Esper 801

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 801: Lore of Fairies

"Do you think the Lord would kill me if he finds out I said something like that?" Rudy asked.

[No. Because you are the only person the Lord can trust and talk to.]

"What do you mean?"

[You are chosen as the Lord's assistant. That means the Lord trusts you with everything. If you say something terrible about the Lord, the Lord would feel... sad.]

"Wow. So you are worried about the Lord, but not me, who is suffering?"

[I... I don't know what to say. Sorry. I can't help you.]

"There is no need to apologize. I am just venting... just like every living being."

[But I feel sorry for you. I want to help you, but I don't know how. It's so sad. You are going through all this. I wish I could do something. Only the Lord can help you. However, you can't even talk to the Lord about your problem.

It's... so sad. I now understand your pain. It must be very difficult. But don't give up! I am sure the Lord is aware of your problem. He will take care of everything. Don't lose hope, and keep patience!]

Rudy couldn't help but smile after hearing Zia's words.

'Fairies are considered to be the purest form of beings. They are naive and innocent. They can be easily controlled and manipulated. They can never commit a sin or do a bad deed. They are made that way. And that's their... weakness.'

"Thank you for your kind words. I feel a little better now."

[It's my pleasure to be able to help you.]

"..."

[Also, you said you are bored and frustrated. I can take care of your boredom. Feel free to talk to me whenever you feel bored. You can also take out your frustration on me. I don't mind. I will be happy if I can somehow lessen your problems.]

"...say... Zia. You are a fairy, and fairies are told to have powers to fulfill one's wishes. So why is it that they can't fulfill their own wishes?"

[We can't.]

"Yes, I know. But why is that? Any specific reason?"

[The elders have told us that the Lord's order was not to misuse their powers. If they use it for themselves, then that's out of selfishness. And that's a sin. And we can't commit a sin.]

"Is that just an interpretation? But I do think it's good that you don't use you don't use your powers for yourself. That would avoid internal conflicts."

[Indeed. The Lord knows it all.]

'I had no idea about it, to be honest.'

"I have one more question."

[Do ask. I will be happy to answer you.]

"It is known that fairies are the most innocent and naive creatures there are. But that can't be 100% truth, right?"

[Why would you assume so?]

"It is just unreal for any living being to be perfect."

[True. But we were created that way.]

"So are you saying that there has never been any crime in the Fairyland? And no one has ever opposed anyone. What about the kings and commoners? Has anyone not challenged them to become the new king or to change the heir to the throne?

Have the royal family members not tried to take the throne for themselves by removing the main bloodline? These are the things that are common and absolutely unavoidable. History can testify to that. So I am having a hard time believing that fairies are perfect."

[If that happens, then they are no longer fairies. They become dark fairies.]

"So it's similar to corruption?"

[In a way, yes. They lose their fairy abilities and form and become hideous monsters. The humans call them ghouls and skinwalkers.]

"They change the race entirely?"

[It's a curse. The Lord has an order, and we follow it. Anyone failing to comply with that gets punished by the curse.]

"Hmm. And what if they regret their actions? Will they become a fairy again?" Rudy asked curiously.

[Yes. It is possible, but only under a certain timeframe. And their regret must be true, and repentance must be sincere.]

'Isn't that the same thing?'

"Is it okay for you to tell me all that? You don't even know me. But then again, I am sure your naive nature couldn't stop you from telling me that."

[...yes...]

"I believe... that is the real curse..."

[It's not a curse. The Fairy race is the closest and most beloved race to the Lord. He has given the power to grant wishes. The power doesn't even belong to us. By the grace of the Lord, we are given such a noble task to fulfill one's wishes. We are truly blessed by the Lord.]

"Or you are given that task because the Lord is too lazy to do it himself," Rudy commented with a wry scoff.

[How can you say that?!] Zia yelled angrily. [We think of it as an honor, not a burden! We are not like you!]

"Ouch, that hurts."

[I... I am sorry. I didn't mean to say that. I got angry when you disrespected the Lord. You shouldn't do it.]

"Oh, so you 'can' get angry?" Rudy raised a brow. "I thought fairies never yell or get angry."

[We are not emotionless. It's completely natural for us to feel happy, sad, and angry.]

"Yes, it is."

[Mmm.]

"Still, I find it ironic to have such a level of trust and devotion to a being you don't even know. The Lord can make you all extinct with a snap, you know? Why so much faith?"

[That can happen to anyone.]

"That's a nice way to answer."

[What about you? Do you not fear that you can be replaced by the Lord one day?]

"Oh, I would want that. I can finally be normal again."

[But then you would be no different than anyone else. You will not be special. Just an ordinary man, struggling to live and survive.]

'Again, that's the thing...' Rudy uttered inwardly.

"To all to their struggles... running towards their goals and dreams... surviving the journey... not knowing if they will ever reach their destination..."

[...]

"Every living being is pitiable."

[Indeed. But that's our most beautiful aspect. We live to die.]

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 802: Group Chat

CLACK~ CLACK~!

In a dimly lit room, a man was using a computer. It was a room with no windows or bulbs, but it was dimly lit by the light coming from the screen of the monitor.

The clicking sound came from the keyboard. It was loud yet calm, making it pleasant to hear.

The screen was black with green letters being written on it. Symbols appeared on the screen as the clicking sound continued, seemingly having a conversation.

Many people were in the group chat, but only three were talking. The initials of the username were U.A, G.E, and J.J.

- U.A wrote in symbols Pieru has died.
- G.E asked- Did he run out of life force? That artifact was valuable. We shouldn't have wasted it on him.
- J.J- According to the data, he was the most compatible with it.
- G.E- Anywho, how did he die?
- U.A- He was killed.
- G.E- Killed? Did the scientists kill him during research?
- J.J-I can see that happening.
- G.E- Yeah, he was the most annoying subject. Always yelling and crying and talking about this and that.
- J.J- Man, I wish we could take his vocal cord out and make him mute.
- J.J- That wouldn't have made any difference, honestly. He would have made strange noises all day and night.
- G.E- U.A, you still haven't answered my guestion. Who killed Pieru?
- J.J- He couldn't have killed himself because the artifact wouldn't have let him.
- U.A- He did the most stupidest thing possible and got himself killed.
- G.E- Let me guess, he tried to challenge other successful test subjects of the supergene experiment?
- U.A- Not quite right. He challenged someone he shouldn't have. Even we or our strongest champions wouldn't dare to do that.
- J.J- Don't tell me... did he challenge the Lord?
- U.A- You guessed it. J.J, you are as smart as ever.
- G.E- I guessed it too. But didn't think Pieru would actually do that. But the outcome was expected.
- J.J- Yeah, did he truly think he could defeat the Lord? Pieru was our weakest champion.
- U.A- Now, now. I wouldn't say that. He was at least mid, if I may correct you two.
- J.J- Come on, U.A. You are saying that because he was one of your test subjects, and you don't want us to downgrade him. But we have rated him as per the data we obtained from you.

- G.E- Indeed. Even the Boss would agree to that.
- U.A- That's where you are wrong. The Boss was the one who told me Pieru did an excellent job.
- G.E- That has got to be a lie! Pieru was praised by the Boss?!
- U.A- I am not lying. Feel free to ask him.
- J.J- But why? Was Pieru able to harm the Lord?
- U.A- No. He couldn't even scratch him.
- G.E- Then why? Did we obtain more data on the Lord?
- U.A- Close, G.E. We did gain the data, but it was something we already had.
- G.E- Then what is it?
- U.A- We confirmed something.
- J.J And that is? We don't know who the Lord is. Even if we try, we can't know that. He doesn't appear in our footage when he is using the Lord's power.
- U.A- That's exactly what we confirmed. We already knew the reason for that. No one is supposed to be able to comprehend the Lord unless he is not using his Lord's powers.
- G.E- So what did we confirm, again?
- U.A- We confirmed that only.
- J.J- But we already knew that according to the 'Journal'.
- U.A- Yes, but we didn't confirm it. We are scientists, J.J. We don't simply believe what's written unless it's proven.
- G.E- That's right, J.J. We are talking about ancient civilization here. Some people think that they were uncivilized and dumb creatures. They don't know what we have and what we are today is because of them.
- U.A- We are simply copying the patents and the equations provided in the journal.
- J.J- So we confirmed that the Lord can't be seen, is that right?
- U.A- We confirmed one more thing: the prophecy mentioned in the journal about the Lord.
- G.E- Which one? There are like hundreds of prophecies, and we never get to confirm them if they are the truth.
- U.A- The Apocalypse.
- G.E- Do you mean the so-called zombie apocalypse? Yes, we were the ones behind that. T.A was the master subject. Our best test subject so far. We will find him one day and invite him to our cabal.
- U.A- Nay, I am talking about the Apocalypse mentioned in the journal.

- J.J- Do you mean... the second coming of the Apocalypse?
- U.A- Indeed. As expected from J.J! I knew you would get it.
- G.E- But that's not possible. The earth is stable, and it's nowhere near its end.
- J.J- How did we confirm it through Pieru? Did the Lord talk about it?
- U.A- You must not have paid attention to the chapter that mentioned the Apocalypse.
- G.E- I have read it thoroughly, and I know the details. It is said that the Lord would reveal himself on the day of the Apocalypse.
- U.A- It's the opposite interpretation, G.E.
- G.E- That doesn't make any sense.
- J.J- He means that the reason for the Apocalypse will be the Lord.
- U.A- Yes, J.J. The Lord will be the one causing the Apocalypse.
- G.E- Then, shouldn't we be finding a way to prevent it?
- U.A- We don't have to worry in the least. Because once that happens, everyone would want to kill the Lord. He abandoned the human race, so we will abandon him too. We don't need him to protect us.
- G.E- Yes, we are the one who controls everything in this world. We are the gods of this world.
- J.J- That reminds me, I heard that one of the honorable members of our cabal— who was recently arrested after all of his crimes were leaked on the internet by someone— Fred Mores. He will have the court hearing soon.
- U.A- The Boss has it under control. This time, once again, he will be proven innocent.
- G.E- That's great to hear. We should be arranging a welcome party for him, then.
- J.J- Don't get too excited, G.E. The Boss can change his mind anytime. The only reason F.M has gotten so far is that he has something that the Boss needs.
- G.E- I am aware of that. F.M is an influencer with millions of followers. He can easily manipulate the youths.
- J.J- And he can be replaced if the Boss wills so. So stop crediting him for his achievements. Everything he has is because of the Boss.
- U.A- By the way, G.E, How is your test subject performing so far?
- G.E- She is under control.
- U.A- She better be.
- KNOCK! KNOCK!

"Dad! I have brought your coffee," a muffled voice followed the knock.

G.E- Give me a minute. The test subject is here with my coffee.

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 803: Pick Up Before Meet Up

Rudy spent his time talking with Zia via the orb until the clock hit 10:00.

[There is also the legend that says the stars would—]

"Zia."

[Yes?]

"I have something to do, so I will take my leave now."

[Is that Lord calling you?]

"No. It's not anything related to the Lord."

[Wait, does the Lord know you are talking with me every once in a while?]

"I assume he does."

[Is that okay? Will I not be punished if he finds out that I was wasting his assistant's time?]

"But you didn't waste my time. I learn many things from you which can also be considered as teaching."

[Will I be rewarded for teaching you, then?]

"Heh." Rudy couldn't help but chuckle after hearing that.

[Don't laugh! I am curious.]

"You may be rewarded. Who knows? Is there anything you want from the Lord? I would request him to grant your wishes."

[Hmm...] Zia took a moment to ponder and responded, [Currently, there is Nothing I want. The Lord already granted my wish by taking care of the warlock. I am happy.]

"You could ask for unlimited fortune, unimaginable strength, and an infinite power source," Rudy suggested a few wishes to Zia, which was also something every living being would ask for.

[What would I do with all that? I am a princess, but we are not rich. We have knowledge that we share with everyone. I don't need strength. I am a fairy, and fairies don't require strength. As for the power source, we get that from the Lord anyway.]

"...you can be selfish and ask for something no one can ever imagine. Maybe I can make the boy you love fall for you."

[Is something like that possible?]

"It is."

[But... will it be real love?]

"I can't guarantee that."

[Will that person be happy with me?]

"No comment."

[Then I don't want something that is fake.]

"I will wait for your wish. Till then, bye."

[Bye...]

Rudy placed the orb in his desk drawer and got up from the bed. He grabbed his phone and noticed it had turned off because it was out of charge.

'Seriously? I might need to change my phone. I charge it three times a day, and I don't even use my phone that much. Did I damage the battery by charging it using my powers?'

Rudy charged the phone to full capacity and turned it on.

'Hmm? Missed calls from Rize?'

Rudy called Rize as soon as the phone detected the network.

[Umm... Rudy?] Rize answered the call.

"Yes, it's me. Did my name not come up in the caller ID? Or is it that you haven't saved my contact on your phone?"

[The latter one.]

'No wonder her sister asked for my name.'

"So... should I come to pick you up?"

[Err... Janet actually contacted me before you called me earlier, and I turned her down.]

"Uhh... What happened? You were up for it the other day."

[Yes, I was. Actually, my little sister, Grace, sometimes crashes at my place... more than once a week. She came yesterday too, but with a fever. Currently, she is fast asleep, but she is still sick.

I obviously, couldn't leave her alone in such a condition, so I turned down Janet's invitation. But then you called, and Grace got to know about my plans. Then, she insisted that I should go.]

"So... you are coming or... no?"

[I am. But I will come to the pool house directly and leave as soon as possible.]

"That's okay. If you are worried about your little sister, you can sit this down. You can meet them some other day."

[It's fine. She just took her meds before sleeping, so she isn't waking up for an hour or two.] Rize reassured Rudy.

"Alrighty. You can leave for the pool house now. And call me once you reach there. They might not let you enter since you don't have tickets."

[No need to worry. I know the owner.]

"You... do...?"

'Reina knows Rize?!'

Just like that, Rudy discovered something surprising.

[See you later.]

"Hmm."

Rudy placed his phone in his pocket and wondered, "I don't think I have ever mentioned Reina's name in front of Rize. Nor has she told me anything about Reina. So if they know each other... Does that mean... they are friends?

Man, Rize is going to be surprised when she learns that Reina is also a part of my harem.'

At that time, Rudy knew that the harem meetup was going to be more interesting than he had first thought.

Rudy took out his phone again and messaged Alice instead of calling her.

[Are you ready?]

The message was delivered immediately but wasn't seen for the next three minutes. Once Rudy saw Alice was typing, he teleported near her house and stood by the pole.

[Give me two minutes. I am preparing my bag.]

"Why bag?"

[It's a long story. I will tell you on the way.]

While Rudy was chatting with Alice, he received a phone call from Janet.

"Yeah?" Rudy answered the call.

[Nothing. Just calling you to remind you that it's about time.]

"I am faster than you. I am already at Alice's. We will be there in five to ten minutes."

[Good.]

A while ago...

Alice was in her room, standing in front of the mirror of the dressing table, applying lipstick. She had also worn a little makeup.

'Why am I dolling myself up like this?' She wondered. 'It's not my first time meeting the harem. But... I feel anxious about losing to Janet. I know she is all about appearances, so I can't let her beat me on that.'

Alice released a quiet sigh and muttered, "I still haven't told dad."

She hurried downstairs and went to the living room, hoping to find George there, but he was in his room.

'The coffee should be ready.'

She grabbed the mug from the kitchen and filled it with freshly brewed coffee.

KNOCK! KNOCK~!

She knocked on the door and calmly said, "Dad! I have brought your coffee."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 804: George Edeson

After the knock on the door, George opened the door with a stiff expression on his face.

"Hey Dad," Alice greeted him with a smile on her face. "I brought your coffee."

Alice handed the mug to George and stood by the door to get his reaction. However, upon receiving no words from him, she chuckled nervously and asked,

"Were you busy?"

"No, I was not. Why would I be busy at this hour?" he replied.

George moved the bug from his right hand to the left and asked, "And why have you... applied makeup? Are you going somewhere?"

"Uhm... yes..." she nodded in response.

George raised his brow and asked, "Don't tell me you are hanging out with Rudy again. You have been staying out a lot as of lately. Is it because I have stopped monitoring you?"

"No, no." Alice rocked her head, seemingly to convince George of her denial.

"Then where are you going?" George raised the other brow. "You don't have friends other than Rudy, do you?"

"I am going with Rudy, but we are not going anywhere."

"What does that even mean?"

"Well, as you know, now that the school's sports tournament has ended, we have our finals coming up soon. So Rudy, me, and some of our other classmates have decided to go to the library to study.

Uhm... it's like an extra class... uhh... a group session among students." Alice gulped down nervously.

"And we will also study about the special exam that would allow the students to skip grades and enter university since we are over the required age."

"Hmm. I understand. But why does that require you to get dolled up like this?? Are you trying to get the boy's attention?"

"The other girls also wear makeup."

"And?"

"Every girl of my age wears makeup. It's normal."

George furrowed his brows and said, "You don't tell me what's normal. I decide the rules."

"..."

George glared at Alice for a while and said, "Alright you can go. But be back before your curfew or I won't allow you to leave the house next time."

"Thank you, Dad."

George closed the door, while Alice rushed upstairs. She looked at her phone to check the time and saw a message from Rudy.

"It's from three minutes ago."

She opened the message and replied to him.

'I should have asked Rudy to come to my room and teleport me away. Dad never comes to check my room anyway, so he wouldn't have realized even if I had gone without telling him.

I can't wait to live in the castle. But obviously, Dad won't allow me to do that. But if I pass the special exam and enroll in the university with Rudy, I can use that reason as an excuse and move away from this town!'

Alice grabbed her schoolbag and left the house. And George watched the live footage on his screen as he had installed cameras outside the house.

George then changed his screen to the group chat and continued chatting with U.A and J.J.

Meanwhile, Alice met up with Rudy and asked him to teleport near Janet's house.

Rudy glanced at Alice's bag and asked, "So? You were going to tell me something about the bag."

"Don't mention it..." Alice let out a weary sigh and continued, "I told Dad that I am going to the library with you and other classmates to study since our finals are next door."

"Why would you need to lie about it?" Rudy asked with a confused look on his face. "You could have just said that we were going to the water park."

"Yes, I could have. But I am not sure he would have allowed me to. He might not have given me permission, and I didn't want to take any risk... especially today. I have to make my status known in your harem."

"Don't worry about something so trivial. You shouldn't let others decide your status. Only you can decide "

Alice and Rudy looked to their side to see Janet standing in a cool pose, wearing sunglasses.

Rudy squinted his eyes and said, "I don't think you get to say anything about being judged, since you have dolled yourself up more than Alice has."

"Oh? This is how I usually look when I am not at school. It's my casual look."

"Heh. Makeup queen," Rudy scoffed softly, but it was audible enough to Alice and Janet as they were standing next to him.

Janet's face twitched as she heard Rudy call her makeup queen, as he had caught her buying beauty kits from the store more than once.

She kicked Rudy on the back of his thighs and said, "Makeup is a girl's weapon."

"Then why use your legs to kick me... use your makeup..."

"How are we going? Are we taking a bus?" Alice asked curiously, checking the time on her wristwatch. "I think the next bus will arrive in 20 minutes."

"We are teleporting to Reina's office," Rudy responded and glanced at Janet to see her response.

Janet shrugged her hands and said, "If it's safe, then I don't mind."

"Good."

Rudy grabbed Alice's hand and turned to Janet, staring at her.

"Listen, I am letting you do whatever you want. If I wasn't okay with this, I wouldn't be allowing you to meet my harem or talk with them... especially a harem-related topic. You are a smart girl and I trust you, so choose your words carefully in front of them."

.. ..

"And try to be understanding. And don't worry, they will be honest too. They will never lie."

"That... sounded more like a threat than advice..."

"Let's call it a friendly threat," he smiled at her.

Janet held Rudy's hand and said, "I hope that I won't be eaten alive by the vampires."

Rudy teleported to Reina's office, where she was busy searching in the drawer of her desk.

"Reina," Rudy called out to her.

"Perfect!" Reina turned to Rudy in excitement and opened her mouth to say something, but she stopped when she noticed Alice and Janet.

"Hmm?"

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 805: Before the Meeting

Reina asked him to come closer and said, "I am looking for a button, but can't find it. I think it's in one of the three drawers. Can you use your power to...?"

"I sure can. Tell me, how does it look?"

"It's... black... shiny..."

Rudy activated his see-through ability and scanned through the drawers. He then turned to Reina and said, "Nope. Not in the drawers."

"Oh..."

"Was it... important?"

"Not really. It wasn't mine. As you know my little sister Rina comes to visit me sometime. The last time she came, a button from her dress had come off. I found it later that night when I was cleaning, and I put it on the desk.

Today, she is coming here and she must have noticed the dress was missing the button, so she called me and asked me if I had found it. I said yes. But now that I am looking for it... I may have misplaced it somewhere."

"Wait, your sister is coming?" Rudy asked with a hint of surprise in his voice.

"Yes."

"But I told you today would be the meeting of the girls."

"Don't worry. She is coming here as a customer. She is bringing her friends along to have fun in the water park."

"We can arrange the meeting at the pool house," Alice quipped.

"I can't come to the pool house. I have to be present here. Also, the vampire gang is at the pool house. Jane and Rias can't be present in the same room while discussing the harem."

Alice shot a glance at Rudy and said, "That issue still hasn't been solved?"

"Rias is working on it. Give her one day."

"How are we going to discuss without either of them?"

"Pick one, then," Rudy shrugged. "And I know Jane. She won't join the meeting."

"We will handle that." Janet stepped closer to Rudy and stood in front of him.

"You sure can..."

"The question is, what will you do? You are not allowed to sit in the meeting."

"I will enjoy the pools. Stare at beautiful girls."

"..."

"I am joking." Rudy walked to the door and waved his hand before saying, "Not really."

"Rudy. Can you work as a lifeguard for today?"

"What's my wage?"

"Hmm~" Reina hummed in amusement and pondered for a few seconds before replying, "The time you spent as a lifeguard would give you a free ticket to spend equal, if not more, time with me."

"Oh~ Nice~"

Rudy went to the storeroom and changed his clothes to the lifeguard's uniform. Then, he proceeded to climb the lifeguard's post and made himself comfortable.

"..." Janet fell silent after Rudy left and crashed on the couch.

Alice and Reina glanced back and forth at each other and shrugged their shoulders.

"Should we not inform the girls about our arrival?" Alice asked curiously.

"I don't think there is any need. Rias and Jane must have already sensed his presence."

Meanwhile, Rudy was playing an indie game on his phone to pass the time. If it was someone other than Rudy, they would have already been fired for using their phone on duty, especially as a lifeguard, since their one mistake could endanger the lives of many.

However, Rudy did not need to pay attention to his surroundings since he was fully aware of everything. He didn't have to use his eyes to monitor them, as he had his super senses active.

"What's up?" he suddenly uttered.

"Oh! Someone's using his power the right way today," a cheerful voice responded.

It was Rias.

"I always use my powers the right way."

"You mean during sex?" she chuckled.

Rudy glanced at Rias from the corner of his eyes and said, "You wouldn't know."

"Why do you look angry?"

"You tell me."

"When will the castle be ready?" Rias sharpened her gaze and let out a soft sigh.

"In a few hours. Hopefully, before evening."

"Then tomorrow it is. As I have said before, I only need a room and a bed."

Rudy took a moment to reflect and turned to Rias.

"Do you think that is a good idea? Is there no other way to take this 'revenge' of yours?"

"There is. But what kind of revenge would it be if I could not take it to the extreme and do the exact same thing that she did to me?"

SIGH!

"Well, I have already announced my promise to not interfere with any of my harem's personal matters. I could stop you from taking your revenge on Jane, but... even if I do, you twin won't be the same... ever. So finish this rivalry and go back to being normal."

Rias inserted her hands in the pockets of her hoodie and stretched them down.

"Just so you know, you are standing out in that outfit of yours."

Rias was wearing casual clothes, unlike everyone else around who were in their swimsuits.

"What a world it is... covering my body instead of being half-naked is considered abnormal," Rias commented in an emotionless voice while staring at something in the distance.

"...."

Rias stood there without saying a word, while Rudy didn't know what to say in response.

It was an awkward moment, and their interaction had paused.

"Where are the others?" Rudy broke the silence.

"On the way."

"What about Jane? Is she coming?"

"Asleep. She was watching a cartoon about vampires."

"You mean anime," Rudy corrected her.

"I can't tell the difference."

"Cartoons are for children, while anime is for... everyone, I guess?"

"Oh. Then that anime seemed pretty childish to me, so that means it is a cartoon for me."

'She is in a bad mood, alright.' Rudy uttered inwardly. 'Let's hope Janet doesn't say something stupid in front of Rias. I could use my ability to hear their conversation and spy on their meeting, but let's not do that. I will respect their privacy.'

"Just because you can travel freely under the sun doesn't mean you should forget about the risk of being seen by others," Lilim commented as she stopped near the post.

"That's right," Angelica seconded.

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 806: Meet Up

"Where is Niti?" Rudy asked Lilim.

"I don't think she is coming. Neither is Vriti."

"Because of the sun?"

Lilim moved her gaze to Rias and uttered, "Have Rias told Niti that she knows everything?"

"I have," Rias nodded. "She plays an important role in my revenge. But as soon as I told her, she ran away and has been avoiding me since."

"She is probably worried that you might take revenge on her, too."

"Oh, I do. Part of me wanted to do something, but she is... Niti and Vriti are like my mother and aunt. I can't hurt them."

"And Jane is your blood-related sister."

Rudy spotted Maria and Ruby near Reina's office and said, "Where have they been?"

"They went shopping. Even yesterday, they bought so many things."

"Money at its expense..."

"Miss Maria told me they are buying stuff for their rooms in the castle," Lilim informed.

"No doubt. I have never been in Ruby's room, but Maria's room was... well, if I have to say it... it was the most girly room I have ever seen in my life."

He nudged Rias and asked, "Do you want to bring stuff from the vampire world?"

"I have no immediate need for them. But I will let you know if there is something."

"Shall we go now?" Lilim glanced back and forth at anyone.

"Yeah. Everyone is here."

"Miss Rize would be there in a few minutes, so wait for her to arrive."

Rias and Lilim walked down the stairs, but Angelica stayed with Rudy.

"Are you not worried?" she asked Rudy, calmly.

"No, not in the least. I know what Janet wants. She does not intend to break my harem, but rather... She wants to use this meeting to convince herself to join my harem. She is fighting with her mindset and that requires powerful will."

"Why don't you use your powers to help her?"

Rudy shot a judging glare at Angelica and said, "You want me to use my powers on you?"

Angelica couldn't help but grin after hearing that. She hugged Rudy and responded, "Only during sex."

"Hey!" Lilim called out to Angelica. "What are you doing?!"

"Oops. I got caught."

She quickly kissed Rudy on the lips and rushed to Lilim and Rias. On the way, they met Niti, who had decided to join the meeting.

Rudy watched them proceeding towards Reina's office and muttered, "Maria and Ruby... half-sisters. Lilim and Angelica are childhood friends... like sisters. Alice and Janet... friends. Rias and Niti... niece and

aunt. Rize and Reina.... friends...? Rebecca and Elena... uh... I can't tell what type of relationship they have. It's complicated."

Rudy licked his lips and thought, "The girls are already forming pairs for threesomes. I can't wait for Rias and Jane, which would also be my first threesome. Rebecca and Angelica, Maria and Ruby... I have three pairs of blood-related sisters in my harem.'

Rudy was a little more excited about his life at the castle, as it would be filled with lots of love and sex.

Believe it or not, Rudy was perfect as a lifeguard, as he could use his vision ability at its best.

A few minutes later, he sat on the chair and released a short sigh.

'I can stare at any girl I want and they wouldn't find it repulsive. There are all types of girls present here. Children to married women to old ladies.'

"Man... this job should be illegal. It's basically giving a free pass to stare at the opposite sex without facing any consequences. Not everyone has a pure heart like me who wouldn't take advantage of such an opportunity."

It wasn't as though Rudy didn't want to look at the girls; he had to, as he was supposed to be a lifeguard, who had to make sure everyone was safe. And he wasn't the only lifeguard at the water park. There were half a dozen.

However, he had no interest in staring at the girls who were strangers to him. He had beautiful and sexy girls in his harem, whom he could stare naked all day and all night, and their beauty and figure could easily surpass the beauty of most of the girls in all the worlds.

Of course, he was a teenager— proven by Eleanor that he was from the current world and gained the memories of Rudy from the other world line where he died. He had his teenage hormones running wild, and he wanted to try all kinds of things.

Rudy glanced at Reina's office to check if Rize had arrived, but she hadn't. Although she came after five minutes.

He leaned to the right side of the chair and muttered, "Jane and Vriti are the only ones absent. I also have to think about what I have to do with Vriti. I only brought her to the human world because of Rias and Jane.

I couldn't leave Niti behind and Vriti wouldn't have stayed in the vampire world. Well, her attitude towards me did change a little after she found out that I am the Lord. No surprises there. They are supposed to fear the Lord. Every living being has to..."

Rudy looked at his nails, and as he had expected, they had turned black. But this time, even the skin around his nails was black.

'It's spreading. I don't know what this is or what's causing it to happen. The black color is unlike anything I have ever seen. When I was in the 1989 timeline, my body was turning into cosmos.

If I give it a thought, would it not make sense if I think of this black... uhh... blackization... as void?'

He rubbed his thumb on his chin as he took a moment to ponder.

"I got this power from Asura. Could it be that my body can't adapt to this power as it never belonged to me? But I can say the same for the power of the cosmos. I don't think anyone can help me with this.

Not even Nyxia. The power of the void belongs to the second reality. The only time I used this power was when I fought Peauru."

SIGH!

"I just want to live a peaceful life with my harem."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 807: Lucy's Day Out

Lucy was in the window seat of the bus, gazing out as the wind brushed against her face, causing her hair to move.

She was going out with her friends to have a good time, but she had no idea what the plan was.

The bus stopped at a pickup stand and a few passengers got in. Out of them, there was a girl who was neatly dressed. Her hair came slightly below her shoulders and they were locked with hairpins on the side.

But her attention was on her phone.

Even after getting on the bus, she didn't stop using her phone and kept walking to the rear side of the bus.

"Suzan..." Lucy nudged a girl sitting beside her, who was wearing red-frame glasses. And reading a book with a leather cover.

Suzan looked at the girl and shook her head with a disappointed look on her face. She waited till the girl reached their seat and brought her leg in between, making the girl trip.

However, before she could fall, Suzan grabbed her from behind and said, "You are going to die someday."

The girl turned around and glared at Suzan with a furious look in her eyes.

"Watch it! What if the phone had fallen down?!" the girl shouted.

"And you care more about your phone than your life. Wow."

The girl sat on the empty seat beside Suzan and said, "You are the one who tripped me, though."

"You could have avoided that if you had your eyes down."

"Rosse, Suzan is right." Lucy quipped. "Pay a little more attention to your surroundings, especially when you are outside."

"I bet she was talking with her imaginary boyfriend again," Suzan commented with a soft scoff.

"He is real!"

"You have never met him."

"So what? That doesn't make him fake."

"Come on, you are using a dating app. 80% of users there are either catfishing or kitten fishing."

"I know about catfishing, but what the hell is kitten fishing?"

"Lying about age and pretending to be a younger person," Lucy replied without looking at the two.

Suzan slowly shot a weird glance at Lucy and asked, "Why do you know about that? Don't tell me you got yourself on dating sites too!"

"I have not. I am not even at the legal age to use dating apps or sites."

"No one is our friend circle. Anyway, Rosse. The person you are talking to might be catfishing you, you know?" Suzan explained calmly, showing concern in her voice.

"But he sent me his photo."

"That could be heavily edited, a fake photo from the internet, or such a person might not even exist."

"I know. That's why I am stalling whenever he asks me to meet him or go on a date. But I can't keep doing this again and again or I will get dumped."

"Isn't that good? Didn't you say you swiped him by accident?" Suzan asked with a judging look on her face.

"No, he was the one who swiped me. I accidentally accepted."

"...'

"I know you are worried about me. I am too. But what if this guy really exists? He looks so hot, and you know that!"

"So, you are planning to meet him?" Lucy asked curiously.

"I have to... but... I want you two to come with me."

"Why would I purposely walk into a trap?" Suzan rolled her eyes.

"So that you can save me if he turns out to be a..."

"A pedo," Lucy finished Rosse's sentence.

"I wouldn't say pedo. We are only a few weeks away from turning eighteen. I was about to say...creepy. I don't know. I can't remember the exact word."

"How do you propose we help you? We are not fighters, you know." Lucy turned to the girls and continued, "Why don't you take your brother with you?"

"I haven't told him that I am seeing someone online. If I do, he is going to tell Mom and Dad, and... my phone will be confiscated."

"I didn't take your parents to be strict kind," Suzan muttered. "Your mom is so playful."

"Try telling your dad that you are dating someone online and see their reaction," Rosse immediately responded with a sigh.

"Well, why don't you take a boy from your class?" Lucy suggested. "Your cram school."

"There is no way a boy wants to accompany a girl on her date and protect her."

"You have got a point."

"And I don't know boys of my age who would be willing to help me."

"I would have asked my brother to help you if I had one," said Suzan.

Rosse turned to Lucy and said, "You have a brother, right?"

"Trust me, that piece of shit is worse than anyone you might meet online," Lucy uttered with pure disgust in her voice.

"I am not talking about Paul. The new one, what was his name again? Ru..dy? How is he?" Rosse asked with a curious look on her face.

"She talks about him all the time as if he is her lover. I am sure he is a nice guy," Suzan replied instead of Lucy, who didn't know what to say.

Rosse held Lucy's hand in her hands and calmly asked, "Can you ask him to help me?"

"Uhm... I don't think he will. He is always busy. And-and-and... he..." Lucy avoided eye contact with Rose as she tried her best to find an excuse.

"He has exams!"

"Yeah, but I am sure he can make some time."

"I don't think so."

Rosse narrowed her eyes and said, "Come on, just tell me the truth - you don't want to help me, do you?"

"It's not... like that."

"If I went to meet that person and something terrible happened to me, you would be responsible for it."

"How?"

"Because you didn't help me even when you could. You didn't save me when you had the chance."

Lucy looked at Suzan and said, "Help me with this."

"No comments. I don't want to get involved." Suzan raised her hands.

"Okay, how about you give me his number? I will ask him myself."

"He... doesn't have a phone."

"...'

Pfft!

Suzan was laughing so hard she had to put her hand to her mouth.

"You couldn't be more obvious, Lucy."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 808: Lucy's Day Out (ii)

"You couldn't be more obvious, Lucy," Suzan uttered as she suppressed her laughter.

Lucy's face flushed a little, but she managed to hide her flustration.

"You are misunderstanding," she responded quietly.

"I am not. You are blatantly lying about him not having a phone, which is—I don't know— unbelievable. There is no way a high school student in his prime teenage age doesn't have a phone.

Mind you, I am talking about a phone, not a smartphone or any expensive phone. Just a normal feature phone that can make calls and receive texts. Anyone can afford that. And you're saying that he doesn't have one..."

Lucy bit her lips and glared at Suzan. She wanted to speak, but the words wouldn't come out, though her eyes glistened with what she was trying to convey.

Rosse, on the other hand, had no idea what Lucy and Suzan were talking about. She puffed her cheeks a little and asked, "Hey, hey, don't leave me out of this. What are you talking about?!"

"She has a crush on her brother."

"Step. Step-brother," Lucy corrected Suzan.

"Yes, step-brother. And it seems that she wants to make him her step-boyfriend."

"What's... step-boyfriend?"

Suzan shrugged her shoulders and said, "She wants to keep it in the family."

Lucy gritted her teeth and punched Suzan on her thighs.

"I am not lying, am I?"

"You are!"

"I don't understand. Why would you lie about your love? It's fine, really. We won't judge."

Suzan chuckled softly and calmly continued, "We are best friends. We will be together, even after we all get married and have kids. Even after ten years."

"Don't you think it's too early to think about having kids?" Rosse wondered. "We don't even have a boyfriend yet."

"Did you forget your online boyfriend already?"

"Well, I am 50-50 on him. And even if he is not a catfisher and is a genuine person, no one can guarantee that I will stay together with him and get married and have kids. We might break up or divorce."

"No one knows," she added with a shoulder shrug.

Suzan raised her brow and commented, "So it's too early to think about kids, but it's okay to think about break up and divorce?"

"That shit happens all the time. Even idols and celebrities that fans consider a perfect couple breaks up. So what are we?"

"Their whole life is built on a lie. Most of the celebrities don't even use their real name they are given at birth."

Lucy moved her gaze to the window and thought, 'And we are on another topic now. Well, I am glad. Suzan was pretty hell-bent to know about my relationship with Rudy.'

"Even I don't know what will happen between us. If things go the same as they were supposed to, we will have a physical relationship. But that would be no different from the future timeline. I want to... have an actual relationship with him," she muttered under her breath.

Lucy observed a couple on a motorbike driving past the bus.

She shook her head and mumbled, "Lucy, don't forget your main task. You are here to save Rudy from the tragedy. You have to prevent him from meeting Elise. Everything comes after that."

"Isn't it illegal for a brother and sister to... you know... get married?" Rosse asked curiously.

"Duh! But I am sure it's okay if they are not blood-related. And who is talking about marriage here? You would be surprised to know how many people are in a sexual relationship with their blood-related family members. This world is a disgusting place if you think about it."

"Why do you know about something like that? I have never heard a case that—"

"Just think about it. Anything I can think of and you can think of is possible. If someone can think of something, someone else in the world has obviously thought about it too. It's the act of action that differentiates us from them.

We are given a brain that has the knowledge and intellect to make decisions and think about what is right and wrong, and that makes us different from other living beings, mainly animals who haven't got rules. But some people don't understand that which is why evil exists in this world.

If humans started acting like animals, then they might as well start living in the wild forest among them. They are not needed in the society."

Rosse squinted her eyes at Suzan and asked, "Are you quoting a philosophy from your upcoming book that you are writing?"

Suzan had a proud look on her face as she smiled widely and puffed out her chest.

"I hate you both!" Rosse hissed. "I was seeking help from my best friends, but they are selfish and thinking about their own advantages. If I end up being murdered by my online boyfriend, remember, I will become a ghost and haunt you two!"

"I don't think you as a ghost would be scary. And how would you haunt us, exactly? We wouldn't be afraid of you."

Rosse pondered for a while and said, "I will wait until you find lovers. Then, I will steal them away from you, forcing you to stay single forever."

"That's actually scary, not going to lie."

"So you will help me?" she asked with a puppy face.

"Just tell us when you are planning to meet. Lucy, Melinda, Leah, Rina, and I will watch over you from a distance. You haven't told him about us, have you?" Suzan asked with a serious, yet curious, look on her face.

"I... have..."

"..."

"But he only knows your name! I didn't send him pictures. He was asking for them, but I refused."

"Good."

"Thank you!" Rosse hugged Suzan and rubbed her cheek on her cheek. "You are the best of all."

"You said the same thing to Lucy the other day."

"You all are the best of all."

"Don't make stupid promises without asking us, especially when it includes us," Lucy remarked.

"I have no problem with it, but Melinda, Rina, and Leah might not be on board."

"We will ask them when we meet them."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 809: Lucy's Day Out (iii)

Rosse glanced at her phone to check the time and said, "Melinda and Rina did mention they had missed the bus, so... there's a possibility that they could get on this bus at the next stop."

Assuming they have not yet gotten on the other bus.

"What about Leah? She hasn't seen or responded to any of my messages since this morning. She hasn't come online either, even in the group chat."

"Same. Should I call her?" Rosse glanced back and forth at Suzan and Lucy, seemingly wanting their confirmation.

"Leave it. She has told us not to call her, so we should respect that. Melinda might know something since she is the leader of our friend circle."

"True."

The bus stopped at the next station and a few passengers got in. Since Lucy, Suzan, and Rosse were busy talking with each other, they couldn't see out of the window to check if Melinda and Rina were there.

They fixed their gaze at the bus' entrance and patiently waited to see three familiar faces walking towards them.

Rosse quickly waved her hand at them with a smile on her face.

"Yeah, we saw you," Melinda said calmly.

The three sat on the seat row in front of them and turned around.

"We are already late on the schedule," Rina sighed.

Rosse raised her brow at Leah and asked, "Why is she with you? After ignoring us all for all night, she shows up and doesn't even talk to us, as if we are strangers to her."

"Correct. I don't know a girl named Rosse who breaks her promise," Leah responded.

"Never! I would never do that, even in my dreams."

"You told me that you will convince Grace to join us, but I don't see her with you."

"Ack!" Rosse went silent after hearing that.

"Thank you for not making excuses," Leah remarked.

"You know how strict her parents are. They never let her out of the house. I can't believe a parent can treat their own daughter like an animal. She doesn't even have her own personal phone. Whenever we want to speak with Grace, we have to call her mother and answer a few questions before Grace is allowed to talk.

"Don't forget, they forced her to put the phone on speaker so she could hear our conversation," Lucy added.

"Yeah, it sucks to be her. I wish we could help her somehow."

"I..." Suzan quipped in between and said, "I have her sister's phone number; her name is Rize. Grace called me once using her phone, so I saved that number for future use.

I called her sister last night, hoping she would be able to convince her parents to let Grace come with her. But much to my surprise, it was Grace who picked up the call.

Long story short, I asked her if she was coming today, but she said she has a cough and fever. Obviously, I thought she was lying because she was afraid of her parents, but her voice sounded weak."

"So... maybe she was really sick," she shrugged.

"Let's hope her parents give her more freedom once she turns eighteen."

"If it was me, I would move out as soon as I turned eighteen," Rosse declared.

"Enough about her. Let's talk about something else."

"You still haven't answered my question, Leah. Why were you with Melinda and Rina? And why have you been inactive since last night?" Rosse asked again.

"I stayed the night at Melinda."

"When did Melinda's house become a dorm?" Lucy inquired. "Rina already lives with her and now Leah too. Can I come too?"

"Will you be able to stay away from your step-lover?" Suzan didn't miss a chance to throw in a remark.

"My parents went to visit the relatives, and I was home alone, so Melinda suggested that I stay the night at her place since we were going out the next day anyway," Leah responded in a neutral tone.

"And what's the reason you didn't respond to my messages?"

Melinda brought her face close to Lucy and Suzan and whispered, "Isn't she acting like a possessive boyfriend?"

"You said it."

"I can hear you, Linda."

"Chill. My phone's battery died, and I forgot to bring my charger with me. And before you say that I could have used Linda or Rina's charger, I couldn't. They have got a different type of cable."

"Oh, is that so? Wouldn't it have been amazing if Melinda and Rina had phones and you could have used their phone to inform me about it?" Rosse commented sarcastically.

She wanted Leah to inform her using Melinda's phone so she wouldn't have been so worried about her.

"You can't survive a night without talking to me?" Leah asked with a surprised look on her face.

"No."

"...." Leah.

"...." Melinda.

"...." Rina.

Suzan shot a weird look at Rosse, while Lucy wasn't surprised to hear Rosse's response.

"I usually don't like to jump to conclusions, but... are you into girls, Rosse?" Suzan asked hesitantly.

"What?! No! It's just that I always tell everything to you all— Everything! But you girls always hide things from me. I think it's unfair. Especially when you could easily inform me."

"Relax." Suzan placed her hand on Rosse's shoulder to comfort her and softly spoke, "Lucy and I didn't know that either. So you are not the only one who wasn't informed of this matter."

"I still don't know what our plans are for today. It better be something good because I missed my chance to spend the weekend with Rudy."

"There she goes again."

Melinda showed them something on her phone and said, "We are going to this water park in the next city."

"Geez! You should have told us before we left our home. None of us three have brought our swimsuits."

"Don't worry, we haven't either." Melinda reassured and swiped the picture on her phone's screen, which showed a picture of Rina at the water park.

"The thing is, the water park is actually owned by Rina's family," she informed.

"My sister and her boyfriend are running it."

Esper Harem in the Apocalypse

Chapter 810: Lucy at Water Park

"Does that mean we will get free tickets?" Rosse asked curiously.

"We could if we asked her, but I bought the tickets anyway," Melinda showed them the tickets.

"What about our swimsuits, though?"

"The water park has twelve pools, and one of them is reserved. We will use that. Rina said it was okay if we were not wearing swimsuits while we went on the rides.

They talked all the way to the water park until they reached there. Realizing how close the Bus stop was to the water park, they chose to walk there, and eventually reached there after a few minutes.

As the water park's revenue kept growing, Reina decided to take it upon herself to make some changes, without having to ask Rudy for assistance.

She had hired professional watchmen for each area, including the parking. To ensure the water park was fully monitored, cameras were put up in the locations that were missing them.

Melinda handed the tickets to the watchman and passed through the security check.

"Wait, the ticket is only for five people. But the group is of six."

Rina raised her hand and said, "I have a lifetime pass to come here whenever I want."

"Madam hasn't informed me of such a pass," the guard said calmly.

"She is the owner's sister," a female guard, who just arrived at the scene, said.

"Sorry, I am late. I had to drop my son off at my sister's."

"Can we go now?" Melinda asked them.

"Yes, please."

The girls made their way in and stopped at a divergence point.

"Holy molly! When you said there are twelve pools, I thought they would be next to each other, but this place is huge!" Rosse exclaimed.

"I have never seen a water park so big, not even in the movies! How come I didn't know about it?!"

"The park was closed down. It recently opened a few months ago. My sister is trying to advertise it wherever she can, but her boyfriend has other ideas.

He wants to fulfill our parent's dream and make this place an amusement park," Rina stated.

"He seems like a nice boyfriend."

"He is. A little too nice to be real. I have never met him, but I saw his photo on my sister's phone. He doesn't look ugly, either. Which is why I don't understand what he is after."

She placed her hand on her mouth and muttered, "Could it be that he is after her fortune? He somehow seduced her and now he will get her to sign the property papers?"

Melinda chuckled nervously and placed her hand around Rina's shoulder.

"I will take her to her sister's office. You girls can wait here or proceed to the reserved pool."

"We don't know where that is."

"You can follow the directions. There are sign boards at every junction."

After saying that, Melinda dragged Rina to Reina's office.

Suzan glanced at Rosse, who couldn't hide her excitement after seeing the water park.

Leah looked at her cleavage and said, "I think I will need a swimsuit."

"We all do. Even if we swim in our current clothes, what are we going to wear after that? We can't go home in wet clothes."

Lucy rubbed her legs together as she squirmed.

"What's wrong with you?" Suzan asked after seeing Lucy acting strangely.

"After seeing so much water, I want to pee."

"You want to pee in the pools?" Rosse asked with a shocked look on her face. "I used to do that when I was in middle school, but doing that now is... eww..."

Lucy furrowed her brows and said, "I want to pee in the bathroom. And I don't know where they are."

"Oh. Actually, I should take a leak too. I hate getting out of the pool to pee."

"Then let us all go together."

Lucy, Rosse, Suzan, and Leah glanced at the boards and spotted the ladies' restroom in the distance.

Leah pointed her finger in the direction and said, "I think it's there."

Lucy was in a hurry, so she began to walk hastily. The tiles used for the floor were made in such a way that they wouldn't become slippery when wet.

As Lucy was running, she didn't notice the shirtless boy and bumped into him.

"Excuse me."

She didn't even glance at the boy and tried to go by, yet the boy moved in her way and wouldn't let her through.

She tried to go through the left side, however the boy prevented her from going any further.

'Getting harassed by boys at the pool is common, but I didn't think it would happen to me,' she thought to herself.

"Lucy," the boy called her name.

Hearing the voice, Lucy immediately realized who it was and looked up in surprise with a face full of curiosity.

The boy was Rudy, and he was only wearing shorts because the lifeguard's uniform made him uncomfortable.

"Rudy?! What are you doing here?!" she exclaimed.

"What are 'you' doing here? Didn't you say you were going to hang out with your friends?"

"I asked you first. Answer me!"

"I am helping a friend here."

"Eric?"

"No. He is not the only friend I have. This water park's owner is my friend. She wanted me to fill the life guard's shift, so I am doing just that."

"...'

Rudy folded his arm and impatiently asked, "Now you turn."

"I am here with my friends."

"Where? I don't see them."

"Huh?" Lucy looked back to see she was alone.

"Maybe they got lost."

Rudy noticed Lucy's hand was on her crotch, so he assumed she must be wanting to go to the washroom.

"There she is," Suzan approached Lucy, followed by Rosse and Leah.

"There. See?" Lucy pointed her gaze at them.

Leah was the last one to arrive, and she saw Rudy standing in front of Lucy with his arm folded like a boss. She thought Lucy was being harassed by Rudy.

"Leave it, punk! Or I will call security!" She shouted at Rudy.

"Hmm?" Rudy raised his brow at Leah and glanced around.

"I am talking to you!"