

TECHNOLOGY 1231

Chapter 1231 - Friends Arrive

Like so, Landon spent his time hoping around according to his schedule, doing the best he could.

And like so, time passed by, with more and more guests arriving in Baymard's Capital city for the big day.

The now King-father Micheal, Monarch Astar, Monarch Henry and several others had shown up.

Be it people from Carona, Arcadina, Yodan, Deiferus or Terique... the V.I.P guests for the event had all shown up during this time.

But even regular people had travelled far and wide to witness the grand ceremony too..

It was a thing of great joy to the entire continent.

And, another shocking thing was seeing Blue people around.

You know, they had seen Lucia's dark-skin tone before, so they weren't too shocked when seeing a large gathering of these dark-skinned people around.

Yes. Thanks to Baymard, many people already knew that blue skin people exist.

But seeing them in the flesh filled many with wonder about how gigantic their world was.

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You know, if Baymard hadn't publicized these people's skin tones as being normal, some people or others who were still living in their closed-mind thinking system might've accused these people of being possessed, being evil or something like this.

Mind you, these were dark times, and even their babies were sometimes thrown away or mistreated unfairly. So what more of a stranger?

But you know, ever since the first year Baymard opened its gates to the public, it had created dolls with all the various skin tones in this world and wrote several other stories that blended in with the skin tones of the world.

For example, of course, Snow-white had the Tenola skin tone. Mulan looked like their people from Pyno, Pocahontas, and the little mermaid resembled Dark-skinned people, etc.

He made everything welcoming in various ways long before Lucia's group stepped into Baymard.

And that's why the public began calling Lucia princess when they didn't even know her identity.

In short, the first thought when seeing Blue skinned people now wasn't that of repulse, but wonder and awe.

Beautiful! Beautiful!

They were so beautiful!

Some of the Zalipnians that came to Baymard were indeed Blue toned.

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As one had examined earlier on, because of how close Zohl and Romain were, Zohl people would migrate to Romain, and Romain people also migrated to Zohl too.

Additionally, they would marry and have mixed babies sometimes.

That said, amongst the crowd here in Baymard, one can find deeper toned Blue people, as well as light Blue toned people.

It was indeed a fascinating scene to behold.

And back in the palace, the men were also getting to know Uther's squad too.

On the first day of meeting one another, everyone was a little tense and kept a certain degree of formality.

But as the days went by, thanks to the many fun activities and 'adventures' they had, Carmelo, Micheal, Lucius and the rest quickly loosened up when dealing with Uther and his ministers too.

Hey! Some people lost some games, others won and rubbed it in the loser's face, and they even had friendly matches amongst themselves too.

At the same time, their wives were also having the time of their lives, especially now that Mother Kim was back from her trip.

Like so, the older generation had their fun and couldn't be bothered by the youngsters.

So, Landon's age group-gang mingled amongst themselves, with Lucia and Kora in the mix too.

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And she also realized how great they all were individually... Especially when they got together and talked about some weird contraptions called the Catapult.

They also mentioned all the problems and battles they've been fighting against in their territories during the year.

It was also amazing to listen in on the many new ways of spreading news faster.

They chose the ringing bell option, alarming all the citizens of any immediate dangers.

In short, the more Kora secretly listened in on their conversations, the more shocked she was.

d.a.m.n. She had arrived in a crazy world.

Looking at Penelope, Kora liked her a lot.

The woman was a tough nut with a warm heart.

She listened to Penelope talking about how hard she had been working to stop slavery around drying the last years and was satisfied with her.

And it's because of its great size that issues might arise.

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Carolina had long signed the treaty with Baymard

And for years now, they've been working hard to maintain the new rules.

Of course, because they took action years back, at present, within every corner of Carona, the new laws were known to all.

Last September was when she was 100% sure that every town, village or city got the word.

But you see, listening and obeying were 2 different matters.

So during this period since then, the team of men sent towards each region had been trying to place order into the society and stop slavery once and for all.

One would think that the n.o.bles were the ones that gave the most problems.

But unlike other empires, Carona has always been somewhat 'humane.'

So the number of rebellious n.o.bles that still secretly kept slaves was quite a few.

No... The real problem came from merchants and visitors! These people liked the slave system and didn't want to let it die... or else wouldn't they have to pay fair wages to the many slaves checking their account books or those running their stores all around the empires?

Do you know how much money they'll lose?

Additionally, Penelope also found that it was these merchants that were primarily assisting the pirates in kidnapping or gathering a large number of people for the pirates and others to take as slaves in other empires.

Sure, some n.o.bles did so... But the number caught was nowhere close to how many merchants they caught this past year alone.

Sigh... The underlying problem truly gave her a headache.

But little did Penelope know that she had now joined the train of Kora's list of Idols

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But little did they know that during this great time of celebration, misfortune also seemed near as well.

Hehehhe... Who were the visitors this time?

Chapter 1232 - A Furious Group!

The busy streets came alive with excitement as countless people got merchandise items of the lovely duo.

“Hahahahahaha! I can’t believe that I managed to s.n.a.t.c.h this T-s.h.i.+rt before it got sold out for the 99th time. d.a.m.n. I’m so lucky!”

“No! No! No! No! What do you mean by telling me that you just sold the last pictured T-cup? What the h.e.l.l does that have to do with me? In future, I want to show that teacup set to my grandchildren and great-grandchildren as real evidence that I attended the wedding. Clothes and even pens can go missing. But you know, my history cla.s.s says that a fine teacup can be a Family Heirloom that could be worth much in future. So what the h.e.l.l do you mean by saying it’s sold out?!!”

“Mommy... Mommy.... Mommy... Please, can you buy me the Princess Lucy costume and tiara for the big day? I promise that if you buy it, I’ll never ask for any other present again!... Well, at least for the next 2 months...”

“F***! Why the heck am I so unlucky all of a sudden? I heard that they were selling crepes and pancakes with the faces of the duo on them. I heard that it’s a brand new flavour that is ridiculously mouth-watering, so I decided to come here during my first 15-minute break since I work in the Mall. But dammit! With this lineup, there’s no way that I’ll be able to buy this before my break finishes... Or should I give up and buy what I usually buy?”

“Hahahahaha!... Oh, my Ancestors! How can I use this pen? It’s a new model, that’s so unique and beautiful. Plus, it has the picture of my favourite couple on it. So how can I bear to use it? No! It should be used for special occasions like my exams! Yes... Yes! It will be my new lucky pen!”

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Once again, Baymard was going nuts on buying merchandise that had the duo’s faces on it.

Some just wanted to buy these things and never use them, storing them as if they were storing Heirlooms to show to the next generations in their families.

Oh boy... One could see it now. They would be sitting by the electric fireside (if it still existed), telling their grandkids about the great couple of their time.

Of course, unlike the first group of people, others bought these items to use immediately.

Cups, pens, hats, plates, and several items all had the duo’s heart-warming smiles and romantic gestures ported on them.

Shuck! The pose the 2 took could make one wish to find their perfect matches out there in the world.

And you know, during this time, a small storybook came out about them as well.

From banished people to one of Pyno’s richest!

Their kindness, goodwill, intelligence and several other key qualities were also highlighted in these ebooks.

And they, the Baymardians who also got mentioned in the short fairytale-like book a couple of times, only felt more and more delighted by it all.

Without a doubt, many along the busy street were excited and pumped up, ready for the big day.

But within the crowd, some had no emotion when it concerned the matter.

Or it was better to say that they were happy, but not for the right reasons.

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In the busy streets, a group of people in ordinary attire calmly walked around the streets, listening to the bubbly comments of many.

And the more they listened, the broader the smiles on their faces were.

Some of these people sat in eateries, listening around, while others sat in the buses, trains and other modes of transportations too.

And after a while, they finally regrouped into one of the high-end Hotels in District D called The Sh.e.l.l.

~Catchack!

The hotel room door opened, and in came the last group of people to regroup.

The person by the door closed and secured the hotel door, even putting the 'Do Not Disturb Sign there too.

And with that, he turned around to face an enormous living room that dripped with wealth and luxury.

Even the chandeliers and other room amenities could make one wish to live in this place forever.

Not to mention that on the opposite side of the massive s.p.a.ce was an enormous balcony with a large outdoor Jacuzzi there that could fit 15 people in it at once.

There was a minibar at one corner of the living room too.

And all this was already mind-blowing. So imagine how anyone would feel after going to the Master Bedroom and shower region?

But the living room s.p.a.ce was enough to throw a party in, and had so many couches that also transformed into beds if some people wanted to sleep over.

Of course, those now seated in the room weren't immune to the luxury here.

For sure, they loved every single bit of it.

But there was just one problem.

It wasn't theirs.

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Boom!

Everyone was heavily angered.

Their blood boiled with rage the more eye-jerking the scene was.

Some of them remembered the grandness they saw around and only felt insulted instead.

Dammit! Just who the h.e.l.l did these Baymardians think they were?

The T.O.E.P men were furious!

All these things should belong to Morgany.

They had no evidence, but they were sure that everything here should've been stolen from them.

Hmhm.

When looking at the facts, Morgany has one of the most 'futuristic' and advanced research centers in this world.

They were and had almost been one step ahead of everyone.

Meanwhile, Pyno had no such place before Baymard's sudden 'growth.'

To them, Pyno people were too dumb to come up with these things.

So they feared that within Baymard, there should be some great Morg person held captive here.

For all they know, the person might be on the list of great Morgany personnels that were reported missing

Hmhm... That must be it.

So how dare these lowly people steal their things and try to rise to the top?

No! After their mission, they had to report this matter to the high-one back in Morgany!

Yes. Their leader, with his incredible strength and forces, would be able to crush these people and take back what rightly belonged to them!

Chapter 1233 - What A Good Pyno

Bam!

One of the men smashed their fists against the wall in rage.

Preposterous!

How dare these nonent.i.ties strut around with what rightly belonged to Morgany?

Everyone's body trembled vigorously the more they thought of it all.

Their hearts sank deep onto their bellies as their flared nostrils continuously danced while letting out non-existent steam from them.

Son of a b**ch!.

Bam!

Several others began pouching the couches too.

But the majority of them still gazed at their leader with a frosty stare that could chill a burning forest in a second.

Likewise, their leader, A.K.A, Scarface, was also engulfed in a hot pot of boiling rage too.

Yes. They did hear a lot about Baymard, but for many reasons, they preferred to finish their mission first before focusing on the matter.

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Firstly, they rarely had time to focus on Baymard because they were like the busiest people alive.

That's right.

They were busy every single day of the year... Until they got sent back to Morgany for their holiday period.

For them who came here, sometimes they could be stationed to work for 3 years straight, before having a full one and a half year off.

There were many types of work schedules that they could choose from, like working 3 months straight and having 1 month, like so.

But why, for the life of them, would they want such a schedule?

If they were in Morgany, yes... That schedule would make sense.

So they typically took the lengthiest work times that gave the largest holiday times too.

After all, getting on the s.h.i.+ps and heading back to Morgany took months to go.

And depending on where they were situated in Pyno, the journey could be longer.

Either way, they still preferred to work like this and head back home.

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Typically, when they got to Morgany, they didn't want to waste more time travelling, so they spent the remaining 4 or so months of their holiday period around the Coastal regions there.

Many of them had relocated their homes there to make things easier for them.

And just before their holidays were over, they would then receive their next mission via a secret note that got dropped off in their homes.

So since they were close to the docks, they would waste no time leaving by then.

Bear in mind that the journey back to Pyno wasn't in their vacation time. That journey was in their work-time instead.

So borderline, even though their work time was 3 years, they only spent about 2 years or so on the job.

Of course, some might find themselves stationed in an entirely different continent like Tenola, Veinitta or even Zohl.

So with how busy they were at the moment, they had long been brushing off Baymard's presence.

No. It should be that they already sent a report about the strange Baymardian products to headquarters.

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At first, seeing the basic goods from Baymard, even if they were impressive, they didn't think it was an IMMEDIATE issue.

To many, their job period would soon be over this upcoming January. And by then, another team would set forth into Pyno.

And so, many planned to personally send their own reports to the secret guards who would visit their homes when they returned.

It was because of this that they had held back reporting the matter of all these strange items hanging around.

Of course, some couldn't take it anymore and have long since sent in reports via the pirates sometime back.

But it was just that the reports they made about the strange items around, weren't that eye-catching.

Mattresses, beddings, great pots and whatnot, weren't enough to make Morgany feel threatened.

And in Pyno, it was only around last spring that many started using burning solar devices.

So the trend hadn't completely caught on yet.

In short, the T.O.E P hadn't seen a lot from Baymard, apart from the basic things, as well as good food too.

Of course, they felt that all this should be reported to headquarters.

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But another thing that kept the majority of people pushing things back was due to how weak Baymard was.

Everyone knows that Baymard relied on the other empires for support.

So this again made them sure that this Baymard wasn't an immediate threat to them.

Don't get them wrong. The ships they saw and the vehicles they had heard about during that time, was enough to make them rush to Morgany to give in reports.

But they felt like Baymard should be the lackey of these big empires.

Yes. The bog empires should be using Baymard as a shield while they did their things in the dark.

Hmhm.

Thinking like this, they decided to gather as much information as possible about all the people they had to take down when the time came.

Yes. They learnt that all the empires here were also united. So this alone was a major problem for them.

And it was important to pinpoint all the enemies before Morgany collectively sent their army over.

Thus, they had also been listening in to prepare a well-detailed report on the matter, as well as personally hand it to headquarters after they returned from their trip.

Again, the Catapult incidents they heard about also made them surer that these big empires were using Baymard as bait or as a s.h.i.+eld.

Baymard was just a stupid, weak puppy, secretly controlled by the other empires.

Think about it.

How come since its existence, no one ever thought of fighting or trying to claim the place?

From what they knew, Baymard had never been to war with the other empires or people from those regions.

So wasn't that too suspicious?

It was all evidence that their guesses were correct!

And now that they've seen Baymard for themselves, they also secretly hated the other empires too.

Scarface clenched his fists hard.

"They dare to collectively steal our ideas and implement it without our knowledge?..."

Bahahahahaha~~~...Good. Good. Good...What a good Pyno!"

Chapter 1234 - The Plan!

The atmosphere was tense, and everyone's emotions were riding high.

Poison Blade and the others all looked at Scarface deeply.

"Boss! I suspect that the captured Morg genius that created this all should be here in Baymard!" Said another.

Poison Blade nodded in agreement with his fingers against his chin: "Yes, Boss. I think he's right. The genius should still be here in Baymard... Let's a.n.a.lyze the situation a bit more." Poison Blade said while calmly walking towards the ma.s.sive floor-to-ceiling gla.s.s wall.

And everyone also diligently listened in too..

Poison Blade was the 2nd in command, and the level of respect they all gave him was high as well.

He was thinner than most of them, with a lean body fit that made him more flexible than the rest.

His eyes were a violet shade, and his natural hair was also violet in colour too.

But because of his duty as an ?ssa.s.sin, he had to dye his hair using plants and paint pigments, giving it a shade very close to black.

Yes. Even though he always covered his hair and never revealed it out when wearing his entire body ?ssa.s.sin suits, it was still important to dye it just in case of emergencies.

You know, if his mask got taken off during battle, even if he hid his face and fled, his hair would still be visible.

And this might make the enemy's search for them easier.

Of course in Pyno, people typically had Blue, Green, Red, Blond, Brown and Black hair.

h.e.l!! One would spot them quickly with that hair.

Poison Blade was a very handsome man who was both lean and tall too.

As for his nickname, heh... It should be obvious why he was called that.

And as for their Boss, Scarface, it wasn't that his face was scarred.

No... It was his scalp that was scared instead.

His scalp looked like someone had tried to st.i.tch several different pieces of human flesh on it.

And needless to say, he was bald too.

But when on the job, he wore a wig made from human hair and secured it with a scarf, piece of rope or anything that could keep it in place.

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And after looking out for a bit, he coldly turned around and stood beside his leader, who was sitting on a single chair.

Scarface crossed his arms and legs, waiting for Poison Blade to do his thing.

And as he expected, Poison Blade didn't disappoint him at all.

"Alright. Let's ?ssess the matter. The other empires use Baymard as both an experimental place and a s.h.i.+eld for any dangers that should've come their way. So you see, while Baymard deceives and draws everyone's attention by making fridges and whatnot, the other empires are busy designing and implementing real weapons like the Catapult. They are indeed smart to go about things in this manner. And for sure, their schemes and plans might've worked on others. But who are we?... We are Morgs! Members of the T.O.E.P! The great people to lead this world till the end of time. So how can we be easily deceived?"

Everyone listened and nodded in agreement, thinking they were too smart not to see the bigger picture.

Poison Blade stared at them thoughtfully: "The Captured Morg... Where do you think he's at?"

He? Of course, it was a He!

They didn't think a woman could do all this. It should be a man!

But where was he? Where was he?

Instantly, everyone's blood boiled, as several quickly dished out their own thoughts too.

"Second in command. I think the captured Morg should be hidden within one of the other Pyno empires. That person should be locked up in some dungeon and tortured using some cruel method."

"Yes. Yes. I agree as well. We Morgs would rather die than please the enemy. So I think these people have something they're holding that made the Morg spill the beans. It could be the only weakness that the captured Morg might have!"

"That's for sure! For all we know, this Morg could be one of the geniuses that had been ticked off as missing or dead by the Morg society. So we must first find out who he is!" One of them said, making everyone else nod yet again.

"Hmhm. We have to get to the bottom of this mystery and find out where they are holding that Morg... Specifically, what Pyno empire is the guy locked up in?"

"I think after finding the empire, we need to ascertain whether that person is locked up in some palace, underground region, hidden fortress or some unexpected place. But all in all, I think that person should not be in Baymard. After all, Baymard is just a s.h.i.+eld for the other empires."

Poison Blade listened and raised his brow mysteriously: "Oh? What makes you say that?"

Eh?

Blink. Blink.

Everyone looked at their second in command strangely for only a bit, before their eyes suddenly lit up again.

Smack.

Several of them smacked their th??hs hard as if they had cracked some code!

Yes! Yes! The clues were right before them, so how could they not see it?

Poison Blade chuckled: "Figured it out?"

"Yes, second in command! The Captured Morg is here!"

This time, Scarface was the one who smiled: "Hmhm. He's here. And I'm guessing that the stream of knights from all other empires that steadily come in, are all here not just to protect Baymard, but to keep a close watch on how they handled and treated that Morg. They need him alive. So how could they allow anyone to mistreat him? Heh... They also dare not take him to their empires because they're afraid that if we ever find out, we will cause chaos in their homes first. So Baymard solves this problem... As for where the Captured Morg is, don't you already know where he should be?"

"Eh?... Boss, where?"

Scarface chuckled: "Remember, we came here to rescue Prince Ulrich and get him back to Deiferus. And it just so happens that our target is in the same place where the captured Morg is."

Ding.

Everyone's eyes lit up with understanding as they suddenly smiled at one another.

Scarface also smiled as well: "Hehehe... it looks like even the heavens are with us, giving us an event that will distract everyone's attention even more. So rest up, boys! On the wedding night, we strike!"

Chapter 1235 - An Excited City

Time flew by swiftly, with countless people preparing for the big day!

And as the countdown quickly drew short, the people became busier and busier than ever.

"Oh, dear! Is my merchandise T-s.h.i.+rt not ironed yet? I could be on TV!"

"Papa... Papa... They said that the stores would close on the 4-day holiday period. So shouldn't we stack up on enough food just in case we might run out or need anything during that time?"

"Quickly! Quickly! The last set of outdoor camping tents will soon be sold out at this rate. So we have to get to the stores fast!"

"Who's driving on that day? It's you, right? Good! Traffic will be hectic then, so we need to get a good parking spot early.. Heh. Don't you remember how we suffered during the last wedding? The entire district seemed so full that we were almost losing it. Luckily now, there are Parking buildings around. So we'll have to drive in as early as possible, lest the Parking buildings get filled up too."

"Hahahahahahah! Honey... Do you remember how we met? It was during Queen-Mother Kim's wedding. We met at that same crowded spot that we're planning to get to. So we can't let anyone else take our Spot!"

"Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah~~"

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All over Baymard, talks like this continued from both tourists and Baymardians alike.

And the Zalipnians, who have never seen a real Baymardian wedding, also felt excited, as if they were the ones getting married instead.

h.e.l!! They began stocking up for the long 4-day holiday too.

In fact, when coming to Baymard, they thought that they would struggle way more than they are now.

But thanks to the Zalipnian government, who had long sent in their registration fees and a portion of their school fees over a whole back, they simply came over, ticked their names, went through brief formalities, and that was it.

Yes. For some, their parents had already sent complete school fees for the semester through the Zalipnian government.

But, the children were also told that during the short holidays, they could work as well... Depending on their age.

A 6-year-old couldn't work. But a 10-year-old could work.

It was just that the sort of work the child would do wasn't strenuous for their growth or anything of that sort.

They could be little Park rangers in training, working with ?du?ts; they could feed the horses, plant flowers, be paper/mail boys or girls, or get hired in any jobs approved by the government for children their age.

From 9 years old to 14, children could begin work... Though the workload they could receive would be very minimal, but necessary.

In short, this was a way to help them make part of their tuition, as well as some living expenses too.

For those younger, their parents or guardians could apply to work here and take care of them until the children reached the Part-time age.

Well, some parents or guardians still chose to work and pay off their children's tuition whether they were 6, 11 or 14.

They wanted their children to focus on school without doing part-time jobs. So they had the tuition and provided living expenses till their children came of age.

It all depended on the guardians and the parents.

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Again, Baymard had modified some rules somewhat... Because of Zalipnia's addition.

Think about it.

If all people were to come over to work here after the entire world got united, do you know how jammed-packed this place would be?

Not to talk of the fact that it would also affect the economy of the various empires too.

Thus, parents or guardians could stay right where they were and send the money they worked via their government.

This also saved them the expense of paying for a whole trip just to get to Baymard.

Carona, Deiferus, and all the other empires had long come up with a perfect way of collecting these expenses.

It was discussed in the last U.N meeting, just before Zalipnia joined the gang.

So a lot of adjustments were made at that time.

Plus, one shouldn't forget that Landon had already sent a few of his men towards several Romain empires.

So he sent people there to do the job for him after leaving Zalipnia.

Hmhm... By November or latest by December, a few more treaties should get signed.

The continent of ROMAIN had 37 empires.

And because he couldn't be everywhere at the same time, he sent his representatives and delegates.

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Again, even though parents could be allowed to work from their empires and send over the money.

Once their children graduated, if they still owed anything, then the children would have to begin work in Baymard and pay what they owed before leaving.

It was as simple as that.

Whether they were from Carona, Arcadina or Zalipnia, they would pay anything they owed... Maybe they just owed a 2-week salary or a 1-year salary.

And once it was all paid off, they were free to go. In short, their empires would probably start calling them to come back and develop their homes.

Well, during schooling... Some of the fortunate ones, in addition to their parents or guardians sending in money, might also get scholars.h.i.+ps and other opportunities to aid them financially.

All this depended on their hard work!

Bottom line, handling all school matters for these Zalipnians was a done deal since trusted people had transported their tuition from Zalipnia to Baymard.

So when they stepped on school grounds, they were once again reaffirmed of how much they had paid and how much was owed or not owed.

Receipts were given, school welcoming packages provided, as well as several doc.u.ments.

With that, because of their priority house status, the moment they showed up for an apartment or joint home for rent... in just a day or 2, they signed, got their keys, and that was it.

Some in groups chose to stay in fenced homes rather than getting apartments.

And when it came to their priority status...? children (anyone below 14) tagged as international, meant that they might not have a home to live in and required immediate ?ssistance.

Very quickly, they prioritized their stay here, giving them time to unpack whatever items they brought from their empires, as well as get ready for school too.

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Like so, countless people around the Baymard became busier and busier as the countdown drew nearer.

And soon, it was time!

The big day had come!

Chapter 1236 - The Big Day

3 days left... 2... 1... COUNTDOWN:...0 days left.

Boom!.

The 2-week wedding commenced!

And today was the day when Princess Lucy and his majesty Landon would get married Traditionally.

Yup.

This was the Traditional Baymardian wedding, with a little twist to it.

Before Baymard had merged into Arcadina ages ago, they had a particular way of getting married that had been abandoned for centuries and millennium after being forced to follow the practices of Arcadina as a whole.

But when Landon took over, he reorganized all the stone tablets alongside the historians and even collected all selected writings made with blood and written on ancient clothing.

The items were so old that just touching them seemed to tear the very fabric they were made of.

But, the former City lord's estate used to be the ancient Baymardian palace. And thanks to that, they did find so many old items hidden in several trapped doors.

And with everything they gathered, they were able to piece out just how their ancestors did their weddings.

This was Baymard's way and not Arcadina's general way of performing weddings.

Thus, it was always new, exciting, and a unique experience for many to watch.

Of course, maybe some regions close to the ancient Baymard at that time, also had these traditions.

But it's undeniable that they didn't stand the test of time.

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As many know, to the victor of war comes the spoils.

So if the ancient Arcadinians who united the entire Arcadina had chosen to strip down their ways, then it would be so.

The victor determined everything, even how they lived. And that for centuries and centuries, people had long forgotten the olden times... Only remembering the general Arcadian ways they've followed all this time.

And even the people back then had long died for generations now.

So who was going to remember the old ways in these dangerous times?

Majority of the people were more focused on survival and food.

Ensure the people both, and they wouldn't mind dancing on the street n?k?d if one wanted them to.

And that's why when they dug up Baymard's last history, everything wasn't well looked after, with cobwebs and so many crawl things moving on them.

Landon used the system to find these items that were buried and hidden away because at the time, the old ways were banished after Baymard became part of Arcadina.

You know... All those things probably reminded the victor of the old ways, making that person feel like the Baymardians might keep hope in their hearts or one day become rebellious.

So... It was probably a crime back then to keep mentioning the old Baymard.

The person wouldn't want to keep listening to their significant other talk and talk about their ex.

Jealousy, anger, fear of rebellion/cheating, and so many negative emotions would get stirred up

So just in that regard, it was probably taboo to mention anything about the old Baynard after they became part of Arcadina.

And to monarchs, any whispers of rebellion were already a massive sin punishable by death.

That is... They didn't even need to see you doing it. Just hearing about it could make them choke one to death.

So imagine how the ancient Baymardians lived?

Well, long story short, Landon restored the tradition.

But here's something he realized.

It was very similar to his own tradition back on earth.

Now, he was ready for the traditional wedding!

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The warm summer breeze slowly blew into the massive window, gently ruffling the sleeping man nestled under his sheets.

The outside, which should've been very quiet at this time of the morning, was already rowdy with countless hushed voices and footsteps from right below.

Oops. The people moving about didn't want to wake up the sleeping beauty from his rest.

So they tried their best to do things in a hushed manner.

"Quickly... We have to move this over there."

"Yes. The candle holders over there. Hello? Am I talking to the air or something? Move them to the left... No... The right... Good! Good job!"

The people below continuously ran up all over the place, doing their very best to meet up with whatever schedule they had to meet.

But no matter how they moved, the sleeping beauty on the bed didn't seem to be awake from their 'hushed' actions.

But even if they didn't wake the person up, it looked like nature wouldn't let him be!

~Qwi. Qwi. Qwi. Qwi. Qwi~~

The early morning birds whistled loudly, as if saying: Wake up, Motherf**er!

Wake up! Wake up! Wake up!

Dammit!

Landon frowned while strangling himself with his pillow.

He looked at the birds that flew in and couldn't help inwardly cursing them.

F***! Do you think this is Cinderella or something?

What?... Were they going to start pus.h.i.+ng him to shower or pulling him out of bed?

"Alright! Alright! I'm up!" He said while pus.h.i.+ng his covers away in an aggrieved manner.

But unlike Cinderella, where those birds could take a hint, these still circled his room while singing loudly.

~Qwi. Qwi. Qwi. Qwi. Qwi~~

Bam!

' _ ' ...

Well, it looked like they were trapped and wanted to find a way out... Which was also quite stupid.

Can't they just fly back the way they came?

Tsk! Blame him for leaving one of his ma.s.sive windows open throughout the night.

You know, he was situated in his Wing within the main Building.

And once one entered his wing, they would first walk through a long stretched corridor with gla.s.s windows that gave a magnificent towering castle-view of the entire front palace too.

It was like a bridge that had a see-through cover placed around it.

Beautiful.

He was truly high up there, as this building was indeed the tallest in the palace.

And this corridor led him to his private hall. From there, he could ascend the stairs or wall straight to the other rooms on his floor.

In short, the entire place was like a 3 floor home for himself, his future children and whatnot.

Until they came of age and left the wing, they would stay with him.

Well, the privacy here was not a joke. It was perfect for any newly wedded couple.

But at the same time, if there was an emergency, they could just press the emergency bu??ons around the ma.s.sive place, and the rest would be history.

Not to mention the fact that there was a secret escape route, as well as a secret room to hide in just in case of emergencies.

Landon woke up, stretched for a bit before sitting on his bed again, feeling a little emotional to say the least.

Whether it was his past life or the present, this was his first time getting married.

So how could he not have butterflies in his tummy?

Gruuu~

Chapter 1237 - The Traditional Wedding Begins!

Landon sat on his bed, feeling a deep surge of emotions overwhelming him.

There was no helping it. He had the butterflies... The good ones.

Bubuum. Bubuum.

He felt his heart threaten to leap out of his chest and could only massage that area with a dazed expression on his face.

So after this whole thing was over, Lucy would then move in with him?

Boom!

This was the moment he had been looking forward to for years now.

It was true. When one really loved another, they would want them close to them all the time.

And that's how he felt about Lucy.

They lived in the same castle Building. But because of its sheer size, each wing made it seem like they were neighbours within the same block living in different 2 or 3 story buildings.

But now, she'll move into his space.

And that's way over the years, and he had been making various customizations to his wing.

She had a colossal closet of clothes that quite honestly couldn't fit into his walk-in wardrobe even if he tried.

No! Even if he took out all his clothes from there, she would still need more wardrobe space in that massive Royal style walk-in closet.

That's much she had with her.

Thus, he had long prepared for her coming and finally found the entire thing so surreal.

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"Over there. Place the lanterns there!"

Em?

Landon stood up from his bed, walked towards the open window and peeped outside stealthily.

Well, it looked like the decorating crew still had some last-minute touches to do before the big event.

As for the traditional wedding, it would be performed in the evening, which was deemed as a time of fortune.

He had to admit.

The ancient traditional ways of Baymard were somewhat similar to his own tradition back on earth.

But as he mentioned, there were so many differences as well.

He found that they had several other rituals, processes and steps that differed greatly from his. And one shouldn't talk about their rules.

Their rules for brides in ancient times were stricter, which he wanted to take off. But Lucy said she wanted to get it done. So who was he to ruin it for her?

Additionally, he had also added a few changes of his own too.

And now, they were finally getting married!

But one shouldn't think that just because he proposed with the ring all those years back, he was exempt from making the traditional proposal.

That's right.

He found a Match-maker (A.K.A, trained and showed them what to do) and sent her to Lucy.

The ancient Baymardian texts also explained the work of the matchmakers, so it was fairly easy for the Current Matchmakers to learn.

Anyway, the matchmaker took Lucy's birth date and matched it with his to predict if the couple would have a good fate together.

Heh. For this step, Landon was secretly worried as well.

You know, a bad fate didn't necessarily mean that they would have problems with one another. No. It could be that she might be assassinated too early because of his presence, or he might suffer because of her somehow.

It only meant that their story would have a bad ending if something wasn't done. Hey. It might be Romeo & Juliet Bad for all he knew.

But again, fate was changeable. So even if they had a bad fate together, if they could hurdle the storms that come and survive, then their fate would be so good that it would surpass others by far!

So telling one that they had a bad fate with another only meant putting in more work to make the marriage last.

It was like marrying someone with a disadvantage in society.

No matter how you look at it, you would have to step up and fight for the marriage against the odds.

That was the meaning of it in this World, and that was that.

Luckily, it was deemed that he and Lucy had a good fate together. So he felt very relieved by it all.

After the matchmaker had done her part, they moved on to showing the bride with wealth.

That is, at this point, the matchmaker had already arranged for the groom's family to present the bride price.

And the betrothal gifts would then be spent on later too.

Well, that state was as luxurious as could be. And Lucy being an orphan, received everything.

Traditionally, in the future, she was supposed to pass her betrothal gifts to her children to do the same thing when they wanted to propose.

If it were a girl, she would let the girl go into her husband's home with the wealth so no man would mistreat her.

Things were done in that manner in ancient Baymard.

But that wasn't all.

After the betrothal gifts were given, the couple had to keep their hair tied in a particular manner till the wedding day.

So it didn't matter the occasion, Lucy and Landon's hairstyle hadn't changed at all when seen in public.

Again, he wasn't supposed to take any alcohol during the waiting period because it was deemed disrespectful to the ancestors watching them from above.

People believed that from the betrothal to the actual traditional wedding, the ancestors were watching them with laser-focused eyes.

And if they were dissatisfied, the ancestors would secretly try to stop the wedding themselves.

Who knows... Maybe they would send lightning to fry one of them or cause a wagon/carriage/car accident instead.

Well, whatever the case may be, the couple would typically be on their best behaviour.

Of course, they were also exempt from eating certain foods and contaminating their bodies before their traditional wedding.

And, they also did countless other rituals that concerned bathing, what colour of clothing they wore, and so on.

More importantly, as Royals, things were more challenging for them because they were the years of the entire empire.

In short, it was actually a LOT to take in... Especially for Landon who already knew that the ancestors weren't the higher power here

Of course, he still believed that the ancestors could make a few changes as well.

Take for example, one died unjustly and was given a chance by the heavens to make one wish.

Then what if that wish could impact things now?

Well, it was a possibility.

Thus, he still followed tradition.

Chapter 1238 - Late! Late! Late Already!

Thinking about the many rituals he did, Landon was honestly glad that it was finally over.

Of course, he had also been eating certain foods that were technically accepted... But who asked the ancestors not to be specific?

The rules said no eating bread for the time being. But whose fault was it that pizza was only invented in this generation?

Hey. They couldn't technically punish him, right?

Landon followed the eating rule with one eye open and one eye closed.

He already knew that this world had its own God or Goddess.

So if anyone was going to punish him, it should be that higher being.... And who's to say that he hadn't been punished already?

Do you know how often his dog system abuses him?

Well, that's how he spent this entire year planning and abiding by the ancient traditions.

And today, all of it would come to an end.

Like so, he took his bath, dressed himself up and headed downstairs to see how things were going.

After all, this was just the early hours of the day.

And the actual wedding itself was in the evening.

So he had time to flex!

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~Thup. Thup. Thup. Thup~

Landon came down the stairs and watched the busy maids, butlers and professional crew rush around the place like crazy.

Some were pushing laundry baskets that seemed to be packed with all sorts of curtains, sheets and whatnot, while others were busy transporting all kinds of decorations around.

You know, the main event won't be held in this building, but in another building that has the Great Hall in it.

Nonetheless, the entrance hall on the first floor of this building still had to be decorated for the scene when the Cameras will show a veiled Lucy's walking in with her most trusted maids into the groom's residence.

And so for that reason, they had to decorate this place beautifully.

After all, the camera crew would capture it all.

So wouldn't it be shameful if the place was left like that? Moreover, the professional team was also advertising their skills too.

You know, for the past few years, traditional marriages were now seen as something that couples felt the need to do.

It lined up perfectly with their belief of the ancestors always watching them. And couldn't do without.

Landon looked at everyone and chuckled.

They were so busy that they didn't even notice him in the room.

It wasn't until someone nearly bumped into him, did they notice him.

"Ah! Your majesty, you're up!... Good morning, your majesty!" They replied with broad smiles on their faces.

"Morning to you all as well... And... Thank you for your hard work!"

Instantly, everyone's face turned red from the embarrassment: "No problem, your majesty. We are just doing our job," They said proudly, almost beating their chests out in the process.

Oh my God! His majesty complimented them! His Majesty praised them!

(^0^)

With that, Landon exited the building.

Well, he wanted to find the main boss in charge of operations here.

He had to go through the list to see what other last-minute touches still needed doing.

He planned to do this first before chilling with the guys for the rest of the day.

For them, they would spar, tease and mock him too.

And several hours before the wedding, they'll all get dressed up, preparing for the big day.

Well, that was all there was to it.

With that, he was off!

Of course, he wasn't the only one feeling jittery about it all.

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---Villa 23, District H---

~Bang. Bang. Bang. Bang. Bang-

"Rise and shine, sleepyhead!"

~Bang. Bang. Bang. Bang. Bang-

The sounds of pots banging around the room grew louder and louder, waking the beautiful lady who was pouting her lips in dismay.

"5 more minutes..." She said while scratching her scattered hair pitifully.

And the pink sleep mask on her face only made her look even more adorable.

Too bad her friends didn't seem to think so.

~Bang. Bang. Bang. Bang. Bang-

She curled deeper into her sheets, wishing to submerge herself into her dream once again.

Her friends suddenly stopped banging the pots, looked at each other briefly before suddenly smiling mysteriously.

Heheh... Don't blame them for being rude

~Bam!

They jumped onto the massive bed, making it shake vigorously.

But yet, the girl on the bed was still hell-bent on sleeping, mumbling words that they couldn't make out.

"Blue-blah-hmmm~"

"Lu! It's already 10 A.M! So if you don't wake up now, you'll miss the bridal preparations!... That is, you don't want your darling hubby to see you so unkempt, right?"

Eh?

Whoosh!

Like a dead person coming back to life, she was finally up!

"10 A.M? 10 A.M? ... Why didn't any of you wake me up sooner? The Spa people are supposed to be here now, so why didn't you guys wake me up earlier?"

Penelope, Ava, Ruby, Yara, Lucia and Grace felt dumbfounded, not knowing whether to laugh or cry.

Hello?

You think they hadn't tried before? This was their 5th time trying to wake her up!

And what was puzzling was that they slept relatively early last night because of what they had planned out for today.

Yes! They, as well as she, would be getting their nails, hair, and body cleaned adequately.

Massages were also a part of it too.

But that was all. Do you know how much time they would spend doing their hair alone?

Though all this wasn't planned, Penelope in particular, was still enjoying this scene pretty well.

Hmhm. This was Lucy's payback for all she went through during her own wedding with Benjamin.

As expected, the heavens were indeed fair.

With that, she calmly sat down and crossed her legs as if enjoying the show.

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Woosh!

As if in a marathon, Lucy scrambled off her bed, almost falling off it, before dashing to and fro the bathroom like crazy.

Everyone had cleaned and dressed up except her.

Woooo~~~

She had bad friends! She really had bad friends!

Those were her thoughts while dashing around the room, bathroom and closet as if it were the end of the world.

Late! Late! She was late!

Chapter 1239 - A Day Of Celebration

Oh no! Oh no! Oh ho!

Lucy was anxious.

And like a hurricane, stormed through every corner within her room, bathroom and wardrobe, going back and forth while everyone else either watched or tried to help her out.

Lying tough. What kind of bride was she?

How could she wake up late on her wedding day?

Livy didn't know whether to laugh or cry the more she thought about it.

And so, just in that way, the excited couple who were far apart had already begun preparing for the big day.

Lucy in particular, had a ton of things to do.

And as the day, she and the ladies prepared and pampered themselves greatly for the big event!

From pedicure, manicure, full-body treatments, and even being styled by the most famous stylists of all, they managed to get things done by evening time.

Heheheheh... Now, it was time for the festivities to begin.

And at this moment, the streets were bubbly and busy with laughter, and the particular route planned out for the procession had long been carved and prepared for the main event.

As one might already have noticed, all the other street routes were decorated for the Formal wedding tomorrow... All except one particular route was decorated with several red Lanterns, items and anything else that would fit the traditional theme.

But of course, the main roads, like the ones through District B, were styled for tomorrow's wedding. The only difference was that they placed a few red lanterns around to fit the theme even more.

After all, the sun was now setting, and now, and soon, the lanterns would go up, glowing brightly and even more beautifully too.

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Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!~

The massive drums from the traditional band began within the front entrance of the Villa.

There, one could see all sorts of people playing flutes, dancing and throwing petals in the air beautifully.

The fairy-style outfits and dances, combined with the showy glow from the lanterns and candles, only made the show look even more enticing.

And at the moment, those within the villa who had been assisting Lucy to prepare for the big day had now stepped outside one of the villa mansions to watch the show.

~Woooooo~

Some who were close to Lucy shed tears of joy, while others just marvelled at the sight, thinking that she was probably the happiest bride of all.

And of course, who could forget the trusty camera crew who were there to capture the moment?

"Quickly! Get a good shot of the fairy dance!"

"Ahhhh! What the hell are you doing? Why aren't you filming those ladies crying? Film and interview them too!"

"Damn! What a procession! There are trained animals, long-ass group instrument players and dancers who are either dancing with ribbons, throwing flower petals around or doing some crazy gymnastic stunt! F***! Did I also see someone swallow fire? I heard about that before, but seeing it live is an entirely different matter!"

"I'll go! This wedding is the best traditional wedding I've seen throughout the years."

"Too stunning. Too stunning. Who can compete with this?"

(°0°)

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Like so, the private villa became extremely rowdy with celebration.

Meanwhile, Lucy, who was still seated before a vanity mirror, soon got the signal from the make-up artist.

"Princess... You can open your eyes now. It's done."

Wow!

Lucy opened her eyes and stared at herself for a minute in full appreciation.

It wasn't just her, as everyone else stared at her stunning face in awe.

What was beauty? This was beauty!

And who was the fairest of them all? Today, she was undoubtedly the fairest one in the land

Everyone watched Lucy gracefully stand up and couldn't help wanting to give the entire professional crew a good thumbs up!

You know, from her hair right down to her feet, Lucy looked like an ancient royal that had descended into their time period.

Her golden headpiece on her hair, reddish lips, beautiful red attire lined with golden decorations all came together to create a stunning image right before everyone's eyes.

And at this moment, even Lucia and Penelope couldn't help appreciating this unique ancient style.

Stunning. Simply stunning.

Penelope in particular, raised her brow and suddenly felt that all the preparations she felt were unnecessary, now came together to create this beautiful piece of art.

So it should be worth it.

And again, she also liked the attire that she wore as well.

She glanced at the mirror and let out a secret smile when thinking of how her husband would react to seeing her like this.

Indeed. She had been settling into her role as a married lady pretty well.

No one needed to tell her, but she knew that she had changed quite a bit thanks to the influence of many around her.

She was nothing like the Penelope of 4 or 5 years ago.

But she liked her change... There were no complaints there!

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Like so, Lucy was somewhat ready.

Why? Somewhat? Because now was a very important time!

Now, it was time for the bride's mother, grandmother or dear relative to give the bride jewelry that also had a lot of significance.

Additionally, the bride MUST also cry at this moment to express her unwillingness to leave home... Sort of like a filial piety thing.

If she didn't cry, then she would be unfilial and a white-eyed wolf!

Well, those were the original rules... Especially the whole Must-cry thing.

But now, it's changed a bit.

Additionally, Lucy had no parents, so the one who gave her jewelry was Mother Kim.

Mother Kim's eyes were red while staring at Lucy silently.

Everyone had given them a quiet one-on-one time to catch up on their feelings.

And mother Kim who was also acting as Lucy's mother, also had a tremendous amount of love for Lucy.

After all, this was a child she raised as well.

Mother Kim stared at Lucy warmly.

Yes. Today is not just her son's day, but also her daughter's wedding day too.

Chapter 1240 - A Dangerous Night

-silence-

The 2 ladies sat in silence for a bit, with their eyes both turning red and threatening to release waterfalls of tears out.

But even at that, both women were still being and holding their hands tightly.

To them, this time of silence could explain and express all their emotions without words.

But soon, they both started laughing and crying too.

"My Little Lucy... Back in Arcadina, do you remember the time when you tried sneaking into the kitchen to grab food for us? Pff~~~ I remember that you tripped and sprained her ankle just after giving your give speech."

Lucy's face turned red.. How could she forget?

She had sworn to get them food that day. But what happened? On that day, she didn't even leave their courtyard, talk less of getting food in the servant kitchens.

That's right. She immediately got injured after turning around too abruptly from talking to Mother Kim.

Hell!

Thinking about all the embarrassing times that she had in Arcadina, Lucy wanted to dig a hole and bury herself in it.

What had she not done in the Capital for survival?

Yes! Even though she had a soft heart, her other side was provoked with catatonic. And to her, at the time, Landon and Mother Kim were her reverse scales.

At the time, she had lost her mother, the only light in her world. And after getting warmth from the duo, she had unnoticeably taken them as her family.

So at that time, she had secretly done many bad things like stealing grain from the kitchen so that she and Mother Kim could plant some in their courtyard.

That's right. If they could grow enough food and cook for themselves, why did they need food from the general kitchen?

It was just that this plan seemed promising at first, but when the smell of food left their courtyard and travelled far, people would always come over to trouble them.

Sigh...

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Additionally, even though Mother Kim was given some salary, at the time, they realized that whenever they tried to buy food from outside, their goods would get seized at the palace gates for 'inspection' and unnecessary things like that.

In short, one could say that all the grains or foods usually bought would be taken and used by just about anyone.

It never reached their desolate courtyard.

Well, the only times they had it easy was when Lucius would come to watch over them.

Because you see, even though he had been assigned to watch over them, his move wasn't publicly accepted.

You know, he volunteered to do the guard duty since no one wanted to. And many might think that he was using that excuse to stop going to the battlefield or something of that sort.

But no matter how he was advised, he didn't budge.

How could a well-respected commander look after lowlifes? Many people thought that there should be some scheme or something involved in the matter.

And so, even though they did agree to his request, he also had to train guards at the Knighthood Academy and live in the academy as well.

So they kept him very busy there, only letting him come to the palace once or twice a week.

And as the years went by, the number of people that lost respect for Lucius was far too great.

But in truth, Lucius didn't care.

For one, he had long been tired of fighting battles and wars for Alec. The man had constantly been trying to expand Arcadina in secret, wishing that the entire Pyno would belong to Arcadina in the end.

And so ever since Alec took the throne, till that current time, they had been fighting wars no stop.

Sometimes they would protect their boundaries, and other times they would be the ones to provoke wars instead.

Many a time, it was them who caused the problems, and this just made Lucius annoyed.

Anyway, with how much of a hard time they gave Lucius, he couldn't protect them all the time.

Thus, the trio had difficult times without him.

And that's why Lucy sometimes had to steal food and other goods too.

Lucy's face turned red when she thought of her past.

Oh no... What would happen if the Baymardians knew that their virtuous princess was a common thief?

(+0+)

...

~Pfff!

Mother Kim chuckled in nostalgia about the past.

"My little Lucy. Who would've known that we would have survived after coming this far? The pain, the sufferings, the abuse and the emotional torments are most of the things that we remember about our time in the Capital. But you know, even at that, we did have a few good laughs and met a few people as well."

Lucy nodded her head in agreement.

They had met William and his mother without even knowing it.

Mother Kim smiled warmly: "Little Lucy, the years had been pretty rough back then. But you know, sometimes, I think we had to go through all that to get to where we are today... And that, my dear, is what destiny is!"

Destiny?

Lucy's body trembled hard. When putting all the pieces together, it seemed like everything had been predestined for a long time.

So was that how fate worked?

Mother Kim believed it. And till her death, she would always choose to believe that everyone had strings of fate tied to them.

No matter how many years it took, those who were supposed to meet will always meet.

Friends, family or lovers, those who were exposed to meet will meet!

Mother Kim massaged Lucy's hands gently: "Little Lucy, You are my daughter, as well as my daughter-in-law. And this was something that is always wished for. Sigh... Now, this old lady here and rest easy, knowing that you 2 are finally together."

"Mother, what are you talking about? You aren't old yet!" Lucy protested in shame.

She knew what Mother Kim meant... Did she want Grandchildren now?

Lucy felt her body turn hot with anxiety.

So... So tonight will they...?

Ahhhh! So embarrassing!

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Like so, things went on smoothly, just as planned.

But of course, tonight happens to be another special night.

Several men smiled cruelly while stepping out of their hotel.

Heh. Tonight was indeed the perfect night for action.

But first, they had to secure a hostage. One always needs leverage, just in case.

So... Who will it be?