

Strongest 1321

Chapter 1321: This Is where You Belong

Erinys' abruptly woke up from her sleep in the middle of the night.

The clock had just struck midnight and, with it, another day had passed in the Underworld.

Erinys, who looked disheveled and miserable, slowly propped herself up from the bed. Her beautiful blonde hair, that had been tied up in a ponytail in the past, now hung freely behind her back.

She hadn't taken a bath for almost a week, and her eyes had lost the luster they once had due to sleepless, and stressful nights that she had stayed inside her room.

Dark circles could be seen under her eyes, and dried up tear stains could be faintly seen on her cheeks. Her doll-like beauty was still there, and yet, her current state made her look so vulnerable and frail.

Standing up from the bed, Erinys walked towards the full body mirror at the corner of her room. The pajamas she wore was crumpled, and the buttons were buttoned in the wrong places. But, Erinys didn't care about that.

Placing her right palm on the mirror's surface, her dry and chapped lips opened as a hoarse voice escaped her once soft and delicate lips.

"Happy... Birthday... Erinys."

Yes. Today was her nineteenth birthday. The day she was born in the world, and a day of celebration.

But, Erinys didn't plan on celebrating. Not today, not on her next birthday, not ever.

Suddenly, an arrow with a heart-shaped tip flew through the open window of her room and hit the surface of the mirror, missing the side of Erinys' face by a few inches.

Surprisingly, the Half-ling didn't scream, or jump in fright after the arrow flew past her. In fact, she even felt that it was a shame that the arrow didn't hit her to end her life. That was how numb she was at that time.

But, after a few seconds, she realized that even if she died, it wouldn't change anything.

Why?

Because even if she died, she would still be in the Underworld.

Nothing would change. It will be the same as always.

"Hah..."

A long, bitter, and sad sigh escaped her lips as he stared at her reflection in the mirror. Suddenly, the mirror in front of her glowed, and an image appeared on its surface.

A black-haired teenager stood at a flight of stairs that led to a golden portal in the distance. Erinys immediately recognized the place because there had been more than one occasion when she tried to go to that golden portal in the past.

"Heaven's... Gate," Erinys said hoarsely as a tear streamed down on the side of her face. "Will..."

She thought that she had no more tears to shed because she had already cried her heart out during the six-day trip towards the Tenth Layer of the Underworld.

However, after seeing the Half-Elf slowly climb the steps to return to the surface world, the pain, sadness, and loneliness she thought had long disappeared once again resurfaced.

"We... weren't even... able to say... goodbye," Erinys muttered between sobs as she placed both of her hands on the surface of the mirror. "Will..."

It was at that moment when a powerful gust of wind entered her room, carrying a pink teddy bear that pushed the small, and frail body of the Half-ling towards the mirror.

"I hate sad endings. Sometimes, I wish Life had a rewind button."

A playful voice, that seemed to belong to a little girl, reached Erinys ears before her entire body was swallowed up by the mirror.

Immediately, a clap of thunder reverberated within the Tenth Layer of the Underworld. Clearly, the God that ruled it wasn't happy with the uninvited guests that were causing trouble inside his domain.

"He found us! Run, Cupid!"

"Lily! Don't leave meeeeeeeeeee!"

Erinys fell face first on the ground right after she entered the mirror. She then slowly raised her head, and placed her hand over her aching forehead.

"Ouch," Erinys muttered as the pain she felt snapped her out of her daze.

It was then when she realized that she was no longer inside her room, but in the place that she had just seen in her mirror a moment ago.

There, halfway up the staircase, she saw the familiar Half-Elf who was walking steadily towards the golden portal to return to his homeworld.

Erinys, who had been feeling weak earlier, suddenly found the strength in her body to stand. She then opened her lips to call out the name of the black-haired teenager whom she still hadn't said goodbye to.

But, as if to snuff out her hope, instead of a word, an orb of golden light escaped her lips.

Erinys immediately felt that something was wrong, and once again shouted. However, no words were heard.

Her voice was gone.

The Half-ling, who had lost her voice, then gritted her teeth as she ran towards the stairs. However before she could even step on it, several black snakes rose up from the ground and wrapped around her legs, her arms, her waist, and even wrapped around her lips, so that she couldn't even whimper.

No matter how much she struggled, she was unable to take a single step, or even catch the Half-Elf's attention, who was only ten steps away from the golden portal.

'No!' Erinys screamed in her heart. 'This cannot be! I still haven't said goodbye. Will! Will!'

Thanatos, who sat on his throne, eyed the struggling Half-ling who was frantically doing her best to escape the bindings he placed on her.

"Give it up, Erinys," Thanatos said coldly. "This is where you belong."

Erinys screamed with everything she had as her tears fell like rain. However, no matter what she did, no words, or even the slightest bit of sound could be heard from her struggle.

'Will! Will! WILL!' Erinys's shouted in her heart. 'I just want to say goodbye! Why? WHY? WHY ARE YOU STOPPING ME! FATHER!'

When William had taken the final step towards the Golden Portal, Erinys had stopped struggling. She just cried while her entire body was held in place, unable to do anything.

Just as her heart was about to break completely, a pair of strong arms wrapped around her small and frail body, from behind, dispersing the black snakes that held her in place.

Slowly, Erinys raised her head to look up at the familiar, yet blurry outline of the person whom she wanted to say goodbye to.

A silent wail escaped Erinys's lips as she buried her face in William's stomach. No words came out of her mouth, and yet the Half-Elf clearly felt the sadness and hurt that she was suffering from.

"Why are you crying?" William asked as she picked up the crying Half-ling and held her in a princess carry. "Is it because we weren't able to say goodbye to each other?"

Erinys didn't speak and simply gripped William's clothes and buried her head into his chest, drenching his clothes with her tears.

The Half-ling didn't know how long she cried, but her sobs completely stopped when she heard a song that came from William's lips.

"Happy birthday to you~

Happy birthday to you~

Happy birthday... Happy Birthday...

Happy Birthday to you~"

Erinys pulled back and looked at the Half-Elf who was smiling down at her.

"I'm sorry, Erinys," William replied. "I wasn't able to tell you happy birthday earlier."

'How?' Erinys asked but no words were heard from her lips.

"A friend of mine knows when someone's birthday is coming," William replied. "He is the one that told me that today is your Birthday. So, Happy Nineteenth Birthday, Erinys. What gift do you want for your birthday?"

Erinys couldn't believe what she was hearing, and her mind couldn't process everything properly.

But, when William asked her what she wanted for her birthday, her hands moved subconsciously and grabbed hold of the Half-Elf's clothes, pulling them closer to her.

Her lips then slowly opened and said a single word.

Just like before, no sound could be heard, but William understood what she wanted.

"You don't want your voice back?" William asked in a teasing tone. "Is your wish more important than your voice?"

Erinys nodded her head.

At that moment, an angry roar shook the plane where William was currently at. However, the Half-ling in his arms didn't hear the roar, nor feel the trembling.

William was hovering in the air, and had applied a sound-proofing spell around them. The only thing that Erinys could hear was his voice.

"I'll ask you one last time, are you sure this is what you want?" William inquired.

Eriny nodded.

"Fine," William replied. "If that is really your wish then I will be your genie for today and grant it. No... it will not only be for today. I will grant it until this body of mine breaks into pieces."

William then started to walk up the stairs for the second time.

Earlier, when he was on the very last step, Optimus had finished surrounding the Domain with the power of William's own Domain, using a few items from the God Shop which were worth a few million God Points.

This allowed him to momentarily take complete authority of the Domain, stripping it away from the God of Death himself for a brief period of time.

When everything was ready, William jumped back and landed behind Erinys, hugging her and dispersing the black snakes that bound her.

The only way to leave the Domain was to walk up the staircase step by step. The Half-Elf couldn't fly, or run towards the stairs. It must be taken one step at a time, or none at all. Even after he had stripped Thanatos of his authority, this rule never changed, so William took one step at a time until he reached the middle-area of the stairs.

A moment later, black snakes erupted from the ground and wrapped themselves around William's body.

Erinys screamed as she tried to slap the black snakes away, but it was of no use.

"Don't worry," William said. "I'll handle this."

Black flames erupted from William's body, surrounding himself in a dome of black flames, disintegrating all of the black snakes that had once held him in place.

"You're not going anywhere, Half-Elf!"

Thanatos' roar of anger split the Domain in half but William didn't even bother to look behind him. He just took one step forward, carrying the Half-ling in his arms, who was also clinging onto his clothes as if her life depended on it.

Erinys then heard Thanatos' roar, and tried to poke her head over William's shoulder to look at her Father, but a golden metallic staff gently pressed her head back down, preventing her from looking back.

The moment William stepped into the golden portal, the stairway that led to the Gates of Heaven, shattered into a thousand pieces, as the angry roars of the God of Death made the entire Underworld tremble, making the souls of the departed fear for their lives, even though they were already dead.

Chapter 1322: You Will Be Part Of our Family Sooner Or Later

"And safe!" the Loli Goddess, Lily, said as she passed through the portal that led her directly to the Temple of the Gods. "I thought I was a goner."

"Me too!" the little boy, Cupid, said as he gave Lily a high-five.

""Yay!""

The two exchanged another high five to celebrate their successful mission. However, after that brief moment of triumph, the Loli Goddess remembered how wrathful Thanatos could be.

"Let's celebrate later! Come! Let's go hide in my Palace!" Lily said as she grabbed hold of the little boy's hand. "I'm sure that he's going to come and find us soon. It will be bad if he catches us!"

As if waiting for that cue, an angry roar was heard behind them, making the little girl, and the little boy run, and fly, as if their pants were on fire.

Issei and David watched as the two troublemakers ran away in fear of their lives. But, deep inside, the two Gods were giving Lily and Cupid, two thumbs up in their hearts.

A few seconds later, Thanatos entered the Temple of the Gods with blood-shot eyes.

He only had one goal in mind and that was to catch the two mischievous Gods that were responsible for Erinys' departure from his Domain, and lock them up in the Underworld for a decade or two.

"Looks like it's our turn," David said as he stood up and patted the back of his robes.

< Boost! >

"Yeah," Issei said while drawing his dagger from his sheathe. "It's up to us to clean up Lily's and Cupid's mess."

"Such troublesome kids."

"You can say that again."

However, before the two Gods could even intercept the God of Death and prevent him from going after Lily and Cupid, two Gods blocked Thanatos' way with their arms crossed over their chests.

"I will not allow you to hurt Lily," the Lolicon God said.

"You will have to get past us first," the Pedobear God stated.

Thanatos had no time to waste on the two New Generation Gods and immediately slapped both of them away, sending them flying hundreds of meters away.

But, just as Thanatos was about to continue his pursuit of the two troublemakers, two hands grabbed hold of his legs, preventing him from moving.

"You're not going anywhere, scum!" the Lolicon God who had unsealed his powers firmly gripped Thanatos' left leg. "You're staying here!"

"Damn right, Bastard!" the Pedobear God said before biting Thanatos' right leg, holding it in place. "Yoh nat gedding awae!"

Thanatos didn't hold back and started to smack the heads of the two Gods, but they held firm, and didn't budge.

The other Gods, who didn't know what was happening, watched this scene with amusement, and even cheered for the two New Generation Gods, encouraging them to make things difficult for the God of Death, Thanatos.

A half an hour later, a frustrated Thanatos dragged two unconscious Gods back to the Underworld.

Lily and Cupid had already escaped and had shut themselves in the Loli Goddess' palace. Even with all of his power, Thanatos would not be able to break it, because it was the sacred residence of a God.

The Temple of the Gods had its rules, and even he, the powerful God of Death, couldn't break those rules, leaving him no choice but to return to the Underworld.

However, he wasn't going to go back empty handed.

Holding the Lolicon God, and the Pedobear God in his hands, he dragged them back to the Underworld, and threw them to Tartarus.

He had decided to lock the two Gods up for a century for getting in his way, and asked the guards to beat them up as punishment for allowing the two Gods that were responsible for the upheaval in the Underworld to escape his grasp.

World of Hestia...

As soon as William stepped out of the Underworld, he found himself in the Sacred Grove where the World Tree of the Elves was located.

Erinys' who was still in his arms, looked around her with wonder.

Everything was so colorful, and full of life, which was a stark contrast to the world where she was born.

"This place is called the Sacred Grove," William said. "It is located in the Silvermoon Continent, and under jurisdiction of my mother, the Saintess of the World Tree."

Erinys opened her mouth to ask William a question. Even though no sounds were coming out of her lips, the black-haired teenager could read her lips and understand what she was saying.

"I get along well with my Mother. She is a good person," William answered. "There are just times when she can be eccentric, but overall, she is harmless. I'd like it if you got to know her as well."

Erinys nodded.

"Don't worry. I will do something about your voice," William said softly. "Just trust me, okay?"

'I trust you.'

Erinys mouthed the words slowly, so that William would be able to understand her.

Seeing her in this state, the Half-Elf could only rely on Optimus for help. Currently, the System was busy buying some items from the God Shop in order to give Erinys' a temporary voice that was close to her original voice.

If William wanted, the Half-ling in his arms could readily acquire a voice. But it would be similar to those text-to-voice translations that sounded robotic. He didn't want Erinys to have that kind of voice, so he asked Optimus to fine-tune it to be as close to Erinys' original voice as possible, which he liked listening to.

"You're finally back, and it seems you have brought back a souvenir from the Underworld."

A teasing voice reached William's ears, making him turn around to see his mother, Arwen, walking in his direction with a smile.

"It's been a while since I saw a Half-ling," Arwen said as she crouched down a bit to look at the little girl in William's arms. "As expected of my son. Even in the Underworld, he is still able to charm the ladies. My genes are really amazing. My name is Arwen Von Ainsworth. What's your name, little one?"

'Erinys,' Erinys mouthed.

"Erin's knees?" Arwen blinked. "Oh wait! You are Eri's niece... I remember that girl asked me for money a decade ago. She still hadn't paid me until now. Hey, can you collect her debt for me?"

Black lines appeared on Erinys' forehead because not only did the Elf in front of get her name wrong, Arwen even asked her to collect debts for her as well.

The Half-ling looked up at the Half-Elf carrying her and gave him the "Are you sure she is your mother?" gaze, making William chuckle.

"Mother, her name is Erinys," William stated. "She is the one that helped me meet my wives in the Underworld. However, because of me, she lost her voice. She will be staying with me for a while."

"Erinys, what a good name," Arwen said as he lightly patted Erinys head. "Nice to meet you, Erinys. I hope that we get along. After all, you will be part of our family sooner or later."

The Half-ling's face immediately became beet red after hearing Arwen's words. She had only been in the Surface World for a few minutes, and she was already being added to William's family register, making her wonder if everyone in Hestia were as fast-paced as Arwen.

As if sensing her discomfort, William changed the topic, and asked his mother if everything in the Silvermoon Continent was in order.

"Everything is fine here," Arwen replied. "But, I can't say the same for the Central Continent. You should return there as soon as you can."

William nodded in understanding. Originally, he would have already teleported to the Floor of Asgard in order to get news from his subordinates.

But, he wanted to visit his wives first and ensure that their bodies were in perfect health. Also, he wanted to know if the Silvermoon Continent was spared from his fight against the Holy Order of Light.

"The Holy Order of Light hasn't stepped into our lands since the start of the war," Arwen explained. "They have no reason to attack us, and the Pope knows that doing so will only create trouble for herself."

"You might have been able to subjugate us by force, but that was because your Father, the World Tree, was on your side. If the Holy Order really did try to invade these lands, they would find themselves kicking a steel plate."

William arched an eyebrow after hearing his mother's smug explanation. He didn't know where Arwen's confidence was coming from, but judging by how unfazed his mother was for a possible invasion from the Holy Order, it seemed that there were still some secrets in the Silvermoon Continent that he was not aware of.

"Mother, I can't stay here for long," William said. "After I visit my wives and Acedia, I will be returning to the Floor of Asgard to handle personal matters."

"I know," Arwen replied. Although she was reluctant, she understood that William carried great responsibilities on his shoulders. "Just, don't push yourself too hard, okay? I'm sure that things weren't that easy in the Underworld."

William didn't reply and simply smiled. Right now, he didn't want to think about what was happening in the Underworld.

Erinys, who was still being carried like a princess in William's arms, sighed in her heart as she relieved the painful experience she recently had.

Although she loved the Underworld, she also wanted to see the Surface World. She didn't know what the future held, but she was hopeful.

Hopeful that the day would come when she would finally be able to sing, and dance, under the sun, without worrying about her father trying to bring her back to the Underworld, to the place where he said she belonged.

Chapter 1323: Returning To The Floor Of Asgard

"Acedia, I'm back," William said as he walked towards the Spring of Life.

He was still carrying Erinys in his arms as if afraid that the latter would be taken away from him by the God of Death if he left her behind.

Several tendrils of hair emerged from the water and grabbed hold of William's body. The Half-ling in his arms started to panic, because this scene was similar to what happened to her in the Underworld.

"Don't be afraid," William held Erinys firmly in his arms and tried to coax her. "She will not hurt you."

Erinys clung to William's robes as if her life depended on it, while his body was lifted into the air and pulled towards the center of the spring where Acedia was waiting for him.

Without even asking for permission, the Half-Elf and the Half-ling were pulled into the spring waters, making Erinys scream a soundless scream.

She then held her breath while she was submerged in water, but soon she was forced to open her mouth, drinking a mouthful of the spring water.

However, instead of drowning she found herself able to breathe underwater. Erinys then stared at a beautiful Elf whose gaze never left her face.

Suddenly, the water in front of Erinys seemed to twist before forming a circle. A moment later, the Half-ling found herself staring at her own reflection.

Her face, which had been left unkempt for an entire week, looked so haggard. However, this image changed as she continued to look at her reflection.

The dark circles that were under her eyes slowly disappeared, and her dry, and chapped, lips returned to their soft and tender appearance.

The Half-ling was reverting to her previous appearance. A doll-like beauty, whose body held no imperfections.

Acedia reached out to caress the side of Erinys' face, while her hair wrapped itself around William and tossed him out of the Spring of Life.

The Half-Elf who had been tossed aside, corrected his position mid-air and sighed. He then descended back down into the spring of life, and checked on the condition of his wives, while Acedia hugged and held Erinys in her arms.

A moment later, her hair picked up Chiffon's body and brought her close to herself. She then hugged the two little girls in her arms, and closed her eyes in bliss.

Clearly, she had labeled Erinys as another hug pillow due to how adorable she was.

William could only shake his head helplessly as he looked at the Elf, who had now found a new toy to play with.

A few minutes later, the Half-Elf finished inspecting the bodies of his wives, including Chiffon, who was still being held by Acedia.

All of their bodies were still radiating with life. The only thing that was not there were their souls. Even so, William was certain that it wouldn't take long before they would once again open their eyes, hold him in their embrace and speak words of love.

"It's time for me to go, Acedia," William said as he tried to pry Erinys away from the Elf's hold. "You can play with her another time. There are some things that I need to do in the Central Continent, and Erinys is coming with me."

Acedia then opened her eyes to look at William.

"I'm sorry, but I'll try to finish things as soon as possible to see you again," William said before lowering his head to kiss Acedia's lips.

When the kiss ended, the Half-Elf was finally able to take Erinys away from Acedia's hold because the latter had let go of her.

"Keep them safe for me, Acedia," William stated. "I'll come back for them soon."

"I'll be waiting," Acedia replied. "But, remember this Will. Be careful of whom you trust. Not everyone who says they love you is your friend."

After saying those words, Acedia closed her eyes and held Chiffon's body close to her.

William stared at her for a minute before he left the Springs of Life, while carrying Erinys in his arms.

When they had returned to the Sacred Grove, Erinys lightly tapped William's cheek to catch his attention.

'She's a weird one,' Erinys said. 'But, she's a good person.'

"Yes," William replied. "That she is."

After saying goodbye to his mother, William left the Silvermoon Continent behind and went to the Floor of Asgard located in the Tower of Babylon.

As the ruler of the Floor, he could command the Bi-Frost bridge to take him there instantly, anytime he wanted.

The moment he arrived, all of his subordinates present on the Floor of Asgard came to meet him.

"Welcome back, Your Majesty," Nisha said as she gave William a respectful bow. "We are very happy that you have finally returned to the world of the living."

William gave Nisha a brief nod in greeting before asking her the most important question.

"What happened while I was gone?" William asked.

"It's a long story, so let's talk in the conference room," Nisha replied before shifting her gaze to the doll-like beauty in William's arms. "Is she perhaps a souvenir from the Underworld?"

"Something like that," William answered. "Let's talk first. Tell me everything that happened while I was away. Titania, Medusa, come."

The Fairy Queen who had been trapped inside the Thousand Beast Domain finally made her appearance. While she was there, she was able to see everything that had happened in the Underworld, using her connection with the black-haired teenager.

There were several times when she tried to appear by his side, but there was simply no way to do so. In the end, she was forced to spectate as the Half-Elf journeyed in the Underworld with Erinys by his side.

Because of this, she felt closer to the Half-ling who was now given to Medusa for care.

"Erinys, this is Medusa," William said as he crouched down to pat Medusa's head. "Do you remember my wife, Chiffon? She is her best friend. She will take care of you inside my Domain. Don't worry, you'll be safe there. I will come look for you later after I'm done handling my business, okay?"

Erinys nodded. She understood that the black-haired teenager had many responsibilities in the Surface World, so she decided to let him do his work, and not get in his way.

"Your name is Erinys? It's a very good name," Medusa grinned before holding Erinys' hand. "Come. Let's go to the Thousand Beast Domain. I'm sure you will love it there."

The Half-Elf opened a portal to allow the little gorgon to drag the little Half-ling with her, and bring her inside his Domain.

The moment the two disappeared, the black-haired teenager then glanced at his subordinates before walking towards the Palace of Asgard.

Nisha had already informed the others of William's arrival. She knew that all of them wanted to personally give their reports to him as well.

The veiled-beauty wanted all of the members of the Dark Prince's to be present in the conference room as they discussed matters of great importance.

That way, they would finally be able to make a plan to put an end to the threat of the Holy Order of Light, once and for all.

Chapter 1324: Those Days Are Over

The sound of kissing, and sweet sighs of pleasure echoed inside the walls of William's room.

Right after the conference ended, Chloe dragged William to his room, and pinned him down on the bed.

A moment later, his clothes were stripped off of his body and thrown on the floor without another word.

William's lovers, one by one entered the room to have a piece of the action as well. The last one to enter was Loxos, and the young Nymph made sure to lock the door properly to ensure that they wouldn't be disturbed.

"Will... Mhm... Kiss... Chu..."

"Your hands... move them... please, Will."

"Y-You're tongue... hah! No... don't be too... Hah... rough... don't... Mmm! Suck it too hard!"

This was not the first time that William had made love with multiple women, but somehow, this time it was different.

All of his lovers were like untended fields that had been left to dry for too long. Now that he had returned, they wanted to be filled to the brim, so that the loneliness that they felt when he was away would be sated.

From his fingers, his toes, his ears, lips, arms, legs, thighs, chests, every part of him was being kissed, licked, nibbled, and marked.

Every part of him was being used by his lovers to make themselves, and him, feel good.

Even Princess Aila, who was the most reserved among his lovers, was taking the initiative to lick, and kiss his manhood, alongside Loxos, who was dying to have William's strong, and peerless member inside of her.

William didn't resist his lovers' advances, and used everything he had to return the favor.

Several hours later, he held Princess Aila in his embrace, and kissed her lips passionately. He had just released his essence inside of her womb, making it overflow, and staining the sheets which were covered with traces of the love he made with all of his lovers.

Most of them had already lost consciousness, with his seed spilling from their parched gardens, because they had been sated completely.

The Half-Elf had filled them all to the brim, until they passed out from pleasure and exhaustion.

"I love you, Will," Princess Aila said as soon as their lips parted. "I love you."

William caressed the side of his face and stared back at her.

"I love you too, Aila," William replied. "Rest for now."

"Un." Princess Aila allowed William to lay her down on the bed where his other lovers were also resting.

As soon as the angelic beauty rested her head on the soft pillow, she fell asleep instantly, leaving William to clean her body with a cleaning spell.

When everything was over. The Half-Elf glanced at his lovers who were sprawled all around him. Their young, and titillating bodies were laid bare for him to see. Any one of them could make any mortal men howl like lustful wolves, and ravage them day in and day out.

However, these ladies would never show this vulnerable side of them to anyone.

He was the only one whom they would allow to touch them, kiss them, and make love with them.

Yes, they were William's women.

Every single one of them.

His, and his alone.

Never to be touched by any other man, but him.

William waved his hand and lifted their bodies with his magic. He then applied a cleaning spell on them before laying them down on the bed, so that they could sleep comfortably.

The Half-Elf gave his lovers one last glance before leaving the room. He walked down the silent hallways as he donned himself with new clothes.

Erinys was currently inside the Thousand Beast Domain, under Medusa's surveillance. She might come to his Villa at any given moment, and he didn't want her to see him walking around naked.

When he arrived at the Floor of Asgard, he found out from Nisha that Wendy, and Estelle had left the Ainsworth Empire, and had gone somewhere in the Central Continent.

However, they left Amelia and Priscilla behind.

Amelia was Wendy's friend in the academy, who had brought them to her barony to ask for help.

Priscilla was Princess Sidonie's trusted subordinate, and also served as William's Vice-Captain when he was still leading his Angorian War Sovereign.

They were the ladies who played significant roles when William was still in the Hellan Royal Academy.

'It was like only yesterday when I enrolled in the academy,' William thought as he stared outside the window. 'But, those days are over.'

The Half-Elf sighed as the memories of his childhood trickled through his head. However, his memories were not complete.

When Elliot died, when Conan died, half of his soul died as well and, along with it, some of his memories had also faded away.

He could only remember bits and pieces, but it was no longer important.

None of it mattered.

'Belle,' William thought. 'All I need to do is kill you, and everything I've lost will return to me.'

The black-haired teenager's golden pupils glowed faintly as he looked at the night-time sky.

'Wendy, Estelle, where did the two of you go?' William sighed. 'Couldn't you have waited until I returned?'

Wendy and Estelle were the first two girls that he had met when he was young. Growing up, they had shared many hardships with him and, before he left for the Central Continent, he married Wendy secretly in the Temple where he and Est had taken the Trial of Courage.

They were too young back then to consummate their wedding, and Ashe was also aggrieved that the two of them decided to wed on their own. Because of this... she joined them and also got "married" to William.

Ashe became the Half-Elf's second wife, taking a step ahead of Estelle, who at that time was unaware of Wendy's antics, making him have a nice... and very long talk with her, after they returned to the Lont.

Due to that, Est became grumpy and only told William that she would marry him once her curse was lifted.

The Half-Elf had already long decided to lift the curse on Est's, Ashe's, and Isaac's bodies, so going to the Central Continent was already a done deal. But, before he left, he made a promise to Est.

As soon as the curse was lifted, he would return to the Southern Continent to marry her.

But, one thing led to another.

After he managed to free them from the curse that plagued their bodies, the Half-Elf found himself inside a raging storm, where he had no choice but to see everything till the end.

"I hope the two of you come back soon," William said softly. "I have many promises to keep. Promises that I want to keep."

Just as William was about to walk away, he saw two little girls chasing each other, while mounted on Angorian Goats.

They were none other than Medusa and Erinys, who were playing tag with each other. But, with a twist.

They were mounted on William's first comrades in arms, Echo and Myr. Two of the four girls among the thirteen goats that served the Half-Elf alongside Ella.

The two looked so happy, and Medusa was even giggling. Erinys would have done the same, but she had lost her voice before she left the Underworld.

The black-haired teenager smiled as he watched the two frolic and wander around the Thousand Beast Domain.

He knew that this peace and happiness was only temporary.

A few days from now, he, as well as the entirety of his King's Legion, would attack the Palace of Light in order to end this war with the Pope, once and for all.

Chapter 1325: You're Stingy As Ever

In one of the highest mountains of the Central Continent, three ladies stood at the top.

Wendy and Estelle, who had disappeared from the Ainsworth Empire, sat calmly while sipping the cup of tea in their hands.

A blizzard was raging around them, and yet, both of them were undisturbed, thanks to the barrier that kept it at bay.

Seated across them was a young lady wearing a fox mask. She too was sipping her own cup of tea, as they waited for one more person to arrive.

"You sure chose a nice place for an afternoon tea party."

A cold voice spread in the surroundings.

"Having a change of pace is nice, too," Shannon replied as she placed her cup on top of the table and glanced in the direction where the voice had come from. "You're a bit late. Did you get lost or something?"

A black-haired beauty, who was mounted on top of a Roc, descended inside the barrier. She then glanced at the faces of the other two people. After seeing that one of them was Wendy, Belle arched an eyebrow before shifting her attention to the lady wearing a mask.

"I didn't come here to act chummy with you people," Belle said as she stared at Shannon. "Get to the point. Why did you call me here?"

Shannon smiled. "This will be a long chat, so why don't you sit down first?"

"I didn't come here to chat. I'll ask again, why did you send me that letter?"

"Not wasting any time are we? Fine. I will tell you the reason why I called you here. It's about William."

A frown appeared on Belle's face after hearing Shannon's words. She had come to this meeting spot fully prepared to fight, just in case it was a trap in order to capture or kill her. But, she never expected that their talk would involve the Half-Elf whom she had long wanted to meet.

"What about him?" Belle inquired. "Did he send you here?"

Shannon shook her head. "Of course not. This is a secret meeting between the four of us. Having him here would just complicate things. So, let me ask again, are you sure you don't want to sit? This will be a long chat."

Belle remained standing and only crossed her arms around her chest. She didn't trust Shannon enough to accept her invitation.

Seeing that the black-haired beauty was adamant on standing, the young fox lady only chuckled before taking a blank canvas out of her storage ring.

"I don't know what kind of information the Pope has fed you about William, and don't care about it," Shannon explained. "But, I know for a fact that you are not his enemy. After all, you are his wife, are you not?"

Belle shifted her gaze to Wendy, who had already placed her cup on top of the table and looked at her with a calm expression on her face.

"Did you tell her?" Belle inquired.

"Tell her what?" Wendy asked back. "I don't even know if you are married to Will."

Estelle who was seated beside Wendy just listened while appraising the black-haired beauty in front of her.

She had long wanted to marry William, and yet before she could do that, not only did the Half-Elf marry other girls when he was in the Central Continent, he also married the black-haired lady, who was currently a part of the Holy Order of Light that was antagonizing her fiance.

After seeing Wendy's reaction, Belle understood that the blonde-haired Valkyrie truly didn't know that she was already married to William.

"How did you know then?" Belle asked Shannon. "We were married on Earth. How can you possibly know that information?"

Shannon smiled as she lightly tapped the blank canvas with her fingertips.

"I know many things, but not all of them," Shannon replied. "Still, I know enough to know that you are not William's enemy. Also, I know why you're continuing to stay on the side of the Holy Order of Light. I believe that all four of us can collaborate to achieve the best outcome possible."

"What best outcome are you talking about?" Belle asked.

"Saving William, of course," Shannon replied. "Although I am very fond of his black hair, I still prefer the red-headed prince I got to know before Darkness claimed his soul."

"Why should I believe you?"

"You don't have to believe me. At least, not yet."

Shannon smiled as the white canvas in her hands started to shine.

"First, let me tell you his story from the very beginning," Shannon said as colorful images erupted from her white canvas, forming a projection similar to a movie screen. "Once upon a time, there was a Half-Elf born in the Silvermoon Continent... and he was given the name, William Von Ainsworth."

Somewhere in the Central Continent...

"Sorry, I'm a bit late," a young lady with shoulder-length blue hair said as soon as her flying ship landed on the ground. "Things are getting hectic inside the Palace of Light and I didn't want the others to be suspicious of my departure."

"It's fine," William replied as he gazed at the blue-haired beauty who had milked him for Merit Points in order to buy the latest fashion clothes from Vickie's Secret. "You look beautiful in that dress, Shana."

"I bet you say that to all of your lovers."

"Beautiful things are beautiful. Or, would you rather have me say that the dress didn't suit you? I would be lying if I said that."

Shana was wearing a black cocktail dress that highlighted her hair, and eyes, making them stand out. She never had the chance to wear something like this inside the Palace of Light because she knew that the Pope, as well as the bishops, would deem it as "inappropriate clothing", for someone of her stature.

The Virtuous Lady of Prudence gave William a sweet smile as she walked up to him to give him a hug.

"I'm glad you are back," Shana said. "How was your trip to the Underworld?"

William hugged Shana back before sighing. "There have been some ups and downs, but overall, it was an eye opening experience. How about you? Is everything fine on your side?"

"I'd like to say yes, but I would be lying if I said that. Everyone is on edge, and the Pope seemed to be up to something again." Shana complained. "Although she hasn't ordered any attacks after your steward sent us my sisters' severed arms, I'm sure that she's cooking up something big that will explode in your face sooner or later."

William nodded his head in understanding.

"Don't worry. Everything will end soon. Did you bring them?"

"Of course. Please, make sure to return them to their rightful owners."

Shana summoned a white ornate box that was over a meter long. She then opened it to show the Half-Elf's its contents, which made the latter sigh.

"I wished it never came to this," William said softly before taking the box inside his storage ring. "I promise to return them to their rightful owners. Also, I'll make sure that they will be reattached properly."

Shana nodded as she once again gave William a hug. "I can't stay for long because the Pope might get suspicious. Whatever you are doing, do it quickly. My sisters and I are on your side."

"Thank you, Shana," William replied. "Are you sure you don't want to be one of my lovers?"

"Thank you for the offer, but I think I'll pass... at least for now," Shana gave William a playful wink before tiptoeing to kiss his lips. "That one was from Lira."

A second later, she kissed William's lips again. Her hands rested on the black-haired teenager's shoulders, giving her support, so she could kiss him properly.

"This one is from Ephemera," Shana said softly before pressing her lips once again to the Half-Elf. This time, the kiss was longer than the first two. When the kiss ended, Shana pulled back before looking up at William with expectation.

"That will be 10,000 Merit Points," Shana stated. "Give me this month's theme dress from Vickie's Secret!"

"..."

William was left speechless as the Virtuous Lady of Prudence demanded the latest design from her favorite brand for just a single kiss.

"A kiss is not enough for ten thousand Merit Points."

"Tsk. You're stingy as ever. Fine. Let's do it your way."

Several minutes later, a flushed Shana returned to her flying ship with a satisfied look on her face.

In her hands was a beautiful red box, with the brand name "Vickie's Secret" embossed in gold letters.

Although her clothes had been loosened in a few places, revealing one of her breasts, she had a pleased expression on her face as she held the box that contained the dress she wanted.

William and her had a "fair exchange" which made both sides happy. For her, who liked fashion, giving the Half-Elf a little service was a small price to pay for her new hobby.

"I'll wait for you in the Palace of Light, Will." Shana waved her hand to bid goodbye to the person that sucked her blood from her... "If you manage to handle this properly, I'll consider making you my lover."

The flying ship rose steadily towards the sky before heading towards the East. Now that she had delivered the things that the black-haired teenager had asked for, she felt more at ease knowing that the things that her sisters had lost during William's absence, would finally be returned to them, and make them feel complete once again.

Chapter 1326: Who Did This To My Future Daughter In Law?

"No... don't come near me!" Cherry screamed as she hurriedly backed away to the corner of her room, while gazing at the approaching Half-Elf fearfully. "Stay away, you monster!"

"Calm down, Cherry," Audrey said as she hugged the little girl who was starting to hyperventilate due to excessive fear. "He won't hurt you."

"No! I don't want to have my other arm cut off!" Cherry cried helplessly in Audrey's arms. "I don't want to feel pain again!"

The little girl who had lost her left arm cried like the little girl she was and her anguished sobs echoed inside the room.

Celeste, who had also lost one of her arms, crouched down and helped Audrey coax the little girl who had suffered a severe trauma after Nisha had severed one of her arms.

William stood in place and didn't move from his spot, in order to prevent things from getting worse.

The reason why he met Shana was in order to retrieve Celeste's and Cherry's arms, so that he could reattach them.

However, a simple reattachment would not work. What he needed to do is to take both of them to the Spring of Life in the Silvermoon Continent, and have Princess Aila reattach their arms for them.

Only by doing so would they be able to regain its functions perfectly, before it was cut off from their bodies.

After nearly an hour of crying, Cherry finally stopped. Celeste and Audrey managed to coax her and tell her that she would regain her arm soon.

The only problem was that the little girl was simply too terrified of William at this point, that being around him was enough for her to feel anxious.

A moment later, a knock was heard on the door.

"Come in," William said.

After gaining his permission, two little girls, namely Medusa and Erinys entered the room.

William had asked for their help in order to calm Cherry down. For he knew that it would take a little girl to take care of a little girl, so he decided to call some reinforcements.

After seeing the two little girls who seemed to be around her age, Cherry, who was crying earlier, finally stopped crying.

"Hello, what's your name?" Cherry asked. "My name is Cherry. What's yours?"

"My name is Medusa, and this is Erinys. She can't talk because she lost her voice."

Erinys, who was smaller than Medusa nodded her head and said a voiceless "Hello" to Cherry, who seemed to have reverted to being a child again after calming down.

"Come," Medusa said as she held Cherry's right hand. "Let's go to the Thousand Beast Domain to play!"

"To play?"

"Yes. The three of us will play together."

"I would like that."

Opening a portal that led to his Domain, William watched as the little Gorgon dragged Cherry to the portal. Erinys didn't follow right away. Instead she walked towards William and motioned to him that she was going to whisper something to his ear.

The black-haired teenager obediently crouched down to allow the Half-ling to "whisper" something to him. But, instead of a whisper, Erinys gave him a kiss on the cheek before running towards the portal, like a little kid who just pulled a prank.

"It seems that your charm also extends to little girls," Audrey said dryly. "Will she be really alright?"

William nodded. "Just give it a few hours. Once Celeste is fully healed, Cherry will also realize that I mean her no harm."

Audrey sighed. "Your steward sure is something. She didn't hesitate to resort to violence right away."

"Because in her mind, violence solves most problems," William replied. "Still, I'm sorry for what she did. Things escalated like this because I wasn't around when it happened."

The black-haired teenager then walked towards Celeste and held her right hand.

"Let's go to the Silvermoon Continent," William stated. "It's time for you to regain what you have lost."

"Even if you reattached my arm, what I lost will not return to me."

"If you are talking about your sister, I met her in the Underworld. She's fine, and about to give birth to my child."

Celeste's expression changed after hearing that William had already met her sister. None of William's trusted confidants, including Chloee, told the Virtuous Lady of Chastity that the black-haired teenager had gone to the Underworld to look for her sister, Celine.

"How is she?" Celeste inquired. "Did she suffer any grievances while she was there?"

William nodded. "Yes. She suffered a lot. Felix was also in the Underworld and almost had his way with her. Fortunately, the worst case scenario didn't happen and I was able to save her. Right now, she is in the Elysian Fields.

"That is the place where she will give birth, and the Goddess Lyssa, had assured me of her safe delivery. Worry not, your sister and her child are in good hands."

Celeste felt faint, as the strength in her legs failed her. Fortunately, William was there to support her, and prevented her from falling.

"There are some things that I can't tell you, but know this," William said softly. "You will be reunited with your sister soon."

Celeste finally breathed a sigh of relief, as she allowed William to carry her in his arms.

"Do you want to come as well, Audrey?" William inquired.

"Okay," Audrey replied. "I'd rather be with them than be with your steward."

William smiled because he sensed the veiled killing intent in Audrey's words towards the veiled-beauty who was currently managing the affairs of his territories. Although what Nisha did was too extreme, the Half-Elf didn't find fault in it.

She only did what she thought would be in the best interest of his Empire, and it worked. Now that the Pope and her cronies had stopped attacking their territories, they had started to build their armies, in preparation for the war that was about to come.

The Bifrost Bridge shot a beam of light towards William, sending him to the Sacred Grove, where the Spring of Life was located.

Arwen, who had just parted with William not too long ago, was very pleased to see him visit again. However, after seeing her son holding Celeste in his arms, the corner of the Saintess' lips curled up into a smile.

Clearly, she approved of the qualifications of the young lady in her son's arms, and wished that the two of them would give her lots of grandchildren in the future.

"Mother, I know what you are thinking," William said as he walked towards Arwen while still carrying Celeste in his arms. "I don't know if you are familiar with her, but this is Celeste. She is Celine's twin, and I'm going to take her to the Spring of Life in order to have her severed arm reattached."

Arwen's eyes widened in shock because she didn't notice that the beautiful Elf in William's arms was missing an arm. She immediately tossed the image of her grandkids to the side and approached her with a worried look.

"Who did this to her?" Arwen asked. "Who did this to my future daughter-in-law?"

William gave his mother the "Mom, can you not label every girl around me as your future daughter-in-laws?" gaze, which Arwen ignored completely.

"Celeste, this is my mother, the Saintess of the World Tree, Lady Arwen Von Ainsworth."

"I already know. Your mother took care of me when I was still here in the Silvermoon Continent."

Arwen nodded as if to reaffirm Celeste's words. As the Saintess of the World Tree, her position was quite high, making her the perfect candidate to deal with children who had a special status within the Elven Kingdom.

"Great," William stated. "Since the two of you are already acquainted, there's no need to waste any time. Mother, I'm going to the Spring of Life."

"Okay," Arwen replied. "If you need help just call for me."

William nodded and walked towards the path that led to the Spring of Life. Since Celeste was Celine's sister, it was only natural for him to help her.

"It has been a while since I've been to the Spring of Life," Celeste said while reminiscing. "The last time I went there was when I had my coming of age ceremony. Lady Arwen personally baptized me using the waters of the Spring of Life."

William didn't reply because he understood that Celeste was just reminiscing about what happened in the past.

For now, his priority was to fix the beautiful elf's arm, so that the little girl, who was currently playing with Medusa and Erinys inside the Thousand Beast Domain, would cooperate and accept what she had lost, helping her to overcome the trauma that William's Steward, Nisha, had ingrained deep in her very soul.

Chapter 1327: Resolve To Defy Her Own Fate

The sound of water splashing could be heard as William lay Celeste in the Spring of Life.

Princess Aila accompanied her underwater because she was the one that sealed the wound on the Elf's shoulder, when her arm was severed from her body.

She made sure that reattachment would be possible, so now that William had retrieved Celeste's arm, the angelic princess could patch her up without a problem.

With the power of the Spring of Life, any injury would heal as long as they were submerged in it for a time. According to his estimate, it would take at least half a day for Celeste's arm to fully recover, under Princess Aila's, and the Spring's healing abilities.

While this was happening, William found himself being used as a hug pillow by the lazy Elf on the other side of the spring.

Acedia had temporarily set aside her Chiffon Pillow, and replaced it with the William Pillow, who currently had his arms wrapped around her body.

'Will you be leaving soon?' Acedia asked using telepathy.

'Do you want me to leave?' William asked back.

'Why are you answering my question with another question?'

'Why not?'

'You're doing it again!' Acedia angrily used her hair to pull on the Half-Elf's ear, making the latter smile.

Among his lovers, he found teasing Acedia a worthwhile experience because having a reaction from her was priceless.

'You know, this is not a place where you bring your harem and invade my privacy,' Acedia complained. 'Almost everytime you come here, you bring women with you. The next time you bring another, I'll toss them outside of the spring.'

'Wait,' William interjected. 'There is one more girl that needs her arms reattach— hey! She's not my lover. She's only eleven!'

'So what if she's eleven? You brought that little Half-ling who looked no older than eight years old. Don't lie to me. Just a glance was enough to tell me that she is smitten with you. She came from the Underworld, right? Now you're even courting death? Having dead wives is not enough to satisfy you anymore, huh?'

'...'

William was completely speechless. Today, Acedia was quite active and even said more than one sentence at a time. Usually, the lazy elf would only say a word, or two, and sometimes wouldn't even speak and just let her hair do the talking for her.

However, right now, she was having a chat with William, while her hair pulled on his ears.

Clearly, the lazy Elf was not happy with how her personal space was being invaded by William's women.

'Um, just make an exception for the little girl,' William said after a minute had passed. 'She's such a pitiful thing. She got her arm sliced off her body even though she did nothing wrong. Don't you feel sorry for her?'

This time, it was Acedia's turn to stay silent. She just closed her eyes and buried her head in William's chest, while her hair continued to pull on his ears.

Only after several minutes passed did a sigh escape her lips.

'Fine,' Acedia stated. 'But no more, okay?'

'Okay,' William replied.

He knew that Acedia had already compromised with him, so he decided to pamper her a bit and kissed her lips to make her feel good.

The two didn't know that Celeste and Princess Aila were paying close attention to them, and since the Spring of Life was crystal clear, they clearly saw that the two were making it out under the water.

"Is he always like this?" Celeste asked.

"Only behind closed doors," Princess Aila replied. "He's not the type to show off to other people about his relationship with us."

"Then why is he doing it right now?"

"... because he didn't think that we would mind?"

Celeste was baffled. The most she saw was William kissing Chloe's cheeks, and forehead, but nothing as intense as what she was seeing right now.

William was kissing Acedia's lips, while his right hand slid inside her nearly transparent dress, and groped her breast with practiced movements.

Celeste knew that Acedia was still a maiden because her divinity allowed her to see who was still chaste and who was not.

The Elf could even see the lightly glowing tattoo on Princess Aila's womb, which marked her as William's woman.

Naturally, Celeste also had that mark on her womb, but it was different from William's lovers. The color of her mark was golden, while Princess Aila's, and the rest of William's women, were pink.

Perhaps the color was due to her Divinity being represented by Chastity.

'Does that mean that if he took my maidenhood, my mark would be the same as theirs?' Celeste mused.

This thought had passed through her mind countless times in the past, and yet, she didn't know what to feel about it.

William didn't like, or lust after, her, so her title as his bride was in name only.

The person that the black-haired teenager loved was her sister, Celine, making Celeste feel as if she was just a replacement. She was not feeling down that her sister had become William's woman, and was also carrying his child.

She would rather have William be the father of her sister's child than Felix, whose lust for women was insatiable. Just remembering the time when the Heir of Darkness looked at her made her skin crawl.

Celeste even pitied the ladies that had fallen into the green-haired Demon's hands. Their powers taken away from them, and their lives ruined in his hands.

"Your shoulder has successfully reattached without any problems."

Princess Aila's voice brought Celeste out of her daze. Immediately, she tried moving her fingers, and rubbing them on each other.

"I can feel them," Celeste muttered. "Thank you, Aila."

"You're welcome, but don't do anything excessive for now, okay?" Princess Aila reminded her. "It's not fully healed yet. Excessive movements might cause complications later. It will take at least half a day for your wounds to fully heal."

Celeste sighed because one of her worries was now fixed. Now that her arm was healing, and her sister was about to give birth in a safe location, she could turn her attention to the question that had been plaguing her for the past month, and that question was...

Where do I proceed from here?

She didn't know the answer to this question, but she believed that the answer would present itself to her sooner or later.

The only thing she needed to do was wait.

Wait until she had completely resolved herself to defy her own Fate.

Chapter 1328: Even if I Die,I'm Going To Bring Him Down With Me

"Finally, it's over," William muttered as he gazed at the projection on the wall.

Cherry was now submerged in the Spring of Life, and her arm had been reattached by Princess Aila as well.

The little girl was currently lying on top of Acedia's body, with Erinys, and Medusa, hugging her from the side.

In just a short period of time, the three girls had become good friends. Because of this, Erinys and Medusa decided to accompany Cherry to get her treatment, which allowed the Virtuous Lady of Charity to calm down.

Several hours after Celine's arm was fully healed, William had sent his lover's twin inside his Thousand Beast Domain in order to show Cherry her recovery.

This of course made the little girl want to have her arm reattached as well, but her fear of William prevented her from doing so.

In the end, the black-haired teenager just hid inside his mother's residence in the Sacred Grove and allowed Erinys and Medusa to accompany the frightened Cherry to the Spring of Life.

Celeste and Audrey were also there to give their support to their little sister, who was feeling calmer after not seeing William's presence.

Unfortunately, Acedia, who was a lover of all cute things, decided to make the three latest trespassers in her home her hug pillows.

The black-haired teenager smiled faintly when he saw Acedia's satisfied expression while hugging Cherry in her arms. Erinys and Medusa were on her left and right sides, making her feel incredibly happy, and forgave them for trespassing into her personal space.

"Cherry will be fully healed when morning comes," Audrey said. "Thank you for helping her regain her lost arm."

"You're welcome," William replied before waving his hand to close the projection. "I'm sorry, but after Cherry's arm is fully healed, the two of you will be temporarily staying in the Thousand Beast Domain. Is this arrangement fine with you?"

"Being with you is much better than being around Nisha," Audrey replied. "Also, the Thousand Beast Domain is a good place. I thank you in advance for your hospitality."

William nodded before shifting his gaze to the beautiful Elf with light-green hair and eyes, who was listening to his conversation with Audrey. "Celeste, you will also be staying with them in the Thousand Beast Domain."

"Okay," Celeste replied.

After her arm was healed, the beautiful Elf spent most of her time thinking about what she wanted to do in the future. First and foremost, she wanted to have a long talk with her sister, Celine, after she returned to Hestia.

Her safety was her priority, and she couldn't focus on anything else until she saw Celine with her own two eyes.

A moment later, Arwen appeared carrying a tray filled with cookies. She then placed it on top of the table, and gestured for everyone to taste her freshly baked experiment.

William glanced at the "okay-ish" looking cookies before picking one of them to take a bite. He knew that his mother wasn't really that good at baking, but he was willing to humor her by eating the cookies that seemed harmless in his eyes.

"Well, how is it?: Arwen asked. She was looking at her son with a gaze of expectation.

"It's surprisingly good," William replied. "Good job, Mother. You didn't mistake the sugar for salt, like what you did last time."

"You still hold a grudge over that small mishap. Will, you're so petty."

"Yes. I am petty."

This playful banter between mother and son made the atmosphere inside the living room quite lively. Celeste and Audrey couldn't help but smile at the scene in front of them.

The Prince of Darkness, whom everyone believed to be a menace to the world, was busy munching on cookies while showering his mother with praises.

After interacting with William in the past, Audrey now understood that he wasn't someone who went out of his way to antagonize people. It was always them who came to him to cause trouble each and every time, and the Half-Elf only attacked them out of self defense.

Although she didn't want to admit it, she had long realized that it was the Pope who was the villain behind everything.

Even so, as one of the Heavenly Virtues, she still felt complicated about the upcoming war between William and the Holy Order of Light.

It was as if there was an unwritten rule that they would not discuss these matters in front of each other, in order to not strain the current relationships they had.

Audrey didn't know that, aside from her and Cherry, the rest of her sisters had already jumped ship and joined William's boat. If she knew, then she would have also switched sides and stood against the Pope who was making things difficult for everyone.

Meanwhile, in the Palace of Light...

"Have any of you seen Belle?" the Pope asked after she gathered the Pseudo-Gods who were serving their side.

"She said that she wanted to take a breather, and left with Aethon to go somewhere," one of the Pseudo-Gods replied. "She said she will return as soon as she can."

The Pope nodded. "Very well. Let's all start the meeting."

They were currently in a special domain that prevented anyone from eavesdropping on their conversation. The Pseudo-Gods had already used their powers to create multiple-layers of protection to prevent anyone from hearing any part of the important discussion that they would be having today.

"I've received word that the Prince of Darkness has finally made his appearance," the Pope stated. "It is only a matter of time before he attacks us directly..."

The Pope's expression was solemn because she understood that she and William could not coexist under the same sky. One of them must disappear from the picture, and the Pope had every intention to be the last one standing.

"This will be the final battle between us and the Prince of Darkness," the Pope said after a few minutes of silence. "All the preparations have been made, and our plan can start as soon as he arrives. We only have one shot at this, so I hope that all of you can give it your all in order to end his menace once and for all."

One of the Pseudo-Gods sighed. "Is there really no room for discussion?"

"No," the Pope replied. "I have offended him several times already. This will not end until I'm dead. I can already tell that, this time, he will come to kill me. But, even if I die, I'm going to bring him down with me."

"What are our chances of winning?" one of the Pseudo-Gods asked. "Now that he has the Bull Demon King under his command as well, our chances have become slimmer."

"Don't worry," the Pope smiled. "We will not lose. Although many sacrifices will be made, this is for the greater good."

The Pseudo-Gods didn't reply and simply listened to the plan the Pope had prepared for the upcoming battle.

After hearing everything, they felt that the Pope had gone crazy. Even so, they still decided to go ahead with the plan. They knew that this fight was inevitable, and since they couldn't escape it, they would just use everything to their advantage to win.

Even if the price they would have to pay would push the very foundations of the Holy Order of Light to the brink of collapse.

Chapter 1329: You're The Best Birthday Present I Ever Had In My Life

"Does it still hurt?" Medusa asked. "Can you move it properly?"

"It doesn't hurt," Cherry replied as she swung her reattached arm left and right. "It feels weird. It's like my arm was never cut off in the first place."

"That is for the best. Come, let's go to the Arcade and play shooting games."

"Un! Erinys, are you coming?"

The Half-ling smiled before shaking her head. She then wrote something in the air, which later shone, allowing Medusa and Cherry to read it.

"Will called for me. I will go to see him first then I will come to the arcade."

Cherry was still afraid of the Half-Elf, but after getting her arm back, this fear decreased by a little bit.

However, she would still run away and hide if she saw the black-haired teenager. Because of this, William had decided to let Medusa take care of the Virtuous Girl of Charity, while he handled the important things regarding the upcoming war with the Holy Order of Light.

Several minutes later, Erinys arrived in William's room in the Villa of the Thousand Beast Domain.

After knocking twice, the Half-ling heard the black-haired teenager's voice, calling her inside the room.

The moment she entered the room, Erinys saw William looking at the projection of the Palace of Light. There were various labels attached in different areas, telling him of their importance and function.

The Half-Elf momentarily shifted his attention to the doll-like beauty whom he had allowed to wander inside his Domain and gestured for her to come close to him.

Erinys smiled and walked towards the Half-Elf who was sitting cross legged on the bed.

"Did you have fun playing with Medusa?" William asked in a gentle tone as soon as the Half-ling climbed up on the bed to sit in front of him.

Erinys nodded. She had only spent two days with Medusa, and yet, those two days were filled with fun that she didn't feel too lonely even if she wasn't with the black-haired teenager who was smiling at her.

"I have good news for you," William said as he held Erinys' two delicate hands and looked her in the eyes. "I have acquired a temporary voice that sounds almost the same as the one you lost in the Underworld."

Erinys' eyes widened in shock after hearing the Half-Elf's words. She had already resigned herself to not being able to talk for a long time during her stay in the Surface World. Now that she was suffering the same fate as the Little Mermaid, she finally understood her hardships.

However, their circumstances were different.

The Little Mermaid wasn't able to remain by her Prince's side.

She, on the other hand, was brought to the Surface World by her own Prince, who deeply cared about her.

"Do you want it?" William asked in a teasing tone.

Erinys pouted and lightly pounded William's chest with her closed fist. Clearly, she wanted to speak again, so that she could tell the Half-Elf the words that had remained unsaid between the two of them.

"If you really want it then kiss my lips," William said with a devilish smile on his face. "Only by doing so will you get your voice back. So, will you kiss me, Erinys?"

The Half-ling blushed after hearing William's words. Although she had kissed him on the lips when he was sleeping, kissing him while he was awake was a different thing.

Even so, it only took her a minute to decide before resolving herself to kiss the black-haired teenager, who was waiting for her to take the initiative to kiss him.

'You bully.'

Erinys said softly. She knew that William was able to read her lips, so she didn't mind telling him her dissatisfaction.

The Half-ling then moved closer to William and cupped his face.

Soon, her soft lips found his as she tried to kiss him using the technique she had seen in one of the telenovelas she had watched on Methflix.

Although a bit clumsy, she and William kissed for a good while. It was at that moment when a golden orb of light passed from William's lips towards Erinys.

A warm, and soothing feeling washed over Erinys' body as the golden orb of light did its magic. This was the final product of Optimus' hard work in order to allow the Half-ling to talk again.

Truth be told, William liked Erinys' voice. It had a unique lively tone that made him feel refreshed, even though his freelance job at the Host Club always wore him out, due to how demanding his clients were.

"Hafu... Mhm... Hah..."

A sigh of pleasure escaped Erinys' lips as soon as the golden orb of light had fully merged with her body.

When the feelings of warmth subsided, Erinys looked at William and opened her lips.

"Thank you, Will."

The Half-Elf smiled because Erinys' voice sounded almost exactly the same as her original voice. Although it wasn't perfect, the Half-ling was very happy because she could finally talk again.

"Will, thank you for bringing me with you," Erinys said as tears started to stream down the sides of her face. "I was so lonely in the Underworld, until you came."

The Half-ling's heartfelt words flowed without stop, alongside the tears that were falling from her beautiful blue eyes.

"I'm glad I met you." the Half-ling buried her face on William's chest as her body trembled due to excessive sobbing. "You're the best birthday present I ever had in my life."

Feeling the warm tears that were drenching his clothes, the Half-Elf wrapped his arms around Erinys before patting her head, in order to assure her that everything was going to be fine.

"Tough times are up ahead, Erinys," William said softly. "You might regret your decision to come to the Surface World, and also, you might regret coming with me to my home world. These are not peaceful

times, and a war is going to break out. I will not always be there to stay by your side, but I do hope that you will live a happy life here in Hestia."

Erinys pulled back and looked at William with teary eyes. She was well aware that the world she had come to wasn't a peaceful one, but she didn't have any regrets. Although her house was in the middle of a river of flames in the Underworld, she never felt any warmth from it.

Only the coldness of loneliness accompanied her as she grew up. This was why her heart was brimming with happiness as she played with Medusa, and Cherry, who were almost the same height as her.

She felt as if the little Gorgon and the little mischievous girl, who had just regained her arm, were her long lost sisters, and they were reuniting after many years had passed.

"Will, I don't know if I'm in love with you, but I do hope that this feeling in my heart is love," Erinys said as she held William's gaze. "I want to stay in love, and spend my days with you in this world that is filled with light and life. After this war is over, can you travel with me to see this world?"

"Okay," William replied as he wiped the tears in the Half-ling's eyes. "After this war is over. Let's travel to a place, far from any conflict. Would you like that?"

"Yes," Erinys said as she raised her head and closed her eyes. "I'd love that."

William lowered his head and kissed the lips that Erinys had offered to him. Just like her, he didn't know if his feelings for her were love. But, he hoped that it was love.

After all, he had no intention of letting the doll-like beauty in his arms, who had lived and suffered alone in the Underworld, to be taken away from his embrace to return to that cold, and hellish, place that she called her home.

Chapter 1330: The Place Where Light And Dark Begin To Touch Is Where Miracles Arise

"Your Majesty, a notice has arrived!" an Amazon warrior reported as soon as she entered the throne room.

Empress Andraste, who sat on the throne made a gesture for her to come close so that she could read the scroll that the messenger was carrying.

Lilith was also in the throne room, and simply waited for her mother to finish reading the letter before asking her about its contents.

After the Amazon Princess left the Tower of Babylon, she returned to the Amazon Empire, and became her mother's personal aide when it came to matters concerning war, as well as the current geopolitics that were happening across the Central Continent.

She had wanted to go back to William's side, but her mother prevented her from doing so.

Empress Andraste was someone who didn't lack foresight. She could tell that the Holy Order of Light was hell bent on attacking the Ainsworth Empire and claiming it as its own. Even if she wanted to help, it was impossible to deal with the Pseudo-Gods under the Pope's Banner.

Although the Amazon Empire had an artifact that could deal with those powerful beings, it was more defensive in nature. It had protected the Amazon Empire since the time it was founded, and it was impossible to transfer it to another place without risking the chance of facing their Goddess Astarte's wrath.

"Hah! This boy really knows how to make people laugh," Empress Andraste pounded the armchair of her throne after reading William's letter. "Lilith, read this as well. Your future husband really knows how to crack a joke."

The Amazon Princess took the scroll and began reading its contents. She was quite curious about what her mother meant when she said that her future husband knew how to crack a joke.

To the rulers of every nation in the Central Continent...

I, William Von Ainsworth, hereby declare war against the Holy Order of Light.

I have endured their repeated acts of violence inside my domain, and decided that it is now time to put an end to their one-sided tyranny.

Let it be known that I only intend to fight against the forces of the Holy Order. However, if any of you were to decide to side with them, I will also recognize you as my enemy.

If you are afraid of living, be my guest and join them. I am itching to kill those who want to antagonize me. The more dead people the better. Corpses make the best fertilizers, so I plan to sell them in bulk to those who want to enrich their fields in the future.

P.S

I want to co-exist and work alongside everyone to achieve peace for the entire world. After my battle with the Holy Order of Light, you have my solemn promise that I will not extend my borders or conquer other lands.

Let us all strive to erase the organization who hides under the banner of light, when in truth, the Pope who leads it is just a greedy pig that wants to have the entire Central Continent, as well as the Demonic Continent, for herself.

I will rid the world of this annoying b*tch and banish her soul to the Rivers of Hell.

Lastly, make sure you know which side to choose. Hell awaits for those who choose the wrong side.

Instead of laughing, Lilith only gripped the scroll in her hands tightly.

"Your Majesty, I wish to..."

"Go. I give you permission to be with your man. But, remember this Lilith. The Amazon Empire will not choose any sides. We will just watch from the side, and watch as the Palace of Light burns to ashes."

Lilith didn't expect her mother to already know what she was thinking. However, since she had already gotten the Empress' permission, she no longer wasted any time and made preparations to travel to the Ainsworth Empire.

If her fiance was going to fight in a war against the Holy Order of Light, she would definitely fight by his side.

The battle where William had lost Ashe, Chiffon, Princess Sidonie, and Celine, was still fresh in her memory.

After that war, the red-headed teenager—whom she loved—had taken on the Mantle of Darkness.

His red-hair, that was as radiant as a blazing flame, became pitch-black.

His green eyes, that made her heart turn to mush when she looked at them long enough, had become golden, and filled with pain.

His touch, that was once warm, had become cold, just like his lips, which used to fan the flames of desire in her heart and body.

And the blue gem that served as the heart in his chest, had turned from blue to obsidian black.

His two familiars that took half of his soul were now dead, allowing Darkness to corrupt everything, leaving only a quarter of his soul free from its corruption.

But, even then, William tried to make her feel loved. Despite the fact that he was hurting.

Despite the fact that he was suffering.

Despite the fact that he was forced to become the enemy of the world.

Lilith had spent many sleepless nights, weeping for her beloved who had changed after the war that had taken many things from him.

"Even if you go to Damnation, I will follow you," Lilith vowed as she packed her things inside her storage ring.

Taking one last look in her room, the Amazon Princess raised her hand and the treasure of the Amazon Race, Gleipnir, flew towards her and coiled around her hand.

"Thank you for accompanying me," Lilith said as she held the artifact firmly. "Let's go. My future husband is waiting for me."

The Sacred Weapon in her hand glowed faintly as if understanding what she was trying to say.

A moment later, Lilith jumped out of the window of her room and flicked Gleipnir in front of her, which turned into a golden dragon.

The Amazon landed deftly on the golden dragon's back before looking in the direction of the Ainsworth Empire.

That was the place where she needed to go, and that was where the man she loved was waiting for her.

With a powerful roar, the golden dragon flew to the West, leaving the capital city of the Amazon Empire behind.

"May fortune be on your side, Lilith," Empress Andraste said as she looked at the golden dragon that was slowly disappearing from her view. "The place where light and dark begin to touch is where miracles arise."

The Amazon Empress sighed.

This was an important war, and yet the Amazons would not participate in it, with the exception of her daughter, who was not fighting for who was right or wrong, but fighting for the man she chose to love.