled strength among their peers.

Only those who have powerful bloodlines could unlock this kind of power.

Generally, the Vampiric eyes were differentiated into offensive, defensive, and support types.

Some Vampiric eyes are rarer than others, requiring a specific deep-rooted bloodline and the specific situation of awakening, but none of them are considered better than the others. In the end, it only comes down to the individual using the Vampiric eyes.

It depends on whether the Vampier could use their Vampiric eyes well or not.

Mavenna initially thought that the Vampiric eyes that Calidora possessed were none other than the Vampiric Eyes of Phantasm, seeing that the entire castle was shrouded in blood illusion, and it's also one of the common Vampiric Eyes the Blodirra Family has.

An easy assumption considering the Blodirra Family is quite notorious in a bad way.

Back in the ancient time, their family head is a coward.

Due to his cowardice, extremely fearful of dying, he had unlocked the Vampiric eyes of Phantasm, a legacy he passed down to his descendants. It was because of this, he boasted vexing resilience, rendering him exceptionally hard to kill through his mastery of illusion.

He survived a long time because of that.

Killed only when the First Human Sovereign managed to trap him.

Naturally, Mavenna thought that Calidora would have the Vampiric eyes of Phantasm.

It was because of that, she avoided eye contact with Calidora.

Mavenna believed that she would be safe from her illusion because of that, however, it seems she was too hasty to assume Calidora's eyes were the Vampiric eyes of Phantasm. If Calidora was able to put her to sleep without eye contact, it meant her eyes were not what she thought they were, but something else entirely.

"Do you want to know what they are?" Calidora asked, her tone dripping with playfulness.

Upon hearing this, Mavenna frowned deeply.

However, her reaction only serves Calidora's smile to stretch even wider, "My eyes..." With her index claw, she pointed at her eyes. "My eyes are the Vampiric eyes of Terror. So even without eye contact, I could still influence you"

Just as she heard this, Mavenna's eyes widened, seemingly surprised.

But she quickly recovered and smiled back.

"Vampiric Eyes of Terror, huh... One of the rarest, and is considered to be a mix of support and offensive type, capable of causing destruction and illusion simultaneously. I must say, for such a young Vampire, unlocking those eyes already and mastering its thirst, you are quite fortunate " Mavenna mused.

Now she realized that it was a futile move to avoid eye contact with Calidora.

With the Eyes of Terror, Calidora doesn't need eye contact.

Some of the questions Mavenna had earlier are now answered, but this leads to more revelation than she anticipated. 'If it's the Eyes of Terror, then the way she was reacting earlier, then the counterpart of her Eyes of Terror should be Sir Rex'

'Weird... Why did she seem to have sexual urges toward Sir Rex?' Mavenna was puzzled.

The Vampiric Eyes of Terror is a vicious one.

Despite not being a Vampire, even for a Demoness like herself, knowledge of the Vampiric Eyes of Terror was common in ancient times. After all, Vampires who unlocked those eyes invariably caused havoc that always involved other races.

Vampires with the Eyes of Terror will turn berserk the moment they unlock these eyes.

At first, the Vampire would require to have their counterpart to notice them.

Then, the Vampire would need their blood.

Of course, with time, the requirement for the counterpart's blood grew more and more.

Eventually, the Vampire would need to kill the counterpart to reach the final stage of the Vampiric Eyes of Terror's power. In the final stage, the Vampire would gain a substantial boost of blood magic that makes them unparalleled in ranged battles.

So it's odd to see Calidora having a controlled sexual urge towards Rex.

It should've been bloodlust instead.

Mavenna is sensitive to this, and she sensed it the moment she entered the throne room.

Raising her gaze once again, Mavella raised an eyebrow questioningly, "I thought you were going to drink his blood, but judging from your eyes, you don't seem to be cultivating your Eyes of Terror. If you had, then there should be some changes. Also, since I woke up this quick, your Eyes of Terror is not that strong"

"Tell me, what did you do exactly when I'm asleep?" She added and squinted her eyes.

Upon hearing this, Calidora raised her hand, "It's none of your concern"

But Mavenna doesn't have any plan of stopping.

Stepping forward to close in the distance, Mavenna kept observing Calidora meticulously, searching for an answer. Although she already had a guess in mind, she would need some confirmation before she could be certain.

Evidently, the probing gaze from Mavenna made Calidora uneasy.

Calidora felt more uneasy the closer she got.

In retaliation, her Eyes of Terror gleamed with malicious intent and created a shockwave.

Swoosh!

Crack!

Mavenna already sensed this attack coming the moment it was launched and she quickly crossed her arms in defense. Under the forceful shockwave, she got pushed back a couple of steps, prompting her to sprout her graceful pink wings to halt the momentum.

A few scratches could be seen on her arms, but they were all shallow and barely noticeable.

"One more step, and you'll regret it, old hag" Calidora warned.

Upon these words, Mavenna gracefully straightened her posture. It dawned on her that Calidora intended to maintain a certain distance between them, a gesture expressing that she didn't want Mavenna to be too close to her.

But this is enough to confirm Mavenna's suspicion as her eyes widened in utter disbelief.

Her eyes instinctively went to Calidora's thighs.

Just like before she was influenced to be asleep, she could smell a potent fragrance—pheromones so thick that she could easily discern. However, the scent from Calidora's intimate region now bore the unmistakable tinge of masculine aroma.

It was now obvious what she had done while Mavenna was asleep.

'But why...? Why is she doing this?' Mavenna frowned, completely confused at her decision.

No scenario should have made her end up doing this.

Mavenna tried to peer through Calidora's mind to no avail, she had absolutely no clue about what she was thinking to do something like this. 'As a Vampire, she could only make one, so what in the Origin's name she was thinking to decide to have one with Sir Rex, a Werewolf?'

As the confusion heightened, a tense silence also enveloped the two.

It was then that a sudden howl could be heard.

Aoooouuu!!

Both of them were startled by this howl due to the tension, coming from beneath the floor.

Even though the source of the howl couldn't be seen, it could only come from one person, and that was none other than Rex who was inside the underground chamber. And almost in an instant, Calidora's stern countenance turned into an excited one.

Following that, she quickly dashed away, clearly heading to the underground chamber.

Similarly, Mavenna wasted no time and chased after her.

Meanwhile, while the others were above, Rex was cramped inside a solitary chamber.

Having resolved to go here until the Hare Moon ended, he found it surprising that he had managed to maintain control for this extended duration, despite acknowledging that he anticipated succumbing to his berserk state very soon.

It had been hours, and he managed to endure the transformation but eventually caved in.

But then again, he doesn't need to worry.

Knowing that he's inside Calidora's castle with nobody to hurt, there's no need for him to be fearful of his berserk state. He could only think of this as a bad night and move on as the potential repercussions are basically non-existent.

No matter how much he tries, he will not be able to kill Calidora.

Fueled by the power of the Hare Moon, nearing its end, he turned into his Werewolf form.

Even though he had experienced this transformation countless times already, being forced to transform by the full moon was always something that he couldn't get used to. His mind went completely blank, and all he could do was let his feral side take over.

Inside the chamber, there were numerous protections that were set in place.

Had Rex retained his consciousness right now, he would undoubtedly harbor skepticism upon observing the chamber fortified with numerous formations and magical items specifically designed to contain a Werewolf of his caliber.

Calidora must've been really confident that he would come here to prepare this chamber.

But then again, this is as expected of Calidora.

Upon reaching full transformation, the door on the side swung open, revealing Calidora in the same crimson dress she wore earlier. Her smile instantly caught his attention, tinged with madness, and widened at the sight of Rex fully transformed into his formidable Werewolf form that she had longed to see again.

His entire presence radiates immense power, thanks to the Hare Moon.

At the sight of Calidora, Rex's berserk eyes stared at her, seemingly observing her intently.

Realizing what he was doing, the burning intent to mate could be seen in his eyes, Calidora's hair started to flutter with blood energy. Her entire bearing became heavier by the second, the blood energy cloaked her entire body like a blanket.

"Come and get me if you want me" She said whisperingly.

When her aura reached its absolute peak, Rex's danger signal was triggered.

He now looked at Calidora with hostility.

Roar!!

Almost instantly, Rex reacted strongly and became hostile, lunging to attack Calidora.

In response, Calidora gladly takes him on, deftly closing the door behind her to ensure the optimal functioning of the intricate formations and magical items. Both clashed with wild ferocity, resembling untamed beasts, each strike aimed at dealing more severe damage than the last.

Despite being much stronger, Rex wasn't able to overwhelm Calidora.

Most of his attacks were dodged.

Other than leveraging the power of the Eternal Curse between them to mitigate Rex's attack, the berserk state also made his attack pattern straightforward and predictable. Calidora was able to adeptly navigate through the majority of them, using the spacious chamber to her advantage, and seizing opportunities to counter with precision.

Naturally, in a fight like this, she should avoid being caught by Rex even by the pinky finger.

Had she got caught, then that's the end of her.

Soon enough, the door to the side was opened again, revealing Mavenna.

Noticing the abnormal shakings of the castle's structure and the growling sounds, Mavenna hastened her pace and quickly opened the door to the underground chamber. However, she was not prepared to see what was happening inside.

As expected, Rex has gone berserk. His attacks left daunting claw marks inside the chamber.

Fighting against him was Calidora.

However, Mavenna was not expecting Calidora to be having fun fighting him right now.

Judging from the broad grin on her face, it was evident that she relished every moment of this intense exchange. In a surprising turn, Mavenna witnessed Calidora falter, and Rex swiftly seized her by the waist, his claws piercing through the center of her abdomen gruesomely.

Smiling wickedly, Rex pierced his other hand into her and pulled out her heart.

With a savage move, he ate Calidora's heart savagely.

Upon witnessing the scene unfold, Mavenna was rendered completely speechless.

She had assumed, given Calidora's recklessness, that she would at least manage to survive. However, engaging Rex in this overpowered state without any support seemed utterly foolhardy on her part if she knew that she could die.

But once again, Mavenna was proved to be too quick to assume.

Hauntingly, she saw the gaping wound on Calidora's chest swiftly close and heal unnaturally, almost as if she utilized some sort of dark power. Soon enough, she rose to her feet, effortlessly shrugging off the lethal blow she had endured from Rex.

"Wait... That's not natural"

"How in the world did she do that? Her Eyes of Terror don't have that ability..."