

# **For Your Failed Unrequited Love**

## **#Chapter 1 - Read For Your Failed Unrequited Love Chapter 1**

### **Chapter 1**

Xenomium Academy, male student dormitory.

After he had returned from class, Felix dropped all the gifts and letters he had been holding on the table. The gifts were from the female students of Xenomium Academy. Felix's rough handling caused some of the carefully wrapped gifts to fall off the table.

Adrian, who was reading a book on the sofa, frowned as he picked them up. His name was written in cursive on the wrapping paper.

Why are you even taking my presents?

With a shrug of the shoulders, Felix replied, What was I supposed to do when they gave it to me thinking I was you?

Are you not going to grow your hair back out again?

It's hot.

Felix smiled playfully as he picked up the carefully wrapped handmade cookies next to him. He unraveled the ribbon with a touch of excitement and threw the cookies into his mouth one by one.

Adrian shook his head as he looked at Felix's short hair. After the summer break, Felix's long hair was cut short. He was then frequently mistaken for Adrian, his twin brother.

Their face, height and voice were so similar that it was difficult to tell them apart. The only difference between them was the length of their hair.

Adrian, the younger twin, had his short blonde hair tucked behind his ear. He was neatly dressed in a school uniform. The older twin Felix, however, had long blonde hair that hung over his shoulders. His shirt was never buttoned properly.

This was the method of distinguishing the Berg twins that was widely known among academy students and teachers.

Felix and Adrian had been following these rules for years now. It annoyed them when people mistook them for another twin. But, on the first day of the new semester, Felix broke the rule; his once long blonde hair had been cut short.

People might get confused, Adrian complained.

Then lets change it. From now on, you grow it out. Felix responded lightly, as if he had no intention of taking his twin brother seriously.

No one will be able to tell us apart now, not even our parents.

Felix chuckled when he heard Adrians words. If it were their mother and father, he really thought that that would be the case.

What does the length of my hair have to do with it? Felix put the last cookie in his mouth and dusted off the crumbs from his hands. As long as we are the Princes of Berg, they will not care who we really are.

Felixs next class would only have a short break. With a tired expression, he stretched his arms and stood up.

Why are you so free when Im so busy? Dont you have a class?

What do you mean youre free? Adrian frowned at Felixs question. I need to get to work on the student council right away. Theres also work at the library.

Adrian was the president of the student council as well as the librarian. It was a passion Felix could never understand.

Thats why I told you to take the required courses beforehand. Arent you busy right now because you skipped classes and played hard?

Felix quickly left the room with his bag when his younger brother began nagging. Adrian couldnt be stopped from his lecture once he started.

The second semester began anew.

Autumn had arrived, but the campus was still in its last leg of summer. The stinging heat of the sun beating down on the crown, and the chirping cicadas sounded like rain from the fresh green trees.

Walking on the hot campus, Felix thought about what Adrian said.

Now no one will be able to tell us apart. Even our parents.

It was true that even their parents wouldn't be able to tell them apart. Felix remembered the faces of his mother and father, who repeatedly called him Adrian.

But it was not true that no one would be able to tell them apart.

Since there was her.

Felix was walking along the road, kicking a stone, when he came to a complete stop. Speak of the devil and he shall appear. The person walking from across the street was none other than her.

Lucy Keenan. Felix muttered the girl's name.

Her wavy, light brown hair was neatly braided. She was wearing a shirt that was buttoned up to the neck in this hot weather.

Even her steps were straight and upright. She was walking down the street looking at a small note and the young lady suddenly looked up as if she felt someone's eyes on her.

Lucy Keenan's eyes widened, then narrowed, then widened again, as she stood upon discovering Felix.

No, it's getting narrow again.

Think about it.

Felix laughed quietly to himself, amused at her rapidly changing expression. She must be wondering whether the Berg in front of her is Adrian Berg or Felix Berg. Felix gently raised the corners of his lips and smiled softly. It was the smile that Adrian often wore.

A sweet smile that anyone could have mistaken him for Adrian.

Just as expected, Lucy Keenan strode towards him, with a friendly smile on her face. Seeing this, Felix felt a strange sense of victory.

Adrian sunbaenim, there's a meeting in the student council room later Lucy Keenan, who was approaching him with a small and clear voice, stopped walking. Soon after, the smile disappeared without a trace from her face, replaced by embarrassment.

Ah

Lucy Keenan made a sound that he couldn't understand, she immediately turned her body around. Then she began to return to the path where she had been earlier at a very fast pace.

Felix raised an eyebrow as she watched the back of Lucy Keenan disappear. The sense of victory that filled his heart was completely gone. He ruffled his blonde hair wildly.

This is pissing me off

\* \* \*

Felix became aware of Lucy Keenans existence in the first semester of that year. It was one spring day when he and Adrian wore the same hat. Felix had rolled up his long hair and hid it under the hat, making him indistinguishable from Adrian.

Not only other students and teachers, but their best friend Alec couldnt tell them apart as well. He stood in front of them and tilted his head. What? What kind of trick is this? Hurry up and take it off. I cant tell whos who. The twins bursted laughing when they saw his confused expression.

No, our father is coming today.

The Duke of Berg?

Duke Arthur Berg was one of the most powerful and wealthy people within the Veros Empire. Xenomium Academy had received many large donations from him.

In an effort to avoid being caught by their father, the twins, who were well aware of their fathers strict and cold personality, came to school immaculately dressed. Felix, who didnt usually wear a tie since he found it irksome, was even wearing one.

I cant help it. Just wait until my father leaves, Felix said, roughly straightening the tie around his neck.

Whenever his father came to visit, Felix and Adrian would also be called to the principals office. He wanted his annoying fathers visit to the academy to end sooner rather than later.

There

That was when it happened. Felix and Adrian turned to face the small voice behind them. A female student with mysterious emerald eyes looked up at them. With a piece of paper in her hand that read Library New Directory, it appeared that she had come to deliver the list to Adrian, the head of the library.

Only then did Felix recall that the girl was a member of the library staff he had seen several times.

Felix was bored, so he had the sudden urge to pull a prank. He reached out to the girl with a soft, friendly smile before Adrian could even step forward.

He waited for the girl to hand him the list. But the girl just looked down at Felix's hand while holding the paper.

I She lifted her head with a tense expression on her face and hesitated. This is the new list of book clubs I want to give to Adrian sunbaenim, she said and immediately handed the paper to Adrian.

Hey, don't play around, said Adrian, elbowing Felix. He took the paper from her.

I'm sorry, Lucy. I've been busy with the student council, so it's like I've been putting a huge burden on you. I am the head of the library.

The girl, Lucy, shook her head. Her face red after hearing Adrian's words.

No! I'm the second-year manager! I'm not that busy either.

Okay, thank you. I look forward to your kind cooperation.

Adrian answered with a gentle tone. Lucy, who had been standing with a tense look all the time, was shining brightly for the first time.

And Felix stood there, perplexed, staring at the scene.

*How did you know?*

He didn't have a nametag on or a book in his hand that had his name. However, the girl did not hesitate to conclude that he was not Adrian. She was able to tell the twins apart at a glance.

Lucy, who delivered her list, politely bid her seniors goodbye and left.

What exactly is her name? Felix asked, looking at the corner where she disappeared.

Alec smiled mischievously at him. What, Felix! Are you interested?

Hey, you can't be. Don't do that. Lucy is Adrian scolded Felix with an awkward look.

But before Adrian could finish speaking, Felix raised his hand to stop him. No. You don't have to tell me I was just curious.

Felix reasoned that she had simply guessed it. That was a possibility. If not, how could she tell them apart at a glance when even their parents couldn't.

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## **Chapter 2**

But the same thing happened a few more times.

After the swordsmanship class, when Felix and Adrian came out of the training center with towels on their heads, Lucy, who hesitated and approached them, correctly identified Adrian. It also happened during a heavy rain, and both Adrian and Felix were wearing raincoats with hoods that covered their heads.

Lucy Keenan was able to tell the Berg twins apart based on something other than hair length.

Hey, Alec. Do I have any moles on my ears?

Mole? Alec, puzzled at Felix's outrageous question, willingly checks his ears. You don't have any.

Then, this time, Felix bowed, showing Alec the top of his head.

Hey, what are you doing?

Ignoring his bewildered friend, Felix pulled Adrian, who was sitting next to him. Look at the location of Adrian's hair whorl and mine. What do you think? Is it different?

It's the same.

No way. Even the hair whorls' position is the same. Felix looked at his twin brother. This bastard might actually be my doppelganger. It's neither a mole nor a hair whorl. If so, there can only be one explanation.

Maybe I'm a little more handsome than Adrian, right?

Alec was astonished as he looked at Felix, who asked with a face that was far too serious to be a joke.

You two look the same, as if you're looking at the mirror!

Eventually, the semester came to an end without being able to answer any question about Lucy Keenan. The academy was on summer vacation, and Felix, upon his return to the duke's residence, vowed to himself that he would no longer be concerned with frivolous matters.

He definitely made a resolution.

But he kept thinking about it. He kept wondering.

*What's the difference between us in her eyes?*

It seemed that this useless worry would end only when he found out the difference between himself and Adrian that only Lucy Keenan could see. So, Felix cut his long blond hair the night before leaving the dukes residence and returned to the academy. He stood in front of the mirror and examined himself; he looked remarkably similar to his twin brother. At this level, even Lucy Keenan would have a hard time telling them apart.

Felix had thought so.

\* \* \*

It had been a week since the semester began. Felix, who had cut off his hair with enthusiasm, was slightly regretting his hasty choice. When Adrian complained, he just joked around and laughed, but now he was starting to get annoyed by peoples misunderstandings.

Adrian!

I am Felix.

Adrian-kun!

This is Felix.

Adrian? No, is it Felix? Adrian, right?

Its Felix!

Felix, who gave up after being mistaken for an unknown number of times, walked down the hallway avoiding people. He was sick of explaining that he wasnt Adrian. As he turned around the corner, he encountered a person walking by with the same face and the same expression as him.

Adrian.

The younger brother that people had been looking for. He also didnt look as good as Felix.

Hey, Felix, said Adrian and his brows were drawn together as if he was tired of something. Before he had a chance to say anything, Felix quickly raised his hands and took a surrender position. He already knew enough of what his brother wanted to say.

Ill grow out my hair. And I wont cut it again.

Thats the wisest thing youve said all year. Adrian leaned against the wall, a helpless smile on his face. There was a dark shadow on his handsome face. The graduating

class, the student council president, the library manager. His younger brother, who juggled a slew of responsibilities, looked exhausted in Felix's eyes.

Are you okay?

At Felix's question, Adrian slowly raised his head. He smiled when he saw his brother's worried face. Of course. I just didn't get enough sleep.

*You foolish kid. If it's hard, just be honest with me.*

Adrian had a long-standing habit of pretending to be fine even when things were difficult, hiding and struggling alone. Felix felt sorry for his younger brother and was frustrated at the same time. Can I help you with anything? What is this? Felix snatched the paper Adrian was holding. The titles of books were neatly arranged over two pages.

This is a list of books to be brought in this semester. I have to take it to the library.

The operation of the Xenomium Academy library was managed with the librarian, Mrs. Erin, from the library department. With that, Felix's eyes lit up at a thought that suddenly popped into his head.

I'll take care of this. Felix said, paper in hand. Why don't you go into an empty classroom and take a nap for a moment?

Not noticing that his twin brother was planning something, Adrian smiled and nodded his head. Thanks.

Adrian immediately left the hallway in search of an empty classroom. Felix also took a step towards the library.

*This will be the last.*

He thought with a firm determination on his face. He decided to face Lucy Keenan one last time.

When she ran into Felix on campus a few days ago, she ran away in a hurry, as if she recognized him. But, for a brief moment, she had mistaken him for Adrian. So, if his acting is perfect, he might be able to fool Lucy Keenan.

When Felix arrived at the library, he stood in front of the hallway mirror and fixed his appearance. He looked like a creepy version of Adrian with his shirt neatly buttoned all the way up, he was fed up for a moment.

Felix entered the library, loudly clearing his throat. Mrs. Erin, the librarian, was nowhere to be seen. A female student was busy pulling out books near the bookshelf and stacking them on the floor one by one.



It was Lucy Keenan.

Felix approached cautiously, but she was so preoccupied with her work that she didn't notice him at all. The hem of her school uniform skirt was covered in white dust as she knelt down and pulled out a book from the bottom of her bookshelf. Felix cleared his throat once more and smiled as he spoke to her.

Hi.

Lucy glanced back when she heard his voice from behind her, but soon returned her attention back to the bookshelf.

Oh, sunbae, she said without even looking at Felix's face. She looked extremely busy, working hard in front of the bookshelf. I can't do anything about sunbeam is absolutely no room for <The Complete Collection of Ashilard>.

Lucy pulled out the last book on the bookshelf and placed it on top of the pile of books that had already been stacked high. As the pillar of books shook dangerously, she hurriedly corrected the center. Phew! If I knew this would happen, I should have asked the school to have more bookshelves. Even if I write a request now, it won't come in right away.

Felix's eyes widened as he saw Lucy pouring out her words as she spoke softly. It was the first time he had seen her talk so much.

Is it a book list? Lucy snatched the paper from Felix's grasp. Then she went down the list with her finger. <The Complete Collection of Ashilard > Volume 40 <The Spirits of the Empire> I'm going to have to throw out this old book. It was so old that a few pieces were torn <Bridal Preaching Book of Bertna>? Why is this coming in again? There's no one borrowing it.

The sight of her pouting her lips as if dissatisfied seemed strange to Felix. He had never imagined that she could make so many different expressions. This is because she always ran away with a stiff expression on her face whenever she faced him.

Lucy, after checking the lists, placed the papers on the bookshelf. First of all, we'd better move these books to the library, she said and lifted the pile of books closest to her and approached Felix. Then she carefully handed them over to his arms, as if she was hugging a baby. Felix was about to accept the books when Lucy said, Oh, but come to think of it. Sunbae, you have a lot of things to do, right?

Lucy, who stood close with a pile of books in between them, smelled of fresh grass mixed with the scent of bitter herbs. I will take care of this. Lucy smiled and took the books away again. I'll move it together with Colin, it'll be over in no time.

Felix's body stiffened and he stood still. Lucy tilted his head and looked at him.

Sunbae, are you sick Lucy stopped talking mid-sentence. Her eyes widened and her lips slowly opened.

Ah.

As if she realized something, Lucys complexion quickly turned pale.

thump

The books she was holding fell to the floor.

I, Im sorry! Lucy exclaimed I thought it was Adrian-sunbae.

Ah, I Felix tried to say it was okay.

At that time, Lucy, who was stepping back, touched the books she had piled high, and the top collapsed. Lucy, now frustrated, hurriedly knelt down in front of him and began to organize her books.

For a moment, Felix walked over to her side and tried to help, but then stopped. Lucys expression, as if she had seen a ghost, flashed through his mind as soon as she realized he was not Adrian. She didnt seem to want his help. Eventually, Felix turned around and left the library.

He walked down the hallway as quickly as he could, nervously running his fingers through his hair.

*Why are you so uncomfortable?*

He couldnt understand Lucy Keenan, who laughed and chatted with Adrian, but stiffened as if she had encountered a monster when she faced him.

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## **Chapter 3**

Autumn came in an instant.

The sound of cicadas shaking the sky disappeared without a trace, and instead, the chirping of grasshoppers flowed into the dormitory window every night. During the day, more and more students strolled around campus while enjoying the cool weather. Everyone seemed to welcome the arrival of a new season after a long time.

Except for one person.

Achoo! Felix couldn't hold back his itchy nose and sneezed while walking on the street. What a terrible season, he grumbled as he took a seat on the bench. Felix was trying to get his allergy medicine from his bag. However, no matter how hard he looked, he couldn't find the medicine bottle. He felt like he had left it in the dormitory.

Oh, damn it, he groaned and rubbed his face with his hand. He raised his head again and saw yellow-green leaves strewn about the ground.

Maram Vine is a plant that grows naturally every fall in the Veros Empire. It was such a common weed that the ordinary people didn't even care whether the vine bloomed or not.

Unfortunately, Felix was born with an allergy to Maram Vines. He frowned whenever he saw the plant and had to avoid it. In addition to the endless sneezing, the tip of his nose tickled all day, and his mood plummeted to its lowest point.

The allergy medication prescribed by the duke's doctor did not work. It just stopped his sneezing. But last fall, Adrian, who was suffering from the same symptoms, obtained medicine from somewhere and brought it to him, which was a great relief. It not only stopped the sneezing but also relieved the itchiness at the tip of the nose.

*Oh, I can't live without that medicine.*

It was a bother to go back the way he came, but it was better than constantly sneezing in class, so Felix eventually decided to get his medicine. It was then that he noticed a familiar walk. Lucy Keenan was walking up to him. Felix's eyes widened for a moment at the unexpected appearance, but he quickly returned to a somber expression.

Lucy seemed to have mistaken him for Adrian when she saw him from a distance. She almost ran away again after getting close to him and realizing he was Felix, as she had always been.

He stopped paying attention to her and began to pick up the bag he had placed on the bench in search of the medicine case. However, the sound of her footsteps, which he expected to move away, somehow drew closer to him.

Suddenly, the round nose shoe stopped in front of his eyes. Felix raised his head slowly. Under the clear autumn sky, Lucy's emerald-like green eyes were looking up at him.

*What is it?*

Felix swallowed his saliva without realizing it.

*What.*

A few seconds passed after making eye contact. By this time, Lucy Keenan, who usually escaped in surprise, was still standing in front of him.

Felix felt his own heart beating strangely.

*Did she mistake him for Adrian? This time?*

When the flowing silence was about to become awkward, Lucy spoke. Felix sunbaenim. Im sorry, but <The History of Murinen> which you borrowed on September 3rd, has been overdue for two days. Her small but clear voice flowed into Felixs ear. Her cool voice scattered like the autumn wind that blew through his clothes. He trembled slightly.

*Oh, book.*

*So she just came to get an overdue book.*

There are a lot of people waiting for the book, so I hope you return it as soon as possible. When Felix didnt respond, Lucy added an explanation.

I havent read it yet, Felix said on impulse.

The book was right there in his bag. He had already copied the information he needed into his notebook, and he had no intention of continuing to read the book any further. Rather, returning the book now might save him the trouble of going to the library and returning it. But Felix somehow didnt feel like returning the book to her.

His impulsive reply seemed to have surprised Lucy. But Youve already missed the return deadline by two days. Everyone has been looking for that book several times.. she said, her voice trailing off at the end with a troubled expression on her face.

Felix took out <The History of Murinen> from his bag. At that moment, a smile of relief appeared on Lucys face, and she reached out her small pale hands. But the book, which she desperately wanted to take, suddenly unfolded on Felixs lap.

Then wait.

What?

Felix sat cross-legged and fixed his gaze on the book. Theres not much left, so sit next to me and wait.

I. Lucy tried to retort, but she shut her mouth as Felix was trying to read silently.

Felix, who pretended to be reading, glanced at her shoes as she stood helplessly in front of him.

*Will she just leave?*

It wouldn't be surprising if she left since she had always avoided him whenever she saw him. However, Lucy, who seemed to be turning away, slowly walked to the end of the bench and sat on the end as far away from Felix as possible. Her posture seemed so uncomfortable that it would be more accurate to say that she was sitting in the air rather than on a bench.

Felix gave her a sidelong glance. The corner of his mouth turned up into a smile. Lucy Keenan was such a funny kid.

You always run away from me, and you don't even hide your awkwardness, but now you are waiting with an uncomfortable posture to get a book.

Unaware of Felix's hidden smirk, Lucy looked down at the ground, swinging her legs, looking at people passing by and fiddled with the surrounding shrubs. Felix kept on pretending to read the book; he even turned the pages now and then. Somehow, he felt good. Enough to hold back the tickling on the tip of his nose.

Adrian! A loud cry rang out, breaking their tranquility.

From a nearby building, with Alec in the lead, third-year boys like Felix rushed out. They found Felix and came straight to the bench.

Ugh, Adrian doesn't look at me with those eyes, Alec said as he looked at Felix's murderous glare.

Then it's Felix, not Adrian! said another male student playfully, and he sat down next to Felix.

The bench quickly became noisy because of the boys gathering around Felix.

Won't you go away? Felix crumpled his face and shouted. However, his friends burst into laughter and became more entangled with him. No matter how much he pushed their faces with his palms, they didn't budge. Instead, they just stuck together more.

Amidst the chaos, Felix turned his head to check the end of the bench. No one was there. He could soon spot Lucy Keenan's back, moving away from the bench. <The History of Murinen>, which was on his lap, fell to the floor.

Felix took a deep breath before clenching his fists and shouted. Get away from me!

\* \* \*

Eventually, the book went back inside Felix's bag and was forgotten.

He had a busy day; after returning to the dormitory to get his allergy medicine, he ran to his classroom to not be late for class. On Wednesday, classes were packed from morning to late evening, but his schedule became even more twisted when he pretended to read a book while sitting on a bench before class.

Felix came back from his final class, swordsmanship. He collapsed on the bed as soon as he finished showering. Hey, that's my bed, said Adrian, who shared the same room, while sitting on the sofa. Felix waved his hand; he was too lazy to respond.

Adrian's words could not enter Felix's consciousness and scattered out of the open window. Felix fell asleep as the cool autumn breeze caressed his cheek. When he opened his eyes again, it was bright outside, and birds chirped loudly. Adrian was fast asleep on Felix's bed.

Fortunately, the first class of the day was in the afternoon. Felix stretched and got up to have breakfast. Adrian was still buried under a blanket when he returned. It was rare for him to sleep so late. He also seemed to be a lot busier yesterday. Felix laid the duvet over his twin brother's body and sat down on the sofa to relax.

Someone knocked on the door not long after that. Felix was puzzled; no one among his friends who came to their room would knock on the door so timidly. Felix stood up and walked over to the door.

Lucy, dressed neatly in her school uniform, stood by the door when he opened it.

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## Chapter 4

Felix's eyes widened in surprise.

*Am I seeing things?*

But it was definitely Lucy, standing stiffly with a tense expression and looking up at him with her emerald eyes. Hello. Lucy greeted in a small voice.

Did she come to see Adrian? Felix thought as he forgot to respond. He unknowingly stepped aside from the door. Lucy hesitated for a moment and went into the room. Her eyes darted around, not knowing where to look, as if she had come to the wrong room.

I. Lucy turned to Felix and spoke.

Lucy? Adrian lifted his head from the bed with a scruffy face. He squinted his eyes as he looked at Lucy. How did you get in? Female students are prohibited from entering the male student dormitory.

In the Xenomium Academy, it was forbidden to enter the dormitory of the opposite sex. At Adrians words, Lucy held up a paper that read Entry Permit. Superintendent Lauren, who managed the boys dormitory, had signed it.

I got permission from Lauren.

Knowing that Lauren always has a weak spot when it comes to girls. Adrian grinned and sat up on the bed. He had completely woken up. Anyway, whats going on?

He also seemed to think that Lucy had something to do with him. But after a moments hesitation, Lucy turned to Felix. Felix sunbaenim. I have to get the book today. As soon as I opened the library, there were four people who came to look for it.

Book? Is it <History of Murinen>? Adrian replied instead of Felix. He ruffled his blonde hair and frowned. You were the one who overdue the book?

Lucys claim that students come to borrow the book several times a day doesnt seem exaggerated in light of Adrians reaction. Why the hell are people looking for that book? Felix asked; he had no idea.

I need the book for the assignment that teacher Arkel gave me this semester. Sophomores in history classes are scouring the capitals bookstores for the book. Adrian explained with a dissatisfied expression and added, If you have a conscience, return it immediately.

Adrian, who appeared to have recovered completely from his fever, got out of bed and wore only a light coat over his pajamas. Lucy, youre working so hard. I apologize for my ugly brother. He said as he crossed the room. He seemed to be on his way to the dining area for breakfast. When Adrian left the room, silence quickly flooded in.

Sunbae, the book. Lucy carefully spoke her words again, breaking the silence.

Felix walked to the sofa, sat down, and took the book from his bag. He picked up a few pages from the back and showed them to Lucy. Theres still about this much left. Ill read it quickly and give it to you, so sit there and wait. He pointed to his bed with his thumb.

Lucys eyes widened into a round, and her pupils shook in bewilderment. She was restless but still sat on the bed. Felix began to read silently, his gaze fixed on the book.

The room was quiet again. Amidst the suffocating silence, the occasional sound of Felix flipping through the pages could be heard. Felixs mind, on the other hand, was a whirlwind of questions and confusions.

*Why am I pretending to read a book? I can just give it to her.*

Although his behavior was outrageous, he did not stop pretending to read the book, tightening his nerves to detect the slightest presence of Lucy Keenan sitting quietly on his bed behind his back.

*What kind of expression are you making right now?*

Does she want to go back and regrets coming here? Or is she making an annoyed expression at him, who blindly ordered her to wait because he was a senior? These questions ran through Felix's mind.

Time has passed. Finally, Felix couldn't hold back his curiosity and looked back. Lucy didn't have a look of regret or annoyance. She was looking affectionately at a painting hanging at Felix's bedside; it was a portrait of him as a child.

The young Felix's expression in the picture looked grumpy and blunt. However, looking at the face, Lucy's mouth soon had a soft smile. Then she quietly reached out her hand and gently stroked the face of the child in the painting. It's like she's treating a loved one.

Felix's eyes widened in surprise, and his lips opened gently. Why my face?

His heart began to flutter. But the next moment, when he remembered that it wasn't him that got out of his bed this morning, but Adrian, his fluttering heart fell under his feet.

Thud

The book fell from his weakened hand. Lucy was surprised by the sound and withdrew her hand from the painting.

Ah. She was startled when she made eye contact with Felix. Her face turned red in an instant.

Felix moved his eyes and looked forward again. Moments later, he held out the book without looking at Lucy, with only his arms outstretched to her.

Here you go.

Are you done reading?

He heard Lucy's trembling voice behind his back. It's okay, take it.

Then, after a brief sound of footsteps, the book slipped out of Felix's hand. Lucy hurriedly ran to the door, book in hand, the back of her ear turned red. As she pulled the handle and opened the door, Felix said, facing her back. That's my portrait.

Not Adrian.



Lucy looked back at him for a moment with a red face and quickly disappeared out of the door. Felix, who was left alone in the room, leaned down with his head against the sofa. Lucy Keenan stroked his face in the portrait, thinking it was Adrian. And with eyes full of love. It made him aware of one thing.

*It was clear that she was in love with his twin, Adrian.*

\* \* \*

So you were able to distinguish us at a glance because of The Power of Love.

That evening, Felix sat crookedly on the bed, looking at the back of Adrians head. They say there is something like a halo behind the person you like or something like that. Felix was devastated to think that the answer to the question he had been pondering for months was a childish reason.

He was also a little annoyed with himself. Why hadnt he noticed it before? She had an expressionless face when she met him and had a bright smile whenever she met Adrian. The lips that were tightly closed when she was with him were constantly chattering when she was with Adrian. It was so obvious.

Im jealous of you. Felix suddenly said to the back of Adrians head as he was changing. Adrian turned and looked at him.

What?

Do you remember when we were young, when our mother couldnt tell us apart?

She still cant. At Adrians blunt reply, Felix laughed.

Yes. Not even now.

As Felix spoke in a low voice, old memories he seemed to never forget flashed into his mind. As it is now, the twins of Duke Berg when they were young looked alike, as if they were made from the same mold, and it was impossible to tell them apart.

Even the Duke and Duchess of Berg could barely recognize them. The crest of the family was engraved on Felixs thigh as soon as he was born. It was covered when wearing clothes, so it was not uncommon for the duchess to mistake the twins and call them incorrectly.

Adrian.

Adrian.

Felix could still vividly recall the voice of his mother, who had called him by his brothers name.

Come on, Adrian. A mother who secretly took him to an empty room and gave him snacks in her hand. Hurry up and eat before Felix comes.

Felix, of a young age, unable to say that he was not Adrian while looking at his mothers anxious eyes that were constantly checking outside the door. He had no choice but to munch and swallowed the snacks his mother gave him.

You cant tell Felix. His mother gently brushed off the snacks around his mouth with her soft hands. Its only for Adrian. Okay? Keep everything I give you a secret from Felix.

Not wanting to disappoint his mother, he had kept his sorrow hidden as a child. Along with the question of why she couldnt love him like Adrian.

So? Adrian, who had finished changing, sat on his bed and said, What do you want me to do? Why did you stop talking?

Hmm, I dont know. Felix deliberately lied down on the bed, teasing his younger brother.

*She recognizes you, who even our mother who loved you so much cant. Just because she likes you.* Felix swallowed the words he wanted to shout at his younger brother in an angry tone for some reason.

The desire to shout and the desire to never let him know fought fiercely in his mind.

A pillow suddenly flew from Adrian, who was drinking medicine. Felix burst into laughter as the soft pillow found its target.

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## **Chapter 5**

The leaves that were once fresh yellow-green now had a deep, mature green color. During the day, the bright and warm sunlight was still pouring on the ground, but after the sun went down, a rather chilly air would fill the campus.

Autumn is in full swing.

Felix ran into Lucy Keenan several times in the hallway or on campus after she came all the way to the dormitory and collected the book, but he simply walked past her without even a glance. Since there is no longer a need to pretend to be Adrian in front of her or watch her every expression and reaction.

*Now that I know the answer, it is natural to lose interest.*

There were only a few girls at the academy who did not take an interest in the twins of Duke Berg, but most of them secretly admired the polite and exemplary Adrian. So, it didn't surprise him to know that she likes Adrian.

*I don't have to worry about it now.*

Felix came to his senses after he noticed the whispers and giggles following him as he walked around campus. Several groups of girls were secretly whispering or giggling nearby, and their gazes were drawn to Felix and Adrian.

What's going on? Felix asked, confusion evident on his face.

Jarvis, another male student walking with him, replied, It's probably Literature Night.

Last year, there was also a battle for the Princes of Berg, which was quite interesting. Alec, who was next to Felix, added.

Oh. Only then did Felix figure out what was happening.

Literature Night.

Every fall, Xenomium Academy's Book Department hosted a small event in which several participants came out on stage to recite poetry or play instruments. Because the event was held in a modest hall attached to the library building, rather than the Academy's Great Hall, not many people were invited. With invitations from the library, about fifty people, including the presenter, were allowed to enter.

Therefore, the competition for invitations was quite fierce, and especially after Adrian joined the book club, the female students began to look for invitations with even more vigor.

Various female students approached Felix, who was not a member of the book club, and they bravely asked him to escort them to the event. However, Felix had no interest in literature nights or morning events, and he flatly refused every girl who approached him.

As word spread that Adrian was the only Prince of Berg attending Literature Night, the competition for Adrian intensified.

Last fall's winner was Claire Hamilton.

Claire, the daughter of Marquis Hamilton, was also a student council member with Adrian. She was gorgeous and had a calm disposition. Felix, who remained in the dormitory alone that night, stood by the window and witnessed Adrian escorting Claire away.

Everyone was looking at them with their mouths hanging open. A beautiful woman and handsome man together were a sight to behold. Felix, who was not interested in his younger brothers relationship, thought the two made a cute couple.

Are you going with Claire Hamilton again this time? asked Felix. Adrian shook his head lightly in response.

Then who? Alec was surprised by Adrians response. Is there any other girl who can go with you other than Claire Hamilton?

Adrian laughed at the question. What about Ros Millard? Felix interjected.

Ros Millard was a third-year girl with vivid red hair and stunning features. At the beginning of her school year, she openly expressed an interest in Felix, and she liked how he behaved freely without being bound by old-fashioned manners or customs.

But when Felix made it clear that he wasnt interested in her several times, she stopped bothering him. After that, Ros began to express her interest in Adrian.

Ros? Adrian tilted his head. The name popped out of nowhere.

She seems to be interested in you.

Adrian laughed again. Looking at his brothers relaxed smile, Felix opened his mouth. Then how about Lucy Keenan? I think she likes you too. But he managed to swallow the words over his throat, which had almost spilled out.

Suddenly, his annoyance soared. He couldnt figure out why the hell he was trying to say that.

Are you interested in her?

What? Felix froze on the road at Adrians sudden question. What are you talking about? He frowned.

*Me towards Lucy Keenan?*

Why are you overreacting? Adrian asked, puzzled at his brothers reaction. Felix was angrier than expected. Really? Do you actually have feelings for Ros?

*Oh, Ros.* Felix let out a sigh of relief. No, its not like that. He began to walk again, leaving Adrian and his friends behind. Their eyes looking suspiciously at him.

What about Lucy Keenan? He secretly laughed in vain.

*Wow, thats ridiculous.*

\* \* \*

Felix and Adrian headed to the library after lunch. They were sitting in a small rest area in the corner of the library.

Even during the break, Adrian was busy examining papers on the table; List of Presenters for Literature Night written on it. Adrian, the book manager, had the responsibility to check the presenters and the contents of the presentations in advance.

Meanwhile, Felix, who had nothing to do with the Book Department, enjoyed his leisure time while looking out the window.

Then, a little further away, Lucy Keenan came around the corner. She was busy pulling the book cart and putting the returned books back on their shelves. Felix deliberately avoided looking at her direction, instead focusing on the clear blue sky beyond the window.

But the sound of the carts wheels irritated his ears as she pushed it along. The sound did not move away, but kept getting closer. Moments later, Felix noticed Lucy was purposely staying around them.

There were already no books left on the cart to return, and Lucy was repeating her meaningless actions, taking the books out of the bookshelf and putting it back. Soon, Felix's gaze rested on the invitation to Literature Night sticking out of Lucy's jacket pocket.

No way. Felix squinted and looked at the invitation. Do you want to ask Adrian to come with you? Seeing her hovering and pacing around, it seemed like it was true.

Adrian was reading poems submitted by prospective presenters, unaware of Lucy's actions. Lucy sometimes glanced at Felix, sitting opposite Adrian, with an anxious look in her eyes as if she was troubled.

*Ah. So, I guess I'm a hindrance.*

Felix, who had unintentionally interfered with Lucy Keenan's request for a partner, felt annoyed for some reason.

*Heh, I'd get out of your way.*

Felix leaned against his back and crossed his legs when the library door swung open suddenly, and a female student appeared with fluttering red hair. She was Ros Millard, with a slender body and a gorgeous face, just like a rose.

After wandering around the library once, she noticed Felix and Adrian sitting by the window and walked straight to them. She stood proudly in front of the twins, but then frowned as she looked at their faces alternately. Perhaps she can't tell who is who.

This is the library. Can you come in quietly? Felix scolded her. Only then did Ros turn toward Adrian.

Adrian Berg, she called Adrian with a loud voice. Felix's words fell on deaf ears. I heard you rejected Claire's request for an escort.

Adrian's brow furrowed slightly at her reckless words and actions. I'd appreciate it if you could express that I politely refused her request.

Then your partner's seat will be empty, right? Ros asked, ignoring Adrian's complaint. So, go to Literature Night with me.

A well-expected proposal flowed out of Ross's mouth.

Felix immediately glanced at Lucy. She had turned her back, so her expression was not visible. But seeing that her busy hands held the cart handle tightly and did not move at all, it was obvious that she was eavesdropping on Ros and Adrian's conversation.

Thank you for asking, Adrian replied. He was slightly perplexed at Ross's bold request. This time, I'm going to the event alone. Indirectly, he expressed his rejection. This will be the last library event I host.

But Ros did not back down. I have no intention of interfering with your work, and you don't have to pay great attention to me just because I'm your partner. You just need to escort me when we enter and leave the event.

However, Felix could guess that Ross's request would not end there. Ros liked to receive attention from many people, and at every prom she participated in, she showed off her splendid dance skills and drew everyone's attention. There was no way that Ros would only want Adrian to escort her.

The conversation continued with Ross's persistent persuasion and Adrian's embarrassing refusal. Felix could feel Lucy Keenan's shoulders drooping as time passed. He couldn't see her expression since he was facing her back, but somehow the back of her head looked somewhat sullen.

That fool.

Unknown irritation soared in the corner of Felix's heart.

*This is so frustrating*

Unlike a while ago, it was amusing to see Lucy Keenan trying to get Adrian Berg, who had a lot of female students vying for the same opportunity, to be her partner. But now, seeing her droopy, in danger of losing her favorite senior to someone else, made him angry in some way.

*Why?*

Felix could never understand why he was frustrated and upset over Lucy Keenan, who had nothing to do with him.

Then Adrians words echoed in his mind, Are you interested in her?

Felix shook his head vehemently. What nonsense.

Why dont you go with me, Ros? It was then, impulsive words left Felixs mouth.

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## **Chapter 6**

What? Ros quickly turned her head. She looked at Felix as if asking if he had eaten something wrong. On the other hand, Adrian looked at Felix with a surprised expression and then smiled slightly. A smile that seemed to say, I thought so.

Felix could feel Lucy Keenans gaze, looking at him with a face as surprised as Ros.

What kind of trick is this? Ros asked, her eyes full of suspicion. Needless to say, Felix had never once shown interest toward Ros. When Ros first expressed her affection for him, he was consistent with his sarcastic attitude. She felt suspicious when he suddenly volunteered to be her escort.

Meanwhile, Felix was furious at himself for speaking impulsively once again. It was too much to be momentarily heated up by Lucy Keenans frustrating and passive behavior. But theres no use crying over spilled milk.

Felix glared at Adrian, who was watching the situation with interest, and then replied, What do you mean by a trick? Its because I feel sorry watching you beg at Adrian.

I dont really want to go with you. Ros didnt react very positively because of her experience of being rejected by Felix several times in the past.

We have the same face anyway, so it doesnt matter if you go with me, right? Felix jumped up from his seat. He gently pushed Ros out the door, and said, So just leave my poor brother alone.

Felix glanced at Lucy once before leaving the library. She stood with her mouth agape, staring blankly at him and Ros.

*Im helping you this much, so do your best, Lucy Keenan.*

Felix thought as he closed the door.

\* \* \*

The result of impulsively choosing to help Lucy Keenan with her unrequited love was disastrous.

Ros accepted Felixs request for a partner and promised not to bother Adrian anymore, instead, she asked him if he could dance to Evelozas dance. She didnt just want to be escorted by the Prince of Berg.

After the presentation, there will be a simple party and ball. If I dance in the middle of the hall with you, wouldnt it at least appear in the capital newspaper? When it is revealed that I was the Prince of Bergs companion, my name will become more well-known.

You want to dance the Eveloza dance in that narrow hall? With me?

Evelozas dance featured many passionate and obscene movements. If you danced at the after-party ball at the poetry recital, this was the perfect dance to remain in the history of the Xenomium Academy.

Felix struggled to persuade Ros, who rarely bends her will. But in the end, Ros took a step back and promised not to force him to dance. Felix looked at her back and let out a long sigh. No matter how hard he thought about it, he seemed to have done something stupid.

After all the schedules were completed, he was able to talk to Adrian again in the dormitory in room that evening.

So you

You

As soon as they met, the two spoke at the same time.

Tell me first, Felix said as he sat down on the bed.

How are you with Ros? Adrian asked with a smile. It seems like he misunderstood Felixs feelings for Ros.



What?

Literature Night.

We decided to go together.

Adrian whistled. Do well.

Its not like that. Looking at Adrians expression, it was unlikely that he would believe Felix, no matter how much he explained. So, you? Felix gave up on clearing up the misunderstanding and asked Adrian.

What about me?

Who are you going to go with? Felix got angry; he was frustrated.

As I said earlier, Im only going to watch over this time.

What? Felix frowned.

*Stupid Lucy Keenan! You didnt even bring it up! Because of you, I might end up dancing with Ros!*

Felix, lying on the bed with a devastated look on his face, ruffled his blonde hair with both hands. Whats wrong with you? Adrians absurd voice could be heard. But Felix, unable to explain his behavior, continued to pull his hair.

*I knew it.*

He was so frustrated at Lucy Keenan. She liked his face so much that she could even recognize it, but she couldnt even ask Adrian to go to the event together.

\* \* \*

Literature night.

Stars were embedded in the clear sky without a single cloud. The sound of grasshoppers chirping could be heard in the flowerbed. Neatly dressed male students stood nervously in front of the girls dormitory. Soon, girls in fluttering dresses descended the stairs in search of their partners.

Felix, a little further away, was also waiting for his partner. His blonde hair, which was unusually neat, shone especially brightly under the night sky. Furthermore, the suit that fits his body subtly revealed a slender and muscular body, clearly bigger than other male students.

Some female students glanced at him without their partners noticing. Felix was already aware of this, but chose to stay silent. He was simply dissatisfied and annoyed that he was caught in this chaotic chasm. How did things turn out like this?

Its too late to regret it. He had to escort Ros Millard, and he only prayed that there would be no mishap that would force him to dance a passionate dance with her in the middle of the hall.

Anyway, why isnt she coming out? He let out a short sigh and looked up the stairs.

A girl in a light beige dress appeared out the door. The dress, which reached her ankles, looked simple except for the butterfly pattern embroidered with gold thread around her neck. It was perfectly unnoticeable compared to other girls outfits with a lot of frills and all kinds of decorations, but Felix couldnt take his eyes off her for some reason.

Lucy, who usually has her light brown hair braided, has her hair unraveled naturally below her shoulders; she grabbed the hem of the dress and carefully came down the stairs. The way she walked looked awkward, as if she were taking her first step.

Suddenly, Lucy turned her head toward Felix; she made eye contact with him and was startled. She looked around with a surprised face and hurried to a boy beckoning at her. Felix straightened his crooked posture. His eyes squinted, as he glanced at the boy, who was smiling brightly at Lucy.

He was about the same height as Lucy, and his face was that of a small boy. He looked so young that Felix couldnt believe he was enrolled to the academy. Lucy burst into laughter for a moment, as if the boy had joked about something. Then she grabbed the unknown boys arm slightly.

Felix raised one eyebrow while looking at the scene.

*What is that?*

It was absurd that Lucy Keenan, who was escorted by another boy, even asked Adrian to go with him. Then someone lightly touched Felixs shoulder. Turning around, Ros was standing there.

She was wearing a white, heart-filled dress. She looked like a swan with feathers after turning her head gracefully. Ross beautiful appearance captured the attention of the students who were standing there. They stared at her with admiration.

Felix. Ros, who called his name gracefully and naturally folded her arms, seemed very satisfied with their gaze and interest.

Why are you so late? Felix asked in annoyance.

Ros gave him a cold, bitter look. Can't you see me now? All this is the result of investing time. And if you waste my investment, I won't let it go. Smile. Then, in a thrillingly instantaneous moment, Ros changed her expression and flashed a seductive smile as she paraded herself. Felix shook her head. Soon, he began to escort his partner to the library hall.

A few steps away, Felix could see Lucy walking with the polite boy. She kept stumbling as if she had worn her high heels for the first time. Felix smiled without realizing it because it looked like a child secretly wearing her mother's shoes.

What? Is it funny? Ros poked him with her elbow.

What?

Is it funny that the damn newspaper put my name wrong? She asked, clearly upset. You just laughed.

She talked about a dance competition hosted by the academy last semester. She had won the competition, but was greatly humiliated when a sloppy newspaper called Bern Daily used the wrong name. It must have been very unfair for Ros, but it wasn't a very interesting story for Felix.

Now, he was more interested in what the couple walking in the front was talking about than the insignificant mistake of a reporter from Bern Daily.

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## Chapter 7

The two of them chatted and giggled about interesting things the whole time since they left in front of the dormitory. Lucy Keenan was chattering away to her partner with a happy expression on her face that Felix had never seen before.

*What.*

Felix's face wrinkled again.

*How can you talk like that with a man other than Adrian?*

Suddenly, Felix felt like an idiot. He had even given Lucy a chance, so she could apply to be Adrian's partner. He also ended up being Ross's partner, which he never wanted to do.

Lucy didn't seem to regret not being Adrian's partner. She was just laughing and chatting with her partner and having a great evening like everyone else.

Felix closed his mouth tightly and stared at the pair ahead. As he continued to watch them, the two seemed to get along quite well. They were both small and young, looking at each other and chatting, like a pair of squirrels.

Suddenly, annoyance surged from the corner of Felix's heart.

Felix Berg. Ros Millard's angry voice rang in his ear. Are you really not going to listen to me?

Oh, sorry. Felix took his eyes off the back of Lucy's head.

Ros stared at him with her eyes narrowed. I know you hate going to events like this, but you were the one who invited me. Ros straightened up and said, unable to hide her displeasure. Then you have to be nice to me for accepting it. You're like the tiara I'm wearing on my head tonight. Do your best, so I can shine brighter than others. Do you understand me, Prince of Berg?

After she finished her words, Ros looked forward again with her face fashioned into a coy smile and began to walk.

\* \* \*

The library hall was beautifully decorated with golden ornaments in the autumn atmosphere. The cacti and flower pots at the entrance were removed, and instead, pumpkins were gently illuminating the place to welcome the guests.

In front of the stage, the presenters will recite a poem. Adrian, the director and host of the event, Peter, the literary director, and Mrs. Erin, the librarian, were busy checking something.

The students who arrived at the entrance of the hall began to enter one by one. About fifty people walked inside, and the whole room was crowded as they sat down.

Let's sit here, said Ros, pointing to the table a little further from the stage.

Not in the front? said Felix, looking curiously at Ros, who for some reason had chosen an inconspicuous seat.

This is fine. The distance from here to the stage is just right to show people my graceful walk.

What do you mean? asked Felix, drawing his eyebrows together, but without answering, Ros sat down on the chair and slowly fluttered the fan she held in her hand.

Felix followed her to her seat and saw Lucy sitting a few tables away. She was still talking to her own partner, the boy, about a topic she seemed to enjoy.

The hall was buzzing with the noise of people talking.

Moments later, Adrian came on stage. At the same time, the noisy hall soon quieted down. Everyones attention was naturally focused on him.

Adrian stepped onto the stage, looked around the audience, and slowly opened his mouth.

It was the first verse of a poem called Autumn Nights. It was an important custom of the Literature Night for the host to go on stage and recite poetry first.

Adrians calm voice filled the hall. People held their breath and listened to his poem. Everyone was captivated by his beautiful and elegant appearance. Even Ros, who had always been dissatisfied after being rejected by Adrian, looked at him in rapture.

Felix averted his eyes and looked at Lucys side. She, too, was concentrating on Adrians poetry recital, her mouth agape. The clear green eyes that looked at him were particularly dazzling.

At the end of Adrians recitation, the crowd applauded enthusiastically. The applause did not stop until he left the stage to introduce the next speaker.

Perhaps discouraged by the incredible popularity of the previous reciter, a first-year student came on stage with a nervous face. Soon, another beautiful poem resonated in the hall.

Literature Night allowed them to showcase poetry recitations and various other talents, such as playing musical instruments and singing. Some students played the violin, others the piano.

At the end of their performance, applause erupted from the audience.

The reciters poetry recitals were sweet; and the performers performances were excellent. The night was getting deeper, and the event was reaching its climax.

However, some participants tilted their heads and yawned secretly. The poems and music were beautiful, but they were a bit boring. People hoped that there would be a presenter who could change the atmosphere and softened the mood in the hall.

At that time, Adrian called out an unexpected name. The next person is third-year Ros Millard.

Ros, who had been sitting next to Felix the whole time, slowly stood up.

Whats that?

Ignoring Felix, who was looking at her with a surprised face, Ros gently moved forward. Her dress rustling with every step she took.

Like a graceful swan, she rose to the stage. Both the boys and the girls marveled at the beautiful curves Ros Millard created with her every move. Clearly, she had a knack for catching peoples attention.

Ros curtsied with a slight lift of her dress. Several male students, who had been sleepy, suddenly came to their senses and applauded. Soon the beautiful melody of the piano flowed over the stage, and Ros began to sing her song. It was <Queen of Gold>, a song famous for its lyrical lyrics.

Natural expressions and elegant gestures.

Ros was usually flattered, and she tended to look down on others. Her song was so flawlessly perfect, its a wonder if her arrogance came from her skill.

Ros Millard was not only good at dancing. She had a talent that enabled her to attract peoples attention. She seemed to have mastered all areas, including dancing and singing.

Lucy Keenan, who Felix casually looked at, didnt look good. While everyone listened to Roses song as if in ecstasy, Lucy sat and looked like she was about to cry.

*Is she thinking about competing with Ros?*

Felix grinned.

Thats understandable. Ros Millard, beautiful and from a good family, was always a prominent student who stood out everywhere. Then she went to Adrian first, and she proposed to make her his partner?

In Lucys eyes, she might look like a fearsome eagle that will snatch her own crush at any moment.

As he was thinking about it, Lucy suddenly turned her head and looked at him. Their eyes met in the air. Lucys eyes widened as if they were about to pop out. She quickly avoided his gaze and looked in front of her.

Felix quickly turned away as well. He was surprised.

*Why are you looking at me all of a sudden?*

Felixs heart was pounding without him knowing why.

After that, Lucy never looked back at him until the end of Ross song. She just sat there stiffly, looking at a corner of the stage, not even looking at Ros.

Soon the song ended. The crowd applauded and cheered harder than ever before. Ros seemed satisfied with the reaction, gracefully bent her knees and curtsied repeatedly.

How was it? Ros returned to her seat and asked Felix.

It was great, Felix answered, nodding his head slightly. But all his thoughts were directed elsewhere.

After a few more announcements, only the final presenter remained. Surprisingly, he was a small student who came as Lucy Keenans partner. Felix, who had been sitting loosely with his legs crossed as he slowly got tired, changed his posture.

The boys name was Colin Connor. Colin, who has a small stature, stepped onto the stage as if he was not nervous despite the onerous task of being the last presenter. Colin Connor had an inconspicuous appearance, the audience looked at the small student without much expectation. Only Lucy was cheering and clapping her hands.

Soon, Colin began to recite his poem. His pose was natural, and his voice was confident. He seemed to be familiar with the stage. People tilted their heads as they listened to his recitation. It was a poem that they had never heard before. But they soon began to indulge in the beautiful content more and more.

Where does that come from? Ros asked. She leaned toward Felix, arms folded. However, Felix could not answer because he had never read such a poem in any poetry book.

Colins recitation is over. He bowed down and said, Thank you for listening to my poem.

The seated audience who were moved by Collins poem, gave a thunderous applause. It was even greater than the applause Adrian or Ros had received.

What, he didnt write it, right? Ros grumbled, as if displeased with Colin Connor, who received more attention than she was.

But Felix was not listening to Ros. Before he knew it, his eyes were back on Lucy.

Lucy was smiling more than ever, applauding Colin Connor. From the look on her face, he could tell how proud she was and how much she liked it.

Applause erupted from the audience after each performance.

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## Chapter 8

Soon, all the poetry recitation and performances were over.

Several candlesticks were lit by the members of the book club. There was an almost immediate shift in mood from coziness to vibrant in the hall. With the glowing flames accompanied by lively music, the party was in full swing.

The students once serious and calm expression as they watched the performances were replaced by joyful exuberance as they led their partners to the dance floor.

Ros Millard was no exception.

Are you really not going to dance? Ros turned to Felix, who sat in the corner of the table, sipping an apple cider. Why did you come here with me if youre not going to dance?

Just to enjoy literature, Felix responded gently, contrasting Ross anger.

[Please Read this only at ]

You asked to escort me in the first place.

And you promised, when you accepted my invitation, that you wont force me to dance.

Ros grumbled in silence at Felixs rebuttal. She didnt really expect him to refuse to dance with her.

Are you really going to be like this? Ros stared at him fiercely. It was understandable that she was so angry. She was planning to use Felix tonight to be featured on the gossip paper at least once more.

For her, gaining fame and attention from people is more important than anything else. The Prince of Berg, who was the most significant tool in the plan, did not move as she wanted, so she was furious.

Several male students snooping around cast glances at them as Ross voice rose. Felix realized they wanted to ask Ros to dance.

Even if its not me, there seem to be a lot of men who want to dance with you, Felix said, peeking at the boys who were talking behind Ros. Ros had a quick look and turned to him again. Felixs attitude seemed firm, determined to never dance.

Ros bit her lip. You, she exhaled coldly. Instead, be sure to escort me when we leave the hall until I go back to the dorm.



Felix nodded. Of course.

Ros turned and approached the male students eyeing her. As though they had planned it, the boys hurried toward Ros and asked her to dance.

Ros seemed to have changed her strategy, from being the only female student who danced with the Prince of Berg to becoming the girl who received the most requests to dance. Surrounded by the male students, Ros quickly drifted away to the center of the hall.

Finally, alone, Felix looked around the hall, pulling the tie loosely around his neck. He felt more tired than he had been after hours of non-stop swinging his sword or training his physical strength. He desperately wanted to go back to his room and rest. It was then that his eyes came across Lucy.

She was escorted by Colin Connor to the dance floor. She shook her head in embarrassment, but Colin paid it no mind. Finally, he dragged her out to the center of the dance floor. Lucy eventually relented and began to dance, following Colins lead.

Awkward posture. A stiff smile. Two feet stumbling around, aimlessly. Lucy Keenans dancing skills were a mess. While Colin Connor danced as if he was one with the music, Lucy was close to being dragged around by him. It was like a puppet, tethered on a string.

Felix couldnt help but burst out laughing at her terrible dance. There has never been a more fascinating spectacle than that. It was a more unforgettable scene than any other poetry recitation or performance.

For a while, he was delighted, but as time passed, a corner of Felixs heart grew bitter. A large wall seemed to appear between the people dancing happily in the center of the hall and himself sipping apple cider at a table in the corner.

*Should I have just danced with Ros?*

However, when he saw Ros dancing aggressively in the middle of the dance floor while looking at a male student as if she was about to devour him, the thought vanished.

[Please Read this only at ]

Felix left the hall, leaving the glass he was holding on the table. He wanted to cool off on the terrace, away from the loud music. He wandered around the terrace for some time and enjoyed the night breeze. Even as autumn arrived, the night air was not cool enough to be considered chilly.

Felix. Someone called him. It was Adrian. He was holding a box full of empty bottles. What are you doing here alone? What about Ros?

Felix shrugged and replied, Shes dominating the dance hall.

Adrian smiled as if he expected it.

Why are you so busy that its hard to see you? asked Felix.

Adrian slightly tilted the box he was holding. I am in charge of this event. I cant just enjoy it like everyone else. There are so many things to take care of.

Felix approached his brother and took the box away. Where should I put it?

Adrian smiled softly at Felix and his offer to help. There is a small warehouse next to the back door of the library. You can leave it there. Oh, and can you get a new box of apple cider and fill the table?

Dont worry. Just go.

Adrian hurriedly entered the hall after saying thank you. With the box in hand, Felix set off on his way to the warehouse. The door was already open when he arrived. A sliver of light leaked through the opening. Someone was inside as he walked in. A familiar back, the person turned, sensing Felixs presence.

Lucy Keenan. Slightly perplexed by the unexpected encounter with the woman he thought was in the hall, Felix unknowingly said her name.

Uh Lucy also had a bewildered look on her face. Im here to get some apple cider. I think its not enough, so Im going to fill it up. she said without even him asking, her eyes looking glancing around the warehouse.

Lucy looked disorganized and dreamy. Perhaps it was the aftermath of being dragged around by her partner, but her once carefully tied hair was now messy. The light beige dress also had a wrinkled hem, and the ribbon tied around the waist was a little loose.

Both her cheeks were redder than ever.

[Please Read this only at ]

Lucy, standing in a daze, took her eyes off him and tried to lift a box of apple cider nearby. But there was no way she could lift such a heavy box at once. When the box didnt move, embarrassed, Lucy took out a few bottles and put them next to her. Then she tried lifting the box again. However, the box only swayed in place. Lucy, who had a troubled face, pulled out a few more bottles.

Felix, who was watching Lucys strange behavior, said. Then, are you just going to take the box? He walked over to Lucy. She started putting the bottle back in the box.

Ill carry the box; you just bring new glasses. Kneeling down, Felix saw Lucys slender ankle while picking up the bottles. Wait a minute. Felix stopped her. Youre bleeding. he pointed at her heel.

Immediately, Lucy sat down. She struggled to cover her heels with a dress that only came around her ankles. The shoes Its not mine. Lucy soon realized that it was impossible to cover her ankle and hurriedly tried to leave the warehouse with a basket of glasses.

Felix grabbed Lucy by the wrist. She looked back in surprise.

Why dont you sit down for a while?

Lucy looked at him blankly and gave no answer. Slowly, Felix drags Lucy and sat her on a wooden chest.

Give that to me. He took the basket Lucy was carrying and placed it roughly on the box he carried. Then he sat down next to Lucy. He could feel Lucys trembling in astonishment.

*What? Did you want me to leave? Well, youre always running away every time you see me. Are you uncomfortable just by me sitting next to you like this?*

Felix didnt want to get out of the way even more after having such thoughts.

Being restless for a moment, Lucy lowered her head helplessly and looked down at the floor. Neither of them opened their mouths, awkward silence soon filled the air.

wont you take off your shoes? said Felix, breaking the silence.

Lucy blinked her eyes sluggishly, as if sleepy, and then raised her head. For some reason, both cheeks seemed to be even redder than before. Slowly, she took off her shoes and put them neatly next to her. After that, there was another silence.

Hmm? Felix suddenly raised his head and sniffed. There was a smell of alcohol coming from somewhere.

At that moment, Lucys head fell on his shoulder. Felix turned to look at her, startled by the weight of her little head on his shoulder.

Lucy? He shook her shoulder slightly. Lucy Keenan?

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However, Lucy closed her eyes as if she had fallen into a deep sleep and breathed in and out in rapid succession.

Lucy! He once again called her name and shook her.

The smell of alcohol lingering on the tip of his nose grew stronger. Felix narrowed his brow and placed his nose around Lucys face.

Are you drunk?

## **Chapter 9**

Rumble, rumble

The warehouse door opened wide. Three people appeared at the door. Adrian entered, followed by the literature professor, Mr. Peter, who was pulling on Colin Connors ear and dragging him inside.

Ouch! Colin cried, grimacing in pain.

Whats going on? Felix asked, a little confused.

Well, this guy has been hiding alcohol in secret! answered Mr. Peter, twisting Colins ear. Then, with a terrifying expression on his face, he waved the bottle he had confiscated from Colin in the air.

Adrian also reprimanded him in a stern tone. Colin Connor! How wonderful of you to bring alcohol into wholesome art and cultural event. Thanks to you, the night of literature has become more mature. What kind of award should I present you?

I just brought it to relax before reading a poem! Please let me go, Mr. Peter!

Relax? Mr. Peter pulled Colins ear harder.

Argh!

If you want to relax, you should take a deep breath. Why did you bring such a strong drink?

I told you! I was too nervous to go up on stage, so I just sipped a little. Despite Colins explanation, Mr. Peter and Adrian didnt seem to believe it at all.

Are you going to keep talking nonsense? I dont think a hundred letters of apology would be enough!

Ouch!

Adrian sighed as he watched Colin scream once again. Then, turning his head towards Felix, he soon found Lucy sleeping soundly, leaning on his brothers shoulder.

Lucy? Adrian approached them and gently shook Lucys shoulder. She didnt move at all. The smell of alcohol! Did she drink it too?

What? Did you give the drink to Lucy? Mr. Peter questioned Colin.

I didnt know shed be that drunk, Colin gasped. Shes too shy to dance. I just gave her a sip to lessen her nervous energy! I mixed it with her juice Argh! Mr. Peter! My ears are falling off!

Colin Connor! You must really want to get in trouble. Follow me to my office right now.

Argh!

In the end, Mr. Peter dragged Colin out of the warehouse by his ear.

Im exhausted, Adrian sighed and rubbed his forehead as he heard Colins shouts fade away.

What are you going to do with her? Felix said while eyeing Lucy, who was fast asleep. I think you should take her to the dorm straight away.

What should I do? I have to stay and wrap up the event Adrian muttered with a troubled face. Finally, he looked at Felix and said, Can you take Lucy to the dorm?

\* \* \*

Close to midnight. The road back to the dormitory was dark and quiet.

The moon and the stars shone brightly in the night sky, guiding Felix as he walked along the dimly lit path. Lucy was sleeping soundly on his back. He could feel Lucys body temperature and hear her breathing softly; her warm breath brushed against his ear.

The girl who was busy avoiding me whenever she saw me is now on my back.

It was so frustrating but fun at the same time.

This is a hundred years worth of teasing. Ill have to tease her a little later when she wakes up.

The corners of his mouth slowly turned up, and he chuckled, imagining Lucys expression, which was certain to be embarrassed.

Ughh Soon after, Lucy groaned and moved her body. She mumbled something incoherent and blinked with a hazy look as if she hadnt quite recovered from her intoxication. Sunbae

The smell of alcohol hit Felix as Lucy opened her mouth.

Sunbae Lucy lifted her arm and placed her hand on Felix's head without warning. She stroked his head gently.

What, what? Felix stiffened. But Lucy, being drunk, didn't seem to know what she was doing.

I wanted to touch it at least once Sunbae's blonde hair Lucy put her hand into Felix's hair and tenderly swept it down.

He felt the warmth of her fingertips touching his scalp.

Hmm As expected, it's soft .

Felix felt like all his hair was standing on end at the chilling thrill that wrapped around him.

Lucy, who had been muttering something incomprehensible, became quiet again. The hand that was running through Felix's hair quickly fell.

Haaa Felix barely let out a breath he had been holding back. His heart, which he thought had stopped for a moment, soon began to beat like crazy.

\* \* \*

Midday class.

As soon as class was over, the room erupted into a boisterous commotion. The screeching sound of chairs dragging across the floor resounded in the classroom, and the students bolted for the door at once.

In the midst of the commotion, a young man sat alone at his desk and stared blankly at the blackboard.

Adrian, who was in a hurry to pack up his bag due to the busy student council work, looked at Felix, who didn't get up. He was concerned.

Hey, Felix. When Adrian shook his shoulder slightly, Felix, who came to his senses, slowly raised his gaze. Is something the matter? You seem off all day. What's going through your head?

Oh Despite Adrian's worried tone, Felix still acted sluggishly and picked up his bag slowly.

Adrian watched him, puzzled, as Felix walked out the back door. Unfortunately, his abnormal behavior did not end there. A freshman walking out of the next classroom didn't notice him and bumped into him.

Im sorry, Berg-sunbae-nim! The freshman repeatedly bowed and apologized to Felix. However, he simply waved his hand when he received the apology, signaling the freshman to go away. His eyes glazed over, staring into the air.

Adrian, watching the scene unfolding, grew even more concerned. What's wrong with him?

Felix didn't even hear Adrian as he trudged through the hallway. His mind was empty, and nothing came to mind. He began to resemble a zombie from a horror story.

It was when he walked past an empty classroom. A hand appeared out of nowhere and grabbed him by the collar, dragging him into an empty classroom.

The sudden yank jolted Felix awake. In front of him stood Ros Millard, her eyes burning with anger.

Ah, right. Ros.

Felix closed his eyes tightly and then opened it; a memory from the night before flashed through his head.

Since returning to his dorm room, he had been losing his mind, so he had entirely forgotten about Ros.

Hey, you She slowly approached with a terrifying face. Her eyes were red with rage, and her teeth were clenched; she looked almost like an incarnation of vengeance which had just escaped from hell.

Felix swallowed his saliva and tried to respond. Oh, sorry. Im not Felix.

A cruel smile appeared on Ros's face. Oh, really? The Berg whom I met earlier said the same thing. Her smile became more unsettling. What should I do if both of them say no? Should I kill them both?

Felix raised his hands in surrender. Ros didn't sound like she was joking, so he confessed. Sorry, I must be out of my mind. I am Felix.

Are you kidding me? Ros immediately fired at Felix; her voice sharp. How dare you leave me alone? Do you know how embarrassed I was when you disappeared without telling me?

Im really sorry. I apologize. But yesterday, something unexpected happened, so I couldnt help it.

What was unexpected? Whats more important than escorting me? Ros snapped; her teeth clenched even harder. He had never seen her so angry.

If he told her the truth, Lucy Keenan would be in hot water.

Well, I just had to go back all of a sudden. Just know that I didnt mean to humiliate you. Felix held out one cheek to Ros. Do you want to hit me?

Ross brows drew closer together; bewilderment etched on her face.

Due to her lukewarm reaction, Felix added another offer to sweeten the deal. Do you want to hit me over there? he said, pointing to the courtyard, where the students were sitting.

Wont there be more interviews with the girl who slapped the Prince of Berg cheeks than the girl who the Prince of Berg escorted?

Ros narrowed her eyes for a moment, thinking about Felixs proposal as if she was tempted. But the next moment, her expression turned icy, and she spat out her words. Are you crazy? You want me to put a hand mark on the Dukes sons face!

Ros stood with her arms folded and stared at Felix. Her fierce eyes remained, but she seemed less angry than before. Never mind, you owe me this time. Im never going to let it go. You will pay this debt somehow, so be prepared. With those words, Ros turned around.

Felix heaved out the breath he was holding as he watched her unexpectedly backing down. In a flash, Ros turned around and kicked his ankle. He groaned and grabbed his ankle from the unexpected blow.

Ugh.

This is the interest.

Ros walked out of the classroom after kicking Felix.

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## **Chapter 10**

Felix grabbed his throbbing ankle and bit his lip. She kicked him so hard that he even shed tears. When he rolled up the hem of his pants, Ross shoe mark were clearly



visible. Fortunately, though, Ros didn't know about Lucy Keenan until the end. He sighed and rubbed his chest.

Felix, who came to the campus to avoid the unfortunate incident of running into Ros again, sat down on a nearby bench. He thought it would be better not to be noticed by Ros for a while.

After enjoying the tranquility that returned under the blue autumn sky for a while, he grimaced as he could feel his allergy coming. He had been wandering around all day and left without taking his medicine.

Oh, seriously. Maram vines were growing all over the bench, which seemed to be more leafy than last week. He was too lazy to go back to his dorm room, but he couldn't help it.

Sunbae! The moment he was about to get up, someone sprinted toward him, calling him in a cheerful voice. A youthful gait that looks like a dwarf at first glance. It was Colin Connor, a face that he was not very happy to see.

Hello, sunbae! By the way Are you Felix-sunbae? Colin squinted his eyes and asked, thinking about which Prince of Berg was in front of him.

Yes, why?

Do you remember me? We met briefly at Literature Night yesterday! My name is Colin Connor! Lucy Keenan's friend! Colin poured out his words nonstop, looking overly energetic.

What's going on? Felix asked, looking at him with distasteful eyes. He remembered him dancing with Lucy last night.

I want to apologize for what happened yesterday! Actually, Lucy was my partner, and it was only natural for me to escort her until we got back to the dorm Thank you for taking Lucy home instead!

Felix strangely found his words annoying, but he hid his expression and responded briefly. It's fine. Go.

I'm really sorry! I apologize again!

I said it's fine. Felix replied, disgruntled.

However, Colin, who was tactless, did not leave his position and chatted endlessly. Lucy also feels sorry after she learned that sunbae was the one who took her home. She didn't look good all morning.

Her? Felix asked back as if he had heard something interesting.

Yes, But sunbae. Suddenly, Colin approached Felix and carefully looked at the tip of his nose.

Whats wrong with you? He pushed Colin away.

Are you allergic to maram vines? Colin asked.

So?

Actually, I know a good medicine! Its a golden round pill made of golden butterfly grass!

A golden round pill. It was the allergy medicine that Adrian received and shared with him.

How do you know that medicine? Felix asked, raising an eyebrow.

What? Ah yes! Because Lucy makes that medicine!

Lucy made that medicine? Felixs eyes widened. He sat upright and asked again. Lucy Keenan?

Yes, she makes it every fall, saying that there are people around her who suffer from the allergy. Colin explained, his voice raised slightly; happy that Felix showed interest in the drug. Do you want me to ask Lucy to make it for you? Im on my way to see her.

Then please do that, Felix replied, pretending to be calm. He was surprised from learning something new about Lucy.

Yes, sir! Just leave it to me! Colin bowed politely to him and turned around.

Colin Connor walked toward the library with a cheerful gait to carry out the task assigned to him. Then he heard footsteps following him. Looking back, it was Felix, walking with his hand in his pocket. Colin halted.

Well Colin looked at Felix with a look that said, Do you have anything more to say, sunbae?

Felix furrowed his eyebrows and urged him. What are you doing? Lets go to Lucy Keenan right now.

Oh, yes! Colin hurriedly turned towards the library, his speed accelerated.

\* \* \*

While heading to the library, Colin Connor told him about how much Lucy devoted herself in making the allergy medicine. According to him, Lucy is growing her own golden butterfly grass, the key ingredient in allergy medicine.

The librarys backyard was a barren land. There was nothing there but an abandoned garden. Colin said that was where Lucy grew the golden butterfly grass. In addition, he informed Felix that Lucy was also growing several other herbs that she had brought from her hometown.

*Thats a lot of effort.*

Listening to Colins story, Felix grumbled inwardly.

Maram allergy medicine is a complex medicine. First of all, Golden Butterfly grass was a difficult herb to grow. He could tell how complicated the manufacturing process was, and how much effort was put into making it over a long period of time, without seeing it in person.

When he first received the medicine from Adrian, he wondered for a moment who made such a sincere medicine and gave it to him.

*But it was Lucy Keenan?*

Felix laughed secretly.

Well, she was so into a man that even their parents cant recognize, but she can with just one glance, so its not surprising at all. Rather, he was unaware that Lucy Keenan had made the medicine.

While he was deep in thought, they arrived at the backyard of the library. In the corner of the backyard, there was indeed a garden, as Colin described, in front of it, a girl with light brown hair in a back braid was seen squatting down and tending her crops.

Felix was surprised the moment he saw the garden. It was a very small field, but there were dozens of different herbs growing at the same time.

*Wouldnt this be a big deal if they got caught?*

He was even worried about that.

Lucy, I got the honey you mentioned at the restaurant. Colin said, taking a small bottle out of his bag. Phew, the new Lady Linda is quite arrogant. She just gave it to me without asking. he grumbled.

Lucy burst out laughing at him without even looking behind her. Thank you for saving me. Can you put it on the stone wall?

But I couldnt even ask her to share the roots. I really thought Lady Linda would come after me with a broom

I cant help it. Ill go out to the town and buy it over the weekend. A sigh came from over Lucys shoulder.

Oh, but the roots to make it are expensive. Can you get it with the money you have?

Lucy, who had been muttering in a worried voice, immediately got up with a grunt. I think the time has come to open the piggy bank She turned around, a worried expression on her face, she stood still. Her eyes widened as soon as she saw Felix.

Her surprise and embarrassment were passed on to Felix. Thats understandable. It was last night that she was drunk and got carried to the dormitory on Felixs back.

*Does she remember?*

Felix remembered the feeling of her fingers ripping through his hair. The drunken confession she mumbled because she mistook him for someone else.

Lucy! Felix sunbae-nim wants to get the allergy medicine you made! Colin explained the reason Felix was there belatedly. I think your sunbae is also allergic to maram vines.

Oh a single sound left Lucys lips, she stood still. She had never imagined that Felix would come to find her.

Are you the one who gave Adrian the allergy medicine? Felix asked.

Yes. Lucy nodded slowly.

What is this, Lucy! Colin intervened again, Is Adrian-sunbae-nim the reason you are making the medicine?

That While talking to Adrian-sunbae, I heard that he had a maram allergy since I happen to know how to make that medicine Lucys words drifted through the air

Then you shouldve told me earlier! If you had, I would have begged Lady Linda to give me some ingredients even if she beat me with a broom, Colin said cheerfully. He then turned to Felix and gave him a sudden thumbs up. Lucys medicine has the best efficacy! You can trust me! I guarantee it! Colin said, pounding his chest. He had a confident expression on his face, as if he had made the drug herself. Lucys grandmother runs a pharmacy. She knows a lot of folk remedies!

*Who is this guy pretending to know about Lucy Keenans family?*

Felix gave a sardonic look at Colin, who was flapping his lips to boast about Lucy. The more he looked at him, the more disgusted he became.

As for the efficacy of the medicine, I know it very well, he grumbled back. I used it because Adrian gave it to me. In fact, it works so much better than the medicine prescribed by Bergs doctor.

The Bergs family doctor had been suspicious of the efficacy of the drug, saying it was an unproven folk remedy. But ultimately, had no choice but to admit that the medicine Lucy made worked better than the one made at the capitals best pharmacy.

So I have a favor to ask of you. Felix carefully spoke his words.

Can you make that medicine for me too?

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