ILY Monster 416

A month later, Little Shin and Zaki were seen practicing in the courtyard. Zaki actually volunteered to teach little Shin the basic of martial art to make his body stronger.

"Uncle, why is auntie Hinari not visiting us anymore?" Little Shin asked by the time they took a break and Zaki who was busy helping little Shin changed his wet shirt suddenly paused for a moment.

He looked at little Shin for a while before he again continued what he was doing.

"She's busy. Don't worry, she will visit you once she's free." He replied but the little guy seemed to be unsatisfied with Zaki's answer.

"Uncle, why don't you invite her to come? Also, why are you only staying here? I mean I'm okay with big brother Kaide to teach me and guard me, so you don't have to do stay here." Little Shin said when Zaki narrowed his eyes as he looked at him before he flicked little Shin's forehead.

"You... are you saying you want Kaide more than I? Did you forget that I am the one who was babysitting you ever since you were born?"

"I--- it's not like that. Uncle, you're my third most favorite person, I want you to teach me how to fight but..." Somehow, upon hearing what the little sweet guy said, Zaki's expression went gentle.

However, when Zaki heard the next words he said, he couldn't even say a word.

"But... I think I just got tired of your face now. You've been with me every day in the house and in school. I think you shouldn't spend all your time with me. I mean, look... aren't you jealous with mommy and daddy? And don't you miss auntie too? You don't have to worry about my safety because I'm a big boy now. Also, I can just ask you to teach me your superb skill once I grow a bit more. So, what I'm saying is... go and visit auntie and bring her home."

Zaki was speechless for a long while, he couldn't believe that this little guy was telling him these things. He was just so like his father that Zaki could only flick his forehead again before he stood and ruffled his hair hard.

"You told me I'm your third most favorite but you easily got tired of my face? Little Shin, are you kidding me?" Zaki replied with a raised brow, purposely dodging the main issue and little Shin puffed his cheeks.

"Uncle, I know you know what I meant by saying that!" the little guy retorted but Zaki just dropped a towel on his head covering little Shin's face.

"Let's go." Zaki then said and he started walking away, making the little even more frustrated.

"Uncle! You're so stubborn!" he yelled before he ran passed him, looking mad as he entered the house without waiting for Zaki.

At that moment, Zaki simply stood there looking at the door where little Shin entered with an indifferent expression. He clenched the towel in his hand and he was about to move when he felt Sei's presence.

"It's rare for little Shin to get mad at you, what did you do?" Sei asked as soon as he stepped out of the door when Zaki just replied back casually.

"He's just throwing tantrum. So? Why are you here?" He replied and Sei leaned on the door frame, looking at him as if he's observing him.

"Doctor Su called me." Sei said and Zaki sighed.

"That damn old man! Even though I threatened him." He muttered to himself when Sei glared at him.

"I'm going with you today."

"You don't have to, Sei. I'm not a ki---"

"Shut up and let's go."

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"Tch! You're stubborn."
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Red City Hospital...

Zaki was changing from his hospital clothes to casual clothes as Sei was speaking ever so seriously with the doctor. Sei's face slowly darkened as he heard the doctor explaining the situation. He didn't like the news he was given at all. He expected something like this would happen but he didn't think it would be so soon. His eyes were brimming with anger as he clenched his fist tightly.

After the doctor left, Zaki stood up and he nonchalantly cracked his neck before he turned to Sei.

"Off we go, then." Zaki said. He seemed to already be back to his usual jolly and happy-go-lucky self, as if there was nothing wrong at all.

Seeing how carefree Zaki was, Sei's face turned even uglier as he glared at him.

"Stop glaring at me. Didn't I tell you not to come? You're treating me like a kid, Sei."

"Zaki... how long are you planning on hiding this from her?" Sei asked with a firm and serious tone and Zaki fell silent. His brows then furrowed like he was trying to find the solution to a really complicated puzzle. After a while, he eventually looked up, looking like he had figured out the answer, although this was already what he decided since long time ago.

"Sei... my one and only request is still the same... Don't tell anyone about this. I want this to just stay between me and you alone." He said with a firm tone and eyes filled with unbreakable will, causing Sei to only crease his brows hard as he looked at him.

On the day of Hinari's birthday, she hosted a birthday party. It was a lavish affair. She wore a long, off the shoulder, bright red dress that hugged her sexy figure and she wore lipstick that matched its colour. She wore a simple diamond necklace and bracelet which sparkled under the light. If there was a goddess of seduction, then Hinari was the picture of one.

She invited many people to her birthday party as she had made many connections from being a successful author and bookstore owner. She also reluctantly invited her family thinking they would reject her invitation but to her surprise, they actually turned up.

She mingled with her guests, laughing and talking about this and that but she couldn't stop her eyes from drifting towards the entrance. She also couldn't help but glance at the clock every now and again.

"Don't worry so much. He will come." Hinari heard Davi's soft words of reassurance and she smiled at her best friend.

Davi had obviously noticed her not so subtle actions and tried to reassure her. After all, it was her best friend's birthday and she only wanted Hinari to be happy. 'Zaki, where are you?' Davi thought silently.

The time came for Hinari to blow the candles on her cake so she stepped up to the front of the room as everyone sang the Happy Birthday song. She was so focused on thinking about her wish that she didn't notice a man had arrived at the entrance. However, he didn't enter. He just stood there, staring at the goddess in red as she closed her eyes, made a wish and blew out the candles.

As soon as she opened her eyes, they went straight to the entrance as she thought she saw some movement coming from that direction. However, it seemed it may have been just her overactive imagination as there was nobody there.

Hinari was obviously eagerly waiting for Zaki to arrive but the man didn't come. She saw that she had received a gift from him but this wasn't what she wanted from him. She didn't want any material things. All she wanted was him, being with her at this moment. But it seemed like, after all these years, what she wanted was still ever so unreachable. He was so close yet so far and Hinari knew how that felt right from the start. Zaki put up a huge barrier deflecting her every attempt to reach his heart. She knew that they were just like oil and water, never able to mix, but still, her heart longed for no one but him, like an idiot.

'Why? Why didn't you come? Today's my birthday, you know. Do I really not mean anything to you?' She silently cried on the inside as she hid her true feelings under the guise of a bright and happy face. It had always been like this. For many years, Hinari learned to hide the sadness and pain in her heart especially when in front of Zaki. She would always choose to be playful and naughty because she knew Zaki was doing the same. However, it seemed like she was reaching her limit. She thought that her heart had already become used to it, but it seemed like she was wrong. The pain intensified as she started to realize that this was hopeless and maybe it was time for her to give up.

The party kept going till late at night but still, there was no sign of Zaki. As it got closer to midnight, people started to take their leave and the numbers dwindled down until it was only Davi and herself left.

Davi tried her best to coax Hinari until Sei arrived to fetch his wife. The man was still wearing his business suit as he just came from his office after working overtime.

Looking at the godly being walking towards them, Hinari looked at Davi and asked her to go.

"Davi dear, it's time for you to go. Your hubby is here." She said and Davi who noticed the sadness in her was reluctant to leave her.

"Hinari, why don't you come with us?" Davi asked, but the birthday girl politely and immediately refused her best friend.

"Don't worry, my dear. I have already booked a room here so I'll be fine." She said before she looked at Sei and greeted him. The man also gave her a bouquet of flowers and a gift which made Hinari at least

feel a bit better. Well, this was the first time this mighty Sei, who always threatened to feed her to the crocodiles, gave her something and somehow, she couldn't help but think that it might be nice if she had an older brother like him.

"Thank you." Hinari then said before she immediately turned to Davi.

"Okay, okay. Go ahead now, Davi, dear. I'm fine, I'll be going upstairs now to take a rest." Hinari said as she gently and playfully shoved Davi to Sei.

Seeing that Hinari's mood was somehow lifted, the couple then both wished her well and headed off.

Watching the sweetest couple's back as they left, Hinari smiled. She was really happy for them. They were really two souls tangled with each other; they were just the definition of the perfect love, something that was rare in this world.

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Meanwhile, inside the car, Davi thanked Sei for not forgetting to bring something for Hinari.

"You reminded me so how could I forget?" Sei replied and Davi reached out her hand to loosen up his husband's neck tie.

"Hehe, I was just making sure because you tend not to bring anything even when you visit prominent people." Davi said and Sei held Davi's head and caressed her hair.

"Hinari is family and she's important to you and Zaki, and I don't want to disappoint you, so..." He replied and Davi smiled. However, her smile soon faded when Sei mentioned Zaki.

"Darling... where is Zaki? He received the invitation personally from Hinari but why he didn't come?" She asked with a worried look.

"Lately, he's been spending too much time with little Shin. I almost don't see him having time for himself." Davi continued and Sei let out a deep sigh.

"I will speak with him tonight."

"Okay. I am just worried about those two. Also, I feel Zaki is being strange lately."

"That guy is... there's a serious problem and he doesn't want anyone to know about it."

When Davi heard what Sei said, her eyes turned wide.

"S-serious problem?" She stammered. Davi somehow felt that Sei's expression also changed as he said those so she couldn't but felt worried.

Seeing Davi's worried look, Sei immediately spoke.

"But don't worry, I will still try to speak with him about it again." He said and somehow, Davi looked like she was relieved.

"O-okay. Let's at least help them. Little Shin is also doing his best so I hope we can still do something for them."

"Mm. We should try."

"But I'm really worried for Hinari. She's really hurt right now because she'd been waiting, expecting him to come. Can we do something about this?"

"Do you have an idea?"

"Mm. I have an idea."

Back in the hotel, Hinari's mood drastically fell the moment she was left alone.

She still felt badly hurt at being stood up. She blamed herself for expecting Zaki to come and she couldn't bear the surge of hurtful emotions in her heart.

Trying to soothe her pain, Hinari chose to hang out with her dear old friend, alcohol. She didn't go upstairs to her room but went back to the ballroom to drink by herself. She took the leftover bottles of alcohol and sat on a seat.

Time passed and Hinari ended up murmuring to herself.

"Hi V-vodka, you a-are truly a great friend," she said out loud. "W-Why d-didn't maaai beauty come today? Do y-you know why?"

She looked obviously drunk and was talking loud enough that her stepmother and stepsister heard her as they were heading out of the hotel. These two were also among the last people to leave the party. They went to the ladies room to use the facilities before heading out as it was a relatively long drive back to their mansion from the hotel and they met another important person in the lobby so they took a long time before they could leave.

Upon hearing Hinari talking to herself like a drunkard, the scheming mother and daughter saw this as a great opportunity and schemed on her.

"Mom, look! She's talking to herself like a crazy woman! Don't you think this would be a great opportunity to ruin her?" Hinari's stepsister whispered to her mother.

"You're right, dear. We should take advantage of this situation." Hinari's stepmother then pulled out her phone and dialed the number of an underground connection.

"I've got a job for you. Come to Hotel Amber and you will find her in the ballroom. Do what you want with her."

She cut off the call after giving them her instructions. She also instructed the hotel staff not to enter the ballroom and not to disturb the birthday girl using her identity as Hinari's mother. Then, with an evil smile plastered on her face, she took her daughter's hand and headed out to the waiting car outside.

Meanwhile, Zaki, who was sitting in a dark room, brooding, jumped slightly when he heard his phone ring.

He answered with a curt "Yes?"

His face slowly darkened as he heard what the man on the other line said. Rage flashed in his eyes and he struggled to contain the terrifying demon within him that was trying to take over. He hung up the

phone and without another word, he rushed out of the house, jumped on his motorcycle and sped off into the darkness.

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It didn't take long for three burly men, all dressed in black, to come to the location they were given and they immediately headed to the ballroom. The stepmother had also told the staff earlier that some bodyguards would soon arrive so they must let them in. Thus, the men easily entered the ballroom without causing any suspicion.

As expected, they found the juicy piece of meat that was promised. They slowly headed towards her, separating from each other to cover the possible exits she could use to escape.

"Hey there, pretty lady. You know, a pretty lady like you shouldn't be drinking all alone. Why don't my friends and I come join you for a bit?" One of the men spoke up which startled Hinari that she jumped on her seat.

She looked around, her head still fuzzy from the alcohol she consumed. 'Huh? Who are these people? My party is over so what are they still doing here?' Her thoughts were slightly muddled and because she was drunk now, she was late to realize the danger she was in.

"We've got a birthday present for you."

The words sent shivers down her spine and somewhere in her foggy mind, a loud siren of warning started to scream at her.

She only realized she was in great trouble when she heard the doors click shut.

The call Zaki received a while ago was from one of Sei's best hacker apprentice. Zaki had asked the man to check the CCTVs and report to him once Hinari was back in her room. So when Zaki received his call, he expected that the hacker was just going to tell him that she had left the ballroom but the report he received instantly made his blood boil, causing him to immediately move out in a furious flash.

Driving like a maniac, Zaki rode at full speed towards the hotel as if the devil himself was chasing after him. He swerved and overtook the cars that were in front of him, not letting anything slow him down at all. He had to get to her or he would never forgive himself if anything happened to her. He made a promise to himself that he would protect Hinari from everything and everyone who wanted to harm her and by god, he was going to uphold that promise, no matter what it took.

Back in the hotel, one of the men, the leader it seemed, pulled Hinari towards him. The disgusting man looked at her with nothing but lust in his eyes that even in Hinari's drunken state, she felt like puking just by looking at him.

"Let go!" Hinari screamed but the man just laughed. When the man's grip on her tightened, Hinari suddenly bit his arm as hard as she could, causing the man to cry in pain before he slapped her with the back of his hand.

Blood started to flow from Hinari's mouth as she fell hard on the ground due to the strong blow she received. However, the hard hit she received somehow made her a bit sober. Her eyes turned furious. The pain in her chest and the physical pain she was feeling at that moment were so grueling she couldn't help but smile bitterly.

She bit her lip hard as she clenched her fist tightly when a man squatted before her.

He forced her to look at him by grabbing her face and turning her head forcefully. "Now, now. There's no need to cry. We are just going to have a little bit of fun with you, that's all."

Hinari glared at him with pure hatred in her eyes. She wanted to spit on his face and curse, but she didn't. Somewhere deep in her consciousness, something was telling her to act now.

Just as the man was about to push her down on the floor, Hinari's expression suddenly changed and her finger poked the man's chin as she smiled like a real seductress. With just that, the man suddenly froze and he looked as though he was about to drool. The other two also saw the drastic change in her that they almost couldn't believe what they were seeing.

"Boys, I don't mind playing with you guys, okay? It's just that... I'm so not into being forced and..." Hinari looked at the three of them as if she desired them like she was a hungry beast. "and... I, actually want to make a move on you. How about it?"

The way Hinari spoke, the way she looked at them and her seductive gestures easily made the disgusting men fall for her trap. They smiled like mad dogs under the influence of a drug.

Seeing this, Hinari smiled.

"Okay then, I want to do it on the table." She said and the men let her stand. She leaned on the table before she looked at them, licking her own lips.

"Can you guys move a meter or more away? I want to dance for you. Just sit back and enjoy the show, boys." She said and the men immediately followed her like they suddenly turned in to her mad dogs.

Hinari knew she couldn't delay them any more. She could tell in one glance that at any moment now, they would lose their minds and attack her like mad dogs.

Realizing that there was no other way, Hinari slowly climbed on the table. Her eyes looked for a knife but the waiters already took them away after the party. However, as soon as she was on top of it, she suddenly grabbed two of the wine bottles before she jumped on the other side of the table.

Seeing what she did, the men became furious and they immediately surrounded her. Hinari threw one of the bottles at one of them before she ran. However, she was cornered in no time. Her long dress made her unable to move well and the only thing she could do was to step back slowly until her back reached the wall.

The mad dogs before her were laughing.

"Bitch, you really got us there. We will definitely destroy you for toying us!" one of them said.

At that moment, Hinari's eyes widened. Her grip on the bottle tightened and she suddenly smashed the bottle on the wall.

The men again laughed, thinking that Hinari would try to fight using it. However, they were shocked when Hinari suddenly pointed the sharp points of the bottle on her own throat.

Hinari gritted her teeth. Her hands were trembling. She couldn't believe that one of the scenes in a story she wrote, where one of the characters killed herself this way, would also end up happening to her.

Her heart was aching so bad, tears were falling from her eyes uncontrollably. Her mind was still a bit hazy. She didn't even notice that the sharp point of the broken bottle was already piercing slowly through her skin.

Blood started flowing from her neck. However, this didn't faze the mad dogs before her for long. Hinari saw their movement and she closed her eyes. Her grip on the bottle tightened again, her hand trembled, looking like she will definitely slash her own throat once they attack her. But before she could move her hands and before the mad dogs could touch her, the huge door to the room burst open with a loud bang.

Everyone, but Hinari, who had closed her eyes, looked towards the commotion and the three men stepped backward involuntarily as they sensed the presence of a demonic creature.

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Zaki's eyes immediately fell on the girl in red, cornered by three men, pointing a broken bottle on her own throat which made Zaki's heart stop beating. He saw the blood flowing down her throat and in that instant, he lost his sanity and like someone out of a movie, Zaki flew towards her in an unbelievable speed.

Before Hinari could open her eyes, and before the men realized what just happened, Zaki already took the bottle away from her hand.

Zaki's eyes turned red as he looked at the blood on her lips and neck. The fiery rage that he felt when he took the phone call earlier was minuscule compared to the intense feeling of cold hatred that took over. He wasn't emotional anymore. He had turned into a cold blooded demon with no feeling or thought except to spill the blood of those who dared to hurt this woman.

The three men stood in a daze, staring at the demonic creature who had appeared before them. They felt an extremely cold chill run down their spine as if the person that suddenly appeared was the god of death himself. His demonic aura suffocated them and made it hard for them to think and react. They couldn't even move anymore. Their feet felt like they were nailed to the floor and no matter how much they tried to tell themselves to run away, their fear kept them frozen in place.

Zaki eventually turned and the moment he did, he wrapped his hand around the man's neck and squeezed it until he heard the sound of bones cracking before he threw him away like he was a ragdoll in his hand.

The other two perpetrators watched with great fear as their leader was rendered unconscious or already dead in just two moves. 'Move feet, move!' They yelled within them but their legs didn't obey. When Zaki started moving toward them, they were so scared that they urinated on themselves.

Zaki was oblivious to their fear, or anything else for that matter, as he moved on to his next target. He looked like he wasn't human at all. He looked like he was a killing cyborg disguised as a beautiful man. There was no light in his eyes, just bloodlust and nothing more.

This was the real Zaki. Once he was in this state, there was no stopping him until everyone was dead. Countless had already fallen from his hands since he was a young boy. He didn't have a human conscience when he was at this state. This was, after all, what he was originally made for, to kill and kill without mercy.

The two men were finally able to move their feet. They ran towards the door but before they could hold the door knob, they were suddenly thrown back again into the middle of the room. The impact of the blow they received caused them to spit blood as they growled in pain.

At this moment, Hinari watched everything. Her mouth turned agape as she watched Zaki torture the men like they were sandbags. He looked like a demon torturing the sinners in hell.

The men were already covered with blood but there were no sign of Zaki's sanity coming back. Even Hinari was trembling as she watched him slowly killing them. This Zaki was not the Zaki she knew. This Zaki looked like he wasn't human but a killing monster.

But despite her wobbling in fear, she still forced herself to walk towards him. She was so scared yet she didn't stop from getting closer step by step.

"Z-zaki..." Hinari's words were barely a whisper. Her tears didn't stop flowing. She wanted Zaki to stop. She wanted him to stay as her sane superman, not be a god of slaughter.

Thus, just as Zaki was about to mercilessly take their lives for good, Hinari's arms suddenly wrapped around his waist tight.

"Zaki... please, th-that's enough." Hinari cried, her voice hoarse as she hugged him from behind.

That moment, Hinari's voice immediately reached Zaki's consciousness. He felt her warm arms wrap around his cold body. He felt her trembling, he heard her sobbing.

With just that, he was easily brought back to his usual self and the light in his eyes returned. He looked at the bloody men, good as dead before him and he clenched his fists tightly.

His eyes then fell towards the trembling hands on his waist and he slowly raised his hand and touched them.

He then immediately moved and without a word, he scooped her up, not making any eye contact with her as he dashed towards the door carrying her like a princess.