

Melody 91

Eternal Melody 91 Just like

Sumire did not know if she relaxed or not. But, she did know that it made her feel hungry. Earlier she did not have time to prepare lunch, so she ended up heading to the cafeteria.

She usually disliked going to this place alone, but considering how Yuhi fell asleep, she had no choice. After doing something like that, how dare he fall asleep?

She ordered a simple lunch set and found a quiet spot in the cafeteria. Thankfully, the majority of students were still in class, so hardly anybody was around.

Sumire wonders if Yuhi actually wanted to continue. Despite his claim that they were only flirting, she felt that there was something wrong.

When it comes to Yuhi, she ends up having such complicated thoughts. There is no doubt, however, that she wants to be with him.

Yuhi is far too sly.

Sumire had always made that comment when they were younger, no even longer back when they were fighting side by side each other. But recently, that word always comes to mind. He is too sly..saying that he loves her before they do it or right afterward. No matter how many times she hears it, her heart feels like it's about to burst out of her chest.

So sly, saying words like that - even if she doesn't want to, she will be dragged into his pace just like that. The brunette felt her cheeks burn up; it's embarrassing. She is already seventeen years old, and yet such a thing still makes her feel embarrassed. Just hearing the words 'I love you' from Yuhi makes her heart, beat.

He says it a lot these days, or rather she can't even remember a day now where he doesn't say it. Of course, they don't meet every day, and yet even when he's not with her, on text, or on the phone, he... The brunette shook her head, now is not the time to be thinking of such things

Her thoughts broke off when somebody sat across her.

"Nakarsensei."

"Atsuro says he will see you soon."

A deep sigh crosses her lips. "Did you have to remind me?"

Shin sighed and extended his hand out to show her his phone.

On the screen, it was a simple message from Atsuro.

From: Atsuro

I will be coming for Sumire.

Coming for her, huh? Sumire played with the straw of her drink. "I am not anybody's property."

"You know what he means."

"Telling me he likes me like this is unreasonable," Sumire exclaimed. Though she suspected something before, to think it became a reality.

Atsuro always treated her with kindness but a different type of kindness. She noticed how he liked getting close to her and would touch her with no restraint. Since he was the main doctor in the underworld organization, they interacted a lot. Due to her poor health, she often had to see him.

"Do you expect him to tell you?"

"I prefer direct men."

"That explains why she likes me." A voice from behind her said.

Sumire turned to see Yuhi. He looked like he was still half asleep judging from his half-closed eyes. He took a seat beside her and slumped his head on her shoulders. "You should have stayed there?"

"I will pass; you're not there."

Just five words, and yet Sumire felt her heart skip a beat.

Shin observed them and nodded. "I see, so this is what you mean by direct."

Gah--

Yuhi nodded. "Yeah, this is why Sumire loves me and not Atsuro."

Her sweat fell when she sensed his bitter tone. Well, she does understand why he would be mad.

"Atsuro may like me, but even if he tells me now, it does not matter." She trailed off and nodded. "The one I like is you."

"Just like, huh." Yuhi sighed. "I guess that is fine for now." He lifted his head from her shoulder and then extended his hand out towards out.

Sumire looked at him puzzled, and before she could say anything, she felt a sharp pain on her forehead. Yuhi had flicked her forehead with his fingers.

"That hurt!" Sumire exclaimed.

"Of course it did. But you needed to be punished."

At that comment, her eyes widened, and she puffed her cheeks into a pout. She folded her arms across her chest. Is he still brooding? What a petty person. Besides, Yuhi knows how difficult it is for me right now.

The reason Terashima Yuhi flicked her head was because she left him. Yuhi should understand that she cannot sleep beside him for long.

There are occasions where she can wake up in his arms, but only rarely. Most of the time, she stands up in the middle of the night and sleeps on the couch. Yuhi isn't happy whenever she does that, but what can she do?

She still has some doubts about this relationship. Sumire picked up her fork to cut the meat, but Yuhi swiftly took it from her and started to cut. He put the piece of cut meat onto her plate and picked some food out of his tray. Sumire watched him do this for a few minutes before she realized something.

How does he know my favorite dishes?

Now that she thought of it since she started living with him. Sumire has noticed how Yuhi seems to prepare all her meals for her. He knows what type of clothes she likes too... "Yuhi-san, did you stalk me during the time we didn't meet?" Otherwise, why else would he know her likes and dislikes so well?"

At that comment, Yuhi raised his eyebrows. "Stalking sounds so vulgar. I prefer the word observation."

So he did? Sumire sighed. "You should have just appeared before me then."

What use is there following her around and learning these things? She would have preferred it if he spoke to her.

"You know, I did appear before you a couple of times. But you were really slow and didn't realize it was me."

Did he? Sumire traced her memories for an event, but nothing came to mind. Yuhi is not the type of person who would lie, though.

Eternal Melody 92 I lied to my own hear

Yuhi is not the type of person who would lie, so she wonders why he loves her so much.

'I hate lies but I am the biggest liar of all.

I lied to my own heart and to those who care for me for so many years.'

Lies disguise the pain people have to go through. But there are those who lie with a straight face and without restraint too. There are those who lie without any particular meaning. Many people who belong in the elite circle do this, they lie with a straight face just to get something they want.

"Sumire." Yuhi suddenly said. She snapped out of her thoughts and noticed that he extended a fork out with a piece of chicken.

Her cheeks coloured. "Uh..." She looked at him awkwardly. "Yuhi, I can eat on my own."

Or rather what is he trying to do when Shin is still around?

She glanced over though and noticed that Shin wore an even more troubled expression on his face. Before she could say anything, a beeping sound comes from his phone. Shin sighed and tossed it toward her.

Incoming call: Kusaji Atsuro

Sumire blinked when she saw the caller ID. Speak of the devil, what type of timing is this? She recalled Soujiro who called not too long ago and stole a glance at Yuhi.

"Can I?"

Yuhi nodded and even clicked the answer button for her. Sumire looked at him with doubtful eyes. Is he actually going to allow her to speak to Atsuro? She always pinned him as the easily jealous type considering how clingy he is with her. Sumire frowned, 'I don't like where this is going.'

Sumire could hear Atsuro's voice on the other end, but she did not pick up the phone and instead clicked the red button to stop the call.

Yuhi wrapped his arms around her waist, and nuzzled his face on her head. But Sumire did not want to look at him. After hearing that Atsuro has feelings for her, why is he allowing her to answer the call.

"It seems my future wife made her mind up."

She wanted to roll her eyes and comment on that future wife thing. But Sumire understood his mind set better than anybody. Yuhi is trying to ease the tension and calm her down.

Sumire still felt upset but it was hard to stay mad at someone who was giving her so much attention. Yuhi kept placing kisses on her cheeks, and down her neck. He played with her hands under the table.

She felt very content and at ease. Sumire did not realize that falling in love would be like this. When she was still with Mamoru, she felt distressed all the time and frightened.

Was it because she knew of his illness from the very beginning? She felt restless and could not sleep well at night. It was not until Mamoru reassured her that it would take years before the illness took hold of him did those feelings die down.

But even then it was always there in the back of her mind. In the back of her mind there was something wrong. Something is wrong right now too but she is simply brushing it aside. Sumire turned around and hugged Yuhi tightly. Something might be wrong, but Yuhi is here to hold her.

Yuhi does not say anything and yet he ran his hands down her back to comfort her.

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Two hours later

Sumire pondered about several equations in her head before sighing. As she thought, the central transformation formula is still too much for her. Guess wondering about it by myself won't do much good. She takes off her earphones and stands up leaving her desk.

She tip-toed past the now fast asleep Terashima Yuhi. He did his best trying to teach her to the point he fell asleep. Everyone else left for the practical lesson already whilst the two of them had been left behind. Since it's a volunteer lesson, Sumire decided to stay behind.

She didn't think Yuhi would do the same. But then again, even now she is curious about Yuhis academic ability. He does not attend lesson a lot, but he must be smart. He has helped her with her studies in the past.

Then again a lot of time has passed by since then. She proceeded to just leave the classroom and yet Sumire kept looking over at Yuhi. Ah geez!!!

Sumire took her jacket off and wrapped it around him.

Stupid Yuhi, sleeping so carelessly like this.. He really is a fool.

A huge fool and yet her gaze softened when she recalled how he comforted her earlier. Even though she did not say anything,

Why does he still have to care so much about me? It's illogical. But she supposed even something as illogical as this happens for a reason. If that's the case then she supposed she can't complain about it.

Once the brunette was down the hall, she deeply sighed. She really wasn't expecting him to do that. When Asami-san brought up exams, Yuhi suddenly brought up her scores and before she knew it he was tutoring her.

He is such a strange guy. He's always been that way but thinking about it now leaves an odd feeling in her heart.

When Yuhi fell asleep she looked through the workbook Nakura gave her and found herself solving through the questions quite well, until she arrived at one. Though she knew which formula to use, when she actually applied it, it became difficult.

Even if she is considered a genius in terms of education, there are still some things she can't understand on her own. She sighs, that formula really is difficult.

She wonders if Nakura is in his room. When she spotted the sign ' Physics prep room' she knocks on the door. But she did not receive a response. Is he not in?

Sumire knew he had not gone home yet due to their conversation earlier. He said he would be busy for the rest of the day.

She turned the door handle. Oh it's open. "Excuse me. Sensei?"

Sumire spots the blue haired teacher by his desk like usual. But the expression on his face was far from the usual. In fact it really did seem as though he was spacing out. "...Sensei?"she repeated.

"Ah."

Sumire strolled over. "Why are you looking so dazed? It's actually quite rare to see you like that. Did something happen?"

Shin's gaze darkened. "There has been a contradiction between theory and reality."

Sumire sighs. "What's this about? Is it a puzzle?"

"Ibuki, Mathematical answers are derived from proving proofs for different theorems and it is in this the beauty of mathematics lies..."

She sighs once more, he is completely out of it. Then again since earlier he appeared troubled by something. Should she have said something? But she was too busy focusing on Yuhi.

"However any device can come up with the answer in seconds.."

Sumire shook her head. "Seriously what are you on about? You really are acting weird today aren't you?"

Eternal Melody 93 This isn't the time to flirt

He did not reply immediately and Sumire considered leaving. He most-likely won't be able to answer her when he is in this strange mood.

Shin looks up, "I'm weird?"

"Very weird."

"Maybe I should leave for today."

"What's this now..." she trails off. This must be the first time she's ever seen him in such a state. If the fans knew that their calm and collected Nakara Shin was like this then they'd definitely cry. But she doesn't dislike it. After all it's only natural for people to have a side like this to them. She reaches over and pats his hair, "I don't know what happened. But please cheer up. You're our teacher, you know?"

After patting his hair for a few minutes. Shin finally returned to normal. "Did you need something?"

She rolled her eyes when she saw how quickly he changed gears. Well it is better than him being depressed. She lifted up her workbook and showed him the question she was stuck on. "You see this question here, I was thinking of using this formula." Sumire pointed to the one she wrote down in pencil.

Shin nodded. "Yeah, what seems to be the issue?"

"So I use the right method, but the answer is wrong."

"Do you want to test it out using research paper questions? I will help you."

Her eyes brightened when she heard those words. "Then I will leave it to you."

Shin stood up and walked over to one of the filing cabinets. Sumire walked over to the table and sat down. "Did Atsuro call back?"

"He did and he wasn't pleased."

Sumire laughed. "I figured."

"Why don't you just talk to him? It should not do any harm, and even Yuhi thinks it is okay."

She shook her head. "There is no need for the two of us to talk now. Besides, I am supposed to be angry at him."

Shin nodded. "That is true..." He trailed off. "Does Yuhi always behave that way toward you?"

At that comment Sumire blinked when she heard that question. "I suppose you could say that."

"I see."

For the next few minutes nobody said anything and Sumire felt the atmosphere grow tense and tense. She felt very nervous.

It happened in a split moment. One moment she was thinking of how to break the tense atmosphere and in the next the windows shattered.

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The city was always endlessly changing while she was kept at a standstill. Trapped in the illusion she made for herself. Ever since Mamoru passed away, she created this illusion that it was impossible for her to fall in love. It is impossible for her to trust others.

She remembered staring at her legs and urged them to move but they remained still.

When Sumire opened her eyes, she realized that the shards of glass did not reach her yet. No, it should have. No matter how fast her reflexes are, she should have gotten hurt. But she was unharmed, instead somebody was on top of her and shielding her.

"Yu-"

"Heh." Yuhi mumbled and brushed his fingers across her cheeks. "You okay?"

Her eyes widened as she tried to register what just happened. Since the shards did not hit her, and Yuhi covered her that meant -- Sumire tried to sit up but Yuhi would not allow her.

"Ssh, there is still more."

Right as Yuhi said those words the remaining pieces of glass from the windows shattered, some black items hit the shelves and knocked everything down. Sumire immediately realized what it was, poisonous gas. The small item broke apart and a strange toxin covered the room. She glanced over and saw that the door to the storeroom was open. Is Shin trying to.....

Yuhi coughed and she returned her attention back to him. She saw specs of red from the corner of his mouth and her eyes widened in shock. Wait? Where did the glass hit h-- Sumire spotted something from the corner of her eyes. A glass shard on Yuhis shoulder blades. "Yuhi, wait stay still."

She has to remove that before it pierces into his skin further.

"Sssh." Yuhi kissed the temple of her forehead. "Relax."

Sumire felt the tears well up in her eyes. "Yuhi, stupid."

He knew didn't he? Yuhi knew that somebody was after her this entire time. No wonder he keeps sticking like glue to her recently, so this was the reason for his clingy behaviour. If only she noticed the signs before. Sumire thought that Yuhi was acting clingy due to his jealousy but it turns out that was not the case here. If only she noticed sooner, then this would not have happened.

She knew this was not the time but once again... I am reminded of how muscular Yuhi is.

With his body pressed on top of her like this. It was hard for her to look away or avoid noticing such things. When they sleep together, she does not notice it since she usually falls asleep right away. But now? Now she could not look away from him.

He is like a fine piece of art, any artist would think the same way as her. Yuhi would be the ideal model. But those thoughts were at the back of her mind right now, her focus on Yuhi is different.

Yuhi is so handsome... She felt her cheeks burn red. To think this person not only likes her but he is her boyfriend too. It is hard to believe that Terashima Yuhi belongs to her.

Yuhi suddenly chuckled and Sumire knew he caught her staring.

He kissed her forehead again. "I know you want me sweetheart. But try to control yourself, this isn't exactly the time to flirt."

Whenever she hears the term sweetheart, it reminds her of Sano. She tugged on his hand. "Change it."

Yuhi blinked and then laughed again. "You really are something." He paused. "Do you understand our current situation? Or do I need to spell it out for you?"

"I know, and I am not deliberately flirting with you."

"So you admit that you are flirting?"

Sumire nodded. "Mm." Though she understood this wasn't the time to flirt or check him out, it is impossible for any girl to ignore a man like Terashima Yuhi. She extended her hand out. "Since the enemy is taking their time, could I kiss you?"

Eternal Melody 94 Purple coloured poison

It would be inconvenient for them to move right now. So what is wrong with her taking advantage of this moment? Besides, "I am cold." Sumire mumbled. She has been laying down on the ground for the past few minutes already.

Yuhi chuckled. "Seriously you, what do I do with you?"

"Isn't that obvious, I just said it. Let me kiss you."

"Honestly, you need to stop messing with me. But I guess I could take you up on that offer." Yuhi brushed their lips together. "Sumire." He said gently.

Her eyes widened when she heard how gently he said her name. Oh no, she feels like she wants to cry again.

'I am not proud of it but in the past seventeen years of her life, she has not had any experience when it comes to acts of affection or intimacy. I even questioned why couples would do such a thing.'

But now..her gaze fell towards Yuhi. Now she wants everything about this person, she wants to possess him and make him hers and hers alone. Is that wrong of her to think that way? Yuhi started to kiss her then and Sumire allowed him to do whatever he wanted with her.

If it is this person then she could entrust everything to him.

Sumire does not know how long they spend kissing but she does know it was long enough for her to turn out of breath. Strange enough the so called poison had yet to affect either her or Yuhi. How strange, maybe it isn't poison? But then what else could it be?

Her thoughts broke off when Shin re-emerged wearing a protective mask over his face. She spotted two more under his arm.

Shin rolled his eyes when he got closer and tapped Yuhi's shoulder.

Yuhi who was still busy kissing her looked very annoyed but he parted their lips. "What?"

"Mask, wear it. The immunity should only last for a few more minutes."

Immunity? Sumire looked at Shin blankly. What on earth is he talking about? Before she could ask Yuhi sat her up and put the mask on her face. "Alright, is it okay?"

Sumire nodded.

"Then lets go." Yuhi slipped his on and they stood up.

'I don't think I need a mask though.'

If this poison would affect her, would it not have done so by now? But it seems like Yuhi knows a lot more about this than her, so she should stay put.

It seemed like the gas did not just affect the science prep room, the moment they left the room, she saw the purple coloured gas covered the entire hall. "The other people.."

"Most-likely knocked out. Those who were outside got lucky."

Sumire bit her lip when she heard those words. She did not want other people to get dragged into her mess. Those people want her right? Then she ought to go there and her sentence fell short when Yuhi suddenly bent down and kissed her fingertips.

What is he doing so suddenly?

"Sumire."

He only said her name but she felt the emotions behind those words.

Yuhi does not want her to leave his side.

If it were the past her she would have left him without hesitation, but everything is different now. She cannot bring herself to do that now. Can I trust him? That question, I already know the answer to. Not trusting Yuhi means not being able to trust another person ever again.

"So before we move." Shin trailed off. "Which direction do you think we should go?"

"Before that, Sumire." Yuhi turned to her. "What kind of poison do you think this is?"

Her eyes widened when she heard Yuhi's question. She is not shocked because she cannot answer but because she could. It seems like Yuhi-san has investigated not only her likes and dislikes, but other factors too. Normally something like that would upset her, but everything has changed now.

No, it would still upset her if any other person investigated her background. But because this is Terashima Yuhi, how could she possibly get mad at him? Besides he is not the type of person who would use her personal information for malicious reasons.

"A toxic gas, but this is strange." Sumire said. Out of all the toxic gasses out there, it should be closer to bromine but that is not used to target somebody directly. Or rather that gas focuses more on agricultural chemicals, dyes and environmental. It isn't bromine ... she paused as she thought it through more. "Something similar to magic?" She mumbled.

She knew the two would give her odd looks, but this was the only explanation for it. To her surprise Yuhi and Shin seemed satisfied with her explanation.

"Well that makes sense." Shin nodded. "We have to go against those huh? Unfortunately I am a mere mortal."

Yuhi sighed. "Troublesome." He turned to her. "Well I guess I have a chance to show off today."

Sumire looked at him with wide eyes. What does he plan to do?

Yuhi bent down and whispered in her ear. "Stay still okay?"

She nodded and in the next second Yuhi covered himself in a black coat and top hat. She blinked when she saw this new appearance. What....?

In that moment she felt several menacing presences and frowned. These people were clearly blood thirsty, she could hear the scrapping of metallic knives on the ground. Distorted sounding voices saying malicious sounding words. Despite the purple fog, when the footsteps stopped. Sumire clearly saw the culprits, all of them wore a mask on their faces.

These people look ridiculous, is this supposed to be a disguise?

Eternal Melody 95 Not the best time to act childish

Sumire already heard the rumors regarding Terashima Yuhi, she heard every single one. Back when he was a member of the underworld organization, she saw how people treated him with respect. There were many people who disliked him and yet they still treated him well. The main reason for that? Terashima Yuhi is strong physically and even emotionally. He is the type of person who won't break down no matter what happens. Also his talent for solving crimes, he understands the criminals mindset and can solve cases quickly as a result.

Her eyes widened when she saw how quickly he moved from her, one of the men were in the ground in seconds. So fast...

'Say Ki, you've always seen me as the strongest person around. But you know there is somebody stronger than me. That person will protect you.'

She bit her lip when Rus' words echoed in her head.

He was talking about Yuhi, wasn't he?

When she finally snapped out of her trance and accepted that Ru died. She tried to investigate what happened, she thought something was wrong. But it only led to people misunderstanding and pitying her even more. Even if she tried to explain, nobody would listen. Sumire hoped that at least one person would listen to her but it was exhausting. It is amazing how draining it is to have expectations of people.

That's why the current her does not expect anything from anybody. Others can think what they want and see things from their point of view. She will no longer bother trying to explain things.

Sumire thought this way since he died. But, her gaze fell on Yuhi who was fighting. If it is this person she does not want him to misunderstand. She does not want to keep any secrets from him, she wants him to know everything.

If he learns the truth about her, would he also end up hating her? Would he look at her the same way?

Change is frightening, but if she does not take the first step then she will remain stagnant.

I believe in you Ki.

Sumire struggled to keep her tears in check but she immediately rushed towards where Yuhi was.

"Hey, Hey.."

"I will fight with you." Sumire mumbled.

He raised his eyebrow and suddenly cupped her cheeks. "Can you fight when your crying?"

"Who is crying you jerk."

Yuhi bent down and kissed her eyelids. Her eyes widened at that gentle action of his.

"Well, I guess this is what it means to fight a battle with my wife."

Sumire stepped onto his foot. "Who are you calling your wife? Besides this isn't the first time we fought alongside each other." Or rather what is with him? How could he kiss her like that during this situation. He was even flirting with her earlier.

Yuhi chuckled. "There we go, that's better."

Indeed, this person is stupid. But, she probably never stopped loving him.

Whenever she looks up at the sky, Sumire would automatically search for the moon, almost as though there is a switch. In order for her to find it immediately, it has to continue shining brighter than any star.

'look look, Takahashi Yumi-san, she's really amazing. I want to be like her someday'

In one of the fondest memories of her mother, the brunette could clearly recall her answer. 'I know if it's you Sumire you'll be able to do it. You are my daughter after all'.

What started out as simple admiration, slowly changed. As a princess she was taught to always maintain her appearance and manners. Since she is part of the Ibuki household, that is something she understands all too well.

But she was never interested in any of the lessons they made her take. There were many many lessons, a variety of different lessons. Among them, she ought to have found something she liked. But it was not like that at all.

As a member of her household there was a lot she had to learn the second she was able to stand on her own two feet. She was being tutored and everyday seemed so endless for her. It was all so endless. She perfected everything that was taught at her, yet no matter how well she did. Her mother would never once look her way. And father? Although there were some small moments, he would always be busy and be away on business.

Ah what a solidarity life that was, though she often found comfort in the visits from Nao and Hijiri, those two could not always be around. As someone of her rank too she could associate herself with any regular individuals - well at least that's how it was supposed to be.

Yumi-san, did something about it.

The brunette knew all too well that her parents would not have been convinced for her to enter a normal school regardless of her efforts. But that person didn't hesitate to do something for her. Ah, that was something she noticed from the very start. That person really is so very very kind. It was because of Yumi-senpai, that she could attend that concert and meet Terashima Yuhi.

She has many things she is grateful for and yet has she ever repaid those people.

"By the way." Yuhi said as he sent one of the men flying with a kick. "I was wondering if you would like to grab a bite to eat with me after this."

Sumire rolled her eyes at that comment as she sent a similar attack towards another person. "Is this the right time to be asking me out on a date?"

"There is no time limit to flirting with my love. I can flirt with you constantly."

"Yuhi-san, do you know how creepy that sounds?" Sumire dodges one of the mens punches as she grabs hold of his arm and twists it.

"Creepy?" Yuhi trailed off. "Well if you're interested in that then I could try."

Wait when did she say she was interested in it? Why does this man like to twist her words so much?

"There are no words to capture your beauty love. If something happens to you, I shall join you in the heavens. Whenever we are apart I shall grow wings and fly to your side."

Sumire stared at him utterly speechless. He actually did it? She thought he was joking around. What on earth is wrong with this man? Is he truly smart, or is he actually an idiot. She glanced over at the enemy and noticed that some of them froze.

Amazing Yuhi... he said such cringey things that even the enemy had to stop. Sumire briely made eye contact with him and his lips curve to a smile. Ahh geez, what a helpless guy.

"I guess I could accept your offer. But, let's race."

Yuhi chuckled. "As competitive as ever I see. But I was also thinking the same. So depending on who beats more, the loser will have to do whatever the other person wants."

She rolled her eyes at that childish suggestion. But what is wrong with him acting like a child? They are still high school students. Just because the two of them were made to grow up faster than most people does not mean they have to act like an adult all the time. Though this is most likely not the best time to act childish.

Eternal Melody 96 He will make the impossible a reality

But she has already taken a step forward to this world. She will always hold that person dear no matter what happens. Sumire understood that even if she were to accept Yuhi completely, a part of her heart would always belong to Tsueno Mamoru.

Right now the most important person to her can only be one person. No, two individuals. In the end that may make her a selfish person. For sure that's what it seems like. But indeed for her that truly is something she can't deny. Even though she cannot remember that person's face and although whenever she tries it becomes blurry.

Although she can't remember his voice long enough to trace it anymore, she feels like he is always there giving her support. No matter where we are, we are always connected under the same sky.

That is something she would remind herself. Perhaps when she said those words then she truly didn't understand the meaning behind them then. For certain the majority of things are illogical and even when one discovers the meaning, it does not mean one understands them.

That is why there will be those who will still suffer. There will be those who still end up in pain whether or not it's from broken relationships, or hardships faced under other circumstances. There maybe other factors that she has failed to mention, but there is no doubt people will suffer.

'To you, life is just something you acted out and ended, all according to someone else's script. That's why you always quote tragedies. However I think that is wrong Sumire. We humans shouldn't allow a script to dictate our lives. Even if there is a script, what is the chance of us following it completely? The unexpected happens and things change.'

After being lectured like that, Sumire did not fight back and she instead asked him what to do. Sumire could not forget the serious expression on his face when he said his reply.

'I won't live my life by another person's script. I will write own ending'

It was only when those words were said to her that she realised it. That this entire time she may have been treating 'life' in the same manner as her script. Since certainly for sure she had never regarded life in a normal regard then most people. But when Yuhi noticed it, she realized a few more things.

Ah that person really is amazing, indeed she thought so from the very beginning. If it is this person then he will be able to achieve many many more greater things in life. She always got that feeling from him.

If it is Terashima Yuhi, he will make the impossible a reality.

...

Two hours later

Her thoughts broke off when she realized she was now back to back with Yuhi. No matter how many people they took down, more of them seemed to arrive. The two of them are strong yes, but after fighting for a good two hours, even for them this is pushing it. Sumire felt her breathing become unsteady and sweat clung to her skin. Her legs felt wobbly and she knew she was losing a lot of blood due to the head injury she sustained earlier.

The only way for these people to get to her is using underhanded means. One of them went through the trouble of grabbing somebody from one of the classrooms and used them as a shield. Thus it led to her head injury.

Yuhi squeezed her hands. "Can you hold it a bit more? There is only a little bit left."

She feels like she is going to pass out any minute but if Yuhi is beside her then she feels like everything will be okay.

Time passes by whether or not we like it or not, and even if things are so hectic and it seems like one can't keep up.

It will never stop.

Because there is something that will always bind them together.

With time the nostalgia for the usual days increase.

And before one realizes, they become memories engraved in ones heart.

Sumire slumped to the ground the moment she knocked out the last person. She felt utterly drained and exhausted. Quite some time has passed since she last fought so many people like this. It seems like she has to work on her stamina again. If it were the past her then that amount of people would not be a problem.

"You okay?" Yuhi asked.

She shook her head. "I cant move my legs."

Yuhi nodded. "I see, then hop on."

Sumire blinked when she saw that he had pointed to his back. Uhh, what on earth is he suggesting? "A piggy back?"

"Mmm, hurry up before I change my mind."

Despite the weak feeling in her legs, she managed to muster some strength to climb onto Yuhis back. Sumire looked around for Shin and could not find him anywhere. "Did he leave?"

"Yeah." Yuhi nodded. "He left when it was getting bad. I mean he could have pitched in if he wanted to but he is still a teacher at the end of the day."

"I see."

For the next few minutes there was nothing but silence. Sumire did not know what to say to him. She felt very strange. Fighting alongside Yuhi like this, when was the last time? Back then they used to have each others backs as partners. But she wondered when did that stop? When did things become awkward? Even long before he confessed to her, something already changed.

But she recalled the conversation they had not too long ago. Did Yuhi not say so himself? He said that he missed her and that he wanted for things to return to normal too. However were those words not a lie? If he truly wanted that, then he would not have asked her out. To return to how they were in the past with no knowledge of these romantic feelings.

It is already far too late for them to do that, but that was fine. Instead of returning to how things were before, she would rather focus on the future.

She would rather focus on their future as a couple.

Eternal Melody 97 If today was not yesterday..

He did not reply right away since he felt very frustrated. Frustrated with her or himself?

Right at the moment, he felt angry towards her, even though he knew this was his fault too.

"You're an idiot." Yuhi said bluntly.

She is the biggest fool off all. How could she join him in a fight despite knowing the limits of her own health right now? How could she behave so foolishly.

Seeing her battered up like this and in such a weak condition. He already knew what she did. Suddenly he felt a light kiss on his neck and his eyes widened.

"As I thought..." "As I thought...when it comes to you I can't pull away. Were always so far apart .. And it really does make me feel lonely. It was probably because of that reason that I couldn't close down the pathway to and the other worlds. I'm sorry...I really am a selfish girl aren't I Yuhi?"

If today was not yesterday, but tomorrow,

Yesterday would be today, and tomorrow, the day after.

I wonder where this boat is headed,

As the rudder steers toward the day after,

If today wasn't even today,

But that day instead... ahh, it'd be so nice!

I just think it would be so nice.

So that's what it was. When he heard the report from Kai when he was rushing over, Yuhu did think it was strange. Even with her powers in this stage something like that should have been an easy task. She really is something else.

"Stupid, it's supposed to be the guy who says that...." he gripped hold of one of her hands, " I also wanted to selfishly stay by your side like that."

"Aha...I see. So you did not lie to me."

"Why would I lie to you? I don't have a reason to do that at all." Yuhi paused when he recalled something. Now that he thought about it, she said something about disliking lies before, didn't she?

"Because you're stubborn."

[- It's not something I can talk to anyone else about either]

What is she saying in a situation like this? " Your stubborn...and yet your so strong, your strong hands are always supporting the weak and fragile me. That's why, if there's something I can do...then..."

Yuhi didn't need the girl to finish her sentence, so that's how she ended up like this. Because ...she noticed the condition he was in. She went ahead and did something like that.

[So I'll try making a phone call to god and asking about it]

"I love you Yuhi."

With those words he watched as the girl closed her eyes. His hand immediately made its way to her pulse line, she is still breathing but barely. He really did take a lot out of her, she's in her weak state too so the pressure must have been too much.

She loves him huh?

[If today were not tomorrow. But yesterday.

That would make tomorrow today, and yesterday..

...the day before yesterday..]

A person like him, who is tainted and has a colour that will only cause you harm. Yuhi turned his head slightly and plants a kiss on the girl's forehead, as he murmurs softly. "I love you too."

.....

Two days later -

A quick discussion with Hino led to this current situation. His gaze fell on the girl in front of him who was busy making decorations for the upcoming festival. The two of them were the only ones in the classroom since everybody else was busy decorating outside. He wondered if she is truly okay now. Two days ago, she looked so pale and she couldnt move. It pained Yuhi whenever he thought how badly wounded she was.

Also, there is something that bothers him. According to his medic friend, there is another life force inside her. Despite those vague terms, Yuhi understood what that meant. Sumire is pregnant isnt she?

' However, I truly wish you a different fate: Makoto Soujiro, I hope one day when you meet the one that you truly want, she would break your heart into pieces and will continue to haunt you for the rest of your life!'

Those words to him were similar to a curse. And it's when he realised that, that he understand that perhaps Touko meant much more to him then he ever realised. If that were the case then he would deserve any punishment he were to receive and yet he still attempted to escape.

If he fell in love, his heart would break into pieces again and if that were to happen, could he pretend that nothing happened? Pretend that everything was alright and go about his life. No, not even someone as emotionless as him would be able to. Which is why rather than have that occur then he would ensure he wouldn't fall in love. That is how it was supposed to be. But when he met that girl, everything started to change.

"Yuhi-san, did you stay behind to slack or to stare at me?"

"Both."

Sumire sighed and pointed to one of the signs. "Paint that please."

"Yeah, yeah." Yuhi stood up and picked up one of the brushes. "Say, do you still feel sick in the morning?" Ever since that day, Yuhi noticed that she does not throw up as much in the morning. Then again only two days have gone by, so maybe it is too soon to tell.

"Sometimes." Sumire nodded. "Ah."

"What?"

"Your too far away now, this distance is rather unpleasant. So would you mind if I go over there?"

Yuhi almost dropped the paintbrush but Sumire swiftly caught it. The girl laughed and he looked away. "If you were bored with the decorations and wanted to work on the sign, you should have told me."

Sumire laughed. "So If I told you I just wanted to get closer, what would you think."

"I wouldn't answer and just kiss you."

Sumire covered her mouth with her sleeves and laughed again. "I see."

Eternal Melody 98 Coping

Honestly, Sumire makes it so difficult for him. Does she not understand that by saying such bold things, something bad could happen to her? Then again if she actually has Tsueno Mamorus child, then he shouldn't be hasty with her. When she turns eighteen huh? Even though he struck that deal with Hino, Yuhi was having a hard time holding back. He never would have thought that he could fall in love with somebody as much as he did Ibuki Sumire. She is unlike all the other women he has ever met before.

After that meeting, that snowy concert several years ago. Yuhi realized there was something wrong with him. Wherever he went, all he could see was Ibuki Sumire. No matter how many gorgeous women flung themselves at him, he did not care for any of them. Instead, the only one that remained attractive in his eyes is Ibuki Sumire.

Yuhi looked over at her again and noticed that she was purposely getting closer.

Damn, what is she trying to do?

"Yuhi-san, it is exactly like your thinking. I am flirting with you and hoping you would do something."

What on earth --- damn it. Yuhi puts the brush down and pulls the girl down onto the ground. Whenever he looks into her eyes, he ends up getting dizzy and confused. These amethyst coloured eyes of hers that resemble a jewel, it all belonged to him now. But sometimes Yuhi wondered if that was truly the case.

Sumire still hasn't settled her feelings for Mamoru yet.

.....

"Now then, this should be fine. Let's paint the small boards while we--" Yuhi cuts her off by wrapping his arms around her waist. He brushed his lips against her ear. "Unn, Yuhi?"

"Hey, do you really want to? When you're eighteen."

"Is that why you look so troubled?"

"Just tell me," Yuhi muttered as he continued his advances on her neck.

"Yuhi-san as you know I have no experience with such things, I only did it with Ru once and I did it twice with you. So whether we should discuss it or not, I'm a bit lost." Sumire trailed off. "I figured we should listen to Hino-san though."

"Alright but from now on, you're sleeping with me in the same room."

"Don't I do that anyway?"

"Quit sneaking off, I don't bite."

He hates waking up and not seeing Sumire beside him.

Sumire rolled her eyes. "I know you won't harm me."

"Then what was that comment about bearing with it..."

"I simply meant I would cope with your overbearing beast like kisses and attacks." She paused and sighed. "Yuhi-san, do you not know how to be gentle with a girl?"

Yuhi could not answer her question right away. What could he say to that? Indeed she was right there, he does not know the first thing about being gentle with the opposite gender. How could he know? His exes were the same type as him. But even more than that, he spent so many years fighting in the underworld society. 7

He was surrounded by guys most of the time. Even though he lived a double life and continued with his career, he seldom saw any girls. The scent of a woman's skin, the softness -- honestly, it drove him crazy. Maybe because Ibuki Sumire is exceptionally beautiful, it makes it difficult for him.

Yuhi shook his head. He needs to be sensible here. After all, he is the older one. Sure two years don't make much of a difference normally. But right now it does, she is underage but he isn't. It is frustrating after all, he wants to touch her.

To his surprise Sumire extended her hand out and brushed it across her cheeks. He could not miss the gentle expression on her face when she did this. Yuhi wonders what kind of pain she experienced in the time they were not together.

The effect mamoru had on her was very strong. But the main reason for that was because Sumire was in a lot of pain before. The only reason his death had such a huge toll on her was because she ended up relying on him when she had nobody else left. She gave everything to him only for him to leave again.

"Could you tell me about your journey?" Yuhi mumbled. "What happened after that accident?"

He wants to know everything. How did she live before Aki saved her? What did she do? Escaping from that fire.. Where did she go? He had so many questions he wanted to ask her, but Yuhi wondered if it was okay for him to do that. She is clearly still in pain. Would asking such questions now be insensitive of him?

"I ended up travelling for a whole month. And well we were actually being pursued quite heavily at the beginning. We wandered around endlessly and ended up leaving the city for a while and travelling in the forest. It was then I discovered the beauty of the countryside and the small villages. I fell in love with the scenery. The people were quite different then the ones in the city and there honestly wasn't much in the area. Yet, to me it was beautiful. We went to visit Nao's grandfather and hid there for a little while until he told of us of the ancient tale." Sumire pauses. " Truth to be told I was rather skeptical about it. Not that I doubted Nao's grandfather but it was more like...I doubted myself. I've never had anything, that's why... I don't understand how I can be someone important. Someone who has the power to change everything. We stayed there quite a bit until I made my mind up. But even when I did and set out on my journey, I realised that I really am powerless."

"As somebody who believes that power isnt everything, let me tell you something." Yuhi pulled out his lighter from his pocket and his cigarette. These days he refrains from smoking in front of her.

"Power is only a figure of people's imaginations. It is something they created in their heads to feel superior to another person. Sure there are those people in society who have more control than others. But it is quite easy for a commoner to rise to fame and overtake these people. It is easy for people to let their voices be heard, take a look at the French revolution."

"Ah, where the people took up arms to make changes to overthrow the monarchy and establish a republic?"

Yuhi nodded. "Those people decided that they would not let other people govern and control their actions. They decided for themselves what kind of future, what kind of town they wanted, and chose the leaders."

Who cares if somebody has noble blood or not? At the end of the day even blood won't save you if the people disagree with your views and values.

Eternal Melody 99 Acciden

Yuhi wanted to continue this topic but Sumire suddenly stood up and said the sign would dry quicker outside. He had to agree there, since this room barely has any sunlight. The two of them lift one side, although he insisted that he would be fine carrying it alone.

This girl is so stubborn. But I guess that is fine, it is better for her to be stubborn and unreasonable than mope around.

It did not take long before they reached outside. "I wonder if the others will like the sign.."

"You didn't show anyone yet?"

"I was a bit worried that they would disagree." Sumire laughed. "But I liked my idea a lot, so I just went with it."

"I don't think you have to worry." Yuhi paused. "You're on the same level as me, so nobody should have a problem with that."

To his surprise, he watched as a familiar tint of red appeared on the girl's cheeks. His eyes widened when he saw her blushing and he looked away. Why does she look so happy? What a weird girl.

He caught something from the corner of his eye fast approaching them. It was a blurred figure, no - the sound of an engine. Yuhi dropped the sign and pushed Sumire away as fast as he could.

...

Hospital - A few hours later -

The past few weeks were rather harsh on him. No, ever since Sumire came here he had to change his entire routine and schedule. In order to spend more time with her, he pushed most of his work at later times during the day. Sometimes he would not return until the morning, and only sleep for an hour before having to get up for breakfast. He would have more time to sleep but Sumire is an early riser and he liked to have breakfast with her. The girl did not seem to eat very well whenever she is alone.

The stress was weighing down on him, so when he collapse due to exhaustion and overwork Yuhi isn't surprised.

The constant beeping sound that echoed in his ear annoyed him.

His entire body felt heavy but he managed to muster some strength and opened his eyes. Darkness filled his vision and at first, he could not make out where he was since everything was blurred. It took a few minutes before he the blurred images began to take proper shape.

The blurred images slowly turned into white walls, ceilings, bedsheets, a breathing machine, and a heart monitor.

His gaze fell on the woman clutching his hand tightly, fast asleep, and sighed. It seems like he caused problems for her there. One minute they were having a rather interesting debate with one another and the next moment he collapsed.

The edges of her eyes seemed puffy and she wore a disturbed expression on her face. Did she cry for him?

He tried to recall what happened before he collapsed but everything was still hazy for him. He does not understand how he got here. The only person he saw before he fell asleep was Sumire. Was she the one

who carried him here? It wouldn't surprise him if that were the case. Sumire is stronger than most people. Still, with what happened two days ago, it would worry him if she carried him.

Yuhi extended his hand out and parted the loose strands of hair away from her face. It seems like he has underestimated her quite a bit. Yuhi did not think that Sumire cared for him this much. When he first asked her out, Yuhi understood that she only agreed because he made it difficult for her to say no. If she said no then, it would have destroyed their friendship.

It did not matter to him how their relationship started out. While he would have liked it if she told him she loved him first, he isn't particular on the details.

His thoughts broke off when he saw the girl stir awake. Yuhi immediately pulled his hand back. "Yuhi. .?"

"Mm. You okay?"

At that comment, she immediately burst into tears. She wrapped her arms around him. " Yuhi! Yuhi. I was really scared, we decided to go outside to help the others and suddenly that bike came out of nowhere."

Ah, so that's what happened. If he fainted then why would his entire body ache so much?

But if it is like that, then he must have saved her.

Her hands and her whole body are shaking. That's right, of course. He said it to Asuka after all, that no matter what happens Sumire loves him. Yuhi already knew the girl's feelings long before she came here, otherwise, he would not have confessed to her then. But he also knew what kind of person she is. Even if she had feelings for him, she would not ask him out.

"What if, what if you died and I never got a chance to tell you that I really love you?"

How silly, she already told him that plenty of times. She has not conveyed it with words but her actions tell him enough. Despite the aching feeling in his body, he managed to pull the brunette up. " I know already. I've always known. Heh, besides did you really think I'd die and leave you behind? "

"Yuhi you're smart but can be an idiot sometimes. So I've always wondered whether or not you knew. How deep my feelings for you actually were. I.. I'll get better, I'll get better. Even if it's painful when I'm beside you. I don't want to end things. I don't want to be left with regrets if something happens. So please hold me in your arms. "

Hey hey is she insulting or complimenting him? Which is it? But, hold her in his arms huh? This is the first time she has requested something like that. His gaze softened when he got a proper look at her eyes. Her eyes were sore from crying but as she spoke tears raced down her cheeks.

Geez, she truly is a helpless case.

Yuhi brought his hand to her cheeks. "Right now I can't move. So shouldn't you lead? But this is nice, being seduced in a hospital bed." Yuhi teased.

"Dummy." Sumire murmured.

In the next second her lips brushed against his delicately like butterfly wings. She did not deepen the kiss immediately so he had enough time to inhale her breath. Surprisingly enough Sumire smelled of cigarettes. Yuhi blinked, she doesn't smoke, does she?

Sumire doesn't smoke. But he has occasionally caught her lighting cigarettes. Whenever she wakes up and leaves his side, Yuhi goes after her. He would often find her on the balcony, with a cigarette in her hands.

But quite some time has passed since she has last done this, so he is a bit surprised. What triggers her to do this?

She's good at this after all huh? He wants to ask about the marks since it bugged him. But he doesn't want to destroy the moment right now. Still, he could speculate why she is good at kissing. Her first boyfriend was a jerk but he must have taught her how to kiss. The second one? Yuhi unfortunately did not know much about him. All he knew was the guy was in the music industry too.

Eternal Melody 100 Show me again

The music industry, huh? It could be anybody then. But a musician who went overseas, it would be easy to narrow it down. Yuhi knew that he could do so easily if he genuinely wanted to find this other boyfriend. However, he does not want to upset her.

He wants to wait until she talks about it. Investigating somebody has always rubbed him the wrong way. Back when he was still in the underground society and had to investigate people, he always felt strange about it.

There is a reason why these people hid a part of their pasts, a reason why such information is not made public. If he wanted to know, it would indeed be easy. But why does he have to? It is clear that the reason why she kisses so well is because of Nagawa. The third one? Well, considering how they only did it once. It is clear how far the two went with their relationship.

Mamoru is not the type of person who would express his feelings through physical actions. That guy has other ways to show that he loves her. Yuhi could tell that whatever method he used succeeded since Sumire feels guilty about not telling him her feelings.

His deep thoughts broke off when Sumire deepened the kiss and pried his mouth open. He chuckled softly. It seems somebody is getting into this, huh? She worked her tongue against his; their tongues battled back and forth for dominance. While Sumire was the one who led the kiss, this passionate side of her, urged him to become more serious with her.

Yuhi found his hands working their way around her body through her clothes.

To his surprise, the girl did not push his hands away like the last time. Yuhi debated in his head whether this was a sign of approval. Either way, he liked the feeling of her body. When his hands made its way to her breasts, she let out a soft moan between their intertwined tongues.

Indeed, a passionate Ibuki Sumire is quite something. Yuhi realized a long time ago that this girl wasn't the innocent type. But this is the first time he saw her act like this.

"Hey!" Hino snapped. "What did I tell you two..."

Sumire pulled back and laughed softly. "Well, don't blame him. I was the one who seduced him."

"I see, then I guess I will lecture you instead."

Yuhi extended his hand out and brushed his fingers across the girl's lips. Saliva from their deep kiss lingered on her lips, and her eyes made her look more alluring. Yuhi frowned at this. He does not want other guys to see her like this. He pulled the blanket over her.

"Uh, Yuhi-san?"

"Did you need something, president?" Yuhi used the word president deliberately.

Hino's eyes twitched in annoyance, but he did not lash out. He simply sighed and placed a basket down on the table. "You should eat something good after having an accident. The food in this place isn't very nice."

"Alright, thank you."

It looked like Hino wanted to say something, but no words left his lips as he quickly left the room. Yuhi turned to the girl he bundled up with the blanket. "Sorry about---" He paused when he got a better look at her.

There was something beautiful about Sumire covered up in a blanket. Yuhi edged closer and kissed her lips. "Mmm, you look good enough to eat."

Sumire laughed and rolled her eyes. "Alright, don't be silly anymore. I should call the doctor over so they can run some tests. If you're lucky, you didn't damage anything, but-" Her gaze fell on his leg. "- I think we can test that ourselves. Can you move that?"

Now that he thought about it, he hasn't moved much since he opened his eyes. Sure he pulled Sumire up onto the bed, but that did not use much strength at all. It did not involve leg strength. Yuhi glanced down at his leg and attempted to move it. But as Sumire said, he could not feel it at all.

The girl bites her lip, and he chuckled when he saw how frantic she was. He grabbed hold of her wrist and pulled, so she laid on top of him again. "Relax, this isn't the first time I have broken bones."

Most of his concerts end up with him damaging his body one way or another. Stage accidents or accidents from practicing. It happened all the time. Yuhi wanted to reassure Sumire and tell her this, but when he saw the expression on her face, he decided not to.

"Yuhi, please be more careful."

Yuhi nodded. "Yeah, sorry about this."

When Yuhi felt Sumire relax in his hold, he sighs in content. Oh well, he guessed there is no reason for him to have a serious discussion when she is clingy like this. Besides, he has something he needs to tell her.

"You know I have always regretted not being able to support you properly then. Seeing you cry every day, I should have wrapped my arms around you and reassured you. But seeing you break down, I

couldn't do anything for you. This time around, too, I didn't know how to break the news to you. So I was relieved when you suggested the distance."

"I see, but Yuhi, I wanted you to stop me. I wanted you to stop me and tell me that it won't work unless we are always together. But I suppose you felt like you had no right to be selfish."

He stroked her brunette locks. "You don't have to worry anymore. I won't hold myself back regarding you anymore. Although we get along, whenever we meet, our opinions tend to clash. Right now, it's difficult for you to abandon your pride. But I shall remain with you regardless. ."

"Like you just said, my pride will get in the way, Yuhi... even now, what I want the most is to defeat you."

"You're not holding back with your declarations, are you?"

"That's because your last live was too amazing, and you beat so many people for the trending on twitter!" Sumire said as she held her phone up.

Hey, hey, is she bothered by net trends? Then again, Sumire does not go out a lot. Yuhi noticed that unless it is for shopping for food, Sumire mainly stays at home. She spends a lot of time on her phone and browsing on the internet.

"Sumire, what do you want to do? I would love to be with you always. But that won't work with your pride and illness, but rather us being like this is fine?" Yuhi asked. She doesn't have to answer him since he sees her pale complexion. He drew her back immediately, but she snuggled back on to his hold.

"Yuhi. I don't mind, I'll get used to it again. If you show me you love me, my fear will disappear. So, show me again?"

This girl is unbelievable, he thought so before but now? Honestly, what a helpless woman. But is he not the same as her? Yuhi already knew the answer to his own question. Yes, yes, he is the same type.