

Melody 681

Eternal Melody C681 Caution

Chapter 681 Caution

A few days later February 8th, at Tsukuhara high school.

It was finally time to return to school. Hino contacted her and Yuhi last night, saying it should be okay now.

'There may still be a few reporters lurking around. But they are not allowed to approach you.'

Certainly, when Yuhi dropped her off this morning, she spotted the reporters. But even when Yuhi left her alone, they couldn't do anything. It was the first day back, but her dear had emergency work and had to leave.

He said he would be on time for the meeting later, but she was already missing his presence. Although it was only for a short amount of time, it reminded her of the time she spent with him during Christmas.

Being in her dearest embrace is the best, even though he kept teasing her. After changing her shoes, she quickly left the locker area and stopped at the end of the hallway back staircase. Shin was leaning against the stairs.

Sumire slumped on the bottom step.

"Your acting like your about to be eaten," Shin commented.

Sumire sighed deeply. "Sensei, do you have no idea what bullying feels like? It feels like everybody is being cautious with me. Some haven't dismissed the rumors."

"Well, they did take a good photo."

Right those photos.

"Did you ever find out who took them?"

"There is a suspect, somebody, your manager, scouted from this school. But the girl's parents are being very stubborn, saying their daughter would never do such a thing. They said they would take the matter to court if Narasaki kept asking for an apology."

So, in other words, this was another case of jealousy. Sumire sighed. "It's true Hino is paying a lot of attention to me. But that's because I had already debuted before, and my debut concert impressed him. Unlike the new ones he scouted, I have prior stage experience. Those girls will gain nothing getting jealous of me and acting malicious."

"The one with the voice acknowledged by Terashima Yuhi and defeated Takahashi Yumi not too long ago said that."

"The only reason I beat Yumi-senpai was because, at that moment, I sang with even stronger emotions than her. But in terms of who is more skilled, it's certainly Yumi-senpai."

It's because she wanted to engrave it right then, the stronger emotions Yuhi-san and everyone helped her gain.

"I see, but well, for now, you have a victory over her. Even music critics have nothing bad to say about your performance then."

"But, truthfully. I don't think I can reach that level of performance again."

"Is that why you haven't accepted any music programs since you started your idol work again?"

"Well, the main reason is more to do with my personal feelings. I am not as frightened of people as I was before. I can go past a crowd without freezing up or being sick now."

She has made great improvements, unlike then.

"However, I can't help but think it was good that I wasn't here when they posted those pictures on the bullet board. If I was, I would have broken down in front of everybody. My legs would have frozen, and I would have had a panic attack." Sumire closed her eyes.

Just seeing them from Yuhi's phone caused her to have an irregular heartbeat.

"But that didn't happen."

"Instead, I received a hug from my dearest; it was quite a pleasant situation."

"You need to stop provoking Yuhi. One of these days, I am not going to see you for a month because Yuhi has captured you."

Sumire rolled her eyes at those words.

"You're underestimating, my dear. If he wanted to keep me captive, he would do for at least half a year."

With her dearest skills, half a year would be the max. But she wonders if they would do it every day for six months. Sumire felt her cheeks redden at the thought.

"You always have your head in the clouds when you think about him. I can see why Atsuro ends up getting annoyed."

"I don't care what he thinks. But oh, Aki sent me a message saying they received the guns. Did you and Atsuro send it over immediately?"

"More like we ransacked the ship that ended up coming and personally delivered it." Shin sighed. "We just got back yesterday, and my shoulders hurt. Those ships are uncomfortable to travel in."

"You're acting like an old man." Sumire chuckled. "But thank you."

"No, I should thank you. Even though it ended up like that, I got the opportunity to see you fight."

The opportunity to see her fight, huh?

"Yuhi criticized me a little. He told me that I shouldn't show mercy to the new ones next time."

"I think the same."

Of course, Shin isn't going to disagree.

"You're off the same mindset, right? You understand that by showing mercy. You let your guard down when that guy came."

"I know."

Mirako's sudden appearance wouldn't have startled her if she had used normal bullets from the beginning. She would have had the mindset that everybody in the harbor were targets she ought to shoot down.

"Well, I understand what you were trying to do. But, you should be more mindful of your situation. Have you been going to the hospital for check-ups?"

"No, because of what happened. But I have an appointment this evening." Sumire trailed off. "Hey, Shin, I have something to ask you."

"What is it?"

"Do you think a human who participated in an evolved human experiment can surpass the strength of a regular evolved human?"

"Is this about Nagawa?"

"Yes. Sano himself admitted that he participated in the experiment. I talked about it with Yuhi-san, and both of us noticed that we couldn't break free of his grip. Me aside, Yuhi-san has known about his evolved human powers for a long time. But even he said that he felt overpowered for a brief moment."

At those words, Shin frowned. "That shouldn't be possible." He trailed off. "Unless they used drugs."

"Drugs?"

"Yes, it will stimulate the brain and temporarily give them strength. But it won't last long." Shin trailed off. "Unfortunately, this isn't my expertise. You should ask that researcher Eli; he has spent more time researching evolved humans; what's wrong?"

At the mention of Eli, her gaze dimmed.

"You don't understand how hard it is dealing with Eli. If you ask him something, he is the type to ask you to repay him on the spot." Sumire sighed. "That part of him reminds me of Aki. No wonder I find them both annoying."

Eternal Melody C682 What I like

Chapter 682 What I like

"I see if that's the case. I'll do my best. But I have my hands full recently Atsuro's been wanting to challenge M5 as a whole, so he is bringing the other member back."

"Oh, your drummer, right? I haven't met him yet."

Atsuro's group EMMA consists of Atsuro and Shin. Yamaguchi Ryo, Ookoyama Kirishima, and the other one she has yet to meet.

"Trust me; you don't want to meet that one." Shin looked troubled. "Does Atsuro truly think we can beat M5? Him aside, the rest of us are newbies to the industry. We only started two years ago, while the guys in M5 debuted when they were younger."

"Now, now. You shouldn't give up so easily; remember, singing is your main job."

"I suppose. I'll get going; make sure you actually go to class today. You can skip one, but not the others." Shin said, walking away.

Her sweat fell at those words. So he knew about it? Well, it only makes sense. Instead of heading to the classroom, she immediately hid. Sumire turned to head up the stairs to the rooftop when she spotted black hair walking over.

"My dear?" Sumire said, surprised.

"Mmm." Yuhi kissed her lips. "My work was canceled. Hino called me halfway. Thankfully I only just turned the corner."

"I see, so even you get canceled jobs."

"What's that supposed to mean?"

"Number one idols are constantly sought out, so it's weird." Sumire looked at Yuhi, who suddenly shifted his gaze.

He is hiding something, isn't he? But, she supposes there is no use questioning him now.

"Then, my dear, I know it's a bit early. But since we both skipped breakfast, why don't we eat?"

"That sounds like a plan. I love your cooking."

Whenever Yuhi-san uses the word love, it makes her heart skip a beat. Her thoughts broke off when Yuhi grabbed hold of her hand.

"So, we are skipping homeroom?"

"Ah-huh, I actually planned to skip it since I wanted to eat."

'And get away from the classroom. I judged people's reactions on the way in. There are more people who are doubtful of her. But, Hino must have done something to stop them from confronting her, just like those reporters.'

"Is your hands okay now?"

"All better. I suppose I just needed a few days of healing, and Atsuro's medicine helped a lot. That guy is strangely useful for stuff like this."

"This is why I told you to rely on him sooner." Yuhi turned to her and suddenly said seriously. "I saw loads of reporters; they didn't bother you, did they?"

Sumire giggled, seeing his serious expression. "My dear, you don't have to make that type of expression. For some reason, they haven't approached me."

"It seems Hino got a restraining order."

She blinked, hearing that piece of information. "A restraining order? Huh? But is that possible?" She questioned. "Don't the media have the right to take pictures because that is their profession?"

"Normally, it shouldn't be. But this is borderline harassment now; no, it's just harassment. Hino took the matter to court and showed the court evidence that certain media companies have only been targeting you for the past year and that after finding out you were in Tokyo, they moved their company here."

"That last part-" Sumire had to admit she was surprised.

"Yeah, those bastards went that far. Are you sure you didn't offend them somehow?"

"I do not think I did, but there is a strong chance that I may have done something in my weird muddled-headed state."

"Even if you did, they have taken it too far. This is stalking; as a human being, you have the right to demand for rights."

"Yuhi, it's fine, really. Hino didn't have to go this far."

'But it seems like he won the case.' So that explains what she felt on the way in. The reporters couldn't approach her because of the restraining order, and the others weren't hateful. No, their expressions looked like they didn't know what to do.

Could it be they felt bad?

They eventually arrived at the rooftop, and the moment they got there, Yuhi looked around.

"Right, they did say they would change the benches." Yuhi sighed. "This is bad. I planned to take a nap."

"Then, as a substitute, you can use my lap."

Yuhi looked at her with wide eyes, and she averted her gaze. It's true that normally she wouldn't offer since she wanted to limit public displays of affection.

"I'm fine with it today."

"I see, alright then." Yuhi doesn't hesitate to position himself on the girl's lap.

"W-Wait !?" Sumire stammered.

"Haah, this is relaxing."

"Your head is kind of heavy-" Sumire murmurs. "But I suppose it's fine since you're happier now."

When she saw him in the hallway just now, he looked a bit tense. 'I really want to ask him if something happened. But I feel like I have no right to do so.'

Yuhi didn't reply immediately, and there was silence before he suddenly said. "Hey, I have something to say to you."

"Hm?"

"I like you."

"Ehhh!?" Sumire exclaimed. She felt her entire face redden at those words. What? This is weird; her dear isn't the type to suddenly confess out of nowhere; that is something she would do.

"What're you all flustered for? All I said was I like you, right? I meant I like your lap."

"Ah... .." She trails off. "H-He meant my lap. He said that so suddenly, though. My heart's pounding."

"And you too." He murmurs ever so quietly

Despite him saying it quietly, she heard him loud and clear.

"Wake me up in a bit, and then we can start eating."

Sumire nodded and watched as he closed his eyes. It did not take long before she heard the quiet sound of his breathing. She sat there awkwardly for a few minutes before she stared at him.

'Did he really fall asleep?'

If he is asleep, she can practice, right? Ever since she learned of her pregnancy, she has been falling asleep before Yuhi. So, she hasn't had time to practice.

Sumire bent down and kissed him.

She kept repeating this process for the next few minutes before Yuhi stirred awake.

"Hey, quit attacking me."

"Ah, but my dear, you looked defenseless." Sumire trailed off. "And I wanted to practice. I haven't practiced in a while, and we kiss more recently. I feel like my skills will get rusty."

"You sure have strange skills." Yuhi caressed her cheek. "What did you talk to Shin about?"

"Oh, I asked about San's situation. I wanted to know if he knew anything."

"I see. But maybe there isn't an explanation at all. Maybe Nagawa had the capacity to be an evolved human from the beginning."

Sumire frowned hearing those words. "Are you trying to say he is stronger than you? I don't believe that at all."

"There are people who are stronger than me," Yuhi commented.

Eternal Melody C683 Is there another way?

Chapter 683 Is there another way?

Sumire was about to refute that, but Ru's image came to mind.

"Right, Yuhi-san, you would be the third strongest." Sumire agreed.

"Hey, why three?"

"Ru would come second, and as for first," Sumire sighed deeply. "That unfortunate position has to go to me. Your lucky; three is a nice number. You don't get judged too much."

"Well, I have had my fair share of insults directed my way too. But you probably had a harder time than me."

"Just a little." Sumire shook her head and quickly changed the topic. "Anyhow, it's impossible for San to be stronger than you, let alone me. I have weakened greatly due to my pregnancy, so maybe I was just overwhelmed. But you can't be overwhelmed too. I think there is some type of trick." She paused, seeing his expression.

"Am I boring you with work talk?"

"No, no matter what you say, I like listening to your voice."

Uh, another confession? Is this to get back at her strange behavior towards him recently?

"Yuhi-san, I will be straightforward with you. But, it feels like you like me more than you did before."

He has always treated her very well, even before they started dating. But, there is something different now.

"I do."

"What's triggered the change?"

Yuhi paused for a moment before nodding. "Seeing you being so honest with me during winter break."

Eh-?

For a moment, she wasn't sure she heard correctly when she saw Yuhi's serious gaze. She felt her composure vanish and felt her entire face heat up. They have indeed both been behaving oddly since then, but she thought that was more to do with their desires.

She didn't think this would be the reason.

"H-hey, you know this is embarrassing for me too." Yuhi stammered.

"T-then don't say it."

"Seeing you being so honest for the first time melted my heart, and I re-confirmed how much I loved you. We have both gone through a lot, and despite everything that has happened, you have remained faithful to your feelings for me."

"Um, I wouldn't know about that. I did date four other guys in the span of two years, so-"

"But you remained head over heels for me, right?"

Each of those relationships started because she was lonely and missed Yuhi.

"My dear, I've only ever had you," Sumire concluded. "You have to take responsibility for me."

"I already am. I put a ring on your finger after all."

"Hmmm, that's nice and all, but I wonder if there is anything more."

Is there no way to bind herself to Yuhi- wait, that sounds weird? But marriage just seems flimsy to her.

"There is."

Sumire blinked, hearing his words. Why does it seem like he is hesitating?

"For hanyou's like us, there is something stronger than marriage vows. It's a blood ritual ceremony, where you bind your soul to your partner after exchanging blood."

Bind her soul with Yuhi's? Just the mere thought of that makes her happy.

Sumire's eyes brightened. "When can we do it?"

"H-hey now, shouldn't you think about this more?"

"No, I have decided!" Sumire exclaimed,

It sounds very romantic, besides what is the worst that can happen? They just have to drink each other's blood, right?

"I will warn you in advance; it's not what your thinking. We have to drink each other's blood for at least thirty minutes to complete the ceremony." Yuhi sat up and awkwardly averted his gaze. "You know how intimate drinking blood is if we do it for thirty minutes-"

It took her a moment to process Yuhi's words, and she felt her face heat up even more.

"D-do you still want to?" Yuhi questioned as he grabbed hold of her hands. "It's true I did think to ask you, but I was going to wait until our wedding night. I wanted to set the mood."

Uh, now she has no idea how to react. To think Yuhi had already made plans in advance, she truly doesn't know what to say. However, her gaze fell on Yuhi, who was blushing and averting his gaze. When he behaves like this, it makes her feel all warm and fuzzy.

His feelings for her can be so pure despite his desires for her.

If it can bring them closer, then she doesn't mind it. Seeing his sudden enthusiastic behavior, followed by him shyly averting his gaze. Her gaze softened. Ever since she came to Tokyo, Yuhi has always remained by her side. Because of him, her wounded heart is healing.

'I can smile and be more comfortable around people.' He put in so much effort for her sake.

She would never have thought that the day would come when she would feel so much joy and happiness every day.

'Ru, did you know? This person is completely different from you. He is strong and very cool. But he also has a fragile side that makes me want to hold him tight. It feels like my heart will explode whenever I am with him.'

She took a deep breath and brushed her forehead against his. "When can we do this?"

"S-Sumire."

Sumire laughed nervously. "Yuhi-san can decide."

"Then, I will," Yuhi mumbled as he leaned over and kissed her.

Ever since she unleashed Yuhi's inner beast during Christmas, he has been giving her the type of kisses that would make her feel dizzy. But, this didn't last long when they both heard the sound of Yuhi's phone ringing.

Sumire eventually got him off her and coughed. "Get going; that call must be from the guys."

"Damn." Yuhi cursed. "It was just getting to the good part."

She rolled her eyes and sighed. "Okay, mister, we can fool around later, preferably at lunch in your atler."

"That sounds like a plan." Yuhi kissed her lips lightly. "Then, I'll count on you later."

Watching Yuhi's faded silhouette, a relieved sigh passed her lips. If they kissed any longer, she would have attacked him. Normally that would be okay, but this isn't exactly the best location. But, since when did location matter to her?

Sumire traced her lips with her fingers and re-called what had happened a few seconds ago. 'It seems like the first one to go crazy is me. I truly won't be able to restrain myself in front of him anymore.'

To be held by the man she loves, to be in a proper relationship with him. A year ago, she would never have imagined this outcome to be possible. Back then, she pushed him away as much as she could. But even when she did that, he found his way to her side again.

Eternal Melody C684 I knew

Chapter 684 I knew

'I thought this when he first became my partner in the Holy Knights too, but Yuhi is truly amazing.'

Without fail, he makes the impossible a reality.

'What I want will always take priority, and what I want the most is for you to smile. Shall we make a bet? I bet that as long as you remain by my side, you will be the happiest person in this world.'

Recalling Yuhi's words from back then, Sumire paused and sighed. Truly, what is with that person? How did he predict? No, how did he say something like that without getting embarrassed? No, what bothered her then was how easily he said it and with so much confidence.

Back then, she responded and told him to stop being arrogant, and the conversation ended with her walking away. But, she clearly recalled how unsettled her heart felt. In the end, Yuhi's prediction came true. When she was not by his side, she was an emotional mess and caused so many problems. How many dangerous jobs did she accept just because she wanted to forget and ease the loneliness in her heart?

How many stupid actions did she take when he wasn't around? Not even Ru could stop her. It's no wonder Ru tried so hard to convince her to meet with Yuhi.

After she was sure that Yuhi was gone, she took her phone out of her pocket.

From: Eli

(Attached photo)

Found him.

She hesitantly opened the attachment, it was only the back view, but she knew it was him immediately.

'Ru, you really are stupid.'

Right at that moment, Eli called, and Sumire immediately accepted it.

"You were right, Queen. Tsueno Mamoru is part of D entertainment."

Sumire sighed deeply, hearing those words. "For once, I wanted to be wrong."

But, when she first heard about the company. It was the first thought that came to mind. Ru's situation in the facility and how he hasn't contacted her. It's all because he infiltrated the enemy's side.

Right now, Ru is a member of the Black Alice organization. He even went through the brainwashing procedure. However, it seems they cannot fully control him. Regardless of his brainwashed state, he still recognizes who she is when he is in front of her.

"So, should I approach him?"

"You can, but only to give your greetings, and then you can decide when to speak to him properly."

It would be bad if Eli revealed his identity when Ru is in a brainwashed state.

"Very well, and now more importantly. You sound exhausted."

"Since I discovered what he was doing, I have been worrying every day," Sumire admitted. "Lucifer is not stupid; he must know that he cannot fully control Ru and that Ru has his own motives."

"I have seen the brainwashing procedure, and I have to admit that a normal person shouldn't be able to break free of it. After all, it involves getting hold of a person's weakness and making it worse. A person's deepest fears and scars."

"But, it's possible to break it?" Sumire interjected.

"You have to have an equally powerful emotion to overcome it."

An equally powerful emotion, huh?

'No matter what happens, I will stand by your side and protect you.'

'For me, it's enough as long as your smiling.'

'Ki, I love you.'

A flood of images appeared in her head, and she clenched her fist.

Sometimes she wishes she could throw it all away and run after Ru and tell him, 'let's run away together.' She almost did, back when she first found him. When she saw him, she felt so overwhelmed, but she didn't entertain the idea of escaping with him until she saw those people experimenting on him.

'I thought, why does he have to suffer like this?'

Ru who was always helping people and ensuring that they lived peaceful lives.

But, that reckless thought disappeared quickly when she thought of Yuhi. She knew it would be difficult for her to suppress her feelings again. After experiencing being his girlfriend, how could she possibly pretend nothing happened between them?

Eli interrupted her silence. "It is up to you what to do with Tsueno Mamoru. So far, it seems Aki-san hasn't noticed. But when he does, it will be trouble."

"I am aware."

Even if Aki is laid back and casual, she knows how 'seriously' he took betrayals. If he finds out Mamoru is with the Black Alice organization, she can imagine the worst-case scenario.

'I could talk to him about it, but that might backfire.' So far, he doesn't know, so before he finds out, she has to meet with Ru.

"While it's natural for you to worry, please do not overexert your health. Remember how powerful the human mind is."

Sumire sighed, hearing those words.

"Quite some time has passed since you last nagged at me."

"This is because you have been sending me on unreasonable jobs." Eli trailed off. "Are you trying to keep me occupied, so I do not mess with Nagawa Sano?"

"I told you before, the situation with Sano is complicated, so I will handle it myself."

"Then maybe I should turn to Hino-kun."

At those words, Sumire frowned, and she said sharply. "Eli, what are you trying to do?"

"I am just wondering what the state of your heart is right now, Queen. You love Terashima Yuhi; there is no doubt about that. But, what will you do about the other men who clearly love you? Hino-kun especially, I believe he harbors stronger feelings for you than you may think."

Hino's feelings for her, huh? It's not like she hasn't noticed. Even though he said that Yuhi is more important, his actions sometimes say otherwise. However, now that she knows that she had a past with Hino too. She doesn't want to continue feigning ignorance because she has known him even longer than Mamoru. She at least wants to admit it in front of one person.

"How can I not know?" Sumire laughed weakly. "Hino is just as clumsy as Yuhi-san. I knew."

He practically gave it away that time he kissed her.

"The lower the chances are, the more you feel like its fate, right?"

Sumire blinked, hearing those words. "Fate, huh?"

"I'm sure Hino-kun understands your feelings too."

"There is no need; our current relationship is fine. Moreover, I cannot do anything until I have regained all my memories."

"The reason for your memory loss was Hino-kun. If you want to regain it, you must ask him yourself."

"I know."

But Hino is very stubborn, she has made several attempts to ask him before, and yet he has casually evaded every question. However, with the current situation, having missing memories will not help. She has to remember everything about her childhood, about these powers that made her an evolved human.

Eternal Melody C685 Futari No Monogram *Jun*

Chapter 685 Futari No Monogram *Jun*

August 20xx

The facility was a place where children with 'inhumane powers' that should not exist in this world were placed. These unusual children are referred to as evolved humans and remain in the facility's custody until they are old enough to control their abilities.

Unfortunately, he doesn't recall the exact moment he came here. Unlike his companions, he doesn't have memories of the outside world. Some children have been in this place since birth; perhaps it is the same for him as well? Yet, that logic did not work with him.

Jun stared at the young boy who was explaining to him how he found a cave at the end of the forest. There was an ax by his feet that he had tossed moments ago. They were in the forest and supposed to be chopping wood for the fireplace, but his friend had gotten sidetrackedside-tracked.

"It's not on the map." Jun pointed out.

At those words, a foolish grin appeared on his companion's face. "This is why it's perfect. The adults will never know that we went there."

"I do not think it's safe," Jun admitted. "There is a reason why it isn't on the map."

The adults in the facility are not stupid; before they set up their base here, they must have explored everything. But if this mysterious cave isn't on the map, they have determined it is too dangerous. However, Jun knew even if he explained this, his friend would not listen.

"Hey, how many times have I told you? Yu-kun, don't drag Jun into your mess."

'Perfect timing.'

The black-haired boy sighed. "You're wrong again; a right of passage isn't a mess. Besides, weren't you interested in the cave too, Sumire?"

Standing not too far from where they were was a girl with her hands on her hips and cheeks puffed as she looked at Yuhi disapprovingly.

This girl is called Ibuki Sumire; she is supposed to be the second heiress of a prestigious family. But due to an accident leading to her discovery of her powers, she has remained here. Did she come here before him? Or was he here long before her? He doesn't know.

Whenever he tries to focus on a particular memory, he experiences severe headaches. Just thinking about it would cause him pain; today was no exception either.

His thoughts broke off when Sumire leaned forward and placed her hand on his forehead. "You don't have a fever, but you look pale again. Are you eating properly, Jun-kun?"

"I-"

Yuhi pulled Sumire's hand away. "You'll give Jun a heart attack standing so close."

Sumire sighed. "I am only concerned. If we fall ill too often, the adults will see us as a hindrance and relocate us. Jun is frequently sick already, and it's already taken Hino a lot of persuasion to keep him with us."

"I think it's more like with Jun's reputation as an ice. King; nobody wants him in their group."

Sumire stepped on Yuhi's foot. "That's so rude! Because of that, your not getting any pie."

"Wait, it's pie today?"

At those words, Sumire fidgeted and averted her gaze. Jun, who had been silently observing them, couldn't miss the tint of pink on her cheeks.

'We may only be children, but I can tell that Sumire-san likes Yuhi.'

"T-that, it's because you asked for it."

Yuhi beamed brightly and hugged Sumire. "Thank you!"

"G-get of me." Sumire lightly pushed him away and set the basket on the ground. She pulled out a sky blue colored cloth and set it on the grass, and she pulled out some mini plastic plates as she placed the food on them.

There was pie, a few sandwiches, and cheesecake.

Jun blinked, seeing the cake. "How did you get the sugar?"

Sumire laughed. "I got it as a reward for acing the last fitness test."

"So she beat you?" Jun asked Yuhi.

Normally, Yuhi is the one with high marks in all the classes and training sessions.

At those words, Yuhi grumbled but nodded. "She is getting better."

"Are the others not with you?" Jun questioned.

"They are in the detention room; that idiot Kou caused an explosion during the chemical experiments. Ran and Tetsuo were his team members and was equally held responsible." Sumire trailed off. "Hino went somewhere again."

'Hino' was the leader of their group. Was he the oldest member by four? Or was it six years? Either way, he has been here far longer than they have. All the children in the facility end up being grouped, and the oldest members automatically become the leader of the group. He took care of them like an older sibling.

Sensing her shift in mood, Jun spoke up. "We can help you get permission to use the kitchen again."

Sumire laughed softly. "Thank you."

Yuhi crossed his arms. "The food is great as usual. But you know what would make this better? If we explore those caves. I am sure we will find hidden ingredients there."

At those words, he sighed. "Sumire-san, please tell him that this isn't a good idea. What if there are beasts there?"

"Then we fight them," Sumire said nonchalantly.

"W-what? B-but-" Jun protested, and the girl laughed again.

"I understand why you are worried. But it won't do any harm. Recently we haven't spent much time together as an entire group. So I think we could take this chance to explore and spend time together."

That is true; the seven of them have completely different abilities.' It's normal that the stronger their powers become, the more they have to spend time with people with similar abilities. There is a reason why the classes are categorized into different ability types.

When a child first enters the facility, they end up in groups with other children with mixed abilities. But this is only until the facility gathers enough data on the child once the child has settled in. After that, they tend to gradually break the group apart, so the children spend more time in classes focused on their ability type.

While Jun understood the logic behind it, he disliked being apart from the friends he had made. Yuh may have made that joke earlier, but his friend is speaking the truth. No other group will accept somebody as stone-faced and cold-hearted as him.

"Relax, I have already scouted the area in advance." Yuhi commented. "-and there are no beasts."

Jun looked at his friend skeptically. "You are not just saying that because you want to go exploring, right?"

"I'm not. Besides, the other day I got stronger; just take a look at" Yuhi swung his arm to activate his power, only for him to flinch in pain.

Sumire immediately got up and rolled up his sleeves, revealing a dark-colored bruise. "Did they hit you again?" Sumire said angrily. "You didn't even do anything wrong-"

"It's fine; we can't have them hit you or Jun, can we?"

Jun looked down with a guilty expression. There is a group that keeps picking on them recently, a group of older children who have been here longer and thus have better control of their abilities. The reason why Yuhi-san has to suffer like this is because of him.

He accidentally offended them with his behavior, and since then, they have taken to 'hitting at least one member of their group a day,' They cannot do this when Hino is around, but Hino gets sent on plenty of long jobs. They take advantage of his absence a lot.

Yuhi lightly knocked his forehead. "Don't make that face too, Jun; it's fine."

Sumire sobbed and clung to Yuhi's arm. "I-I will protect you. I'm the strongest one here; if I get serious, they can't win."

Indeed she is the one with the strongest ability, but she has no control over her powers yet. Jun exchanged knowing glances with Yuhi. Besides, no matter how strong she is, they could never allow her to take on the risk of protecting them.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 686

Chapter 686: Futari No Monogram Part 2

If audio player doesn't work, press Stop then Play button again

Chapter 686 Futari No Monogram Part 2

It took a few minutes before Sumire stopped crying, and they returned to eating the food. At least he and Yuhi were eating. Sumire was busy applying medication and wrapping a makeshift bandage she tore from her cloak around Yuhi's arm.

"But honestly, Yuhi, knowing you, you probably provoked them."

Yuhi averted his gaze confirming the girl's words. Sumire sighed and turned to him.

"Jun-kun, they haven't been bothering you recently, have they?"

"No, because Hino-san has been around, and Ran doesn't give them a chance either."

Ran is the name of another member of their group and the closest one with whom he is closest. He sees Ran as an 'older brother.' He knew Ran considered him a younger sibling too.

But due to the situation with the ability classes, there are times when he is left alone with the bullies. His abilities just happen to be the same type as theirs. The reason why those people pick on him is simply because his abilities surpassed theirs, and they do not like it.

'Even though I am stronger, due to the limitations on their abilities because of their ages. I cannot use my full strength.'

The hierarchy system is everything in the facility. A limiter is placed on each child when they enter this place regardless of how strong their ability is. The child cannot use a large amount until they are much older. The limiter gradually chips away as they grow older and thus being able to use more of their abilities.

No matter how old he gets, as long as there is a large age difference of four years, he cannot beat those people. He can only choose to rely on his companions.

The smaller the age gap, the higher the chances of winning. Jun's gaze fell on the artificial sky; despite it being fake, it was a beautiful shade of blue, and right in the center was the scorching hot sun.

His thoughts broke off when Sumire reached over and wiped his sweat with a handkerchief.

"Assigning a job like this during this time of year, aren't they picking on you two?"

"Originally, this job was mine. Yuhi-sab interfered."

"That's even worse! It's okay to make this lazy guy work, but how could they give it to you?"

"Hey, you do realize I am still here, right?"

"This is why I am saying this." Sumire finished wiping his face. But continued to lean forward. "You really do look pale, Jun-kun; why don't you take a nap for a while? Yuhi-san can cut the rest of the tree."

"A nap? But where-"

Sumire sat down and pointed to her lap. "Here."

Jun looked at her dumbfounded, but he didn't get a chance to voice out his concerns since she practically dragged him over.

He glanced over and saw Yuhi looking over with a troubled gaze. "Hey, I thought that was reserved for me."

"Tough luck, Jun-kun needs to rest. This heat isn't good for him." Sumire turned to him. "Close your eyes for a bit, Jun-kun; when Yuhi-san finishes, the three of us can get back together."

Jun closed his eyes and heard a familiar melody escape her lips the moment he did. It did not take long before she started to sing. Sumire-san comes from a prestigious family, so she isn't one of those child superstars, and yet there is no doubt that she has an amazing voice.

Even if they are locked away in a place like this and far from regular civilization, they can still have peaceful moments like this.

"Gently closing my eyes, I hold onto one wish,

Never put it into words... but surely, I still believe.

I can always feel the up and down of your chest;

I'll never forget this time spent deep in each others' eyes.

Whenever this feeling seems about to spill out, (this feeling)

I suddenly feel like crying... every time. (every time)

Please don't let this piece of destiny slip away...

God Bless You

Having met amid the shining winds,

We'll never lose our way again - our hearts burning with passion, right here and now!

Could you have known this would happen all along? Thank you...

Thank you for those days you spent looking after me!" Sumire sang.

Listening to the lyrics, it was clearly a love song. They may only be children, but that doesn't mean they are unable to love. Jun briefly opened his eyes and saw Sumire staring at Yuhi with an affectionate gaze in her eyes. Ever since they started to split off into ability groups, Sumire-san and Yuhi have spent more time together since their powers are the same.

In that short time, Jun noticed whenever they returned to the dorms how closely they stick together.

Facility, east kitchen.

After Yuhi-san finished the job, and they finished reporting to the adults. They managed to persuade the adults to let them use the east kitchen. Jun watched as Sumire busily cut some ingredients up and placed them inside a pot.

"When do you plan on telling him?" Jun decided to ask her straight up.

"Tell him?" Sumire feigned ignorance.

"Your feelings of love towards Yuhi-san."

At those words, he watched as her entire face reddened. "T-that-h-how-how?" Sumire stammered in disbelief.

Sumire-san is not the type who can lie if someone directly confronts her. For a long time, he has held back from asking this question due to the other guys. He knew how his companions felt towards her as the only female in their group, this sort of scenario where they all fall for her isn't unusual.

"It's written all over your face."

Sumire plays with a strand of her hair and averts her gaze. "F-for awhile now. I don't know exactly when, but I realized that I like him more than I do anybody else."

Jun could only stare at her; he didn't know exactly what to say. They are only children, after all. Moreover, with the training the facility makes them do, they are practically informed on a daily basis which emotions they must discard. Romance being one of those.

Sumire placed her fingers on her lips. "anyhow, you must keep this a secret! I don't want to cause the group any trouble by committing a taboo."

Right, this is one of the taboos of the facility. There are certain rules they cannot break; otherwise, they will be punished. But this rule normally applies to the older children. Certainly, the adults would never think that of the scenario of the younger children harboring such feelings. However, his gaze fell on the

girl whose cheeks had turned red and how she was fumbling with her speech. There is no doubt about it.

"I promise. But you should keep it under control in front of the adults." Jun trailed off. "Am I the only other person who knows?"

"No, Hino noticed."

At those words, a complicated expression appeared on his face. Of course, Hino noticed. When they get older, this situation will get out of hand. If they all 'like' her in the same way, it will eventually cause friction in this group. But until that day comes, he wants everybody to stay together.

"Do you need any help?"

Sumire blinked. "Jun-kun, you know how to cook?"

"I can start learning."

Besides, it doesn't feel right that she has to make their meals all the time.

"Then, I will be counting on you."

Seeing her bright smile lightened the heavy feeling in his heart. For now, this is enough; this is all he needs.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 687

Chapter 687: Futari No Monogram Part 3

If audio player doesn't work, press Stop then Play button again

Chapter 687 Futari No Monogram Part 3

Present day, Wednesday, February 9th, 5:30pm.

A certain teal-colored-haired boy opens his eyes, only to scan his surroundings to find that he is in his room. Yet the colour that filled the light that spread across his room was a deep orange.

Ah, how unusual. He slept in quite a bit; from what he could tell from his alarm clock, it was already well into the afternoon. According to his schedule, he did have a day off today, so it's not as though he messed up.

His gaze lands on the blanket wrapped around him and notices the familiar lingering scent.

"How stupid," Jun mumbled.

It's obvious who wrapped it around him. He reaches over to touch the chair beside his bed, and warmth transmits to his skin.

He probably just left around an hour or so ago. That fool. He doesn't have to look out for him just because he promised his brother. That person doesn't need to do something like that anymore. But, even if he were to tell Kou that, he would say with a foolish grin that 'this is something he wants to do.'

Jun placed his hands on his neck and then his forehead, only to discover that he was drenched in sweat. 'I ought to get changed.'

That same dream again; how many times has he seen it already? He wants to know more. Previously Narasaki Hino warned him about regaining his memories, but it's difficult to ignore when he keeps having these dreams. It actually seemed like the frequency of the dreams increased after that conversation.

The image of a young him, being dragged along on an 'adventure' with two people. A girl with a beautiful smile carrying a basket of food and flowers, and a boy with a black hair who watched over him and the girl.

His gaze fell on the alarm clock.

'I slept for a long time, meaning the memory was longer than usual.'

Jun walked over to the kitchen sink and washed his face. He wonders how much longer he can pretend that he doesn't want to know more. This entire time he has limited his involvement with the underworld and the fight against the black Alice organization. He helps with hacking and analyzing information. But his actual involvement is minor.

Oh, but there is one person who noticed his impatience. Narasaki Hino saw right through him, and that must be why he received that warning. His gaze fell on a case right beside the door. That's right, since he has time today, he should take advantage of this opportunity.

....

Tokyo Main streets.

Quite some time had passed since he last played his cello; since he had some free time, he figured he would pass the rest of the evening playing it. Unfortunately, the long absence of not using it has collected a lot of dust. So, he wandered around town to find a quiet classical instrument shop and found the perfect one on the corner of a less busy street.

The moment Jun entered the shop, he paused, hearing a familiar piano playing. Huh? This-? He took a few more steps forward and found a girl with brunette hair playing the piano. It's Sumire-san.

"Holy crap." Another voice mumbled. "You can even play that song? Seriously, what kind of musical genius are you?"

Sumire laughed. "Fu, didn't I tell you? You shouldn't challenge me, Hino."

The girl was not alone; there by the counter was Narasaki Hino.

"Right, I shouldn't, you-" Hino paused, making eye contact with him.

For a moment, Jun froze but only for a moment since Sumire stood up and happily rushed over.

"Jun-kun!" Sumire beamed happily. "It is good to see you."

"Likewise, the same goes for me." Jun trailed off. "I did not expect to find you here of all places."

He thought she only had singing and the current state of the underworld at the moment. But, his gaze fell on Narasaki, who was holding a familiar violin and cleaning it with a cloth.

Sumire laughed. "What is that supposed to mean? Ah, did you think I was neglecting my instrument?"

"Yes," Jun stated bluntly.

After all that has happened, and considering the timing of Mamoru-san's death, it would certainly surprise him if she had played her instrument in that time frame.

"Jun-kun, you're as blunt as ever. Hmm, it's true I haven't been playing. However, occasionally I would bring it out and look at it. So, I didn't leave it to gather dust in the corner or something."

"I think you are the blunt one," Jun mumbled.

He feels guilty, but a lot has happened since the final concur.

"So your here for-?"

"Ah, violin maintenance."

"Violin maintenance?" Jun repeated.

"That's right. I haven't really played it since the final selection. However, I've been practicing a little again the past couple of weeks. I'm worried about its current state, so I regularly come here and have Hino check."

"The same here." Jun pointed to the case containing the cello on his back.

"Ah, then let Hino have a look."

Hino sighed. "What's with you two? If you play instruments, maintain them!"

Despite this lecture, Narasaki Hino took the cello from him. Jun's gaze fell on Sumire, concerned, and she looked over.

Sumire giggled. "I am okay, Jun-kun."

"I hear you're pregnant. You mustn't be rushing around on your own."

It's not surprising considering how the two spent that time together during winter break. Jun figured that with the way they were all over each other, it would be just about time.

"It's alright. Yuhi dropped me off here before he went to work." Sumire reassured him. "Besides, this is why I have my reliable manager."

"I'm not Yuhi, so even if you flatter me, you won't get anything."

"Che, you're just stingy, Hino. Besides, you already owe me for the bet just now."

"Just don't request anything too unreasonable."

"I won't."

Jun sat there on the stool, silently observing the two. He has a very strong impression of Narasaki Hino. However, it wasn't until fairly recently that he spoke to him. From what he observed, this person is the second closest person to Sumire-san right now.

In terms of who could actually snatch Sumire-san away from Yuhi, it would be this person. But, this is something many people do not realize because Hino is supposedly Yuhi's 'guardian.'

The two are close enough to be like a real family. Because of this connection, nobody would think that Hino would snatch Sumire away. Certainly, this is the main reason why Naraskai hasn't made a move on Sumire. However, there is no doubt that they are close.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 688

Chapter 688: Futari No Monogram Part 4

If audio player doesn't work, press Stop then Play button again

Chapter 688 Futari No Monogram Part 4

'I wonder if anybody else has noticed this, and what do they think for those who have noticed?'

Jun thinks of Nagawa Sano, who is supposedly Narasaki Hino's best friend. What does that man think of Sumire and Hino being close?

'As for me, I feel relieved.' Jun thought.

Sumire-san has gotten a lot better since she arrived in Tokyo, but sometimes there is still a wall between her and other people.

His thoughts break off when Sumire places her hand on the bandage across his head. "On days off, you put this back on, I see."

"Since I haven't recovered yet."

She looked at him with a pained gaze, and Jun quickly interjected. "Thank you for saving me."

He knew these words were long overdue. But, he had to lay low for a while and couldn't meet with her openly.

Sumire shakes her head. "No, you shouldn't thank me. In the end, I caused you problems."

"..."

'Your not at fault for those pictures.' Jun desperately wanted to say. But, for some reason, he couldn't get the words out.

"Ah, since you're here, Jun-kun, why don't you take a look?" Sumire pulled out a familiar purple-colored notebook.

With Kou and Tetsuo's recent success with their solo songs, it would only make sense for him to follow. However, his gaze fell on the song she had written for him.

"Something is missing, isn't it?" Jun concluded, seeing her slightly distressed expression.

Sumire sighed deeply. "It's so weird. I could write Kou and Tetsuo's songs so easily. But I am struggling a little with yours and Ran." Sumire trailed off. "Maybe there is something wrong with me."

Jun shook his head. "It's only normal to have an off day."

"But I have been working on this for a long time, and yet nothing seems to be going the way I want," Sumire grumbled.

'Indeed, it is rare for her to get stuck when writing a song. But it reminds me of the first time we met.' At least, for him, that was their first ever meeting.

Hino slides a cup of hot milk and a plate of food across the counter.

"Drink and then eat."

Sumire laughed softly. "Yes, yes, don't nag."

Hino shakes his head. "I am taking this opportunity to ensure you get a balanced diet. Yuhi is probably just spoiling you with your favorite meals."

They truly do get along well. Now that he thought about it, Narasaki Hino was supposed to be with them in the facility too. Then perhaps he was also close with this person? His thoughts break off when Hino slides a plate of food in front of him.

"You eat too."

Jun blinked, surprised and Sumire laughed.

"Hino is similar to Yuhi; he is bad at expressing himself. But he basically wants to say, 'Your injuries won't get better unless you have a decent meal.'"

"I see; thank you, Narasaki." Jun thanked him as he began to eat.

For a moment, he paused before taking another few bites. This is unusual; why does it feel like he has eaten this before? He thought so at that time. Narasaki warned him about his memories, but as he thought.

'I must not only know this person but also him very well.'

During the entire meal, he occasionally watched Sumire and Narasaki Hino's interactions with one another. They really do get along well, and not just that. It seems like Narasaki has a better understanding of Sumire-san than he thought.

"So it's your fault Yuhi-san came back like that yesterday! Listen, Hino; you're supposed to be the sensible one."

"Give me a break; we nearly died yesterday."

"This is why I keep telling you to bring a larger group with you. Geez, you and Yuhi-san like to do everything by yourselves," Sumire trailed off. "Since you went so far to go along with his adventure-like whims, did you find anything useful?"

"Right, I was going to show you this too. But this is what they dropped." Hino pulled out a rectangular sapphire-colored crystal.

Sumire tilted her head as she picked it up. "This looks real."

"You can tell?"

"Due to the weight, yes, and also," She holds it up against the light. "There seems to be a reflection too. You will only see the light on one side if it is fake. But, I wonder what they would use something like this for."

"May I see that for a moment?" Jun interjected.

"Sure, here." Sumire placed it in his palm.

This crystal, it resembles something he has seen before. But where- a flash of brown appears in his head.

"Mamoru-san," Jun mumbled. "I think Mamoru-san had one of these."

At those words, Hino takes the crystal from his hands. "On second thoughts, I will keep hold of this."

"Ah-" Sumire looked like she wanted to protest, but Hino looked over at the girl sharply. "Alright, you can."

That was interesting to watch; he has never seen Sumire give up easily like that. They spend the rest of their meals chatting about the song. At some point, Narasaki had left the other side of the counter and was sitting on a couch beside the grand piano.

Sumire walked over, pulled a blanket out from the drawer, and wrapped it around him. "Geez, this is why I told him I would help him watch the shop."

"So even though this place is quiet, many customers come over?" Jun asked.

"Hmmm, not exactly. But the regulars that do come here are all amazing people with high status or backgrounds. For example, during one of my first few visits here, a famous violinist walked in. It almost gave me a heart attack. When I questioned Hino-san, he told me that she was a regular here." Sumire sighed. "I know he has good connections, but there should be a limit."

"So, are you worried that an important customer will come?"

"Right. I guess we have no choice. I'll change the sign to closed. Hino will get upset, but this is for his own good." Sumire quickly left and headed towards the corridor.

Jun glanced over at Narasaki, 'With Sumire-san around, it would be difficult to ask any questions. But I shall return another day now that I know he works here.' He has questions, and he knew he would no longer be able to contain his curiosity. The length of those dreams has increased recently, although he cannot remember the exact content.

One thing that remains clear to him is the image of a young girl with brown hair and a boy with jet black hair. If he aligns the information with what he already knows, then that girl must be Sumire, and the boy was Yuhi. If that is the case, then it explains why it didn't take long before he became attached to them both.

It would explain his strong desire to help them.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 689

Chapter 689: Futari No Monogram Part 5

If audio player doesn't work, press Stop then Play button again

Chapter 689 Futari No Monogram Part 5

Sumire quickly returned to the room and pushed him towards the chair. "Jun-kun, you should relax too. It seems to be raining outside, so you can't return right now."

"I shall but you-" Jun looked towards her. "-are you feeling alright? You look slightly pale."

"It's just a bit of nausea. I shall be alright. This is a good opportunity; why don't we chat for a bit? I want to ask you since when were you getting bullied?"

Jun didn't reply immediately. He knew they would eventually have to have this conversation, but now that they have it, he doesn't know what to say.

"I think I understand what you were thinking. You probably didn't want to trouble me. I would have done the same. But, Jun-kun, do you not remember what you promised me after the previous bullying incident?"

"I remember."

"Back then, you told me, the next time something happens, you will tell me immediately no matter what. Even if you do not tell me, you must inform somebody."

The promise they made after he got hospitalized. The bullies had taken their bullying too far, and he ended up with severe injuries. Just like what happened recently, Sumire-san was the one who saved him.

"I'm sorry," Jun mumbled.

He didn't know what other words he could use. Indeed, he was careless to take on the burden himself. What is his purpose for having friends if he still tries to do everything alone?

Sumire sighed.

"Well, it's not like I don't get it, but I am not happy. The fact that you got hurt this much when I could have prevented it."

"My injuries are getting better."

"But even then!" Sumire pouted. "Are you sure you don't want to go to the hospital? I can ask Sano to book a private hospital room for you."

"That would be too much. Right now, our group activities are taking off; it would be bad to stop the momentum now."

"I suppose that's true; it explains why my dearest has been working so hard recently." Sumire stood up and clasped her hands. "Right, there is something I can do for you now."

Jun looked at her blankly, and Sumire walked to the backroom. He waited for a few minutes, and she returned with a tray with a jug of herbal-looking tea.

"I bought Hino these tea leaves, but he hasn't used them much. I also mixed it up, but the flavor is delightful if you're fatigued."

"I see."

Sumire picked up a clean cup and poured the contents inside before passing it to him. The moment he took a sip of the tea, it felt like his exhaustion was gradually leaving his body.

"You're right; this is good."

"Right? I went all the way to get these imported from abroad, but Hino hasn't used any. Whose sake was it that I was browsing the web for the best place to find these?" Sumire grumbled.

It's not just Narasaki Hino who has deep emotions towards Sumire, but the same goes vice versa. However, Sumire-san is very good at hiding how much she cares; otherwise, others would have noticed by now. It makes sense why she would hide it.

The media are already harassing her enough after Nagawa Sano's bold confession. If they discover that the one Sumire cares for the most amongst the other guys who like her is Narasaki, then she will get even more hate.

After all, everybody knows how close Yuhi and Narasaki Hino are. It would certainly be adding fuel to the fire.

"Hino, you see, has been actively going against the Black Alice organization and D entertainment. It seems like his father is supporting that man, and Hino is working hard to deplete his father of his connections and resources so Lucifer would have less support."

"Is that why he looks so tired?"

"He is busy running around being my manager and clearing after my mess too." Sumire trailed off. "You know, I have been thinking about how I lived my life until now."

"Your life?"

"Mm, I was a huge mess when we met. That year before I came to Tokyo, so much had happened, and I was at the lowest point in my life. Back then, I felt so alone and miserable. Even though Yuhi-san never stopped singing songs for me, I ended up cutting him off. Although the details are still vague to me, I understand that I am the one who pushed him away even though he reached out his hand to help me. When he was suffering, and in pain, all I did was push him away. It probably explains why I didn't recognize him immediately when we first met again in Tokyo. It's because I spent most of the time pushing him away."

'It seems Sumire-san's own memories are unstable. But, the cause of her memory loss and mine are different. For her, it should be easier to naturally regain her memories.'

"I'm sure Yuhi-san never blamed you."

At those words, Sumire laughed weakly. "That is exactly the problem; I wouldn't have felt so guilty if he blamed me. It would have erased the guilt, but he never blamed me. I was a mess, and I caused so many problems for everyone. But the most important point of this conversation was the past me didn't care about anything or anybody. I had already lost hope in the world. I didn't believe in anyone or anybody. I had given up on everything, and that was why I could easily cause chaos without thinking of the consequences."

"....."

Jun didn't say anything, but he was listening to her attentively.

So, it seems like Mamoru-san was right. Sumire-san doesn't know about this, but Mamoru-san had a conversation with all the guys who like her separately. He all asked them the same question, and despite receiving different responses, his conclusion was the same.

'No matter what happens, do not blame Ki.'

Those words were the same as saying not to hate her, but because he worded it differently, it made them all think. Why would they ever blame her? How could they ever blame her for breaking? They should be blaming themselves for not realizing it. If any of them recognized what was wrong with Sumire, they wouldn't have enforced their feelings.

It was unwise of them to confess to her; it was unwise for him as he belonged to that category.

"So recently I have been thinking, I have retraced my memories and thought about all the conversations I had with people. Everybody was worried about me, and they all did their best to help. But in the end, I pushed them all away. There was love right beside me, the affection I had always wanted, and yet due to the mental damage, I couldn't see it."

"Can you see it now?" Jun asked.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 690

Chapter 690: Futari No Monogram Part 6

If audio player doesn't work, press Stop then Play button again

Chapter 690 Futari No Monogram Part 6

'Can you see how much we all care for you? If she knew I was the one who proposed following her to Tokyo, I wonder how she would react.'

Contrary to what all the rumors say, it wasn't Kou who decided that they would follow her to Tokyo. In fact, Kou was the one who was against it; his friend insisted that she needed space and time.

"I can, and it reached me, your feelings."

For a moment, Jun froze, and Sumire laughed. "Why are you acting so surprised? Do you not remember how you confessed to me."

"I have to admit that I tried to erase the memory for a while."

"Because you felt guilty?" Sumire guessed.

"Correct, it wasn't right for me to tell you my feelings then."

Sumire shakes her head. "It's not like I don't understand. It's hard to suppress your emotions in front of the person you like. I understand very well how painful it can be."

She must be speaking from her own experience. He has heard that Sumire-san has liked Yuhi for a long time, but exactly how long? Why is the relationship between them so strong? What is it that ties them together?

"Thank you for telling me."

"Saying this now is a bit too late."

Then again, she wasn't exactly in the best emotional state when he confessed, so it makes sense why he didn't exactly receive a response.

"It really is, and you're not the only one I left waiting. While I am still afraid, something has changed now. That's why with this renewed confidence, I want to thank everyone properly for back then and for now. Even now, you and the others are working hard for me. I am truly thankful."

Before Jun could get a word out, however, they heard the door chime.

"That's strange. I am sure I put the closed sign."

Whenever he ends up having an important conversation with her, he ends up interrupted before he can convey his thoughts. The main culprit to that is usually- his thoughts break off, spotting a man with black hair emerging from behind the shelves.

His hair was wet, and so were his clothes. "Hey, Hino, you should drop us off with your car. I had to leave mine behind-" Yuhi paused after seeing him. "Jun."

"My dear!" Sumire immediately left his side and rushed to Yuhi.

"Hey, there you." Yuhi's gaze is gentle as he greets Sumire.

"That was faster than I thought; you were only gone for four hours."

"I wanted to make it two. But I had a few interviews to catch up on."

The harmony between them is as good as ever. It feels like there is nothing that can tear their relationship anymore. However, the media hasn't given up on trying to set Yuhi up with his childhood friend. Both of them seem to be ignoring it and continuing with their lives.

He ought to do the same and continue with his life. But to do that, he needs to fully regain his memories. Jun's gaze fell on the sleeping Narasaki Hino, and this person will be the key to that.

When Narasaki Hino woke up, he grumbled a bit about Sumire closing the shop and immediately opened it. He leant Yuhi-san his car keys, and Jun watched the two leave. Narasaki looked at him with a complicated expression and sighed.

"Even if I tell you to leave, I feel you won't."

"That is correct; today, you will give me answers. Is there not a way for me to regain my memories?"

For a moment, Hino didn't speak before he sighed.

"I am the one who erased your memories, Kira."

Jun blinked when hearing those words. 'I suspected it, based on his behavior last time.' He is no profiler, but after observing humans for a long time, he has learned that humans exhibit different behavior patterns when they are nervous.

"It's not just you; my main role in that place was to erase people's memories."

Despite the sudden revelation, he kept calm.

"If I ask you now to return it, I know you will refuse."

"That's right because I genuinely believe it will cause more harm." Hino trailed off. "I can't return them to you, but if you want to ask me some questions. I will answer what I can."

"Was I close to those two?"

'I want to scream and demand for my memories back. But, that would be out of character even for me.'

"You were more than close; you looked up to those two as your role model. Even back then, they were talented and far surpassed their peers. But what you looked up to them for wasn't their skills, but their relationship with one another."

"Their relationship?" Jun questioned.

"Even though they were only children, clearly to everybody who saw them, they liked each other romantically. To have such powerful and beautiful feelings at a young age, it is only normal for people to envy them. But you didn't envy them; you liked how close they were with one another. You enjoyed seeing them smile and being happy. You thought, 'how nice, one day can I have something like that too?'"

"..."

'I was testing him just now, but it seems if you ask him openly, even Narasaki Hino cannot control himself. This person observed not only Sumire and Yuhi-san but also him.'

"In the end, I fell for Sumire-san. So, doesn't that destroy those emotions?"

"Not necessarily; back then, you were one of the first people who figured out that Sumire liked Yuhi, and you confined me. You told me that you liked her that way too, and you were certain everybody else did as well. 'But, I do not want to cause them unhappiness. For me, it is enough just seeing them together.'"

It makes sense now; he is not the type of person who believes in love at first sight. But after he met Sumire-san, he started to think that way. Otherwise, why would he have such powerful emotions towards her despite only having just met her?

So, it seems like those feelings did not appear out of nowhere. He has always liked her. However, if even the young version of himself can say such things, it makes sense why he doesn't feel bitter watching Sumire and Yuhi-san. In fact, when he saw Yuhi just now, he felt relieved. It should upset him to be interrupted when he was on the verge of saying something important. But, he felt no bitterness.