

Esper 811

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Chapter 811: Lucy's Friends Meet Rudy

"He is not..." Lucy tried to speak, but she stopped and tried to talk past Rudy.

"Wait up." Rudy stopped Lucy by grabbing her from the shoulders.

Lucy wanted to avoid introducing Rudy to her friends, so she tried to run, but it was already too late.

"Lucy, do you know this guy?" Leah inquired.

"No." Lucy shook her head.

"What the—! Why are you lying?"

Lucy glared at Rudy and muttered, "Why is he here? The last thing I want is him to meet them."

Rudy smirked from the corner of his lips and said, "Hey there, I am Rudy."

"Oh!" Rosse clapped her hands. "You are the step-boy... ther."

Suzan elbowed Rosse to stop her from spilling the beans.

"Hmm?"

"Brother. She means step-brother."

"Yes. I am Lucy's step-brother. And I assume you are her friends."

Rosse moved her hand forward and said, "Hello, my name is Rosse. Lucy's best friend."

"Hello, Rosse. Nice to meet you." Rudy shook hands with a charming smile on his face.

"I am Suzan. Lucy's childhood friend. She might have told you about me."

Rudy moved to Suzan and shook hands with her as well.

"She hasn't said a word about you, sorry."

Suzan's face turned pale after hearing that. She glanced at Lucy, who was trying her best to avoid eye contact with her.

"And you are..." Rudy looked at Leah.

"Leah. I am sorry for mistaking you as a thug. You look just like one, so I couldn't help it. It's a bad habit."

"It's okay. I am happy that Lucy has a friend who is protective of her." Rudy forced a smile and shook hands with Leah.

Leah also forced a smile and shook hands with Rudy.

"Hey." Rosse grabbed Rudy's hand and said, "Is it okay if I call you Rudy bro?"

"You can call me anything you want. My sister's friends are like my sisters."

"Hmm~" Rosse pondered in amusement and mumbled, "If Lucy is your step-sister, then we are you step-friends?"

Suzan elbowed Rosse and pulled her hands away from Rudy.

"Stop step-ing everything!"

"You have funny friends, Lucy," Rudy chuckled.

"No, only this stupid is an idiot in our group.," Suzan quipped.

Rudy stared at Suzan's face and asked, "Are your glasses just for fashion or you genuinely have..."

"They are real."

"You are going to have difficulty swimming. And I would suggest you to not go on the rides alone."

"I know. I have been to the pools before."

"The glasses suit you, though."

"...!" Suzan's face flushed a little.

"It's like... the glasses were invented just so you could wear them one day. They are perfect."

"Tha...nks..." Suzan clenched Rosse's hand tightly.

Meanwhile, Lucy couldn't stop glaring at Rudy.

'This is why I didn't want them to meet him. He is so carefree and blunt!'

Lucy grabbed Suzan's hand and said, "We are going to the washroom. Excuse us."

The girls went to the washroom and entered their cubicle.

"He was so hot!" Rosse exclaimed. "Lucy! Why didn't you tell us that you had a hottie at home?"

"..."

"What do you think, Suzan? What are your first impression of him?"

"He said the glasses suit me. No one has ever told that to me before..." she muttered with a flushed face.

"Leah? Your thoughts?"

"He looks intimidating and handsome. But that's just it. I would rate him 8 out of 10 for looks. But he seems to be faking his personality. Not a boyfriend material. He seems like a guy who would definitely cheat in a relationship."

"You are looking too much into him! Damn, I wish I had a brother so hot like him!"

"What would you have done if he was your brother?" Suzan asked in a taunt.

"I mean, step-brother. I wouldn't want a brother like him. But if he was my step-brother... I might have banged him. You know, just for fun. Nothing serious."

"Agreed, but I won't do that. I think I would fall in love with him if I tried to interact with him every day," Suzan released a sigh as she flushed the toilet.

"I know right! Now I know why Lucy is so obsessed with him!"

The girls left the cubicle and went to wash their hands.

Suzan shot a glare at Lucy and commented, "Apparently, she is so obsessed with him that she never mentioned anything about her childhood friend."

"I have! I have told him about you, but I never used your name. And we started living together recently, so how do you expect me to tell him everything?"

"Oh, shit!" Rosse bit her tongue. "I forgot to ask him about his phone number!"

"I think that's a bad idea." Leah jerked her wet hands before pulling a tissue.

"What do you mean?" Rosse asked with a confused look on her face.

"A girl asking for a boy's number is a major sign of her liking him. Of course, it's the same if it's the other way around. Unless it's work or school related, I guess."

Leah passed new tissues to everyone.

"And you have no relation with him except through Lucy. You two just met."

"No, no. I don't want his number for... anyway, I wanted to ask him if he could help me with an issue. I will tell you later. Let's wait for Melinda and Rina."

After Melinda and Rina split up with the group, they went to Reina's office.

Rina opened the door, but it was locked from inside.

"Sis?" She knocked on the door.

A few seconds later, Reina opened the door with a surprised look on her face.

She didn't let Rina come inside, and instead stepped outside and closed the door.

"Rina. What are you doing here?"

"Uhh... I told you that I am coming here with my friends..."

"Is that... so..."

"Why are you acting like this?" Rina asked with a judging look on her face.

"Acting like what?"

Rina noticed that Reina was preventing her from looking inside her office.

"Don't tell me you were fooling around with your boyfriend."

"Of course not! I would never do that during work hours!"

She responded, forgetting all the times she had fun with Rudy in her office during the day.

"So, what are you hiding inside?"

"Nothing. The room is a mess."

"What's going on?" Rudy asked from behind.

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Chapter 812: Rina Meets Rudy

After Lucy and her friends left for the washroom, Rudy decided to pay the visit to the girls to see how their meeting was going on.

Sure, he could easily know that using his powers, but he wanted the girls to know that he was there.

He was also curious to see how Reina and Rize reacted when they found out that they were part of Rudy's harem.

However, when Rudy reached Reina's office, he saw two girls standing outside, arguing with Reina. He assumed it must be the customers who wanted to complain.

This had become a regular occurrence, with customers complaining about the tiniest things that should not have affected their experience at all.

A customer expressed displeasure about the color of the rides and asked for something other than red.

"What's going on here?" he asked them.

Rina turned around and saw Rudy and instantly recognized him as she had seen him in the photos.

She then turned to Reina and exclaimed, "I knew it. You were fooling around while—"

"I asked him to help me. He is working as a lifeguard today." Before Rina could say something she shouldn't have, Reina stopped her.

Rina inspected Rudy and remarked, "I don't see the lifeguard's uniform on his body."

"Wait, why am I being judged? What's going on?" Rudy asked with a confused look on his face.

"Rudy, this is my sister."

"Oh. If I remember correctly, your name is Tina, am I right?"

"It's Rina!" she hissed.

"Rina?" Rudy raised his brow and muttered, "Isn't this the same name Lucy had mentioned when I asked her friends' name?"

"Are you friends with Lucy?" he asked.

"You know her too?"

"I am her brother."

"Wait... you are that Paul?!"

"Oh, hell no. Who is Paul? And Reina just said my name in front of you. It's Rudy."

"Just to confirm instead of creating a new misunderstanding... you are her boyfriend, right?" Rina pointed her finger at Reina.

Rudy looked at Reina's face to check her answer. After receiving a nod in response, Rudy said yes.

"Yes. I have been meaning to meet you, Rina. Reina has mentioned a lot about you."

He then turned his gaze to Melinda and inquired, "Are you perhaps Melinda?"

"You know me?" Melinda asked with a surprised look on her face.

"No, not really."

"Then how do you know my name?"

"I met Lucy and her friends earlier. I recalled the names of her friends and yours wasn't among them, thus I concluded that you must be her."

"Correct guess."

"Why are you here, Rina?" Reina asked her quietly.

"I had already informed you that I am coming today with my friends."

"Yes, I know. But why are you at my office?"

"So now I need a reason to be at your office?" Rina asked with a hint of disappointment in her voice.

'I have no idea what's going on, but it seems that Reina is preventing Rina from entering her office. I know the reason, but it shouldn't be a big deal. I don't want to be the reason to cause a rift between two sisters, so I guess I will handle this matter.'

"Rina, Reina is having a meeting in her office about the future construction and expansion of the water park to an amusement park."

"Is... that so...?"

"Yes. And I don't think it would be appropriate to walk-in in an ongoing meeting."

"Yes, I understand." Rina nodded. She turned to Reina and calmly continued, "I was here to inform you of my arrival and ask for your permission to use the reserved pool."

"Yes, you can."

"Also, did you find my button?"

"I tried, but I couldn't find it. I will inform you if I do."

"Okay."

Rina walked past Rudy while saying, "Let's go, Linda."

Reina waited until Rina was gone and gave Rudy a tight hug.

"Thank you for saving me!"

"Come on, it was nothing."

He kissed her on the head and patted her back.

"Do you want to join the meeting?"

"No. But I am curious how it's progressing."

"I am not even doing anything. It's Janet and Rias exchanging their opinions."

"Come to think of it..."

"Hmm?"

Before being forcibly taken back to the vampire world, Rias was a student in my school, and Jane's spell caused people to forget her.

The ironic part is that Rias, Alice, and Janet were in the same class, and Rize was an assistant teacher at that time.

Although she didn't have teaching classes, she was assistant to the teachers who taught us."

"In other words, they all already know each other..." Reina mumbled.

"Well, no one remembers Rias because of Jane's spell, except Alice. Jane removed the spell from her."

"No wonder Rias seems to be familiar with Janet's point of view."

"Yeah, they weren't exactly friends, but not enemies, either. You can say they had a rivalry between them, but now they are fighting for something else."

Reina looked up into Rudy's eyes and asked, "Don't you feel responsible for it?"

"I am the asset here."

"...."

"By the way, how was your reaction when you found out that Rize is a part of my harem?"

"I already knew it."

"You did...?" Rudy was baffled to hear that. "How... and when...?"

"We are friends. When she found out that I was in a relationship, she contacted me and asked for help. Apparently, there was a student who was blackmailing and threatening her to be his lover.

Imagine my surprise when I found out that it was you. Of course, I didn't say anything at that time. I didn't know if you had told Rize about the harem, so I was a bit hesitant."

"You could have told me," Rudy shrugged.

"You could have told me too."

"Anyway, if everything is going well... I will go back to my duty."

"Are you sure you don't want to come in?" she asked with a curious look on her face.

"I think if I enter this room, there will be bloodshed."

Reina gave Rudy a kiss on the lips and then moved her face towards his ear to whisper something to him.

"...you are kidding!"

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Chapter 813: Pregnancy

"You are kidding!"

Reina whispered something in Rudy's ears that made him question his comprehension ability.

"I am not." She shook her head. "But, I don't know if 'she' was kidding."

"It can't be... I mean..." Rudy paused and pondered for a few seconds to fathom and muttered, "Maria is pregnant?"

"As I said, I am not sure. She told me a while ago and asked me for advice. But before that, you should know that she said that because she missed her cycle— which is more common than you think.

Sometimes, girls skip their menses... or rather, their bodies do. Sometimes, they are unstable and not periodic. Heck, some girls don't even have periods— although that's considered a rare disorder."

Reina seemed awfully calmed about that, but Rudy couldn't hold his emotions.

"Then just use those damn pregnancy tests!"

"She did, and the results were positive. However, I wouldn't suggest that you take them seriously. They are often wrong, and that's why even the doctors recommend using more than one test kit from different brands. Still, the final and the only correct result can be done only by a doctor."

"Then let's go for a check up!"

"Relax~" She chuckled softly and said, "The results won't change if the check up is done today or ten days later. I know you are excited, but think of the disappointment when you discover that we were mistaken."

"..."

"I am a little upset, though," she mumbled under her breath.

"Why?"

"Because when I asked you to impregnate me, you said it's too early. But you impregnated Maria."

"I didn't, though."

"Wha— are you saying that it's not your child?" Reina asked with a baffled look on her face.

If her guess turned out to be true, then it could cause a major rift among everyone. Even more in Rudy's emotions, as the world was at his mercy.

"I didn't mean it that way. Obviously, if she is pregnant, the child is mine. What I was trying to say was that I didn't impregnate her intentionally.

As you know, I always make sure that I don't release fertilized sperm when I creampie them. But that doesn't work when I am unconscious or sleeping.

And there have been times where I have been taken advantage of when I am sleeping. So it could be that I creampied her when I was... you know, sleeping."

"So why are other girls not pregnant yet?" She asked curiously.

"Vampires don't get pregnant so easily, and neither do the demons. Angelica is a ghost, so she is never getting pregnant.

That leaves Maria, who is the only human who has fucked me during my sleep. I have done the same to her since she sometimes passes out in between due to pleasure after orgasming."

"Say, what would you do if she is truly pregnant? You can abort it since it's still too early."

"I will leave that decision completely on Maria. She is the one who will carry it for nine months. If she says she is not ready, then we will abort it. If she wants to keep it, we will keep it."

Rudy answered with a simple shrug, as if it wasn't a big deal for him.

"Yeah, but I asked for 'your' decision. What do you want to do?"

"Whatever Maria wants to do."

Reina realized Rudy was trying to run away from the question, so she changed her questions.

"And what if Maria says 'I will do whatever Rudy wants to do. What will be your choice, then?' Reina asked with a smirk on her face.

"Well... I obviously want to keep it. But I am afraid that if Maria is truly pregnant, the other girls are gonna pressure me into impregnating them. And then it would turn into a prego-tetion," he released a groan.

"What's prego-tetion?"

"Pregnancy competition."

"Oh. Yeah, that would be bad. Because... you would suddenly be a father of so many kids."

"That's not my main concern. I mean, if I impregnate all the girls in my harem, including you, then who am I going to have sex with?"

"Get them new girls."

"Thank you, I didn't think of that," he uttered in a robotic voice.

Reina held Rudy's hand in her hands and popped his knuckles.

"If the check ups come up positive and Maria is truly pregnant... I want you to promise me that the next girl you would impregnate would be me."

"That's a big 'if' but sure. I don't think I can say no to any girl. I made a promise when they agreed to join my harem; I told them that I may not love them equally or favor one over another, but I would always treat them equally."

Although what Rudy said earlier about not having sex with the girls once they were pregnant— was a joke, he knew that he would have to find new girls as he wouldn't be able to live.

His super libido would make him lose control over his lust.

Rudy's ears suddenly twitched, and his facial expression slightly changed.

"Is everything alright?" she asked with a concerned look on her face.

No lover would want their partner to frown on their face while talking to them; otherwise, they would think that they are the reason for their displeasure.

"Yeah. You should go inside. I will go do my job as a lifeguard."

Rudy didn't wait for Reina's response, and left the scene.

'I wonder if someone was drowning...' Reina thought to herself.

There were already a lifeguard assigned for each pool— except the reserved pool— and Rudy was an extra lifeguard. So even if Rudy didn't agree for the job, nothing would have changed.

Reina recalled something Rudy had said during their first meeting and muttered, "He hasn't changed... at least... according to me."

When she entered her office, all the gazes were fixated on her.

"Who was it?" Angelica asked.

"It was my little sister. She and her friends are here today."

Lilim stepped forward with a slight smirk on her face. She glanced at Angelica before saying, "She was telling us that she heard Rudy's voice. But we all disagreed. Looks like we were right."

"Ah... no, Rudy was there too. He came to check on us."

"Heh!" Angelica scoffed out loud. "They all were making fun of me saying 'I am too obsessed with Rudy', but who is having the last laugh now, huh?!"

If a person lost an argument with Angelica, her ego would rise. And now, a group had lost and Angelica's ego was over the roof.

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Chapter 814: Quick Judgement

"Let me go!" a woman pulled her hand back from a man's grip.

"Come on. What's the issue here?" one of the men asked.

A group of three men had cornered a woman near the stairs leading up to the slides. As it was lunch time, everyone was asked to leave the pools and the rides were stopped.

"Like I said, I am not interested," the woman stepped back.

"We want to treat you to lunch for free. Only an idiot would say no to that."

"I can afford my lunch. Go find someone else to feed. How about feeding the homeless people? They need food more than I do."

"But they are not as pretty as you."

"Can't you see she is feeling uncomfortable?"

The men turned around and saw Rudy standing in front of them.

"Huh? Who the fuck are you?" the first man asked.

"Is she your girl?" asked the third man.

"No," Rudy responded.

"Then stay the fuck out of this and become a hero somewhere else," the second man taunted.

Rudy ignored the remarks and looked at the girl, who was obviously shaking in fear.

"Do you know any of these men?" he calmly asked.

The girl shook her head and lowered her gaze.

"Did you not hear me?" the man frowned his face and declared, "We are three, and you are one. Stop trying to be a hero or you will end up dead!"

Rudy scrunched his brows and uttered, "This place belongs to me. Get the fuck out of this park."

"Huh?! So what? We paid for the tickets!"

Rudy snapped his fingers and repeated, "Get the fuck out of here. I won't say it a third time. Unless you want to leave in an ambulance, I suggest you scoot from here."

The men looked at Rudy's body and then compared it with their body.

Rudy was fit, but he didn't have muscles or a bodybuilding physique. Nor did he have six-pack abs. However, his body was perfectly shaped from head to toe.

While the three men had a bulkier and muscular body. They could easily take care of two people at once if they fought.

"Heh! I can crush your hands with my one hand!" the first man scoffed out loud.

"My one punch will break all your teeth!" The second man showed his fist.

"That's enough, guys." The third man placed his hands on the two men's shoulders and said, "Let's leave."

He glanced back and forth at their faces with a smirk.

"Sorry, mister. We didn't mean to cause a ruckus in your park," he said with a smile and patted the backs of the two men.

They walked past Rudy while suppressing their laughs. Then suddenly, the third man turned around and swung his fist to punch Rudy in the side of his face.

Of course, Rudy was already aware of their plan, but he didn't try to dodge. He stayed still and let him punch him.

It had no effect on Rudy, but the man's fingers had been crushed from inside.

"Argh!" the man yelled at the man while grabbing his hand.

There was no bruise or injury on his hand from the outside, so even the two men couldn't understand why he was yelling like a maniac.

Nonetheless, they thought it would be best to leave, so they left the scene.

"Umm... are you okay?" the woman asked with a concerned look on her face.

"Are you alone?"

"Huh...?"

"Did you come here alone?"

"Yes..."

"One shouldn't go to a public place alone. Let it be a man or a woman."

The woman bit her lips and muttered, "Some people don't have friends or anyone to hangout with. While others like to enjoy being alone."

Rudy shrugged his hands with an annoyed look on his face and uttered, "Then they should also learn to defend themselves alone."

The woman glared at Rudy and left.

"Why are people like this?" Rudy asked himself.

He didn't expect to receive a gratitude from the woman as he was doing his job. But he was surprised to see how people could be so ungrateful.

He went back to his post and waited for ten minutes before teleporting somewhere.

Meanwhile, the three men were in the car, driving to the hospital.

The third man couldn't stop yelling because of the severe pain he was experiencing, while the other two still couldn't understand the reason.

"I thought we would get laid today, but dammit!"

The man driving the car clenched the wheel tightly.

"We were so close. If that bastard hadn't arrived!"

"We will get him sometime!"

Suddenly, the car lost its control, and it rolled over a few times, crashing into the bridge and falling off into the ocean.

Someone reported the incident, and the help arrived within five minutes.

The bodies were recovered from the car, and they were found alive with severe injuries. None of them would be able to use their hands or legs again.

The reason for the accident was stated to be the explosion of the front tire. And the reason for that was none other than Rudy.

Rudy watched the accident in real time while sipping fruit juice from the top of the bridge.

"I told them to leave if they didn't want to leave in an ambulance... they didn't listen..." he sighed.

"As a Lord, I deemed them unworthy to live in society. But I am not heartless. I couldn't kill someone, so I made them disabled. Now... their existence is useless and they will live in... harmony."

There was a wide smirk on Rudy's face as he said that, while his eyes beamed with happiness.

He stretched his hands in the air and groaned.

"I am bored. I need some spice."

He got up on the bridge and looked at the scenery before heading back to the water park. In the opposite direction, he caught a glimpse of the sight of the demolished tunnel— that was a few miles away.

But what made him raise his brow was a shadow figure standing there... waving its hand at Rudy.

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Chapter 815: Harbinger

When Rudy saw the shadow figure, a sudden thought crossed his mind.

He flew up into the sky and then came crashing down with a loud thud right in front of the figure.

Usually, he would cushion his landing so nullify the impact, but the demolished tunnel was already a catastrophic site.

He conjured a void ball in his hand that made a zapping and shrieking noise. It seemed so hungry, as though it would devour any and everything it touched.

The shadow moved its hands forward and said, "Relax. I come at peace."

"Are you the shadow who tried to kill Janet the other night?" Rudy asked in a lifeless voice.

"Who is Janet? And no, I do not know what you are talking about. But oh well, it's not like you would actually believe what I say."

The shadow sighed and lowered its hand.

"I can tell when someone is lying."

"That ability is useless against me. Believe me. It has so many flaws that I don't even know where to start."

It raised its finger and counted, "For example, if someone is made to believe that the addition of two plus two is five, and then you ask that person the same equation and they reply with five, the ability wouldn't register it as a false statement— even though you and I, we both know that's not the correct answer."

"..."

"I would suggest you not rely on your powers and abilities in such cases and do your own research."

The shadow spoke casually and showed no sign of hostility, but Rudy didn't retract his void ball.

"Are you..." Rudy furrowed his brows and asked, "Are you the shadow that had trapped Angelica here for eight years?"

"I don't know who Angelica is, but that wasn't me, either."

"Then who are you?"

"You could say... I am your... harbinger."

"Try again with a different answer."

"I am an ally."

"Try again."

"I am here to warn you."

"Try again."

"..."

"I asked you who are you; I didn't ask what you are to me. What is your origin and why do you exist?"

"I could ask you the same question. Why do humans exist?"

Rudy stayed silent for a few seconds and ultimately retracted the void ball.

He didn't trust the shadow figure, but it passed his test.

If the shadow was there for a purpose, it would have lied about its origin and existence. Since it already knew about the major flaw about Rudy's lie detecting ability, it could have lied and Rudy wouldn't have realized it.

Thus, that was enough for Rudy.

"What are you here to warn me about, and why now, of all times?"

"Because..." The shadow pointed its finger at Rudy's hand.

"..." Rudy looked at the black nails and tips of his finger and came to the realization.

"Do I need to say it?"

"Yes. I want to know why this is happening."

"Call it the curse of the Lord. Now only you are realizing what this power truly means and how it's like to be the Lord. Now you know what others don't. Now you are ready... to be the Lord."

"What does it mean? Was I not Lord before? Or is my body finally capable of wielding the Lord's powers?"

"Oh, no. That will never happen... it never has. That power is ever growing and it will keep growing. No one would ever be capable of using it to its full potential."

Rudy took a moment to process his thoughts. He already knew the answers to most of his questions, so he asked what he wanted to know the most.

"How long..."

The shadow spread its arms.

Rudy clenched his fists and asked, "How long before I become one of you? How long before I become a shadow?"

"That entirely depends on you. But know that there is no escaping it. That's the fate of the Lord, and each and every Lord before you have gone through the same thing."

"You were once a Lord?"

"Indeed. And there are many, so many."

"So what is this black... corruption?"

"That's a nice way to put it. All the Lords before you eventually turned evil. But that's the term given by the beings. I never considered what I did as evil, nor did the others. We called it a judgment.

I am sure you are familiar with it and you know what you have done to get that upon yourself. What you did and have done, will do... obviously... will be... necessary. You can't escape it. It's your duty... your curse... your fate... your destiny... and your ending..."

The shadow never showed emotion while talking, but its way of talking made it evident that it was sad.

"What happens when I become a full shadow?"

"A new Lord will be chosen, just as you were once chosen."

"But what if it hasn't been 10,000 years? I was told that the Lord's incarnation is selected once every ten thousand years."

"No one can know who the Lord's incarnation is, so how do they know that it's the same incarnation for ten thousand years?"

Rudy took a moment to reflect and muttered, "The level of corruption?"

"Hmm~"

"Anyway, once you become a full shadow, you cease to exist."

"You are here in front of me. How do you mean you cease to exist?"

"Existing... what does that mean to you?"

After pondering for a while, Rudy uttered, "To live is to exist."

"And what, when does one cease to exist?"

"To die..."

"What is death... according to you?"

"I... don't know..."

"Let's say someone dies, so they are dead. But what if someone is dead for someone but is actually alive?"

"Care to elaborate? I am bad with analogies when I can't relate to them."

The shadow looked up at the sky and then at the ground.

"Does a person exist for themselves or for others?" the shadow asked.

"Depends on that person," Rudy shrugged.

"You kill someone in front of the entire world, but you didn't kill them— you only made it appear so. But the world would believe they are dead when they are not. And that means..."

"That person... ceased to exist for everyone because they think the said person is dead..."

"Brilliant."

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Chapter 816: Accursed Existence

"What happens when I become a full shadow?"

"A new—"

"What happens to 'me' when I become a full shadow," Rudy repeatedly tapped his thumb on his chest.

"Once I cease to exist."

"You become one of us."

"Everyone I know will think I died?"

"They will forget about you. You will be forgotten as though you never existed. All your records, digital or physical... they will vanish. You will fade away from the pictures. You will... cease... to exist for them."

"..."

"And then you will join us," it shortly added.

"Join you in what?"

"A resting place... I guess. There are thousands of shadows there."

"Do you know the shadow you tried to kill Janet, or the shadow who had trapped Angelica in this tunnel for eight years, or the shadow... that brought me to Rebecca so she could raise me?"

"Oh, too many questions." The shadow placed its hands on its ear and said, "I don't know the answers to that. You don't expect that the shadows get along with each other, do you?"

"..."

"They are but used tools of the universe. Tossed away once they had no more purpose."

Rudy moved his gaze to the rubbles and debris around him. He was gathering the most important questions in his mind.

"What you said about 'cease to exist' earlier and gave me signs of the evidence... that happened... that has already happened once with Angelica. Why is that? She was a normal human. I know it because I raised her for a period of time."

"Perhaps she was also a Lord?" The shadow shrugged its shoulders while keeping its hand on its ears.

"She was not."

"You did say that a shadow had trapped her for eight years. How do you explain that then? Why would a shadow kill and trap a normal person for eight years when it had no merit of doing so?"

"I said nothing about 'killing' Angelica, though." Rudy raised a brow.

"A shadow can't interfere with living beings... never. It may try to scare them or threaten them, but they can't take a life. You said she was 'trapped' and that's not possible, unless it was a dead person or a soul... a spirit."

SIGH!

Rudy released a disappointing sigh and muttered, "So you don't have any necessary information for me."

He manifested the void ball in his hand and said, "You are useless."

"I might have a solution for your problem. I said that it's the fate of the Lord to become evil and turn into a shadow, but there was a Lord's incarnation who managed to avoid that and became the sole survivor of the curse of the Lord."

"Nyxia..."

"Correct!" The shadow snapped its finger.

"I already know how she did that."

"Of course. She was the Queen of the blue moon and the Lord. Her existence was a contradiction. Ultimately, she used the power of the blue moon to kill the Lord's fragment inside her. And that is how she survived the curse."

"I already knew that."

"You can ask her to kill the Lord's fragment inside you and save yourself."

"She is alive because of the power of the blue moon. If she kills the Lord in me, I will naturally die with it. It's not a solution, it's suicide!" Rudy yelled in frustration.

"Oh, I see. So you prefer living forever as a shadow than dying?"

"...!"

"Earlier, you yourself admitted that if one ceases to exist, they are dead. If nobody remembers you, if you can't interfere with the living... why would you even want to exist? Why would you want to live a cursed life?"

"..."

"Oh, believe me... dying would be a better option. Once you become a shadow... you can't die. You are a part of the universe."

The shadow created a miniature version of a tree on its finger and said, "Cease to exist for yourself, not for others. Die for real rather than living a cursed life."

Rudy shook his head.

"It's your life, your choice. I just thought I would warn a fellow victim of the curse. I was but a harbinger for you, Rudy. Live your life the way you want because you sure never will die the way you want."

Once the shadow said that, it melted and dropped on the floor like water. But instead of forming a puddle, it disappeared into Rudy's shadow.

Rudy stood still on his spot and reflected on the shadow's advice. As much as he wanted to think that it was a trap, he couldn't help but admit it as the only way to not meet the same end as the other Lords.

Rudy looked at the black tip of his fingers and formed a fist.

"I will be an accursed being... fit for this accursed world."

"Still..." he muttered. "My first encounter with a shadow was... here, in this tunnel. Who would have thought that from the very beginning of my story... was marking my ending."

It was all related to me... or the Lord. That would mean that whatever I have done... was supposed to happen. No... that's not how it should be.

Now I know what the 'Ding!' meant. Whenever I broke the system, it informed me. That means I just have to break the system so many times that it ultimately breaks the pattern."

He smirked widely and shouted, "Bring it on! I am ready! I am not like the other Lords! I will annihilate everything that stands in my way! Even if it's the mother universe!"

'I will make my own ending! I will decide how my story will end!'

Rudy had one thing that made him unique compared to the other Lords. While they may be men or women, Rudy was a teenage boy who still couldn't grasp the understanding of what it meant to be the seer of the universe.

However, Rudy had a harem full of beautiful girls who loved him and voluntarily wanted to be with him. In Spite of knowing he was the Lord and how sacred his existence was, their love for him didn't waver.

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 817: Debating Harem

Rudy had teleported back to his post at the water park and continued doing his job.

Meanwhile, in the meeting room.

"I think we are done here, right?" Rias asked as she gazed at everyone's faces and turned to Janet in the end.

"No, we are not. I don't understand why you all are defending him. This was supposed to be a debate, but I am the only one in the opposition.

This is not fair. It should be one verses one, or we should be equally divided."

Reina raised her hand and said, "Alice and I haven't even said a word yet."

"You two are head over heels for him even before he revealed his harem plan to you two," Janet remarked.

"She has got a point," Ruby quipped in.

"Ruby..." Maria pulled Ruby's sleeve and glared at her.

Ruby pulled her hand to the other side and stood up before saying, "Janet has a point. We should be equally numbered or it wouldn't be fair."

"Normally, if the opposition has a lower number, it just mean they are in the wrong," Niti declared. "I am from the vampire world where monarchy reigns, but there are always those who oppose, so I know what to expect from such useless practices."

"I will join team Janet," Ruby announced.

"...!" Maria was shocked, but wasn't surprised to hear that.

Ruby was just as concerned as Janet and even though she was fond of Rudy, she wouldn't have started a relationship with him if he didn't have a harem.

If Maria was Rudy's only lover, she would have suppressed her feelings for him. But since he already had a harem, she was okay with being a member.

Janet had appeared as a saviour for Ruby. However, she had no plans to leave Rudy's harem, even if Janet had won the debate.

Angelica, Lilim, Alice, Maria, Rize, Reina, Rias, Niti, Ruby, and Janet. They were in Rudy's favor; not for Rudy, but for themselves.

"I will join Janet for the sake of this debate," Rize nodded.

"Okay, so... Janet, Ruby, and Rize in the opposition party. And we have... Rias, Niti, Maria, Lilim, Alice, Reina, Angelica in—"

"Make it equally numbered," Janet demanded.

"Is there anyone willing to join Janet's party?" Rias asked around.

"I will join, but only for the sake of the debate."

A girl, who none of the harem member had expected to speak against harem... spoke.

It was Angelica, the girl who convinced Rudy to have a harem.

"Why are you suddenly against the harem?" Rias raised her brow and asked with a judging look on her face.

"I am not. But I think I am an expert on this topic since I have watched so many animes with harem genre. I will list the demerits of harem— but know that I am not against the harem."

"We are still not equally numbered."

"I will stay out of this," Reina informed them.

"I will do the same." Alice distanced herself from the group and sat with Reina.

"Now we are equal. It's Four verses Four."

"Let us start—"

DING!

Janet was interrupted by a phone notification sound.

"Whose phone was it? I believe everyone was asked to keep their phone on silent."

"It's Rudy's phone," Reina answered and showed his phone to the girls.

"Why is his phone here?"

"He usually leaves it with me when he is here. Currently, he is on the lifeguard's duty, so it's not ideal to carry a phone considering he needs to jump into the pool often."

"See? He trusts her so much that he left his phone with Reina," Rias made a good point and started the debate.

"I don't think there is anything great about that. The boys usually don't leave their phones with their girlfriends is because they don't want them to see who they are t're talking with.

It is also for privacy reasons, but the cheaters often use that as an excuse. While Rudy doesn't need to hide that because he can technically openly cheat."

Janet responded with a strong remark.

"That's true," Rias nodded.

"Why are you agreeing with her?!" Maria hissed at Rias.

"Because her point is valid. Rudy could bring a new girl to the pool house, or the castle and introduce her as a new harem member."

"We are not considering the main point here," Lilim broke her silence.

"And that is?"

"He doesn't need to hide anything from us. Nor he needs to clarify our misunderstanding. He can do whatever he wants and we can't do anything. He is always thoughtful of us and makes sure we are content and at ease.

Don't forget, he is the Lord and we are the members of the Lord's harem. That flex is enough to burn the women of all the worlds with jealousy. They would kill their fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, husbands, friends, and relatives... just to have sex with Rudy.

You have no idea how powerful he is. And the fact that he cares about us is enough reason to suffice and conclude this debate."

Lilim's point made the entire room silent.

"Your point has a major flaw, Lilim," Janet asserted. "I do not and will not be able to grasp the concept of the Lord. It's out of human comprehension. But as you said, the women would do anything to have sex with Rudy.

Is it real love, or are they just seeking fame and power?

Did you join his harem because he is the Lord, or because you loved him? It's just like... a rich man can have multiple mistresses because he is rich.

And the girls wouldn't mind that because they get access to unlimited money. So do they love him for what he is, or is it just the power of the money?"

"I was in love with him before I found out he was the Lord," Rias responded.

"Same," Niti seconded.

"Same for me." - Lilim.

Humans are privileged in this situation because they don't know who the Lord is, so it's unlikely that they joined his harem due to his title.

In the end, we joined his harem because of our love for him and no matter how many girls he brings in, it doesn't bother us.

Janet smiled and said, "Thank you. That's what I wanted to hear. I now rest my case."

"Welcome to the Harem."

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 818: High School Girls Having Fun

The meeting of the harem members continued as they discussed important key points.

Everyone knew that they would sooner or later have to live under the same roof. Although they were already living at the pool house, it was just a temporary stay, and Rudy wasn't living with them.

They knew what to expect once that happens and how to accept and expect things as a mature person would.

Now, instead of debating against the harem, they were debating about the harem.

The meeting was important and beneficial for not only Janet, Ruby, and Rize— who were new, but for everyone.

Rudy, on the other hand, enjoyed his job. He had moved into the kids' pool to watch over them since it was mostly kids who would drown more than the adults.

In certain cases, One lifeguard wasn't enough to watch over them.

Meanwhile, at the reserved pool, Lucy and the girls were having the time of their life.

Melinda, Rina, and Suzan were sitting on the end with their legs dipped in the pool, while Lucy and Rosse were swimming.

Leah, however, was resting on the bend under the shade of an enormous umbrella.

All of them were wearing swimsuits as they bought new ones from a store in the water park. And now the swimsuits were theirs and they could take them home.

The girls decided to get different types of swimsuits best suitable for their body figure.

Melinda looked at Leah and said, "Leah, get into the pool."

"I will pass."

"You came to the water park, wore a swimsuit, but didn't dive into the pool. That's stupid," Rosse commented.

"I have a shoot tomorrow. Can't afford to get a tan or infection," Leah responded while sipping juice.

"You don't get an infection, but I can't guarantee the same about the tan," Rina informed.

"I respect your statement, Rina. But most pools have large amounts of chlorine in them. I know it's necessary to keep the pools safe, but they often turn acidic."

"I respect your worries too, but my sister is very strict about that. She empties the pools daily at the end of the day and fills them again with fresh water with the required amount of necessary chemicals."

"Daily?" Leah got up from the bench. "That's insane. She wastes thousands of liters of water every day?!"

"I shared the same concern as you, and when I asked her about it, she said that she has an unlimited supply of water."

"That doesn't make it better, though."

Of course, Rudy was Reina's source of unlimited water supply.

"Are we seriously having conversations about pools while we are at the pool?" Rosse suppressed her groan.

While the girls seemed like normal high school girls, they weren't.

Suzan was an amateur author who published her novels online.

Leah was a model for a magazine, and she aspired to become an actress in the near future.

Melina liked to draw, and she worked as a freelancer and drew illustrations based on the commission request.

Rosse was a gamer, who streamed and uploaded videos on streaming sites.

Rina was working with the entrepreneurs and learned new things every day.

Lucy was born smart, with a talent for doing anything she wanted. But of course, that required practice and effort too.

"Argh! Isn't it a little too hot today?" Leah groaned.

"That means we made the right decision by coming here today."

"We came when they announced a lunch break. But when are we leaving?" Lucy asked curiously. "Do we have other plans after the pool?"

"We will leave at five. Then, we will go to the park and the mall. We will take some pictures and watch the latest movie. And then we will have a sleepover at Linda's space tonight."

Rina stated the entire plan.

"I think going to watch a movie after the pool is a bad idea."

"It will be fine."

"When will we eat, then? I am hungry."

"I don't want to go to the canteen in a wet swimsuit, so the only person who can go there is..."

Everyone's gaze turned to Leah.

"I am not going."

"Stop being so dramatic!"

"Yeah, you promised you will have fun today."

"I am having fun in my own way," Leah replied cheekily.

Lucy, Rosse, Melinda, and Rina glanced at each other and nodded.

Suzan understood what the girls were going to do, so she got up from the edge and moved back.

The girls got out of the pool and walked to Leah, surrounding her from the four sides.

"What?" Leah asked with a confused look on her face.

Lucy and Rosse grabbed Leah's legs, and Melinda and Rina grabbed her hands.

"Hey!" Leah struggled to break free.

The girls carried Leah and took her near the pool.

"Let me go!" Leah shouted.

The girls swung Leah back and forth as though they were creating momentum before tossing her into the pool.

"I will hate you for this!"

"You say that every day."

"I am serious! If the water touches me, you all are dead!"

"Then go get food, drinks, and snacks for us. Of course, we will pay," Lucy blackmailed Leah in a most natural way.

"But I don't want to."

"Then enjoy the water."

"No! Stop!" Leah glanced around for help, but only found Suzan staring at them.

"Suzan, help me out."

"How can one person help you against four people?"

"Just admit you don't want to help me!"

"Let's throw her at the count of three," Rosse announced and began counting.

"Three!"

"Two!"

"Wait! I will go!"

The girls let Leah down on her feet and stood in front of her.

"Go."

Leah glared at Lucy and said, "I will get you back for this."

To which Lucy replied, "I want mango juice."

"Tch!"

Leah reluctantly left the reserved pool and made her way to the main area. She glanced around and noted the signs on the boards.

"Let's see... the canteen should be..."

While searching for the canteen, Leah's gaze fell on Rudy, who was watching over the kids.

'Rosse told earlier that Lucy has a thing for him... maybe I will take a little revenge for what she did to me...'

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 819: Leah Lopez

Leah watched Rudy for a few seconds and made a quick plan.

'You can do this, Leah! You have been taking acting lessons. You can make it natural. Your prey is a normal high school boy, and he is at the age when the boys only think of one thing— girls.'

Leah walked past Rudy and then pretended as if she slipped and fell into the pool. But she fell on the deeper side, where she could actually drown.

Rudy, who saw that, jumped into the pool to rescue Leah. He grabbed her by the waist and took her to the kid's side, where she could easily stand in the pool with her feet on the floor.

Leah pretended to be passed out at first, but after realizing that Rudy might apply mouth to mouth CPR on her, she changed her mind and simply hugged Rudy tightly.

She pressed her body against Rudy and said, "Don't let go! I can't swim!"

Her acting seemed so real that it even fooled Rudy. Had he used his ability to hear her thoughts, her plan would have busted in no time.

"Don't worry. You won't drown here. Look, your feet are on the floor," He said calmly.

Leah looked down and let go of Rudy, since it would have been awkward to hold him for no reason.

Then she stretched her swimsuit from behind to amplify her body figure.

"Are you okay?" Rudy asked.

"Yes. Thank you for saving me."

"That's my job," he smiled gently.

Leah's plan ended there, and she was supposed to get out of the pool after that. But for some reason, she wanted to talk a little more with Rudy.

"I must look like an idiot to you, huh? I am a high school girl and still can't swim."

"There is nothing wrong with that. I also learned how to swim recently."

"Can you teach me?!"

"Umm... I don't think anyone can learn to swim in one day. BUT if you truly want to learn, then you should join swimming classes."

"Do you give lessons?"

"I don't. I am a high schooler, just like you."

"I see."

"Wait... if I remember correctly, Lucy once mentioned that there is a pool at your school? Don't they give swimming lessons to students?"

In truth, Lucy hadn't told him that yet. He knew about it because of the memories of Rudy from the other world-line.

"Yes, our school has swimming lessons, but it's optional. So I chose the other subject instead. At that time, I thought I would never use my swimming skills even if I learned how to swim. I deemed it useless," she sighed.

'Holy shit! I thought the same thing! I am not taking any swimming lessons at school for the very same reason! I learned to swim because of my powers. Technically, I still don't know how to swim.'

Rudy used telekinesis to move his body in the water.

"Each and every skill you learn in your life will always be useful."

"I think I should leave."

"Yes, you should." Rudy pointed his finger at the ladder. "Where were you heading, by the way?"

"I was searching for the canteen."

"Oh. Just follow the red path and then turn left. You will find it."

"Thank you."

Leah walked to the ladder and climbed up, showing her body figure from the back.

"Hey..." Leah turned her face to Rudy and meekly asked, "Can you... give me support? I am scared that my leg will slip again."

"Sure."

Rudy agreed instantly, but he soon regretted it. He didn't know where to support Leah from. The only suitable place he could touch to push her up was her butt, and that was not an appropriate notion.

However, Rudy couldn't care less about that. He wasn't the type of guy who would shy away from doing something.

He placed his hands on Leah's hips and pushed her up.

"..."

Leah's face flushed as she experienced her first touch of a boy on her hips. She got out of the pool and walked away without thanking or looking at Rudy.

'Hot damn! She was so hot! I barely managed to not get a boner! I feel bad for having such thoughts for my sister's friend, but I am innocent here. It's a natural phenomenon and I shouldn't be blamed.'

Leah bought what the girls had told her to and returned to the reserved pool. On her way, she couldn't stop thinking about Rudy.

When she reached the reserved pool, she noticed Lucy wasn't there.

"Where is Lu?" she asked.

"She went to pee," Rose replied immediately.

"I can't understand her body mechanism. Does she really need to go to the washroom every hour? She does the same even at school."

"Oh, my~" Melinda covered her mouth with a shocked expression on her face and commented, "Look, Rina, Suzie, and Rosse. Leah hasn't even become an actress yet, and she is already body shaming her friend."

Leah scrunched her brows and shook her head without saying a word. She knew that anything she said would be used against her.

"Do you all love to bully me like this?"

"This is not bullying."

Leah placed the bags on the benches and sat under the shade.

"Wait, why are you wet?" Rina asked with a confused face.

"I fell into the water."

"You are the best swimmer in our class. How did you manage to be clumsy like Rosse?"

"I was... testing something..." she said with a smile.

The girls got out of the pool and sat surrounding Leah.

"Lucy's brother... he is not so bad. He is the only boy who I misjudged. I take back what I said about him earlier. He is 10/10 and the girl who marries him would be the luckiest girl."

"Whoa~ Calm down! What changed your thoughts?"

"He did. As you know, the boys would usually stare at my body, especially during P.E and swimming classes. But he didn't look at me. I even hugged him tightly, and he didn't react."

"Uhh... just to confirm, when you said he didn't react when you hugged him tightly, do you mean 'him' or his 'he'?"

"Just say dick. What are you so embarrassed about?" Rosse blurted the D word.

"Both. He didn't get hard."

"Did you touch his dick to check it, or what?"

"He was in the pool wearing shorts. Obviously, his boner would be visible."

"I... am not sure how I should feel about my friend seducing my sister's boyfriend..."

[Esper Harem in the Apocalypse](#)

Chapter 820: The Girls Gossip Rudy

"I... am not sure how I should feel about my friend seducing my sister's boyfriend..." Rina released a soft sigh.

"What?" Leah turned to Rina.

"What?!" Rosse turned to Rina.

"Wait, what?" Suzan turned to Rina.

"What, what?" Rina asked with a confused look on her face.

"Lucy's step-brother is your sister's boyfriend?"

"Yes." Melinda replied instead of Rina.

"Are you sure about that?"

"Maybe she is just assuming things like always."

"I am not. I confirmed it when I met him."

"Wait, really?" Leah, Rosse, and Suzan were clearly shocked after learning that.

"Does Lucy know?" Suzan inquired.

"She is his sister. Obviously, she is aware of it."

"Uh huh. I don't think she is." Rosse shook her head.

"Why would you say that?"

"Because she is crushing on him! It's obvious that she loves him. Oh my god! Am I the only one who can't see this ending well?"

"Why are you freaking out like this?" Rina still couldn't grasp the seriousness of the situation.

"You should be freaking out the most. He is going out with 'your' sister! She might take her anger out on you."

"How am I responsible for this? This is her personal matter with her brother and my sister. They can fight all they want. And isn't this Rudy's fault to begin with?"

"Well..."

"I think it's natural to tell the family members that they are dating someone. Given, his parents are not strict. I know Joe is a simple man and he wouldn't interfere in Lucy's or Rudy's private life.

And according to what Lucy has told us about Rudy's mother, she seems to be a nice mother. So she wouldn't mind it either. And let's be honest, it's usually the daughter's relationship that irks the parents.

They wouldn't say anything if their son is fooling around with girls, but if it's the daughter, they suddenly bring up morals and whatnot. I say they should treat their children equally. But of course, my parents are dead already, so I won't have to worry about it."

Rina stated casually.

"You are wrong. My parents aren't like that," Rosse retorted.

"Same. They support me in my every life decision. They are letting me become an actress and even paying for my fees."

"You know my parents well, Rina. You live at my house."

"...."

"Hey..." Rina squirmed and muttered, "That's not fair. If you all gang up on me like that, I would look like an idiot trying to spread hate."

"You bitches!" Lucy stormed to them. "You all started eating without me!"

Leah smirked from the corner of her lips. "Well, you were taking so long, so Rosse thought you might have gone for the number two."

"Eww! Don't talk about disgusting things while we are eating!"

Lucy sat with them, and they began eating.

The girls looked at one another, questioning whether to inform Lucy that Reina and Rudy were an item.

Melina gave them a signal and asked them to pipe down.

"Say Lucy..." She placed her hand on Lucy's thigh. "What would you do if you found out that your brother has a girlfriend?"

She took a bite from a hotdog and responded, "He already has one."

'So she knows...' the girls thought inwardly.

They all felt stupid when the matter ended in an anti-climatic way.

Lucy chewed and swallowed her bite before saying, "Her name is Alice. She is his childhood friend."

"Hmm?"

"Rudy's girlfriend. Her name is Alice."

Rina and the girls exchanged confused glances.

"Did he say that?" Melinda was the one to ask.

"No. But it's obvious if you look at them."

"Maybe you are wrong?"

"I could be. Not that it matters."

'She is awfully calm about this. Still. Alice and Rudy must be close since they managed to fool Lucy into thinking that they are a couple.'

Rina had lots of questions, but she decided not to ask them since it wasn't her place to get involved in her sister's private life.

'But if Alice and Rudy are truly an item, that would mean he is using Reina to grab her fortune. That would be bad. I need to keep a closer eye on him. I know sis and how hard-headed she is.

Even if I tell her that her boyfriend is cheating on her, she wouldn't believe me unless I give her solid proof. Thus, I need to gather multiple proofs first. Luckily, I am friends with his sister, so it should be easy.'

Rina wasn't aware of the debt her parents had left on Reina's head, and since Reina didn't want to burden Rina, she didn't tell her. Not knowing that it was Rudy who saved her from the collapse of her life.

After a while, the girls had finished their meal and decided to take a break in the shade of the umbrella before diving back into the pool.

Rosse pointed her finger at the pool house far away and asked, "All that land belongs to your parents, right?"

"Yes. In fact, they owned more than what we currently have, but they sold half of it since they had too much."

"Wow. And your sister plans to make the world's biggest amusement park here?"

"That's the plan, but I am sure as hell it would take years, if not a decade, to build it," Rina responded sarcastically.

"And a lot of money..."

Rina had no interest in taking over the water park like Reina did. She wanted to start her own business and live a different life compared to Reina.

"What's that thing over there?" She pointed at the pool house. "Is someone living there?"

"Yes. Sis told me it's the engineers who would be helping with the amusement park."

"I see."

Lucy, who was silent the whole time, looked at the pool house and wondered, 'The amusement park will never be built. It didn't happen. From what I remember, the owner of this water park— Reina — went bankrupt, and she had to sell everything to pay the debt.

I could tell or hint Rina about this tragedy, but that would do nothing. If her sister had to sell everything, that means the debt was high, probably millions, if not more. Warning them about this would change nothing.

I can't help them either. I don't have money. So it's better if I let them enjoy the remaining life they have.'

Of course, that would have happened if Rudy had never met Reina. Everything would have been different.