

## **Few Wives 311**

### Chapter 311: Talk

A while later...

After getting the soul and pregnancy part out of the way, the group began talking about random stuff.

Of course, they asked each other how they were doing. They didn't get into detail since they wanted that conversation to be spoken about in the flesh.

They then moved on to little Raya who had been sitting away from the group. Audrey had noticed her by mistake, and before the others could react, she had disappeared and was now pinching the helpless Raya's cheeks with her sitting on her lap.

Raya wanted to get away but unfortunately, her body was still foreign to her and she couldn't exert even a quarter of her strength with it yet.

And so, she could only take the embarrassment from being treated like a baby by Audrey. Sure, she was technically still a child, but she was an intelligent child. This made her feel that she should be treated and respected like an adult.

Unfortunately, all Audrey saw was a cute little child she just couldn't help but want to hug and protect. She completely ignored all of Raya's complaints and kept on hugging her.

It was like she was unloading all her emotions of not being able to be a mother anytime soon onto Raya.

The news that it took a long time for Evolvers to successfully conceive hit her the hardest. After that day with Muku she had been entertaining thoughts of having a baby for so long that she started desiring it.

However, after a while, she realised that she wasn't pregnant which felt a little sad. But she thought that it wouldn't take long to have one after Muku returns for them to have one, but now... It was so frustrating.

Sure, having a child so soon could add to their problems since they weren't at the peak of the world which would allow them to relax yet, but still, she wanted a baby damn it! And that's all that mattered!

The other girls soon noticed Raya and joined Audrey in a split second. She was just too cute to resist in her human form. In fact, they might have screamed and fainted if they had seen her in a tiny dragon form. That form was definitely the ultimate weapon against girls.

However, Chloe who was going to join the fun as well felt her hand getting dragged from behind. Before she could react she was pulled away from the room through a portal.

"What's going on?" Chloe asked the person who pulled her away. Confusion was written on her face with a little blush which seemed to be steadily increasing.

"Sorry about the suddenness of this. I just wanted to speak to you alone. And this was the quickest way and probably also my only chance" Muku replied seriously.

"Oh?... But why?... Ah!" Chloe replied shyly. Her blush had gotten a few shades darker by that point.

She was then surprised by how Muku suddenly pulled her into a hug. She was so taken by surprise that she screamed a little.

Her heart almost beat out of her chest. Muku had never been so forward before. So what the hell was happening? And why her out of everyone? Did he kiss her a little more or maybe he wanted to do some slightly risqué things away from the eyes of the rest of the group?

Such thoughts went through Chloe's head as she felt Muku's strong arms around her body. Her head rested on his manly chest. She even sneakily sniffed him. His scent felt quite intoxicating to her. If she had her physical body, she probably wouldn't still be dry in a certain area. No, she definitely wouldn't be dry.

Despite all that, she was still confused as to what was going on. She tried thinking about it, but there was nothing which came to mind on why it was her instead of anyone else present there.

"How are you holding up?" Muku suddenly asked softly while still hugging her. His arms even tightened a bit more around her.

"Hhm?... Oh, that. You're still thinking about that?... That actually makes me quite happy. Thank you for caring so much. I really mean it. However, I have moved on from that... Well, mostly. And I think you should do the same. The past can't be changed. All we can do is soldier on. It's actually a philosophy I learned from you. So please, continue moving forward. Move forward with me" Chloe who finally understood what was going on replied emotionally.

She realised that Muku was still thinking about her father's death. To think that after all the time which has passed by and all the things which had happened, it was still so important to him that he pulled her aside the first moment he got.

It made her feel warm inside. A happy smile appeared on her face. She then hugged him tightly as well. She could do that now that she knew what was going on.

Muku was slightly caught off guard by the action. Like himself, Chloe had never been the forward type... What he didn't know was that if they were both physically present, she might have jumped him. That's how emotional she felt in that moment.

"Hey, can you look down for a bit?" Chloe suddenly spoke.

"Hhm? Mmm?!!!" Muku made an inquisitive sound as he looked down. And before he knew it, Chloe's lips were on his own which surprised him even more.

He was not expecting it. And she had kissed him in her soul state, which was probably even more intimate than using her physical body.

After that, the girl wriggled out of his grasp and jumped back into the portal behind her. She was just too embarrassed to stay longer. Her bravery has taken her as far as it could for the time being.

Muku stood there dazed for almost a minute before moving again. Chloe's kiss was still vivid in his mind. It felt even more magical than the kisses he had before somehow. Maybe because it was because he had kissed her soul...

Just when he was about to go back and join the others. A figure stepped out of the portal. And it was...

"Layla? What are you doing he... Hey! What's wrong?!" Muku asked, but before he could finish the icy girl swung her fist at him. Which he didn't dodge since it wasn't strong but he still asked why she did it.

"How dare you leave like that? Fine, you had to leave. I get it. But why did you not take Jade with you? Do you know how annoying she is? I could barely hold myself back from stabbing her in her sleep. And Chloe, do you know how hard it was to bring her back from the dark place she had gone after the incident? I was so clueless I bulldozed my way through and luckily managed to bring her back. Then mom, despite being a good leader, isn't cut out to be the highest level of authority. It gets too overwhelming for her sometimes and I have to come up with a way I can make her feel better. The others also required attention in some way. Lastly, me... I had no social skills at all, yet I just had to notice all the issues they were going through and had to try and fix them. Which is hard when I'm a mess myself. I..." Layla suddenly began unloading all her pent-up emotions on Muku.

He's quietly let her say everything worth noting she wanted to say. Just when she was about to start putting herself down, he pulled her into a hug. The tightest and most present hug he had ever given her before.

For it was in that moment that he realised that just because Layla always seemed so strong and dependable. That didn't mean that she always was what she appeared to be. She has her weak moments as well.

And it seemed like she cared more and paid more attention to the group than he thought. He honestly thought that to her only Audrey and Chloe were truly close and the others were semi-close at best. But now... To think that Layla was such a person behind that cold exterior.

And their meeting seems to have come at the right time. Which was before she blew up from her pent-up emotions.

Also, a naturally calm person like Layla really shouldn't hold themselves back for too long. Such an action will only make them less social and colder. Which was something he didn't want.

Now he was more than grateful to Mrs C for bringing the girls to him. Who knows what sight would have met him if he had waited another year before seeing them?

Maybe it wasn't just Layla who was at the end of her road... Now he needed to talk to each of them separately.

If there were any ticking time bombs in them, they needed to be diffused before they separated.

"I'm really sorry. You've done well. I'm proud of you. Don't worry, we'll be together again soon. And I'll spank Jade for you. How does that sound?" Muku spoke to Layla lovingly while his hand moved up and down her back gently.

Of course, he didn't touch anywhere he shouldn't... He wasn't that much of a horn-dog. He wanted to do it, but he knew when to advance or retreat. And it wasn't the time or place to advance.

"Hehe. Yeah, that does sound good. And please make it hurt" Layla giggled in Muku's arms while wiping away the tears which had formed in her eyes.

Her giggle was quite cute. So much so Muku wished to hear it regularly. Unfortunately, with Layla's personality, it was a rare treat.

"So, when are we kissing?" Layla who was feeling a lot better now suddenly asked Muku seriously.

"What?!" Exclaimed while jumping away from her.

Chapter 312: Talk (pt2)

"What do you mean what? You kissed Chloe, so you should kiss me too don't you think? It's only fair" Layla replied while looking at Muku who had jumped away seriously.

The way she spoke made it seem like she was speaking about the most mundane thing ever.

"What? Who told you that? I mean, no, we didn't kiss... She kissed me" Muku replied.

"So you're saying I should kiss you?" Layla replied while walking closer.

She had clearly gone back to her, "screw common sense, I do what I want when I want" state.

"No, that's not what I mean" Muku replied while retreating even further. Honestly, he did want to kiss her, but the way the matter was brought up was just too weird.

He couldn't help but wonder how Layla could keep a straight face while saying such things. Her skin still looked the same which meant that she wasn't embarrassed by what she was doing at all.

"So you don't want to kiss me?" Layla passed and asked while unblinkingly staring at Muku.

"No that's not it" Muku replied.

"Then I'm confused... Well, whatever, we're not leaving her until I get that kiss. Even if I have to chase you down to get it... Oh and if you run to the others. That still won't stop me. You know me. I will kiss you in front of your mother if I have to" Layla replied and without warning she began chasing down Muku.

He was caught off guard by her sudden action but still managed to react and get away.

And so, what happened after that was Layla chasing Muku around the room. He didn't dare escape through the portal since he believed her words. She would definitely follow him until she got what she wanted. As for why he wasn't just giving it to her and getting it over with. He wasn't sure, he couldn't help but run when she chased him. Her approach was way too bold and strong!

He thought that maybe if he kept running, she would get bored and give up eventually. Unfortunately, for him, she was still going strong after five minutes. Then...

Bang!

Muku smashed into empty space which made him instantly stop. Layla who was coming from behind him at high speeds smashed into him.

She began falling and Muku being a gentleman couldn't let a lady fall. He tried holding her with his Telekinesis but it didn't work for some reason. So he could only turn around and grab her.

For whatever reason, the simple action which he should have been able to easily do somehow made him fall together with Layla.

Like in all generic anime and K-dramas, he landed on top of her with their lips a few centimetres away from each other. They were looking deep into each other's eyes.

Muku immediately tried getting up before he was trapped in the famous "long gaze" before a kiss in romantic movies.

Unfortunately for him, Layla was not having it, she pinned him down with her arms and legs while still looking into his eyes.

She was quietly saying, "You are not going anywhere until you give me what I want". She even had a seductive look on which made him wonder where the hell she learned it from.

Seeing that look, Muku who could barely hold on before, couldn't hold back anymore.

He moved down and his and Layla's lips met in a passionate kiss. It wasn't just the usual perk on the lips Muku has with the girls. It was a full-blown kiss. A passionate French kiss which went on for minutes.

Muku's hands couldn't help but wander all over the 19-year-old girl's soul body. Sure, they couldn't do anything too extreme like sex, but they could do that much at least. The body did feel as good and real as the real one after all.

...

Five minutes later...

Muku and Layla finally broke off the kiss. They wanted to do more but it wasn't the time or place. And who knew if someone was going to suddenly step through the portal and find out what they were doing?

Hell, they were probably sus to the others just because of the amount of time they had been together. Which was over ten minutes.

It was a miracle that no one came to check actually...

"For someone who seemed so against it, weren't you a bit too excited after we began? Especially your hands..." Layla who was fixing her messed-up clothes spoke.

However, at this point, her face wasn't as calm as before. It was red with a blush and her voice was slightly shaky... It was painfully obvious that she was feeling embarrassed and was trying to play it off. She was failing miserably of course. However, Muku did find it quite cute.

If it wasn't because of the time constraints, he might have jumped her on the spot. Honestly, the experience made him wonder if he would have been able to keep his hands off them for two years if they were together every day during that time.

Like, they had only reunited for less than two hours and he had already kissed two of them. Chloe's matter was on the innocent side but Layla's case would have definitely led to sex if it weren't for the obstacles. So yeah, he wasn't sure any more.

"It's not that I didn't want to. You just came on a little too strong. I didn't know how to react so I ran. I wish we could continue actually. I really liked it" Muku who was feeling a little more truthful than day for whatever reason blabbed out what he would normally not say.

"Oh really? Well, our reunion is in less than a year. We can continue then. And who knows, we might even do more..." Layla replied teasingly.

A big and happy smile appeared on her blushing face. Sure, it was obvious from what happened and his hard-on that he liked what happened, but after how he tried to run away before, she wasn't too sure.

So his saying it to her meant the world to her in that moment. Her smile was so beautiful that Muku couldn't help but get dazed a bit while looking at it.

"See you later. I'm sure somebody else is coming after me" Layla left soon after fixing herself up.

She didn't run away in embarrassment like Chloe. She steadily walked through the portal. It's not that she wasn't embarrassed, but she chose not to let the embarrassment win.

She had finally managed to kiss Muku after such a long time. There was no way she was going to run away after that. She wanted him to know that it was all intentional and she planned on doing it again.

With that, the girl left. And like she said. Another girl came through soon after.

His grey eyes immediately locked with the girl's golden eyes. He could see the love for him which burned brightly within her eyes. She could see the love for her which was solid in his.

They both smiled slightly and walked toward each other. They soon met in the middle and hugged each other without saying anything.

One minute... Two minutes... Three minutes... Seven...

"I'm glad you're okay" The girl finally spoke.

Her voice was slightly choked which showed the high levels of emotions which it held behind it.

"I'm glad you are safe as well" Muku replied.

"To be fair, even death doesn't threaten my safety so" the girl replied.

"Haha. I guess you're right" Muku laughed at her joke. It was funny because it was true.

"Well, I won't hold you any longer. I'm sure the others can't wait to see privately" Emily, who was obviously the golden-eyed girl then got out of Muku's hug and turned around.

Without pause, she began walking toward the portal. Muku was greatly confused. Out of everyone, he was expecting the most out of Emily actually. Which was understandable considering the girls' track record. She has always been his most blatant pursuer.

And yet, she didn't even steal a kiss. Was there something wrong? Did she not like him anymore? No, that's impossible. It was Emily after all...

"Don't forget what you promised me before you left... Your first night after you return is mine" Emily suddenly dropped a bomb before walking through the portal.

"Wait, what?! We'll only be sleeping, right? Right?... Hahahaha" Muku was taken aback by what she said and then began laughing.

She had gotten him good. No wonder she didn't care too much about the present. She already has bigger things scheduled. And from the way she said it, she was clearly not planning on just sleeping on the same bed.

As for whether she would succeed, only time would tell. For now, she definitely had an aura moment. She didn't need to do too much, she did just enough and that's all she needed to do.

"Ahhhhh!"

Bang!

As Muku was still thinking about Emily. A figure fell out of the portal with a bang.

The fall wasn't too serious so they weren't hurt but... Why was there a fall in the first place? And it seemed like the figure was thrown from the other side.

"Freya?"...

Chapter 313: Talk pt3

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I didn't want to come in here but Jade threw me in. I'll leave right away. I'm sorry for intruding" Freya spoke in a flustered tone.

She kowtowed as she did, which was quite funny to see. After that, she got up and tried to go back through the portal without waiting for Muku to say anything...

"Ahhhhh!"

Unfortunately for her, Muku had other plans. Just when she was about to walk through the portal, an invisible force dragged her backwards. She screamed powerlessly as she got closer and closer to Muku.

Soon she was standing before him and looking him in the eyes since he had turned her around.

She tried to look away but his grey eyes entrapped her and she couldn't look away. Maybe because she had figured out her feelings for him, she found it harder and harder not to look at him.

"Is there something on my face? Let me see it in your eyes" Muku asked teasingly while bringing his face closer to hers.

The girl instantly panicked and did the only thing she could think of doing. And that was to close her eyes and brace for impact.

As for what that impact was, she didn't know, but it looked like a kiss. It had to be a kiss. But to think they'd kiss so soon. How scandalous!

A few seconds went by and nothing happened. She had even subconsciously puckered up her lips to meet Muku's kiss. And yet it didn't come.

She confusedly opened her eyes and looked at Muku again. The confusion in her eyes was as thick as it could get as she silently asked why he didn't do anything.

Not only did he not kiss her, but he has even stepped back a bit. Which was the opposite of what she wanted. Of course, she wouldn't admit it even if she were to be beaten to death.

"Why are you looking at me like that? I wanted to look at my face in your eyes, but you closed them. And that obviously means you don't want me to do that. So, I backed up. Was there something else you were expecting me to do?" Muku spoke while barely holding in a laugh.

Freya was so fun to mess with. She was a lot more innocent than the other girls despite being older. He was certain that if it was Jade, Emily, Layla or even Chloe he had teased like that, they would have definitely jumped on him.

Yet the innocent Freya just stood there while puckering her lips ready to receive the kiss with her eyes shut and a deep blush across her face.

She was so cute and funny at the moment that he almost pinched her cheeks before holding himself back.

"I ah... Kiss... Huh? No! I mean, nothing! I wasn't expecting anything at all. Something got into my eyes which is why I closed them. I didn't mean it in a bad way. I swear!" Freya replied in an even more flustered tone than before.

There was no way she would admit that she was expecting a kiss even if she kinda did for a second there...

"Oh, okay. So what you're saying is that now I can look?" Muku asked with a little smile dancing on his lips.

Bullying the shy Freya was sick fun that he couldn't help himself. She was like a breath of fresh air from the other girls who were either overtly or covertly aggressive.

"No! I mean, yes, if that's what you want. However, your face looks amazi... I mean, it looks fine. So there's no need to do that" The flustered Freya continued stumbling on herself.

She has never been alone with Muku. Like ever. Even when it seemed like she was alone, it had never been true since there was always Iris looking on from inside her, but now, Iris seems to have been left behind with her body. So for the first time ever, she was completely alone with Muku and her brain was barely working.

"Oh? So there's no issue with it? I trust you, so, I'll take your word for it" Muku replied with a thoughtful expression on his face.

"Yeah", Freya replied while nodding like a crazy person. Internally she was screaming in excitement from how Muku said he trusted her.

"Now, why did you want to go back just then? Did you not miss me? Which would be sad because I missed you a lot" Muku continued with his teasing just when Freya thought he was done.

She was instantly thrown into another panic just when she was about to calm down.

"What no! I missed you too. I missed you a lot and thought about you every day!" She exclaimed loudly without thinking.

She then got embarrassed immediately after and covered her face with her hands.

"Is that so? Then why did you not come to hug me like the others back then?" Muku continued.

"I was embarrassed since there were so many people there" Freya spoke while still covering her face with her hands. She felt more confident that way.

"Really? Okay. There aren't any people here other than the two of us. So, why don't you go ahead and do it?" Muku pushed forward.

While he was definitely enjoying bullying Freya. He was also doing it for her. He had seen how much she wanted to hug him back then but didn't dare to do so. And as a fair leader, he would never leave a teammate behind, whether literally or figuratively.

And so, here he was giving her what she wanted even if there were some extra steps involved. That was definitely the main reason, not that he wanted to feel her soft body pressed up against his own again. He had more integrity than that...

"Okay", Freya who was embarrassed but more than happy to hug Muku walked forward until she was in his grasp. Her hands were still on her face.

Muku didn't mind that and held her closely then he whispered, "I missed you a lot into her ear" which made the girl shiver a little. She had never been as happy as she was in that moment. She wished the moment would last forever but unfortunately, it couldn't.

She knew that there were others behind her, so she couldn't take up too much of Muku's time. She had already gotten way more than she expected or hoped for. And that was enough for the time being.

And so, she jumped out of Muku's hug and ran toward the portal. This time Muku let her go and she shouted, "I missed you too, just before entering through the portal.

Muku gently smiled while thinking of the heartwarming experience he just had.

"Look at you. If that smile was any wider, the top of your head would have fallen off. It must be nice to have so many girls throwing themselves at you" a cocky voice sounded as another girl stepped through the portal. An arrogant smile was plastered on the girl's face.

"Umm, didn't you say you weren't going to talk to me again? So why are you even here? And do you think the amount of spanking you're going to receive is fixed? Well, let me tell you this before you make it worse. The amount you'll receive cannot decrease, but it can increase based on your actions. So you better choose your words wisely brat" Muku spoke before Jade said anything more.

"You know, calling someone you're sexually attracted to is rather odd" Jade didn't choose the verbal fight despite what she said when she came in.

"..." Muku was left speechless. She had shut him up with one line.

It reminded him of how he only wins their verbal battles because Jade lets him as she's usually too lazy to use her brain.

However, when she's feeling like it. He stood no chance.

"Hehe. So, aren't you going to give me a hug like the others? Or maybe a spicy make-out session like you had with Layla? Speaking about that, it was so random and unexpected. Do you have a soft spot for girls who are fragile with you or something? Should I do the same?" Jade began rumbling on and on.

However, unlike normal times. Muku couldn't dismiss her words. The reason for that was pretty obvious, actually...

"Wait... How do you know about that? Don't tell me I'm being spied on?!" Muku asked while moving forward and grabbing Jade's shoulders.

"Oops... I guess I shouldn't have said that huh?... It's really hard to function properly with this trash bloodline of mine, it's messing me up. Well, whatever, it's not like I said something which isn't true" Jade spoke to herself while being held by Muku.

Her eyes seemed to get a little hazy as she did. Instead of getting angry and shouting at her like Jade expected, Muku pulled her in for a hug instead.

"What the? This isn't what was supposed to happen. You're going against the script! Are you sick or something? Has your old age finally caught up to you? Sure, you're only 21, but you achieved so much stuff before the apocalypse you might as well be 50 inside" Jade asked Muku without backing out of the hug.

Despite her trying to take a jab at Muku, her voice had gotten a lot gentler and the arrogance had disappeared.

"What's wrong with your bloodline. Can you tell me about? Is it what you wanted to talk about before I was transported here?" Muku asked Jade softly.

As someone who was quite observant of his girls, he had long noticed that there was something wrong with Jade. She seemed to be battling for control against herself or something.

Sure, she was usually unhinged, but that was different from the current her. Before, she was always in control despite everything, but the current her, she seemed to be barely holding on to that control.

After Chloe, she was the one he wanted to pull aside. But the others came before her so he could only take it as it came.

"..." Jade didn't say anything.

The silence gave Muku a bad feeling. After all, when has Jade ever not had anything to say?...

Chapter 314: If you could see yourself through my eyes...(Talk pt4)

"To think you actually remembered..." Jade spoke in a low voice.

"Why wouldn't I remember?" Muku asked in a confused voice.

"Well, you don't treat me as delicately as you do the other girls. Sometimes I even wonder if you see me as a girl. If it weren't for the tents you pitch when you peek, I would have lost all confidence" Jade replied.

"What do you mean? You do know I only treat you like that as a reaction to your own actions, right? Besides that, I can assure you, I see you as a girl just as much as every other girl in the group" Muku replied as best as he could for the time being.

He chose to ignore the latter part she said about tents and whatnot. It wasn't the time to nitpick. He could see that Jade was genuinely feeling fragile at the moment. And if he went off on her like he normally does, it might hurt her.

Even if some of the stuff she said made him want to shout, he couldn't do it in that situation. He had to be the bigger person.

"Really?" Jade asked softly.

"Yes, very much so. I'm willing to prove it any way you want. Just not right now. I think the issue with your bloodline is the more agent matter. So, tell me if there's anything I can do to help" Muku replied and brought the conversation back to the more important subject.

"Hehe. You really do care, huh? You should treat me like this more often. Maybe that way I wouldn't be so unruly all the time" Jade spoke while giggling lightly.

Her mood had clearly gotten a little better.

"Oh? So you're aware of your own unruliness, huh? Why do you do it then?" Muku asked while hugging her even more tightly so that she wouldn't slip away. He was really interested in knowing after all.

"I'm not sure, maybe I don't feel like I'm as good as the other girls. So if I don't act up you won't notice me... It must be surprising to you to find out that I have insecurities, right?" Jade replied. Her tone turned into a self-mocking one at the end.

"While I'm surprised that you thought like that. I'm not surprised that you have some sort of insecurity. After all, everyone has some sort of insecurity. It's part of being human. I can even reveal to you my own insecurity right now. And that is feeling like I will never be enough. For whatever reason, I have had it since as far back as I can remember. I don't even know why. It's what has shaped most of my life actually. It's why I archived so many things while still young. I thought that would make it go away. But it didn't. Then the apocalypse came and the feeling got worse. I started feeling like I'll never be good enough for you girls and I would never be strong enough to protect you all. It's why I completely lost myself that time Emily almost died. I have no idea what I would have done if she had really... Anyway, as you can see. We all have our own demons we're fighting. So you having your own is understandable. I

just don't know how an amazing person like you has such an insecurity though. Only if you could see yourself through my eyes" Muku did his best to make Jade feel better.

He didn't mind exposing himself in front of her or in front of the others who were spying on them through a certain old lady with no boundaries.

"I could say those exact same words to you actually. Only if you could see yourself through my eyes. To me, you're the most amazing person in the world. The strongest and best in every way. I can always depend on you no matter what. And I'm sure the others think the same. While you seem to be blind to how amazing you are, we're not. You're enough for us. We feel the safest and happiest when you're around... Gosh. What are you making me do? I might just melt away from all this mushiness" Jade replied truthfully. She said exactly what she thought.

Which was rare when she was talking about something emotional. Especially with Muku. She tended to be a violent tsundere in such situations. Especially when speaking to Muku.

"Hoho. Is that so? I didn't know I was so highly regarded. It seems we both need to think better of ourselves from now on. And fine, let's stop talking about emotional stuff. Let's move on to your bloodline issue. We're not going anywhere until you tell me" Muku replied.

He teased Jade a little bit then circled back to the bloodline matter. He had a gut feeling that something big was going on with it. For that reason, it had to be discussed.

"Hehe. It kinda freaks me out when you're so caring. But it also feels good. I'm so confused. Anyway, my bloodline seems to have calmed down just from speaking to you. Maybe what you said was all I wanted to hear. As for the details of what's going on. I think I'm going to hold off for now. It might surprise you... No, it will definitely surprise you. However, there's nothing you can do right now. So, I'll tell you when we reunite for real. I think I can keep myself together until then" Jade spoke with a faint blush on her face.

She was speaking the truth actually. Before speaking to Muku. Especially back on the Blue Planet, she was always fighting against her bloodline which was always trying to take control of her through her Beast Aura.

However, that subsided a bit just from seeing Muku. And after the talk just now, she was mostly completely back in control.

The situation confirmed something which she thought was just a weird dream or something. It was something which happened before Muku left. Just after her Beast Aura changed colour and she was forcefully awakened by the situation back then.

However, she hadn't thought much about it despite wanting to tell Muku about it. It was just a weird story back then. But everything which happened after that made her question that certainty. Then her brother showed up and she asked him something about the matter.

Instead of finding her question funny and laughing it off, his expression turned serious and he quietly looked at her without saying anything.

The reaction made her heart skip a beat. She tried making him speak after that, but he remained quiet. And so, she could only give up. She knew him well enough to know that he would never say anything if he didn't want to.

Anyway, that was a story for another day. What she needed to do at present was to enjoy her time with Muku.

She didn't want to burden him with more problems when there was still almost a year before he returned to them.

As a warrior herself, she knew the importance of a clear mind when fighting. So, while Muku knowing that there was something wrong with her would mess with him a little bit, it would be a lot better than actually knowing what it was.

The former could easily be kept at the back of a person's mind while the latter was hard. It was like how knowing that your loved one was sick was a lot more manageable than knowing that they had cancer.

In the first scenario, you can just tell yourself that if they are sick, they will definitely get better after a while. But in the latter, all you would be able to think about is how cancer almost always kills those who have it. So yeah, keeping that at the back of your head would be hard.

"Are you really not going to tell me?" Muku asked one more time.

"Nope", Jade replied.

"Fine, but you'd better be okay when I return. If not, the spanking will increase" Muku replied. He couldn't force her to speak if she didn't want to, so he could only give up on the matter for now.

"Oh come on! Not only are you still thinking of spanking me after the emotional chapter we had. You're even thinking of increasing the number? Have you no heart? How can you be so ruthless with a beautiful maiden like me?" Jade complained.

"What? You thought you were off the hook? Girl you know me, I don't mix business and private life. This here is personal life. Spanking you is business. And yes, if you don't keep your promise I will definitely spank you more. As for your beauty... If I am completely honest, spanking a beautiful lady is kinda hot... Cough. Cough. I mean, beauty doesn't move me" Muku replied and accidentally exposed himself.

"Don't try to change what you said, you pervert. So that's the real reason you do it? You're just living out your fetishes with me? I should have known. You're always quick to jump to it as punishment. The excitement in your eyes was always sus but I ignored it. I wouldn't be surprised if you watched all the "Fifty Shades of Grey" movies" Jade didn't let Muku back track.

She embarrassed him as much as she could with her words.

Despite what she was saying, she wasn't mad for whatever reason. Which confused Muku a bit.

What he didn't know was that she secretly liked the idea of Muku having a weird fetish and thinking of doing it with her. It felt like proof that he really saw her as a woman.

Without a doubt, the girl was crazy... Then again was there a normal girl in their group?

Chapter 315: Talk (pt5)

"Whatever you say" Muku refused to play along.

If she wanted to call him a pervert. So be it. It's not like he would die from it. And arguing about it would only make him seem guilty.

"Tsk. You know it's no fun when you just go along with it" Jade spoke as she clicked her tongue in dissatisfaction.

"So... What now? Should we make out? It's what you wanted right?" Muku asked while looking into Jade's green eyes.

"What?! You rogue! How could you say such a thing with a straight face? Do I seem that easy to you?" Jade replied in an uncharacteristically bashful voice.

She even weakly hit Muku on the shoulder as she spoke.

"Oh my! She really can be girly. Such a cute response!" Muku exclaimed exaggeratedly while holding tight to Jade who was trying to struggle out of his grasp.

There was no way he would let her go when she had just begun revealing this unfamiliar side to him. He wanted to see more.

"Ahh!" Muku suddenly screamed in pain.

Unexpectedly, Jade attacked him with a new move... She bit him on the chest. She didn't use her fangs but her normal teeth were more than painful enough for the job. So fangs weren't necessary.

It was an unexpected turn of events since Jade had never resorted to that before. It was something he would expect from the others, but never her... So, this is what the Jade who wasn't trying too hard could do?

How unpredictably predictable. While Muku was thinking all this, Jade made her way to the portal.

"You didn't expect that did you? You big pervert!" Jade spoke then escaped through the portal.

Muku just looked on silently. It was weird to him that the girls he expected to act ravenously when left alone with him were actually the ones who behaved well. Like for real, who would have thought that Emily and Jade wouldn't initiate anything at least as intense as what Layla did after seeing everything?

Hell, even the little kiss Chloe gave him was more daring than what the two of them did combined... Was it reverse day or something? A day were the girls behaved differently from how they normally would?

Or were they on their perio... No, that can't be it either. Mana had long taken care of that issue for them. They no longer had to go through the messy and painful process to get clean. Mana took care of everything.

Muku wasn't sure how it did that and neither were the girls. And no one cared. All that mattered was that the girls no longer had to deal with periods. Muku was even happier than they since he didn't have to deal with multiple moody girls one after the other or all at once.

They hadn't given him too much trouble before, but he knew that that was only because they were in survival mode.

While the current them was still in survival mode, they could comfortably relax a little bit and listen to their bodies. Which definitely wouldn't have been good for Muku.

Anyway, with Jade gone, another girl came through. And surprisingly it was little Elsa. The girl was plagued by being the youngest in the group forever.

"..."

"..."

"What? You're not going to say anything?" Muku asked the girl having a staring competition with him.

"I'm just wondering what my sister and the others see in you... Sure, you have good looks and all. The best I've ever seen but still... That can't be all that it takes right? Is there something I'm missing?" Else spoke.

Whether she was replying to Muku or just thinking out loud, he wasn't sure. After they got a little closer when he helped her rank up, the relationship between the two never progressed after that.

It was almost like the young girl kept a distance from him. Like she didn't like him or something.

What Muku didn't know was that Elsa mostly stayed away because she saw him as someone who belonged to Emily, and she didn't want to mess with Emily's "belongings". She knew more than anyone how dark her sister could be.

Of course, another reason was that Elsa was a little socially awkward, and she didn't know how to act around Muku. Not that she thought of him romantically or anything, which she didn't. She just generally didn't know how to act around males. Even when it was the goofy Muku.

She also didn't mind the little distance as being a spectator wasn't too bad. Watching the drama without stakes was also quite fun after all.

"Don't try to understand. All kids need to care about is going to school and listening to their elders. Banish those thoughts from your mind right now" Muku spoke with a slightly dark expression.

He felt like the young girl was insulting him in some way but he just couldn't prove it. It felt like she was indirectly calling him average or something.

"You do know that I'm seventeen right? Not to mention that there are no schools and technically you aren't old enough to be an elder to me. Sure, you're older but not to the point of being an elder..." Elsa replied.

She sat on a water chair she created as she spoke. Muku was amazed by her skill... it can't be easy to make liquid take on the properties of solids like that. And it was visually stunning with how the water was constantly moving.

Muku being the childish dude he was, of course, had to outdo the kid or he wouldn't be at peace. So, he snapped his fingers and a golden king's throne appeared behind him and he took a seat with all the arrogance in the world while looking at Elsa.

Seeing this Elsa paused a bit then rolled her eyes. And again she wondered what the others saw in the man-child. Sure, he was dependable and whatnot. But one can depend on him without falling for him right? Hell, she was living proof of that. And it was easy for her too... Sure it could be said that Emily had a hand in her stance but whatever. A win is a win.

"Well kid, let me talk to you. As long as you're the youngest. No matter how old you get. You'll always be the child of the group. Oh and school isn't a building, it's the people. You can take what you're learning from the others as your schooling. And an elder doesn't have to be too old to be considered as such. Just like how Emily is your "elder sister" despite being just two years older. So respect me brat! Tsk, why am I arguing with a child anyway? Is there something you want to say?" Muku replied to Elsa's words.

Interestingly enough, he took the high road after saying everything he wanted to say. It was like killing someone first then saying, "nuh, I can't kill them. That's not me", so yeah, it was so hypocritical that everyone, including the author rolled their eyes.

"... I'm not here to say much. I actually didn't even want to come but the others urged me saying I shouldn't miss our or whatever. Anyway, I'm glad you're alive and well leader. Hopefully, the group won't seem so dead now that they know you're okay. With that said, goodbye" Elsa spoke her peace and turned to leave without waiting for Muku to say anything.

It was also like she had met her word quota for the day and wasn't willing to give Muku the chance to make her say any more.

"Thank you..." Muku replied with a wry smile on his face.

When he looked at Elsa, he felt like he was looking at a version of Layla who didn't care. It was a rather weird sight. But it was okay. To each their own as they say. Elsa was doing her part in the group and that's all that mattered in the end. Even if she wasn't doing anything, Emily did more than enough for Elsa to be a couch potato without any worries.

Of course, she didn't do that. The young girl had a dream to one day be the one to protect her big sister after all. And she wasn't going to stop until she achieved that goal. It was literally her topmost priority in life.

All of that was information Muku knew and it made him smile a little bit knowing that the apocalypse couldn't destroy strong bonds even if it could destroy everything else...

"Big Brother!" Immediately after Elsa left, another figure appeared and the entrance was by far the quickest and loudest.

A figure flew into Muku's arms before he could clearly see who it was. Of course, he didn't need to see to know who it was. There was only one girl with that voice, that excitement when seeing him and that blazing love.... Hope.

"I missed you soooo much. I missed you all day, every day. I missed you in the morning, afternoon, evening and even in my dreams. I'm so happy I can get to hug you again after such a long time. I don't know if I could have reached two full years without this. This is the happiest day ever! Did you miss me too?" Hope went on and on while hugging Muku as tightly as she could.

She was giving him one of her usual hugs where it seemed like she was trying to burrow into his body and become one with him. And as always it was accompanied by her heavy emotions she never hid.

Since Muku was sitting down, she was hugging him while sitting on his lap. Her hands and legs were wrapped around him. Which created a somewhat risque... No, it wasn't somewhat risque, it was purely risque.

So much so it was taking everything Muku had not to react sinfully. After all, he knew that Hope didn't have any dirty thoughts at the moment. She was just hugging her big brother.

But Muku couldn't be blamed. The position was way too much!...

Chapter 315: Talk (pt5)

"Whatever you say" Muku refused to play along.

If she wanted to call him a pervert. So be it. It's not like he would die from it. And arguing about it would only make him seem guilty.

"Tsk. You know it's no fun when you just go along with it" Jade spoke as she clicked her tongue in dissatisfaction.

"So... What now? Should we make out? It's what you wanted right?" Muku asked while looking into Jade's green eyes.

"What?! You rogue! How could you say such a thing with a straight face? Do I seem that easy to you?" Jade replied in an uncharacteristically bashful voice.

She even weakly hit Muku on the shoulder as she spoke.

"Oh my! She really can be girly. Such a cute response!" Muku exclaimed exaggeratedly while holding tight to Jade who was trying to struggle out of his grasp.

There was no way he would let her go when she had just begun revealing this unfamiliar side to him. He wanted to see more.

"Ahh!" Muku suddenly screamed in pain.

Unexpectedly, Jade attacked him with a new move... She bit him on the chest. She didn't use her fangs but her normal teeth were more than painful enough for the job. So fangs weren't necessary.

It was an unexpected turn of events since Jade had never resorted to that before. It was something he would expect from the others, but never her... So, this is what the Jade who wasn't trying too hard could do?

How unpredictably predictable. While Muku was thinking all this, Jade made her way to the portal.

"You didn't expect that did you? You big pervert!" Jade spoke then escaped through the portal.

Muku just looked on silently. It was weird to him that the girls he expected to act ravenously when left alone with him were actually the ones who behaved well. Like for real, who would have thought that Emily and Jade wouldn't initiate anything at least as intense as what Layla did after seeing everything?

Hell, even the little kiss Chloe gave him was more daring than what the two of them did combined... Was it reverse day or something? A day were the girls behaved differently from how they normally would?

Or were they on their perio... No, that can't be it either. Mana had long taken care of that issue for them. They no longer had to go through the messy and painful process to get clean. Mana took care of everything.

Muku wasn't sure how it did that and neither were the girls. And no one cared. All that mattered was that the girls no longer had to deal with periods. Muku was even happier than they since he didn't have to deal with multiple moody girls one after the other or all at once.

They hadn't given him too much trouble before, but he knew that that was only because they were in survival mode.

While the current them was still in survival mode, they could comfortably relax a little bit and listen to their bodies. Which definitely wouldn't have been good for Muku.

Anyway, with Jade gone, another girl came through. And surprisingly it was little Elsa. The girl was plagued by being the youngest in the group forever.

"..."

"..."

"What? You're not going to say anything?" Muku asked the girl having a staring competition with him.

"I'm just wondering what my sister and the others see in you... Sure, you have good looks and all. The best I've ever seen but still... That can't be all that it takes right? Is there something I'm missing?" Else spoke.

Whether she was replying to Muku or just thinking out loud, he wasn't sure. After they got a little closer when he helped her rank up, the relationship between the two never progressed after that.

It was almost like the young girl kept a distance from him. Like she didn't like him or something.

What Muku didn't know was that Elsa mostly stayed away because she saw him as someone who belonged to Emily, and she didn't want to mess with Emily's "belongings". She knew more than anyone how dark her sister could be.

Of course, another reason was that Elsa was a little socially awkward, and she didn't know how to act around Muku. Not that she thought of him romantically or anything, which she didn't. She just generally didn't know how to act around males. Even when it was the goofy Muku.

She also didn't mind the little distance as being a spectator wasn't too bad. Watching the drama without stakes was also quite fun after all.

"Don't try to understand. All kids need to care about is going to school and listening to their elders. Banish those thoughts from your mind right now" Muku spoke with a slightly dark expression.

He felt like the young girl was insulting him in some way but he just couldn't prove it. It felt like she was indirectly calling him average or something.

"You do know that I'm seventeen right? Not to mention that there are no schools and technically you aren't old enough to be an elder to me. Sure, you're older but not to the point of being an elder..." Elsa replied.

She sat on a water chair she created as she spoke. Muku was amazed by her skill... it can't be easy to make liquid take on the properties of solids like that. And it was visually stunning with how the water was constantly moving.

Muku being the childish dude he was, of course, had to outdo the kid or he wouldn't be at peace. So, he snapped his fingers and a golden king's throne appeared behind him and he took a seat with all the arrogance in the world while looking at Elsa.

Seeing this Elsa paused a bit then rolled her eyes. And again she wondered what the others saw in the man-child. Sure, he was dependable and whatnot. But one can depend on him without falling for him right? Hell, she was living proof of that. And it was easy for her too... Sure it could be said that Emily had a hand in her stance but whatever. A win is a win.

"Well kid, let me talk to you. As long as you're the youngest. No matter how old you get. You'll always be the child of the group. Oh and school isn't a building, it's the people. You can take what you're learning from the others as your schooling. And an elder doesn't have to be too old to be considered as such. Just like how Emily is your "elder sister" despite being just two years older. So respect me brat! Tsk, why am I arguing with a child anyway? Is there something you want to say?" Muku replied to Elsa's words.

Interestingly enough, he took the high road after saying everything he wanted to say. It was like killing someone first then saying, "nuh, I can't kill them. That's not me", so yeah, it was so hypocritical that everyone, including the author rolled their eyes.

"... I'm not here to say much. I actually didn't even want to come but the others urged me saying I shouldn't miss our or whatever. Anyway, I'm glad you're alive and well leader. Hopefully, the group won't seem so dead now that they know you're okay. With that said, goodbye" Elsa spoke her peace and turned to leave without waiting for Muku to say anything.

It was also like she had met her word quota for the day and wasn't willing to give Muku the chance to make her say any more.

"Thank you..." Muku replied with a wry smile on his face.

When he looked at Elsa, he felt like he was looking at a version of Layla who didn't care. It was a rather weird sight. But it was okay. To each their own as they say. Elsa was doing her part in the group and that's all that mattered in the end. Even if she wasn't doing anything, Emily did more than enough for Elsa to be a couch potato without any worries.

Of course, she didn't do that. The young girl had a dream to one day be the one to protect her big sister after all. And she wasn't going to stop until she achieved that goal. It was literally her topmost priority in life.

All of that was information Muku knew and it made him smile a little bit knowing that the apocalypse couldn't destroy strong bonds even if it could destroy everything else...

"Big Brother!" Immediately after Elsa left, another figure appeared and the entrance was by far the quickest and loudest.

A figure flew into Muku's arms before he could clearly see who it was. Of course, he didn't need to see to know who it was. There was only one girl with that voice, that excitement when seeing him and that blazing love.... Hope.

"I missed you soooo much. I missed you all day, every day. I missed you in the morning, afternoon, evening and even in my dreams. I'm so happy I can get to hug you again after such a long time. I don't know if I could have reached two full years without this. This is the happiest day ever! Did you miss me too?" Hope went on and on while hugging Muku as tightly as she could.

She was giving him one of her usual hugs where it seemed like she was trying to burrow into his body and become one with him. And as always it was accompanied by her heavy emotions she never hid.

Since Muku was sitting down, she was hugging him while sitting on his lap. Her hands and legs were wrapped around him. Which created a somewhat risque... No, it wasn't somewhat risque, it was purely risque.

So much so it was taking everything Muku had not to react sinfully. After all, he knew that Hope didn't have any dirty thoughts at the moment. She was just hugging her big brother.

But Muku couldn't be blamed. The position was way too much!...

Chapter 316: The things I love most about you (Talk pt6)

A while later...

Muku had somehow managed to talk Hope into changing how she sat on him.

He turned the chair into a sofa and made her sit with both legs on one side. He couldn't completely make her get off, but the current position was way better than the initial one.

The girl really knew how to make him sweat. And the worst part was how she didn't know what she was doing.

Anyway, with that out of the way. They could finally talk.

"So, tell me little sis, how have you been? Did anyone bully you? Tell me and I'll take care of them if they are here" Muku asked about Hope's well-being while indirectly throwing shade at Jade.

It was obvious that there was only one person he suspected might bully Hope. Of course, he was only joking... Who the hell in their right mind would try to bully someone who had traceless poison under their control?

"Hehe. Don't worry Big Brother. I'm really strong. No one dares bully me. In fact, if there's anyone who bullied you, tell me and I'll take care of them for you!" Hope replied with a bright smile on her face.

Nothing made her happier than when Muku showed concern for her well-being. And that's the reason Muku said what he said in the first place. He had long studied this little sister of his and knew how to make her happy.

"Oh yeah, you're right. I had forgotten how amazing and strong my little sister is. Nobody dares bully you. As for me, there's also no one. You know how strong our family is. There's simply no one in the whole world who can do such a thing. And even if they are stronger than us, of course we can always run away in style!" Muku instantly got into his goofy mode for his sister whom he hadn't seen for a long time.

While Hope did her best and was now extremely good at hiding her emotions, Muku could still tell. Even though she was happy and bright like she was in the past around him.

He could see that her light was slightly dimmer than before and her smile wasn't as free. It was clear that the separation had taken its toll on her. She was just acting like it didn't.

And seeing that pained Muku a lot. But instead of ruining the mood, he chose to pretend like he didn't notice it. He decided to make her as happy as possible in the little time they had together.

Although he knew that he wouldn't be able to make up for the past year they were separated, he was dead set on trying his best. It was better to give her happy memories of their brief reunion instead of adding sad ones. She had enough of those already.

And so, just like that, the brother and sister spent the next hour talking and laughing freely. They told each general stuff which happened to them during their separation.

Neither mentioned the negative things as that would only make the other party worry without being able to do anything. And that wasn't something they wanted to see. For that reason, the two were in a blissful state during that hour.

That was until Hope who had been smiling and laughing suddenly started crying.

"What's wrong Hope? Did I say something wrong? Is there a problem?" Muku asked in a concerned voice.

Though he was almost certain that he knew why she was crying...

"No, you didn't do anything wrong. And there's no problem. I just missed you so much. I always feel the happiest and most alive when you're around. That's why knowing that we'll have to separate again soon really hurts a lot. I don't want to separate. Why's the world so cruel..." Hope poured her heart out in a choked voice then continued crying.

Muku immediately pulled her into a hug. Her hugged her tightly without saying anything for a little while then he spoke slowly into her ear...

"I know it hurts. Trust me, I feel as much pain as you do. It's taking everything in me not to cry along with you. But, instead of looking at the negatives, I'd much rather look at the positives. Instead of looking at the time that's left before we see each other again, I choose to see the time which has passed. And that time is over a year. Which means there's less than a year before we see each other again. More than half the time has passed. Now isn't that worth celebrating instead of crying over? And don't you think this little separation which is left will make our reunion even more grand and happy? I don't know about you, but I'm more than willing to wait for that happiness. Especially with the knowledge that we'll never be apart again after that" Muku narrated his thoughts softly to the girl.

By the time he was done, she had stopped crying and was just listening quietly while hugging him tightly.

Her hug which seemed unwilling to let go loosened up a little bit as she listened. It was clear that Muku had convinced her.

Which was great because he wouldn't know what to do if she still wasn't convinced and continued crying. He was really no good at dealing with crying girls.

He had gotten a little better over time but it was still hard. Of course, he meant what he said. And that's really how he saw things.

There was no reason to be sad about something which couldn't be changed. Especially when you knew when it was going to end and a happy ending was guaranteed after it...

"Thank you, brother. I really needed that. You always know what to say. That's one of the many things I love about you... Then again, I love everything about you. Anyway, now I can patiently wait for the day you return with a smile on my face... I think I should go. I've already stayed for way longer than I should have. There's someone else who wants some alone time with you after all..." Hope spoke softly while still hugging Muku.

She reluctantly pulled away from the hug after she finished speaking. Muku let her since he agreed with her. There was still one more person from the team he hadn't seen. And they really had taken too long compared to the ones who came before Hope.

"See you later..." Muku said to Hope.

She paused. Turned around, ran to him, gave him another quick hug then ran out through the portal.

She felt that if she didn't run she might not have been able to leave...

She apologised to Audrey after reaching the other side for taking too long. To which Audrey gave her an understanding nod then jumped through the portal. It was clear that Audrey only cared about being alone with Muku for that moment...

....

On the other side...

"Hello there strang... Oof! Seems somebody couldn't wait to see Mmmm mmm" Muku greeted Audrey as she came through while walking over.

However, Audrey didn't say anything or wait for him to finish what he was saying. She literally threw herself into his arms and knocked him back a few steps as he was not expecting it.

He tried to continue after catching her and stabilising himself, however, Audrey didn't give him the time. Her lips quickly found their way to his. And so, a long session of fierce, longing-filled kissing ensued.

Muku backed up with Audrey in his arms until he was back on the couch. He sat down with Audrey still in his arms. She ended up in the position Hope was in when she first hugged him.

However, unlike then, the position was natural and made sense. After all, Audrey was his girl, his first girl in fact. The duo's session continued for over twenty minutes with their hands dancing all over each other's bodies.

They wished to, wanted to and should have done more but it was currently impossible. So they could only burn as much passion with the kissing as they could.

But it was obvious that the scene was just a prelude to something which was guaranteed to happen the next time they met. At that time, even if the world were to burn around them, they wouldn't care. They wouldn't stop. That's how much they desired each other.

It was only after thirty minutes that the two separated. Muku was breathing heavily and Audrey would have been doing the same too if she were in her physical body.

Even though they weren't kissing each other anymore, the passion in their eyes didn't decrease at all. If anything, it was burning more and more. If only they weren't separated by worlds. Then a show unlike any other would have ensued.

"I missed you" Muku spoke simple words. But the emotions behind them were so heavy Audrey shivered a little.

Not that she was creeped out or disliked it, it was quite the opposite actually. She loved it. And it was impossible to dislike it when she herself felt the same. Hell, she felt that way even before he did.

Back in the days he still saw her as nothing but his student's mother and teammate. She already held those heavy feelings for him.

"Not as much as I did you" Audrey responded.

Or was it better to say she declared... The emotions she showed were just as heavy as Muku's...

Chapter 317: Separation (Talk Final!)

A while later...

Of course, the duo didn't continue making out after that. It would have just been self-torture. They preferred to catch up instead, anyway... Well, they didn't but it was the only option so...

Anyway, they spoke for a little over an hour. Which beat the time Muku spoke to Hope by a little bit. That was expected though, the two were legit lovers after all.

In fact, they still wanted to continue speaking but it wouldn't be fair to the others. And so, they cut the talk short. Audrey gave Muku a long kiss and then left.

Muku wanted to take a little time to gather himself so he didn't go with her even though no one else was coming.

Unexpectedly, just when he was about to get up from the couch. Someone came through...

"...."

"...."

"What do you want?" Muku asked after seeing that the person wasn't saying anything. Like who shows up unexpectedly only to stare at someone?

"What do you mean? I also want a hug and a talk like everyone else. Don't tell me you don't care about your poor old mother?" The person replied in a disheartened tone.

That's right, it was Mrs C who had come through. The same lady who had been around Muku for a while. The same lady who had no business being in that room at that time.

"You really have guts to show up here after spying on me. In fact, it's good that you showed up Mother. Why don't you come and take a seat so that we can discuss privacy issues? I feel it's a talk which should have been had a long time ago. But no matter, there's no time like the present. Here, I even created the most luxurious chair for you. You can create a better one if you want" Muku spoke with a smile on his face while gesturing Mrs C to come and sit on the chair he had created beside his.

Surprisingly, Mrs C who's always looking for reasons to be around her son and talk to him didn't immediately jump at the chance. She stood still while looking at Muku then at the chair for a few seconds. Then...

"Cough! You know what, I just remembered that I have an important matter which needs to be taken care of. While I'd love to stay and chat, I can't. So, bye!" Mrs C spoke.

And she was gone before Muku could say anything...

"Come back here you old lady! You might have escaped today but one day when I'm as strong as you... No, when I'm even stronger than you, you're going to explain yourself whether you want to or not. We're going to have this discussion! Hmph! Thinking that I'm easily bullied just because I'm currently weak. I'll show you one day what it's like to have someone constantly peeking into your thoughts!" Muku exclaimed loudly.

He didn't care that Mrs C had long run away. After all, he knew that she was listening to everything. Hell, she was probably seeing him too. That lady never learns when it comes to respecting other people's boundaries.

Anyway, he didn't linger in the room any longer. He went through the portal and was met by the sight of numerous girls looking at him with various emotions in their eyes.

"Where's she?" Muku asked them about Mrs C.

He knew that she was probably hiding close by just to sell the act of "having something to take care of". He asked the question to lighten the mood a little. It was obvious that the girls were now feeling down. He wasn't sure why, but he could guess the reason just from looking at them.

"We don't know. She suddenly disappeared. But before she left she said that we only have two minutes before we're sent back..." Audrey replied on behalf of the group.

Her voice got sadder when she spoke the latter part. She was clearly not happy about the imminent separation. Well, of course she wouldn't be happy, they would be separated for close to a year after all.

"Oh... Okay. If that's how it is, then I wish you all good luck in the following year. I hope I find you in good health when I return. Also, I'm expecting a feast. So don't disappoint me. If I'm disappointed... I'll add a few more spankings to the ones I'm going to give Jade(Hey!)" Muku said goodbye to the girls.

The girls felt like crying when he said the first part, but they all ended up laughing when he brought Jade into the mix.

After that Muku opened his arms with a smile on his face and they all came in for a group hug. Even Jade who was pouting, smiled a bit.

They stayed like that with their eyes closed until...

Flash!

The same light from before appeared. This time it took the girls away instead of bringing them over.

Muku was left hugging empty air after the girls were taken away. His eyes were still closed shut. He stayed in that position for a while.

A lone tear slid down his cheek from his right eye. He released his mana and it was disintegrated before it could get far.

His eyes then snapped open with intense resolution to be strong until the day he saw the girls again. It wasn't the time to be weak. Being weak didn't get anything done.

Being weak wouldn't make him surpass Ares and comfortably protect the girls...

"Wow... Such great willpower. So cool! However, I'm still going to tell them that you cried after they left. Which is true even if it was just a lone tear" Raya spoke from a couch in the corner of Muku's eye.

"Oh right, you're still here" Muku spoke calmly while walking toward Raya then took a seat on a couch beside her.

"Even if you ignore what I said, I'm still going to tell them" Raya spoke while looking at Muku with a proud look on her face.

"You know, you talk quite a lot for someone who's practically crippled and is going to rely on me after we leave this place..." Muku replied calmly.

While he was calm and seemed to be speaking randomly. It was obvious he was threatening Raya.

And was Raya someone who could be threatened so easily? She was The Raya, the most talented beast even Mrs C admired. The Raya who controlled not only Light and Dark, she also controlled Space! Would she be threatened by the words of a mere mortal with all those accolades behind her?... Of course she would!

"I'm sorry boss. I don't know what came over me. Please ignore this ignorant subordinate of yours. I promise I'll do better from now on. So please don't ditch me. Here, take my kowtow!" Raya immediately threw her still uncontrollable body to the ground and bowed to Muku as she spoke.

She wanted to repeatedly hit her head on the ground as she did so, but that was still too much for her to do. So she could only bow without moving. Even that was a little hard and she ended up in a semi-slumped position.

As for why she would do something like that when Muku obviously wouldn't leave her alone? Well, it was pretty obvious actually.

Muku wouldn't leave her, but he could make her life hell for the next few months until she could move again. And she didn't want to risk it.

Especially when she could sense the bad intentions he harboured for her through their soul-link. He was probably going to throw her into a den of beasts or something and hide. Then he'd let them beat her up until she only had an inch of her life left. Then he'd save her.

Was that overthinking? No of course not. Anyone who knew Muku knew that he would definitely do such a thing. The bastard could be evil when he wanted to. Hell, he was never a good guy in the first place.

If he were, his first thoughts when faced with enemies wouldn't have been destroying them all from the roots until there were none left.

He was only nice to his girls and people who served a purpose in protecting his girls. And sure, he cared about Raya as his soul-link, but that wouldn't keep her safe from getting punished. Just like how it didn't keep Jade from getting punished.

"No no, don't do that. Please continue with what you were saying before. I want to know what else you're going to tell them. And why are you begging me like that? Did I threaten you in any way? I don't remember doing such a thing. Do you? I'd never throw you into a den of beasts..." Muku spoke with a smile on his face.

"Nooo! Please boss! Sir! My lord! I promise, I won't say anything. I was just joking! And you didn't threaten me. I'm just crazy" Raya broke down into a begging cry as Muku verbalised what she had thought.

Before she was just guessing the worst-case scenario. But now, he had mentioned it himself. Now it was guaranteed. She had to make amends quickly or her life was going to be hell..

Though despite everything, she couldn't help but pat herself on the back in her head for guessing what Muku was going to do to her. It made her feel super smart.

"Why are you bullying a child like this?" Mrs C's voice suddenly sounded from behind Muku.

"Oh? You're back. Have you taken care of the matter already?" Muku asked a question instead of replying.

However, he did pick Raya up from the ground with his Telekinesis and place her on the couch as he spoke. Which was an indirect way of saying that he wouldn't pursue the matter anymore. To which Raya rejoiced. She gave Mrs C a grateful look but didn't dare say anything lest Muku change his mind again.

"Yeah... Enough about that. It's boring anyway. Tell me about you... You seemed rather aggressive today..." Mrs C replied briefly then changed topics.

Muku turned and gave her a side eye before looking away...

Chapter 318: Time to leave?

"Oh, come on. Don't ignore me. I'm curious as to why you changed your approach when it comes to the girls. From your memories, I noticed that you always hesitated in your actions. Yet today you matched all their energies without holding back. You even bullied that poor Freya despite knowing that people were watching... It seemed a bit out of character" Mrs C spoke as she refused to be ignored.

She could read his mind, but that made things boring. Not to mention that if he doesn't think of what she wanted to know, then she won't know anything. Something Muku had long realised. So yeah, asking him was the best option.

She didn't even try to read his mind to make sure whether or not he was thinking about it or not.

"Well, if you must know... Who am I kidding, you probably read my mind already. Anyway, I'll say it to fulfil the formalities. The reason why I was so "aggressive" as you put it. Was because of the separation. Being away from them for so long put things into perspective. I realised that the future isn't certain, so while planning for it is great... It shouldn't get in the way of living in the present. Before, I always thought that "there's tomorrow". So I didn't feel rushed to make any moves. But after getting separated from them so suddenly... I realised that holding back isn't always the best thing to do. And so, I stopped doing it. Was it too much?" Muku who didn't mind telling Mrs C what was going on replied.

"So that's how it is. That makes sense after such an experience. And no, I don't think what you did was too much. If anything, it was about time. The girls have been waiting for so long, so I'm certain they were happy to see the change even if they didn't say anything. It's understandable to want them to mature a bit more but you can mature together since it's not like yiyreuch more mature than them anyway. And in case you forgot, even if I thought you came on a little too strong, I still wouldn't tell you that. I want to see my grandkids as quickly as possible after all..." Mrs C replied.

The former part of her statement had Muku nodding in agreement. She sounded like a proper adult for once... Then she had to ruin it with the latter part.

Like what the hell. Even if that's how she really felt, did she have to tell him that? Now he wasn't sure if she meant the first part.

Didn't that make the whole conversation pointless then?? This is exactly why he doesn't tell her things.

"Don't look at me like that. You know I was joking... I mean, sure, I do want those grandkids, but I meant what I said about the girls. You can ask them when you see them later..." Mrs C defended herself after noticing how Muku was looking at her like she was the trashiest mother he had ever seen.

She didn't dare read his mind lest she confirm what she assumed. Assuming something was bad, but having it confirmed was way worse.

"Tsk. I'll believe you this time. Just know when to stop next time" Muku replied while rolling his eyes.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you. I'll never do it again! I'll stop in time!" Mrs C thanked Muku exaggeratedly while grabbing Muku's hands and shaking them furiously.

She was so intense that Muku had to practically wrestle his hands free from her vice-like grip.

"Okay! Okay! Stop!... If there's nothing left don't you think it's about time we departed too?" Muku spoke while stepping back from Mrs C who had forced him up from his seat.

He feared that if he stayed close she would jump on him again.

"What? Leave?... Nooo!... Ahhh! You jerk! How could you ruthlessly dodge me like that?" Mrs C took a second to process what Muku said.

When she realised what he was talking about. She jumped on him but missed as he was expecting it. That's when she began cursing him angrily even though she didn't smash into a wall or anything.

In fact, she started floating after passing by Muku. So there was no damage at all.

And it wasn't even because she stopped herself. It was Muku who had caught her with his Telekinesis.

"Interesting how you're cursing me when I could literally just take back my Telekinesis and let you fall" Muku spoke calmly.

Mrs C who was cursing nonstop paused and looked at Muku. Her eyes were wide with surprise. She was practically screaming, "You wouldn't dare!" With her eyes.

And Muku's eyes replied "Try me" calmly.

"Sigh. I miss the good old days when kids respected their parents. And now I see why Little Raya doesn't like you despite the soul-link..." Mrs C spoke while spinning in the air.

Of course, it wasn't Muku who was making him spin. The lady had hijacked his Telekinesis. That's right, she wasn't using any of her abilities... At least not directly. It was like she Muku was holding her with his arms then she took control of those arms without ripping them off Muku.

It was bullsh\*t and shouldn't be possible, but Mrs C has done way worse, so it was acceptable... No it wasn't, wtf was this?!

Muku who had seen a lot of her weird abilities was shaken. Sure, it was not the most mystical thing she had done but it was definitely the most shocking on a personal level.

The more he learned about his mother's capabilities, the less he was sure that he would ever be able to beat her. He really thought that one day he would be the one bullying her. But now he wasn't sure.

Let's say he became the strongest being in the world... What would be the point if she could hijack his strength?

Wouldn't it just be him adding to her strength in such a situation? Well, whatever, he'll cross that bridge when he gets there. He had other things to deal with for the time being.

"Whatever. It's not my fault that I react appropriately to your actions. If anything, since I react appropriately, instead of questioning me, you too should question your own character. And in line with that, I'll treat you according to how you act, even if you're my mother. Hhmp!" Muku refused to let her throw dirt in his name in silence.

"Tsk. Whatever. I'm over this. And you're right, there's no reason to keep you here any longer. All accounts are settled. If there are some which aren't, we'll settle them some other day. Here, catch!" Mrs C replied as she placed herself back on the ground with Muku's Telekinesis.

She tossed a black object his way while restoring his control of his Telekinesis.

Muku caught the object. He immediately inspected it and noticed that it was shaped like a phone and looked like one too. However... It wasn't a phone.

It was literally just a black metal block which was shaped and looked like a modern-day phone.

"What the hell is this thing?" Muku asked while looking at the object confusedly.

"What do you mean what is it? It's a phone of course! Isn't that the same thing in your memories?" Mrs C replied while rolling her eyes. She looked at him like he was some kind of dummy.

"No it's not! This thing just looks like a phone but it isn't. And stop looking at me like that... Wait, did you just browse through my memories on what a phone is without looking at it in detail?!" Muku spoke while looking at Mrs C with suspicion in his tone.

"Yeah... Maybe... So? What does that matter? Isn't all that matters whether or not it works?" Mrs C replied defiantly. She was caught slacking but she refused to admit it.

"I guess that makes sense... No it doesn't! This thing doesn't work. It's pure black metal. How's it supposed to work?" Muku exclaimed angrily.

He felt like Mrs C was making fun of him or something.

"Try injecting your mana into it, idiot. And here I thought my son was smart. We're currently in a world which runs on mana. When are you going to forget the old ways the world used to work? In fact, let me give you a pro-tip. Before dismissing something for being useless in the current world. I think you should first try to inject your mana into it. You might throw away a legendary object due to ignorance if you continue with your current mindset. Of course, randomly injecting mana into things is also dangerous. It

might be a bomb which explodes when mana is injected. That would obviously kill you on the spot... You know what, don't inject your mana randomly after all. You should have that Beast girl around when you do something like that. Her instincts are sharp enough to sense danger. That should be enough to protect you... Probably" Mrs C went on to give Muku an unexpected lecture.

However, he wasn't complaining. It was valuable information after all... He had never considered doing such a thing when he came across random objects before.

Thinking about it made his stomach hurt. What if he tossed away the Dragon King's ultimate weapon because he was too ignorant to inject mana into it?

"Pfft! Like such a thing exists" Mrs C laughed.

"Stop reading my mind old thing!"

Chapter 319: World's Greatest Mother

"Who are you calling old thing you disrespectful brat! Have I been so nice to you that you forgot I'm your mother?!... Hmph! You're lucky I'm not petty or you would regret what you said right now. Anyway, inject your mana into that phone and you'll understand..." Mrs C rebuked Muku a bit then moved on.

She refused to stoop to his level... Bullshit! She knew that it was her fault in the first place. So instead of being shameless, she decided it was best to move on.

"Okay", Muku replied without saying anything confrontational as he did what he was told.

He didn't dare push her any further or she really might do something. It would be unfair if she did, by it wasn't like he could do something about it...

Anyway, the moment his mana touched the "phone", it reacted. It began glowing faintly. The more mana it received from him, the brighter it glowed. Noticing that, he didn't stop injecting mana into it.

The light grey glow suddenly got sucked into the "phone" and something mystical happened.

A phone-like display appeared on the block. However, there was only an icon for the phone book at the bottom. He clicked on it and the contacts... Or contact rather, which was saved on it was shown.

He wanted to say he was confused and didn't know whose contact it was. But he couldn't. After all, if he couldn't figure out who the owner of the contact named, "World's Greatest Mother" then he would be an idiot.

His lip twitched as he looked up at Mrs C. The twitch got worse when he was met with her proud expression.

The way she was looking at him practically screamed, "Go ahead and praise me. I know I did a good job. There's no need to stop yourself from admitting it"

That look didn't last long though. She soon realised that Muku wasn't going to praise her. It wasn't hard to realise as his eyes were saying...."No". Nothing more and nothing less.

"Tsk. Now look at this" Mrs C expressed her dislike of Muku's reaction with a click of the tongue then moved on.

She then directed his attention to her hand which she was holding out. Another "phone" which looked exactly like the one Muku was holding appeared in her hand. The only difference was the colour. Hers was like silver instead of black.

Anyway, "the screen" was already on. She clicked on it and the "phone" in Muku's hand began ringing.

The ringtone was interestingly his favourite song. It was a bit girly but he didn't mind, so he wasn't embarrassed by it at all. He even appreciated that Mrs C made it his ringtone. Of course, he didn't say anything. But judging from the sudden smile which appeared on her face, he was sure she read his mind and found out.

He didn't make a scene about her reading his mind again. It kind of seemed pointless at that point. It would just delay things..

Anyway, he didn't waste time and answered the call... Mrs C's voice was heard from it. It was low but audible.

As for why it was low, that was because the lady was whispering into her phone from a corner in the distance.

She was making sure Muku heard her from the phone instead of hearing her due to their proximity.

"I said hello, son... Aren't you going to say anything back?" Mrs C's low voice sounded again.

"Sigh. Do I have to? I mean, we're literally looking at each other" Muku played along while asking why he had to play along. It was killing two birds with one stone.

"No, no. I refuse to take that as the first thing my son said to me on the phone. You better play along properly or I'm not going to give you the other phones I prepared for the girls" Mrs C replied.

"... Hello. Mother, how are you? How's your day?" Muku thought for a bit and decided to play along.

The girls would murder him if they found out that he had a chance to get them all communication devices but he decided to pass it up because of his pride.

As for how they would know in the first place when they weren't there?... Well, Raya the dragon rat was present after all. She might be behaving well at present due to needing him. But he knew that she wouldn't hesitate to stab him in the back the first chance she got.

In fact, that's exactly what he was expecting after knowing her for so long. And no, he wasn't thinking too badly of her because that's exactly what Raya was thinking of doing... He could sense the faint malice she emitted through the soul-link. She was trying her best to suppress it, but a little was leaking out...

"Hehe. There you go... I'm a good son. My day has been quite eventful. I assume you're good too. And how's your day?" Mrs C happily replied.

"Well, you know me. I have a strong body. So of course I'm okay. What a coincidence. My day has also been quite eventful... I'm sorry Mother, but you caught me at a terrible time. Thanks for calling me though. I'll call you back once I'm free..." Muku replied.

"Oh, is that so? Okay. If you're busy it's okay. I'll be waiting for your call then" Mrs C replied while glaring at Muku from a distance.

She was starting to get into character and there he was cutting it short. She didn't expect that talking to someone on a phone would be fun. It would have been better if Muku hadn't ruined it...

"Okay. Bye". Muku replied then cut the call.

Mrs C appeared next to him the moment he did.

"Was that good enough?" Muku asked her.

"It could have been better. But you're going to call me back so I won't hold it against you" Mrs C replied.

"What?! Wasn't that just part of the demo?" Muku asked in surprise.

"And who said it was a demo?... Wait, are you planning on going back on your promise? Were you lying to your poor old mother then?" Mrs C replied in her out-of-touch-with-the-world tone.

She always spoke like that when she knew that using reason wouldn't get her what she wanted. So she would pretend to be dumb and bulldoze her way through.

"... Fine, I'll call you... This thing doesn't need to be recharged right?" Muku replied.

If the phones weren't still on the line, he might have tried to argue. But they were, so... Yeah, arguing was out of the question.

"Great! And no. They don't need to be charged. Well, they do, but the "charging" is you injecting mana into it. That's all that's needed to make a call. And they can only be used by the first person to inject mana into them, or the people that person allows by letting them inject a little of their mana along with theirs.

"Oh, that's good to know. So you're saying that if I want the girls to use my phone. I'd have to inject my mana first then have them inject theirs while mine is still keeping it on?" Muku asked.

"Yes. You only need to do it once. After that their mana print would have been recorded and they can use it without you" Mrs C replied.

"Oh, okay. But there's no need to do such a thing, right?. I mean the device only works for communication and everyone would have their own. So why would they want to use mine?" Muku spoke.

"Well, clearly you still do not understand women son... Anyway, here, I'll give you twenty of these. Keep the extras for your business partners if you're going to get any... Or more wives. I wouldn't mind" Mrs C replied while giving Muku a box with twenty "phones".

"Well, I do mind! There will be no more girls!" Muku replied strongly.

He really didn't want any more girls. The ones he had were already overwhelming. And that was before bedtime activities were in the mix. Who knows what is going to happen then?

He heard that ladies can get ravenous in bed. And that made him fear for his life... Hopefully, his enhanced body would be enough...

Anyway, Muku received the box and made it float. After that, he opened it to examine the phones. He didn't think that there might be issues with them... It would be crazy to think that something Mrs C made would have issues.

He opened them to see what they looked like. He wanted to know whether they would all look the same or come in different colours. It was just to satisfy his curiosity.

Anyway, there were eight phones on which looked different from the rest. They all had a unique colour. And it was obvious who the owners were just by looking at them...

The remaining twelve looked like his phone. It made him scrunch his brows a bit thinking that his mother was biased and favoured the girls.

Then he thought, most phones looked the same anyway. And it wasn't like he cared that his phone looked like the rest...

"Thank you, mother. You're the best" Muku thanked Mrs C seriously.

She had easily solved one of the biggest issues they had. This was how to communicate when they were away from each other.

And considering that Mrs C was planning to talk to him from a different world. It was clear that the phones worked no matter where you were.

And he wasn't worried that they would break. He didn't specifically test them, but he was sure that even his full-power attack wouldn't be able to break them. Which was understandable considering the creator...

So yeah, she had done his group a great favour.

"Oh my, so serious. There's no need to thank me. I'm just a mother taking care of her son" Mrs C replied with a gentle, almost sad smile on her face.

Muku put the phones in his storage ring and gave her a hug without saying anything...

Chapter 320: I am his mother...

"Well... Didn't expect you to ever initiate a hug..." Mrs C spoke while happily accepting the hug.

She always hoped her son would be more loving. She even considered brainwashing him into a devoted son but thought against it. It wouldn't be him anymore if she did that. He'd be an empty shell... A mere puppet with no real emotion.

Fortunately for her, she only thought about it without saying it or Muku would never hug her like he was doing...

"Thank you mother" Muku thanked her and stepped back. He had to wrestle himself away from her a bit but he expected it so he could easily escape.

"Sigh... I guess this means we're separating again... This is the worst" Mrs C spoke sadly.

"There's no need to be so sad. I'll come see you before I head back home. I know I won't be able to do another trial since the cool down for trials wouldn't be up yet, but that can't stop me from seeing you right?" Muku replied in a consoling voice.

"Aww. You'd do that for me? How thoughtful. What a good son you are. Unfortunately, it's not possible, there are matters which came up I have to go deal with. It will take quite some time to take care of so... Actually, if it wasn't for that I might have kidnapped the two of you for a month... Don't look at me like that. You should give yourself a questioning look if you thought doing such a thing was beyond me" Mrs C told Muku a bit about her plans without getting into detail.

As for telling him that there were no real limits to the trials and she made them up... She was never going to do such a thing. If she did, he'd probably do all the levels and never come back.

Sure, that was exaggerating it, but his visits wouldn't be as stable as they were now.

One could say that he was leaving the Beast World after a bit, so it was okay to tell him right? In response, they should ask themselves, if Mrs C wanted to drag him from the Blue Planet was there anything which could stop her?

The answer to that is, no. She was someone who lived according to her own rules. If she didn't consider Muku's feelings, she could make him do anything.

Anyway, the point here is that, the trial is the only excuse Mrs C currently has if she ever wants to bring Muku back. So there was no way she was going to give it up.

She trusted Raya not to say anything even without specifically discussing it. The little dragon girl was smarter than her age after all...

"Oh? Well, that sucks... Speaking of which, how will I be able to continue the trials when you're done with your matter? I mean, I will be back home by then..." Muku didn't try to pry into the matters she was talking about.

He knew that she would have told him if it was something he should know. And if it was something which needed so much of her time then it should be something way beyond his station. Probably beyond Monarchs too. So yeah, he didn't need to know.

He chose to focus on something he needed to know instead. He couldn't give up on the trials after all. He had gotten so many gains from just two floors. Who knows where he will be after doing all ten?

And that was a strength he couldn't pass up in the constantly evolving world which kept on getting more and more dangerous.

"Oh, that. Don't worry about that. I'll notify you by phone after everything has been taken care of..." Mrs C replied in a reassuring tone.

"Oh okay. I'll be waiting then... Speaking of which. How do I add more contacts?" Muku asked.

"Just tap two phones together and their contacts will be recorded on the other" Mrs C replied.

"Okay. Thank you again" Muku replied gratefully.

"And again, there's no need..." Mrs C replied with her iconic motherly smile.

"Raya, aren't you going to say goodbye to her?" Muku shifted his attention to the little girl who was trying her best to avoid him by making her presence as small as possible since she couldn't leave.

Raya immediately flinched but relaxed after hearing what he said. She thought that he was going to pettily bring up old matters, fortunately, that wasn't it.

"R... right. Ma'am, thank you for hosting us. I hope we meet again as soon as possible" Raya floated over and spoke while bowing mid-air.

She was just as grateful to Mrs C as Muku was, if not more.

"Don't mention it, child. It was nothing. And I advise you to try and use your body as much as possible before the time period is up" Mrs C replied while patting Raya's head.

"Well, I guess this is goodbye. Like she said, I hope we meet again as soon as possible. And good luck in your endeavours..." Muku spoke as he got ready to go through the portal and leave the restricted zone.

There was no need for Mrs C to create a new one for them since they were already in the Outskirts of the Beast Forest.

He was afraid that if he had her create one for them which would lead them to the outside world, they would be thrown into the Middle Zone again.

Unlike last time, he now had a clearer understanding of the horror higher-rank beasts brought. So he wasn't sure he could fearlessly fly through a whole zone full of them...

Let alone R6s, he was scared to death of R5s since the ogre incident. That thing might have traumatised him.

"Goodbye. Thank you and good luck to you too" Mrs C replied then snapped her fingers.

Before Muku and Raya could react, they were gone from the room.

A few seconds after they disappeared, the dragon lady who's always snooping around Mrs C appeared again.

"You'd better think twice before saying whatever you want to say" Mrs C spoke before the other party could say anything.

All the warmth in her voice from when she spoke to Muku and Raya was gone. Her voice was even colder than Layla's.

The dragon lady didn't even flinch though. She was long long used to it after all. In fact, she would have been creeped out if Mrs C's voice was still nice even after Muku left.

"I'm not here to say anything provocative. I just want to ask why you felt like need to send them away when they were going to leave on their own?" The dragon lady spoke.

"You know Athena, there's an old saying in the human world. And that saying is, curiosity killed a cat. And they say a cat has nine lives there. So, doesn't that mean it died nine times from curiosity? So I ask you this... Do you think your one life is enough to survive your curiosity when a cat couldn't do so with nine?" Mrs C replied in her cold voice. It was getting colder and colder as she spoke.

"I'm sorry for asking. I'll be on my way..." The dragon lady named Athena backed off and disappeared.

Inside she was kicking herself for doing such a thing again. She knew Mrs C didn't like being questioned on her decisions yet she had been doing it constantly in recent history.

Did she get confused by Mrs C's nice personality when interacting with Muku or something? Well, whatever, she will never do such a thing again. She was sure that she had used up her warnings and next time would end up badly for her. She might really lose her tail!

.....

Soon after the dragon lady left...

BOOM!

The walls, floors, doors and everything around Mrs C exploded and disintegrated.

All that was left was Mrs C standing in a pitch black void with nothing around her.

"Two huge red eyes opened up from above her and looked at her. The lady didn't flinch or look at the eyes. She continued floating in the void seemingly lost in thought.

"Are you happy now?" A voice Muku would have recognised if he were present sounded.

It was the voice he heard in his "dream" when he was bedridden in the past after a big incident. The same voice which told him to pursue the girls or risk losing them, among other things...

"Do I look happy?.... Though I guess I was happy when he was with me" surprisingly Mrs C replied.

"Sigh. This is why I told you to stay away. Now you're sadder than before the interaction" The voice continued.

"Oh shut up. You're the one who went to him first.

"I won't deny that but I didn't affect his development at all while you... Well, you know what you did. I don't even know how many rules you broke" The voice spoke further. It was calm but urged Mrs C to take accountability for her actions.

"Ha! Rules? And who made those rules? Besides that, what rules can stop me from meeting my son? In fact, do you dare get in the way?" Mrs C replied arrogantly.

"Well... I guess you're right. But you must know that the future rests on his development... Speaking of which, I guess what you did wasn't a bad thing. You sped up the process a bit and even degraded

yourself to saying that you're his adoptive mother when you're his biological mother..." The voice casually dropped a bomb.

But then again, there were no other beings present other than the two of them, so it technically wasn't a bomb as they both knew about it.

"That's right. Do you know how much it hurts to be incapable of claiming my son as being truly mine? You have no idea how much I wanted to tell him that when I called him son it wasn't because of some randomly forged relationship. I am his mother and he is my son!" Mrs C exclaimed emotionally then disappeared from the void.

"Sigh... Maybe I shouldn't have said anything..." The voice rang in the void again...