

Bloodline 1411

Chapter 1411 Unexpected Turn Of Events

Jack and Mack stopped the experiments the scientists were conducting just to make sure things would not repeat themselves.

However, even after an hour had rolled by, the half dark and white being did not appear.

"It didn't show up?" Gustav was incredibly shocked at first.

"No, it has been two days, and still the same. It never came back," Endric announced.

"...When you say it never came back, does that mean it knows?" Gustav questioned as a wave of eeriness permeated the room.

Endric nodded in affirmation. "But that should be impossible," Gustav knew just how powerful the ancient hourglass was. No being, no matter how powerful could overcome its effects.

"Impossible in this dimension, yes... but the other one..." Immediately after Endric pointed this out Gustav's eyes widened in realisation. 'If the being is truly from the otherworld... then the time there wasn't affected... and if that is the case then, whoever sent it here in the first place must still be aware that they already came here...' Gustav pieced things together very quickly.

"Just what is that being...?" E.E. questioned out loud.

"That is what I would like to know as well... In that other reality, the being left Grand Commander Shion without a corpse," Gustav's eyes turned into slits as he spoke.

"I sensed its presence faintly but could not predict its appearance... the problem is, this being is not supposed to exist," Endric voiced with a tone of uncertainty. "What are you trying to say?" Gustav questioned with a concerned tone.

"I don't completely understand it myself but that being's existence seems to be some kind of anomaly. Anyone from the other world is not supposed to be able to use strength on that scale in this world. No matter how powerful they originally were," Endric replied with a perturbed expression.

"I did hear that Grand Commander Shion mentioned from his last encounter that the presence of that being seemed... unstable," E.E. chimed in sounding a bit rattled.

"We need more information," Gustav tried standing again, only to hold his gut in pain.

"Just relax... I'll try to get more info but you stay here and recuperate," E.E. placed his hand on Gustav's shoulder.

~sigh~

"First Scientist Zil and now this... troubles never end," Gustav mumbled while brushing E.E.'s hand off his shoulder.

"I can't stay put," He added while forcing himself up.

"Come on man, you haven't even taken a breather since," E.E. nagged.

"Did you find the scientist?" Gustav inquired.

Silence.

"That's what I thought," Gustav stated while taking slow and painful steps forward.

Thrrzzhh~

The system suddenly phased out of him and blocked his path.

"You are trying to get yourself killed..." The system voiced with a distasteful tone.

"Out of my way, I need to get what I came for and do what is required," Gustav muttered groggily.

"Have you tried using your abilities? Or channeling any of your bloodlines?" The system questioned.
"Hmm?" Gustav exclaimed with a suspicious tone.

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"You choose to disobey orders and let Gustav Crimson escape our hands."

Within a board room, a man in an MBO uniform yelled out.

"Perhaps that was due to the incompetence of the officers sent there," Mack replied from the other end of the table with an unbothered tone.

Bam!

General Chell slammed the table with a look of anguish

"It was requested of you to go after the assailant who took down the universal fugitive and retrieve him but instead you came back empty-handed. To make things even more ridiculous, you returned with a fake prophecy of the unstable being returning to wreak havoc on Earth."

"Not a fake prophecy... it already happened," Mack responded. "See what I am talking about..." General Chell had veins popping out of his forehead and temples as he pointed shaky fingers at Mack.

"Ridiculous!" He screamed.

"General Chell, relax," Grand Commander Shion who sat by the side voiced with an authoritative but calm tone.

General Chell gritted his teeth and sat once more. It looked like he was trying to quell his current rage meanwhile, Mack didn't look bothered in the slightest.

"Mack, what is the basis for your claim?" Grand Commander Shion inquired.

"I'll tell you a short story..." Mack voiced in response and paused briefly before resuming.

"I found the person who took the kid but a girl who was with him showed me a future course of events that had already happened. The earth was in turmoil and millions had lost their lives because of a mistake... Can you guess what the mistake was?" "You leaving the research center?" Grand Commander Shion pointed out.

"Yes and no... No because, I still left the research center to go after him. The real issue was engaging in a fierce battle with the assailant that got so heated, that Earth suffered consequences... The period I was away from the research center was when that being appeared that put the entire earth at risk and caused the death of millions, which could have been prevented if I had remained in the research center, doing the job I returned to earth for," Mack narrated lengthily.

"Not this crap again..." General Chell was about to go off when Grand Commander Shion raised his right hand. He instantly stopped after seeing that gesture.

"Why do you believe that it was true? It didn't happen," Grand Commander Shion inquired.

"Because it is. Time was reversed by the person who took Gustav Crimson... they wanted to inform me of the peril which is what their associate did. I completely believe the girl because the moment she began showing me all that happened, my memories returned... memories of that timeline," Mack's explanation caused everyone's mouth to widen.

This was coming from the most powerful mixedblood in existence so his words couldn't just be taken with levity. However, confusion remained...

"Then why would the unstable being not return as expected?" Grand Commander Shion questioned.

"Because if I can remember that timeline then so can they... Why would anyone want to repeat what would potentially turn out bad for them?" Mack's response caused their eyes to widen in realization. Grand Commander Shion felt that it made absolute sense. That being was more powerful than him as an Alpha... with their strength level being close to that of Jack and Mack who were capable of being immune to time-related abilities, they might have remembered everything as well.

"He still disobeyed," General Chell stated.

"For the betterment of Earth... what we need to do now is find the person who took Gustav Crimson," Grand Commander Shion voiced with a rational look.

"Any clues?" Grand Commander Shion turned to Mack.

"No. They're long gone," Mack responded bluntly.

"They must still be on the planet. We should pan out more forces to search," One of the commanders in the room suggested.

The meeting went on for about thirty minutes more with every officer present suggesting different tactics to find the assailant or draw them out.

After it ended, everyone except Mack and one more officer moved out.

The meeting was held in the Icy Research Center because Mack had stated that he would not be leaving the place. Since they couldn't bring him to the MBO tower in Plankton City for the meeting, they had to bring the meeting to him.

For Mack, even a single second was plenty for chaos to ensue especially with an enemy like the unstable being so he didn't want to be any long distance away from the research center.

"I have a feeling that we are not getting to the bottom of this..." Grand Commander Shion had a contemplative look as he voiced out to the Commander who remained on his command.

"What was Gustav Crimson after? Why would he just come out of hiding and wreak havoc on a city that one of his closest friends grew up in? He might be cold but it seems unlikely that he would do that.

Also, we are still unaware of the identity of the being that stopped him. How is that being able to reverse time on such a scale? I believe that if we uncover all of this, we will be able to find Gustav Crimson."

Commander Xanatus laid out his concerns and they aligned with that of the Grand Commander.

"From what I have heard about the kid's strength, I do not believe he would go down so easily. There must be something amiss," Grand Commander Shion added.

"I need to know the answer to these questions can I leave the investigation to you...?" He said to Commander Xanatus. "As you wish, sir," Commander Xanatus responded with a chest salute and turned around to walk out.

Grrhhhh~

In the passageway, an illusionary figure phased out of the wall and stared in the direction of the officer who was walking away.

It proceeded to follow the officer.

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Within an all-blue space, a figure with multiple glowing strings attached to different parts of his body could be spotted suspended in mid-air.

Chapter 1412 I Heard You Were Looking For Me

"Will you tell me where he is, or shall we do this the hard way?" Gustav's voice rang out as he closed in on the person.

"What could you possibly do to me that I wouldn't expect? You are me," The clone who was now conscious, responded with a tone of mischief. "No, you are a failed attempt at being me. A counterfeit... an anomaly... a pitiful test tube fetus," Gustav said while approaching.

The clone's face tightened with disdain, "Just get it over with."

"I know you won't let it out so I might as well just take it from you," Gustav said while wrapping his fingers around the clone's face.

[Memories Siphoning Has Been Activated]

Gustav pressed his hand against the face of the struggling clone as he waited for memories to appear in his mind but even after a couple of seconds had gone by, there was still nothing.

[Target Mental Fortitude Is Too High]

[Memories Siphoning Has Failed]

"Hmm?" Gustav was taken aback.

'You said I could use this one so why this?' Gustav inquired internally with a look of bafflement.

("Yes, not all your abilities are gone... this one is available. You are just unlucky because your clone has a very high mental fortitude,") The system answered. 'Does this mean I really can't siphon his memories?' Gustav intoned with a confirmatory look.

("Duh Sherlock,") Gustav retracted his hand with a disturbed look, causing the clone to stare at him with an expression of suspicion. There were several abilities the clone didn't possess so it didn't have an idea of what Gustav wanted to do. Scientist Zil had extracted Gustav's cells at a time when Gustav was still Kilo ranked strength. Although the clone was more powerful than kilo-ranked mixed blood, it was still very far from reaching the strength of a beta-ranked Mixedblood and Gustav was as powerful as an Alph when they faced off so the disparity was massive.

'This would have been much easier if I could still spread my perception across the earth... how long did you say it would take for me to return to full strength?' Gustav inquired.

("Four to five days,") The system answered. Gustav couldn't help but display a concerned expression. Only a day had passed since he regained consciousness and now he had to wait for another five days before he could regain full power.

The system had informed him earlier that using the Ancient hourglass had caused him too much strain and it had finally taken effect.

Although it was sudden, the system explained that he had to make sure he didn't use the hourglass for the next three months and when he finally did, he had to make sure a reasonable amount of time would have passed before he made use of it again.

The system had explained that even though he had the strength of an Alpha, he wasn't an actual Alpha yet. So, even if he was capable of activating the sacred items, he had to limit their usage till he became a full-fledged Alpha rank. That way he would no longer get any negative effects from constant usage aside from normal energy deduction. The problem now was finding Scientist Zil. Gustav had put Endric and E.E. on helping with the situation, but they didn't have much luck with it.

"Why are you keeping his location from me?" Gustav questioned. "He is my maker," Gustav's clone replied.

"No, that is not it. There is something, isn't there?" Gustav noticed the clone's eyes flash faintly before returning to their usual dim look.

"I knew it," Gustav stated firmly.

"You don't know nothing," The clone blurted.

"Tell me, what exactly is he up to?" Gustav inquired while grabbing his chin and forcibly pulling the clone closer to his face.

"You will know when he is finished," A faint smirk appeared on the face of the clone.

Gustav felt like he was looking in a mirror. Except for the eyepatch, this was his look of mischief.

"So that is it... the reason you appeared in Aribia city was to divert my attention because of whatever Scientist Zil is planning. You were never looking to win... you acted recklessly to prevent me from getting him which means he must have been in Burning Sands city at that time," Gustav analyzed the whole situation in a couple of seconds.

"Bravo... you're slowly starting to get it," The clone chuckled a little.

"He isn't in Burning Sands City anymore because he must have finished whatever he was working on..." Gustav further pointed out.

"Keep going... you're getting there," The clone chimed in.

"Which means he must be finalizing things at the moment if he hasn't already done that..." The clone was about to speak again when Gustav drove a fist into his gut.

"Blurrghhh!" He spat out a mouthful of blood while Gustav stared at him intensely.

"Tell me where he is right now!" Gustav voiced with a bloodthirsty tone.

"...You... know... Huff! Huff! Huff!... that won't work on me..." The clone muttered amidst hurried breaths.

Gustav knew he was right. The high mental fortitude was proof that he would just be wasting his time by trying to torture the answer out of his clone... It was his clone after all.

Gustav squinted his eyes before letting the clone go. He turned around in the next moment and walked out of the space.

The moment he arrived back in the living room of E.E.'s apartment, he spotted a figure seated in front waiting.

"Hello, Gustav... I heard you were looking for me,"

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[Burning Sands City]

Within a very luxurious-looking abode, E.E. and Endric were seated before a middle-aged-looking man. On his right was a young and handsome-looking boy with dark hair. He looked no older than eighteen years of age.

"I am afraid I cannot help you two officers. Zil has not been a part of the family gathering for over a year now. He has stayed out of contact for so long so we do not have any information to give," The middle-aged man spoke cautiously.

"Anything at all will help... be it phone records, some words he may have mentioned, really anything. We just need to find him to ask a couple of questions. Nothing too crazy," E.E. voiced with an easygoing tone.

"He never called once. He only left a message one time that he was pursuing scientific research and might be away for years. We know how he tends to be," The middle-aged man kept explaining while the boy beside him kept mute with a respectful look.

Minutes later, E.E. and Endric were leaving the luxurious-looking household together.

~sigh~

"Another waste of time," E.E. lamented as they walked out of the exquisite-looking environs.

"This is starting to get bothersome... we really can't find him anywhere around the city and clues are becoming impossible to gather as well," Endric said while observing the surroundings.

"Wait..."

A voice suddenly called out to them from behind.

"Hmm?" Endric and E.E. turned around simultaneously upon hearing the soft masculine voice.

The voice had been coming from the 5'11" tall eighteen-year-old with the scruffy black hair who was present in the living room with them a couple of minutes ago.

"Oh, it's that kid," E.E. voiced upon recognizing him, causing Endric's face to twitch a little. He was younger than the supposed kid.

"What is it?" Endric asked as he drew closer.

"I want to help," The eighteen-year-old with scruffy black hair voiced upon arriving before them.

"Erm... Sir Gil already told us everything so..." Endric felt the boy who looked like a butler there couldn't possibly help them.

He was dressed in a full black suit outfit and a tie. It looked super expensive but still made the kid look like a worker there.

"Everything he knows... there are a few things I know that nobody else does," He answered with a cryptic tone.

E.E. and Endric were immediately interested in what he had to say even though they still seemed a bit suspicious. E.E. gestured for him to follow them into the hover car waiting outside so they could talk in a secluded environment.

"I am Damien... the grandson of the person you're trying to find," He introduced himself to ease their suspicion the moment they arrived at the back of the spacious hovercar.

'He's not a butler?' Both E.E.... and Endric couldn't believe their ears the moment he spoke.

Not only wasn't this kid a mere worker in Zil's household, but he was also actually the grandson of the person they had been looking for.

E.E. and Endric couldn't hide the surprised looks on their faces.

'Do rich kids usually look this meek?'

E.E. who was seated on the opposite side, reached out to receive Damien's handshake after a while.

"Nice to meet you, Damien,"

Chapter 1413 Foral Project

E.E. who was seated on the opposite side, reached out to receive Damien's handshake after a while.

"Nice to meet you Damien, I'm..." Before he could complete his sentence, Damien chimed in.

"I know you two... you are friends of big brother Gustav," He stated with a look of excitement.

"Big brother Gustav?"

"Friends?"

E.E. and Endric voiced simultaneously. "He once came to Burning Sands city and caused a ruckus. He might be on the wanted list now but to me, he is still big brother and I will help anyone related to big brother Gustav," Damien had a look of adoration as he spoke.

E.E. immediately understood that Gustav must have had a type of relationship with the kid when he worked with scientist Zil who ended up betraying him.

Endric stared at Damien with a slight look of jealousy.

"Big brother eh? Well, I am his real..."

"Yes we are his friends," E.E. cut Endric off before he could complete his sentence.

Endric squinted his eyes while E.E. shook his head, signaling for him not to reveal his true identity.

"It is great to meet you two. I am sure you two must be just as amazing as big brother Gustav," Damien voiced with interest in his eyes, but E.E. swiftly went to the point.

"How exactly can you help us? You see this matter is directly linked to Gustav so we need to find your grandfather," E.E. voiced with a longing gaze.

"First, Grandfather was working on something that I know was related to Big Brother but he didn't want anyone finding out. I was focusing on school then so I never tried to ask him or know more about it..." Damien began narrating.

"However, things got more suspicious when I visited his lab one day and found some documents of land purchases on his desk. Just checked out of curiosity since he wasn't in at the time but the moment he walked in, he drove me out of his lab. This was quite the shocker for me since I usually visited him even when he was working with big brother Gustav," Damien added lengthily.

"My grandfather was of course still nice to me and promised to take me to see a live performance afterwards. He just told me he was too busy at the time and didn't want any distractions so I shouldn't visit his lab.

I didn't think much of it, but eventually, he became harder and harder to see until we got the message that he would be out of touch for a long time till his research was completed. I haven't seen my grandfather in nearly two years. Even Ciri was sad for a long time." E.E. and Endric exchanged glances in understanding. Damien was practically telling them that his grandfather had been busy creating a clone of Gustav the entire time. It added up since no one was aware of the clone's existence till it revealed itself.

This made them wonder why Scientist Zil would even let the clone expose itself like that. There was no doubt that it would get caught so it seemed like a waste.

Who would want their hard work of two years to go to waste?

'...there's more to this than just clone creation,' Endric came to the conclusion very swiftly.

"Do you know where those lands he bought are situated?" Endric questioned with a suspicious look.

"Yes... the reason I found it odd was that these locations used to belong to the Ring Lords before big brother Gustav got rid of all of them," Damien answered.

'Ring Lords? Wasn't it those guys that ran illegal underground battles and were practically the crime bosses of this city?' E.E. recalled what happened back then. However, Endric had no idea since he wasn't around at the time.

It had caused such a huge ruckus that even they had to be involved. It made E.E. remember that it wasn't the first time Gustav had been branded a criminal. Just that this time, it was on a way larger scale.

"Where exactly are these lands?" Endric inquired.

"They should be in the city..." E.E. was a little bothered because they had already checked every possible location in the city and still couldn't find Scientist Zil.

"Not in the city... around the city," Damien corrected.

"Huh?" E.E. and Endric exchanged confused looks since they were well aware that the only things around the city were yellow sands that were always ablaze.

"I don't know why he would do that when the underground tunnelways deep underneath the burning sands that led to the fight arena had already collapsed . They have since been inaccessible," Damien voiced in bafflement.

E.E. and Endric's faces suddenly lit up with expressions of realization. "How long ago did the tunnelways collapse?" Endric inquired.

"Over two years ago when big brother Gustav came to this city..." Damien answered.

Endric and E.E. exchanged glances once more before jumping to their feet.

Damien was confused as he watched them step out of the hover car in urgency.

E.E. made a gesture by crossing his index and middle fingers.

Zhrrrouhh~ A violet-colored vortex suddenly appeared before them.

"Stay close," Endric said to Damien as he spread his telekinetic wear.

Damien was immediately covered with invisible layers of telekinetic energy as they stepped into the vortex.

The view before them transformed the moment they arrived on the other side.

"Ahhh!"

Damien jumped upwards as soon as he noticed they were standing on the flaming sand.

Endric caught him in mid-air and pulled him downwards casually, "I said to stay close."

Damien landed on the sand and noticed he wasn't burned up. "Oh?" He raised his right foot and planted it back on the burning sand repeatedly. He seemed quite astonished.

"How are you doing this?" Damien questioned after recalling that one would need to be at least beta-ranked to pull something like this off.

"Damien, are you saying the lands he bought are underneath these sands?" E.E. called out to him.

Damien swiftly regained his composure and answered, "Yes... thousands of feet below are ruined tunnelways."

E.E. closed his eyes and tried to focus while making a hand gesture.

After a few seconds, "So that's why," He muttered in conclusion while reopening his eyes.

"Can you send your telekinesis beneath...?" E.E. asked Endric by the side.

"It throws my senses off... almost like there isn't a single space to scout down there," Endric replied.

"But if I forcefully push it, I can go further... and finally sense the space down there," He added.

"Same... for me to open a vortex that would lead there, I would have to be aware that a space was down there. When Gustav and I came here earlier, we couldn't sense anything like that. Although we weren't looking around here.

With Gustav's senses, he would originally be able to sense the existence of space down there but with the burning sands throwing off our senses, we skipped without suspecting that anything could be down there," E.E. analyzed with a disturbed expression.

"Are you saying grandfather is down there?" Damien inquired.

"We do not know but one thing we are sure of is, those tunnelways have been renovated... but no one knew," Endric responded.

"Come let's go," E.E. voiced while opening another vortex.

The trio stepped forward once more and arrived in another location upon entering the violet vortex.

Zwhiiihh~

In the dimly lit confines of a massive tunnelway, the hum of machinery echoed as three figures materialized and stepped out of a swirling violet light.

The air shimmered momentarily, and with a soft ripple, they stood surrounded by a myriad of advanced equipment and humanoid bots engaged in purposeful tasks.

"Are we underground?" Damien inquired.

Holographic displays dotted the environment, projecting three-dimensional models of complex research findings.

Some diagrams looked atomic and cellular.

"Looks like we found where your grandfather has been hiding out," Endric muttered as he approached the bots.

Their expressions shifted from curiosity to engagement as they tapped on some of the holographic displays to see what scientist Zil had been up to.

"Eh all these are too complicated, I don't understand what I am looking at," E.E. scratched his afro hair with a befuddled expression.

Damien moved over to him and began scanning the scientist's notes and diagrams on display. "This is a finished research," Damien spoke with a tone of certainty.

"Finished? Hmm, maybe that is why he isn't here currently," E.E. had a look of intrigue as he responded.

"But what was he working on?" E.E. asked once more.

"It says... Foral Project," Damien stated while scrolling to further display other parts of the research. "What the fuck is a Foral project?" E.E. had an even more bamboozled look on his face.

Chapter 1414 The Abduction

"The fuck is a Foral project?" E.E. had a more confused look on his face.

"I'm still checking..." Damien's face went from intrigue to awe and then to confusion again.

"This is..." After some minutes had gone by, the expression on his face had changed to disbelief.

"What is it?" E.E questioned.

Damien still had an incredibly bothered look on his face when Endric spoke from the other end.

"He is going after my brother." "Eh? Your brother? Who is that?"

"Damn it!" E.E wanted to berate Endric but now wasn't the time.

"Going after Gustav? Why?" E.E inquired.

'Eh? Why is he calling Gustav his brother?' Damien was still confused.

"Because even though the research is completed, he made a deal," Endric threw a paperback diary to E.E.

E.E. caught the book and stared at its contents hastily. A sense of foreboding filled the lab tunnelway as E.E. read.

"Fuck me," He voiced the moment he came across a sentence.

< "...The last bit is to give the clone what it wants... Gustav's brain..." >

E.E. subconsciously dropped the book and made a gesture with his fingers.

"We're leaving, now!" He yelled while opening a vortex.

The moment the vortex opened up, they jumped in. The trio instantly arrived at E.E.'s apartment and scanned the surroundings.

The whole place was in shambles.

"Gustav!" E.E. yelled while sprinting towards the passageway that led to one of the rooms.

Endric on the other hand moved around and headed towards the balcony area.

Damien stood still in shock as he tried to make sense of everything that was transpiring in front of him.

'Why are they calling for Gustav? Why did the other younger dude call him brother? A clone? Why is this place trashed? What does his grandfather want with Gustav's brain?'

He was in so much confusion at the moment so he just looked around. That was when he spotted a trail of blood.

He followed the trail and spotted what looked like bloodied feminine legs underneath a wrecked table. He couldn't see the rest of the body since she seemed buried underneath the rubble but the stench of blood had gotten much thicker.

"There is someone here!" Damien yelled.

E.E. and Endric instantly appeared beside him the moment they heard this.

The rubble lifted into the air without anyone making physical contact while E.E. moved to grab the injured figure underneath.

"It's Sersi... and she is badly wounded," E.E. announced with a grave tone after spotting the fist-sized hole in her right chest area.

Blood was oozing out profusely and everything was still looking relatively fresh so E.E. could tell that whatever happened there must have occurred no more than an hour ago.

Endric swiftly reached his storage space and plucked a healing med from there.

"Who could have done this?" Damien asked with intense concern as he watched them cater to the unconscious Sersi.

"I can't put it past your grandfather," Endric voiced with a tone of annoyance.

"How? It's not..." Damien was about to refute when E.E. interrupted.

"Gustav was here... and now he is not anymore. This girl is someone he cherishes, you can already guess what happened," E.E. lifted Sersi after pushing the med into her mouth and placed her on one of the sofas that was still intact.

Everything else in the vicinity either had holes in them or was completely shredded.

Damien tried to put two and two together and realized that it truly seemed like his grandfather was responsible for the chaos before them. "But how would he even be able to pull something like this off?" Damien couldn't quite grasp how someone like Gustav would be taken easily.

"Gustav is injured. He is not at his full strength... somehow your grandfather must have found out and also located this place," Endric gritted his teeth in regret.

'I should have stayed here with him,' He blamed himself for the current turn of events.

"How is he even here? Last I remembered, he wreaked havoc on Aribia city and got caught by the authorities," Damien was still very much confused.

"That wasn't him and those idiots are lying. They didn't catch him because Gustav caught that fake himself," Endric voiced in response.

"What?" Damien realized that the more he heard, the greater his confusion.

Although he had skimmed through the Foral Project write-ups, he still didn't know about the clone. All he knew was the fact that his grandfather used Gustav's cells for that. A lot was still very unclear to him.

"*Koorhh! Korrrh!*" Sersi's cough suddenly attracted their attention to her.

"She's regaining consciousness," Endric whispered.

The place instantly quietened as they watched Sersi slowly open her eyes.

"Father!" The moment her vision returned, she yelled while lunging forward. "Father?" Damien was met with another round of confusion as he watched E.E. hold her down in place.

"Relax, you were pretty injured, let the healing be completed before you move around like that," E.E. said with a tone of caution. "But..."

"Shush... relax first," E.E. had her lay back down.

"Now slowly recount what happened to you," Endric said with a tone of concern.

"A man... a very big man came..." The moment she began speaking, Damien confirmed that his grandfather was truly the culprit.

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[One Hour Ago]

"I heard you've been looking for me," A twelve-foot tall man with six feet long dark hair sat in place with light rays reflecting off his glasses.

Anyone who witnessed the sight would have jumped back in fright but Gustav was the recipient. "Hmm, thank you for delivering yourself to my doorstep... Zil," Gustav voiced with an unfazed tone as he stepped forward. "Is that a bluff? Because I just so happen to be aware that you're not at full strength right now," Sir Zil responded with a hint of confidence.

"It matters not... the strength I have would be enough to shatter all the bones in your body and have you regretting replicating my cells for the rest of your days," Gustav's energy began to rise as he arrived before Scientist Zil with a very frosty gaze.

"Wait..." Sir Zil raised his hand rather calmly.

Gustav paused while raising a brow.

"Wouldn't you like to know why I did it?" Sir Zil questioned.

"I don't give a damn. You deceived me... you did the one thing I have always been wary of. All you scientists are the same. Selfish, vicious, ambitious... you never care about anything or anyone so long as you accomplish your goals," Gustav shook his head slightly while speaking.

"I was wrong to think you were any different,"

Scientist Zil had a visibly disturbed look upon hearing all of these, "I am sorry... I just had to. When you hear why I did it, you will understand."

"Enough... I am unwilling to listen to the nonsense you have to say. It almost seems like y'all grow even more selfish with age," Gustav reached out and grabbed Scientist Zil by the throat.

"Ghrrrh! We...ait..." He gurgled while holding onto Gustav's arm.

"Wh-at abo...out Da-a-mien... he lo...oks u-up to you bu...t he wo... don't for-give yo...u f-or th--his..." "I don't care," Gustav stated as his killing intent rose.

"I am sorry..." Sir Zil suddenly stopped struggling. "...For this," A small purplish circular item appeared in Sir Zil's grasp the moment he let out the words.

At first, Gustav thought he was still apologizing for what he did, till he noticed the item.

Tap!

Before he could react, Sir Zil had tapped the button in the center of the item.

zzhrrrrhh~

It suddenly emitted a high-pitched wave of light that blasted across the surroundings.

"Hngh!" Gustav suddenly felt an immense headache as he subconsciously let go of Scientist Zil.

Bam!

In the next seconds, space in the surroundings contrasted and ripped apart. Holes were burrowed into Gustav's spatial storage and they began to integrate with the real world.

While Gustav was holding his head in pain, one of the spatial worlds getting ripped open, turned out to be where the clone was kept.

The hole continued to grow till it was wide enough for a person to walk through, then the clone stepped out.

The space had fallen apart and it had gotten freed.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Bang!

The sound of multiple items colliding with the floor rang out intensely as lot of things Gustav's stored in his spatial storage fell out.

Gustav clenched his fist and reduced the sensitivity of his brain to accommodate the high-pitched whirring. The moment he managed to regain a bit of clarity, he spotted the clone standing right before him.

Bam!

Two palms slammed into his face from the left and right at the same time.

Blood gushed out of Gustav's eyes, nose, and ears as visibility became another issue. 'I got fooled... again!' Gustav yelled internally as he staggered backward.

His vision had been completely blinded by blood at that moment but he could sense a fist hurling at his chest.

Thwwhiii~

Chapter 1415 Where Could They Have Gone?

He swiftly reached out and slapped the clone's arm to the side before locking the fist underneath his right armpit. Gustav pulled the clone forward and thrust his left arm forward like a blade.

His palm instantly pierced through the clone's chest, causing him to groan in pain.

"Hahaha! Despite being weakened, you are still a pain in the ass," The clone laughed hysterically before headbutting Gustav's skull.

Bam!

Intense pain radiated across his body as Gustav staggered backward once more.

The clone grabbed him and pulled him forward.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!

Despite Gustav's arm still being lodged deep in his chest, he kept headbutting him, till Gustav's forehead was heavily dented.

Blood gushed out while the entire floor shook intensely from the collisions. The headbutts were so intense that everything in the environment had been displaced because of it.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!

"That's enough," Sir Zil tapped him from behind.

This was when the clone realized that Gustav had lost consciousness. "Never thought he would go down," He stated.

"We were lucky... this would have been impossible if he was at full strength," Sir Zil responded while Gustav's body fell to the floor.

Bam!

His entire face was smeared in blood and it was starting to form a pool around his head.

"Then what was your plan if he never got this weakened?" The clone inquired while squinting his eyes.

"I would have used that... but it's good that things didn't need to get to that point," Scientist Zil answered with a tone of relief.

"Let's g..." Before he could complete his statement, a loud yell suddenly rang out.

"Yaahhhhh!" A figure flew towards Scientist Zil with a long slab of frosted blade, aimed at his back.

Scientist Zil turned around in terror as the sudden attack had taken them by surprise since they were unaware of the other presence in the abode.

The icy blade was close to penetrating his chest when Gustav's clone suddenly reached out his hand.

Bam! Krryychhh!

He caught the frosted blade and tightened his fingers around it. In the next moment, the frosted blade shattered into many little pieces and Gustav's clone reached out to grab the assailant's neck.

"I will never forgive you for harming Father!" Sersi screamed in anguish as her hair changed color from blue to white.

The temperature in the surroundings dropped intensely, the moment her eyes emitted a bright white glow.

"Grhh!" The clone groaned as frost swiftly covered his entire arm and kept spreading to the rest of his body.

Bang!

He proceeded to slam Sersi into the floor causing the building to quake intensely. The surroundings were turning into an Arctic domain, surprising the clone and Sir Zil. With the amount of frostiness coming from her, the entire street could end up becoming a frozen haven.

The clone knew that despite his strength he would be severely affected since the frost was permeating his body on a cellular level. Channeling his bloodline would become a great hassle if the channels were frozen...

Puukklll!

He stabbed his frozen fist into Sersi while she was still on the floor, causing her to puke out blood. The glow in her eyes dimmed as her hair returned to its usual color.

The clone lifted her into the air with its fist still lodged in her and flung her across the living room. Bang!

She slammed into the wall on the other end and crashed onto a table, causing a pile of rubble to collapse onto her unconscious figure.

Sir Zil on the other side had an ashen white face as the cold had already seeped into his bones. Fortunately for him, the temperature was returning to usual.

"You should not have done that," Sir Zil stated with a tone of caution.

"Why? Are you scared?" The clone questioned with humor in his eyes. "It was supposed to be Gustav alone. You were not to kill anyone," Sir Zil answered with a very stern tone.

"Relax, so long as you give me what I want, there won't be any issues," The clone calmly responded while reaching out to pick Gustav's unconscious body back up.

"Let's go," He added.

Sir Zil let out a small sigh before taking out a rectangular prism-like item. He tapped on it and a blue swirling light appeared before them.

They both stepped into the light and vanished afterward, leaving the apartment in total disarray.

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"So he got jumped... was a bit skeptical since it looked like your old man is way weaker than Gus but it makes sense now."

E.E. knew that it would be almost difficult for anyone to successfully abduct Gustav no matter how weak he was. However, after listening to Sersi narrate how the clone got freed, he understood.

"What even is this project that he so needs Gustav for?" E.E questioned.

"No he completed the Foral Project, what he is trying to do right now is give the clone what he promised... Gustav's brain," Endric pointed out.

"Not just that, according to what I read, even though it is completed, he still needs Gustav for the finishing," Damien chimed in.

"That is even worse... which begs the question... where could they have gone?" They were all just coming from the lab in the tunnelways underneath the burning sands so they were well aware that the scientist did not return there.

"There was something in the scientific reports," Damien had an uncertain look on his face as he spoke.

"The Foral project mentioned..."

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In the ethereal embrace of the sky, an establishment floated undetectable, mixing with the clouds. The establishment suspended itself in the boundless expanse of the sky, appearing as if woven from threads of stardust and light.

Within it, three figures occupied a brightly lit space, their presence hinting at an unsettling unraveling.

One of the three figures was strapped to an unknown apparatus and cosmic energy beamed from his being.

"You called me selfish but what I am about to do will forever change the fate of the earth. The concept of equality will be successfully actualized in this aspect," Sir Zil said to Gustav as a holographic machine up ahead kept beeping.

"You've become quite stupid... does it come with the age?" Gustav didn't seem to be bothered despite being in bondage.

"You still don't understand, do you? Should I praise you for being ignorant and giving me the key ingredients to becoming successful or should I school you about what I've been up to for the past two years?" Sir Zil questioned with a very brief display of pity on his face.

"How about... none," Gustav remained uninterested.

"Over two years ago when you helped me create the Arhkum Serum... I acquired a drop of your blood and it opened up a door to millions of unexpected possibilities," Sir Zil began narrating.

"I said none..." Gustav stared on indifferently.

"In your genetic makeup were cells that inadvertently splice to create a new life that contains locked and hidden abilities. They eventually simmer down and transmute vitality which in turn only regenerates the body of the owner, diluting the cell's capability to become anything more...

However, if these cells were allowed to blossom and grow into what they were meant to be, what do you think would happen?" Sir Zil paused for a bit, hoping Gustav would answer the question but was only met with silence.

"It is almost as if an entire universe lives within you. I see why you never wanted to help me with the Arhkum serum since it meant poking into your body. I was excited to explore what this meant... but there was one problem," Sir Zil paused once more while staring at the clone by the side.

Gustav already knew what he was going to say yet he remained silent and listened with an uninterested look.

"I couldn't extract the cells at their potent state since they were no longer in the body they originated from. This also meant, I couldn't further my research without your existence and you were already long gone. I couldn't risk asking you to return because you were too smart for your good. You would have figured out that I was up to something," Sir Zil recalled that even with the drop of blood he managed to get, he was almost caught by Gustav despite his proper planning and preparation. Sir Zil knew that it would be his head on a pike if Gustav were to ever find out because he never forgives betrayal.

"Now I couldn't get you back here but with the drop of blood in my possession, maybe I could make another you," This narration pretty much revealed how the clone came to be.

"Even though you are already a dead man, I applaud your diligence. Managing to make a fake-out of a single drop of my blood," Gustav finally spoke.

"It truly was difficult and yes I risked getting myself killed but it was all for the betterment of the earth," Sir Zil responded.

"You keep saying that like it is supposed to make you righteous but you are no better than the conniving and selfish bastards in the place of power."

Chapter 1416 The Flawed Concept Of Equality

Gustav chuckled a bit while speaking, "You've tricked me for the last time."

"I haven't finished telling you everything," Sir Zil stated. "Very soon that mindset of yours will change..." He added before resuming his narrative.

According to Sir Zil, he dedicated close to three years of his life to regrowing a replica of Gustav that wasn't a hundred percent success. However, his original aim wasn't to create a clone... he just needed to explore the cells of Gustav in its early creation stages where the new life and canvases of abilities mirrored on them hadn't been transformed into vitality.

"The only way for me to do that was by using G2 and through him I was finally able to extract them in their potency stage," Sir Zil referenced the clone.

"Do you know that these cells breed abilities that are not bloodline-based? It is the very nexus of creation," He added with a nearly crazed look.

"Yaay?" Gustav muttered with a disinterested tone.

"That is when I decided to create the Foral Project," Sir Zil had an inspirational look on his face the moment he said that.

"Foral what?" Gustav had a visibly irked expression upon hearing that.

"It was something I formed from two words... For All... because the purpose of this project is to create equality for all," Sir Zil explained.

"Equality is a thing of fairytales. It is what the people in positions of power use to deceive the masses. It is delusional. It is a form of control... Equality isn't real and you should know that," Gustav rolled his eyes like he was an adult listening to a kid rant passionately about impossibilities, despite the huge disparity in their ages.

"Except this time I can finally actualise it... You see, I found something else in your cells. Something that will greatly help this cause of mine," Sir Zil's tone had a bit of ominosity in it, causing Gustav's face to display a brief hint of interest.

"The final project is meant to bless every single person on earth with supernatural abilities and automatic regeneration regardless of whether they are human, Slarkovs or low-grade mixedbloods. Every single person will now have a proper ability and it shall no longer be exclusive to Mixedbloods alone," Sir Zil revealed.

"If this is meant to bring equality then you really are more stupid than I thought... Mixeedbloods already make up most of the earth's population so almost everyone already has supernatural abilities through their bloodlines," Gustav shot Sir Zil a look that expressed how ridiculous the scientist sounded.

"Once again, you didn't let me finish," Sir Zil muttered.

"The Foral project isn't just meant to give everyone supernatural abilities, it is also meant to do something else... That thing I found in your cells, can erase bloodlines," He proceeded to reveal.

'I can erase bloodlines?' Gustav questioned internally with a look of confusion.

("It's complicated,") The system responded.

'What's complicated about it?'

("You can't use it, that's what.")

Gustav was still confused about it but Sir Zil continued speaking.

"The foral project will erase bloodlines from the face of the earth and grant everyone abilities that aren't bloodline-based. Which means, the erasure of grades and ranks. Everyone will be on an equal level of power and there no longer shall be discrimination against low-level Mixedbloods or regular Humans and Slarkovs," Sir Zil concluded with a bright smile on his face.

"I completed the final project and now I have what is needed to bring about this new change. True equality in the power system of earth," Sir Zil stated while stepping forward dramatically. "Let me get this right... you are going to erase bloodlines just so everyone can be equal in terms of abilities?" Gustav questioned.

"You're starting to see the light, aren't you? So now you realise that I didn't do this for my selfish gain and everything you said about me was wrong," Sir Zil pushed his glasses up slightly while moving towards a holographic panel.

"Did you think about the long-lasting effects of this?" Gustav inquired with a tone of seriousness.

"No discrimination, less ego, more empathetic individuals who will now understand how their fellow earthlings feel since they are now plunged into the same situation.... Did I miss anything?" Sir Zil responded both seriously and sarcastically at the same time.

"Loss of power balance, loss of leading position in the alliance, becoming prey for other powerful planets, inability to stand against criminal forces since strength is now on an equal level, increase in crime rate, the inability of Earth to protect itself from extraterrestrial beings... did I miss anything?" Gustav listed rationally.

"Just because bloodlines will be erased, it doesn't necessarily mean the earth won't be able to protect itself. Besides supernatural abilities, we have good technology. Everything will be fine," Sir Zil waved it off with an undisturbed expression.

"Trust me, the negative side effects will be worse than any positives this project might bring. You might want to rethink your decision," Gustav suggested.

"No, my mind is made up. You of all people should understand," Sir Zil hinted at Gustav's past.

"Yeah, but this is the wrong answer. I never wanted bloodlines to be erased. What I wanted was to be powerful enough to chase my dreams. There is an imbalance in the equality you so chase. You just might lead this planet to destruction," Gustav pointed out.

"The gas is finally ready," Sir Zil stated while stepping forward.

< 100% >

< READY TO BURN >

He stared at the holographic readings up ahead briefly before stepping forward to operate the machines in the space.

"The moment I burn the gas created from the Foral Project at this altitude, it will change the world forever," Sir Zil tapped on a button that displayed their surroundings in the sky.

From what Gustav could gather, burning this gas would cause it to spread across the earth's skies and bring forth rain. Once that happened, Sir Zil would have achieved his goal.

"I hope you are aware that I will not be affected by this. Which means your equality scheme will not be actualized," Gustav knew his bloodline would remain since it was made from his cells.

"That is where you are wrong," Sir Zil responded while slightly turning around.

"I no longer have any use for you so I will leave you to G2. He knows what to do with you," He added.

"Oh I see... but even if I was no longer in existence, there would still be this fake. Your equality remains a sham," Gustav instantly put two and two together, realizing that the clone most likely wanted him gone so he could be the only Gustav in existence.

"He will be leaving this planet afterwards... I am not a hypocrite like you. But I do apologize for all of this and also thank you," Sir Zil sounded like he was bidding Gustav farewell.

Gustav now understood why the clone took the data from the device he had kept in space to read the warp demolator. 'The clone wishes to not only take my life but also take my life...' Gustav said internally.

("He wants to be you so bad,") The system chimed in.

'I am tempted to let him but this foolishness has gone on long enough,' Gustav said internally while watching the clone approach.

"I just need some of your body parts to become whole," G2 stated with a longing gaze.

"Listen, you could never be me. You can't handle the responsibility that comes with that," Gustav said to the clone.

"You won't be around to know whether I handled it or not," The clone responded while slowly reaching for Gustav's neck.

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"I feel like we've searched everywhere. Just where could they be?" E.E. questioned while standing in between Endric and Damien on a telekinetic board deep in the skies.

"I don't know for sure. All I am sure of is that they need a high altitude to successfully implement the Foral Project and once they do, all mixedbloods will lose their bloodlines," Damien answered with a distressed look.

They had been looking for Gustav for the past three hours with no luck.

"This is not good... for all we know your crazy ass grandfather may already be doing that," E.E.'s remark caused Damien to glance sideways briefly.

"No offence but he did lose his goddamn mind," E.E. added.

"None taken... sigh... I didn't expect him to do this," Damien had a crestfallen expression.

"She's here," Endric suddenly spoke.

"Huh? Who?" E.E. questioned with a confounded look.

Endric pointed west...

Fwwhiiii~

In the next moment, a bungalow-sized aircraft phased out of the thick clouds up ahead, flying in their direction.

Wind scattered in all directions as it stopped right before them and a huge side door slid open.

Within, an incredibly cute lady with very sharp eyes stepped forward clad in a royal blue dress. The jewellery and makeup that adorned her figure, made it obvious that she came from wealth.

However, her eyes bore a look that seemed almost lifeless despite her sparking appearance.

"Vera," Endric called out as they floated closer to the aircraft.

Chapter 1417 Rescuing Gustav

However, her eyes bore a look that seemed almost lifeless despite her sparking appearance.

"Vera," Endric called out as they floated closer to the aircraft. Her short pink and blueish hair danced beautifully due to the intense winds but wasn't enough to make her lose balance in the slightest.

E.E was surprised to see her since she suddenly went awol after Gustav left earth while Damien was the clueless one out of the trio.

"Are you guys going to come in or what?" Vera voiced from up ahead.

The floating telekinetic board moved closer to the aircraft and all three of them stepped in quickly.

"Glad you got my text," Endric said with a relieved look.

"I knew he was back on Earth. I just couldn't pinpoint his exact location because I wasn't in Plankton City," Vera pointed out.

"Where have you been?" E.E was a little curious considering that he and the others tried to reach her in the past but to no avail.

"Is that more important than finding him right now?" Vera asked rhetorically. "...No..." E.E muttered with a low tone.

"Do you know where he is at the moment?" Endric inquired.

"I can sense him so I know where we need to go," Vera replied while moving towards the cockpit area.

fwwwwhoosshhh~

The aircraft sped towards the northwest in the next instant, disappearing into the clouds.

"You little..." The clone groaned as it tried squeezing Gustav's neck multiple times but kept getting poked.

His palms were bloody at the moment. He stared at Gustav in anger who happened to have iro silk surrounding his entire body.

"Despite being my clone, you don't seem to be aware that nothing can truly constrict my abilities for long," Gustav stated while shooting G2 a cold glare.

"Well if you were no longer restrained, you would have busted out of this by now," G2 responded while pointing at the device Gustav was strapped to.

"Which means you are still very much constricted," He added.

"Not for long," Gustav stated once more.

G2 gritted his teeth in frustration and stormed towards Sir Zil up ahead who was ready to commence burning of the gas.

All he needed to do at this moment, was tap a button and his goal would become reality. "Having difficulties?" Sir Zil paused to ask G2 as soon as he noticed his approach.

"I can't get past those things that surround his body like an armor," G2 answered.

"Don't worry, he'll run out of energy soon," Sir Zil waved it off and reached out his finger, ready to tap the button.

"I don't think that will happen. We need to take care of him now," G2 voiced once more, causing Sir Zil to pause.

"Then do that," Sir Zil turned around with a dismissive look.

"After you rid the world of bloodlines, he'll destroy us both. I am not looking for that to happen,"

"I don't care so long as I can achieve this,"

"You promised to help me, are you going back on your word?"

A back and forth dialogue imbued with disagreements ensued between both of them.

"Just let me be done with this first," Sir Zil was already tired of the back and forth so he decided it was time to tap the button.

The moment he turned back around, a loud crash rang out.

Bam!

The entire floating structure quaked intensely as Sir Zil as well as the clone got sent flying. It seemed like something had collided with the structure. "What was that?" G2 was quick to pick himself back up and turned to stare at the point of impact.

"An aircraft..." Alarms began to blare loudly at this moment. Usually the security system should have alerted them of any disturbance but it would seem, the aircraft had moved with such speed that it collided before the warnings could ring out.

"He is here!" A loud voice drifted into Sir Zil's ear as he rose to his feet.

Behind, a dark curly haired youngster was standing right before Gustav.

Up ahead, another youngster with bushy afro stood before the control panel where the activation sequence was situated...

And standing right before G2, was a young lady with pinkish hair mixed with blue stripes. "Are you the one responsible for this?" She stared at G2 with a look of intensity despite being two heads shorter than he was.

"Get out of my way..." G2 arms transformed into muscular beastly form as he instantly reached out to Grab Vera.

Bam!

He held her up with his massive hands clasped tightly around her figure. The squeaky sound of bones rang out as he tried to crush her in his grasp.

G2 was taken aback as he noticed the uncaring and lifeless look in Vera's eyes despite how hard he was squeezing. Although it looked like he could crush her, she didn't seem to be in any kind of pain.

"You might have his face but you are truly nothing like him," Vera's voice chimed with a tone of disregard as freed one of her arm and touched G2's right wrist.

"Hmm? What was that supposed to do?" G2 nearly busted into laughter after seeing no reaction.

At this moment Vera displayed a crazed smile causing G2 to feel a sense of foreboding.

On the other end of the space...

Bang! Bang! Bang!

E.E was unleashing furious blows on the control panels before him, causing bits and parts to get smashed in.

"WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! NO!" Sir Zil's rage filled voice rang out as he charged at E.E.

Fwwhiii~

Damien suddenly dashed to his front and stood in Sir Zil's path.

"Hello grandfather," the apparent hint of disappointment in his voice caused Sir Zil to take a pause.

"... out of my way boy," Sir Zil commanded with a tone of authority.

"Hnhmn... Why would you orchestrate such a dastardly plot? You couldn't have spent that time with your family instead? Ciril would be heartbroken if she found out about this," Damien shook his head in disapproval.

"You wouldn't understand..." Sir Zil had both an expression of remorse and vindication at the same time.

"Understand you trying to erase the bloodline of every single mixedblood and murder Gustav Crimson? Do you hear yourself grandpa? How deep have you buried your humanity?" Damien questioned with his tone slowly rising in annoyance.

"You know nothing... I do this because of the so called humanity you think is buried," Sir Zil stepped forward and tried to shove Damien aside.

Damien was shoved aside but another Damien appeared in place.

"Stop with your tricks," Sir Zil pushed the second one forward only for another one to phase out of his back.

"No!" All three Damiens chanted at the same time before grabbing Sir Zill from different angles.

They held him down in place as more Damiens continued to appear. Sir Zil managed to pull something out of his suit while he was getting held in place, "Sorry about this,"

"Hmm?" The Damiens had looks of confusion till he tapped the button of the device in his grasp.

Thhrrriirihnn~

An unexpected burst of light was emitted from the device as a high pitched sound reverberated across the vicinity.

"Ahhhh!"

"Ahhhh!"

"Grrahhh!"

Damien fell to his knees as the multiple clones from his bloodline ability got pulled back into him. He held his head in pain and planted his face to the ground subconsciously.

"You left me with no choice... neither of you did," Sir Zil stated while looking around in pity.

Damien wasn't the only one affected by the device, E.E, Endric, Vera and Gustav were affected as well. Except for Gustav who was still strapped to the apparatus, everyone else was writhing in pain on the floor.

Sir Zil crossed past his grand son and stepped forward till he arrived at the control panels. It was completely totaled already by E.E.

"Damn it!" Sir Zil cursed in frustration as he checked around for how he could salvage the situation.

< Unable To Burn Gas >

The AI installed into the floating structure kept announcing the same thing over and over again no matter how much sir Zil tried.

"Looks like I might have to do this manually... they won't be down for long," Sir Zil stepped forward while grabbing another device from his storage unit.

He looked up at a constructed route that led to the top of the floating structure where the gas was kept. At this point, E.E, Damien, Endric and Vera, were still writhing on the floor in pain. They couldn't do anything to stop Sir Zil who was about to manually burn the gas and usher the world into an unexpected new age.

G2 stepped forward while Sir Zil was trying to break through the entry way of the construct.

"Come on, help me out," Sir Zil said the moment he noticed G2's approach.

G2 arrived before him and an unexpected scenario suddenly played out.

Bam!

G2 swung his fist at sir Zil's gut, sending him flying halfway across the space with the item in his hand escaping his grasp.

Chapter 1418 Taken Into Custody

"You fool! What are you doing?" Sir Zil yelled with a tone of anguish while trying to pick himself back up.

However, before he could, G2 arrived in front of him once more.

Bam!

G2's swung out leg crashed into Sir Zil's chest, sending him spiralling across the air while spitting out a mouthful of blood.

Bang!

Sir Zil slammed into the wall at the other end and broke through it. At that moment, G2 turned around and headed towards the spot where the device emitting the light and high-pitched whirring sound was sitting.

He raised his right leg and stomped on it.

Blam!

The device was smashed to pieces and everyone instantly felt a sense of relief. Damien rolled to the side and breathed in and out profusely.

"Shit my head nearly exploded..." E.E. cried out from the side while staggering in the process of getting up

.

"What the hell happened? I thought he wasn't on our side," Damien voiced in confusion while pointing at G2 who was currently headed towards Vera.

"He isn't supposed to be... unless..." E.E.'s face lit up with an expression of realization upon watching G2 help Vera get up.

"He is on our side now," Vera chimed in from up ahead while rubbing the chin of the clone.

"Right, G2?" She questioned with a sinister smile.

"Yes, mama," G2 responded respectfully.

"Now go bring him back here... restrained," Vera instructed.

G2 nodded before turning around to head in the direction where he blasted Sir Zil off earlier.

"How did you do that?" E.E. inquired with immense confusion written all over his face. It wasn't what he recalled Vera's ability to be.

"She has always been able to do that. I told her to keep it a secret from the start," Gustav's voice rang out from the other end.

"Gus," The three swiftly headed towards him.

Endric had been standing before Gustav's strapped figure the entire time trying to free him. It had made it impossible for him to assist the others at the time. He had also fallen victim to Sir Zil's device and only just resumed trying to free Gustav.

Vera jumped onto Gustav while he was still strapped, interrupting Endric.

"I missed you," She uttered quietly, her lifeless-looking eyes regaining a bit of focus.

"You can tell me all about it after Endric finishes freeing me," Gustav responded with a tone of urgency.

"Hmm," Vera nodded while smiling and swiftly took a step back.

"You need help?" E.E. asked Endric who currently had his eyes emitting a blueish silvery glow.

"Don't worry, I can handle it," Endric went on to explain that the apparatus was attached by energy strings to Gustav's roots.

"Any mishap could cause an explosion so it's best only one person handles it. I need to remain focused," He added while twirling his fingers continuously.

While Endric felt he could detach Gustav from the apparatus forcefully since an explosion wouldn't be able to kill him, he knew that would be a dangerous move since it might end up burning the gas and triggering the whole set-up they were trying to avoid.

It took a few minutes but Endric finally got it done, freeing Gustav from the apparatus.

"Finally," Gustav muttered the moment he stood to his feet.

Before him was not just the four of them but also Sir Zil completely restrained and passed out on the floor.

"What should we do with him?" E.E inquired.

Gustav turned to stare at Damien, "It is unfortunate we had to meet this way after two years..."

"I would have said nice to see you again but the situation is quite... I don't know if big brother Gustav bears a grudge because of my grandfather's actions," Damien had a bashful expression as he stared down.

"Not against you. Your grandfather's actions are not your own," Gustav responded while turning around.

Damien's face displayed an expression of relief upon hearing his response but Gustav wasn't done.

"However. despite our past relationship, what your grandfather has done or tried to do will not be without consequences." "I understand big brother Gustav. Grandfather crossed the line," Damien nodded meekly.

"So... what is your decision?" They all turned to stare at Gustav.

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{Two Days Later}

"Breaking News! Scientist Zil well known for his various scientific breakthroughs in the medical field has been taken into custody by the MBO for unlawfully plotting to rid the earth of bloodlines. Details are as follows..."

"Breaking News! World-renowned scientist, Sir Zil, arrested with charges of treason and illegal scientific research..."

"Breaking News! Famous scientist from Burning Sands City in MBO custody after committing..."

"It is all over the news now. Are you sure we made the right choice?" Endric asked Gustav who was seated before the holographic TV in E.E's apartment.

"Yeah... I would have killed him but he should stay locked away until I figure out what to use him for," Gustav responded calmly. "Hmm... the government will most likely be interested in how he created your clone now that you decided to unveil that information," Endric remained concerned.

"Even if they were able to get the process, they are still missing a vital catalyst... my genes. Without my blood or anything that contains my genes, they will be unable to do anything," Gustav pointed out.

"But what about the clone?" Endric inquired.

"What about it?" Gustav threw a question back.

"You didn't get rid of it. What if they lay their hands on it?" Endric questioned in worry.

"They won't. Now that the clone is under my control, they will never be able to find it," Gustav responded while leaning back against the sofa and crossing his legs.

"All of Zil's research centres have been burnt down. No samples or anything regarding me will ever be successfully acquired and I got the data from the warp demolator back," Gustav listed out with an expression of gratification.

The last two days had been spent gathering all that was needed from Sir Zil's labs and research centres before razing them to the ground. Since Gustav wanted E.E. to keep rising in rank, he let him take full credit for unravelling scientist Zil's plans and stopping him.

All necessary evidences were provided and E.E. added to his report that the clone was nowhere to be found. The world was made aware that the attack on Aribia City was the doing of the clone under the orders of Sir Zil. There was no doubt that E.E. would get a promotion since it was a planet-wide save.

Gustav acquired the data from the warp demolator which Sir Zil had kept well hidden. He discovered that the reason the clone went after the device and took it was because he wanted to become the real Gustav.

With what they had in mind, after the real Gustav was dead, some of his body parts would have been added to the clone who would have taken up Gustav's mantle and started living his life. The clone wanted everything that Gustav had, his mission, his abilities, his friends and pretty much his whole life.

Unfortunately, Vera had turned it into a complete mind slave with her abilities and proceeded to instruct the clone to only listen to Gustav's commands henceforth.

Now Gustav was waiting for the information in the warp demolator to be completely transferred and displayed digitally. Afterwards, they would decide on the next course of action.

"Vera wants a date with you... what are you gonna do now?" Endric asked from the side.

~Sigh~

"She probably thinks there is a chance since Angy is currently not in the picture..." Gustav couldn't help but let out a sigh.

'Angy...' He called internally as memories of a cute girl with a beautiful smile and two horns on her forehead, appeared in his mind.

("If I was human, I would have thrown up,") The system's voice suddenly rang in his head.

'What?' Gustav voiced internally.

("Cringe...")

'Fuck you,' Gustav stated internally before getting to his feet.

"I gave her my word so I need to keep it. In the meantime, you could assist E.E. with looking into that gift item. As for the other items, we will collect them after we get the warp demolator information," Gustav instructed.

"Will do... have fun. You need it," Endric said to Gustav who was already walking away.

"Fun? I don't think I recall what that word is supposed to mean,"

"You will... just make sure you use protection."

"What?!"

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Darkness stretched endlessly in all directions, engulfing the surroundings in an impenetrable veil leaving the dimension shrouded in mysteries.

Time held no dominion within this dark dimension, where the passage of eons was but a fleeting whisper in the cosmic winds. Past, present, and future converged in an eternal moment, suspended in the timeless embrace of the rulers.

Spatial limitations held no sway in this dimension as well. It seemed to be in existence and non-existent at the same time.

Within this boundless expanse, a being, its face shrouded in dark fog and essence sheathing the cosmic emptiness with an authority that resonated through the fabric of existence, sat before multiple dark threads that seemed to connect unknown entities.

Chapter 1419 Do You Love Her?

Within the boundless expanse, a being, its face shrouded in dark fog and essence sheathing the cosmic emptiness with an authority that resonated through the fabric of existence, sat before multiple dark threads that seemed to connect unknown entities.

Each thread was longer than the ring surrounding any planetary structure in existence.

These threads formed shadows of an event that unearthed like a life playback. Time from all ages; the past, present and future, seemed to converge into one.

A figure materialized into existence, floating in place before the cosmic being that governed the unknown dimension.

"Amir..." A low tremble resonated across the dimension as the massive cosmic being called out.

"My Lord," The newly arrived figure who had tendrils of darkness coiled around its form in a long robe that bore sentient consciousness, bowed reverentially.

"State your business," The cosmic being commanded.

"Yes... Your earthly offspring..." Amir hesitantly spoke but came to a brief pause.

"Out with it," The cosmic being seemed to grow impatient with every passing second.

"His vessel completed the transition process," Amir completed his initial sentence.

Silence ensued between both beings for a few seconds. It was news that the cosmic being had been waiting to receive but now he couldn't help but feel something was amiss.

"Why were you hesitant to inform me of this?" The cosmic being inquired.

"That is because of what he has become," Amir responded while a dark tendril extended from his figure and made contact with one of the massive threads. Dark fog spread out, forming a vivid depiction of a person while the cosmic being watched.

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[Earth]

"A level two hundred mutated beast egg, roots from the Pariscus tree in city Vit, and the heart of a kilo ranked mixedblood," Within a restaurant in the middle of an unknown city, two familiar figures sat across one another.

"These three are the only items we are having difficulty acquiring," The figure who spoke earlier added.

"It almost sounds like you guys are about to perform some ritual or something," The other male from across the table who had a mask covering his face spoke with a slight chuckle.

"I mean... they're not the odd items on the list," The youngster with curly black hair coughed twice with a slightly bashful look.

"I don't even want to ask... I'll get the items you need as soon as I can. Shouldn't be much trouble," The masked man pulled his jacket hems together and began buttoning.

"How about the heart of a kilo ranked mixedblood? Wouldn't that be..." The youngster whispered with a look of concern.

"Not really. So long as you know where to look, I could acquire more than a couple of those," The masked man got to his feet at that point.

"What about your charges?" The youngster inquired.

"I would never charge a brother of his," One couldn't see the face of the masked man but from his eyes, it seemed like he was smiling.

"Consider this service to be on the house," He added while turning around to leave.

"That went surprisingly well," Endric muttered while watching the masked man leave.

By the time he got to the entrance, the masked man's shadow turned red and he dissolved into it, completely vanishing from the place.

Endric stood to his feet at that moment as well. It was time to leave.

~Blink~

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Within another restaurant in Plankton City, the walls were adorned with enthralling holographic displays of vibrant colours. Two figures sat at a table whose surface reflected the intricate lighting in the surroundings.

Unlike the other restaurant, only the two figures were within the restaurant and they were opposing genders. It looked like the entire place was booked for the rest of the day as no visitors were allowed access.

"Why can't you use your real face? No one is watching," Vera nagged with a low tone.

Before her was a man in a burgundy suit with dark hair, an ashen white face and very red lips. One could tell that he was a man but he also looked pretty like a woman.

"I am not risking revealing my identity. If anyone sees my face, even by mistake, I will have to end their life," Gustav replied while reaching out to grab a wine cup.

"You look like a transgender," Vera stated with a tone of dissatisfaction.

"Drop it, Vera," Gustav shot her a distasteful glare.

Vera decided to keep quiet at that point and faced the meal before her.

'Finally a little peace,' Gustav sighed internally in relief.

("Your little girlfriend sure has gotten very rich since the last time you were on earth,") The system voiced in his head, referencing Vera's ability to privately book the most expensive restaurant in the city for the rest of the day.

'Yeah. I wonder what happened in my absence, but I could have done this too... when I was still rich,' Gustav responded internally.

("Are you forever going to cry about your bank account getting restricted by the world government and disabled?") The system began laughing hysterically.

'I had hundreds of millions... tch,' Gustav wished he could pull the system by the ear at that moment as it couldn't understand the feelings of a human that had lost everything they had built.

'I will get it back in the future. For now, well... Being broke isn't so bad,' Gustav decided not to sweat it.

"How long will you be around?" Vera inquired from the other end.

"Until I get all the items I require," Gustav replied before gulping down a tasty piece of meat.

'This is nice. It's been a while since I last properly enjoyed an earth meal,' Gustav couldn't help but recall all the months he had spent in outer space and on other planets.

'Boss Danzo meals are still a hundred percent better,' a hint of nostalgia hit Gustav.

"What items are you talking about? Do you need help?" Vera inquired with a look of concern.

"Don't worry, it is being taken care of. I only need to head to Angy's for the last one," The moment Gustav mentioned Angy, Vera's face dropped.

"I have a confession to make," She mumbled.

"Hmm?" Gustav had a slightly confused look on his face. "When I learnt that Angy got consumed, I didn't feel bad," She uttered before taking a brief pause.

Gustav leaned back against his seat to listen attentively and see where she was going with her confession.

"Sure I sympathised with you and everyone else but I didn't feel bad. If anything... a part of me felt glad that she was finally gone," Vera revealed without an ounce of remorse or guilt on her face.

"Does that make me a bad person?" She raised her face to look up at Gustav.

"The concept of good and bad is chalked up to personal view. To me, it isn't necessarily bad but to others, that might not be the case," Gustav reached out to take a glass.

He slowly gulped down the contents, leaving Vera to dwell on his words for a bit.

"But... why did you feel relieved?" Gustav inquired despite already having an idea of the answer.

"Because I want you for myself," Vera blurted without hesitating.

("Predictable,") The system voiced inwardly.

'Shush,' Gustav hushed it and went back to focusing on Vera.

"Do you know that the reason why I am gathering the items I talked about is to get her back?" Gustav inquired while rubbing his temples.

"Oh... well, there's nothing I can do about that. Although a part of me wishes for things to stay like this, a part of me also understands that you're affected by her absence," Vera forced a smile while speaking.

"Indeed I am," Gustav nodded slightly.

"What if I asked you not to... would you not go looking for her?" Vera voiced with a look of anticipation.

"No, I would go looking for her even if she was trapped in hell," Gustav replied while getting to his feet.

'It's time to go,' He decided.

However, before Gustav could leave the table, Vera placed her hand on his, causing him to stop in place.

"Do you love her?" Vera questioned.

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~Fwwhiisskk~

A figure appeared in the middle of a neighbourhood close to the edge of Plankton City. The figure had a reminiscent look as they scrutinized the environment, recalling its past look.

Residential buildings lined up across the surroundings ranging from twenty to forty stories. Compared to the past when they used to be mostly around seven to fifteen stories, this was an upgrade.

The figure walked past a bunch of stores and even a few familiar people in the surroundings.

"It is much busier now..." a smile hung on his face as he set his sights in a particular direction.

It was a building close to the end of the street that measured around twenty-one stories in height. Staircases could be spotted around the sides but no one seemed to be making use of them.

With a single fluid motion, the figure arrived at the top of the building.

~Fwwhoosshh~

Chapter 1420 Heartbreaking Infiltration

With a single fluid motion, the figure arrived at the top of the building.

~Fwwhoosshh~

He kept scrutinizing the environment and despite his striking appearance, no one seemed to notice his presence.

This was because Gustav was capable of hiding his presence from anyone weaker than he was. The people within this neighbourhood fell into that category.

'Do you think it would be better to go in and grab what is needed without anyone ever realizing I was there or should I directly ask her parents... Mr and Mrs Vilandrobadia?' Gustav questioned internally.

("I do not think they will be willing to welcome you into their home but you already knew that didn't you?") The system voiced.

The system's statement made Gustav take a trip down memory lane...

"You promised to protect her... you promised..." Mrs Vilandrobadia broke down in tears while falling to her knees before Gustav.

"Not only did you not keep your promise, you are suspected of being the one responsible for what happened. Which means you are to blame for her disappearance!" Mr Vilandrobadia stated with a tone of fury while Gustav just stood in the passageway with a look of remorse.

"I saw you as a son but that was my mistake..." Mrs Vilandrobadia kept tearing up uncontrollably.

"Leave here now or I am calling the MBO! The only reason why I haven't buried my hand in your face is because of the love Angy has for you," He added.

Gustav could see Phil in the background looking down with a crestfallen expression. He couldn't even look Gustav in the eyes.

"I will get her back," Gustav stated before turning around.

"Do not give us false hope!" Mrs Vilandrobada yelled.

Gustav paused his footsteps before turning slightly, "I will not rest until I get her back."

His mind returned to the present and he turned around while letting out a sigh. Could he blame them? Although everyone had it wrong with the allegations of him destroying planet Ozious he couldn't entirely say he had nothing to do with it.

A part of Gustav blamed himself because he knew the death angels weren't there for Falco alone, they were also there for him.

He also knew that Angy's parents wouldn't know what to believe since the whole universe painted him as a culprit.

One could only imagine how any good parent would feel about losing their child. It was easy to get overwhelmed with emotions causing them to look at the situation from a place of sentimentality, rather than logic.

'I guess it would be best for everyone to remain oblivious of my presence,' Gustav decided and took a step forward.

The world before him came to a stop as he sped towards the ledge of the building and ran across its side till he reached the level of the seventh floor.

Fwwiisshh~

Like the wind, he infiltrated the corridor of the seventh floor and made his way towards an apartment close to the end.

[Atomic Manipulation Has Been Activated]

The system's notification popped up as Gustav snapped his fingers.

A burst of milky-coloured light enshrouded his entire figure, causing him to turn a bit translucent.

Gustav took a step forward and walked through the door of the apartment while it was still locked. He was now in Angy's family apartment and the tranquil silence made it seem like no one was home.

However, Gustav knew better. He turned towards the small pathway that led to the rooms and kept walking till he reached the front of the second.

Sniff~ Sniff~

The room door was slightly ajar, and one could hear muffled weeping coming from within. Gustav stood in place briefly without going in. He was already invading privacy and didn't want to go further until the person within stepped out.

Sniff~ Sniff~

- "I should have stopped you... "

- "I regret ever letting you join the MBO."

- "I regret ever letting you go out there to participate in IYSOP."

- "I regret ever letting you be friends with Gustav."

- "I'm... wah... sniff sniff..."

- "Angy it's all my fault..."

- "I am a bad mother!"

("Even as a sentient being void of emotions, I have to admit that this is difficult to witness,") The system voiced in Gustav's head.

'Yea...' Gustav stood in place with a conflicted look. His face displayed a myriad of emotions ranging from pain to remorse as he clenched his fist.

He wished with every fibre of his existence that he could comfort Angy's mother but he was very much aware that revealing his presence would only make things worse.

His perception gave him a very vivid depiction of what was ongoing in the room so he was still invading her privacy even though he had refused to go into the room until she stepped out.

Minutes later, Angy's mother stepped out while wiping her face with a piece of clothing. Her eyes were very red and swollen. The bags underneath them and dark circles around them showed clear signs of insomnia amongst other things.

Gustav was very troubled upon seeing how she looked but he had to move out of the way to prevent collision. With the addition of the six months spent participating in IYSOP, Angy's parents hadn't seen their daughter in sixteen months and yet they were still very much affected by her absence.

This was a testament to how much they loved their daughter. Gustav knew well that his birth parents wouldn't even be bothered had this been his situation.

He stepped into Angy's room and scrutinized the surroundings.

He stared at her wall stickers and posters of nature and fantasy.

The bed was clean and well-arranged. Her study desk stood by the side with a holographic computer on it. The room was super tidy.

He walked towards the desk and grabbed the small holograph frame close to the edge. It displayed Angy and her family. Gustav touched a button on the back by mistake and the display changed to Angy and a much younger version of himself.

'This was over three years ago... I didn't think she would add it to a frame,' Gustav had a look of astonishment.

In the picture, there were some trees in the vicinity and he was looking away when she took a selfie. He was aware at the time but wasn't bothered.

He spotted a few tears on her desk and knew that her mother had been weeping while holding onto the frame.

A deep frown appeared on Gustav's face, 'I have to speed up the process of getting Angy back.'

After the thought appeared in their mind, Gustav pulled a drawer open and grabbed one of Angy's hairbrushes.

~Fwhhiishhhh~

Like the wind, his figure vanished from the vicinity, causing a low whooshing sound to ring out.

"Hmm?" Mrs Vilandrobadia was alerted by the sound of the wind but couldn't see anyone around because Gustav was long gone.

However, she spotted a droplet of blood in the passageway which struck her as odd.

"Did I cut myself anywhere?"

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Back at E.E.'s apartment, all three of them except Sersi were gathered in his living room.

"Did you get it?" Endric turned to Gustav.

"Yeah," Gustav responded while taking out the hairbrush.

"How about you, E.E.?" He turned to face Emma.

"I was able to persuade him," E.E. replied while taking out a small piece of shirt.

"Good... now we just need an item that bears the presence of that other dimension," Endric voiced with a nod.

"And what about the other items besides that?" Gustav inquired.

"Red Shadow agreed to get them for us," Endric replied while sitting on the other end.

"I take it your meeting with him went well," Gustav voiced with a tone of relief.

Endric raised his right thumb in response, "He is very easygoing."

"Last issue, how do we find an item that has a presence from there?" Endric questioned with a look of curiosity.

"That's not difficult... E.E will do it," Gustav responded while throwing a glance at E.E.

"Erm... how do I do that?" E.E. inquired with doubt in his voice.

"You head to the underground research centre where the Death Angel is being held, cut a piece of it and bring it back here... pretty simple right?" Gustav explained while crossing his legs.

"Right... except for the part where you forgot to mention that Jack Shirwin, the strongest mixed blood in existence, is currently guarding the research centre which makes it impossible to sneak in to do that," E.E laughed wryly while speaking. He sounded like Gustav was trying to send him to his death.

"Who said you were going to sneak in?" Gustav tilted his head slightly while smirking.

"Hmm?"

"Huh?" "You will walk right in through the front door, Officer Emmanuel Eloebhose," Gustav added.

"Unauthorized personnel are not allowed to visit," E.E. raised his hands in defeat.

"I'm sure you will find a way," Gustav replied while getting to his feet.

"The information that the warp demolator scanner acquired should be fully extracted by now. Gotta go check that out," Gustav added while walking away.

"Good luck," Endric tapped E.E.'s shoulder twice before following after Gustav.

"These two little fuckers," E.E. sighed.