

The Noble 311

Chapter 311: Family Meeting

"My baby, everything he said was a lie. I never harassed him, I respect your privacy and I didn't give importance to what you two were hiding...if anyone did it was Sebastian.." (Dante)

"you old bastard how low do you want to go, don't lie, obviously, you were just mesquine jealous that tristan would cooperate with me, and Sebastian would never do that."

"noo, well yes I did, but it was for your own good, believe me " (Dante)

" Haa~ let's stop this nonsense, just Promise me you'll make it up to him for all the trouble and more, like he told you in the end it was me who planned everything and it was just him playing along."

yes, the girls behind me are definitely listening, our conversation, although we didn't say explicitly I think they already understood the problem here.

Especially Aurora, as smart as she is, she's probably already starting to create who knows what theories about where Chris is coming from and his relationship with me.

and leaving aside Cordelia who I don't think cares too much about Chris's business, I didn't want Lys to start avoiding me because I was someone of dubious background, that was my biggest concern.

"Okay, but tell me daddy." (Dante)

"Ugh, Daddy, are you happy?"

"Yes, dear. But you know, I was a victim too. I've been covering for you, because I know I had your reasons, but a few moments ago your mothers just found out, as well as the fact that you used the name of the house and so on to make him jump the tests. In fact, I'm running away from Nora." (Dante)

"...you start there, more like why did you run to me, leave right now"

Hearing that I got a little upset and grabbed my dad and shook him back and forth, he couldn't believe I didn't start there, this was now a serious situation. .

"ugh, dear you have become strong, besides your mothers, they will find you anyway, you know how hard it is to escape from them" (Dante)

"yes, I know, sometimes I feel they can smell us"

"that's true dear y, I hope you have a good excuse or reason, she also knows that you broke the rules and extorted money and resources from me, every time I came to the capital" (Dante)

". ..hey!!, how did you let them find out!"

"what can I do dear when they get together, they just get over me, my life also depends on what you say, Nora brought is evil bat!!!" (Dante)

'Shit!!, I didn't think much about this in depth. I need to think fast. I needed an excuse.'

This old man can't care about that, but my stepmoms will definitely question Chris' existence and they know Tristan has no son.

'Damm, that's why the lies, they are more trouble than good, now I have to get on with it and create more'

I have to think of something convincing, they can pop up at any time, especially if it's my stepmother Leonora, who have an almost beastly instinct.

She will definitely get the truth out of me if I don't think of something solid right now, if that happened, I would be forced, to give up and stop using Chris's identity even if I can excuse myself that I got all the necessary skills from Aeloria.

'a see, something worthwhile, to hide the identity of someone who appeared out of nowhere, something that won't piss anyone off... uhm starting off that he's a commoner with no background.... Humm, but the academy still allows it.... Another reason, let's see... Oh! ' "

I came up with an idea but I need someone else, I was ruled out because I would only be getting into more trouble, with my father and stepmothers, so it had to be a third party.

At that moment I looked at Elena, she was hesitant as if she didn't know whether to interfere or not, she seemed to know what I had in mind, Alice seemed to nod as if she would do anything as long as she helped me.

But if I thought about it, they knew my father and my mothers, so it was a bad idea, something could go wrong, so they were out of the question, it had to be someone else.

Cordelia, Aurora and Liz, who don't know anything, are also ruled out. So.

'Well, she's a noble too, all the better'

"Wait, what do you..." (Silvia).

"Ehem!, you see, father..."

"Daddy" (Dante)

"Arg! Daddy, about Christian... Well, the truth is that he's a commoner, but the problem is that he's in a relationship with a noblelady."

by this point it was obvious, so I had no problem saying it in front of the girls who didn't know. well, I don't think any of those three would mind if chris went from being a knight's son to a commoner.

"Hey, stop it!" (Silvia)

"Yeah, she's the one it just yelled at, she's a little embarrassed and well, I helped her raise Christian status a little and that there was less opposition, he's talented so, I thought it's like an inver-."

"The twins!!!" (Silvia)

'Damn, Silvia, you said it too late, fuck, you're right!'

"Ahem, you see, he has a relationship with three noble ladies, they are all my friends and well, I wanted to help them a little, plus as you know he has talent, so it's not a waste and Trist-".

"Get me out of there." (Silvia)

'stop interrupting me!!!! It's already too late, I already mentioned you, we'll fix it later.'

I said to Silvia mentally to apologize, it is true that the twins squared perfectly, and in fact, it is a known fact that she dates Chris.

Especially Selene who I was dating almost from the beginning, so if I lined things up right it could be almost like a half-truth that could be confirmed with a little research.

I got a little nervous and worked with what I had at my fingertips, and inadvertently threw in Silvia who squared perfectly with what I wanted besides the twins, who did not enter my thoughts at the time.

I will clear up the misunderstanding with those three later. I guess I was a little nervous, knowing that my stepmom could come out of the bushes at any moment

Well, in the end the reason I told him the excuse is so that he could explain it to my mothers later, so I could save myself the work, now we just have to get out of here, I had to get rid of my father and go with the girls.

"As you can see, she's shy, but she and the other two fell in love with handsome Chris, well just tell that to my mothers, well now-...."

"Phina!" (??)

"Kyaaa!!!!" (x2)

in this case I will defend my father, for just like me he lets out a very masculine war cry. The reason is that, as if called by my thought, a beautiful mature woman with red hair came out from within the walls of roses.

"What you said there was true." (Leonora)

Damn, is everyone listening to other people's conversations? No! I have to be strong and keep up this lie I already started. If I hesitate, I'll be found out.

"Y-yes mather, actually, when I became friends with Silvia and she told me that, my heart couldn't help but be moved by their love story, and w-well, I helped them a little. That's all, it was for a good cause. And since he grew up in the slums, he's an orphan and, and.... Silvia, come, help me explain a little bit."

'You'll definitely pay for me later!' (Silvia)

Damn, I got a mental message for real. It's a really complicated and difficult non-elemental magic to do, and forming its runes expends the mental strength of those in our rank, so it wouldn't be commonly used.

Rather, our realm doesn't possess that kind of magic, and it was me who shared it with her a while ago.

The fact that she has already mastered it is an achievement for which I have to congratulate her. But now, she is definitely angry. Her tone and emotions came across perfectly.

At this point, I was so nervous about my stepmom's sudden presence, that I pulled her into it even more. There was no turning back now.

"I-I... uhm... me and Chris... I mean, Chris and I... w-we went o-out-" (Silvia)

'Silvia, you're worse than me, !'

But she was so mean that I had no choice but to send her a mental message back, abecés olvidés que ella es tímida con las personas que no conoce.

'You idiot! This is hard, your mother is very intimidating.' (Silvia)

'I know, she really looks like she's going to devour you '

Yes, my mother's intimidating presence doesn't help much either.

'You idiot, why did you get me into this?' (Silva)

'I panicked. Yeah, just help me out, we'll fix this misunderstanding later,'

'that's an obvious thing for you to do silly.'(Silvia)

'I'll make it up to you too, with whatever you ask of me, oh, I know, you started liking my shoulder soothing massages right, I'll do it any time you want.'

'well just make sure you do, things right afterwards'(Silvia)

'Yes, after all, it would be bad if William found out unintentionally and fell for it.'

'That's not the point, you idiot, you fool!'(Silvia)

'What's the big deal? Well, never mind, use that energy to tell my mother enough to make her believe me'.

'Fine, I can do that' (Silvia)

"ma-ma'am, me and Ch-Chris are hip!..."(Silvia)

"....."(leonora)

'Oh, damn, did Silvia give you the hiccups?'

Silvia seemed to be a basket case, unlike her thinking, but her acting was not in vain.

The fact that she looked so scared and nervous that she had a hiccuping fit unnerved my stepmother so much that she relieved some of the aura of pressure she was emitting, to get just the truth out of me.

I now felt more likely to speak properly and not get caught.

".. Ehem!!, well, mother, Silvia is a bit shy, and well, you know you can be a bit intimidating. Besides, she's embarrassed to talk about it, so let's not push her."

"oh, dear, I'm sorry... it's true that I am a little intimidating, I'm sorry about that." (Leonora)

"N-no, I-I'm sorry... Humm..., about Chris..." (Silvia)

"No, I understand. Well, I thought Phina had done something wrong, but if it's just that, it's okay. As long as it's nothing illegal. On the way I saw that boy waving to the marquis, with those cute twins. I guess it's true." (Leonora)

"Yes, that's right, but mother, you have to scold my father. I found out that Lately he's been harassing Tristan. Look, he even knocked him unconscious, he came crying to see me and my father blamed Sebastian on top of that."

"Wait, sweetie, what are you saying?" (Dante)

"ah!?! Tristan? Since when was he there?" (Leonora)

"Yes, don't you think, as a lord, treating a faithful servant like that is very bad? He even blamed the faithful Sebastian."

"No, darling, don't say it like that." (Dante)

At that time, I wanted to end this conversation before it got more complicated, plus if I didn't do something the issue of me taking money and resources from my father might come out, so I did what was necessary and sold my father.

Besides, I was sure that my mother would not have allowed this harassment of Tristan to happen if my father had not hidden it.

She was the authority in the house or rather the one who had the sense to keep him from destroying it, I have no regrets after all he earned it by harassing him.

"...So something like that happened, huh..."(Leonora)

"hii, no, wait Nora!"(Dante)

"you have silence.... Well, Phina, I have to say you and your friends came beautiful, that makes me happy, also I hear you're doing well, uhm well, later we'll chat. Dan, don't think you can run away come on we need to talk." (Leonora)

It seems my mother wanted to talk to me more, but she gave priority to my father, which relieved me, so she grabbed him and dragged him away.

They jumped back over the rose walls and disappeared from sight.

"Nooo! Wait, Nora, I'm a respectable duke, my prestige..." (Dante).

"Shut up, the kids will hear you. That's not how a respected duke should act..." (Leonora)

"Ugh, hel-..." (Dante)

In the end, I thought I heard sounds of pain, but they had moved far enough away and I stopped hearing them.

Chapter 312: Timely light

'Well, I have to act fast, before I die.'

"Oh, Silvia-mon, thank you for everything."

I said and moved quickly behind Silvia. I hugged her, holding her tightly as I thanked her, but the real reason is because I know her and I knew what she was about to do.

We had come to an agreement earlier, but I'm sure that, as angry as she is, she would possibly, as soon as she could, grab me by the throat for doing and talking nonsense.

And on top of it all, involving her unnecessarily. Worst of all, I gave her a ring that bypasses the barrier in case of emergencies, since I didn't know if she would come with us or stay with Willian at the beginning of the night.

in fact, I watched as she activated it and created a small zone where the barrier wouldn't interfere, but I was quicker.

"W-what are you doing? Let go of me."(Silvia)

"But promise me you won't do anything to me."

"...I'm going to kill you." (Silvia)

"I knew it! Didn't we come to an agreement?"

"Yes, it was to play along. Now I'll make you pay to get me involved and make me play along, you idiot."
(Silvia)

"Well, I won't release you until you forgive me."

"Get off me! Rather, you're making me angrier. Stop discreetly touching my chest." (Silvia)

"hey they're so big it's unavoidable, Humm, but now that I see it, what was Felix thinking, making this dress so fair, doesn't it bother you?"

"Don't change the subject." (Silvia)

"Look, if I do a little pressure here and..."

I said while pressing my fingers on Silvia's sides and relieving her tightness.

"Ugh, haa~." (Silvia)

"How have you been feeling? You feel less tense, don't you? It seems like you were unconsciously slouching a little bit, but you also wanted to hold your posture, causing tension in these muscles."

"D-don't whisper in my ear, and don't think that just because of that I.... Ngh~!" (Silvia)

"See, if I press here, then you will relax even more, and if I press your shoulder and neck, all the stress and bad thoughts will go away. And the good ones, like forgiveness, will come."

"Ugh~, wait, really.... Are you doing it here, the girls are watching, No, wait, there.... Ngh! Haaa~" (Silvia)

"Oh Silvia, don't worry I put a quick illusion of light when you activated the ring, it will take them a moment longer to notice. will you forgive me now?"

"Mngh!~ your de verdad haaa~, right there, mngh~ I mean, no,haa~

" (Silvia)

Since I discovered that Silvia especially likes my massages, it has become my method of appeasing her.

My massages are purely professional and without ulterior motives, I only put the illusion in case they wanted to interfere with my sincere apologies, first of all, I had to deal with Silvia.

Meanwhile the girls will only see how Silvia and I only discuss quietly, since you can't use or extend your senses nor did they notice Silvia activate the ring, it will take them a moment to notice that it's a basic illusion.

"What do you think, Silvia? You forgive me, don't you? I know you have a magnanimous heart."

"Mngh~ haa.... Fine, you win. Mngh, I'll let it go. But give the explanations." (Silvia)

"Oh, great and merciful Silvia-mon, thank you for forgiving this mortal. In return, I will follow you eternally."

"Again hugging me... haa~ whatever, Besides, stop saying such sinister things. Who wants a crazy woman like you as a follower?" (Silvia)

"We'll still be friends forever, I just have to stop you from self-detonating."

"I told you I definitely won't!" (Silvia)

"I'll believe you when I see some progress with William. Until then, you're a ticking time bomb."

"You want to piss me off again, don't you!" (Silvia)

"Oh, Silvia-mon, forgive this servant who kept talking without knowing his place."

"Haa~...just do what you have to do quickly." (Silvia)

Okay, let's clear this up. It's my fault for not thinking clearly. I gave Silvia the last touch, causing her shoulders to finally relax completely.

A weapon I plan to continue to perfect to use against Silvia every time she gets angry.

I undid the illusion with a smooth transition between "before" and "now", and then looked at Aurora with a bit of disappointment.

That someone blessed by the god of Illusions would fall for such a basic one... well, her blessing clearly goes the other way so it's not unusual.

"Well, girls, I guess you have a lot of questions about Chris and me, don't you?"

"You really ask? Haa~ well, if it's something personal about Chris, you don't need to tell me. I don't like it when someone talks about someone else's secrets." (Aurora)

"Ugh! Aurora, what's that hint I just heard? It felt very personal."

"And it was." (Aurora)

"I'll take it positively, as there's enough confidence to point out my shortcomings, and that it's your way of encouraging me to improve as a person."

"..." (Aurora)

Well, curiously what Aurora has said is true that I would spare me the explanations, Besides I hate lying, and more to potential members of my harem.

I didn't have to explain personal things about others, even though I am myself, just how important it is to fix the misunderstanding with Silvia.

"Well, um as you may have heard about Chris's background, well, it's a bit unique, it's something personal, so I won't tell, plus about dating Silvia well, I panicked and used Silvia as an excuse since my parents don't know about it either. I stress they are just friends. friends forever."

"That last one was unnecessary." (Silvia)

"Whew~

" (Lys)

"Oh!?!?, Lys, what was that sigh? Was it relief? Were you relieved that Chris didn't go out with Silvia? Do you want to go out with him?"

I heard Lys' sigh of relief. I had to understand her meaning. There could be a potential new member there, I won't miss an opportunity for advancement.....

"No, I was just relieved to know I wasn't so clueless as to not notice something like that." (Lys)

'I was already saying it was too obvious, well I wasn't expecting anything, on the other hand'

" But Lys you wouldn't by any chance have a problem even if that thing about Chris being a commoner was true, would you?"

Honestly, she was the only one here I was worried about as to how she would react. But I saw earlier that I agreed with Aurora, at least on the part that there was no need to explain myself about someone else's personal matters. That's why I only said just enough and didn't explain more.

On the other hand, I'll take pity on Aurora and tell her that everything I told her earlier was still in effect... so that she doesn't get even more sidetracked.

'I am so considerate.'

Although now, with that contradiction that Chris is here because of me and we have no relationship, it's going to get a little complicated for her... but the good thing is that she'll finally dismiss that nagging theory that we have some family kinship.

"No, Chris is my friend, and those things don't matter." (Lys)

"You don't have a problem with him dating either, do you?"

"N-no, but because I..." (Lys)

"Well, you don't have a problem dating him either, do you?"

"No, I don't even have a.... huh?" (Lys)

Yes!! I got her! I didn't think I'd find a chance right now — it's all or nothing! Doubters stay single!"

"Oh, you said it! You want to go out with Chris, don't you?! Well, I'll help you later. He will definitely accept."

"Really? No! Wait! That's not what I meant! Besides, he's dating the twins and a woman named Leyla."
(Lys)

"Oh, but as long as there's love, that doesn't matter. Where there's room for six, there's room for twenty... and more."

"Huh? But, I... I..."(Lys)

"My mother is also dating Chris." (Cordelia)

"..."

"..."(Elena)

"..."(Alice)

"..."(Silvia)

"..."(Aurora)

"..."(Lys)

"Wait girls, look at that!"

I don't know if the world was helping me or not, but right after an awkward silence caused by what Cordelia had said, I suddenly saw a glow coming from the bottom of the maze. I wondered if it was a sign.

I activated the ring and stretched my senses as far as I could, and indeed... I felt a magical movement. Something very strange in this castle. I had to make sure what it was, so that nothing would take me by surprise.

"~Elena, plan B-2."

I whispered it to Elena, who nodded immediately and made a disguised movement, the rest of the girls were looking towards the light so they didn't notice it, but now that I think about it, that light was very close to us.

Once I saw that Elena had done as I asked, it was time to get the girls to safety, whether this was a false alarm or not.

"Well girls, it looks like something is going on. Whatever it is, it's none of our business. Let's find a safer place."

I'm going to pretend that what Cordelia said didn't happen. Luckily, besides those who know the truth, it seems that the rest just thought they had misheard, or that it was a joke that was hard to understand, it was also that sudden brightness that helped me not to go on with that topic.

I think I know what the problem with Cordelia is: Astrid did not instill common sense in Cordelia. The problem was at the base. I need to have a serious talk with Astrid.

Also warn her that there is a possibility that she could lose her job for being in an illicit reaction with me, since there is someone out there saying it without thinking about the consequences.

I also missed a golden opportunity with Lys, but I feel that in a way it's a breakthrough.

In the end, without unraveling this annoying labyrinth, we let go of it and left at a fast pace toward a secluded corner, because I had the feeling that if something was going to happen, it would be inside the castle, where everyone was gathered and where we were supposed to be. It would be foolish to go there

~moments before~.

"ufff, we escaped in time, we almost got trapped"

I really saved myself. Even though I knew Willian had a good chance of being swamped by nobles and merchants and who knows what else, I didn't think it would be that bad.

But I had to stay until my main self was completely out of Willian's range of vision.

Once I escaped to a terrace, all was well. Now I just had to worry about myself.

"Well, now we have to look for my father. Oh!, there he is" (Eira)

"ugh, damn, so fast"

"yeah, look, there he is" (Eira)

When I looked in Eira's direction, I saw a handsome man. He didn't look old, just like my father.

What's more, he was someone you would easily mistake for someone in our age range He had brown hair and green eyes.

He was very stocky with an imposing physique, but he gave off a refreshing, but at the same time a bit predatory vibe, especially when our eyes met.

"hey, Eira, you said he was a wizard, right?"

I asked Eira, even though I myself already knew that the defense minister was a mage. i was saying that because his Physique was too good to be a mage, but it's not like it's weird; in our group there's also a fool who despite being a mage looks like a warrior.

It was just to make sure. Since magic was forbidden, I had a better chance of facing him face to face since his secondary stats would be around 7th or even less metamorphosis.

But the problem with people who reach the limit of their main talent is that they usually go for their secondary talents.

Even if they don't give as much results as the main one, it would add some power to their overall power.

And that could also be his case. Still, I maybe overthink it and there's not going to be any serious conflict.

"yes, by the way Selene don't even think of saying anything regarding our mother dating Chris, or anything like that, understand? Nothing. Pretend their relationship doesn't exist. Be a grave about it, both directly and indirectly."(Eira)

"yep!"(Selene)

Eira made sure to point out the second risk factor besides me. I actually overlooked it because I'm still a little nervous.

But it was true that Selene could escape something wrong in the right situation. I was very grateful for Eira's save.

We looked at the marquis, who was with a beautiful woman by his side must be one of his other wives. He seemed to say something to her, to which the woman nodded.

Then looked towards us, especially towards me, and made a sign with his neck, as if for us to follow him, while he himself went to one of the exits towards one of the many terraces of this huge castle.

Chapter 313: Exotic Tastes.

"hey, Eira, why is he going outside?"

"I don't know. Let's just do the same thing. I can't believe you're still afraid even though you're a doppelgänger "(Eira)

"That I'm not afraid! Well, don't come crying if I send your father to the medic later"

"hmph, what a chatterbox, try if you can"(Eira)

"they're going to fight!, they don't get along"(Selene)

At that point, as I made my point clear to Eira, Selene looked at me sadly again, ... she was always like that when people she appreciates fight.

Yes, that's why I'm nervous. I don't know if I'll really end up fighting for real with the marquis, and I don't want to hurt Selene, if we get along badly, which was almost certain when I understood he was Lily's husband.

But I'll be sure to appease her for the worst, worst-case scenario after all, I had previous experience.

"You see, Selene, it's the same as with Eira and me. When we fight we get along, don't we, Eira?"

"ugh, don't get me in.... well, it's true. Selene, you know how our father is, he'll probably beat him up under any of the circumstances. Like you said before, it will only intimidate him a little, but Chris will too, you know what he's like too he doesn't back down."

"oh, that's okay then. It's good to get along, well"(Selene)

Well, with Eria backing me up and Selene's longest sentence this week as a verdict, we walk behind the marquis without letting him out of sight.

I don't understand why we have to go outside, but it seems that intimidation and a physical result are indeed definitive.

..

"How do you do, young man. My name is Cedric Montclair. I've heard many things about you, many things, including the fact that, besides my pretty daughters, you've also been seeing my wife."

"..."

'fuck, I'm definitely dead'

"We have a lot to talk about. Come, let's have a man-to-man talk. Follow me..."

The marquis put his hand on my shoulder and Even though he said that, I was basically dragged into the dark palace garden.

I looked back and saw Lily, who was holding the twins as I surrounded her and took pictures of the twins, I wasn't supposed to bring artifacts unless you asked for permission, but that's the least of it in this situation.

Rather, what I wanted to know was what was going on, why was Lily there?

why did the Marquis know about the infidelity?

why did he swear he had seen my father run past just a moment ago,? why was my stepmother following him closely?

And why did the Marquis have such a large physique and such steady hands despite being a wizard?

Why did Lily seem so calm?.

In fact, she was even wearing the dress I had ordered for her...although I really didn't think she would wear it to an event like this and it was for another purpose.

So many thoughts were swirling around in my head and I didn't have a single answer.

The only one who seemed to want to do something was Eira, who tried to help me, but was stopped by Lily and Selene.

Apparently Lily had told Selene to hold her down because we were going to have a "man talk".

I know I had told her something similar myself just a moment ago... but still, to have two members of my own harem betray me like that hurt my heart.

So, with sadness and helplessness, I followed the imposing marquis into the depths of the dark garden.... from where I might never come out.

'Well if Lily's calm then...'

...

"Well boy are you ready to die right?"

'yeah this was obvious, damn it Lily you betrayed me?'

As soon as we got to that secluded place, that was the first thing the marquis said to me, as he looked at me and let out an aura of death.

Now that I thought about it if anyone had permission to use magic in the castle it was him so wizard or not I was screwed.

I thought there was some chance of peaceful results seeing how calm Lily was, now it looks like it's going to be a fight to the death.

'haaa~ well, the milk is already spilled, all that's left is to face, the situation, later I'll abalate with lily'

Yes , as I said many times before honestly, I was nervous. Not only because of the delicacy of the situation, but because, deep down, I wanted to win her approval. I had heard that the twins were very fond of him and vice versa.

But honestly, I wasn't afraid of him. And it wasn't because I was a doppelgänger, but because, from the moment I got involved with Lily, I decided that I would fight for her and her daughters, against anyone.

I would not take a single step back. Even if the marquis was stronger than the random noble I had in mind, since I didn't know that her husband was the minister of defense, until I learned that she was the mother of the twins.

Still I would not back down, even if I had to face him to the end,

"Fine, let's get to it. I'll let you live for the twins' sake... and Lily's."

"..."

Without hesitation, I got into a combat stance and extended my own combat intent without backing down and conveying my willingness to give it my all.

I couldn't extend my senses, but so as I thought beforehand I could only theorize that, he must be at the tenth or eleventh level.

But that didn't matter to me. if he tried to come between me and Lily, I would come back with my real body if need be, if he thinks he's going to give me a one-sided beating and I'm going to give up on those three he's dead wrong.

I didn't care if he was the twins' father. I didn't care if I was to blame for messing with his wife.

But now I wasn't going to let them take me away from them. I would use everything I had at my disposal to confront him...although, for Lily and the twins' sake I would not kill him and leave the self-destruction out of it.

I looked him straight in the eye, ready for whatever was coming. But he didn't move.

"What are you doing, didn't you say you wanted to fight?"

"Puhahahahaha.... boy, are you serious?"

Instead of attacking me, he let out a laugh. I know, it sounded ridiculous coming from someone with barely five metamorphosis, more because right now I hide it, with an artifact to look like only four, but I was annoyed that he didn't take my determination seriously.

"What!!! your legs went soft!"

"Hahaha... you're even better than Lily described you. I like that you're not a wimp."

"..."

I looked at him, puzzled. That pressure he had thrown at me at first was completely gone.

It really puzzled me, he was laughing and it didn't look like teasing, nor did it look like he was going to actually fight. For a moment, I was taken aback by the situation...

'Wait... if he's laughing like that even when he knows he's being cheated on.... there's only one explanation.'

"Marquis... do you have a taste for-?"

"Hey!!!! Boy, stop right there, damn it! I don't have those tastes!!!"

Really, I didn't think I would meet someone like that in real life, but first I have to make my opinion clear.

"You know, I shouldn't say this myself, but if it's to the extent you want to see, let me tell you I'd feel uncomfortable, so I'll declin-..."

"Fuck, stop right there, or I'll really break your head."

"..."

"Haaa~ Let me explain. Right now I was just checking if you're like she said. You really are the real deal. After all, Lily has good judgment."

"..."

"The truth is, I know you two have been dating for a few months. As soon as it happened, she told me."

'Damn it, Lily... You could have told me that.'

It seemed like the situation was more complex than I thought, so I listened to what the , had to say.

"Yeah, she probably didn't mention it to you... well, maybe just for fun. You should know her by now. She's... troubling, to say the least."

"Yeah. She doesn't really seem like a mother with daughters."

"You forgot the adjective 'married'."

"..."

"hahaha~ you must be really uncomfortable right. Look... I met Lily about fifteen years ago. I was a rebellious young adult and somehow or another, I ended up at her place. It started to become a place I went to a lot. Because well...if you're dating her, you get it, right?"

"Yes."

Yes, now I know the marquis was a man with good tastes. But setting aside that this was all becoming too relaxed a conversation, I finally felt like I was going to understand why he hadn't killed me outright for hanging out with his daughters...and his wife.

Apparently, it wasn't because he had exotic tastes.

Chapter 314: I'll show you why your daughter calls me daddy

"Well... at the time, to be honest, my impression of Lily was simply that she was a little more beautiful than the others. But she had that dead, hopeless look, which made me uncomfortable. And it was like that for years... until one day, there was an incident. From then on, she changed."

He began to talk about things that I had also heard recently. He said that since that day, Lily changed and brought great changes to those around her, she began to get his attention, and they interacted more.

She was kind, she listened to him, she gave him good advice that was always spot on. He was not yet a marquis, and he was full of personal problems that she helped him understand and solve.

They became friends. And he wanted to return the favor. So when he became marquis, he needed no excuses: the twins were talented, worth sponsoring.

He talked to Lily and they signed a marriage contract, with many benefits for her and the twins.

He also said that he had benefited, but he didn't specify in what, as Lily, for some reason, forbade him to talk about it. Which now intrigues me a bit.

I don't know if they're related, but I feel that, rather than a joke, it's related to the fact that he won't let me tell him my secrets and is waiting for the right time.

Anyway, according to him, it was also a way to protect her, to pay her back for everything she had done for him in his most difficult years.

He appreciated her. He wanted the best for her. And he didn't mind the comments; that's why he made her his wife, even though she was a beastwoman and plebeian who worked in a brothel.

Although - he also bluntly admitted that there was a strong physical attraction to her, because of how beautiful and sensual her body was.

And Lily's various techniques had also captivated him.

With what he told me so far... it all made sense. Actually, when Lily told me a bit of her past, I thought that, to her supposed husband - whose identity I didn't know at the time - she had cajoled him with her technique to get where he was.

I didn't judge her. She was struggling to pick herself up and move on, and whatever the method...she succeeded, and all for the sake of her daughters.

I now have the true picture of what really happened, and my opinion of her is still intact.

"Well, kid. You shouldn't have a problem with me telling you that I did it many times with my wife, should you?"

"...No."

"Mhn.., I see you're possessive too."

Well, I did get a little annoyed that he talked about Lily so familiarly, but ultimately I'm still the wrong one, so I'll just listen quietly until the end.

"Anyway. Her techniques and beauty aside, as I told you, I admired Lily. And, to be honest... she was my first love. I won't deny that it was also out of greed that I wanted her as a wife, even if it wasn't entirely necessary, but..."

"..."

I didn't know what he was going to say next, but he seemed to hesitate. He was silent for a long time, until he finally seemed to make up his mind.

"...Haaa~, well, I'll say it straight out: I bit off more than I could chew and choked."

"..."

"Lily is too much for me physically, even though she's a non-metamorphosis person. When I was the only one she could do it with, I just couldn't keep up with her."

"..."

"Don't look at me like that, kid. You should know how fierce she is, too. Ugh... you know, sometimes I had to pretend I had too much work to not go home, where I'm sure she was."

"..."

"I just couldn't keep up with her. And besides, I had two other wives. There started to be marital problems..... Lily would suck me dry, and I couldn't satisfy my other wives, even Lily would complain without holding back, you know how direct she is, my heart just couldn't take it."

"..."

"Even today, I recommend her to stay at her place, I still respect and admire her, I swear I do, but when I remember that time, ugh!..., you know, I even had to go to the doctor. I almost suffered from

impotence, the doctor also said I had signs of gynophobia! Even, even now from time to time, when I sleep, in my dream she, she, she...!"

"calm, breathe. That's in the past, okay, breathe, I get it, stop talking about it, it sounds like it was hard for you."

The Marquis started to get a little altered, so I tried to calm him down. Not that I could identify with him, but I could tell he had had a hard time.

It seemed that for him I was the first person he could vent to, and he just went with it.

I don't know how the hell I ended up giving emotional support to the man with whom, in theory, I should be having a fight to the death, but I had to admit that Lily seemed to leave an indelible mark on him.

"Haaa~ I've already calmed down. Well, besides what I just said, I still wanted her to be happy. so I made the hard decision to let her go and let her do whatever she wanted."

"I understand...so that's the reason why you're so calm, with my relationship with her."

"Yeah, well. Like I told you, from the beginning it was all more of a beneficial contract. And I know Lily didn't really love me. She saw me more as a younger brother or a cute guy she got along with."

"so she put you in the friend zone huh, that's tough"

"well at first it bothered me and I wanted to change it, but as I told you I couldn't, And well I already missed my chance... in the end she found you, someone who according to her was all she could ask for and could live up to her, which I honestly thought was impossible".

"hee~ you don't have to flatter me."

"I'm not doing it you're definitely not normal."

"..."

"well the thing is When they started dating, she was straight up and told me and said we couldn't do it anymore, even though she hadn't done it in years, you know at that moment I felt more relief than anything, that's when I understood that Lily wasn't for me, even though she's someone very dear to me, that's why I don't mind their relationship."

"Haaa~...damn. And here I was, worried about nothing.... Now I understand why she was so calm. She was playing a joke on us by not telling us the circumstances. When Eria finds out, she's going to get karma."

"She's still like a kid... hey, you know? I've been married to her for years, I know she's older than me , but I don't know her age. did she happen to tell you?"

"No. Haa~ but it's true she kept me on edge for nothing.... Mmm, although, you know, now that I know we're not doing anything wrong, it kind of took a little excitement out of it."

"Fuck, kid, I know why she likes you. You two are a match made in heaven."

"You think so? Me too. But I'll settle for two being legally married."

"She said something like that too! Haaa~ Just take care of her properly. even I don't know her past, but I know it must have been hard, she's suffered a lot all her life... she deserves to be happy, from now on."

"Of course, you don't have to tell me. I'll make sure I do, leave your wife in my care."

"kid, I didn't like the sound of that, haa~..., whatever, I hope you're up to it... Well, let's close that subject, since with Lily everything is fine and you seem reliable!"

In the end, everything ended better than I thought it would, I didn't expect it, but it seems that if there was an ending where Marques and I would get along, which is good news, yes, until I heard what he said next.

"But let's see, you son of a bitch, tell me: why are you dating my two cute little daughters... at the same time?"

"Huh? Why the sudden change? More like... why are you talking like a gangster?"

"I told you, I spent a lot of time slumming. Don't change the subject! Lily is one thing, but I don't agree about my little girls. You bastard. Every time I think about it, I want to kill you!"

"Wait! What the hell?!"

"But I won't kill you, because Lily, told me it was coincidence and not on purpose, and because the fact that those three chose you already tells me a lot. but that aside, I still personally can't approve of you dating my two daughters at the same time"

"Are you serious?! Did you find it easier to give up your wife than your daughters?"

"Yes. Is there a problem, they may be adopted, but they're my little girls, I'm going to teach you a lesson As your father-in-law, I have to prove that my cuties aren't with an idiot. So you're going to get my frustration...I mean, my proof, motherfucker. Grit your teeth."

"Hey, wait! I'm still processing everything-agh!"

"I'm not waiting for anything."

I wanted to negotiate. I wanted us to stay on the peaceful path, since it seemed like we could get along, I wanted us to talk like adults... but he started with the physical and gave me a fist to the head that shook me.

"Damn, that hurt! Fine, bastard, I don't mind the punches. I won't kill you either, because I feel sorry for you, for actually dating your wife. But I'll show you why your daughter calls me daddy!"

"You son of a bitch, I'll knock you out for three days!"

"You'll be missing hands!"

And with that, I jumped towards the marquis giving the first preemptive strike. We would settle this as it was intended from the beginning. I had no fear.

Chapter 315: Small Whisper

"~Uugh! Guys, we'd better go, I don't think we're very useful here." (Ivan)

"Wasn't she a mage? ~Arg! No!, that doesn't matter... W-we have to go. I can't watch this anymore..." (Mike)

"~We'd better go. She had Androphobia, but it seems her defensive method isn't fear it's hitting... if by any chance she also thinks we're stalkers, we'll end up the same way." (Ban)

"~Chris wasn't lying when he said approaching her was dangerous, she's very strong, I don't know why Cordelia wants to mess with her."(Espan)

"~eh?, but they seem to get along well"(Alex).

"~well it's hard to understand Cordelia, ugh, she keeps persistently hitting , there, let's go already I don't want her to find me out"(Tharen)

The group of boys who had followed the girls and the prince into the rose maze were now, from the top of one of the walls, watching a scene they had not expected to see upon entering.

Their original intention had been to help or mediate any situation the prince might cause, but what they found was Seraphina giving a speech to the prince.

Most understood at that point that he had definitely come looking for trouble... until Miss Silvercrest started asking him such a series of pointed questions, that things went awry and the other day he decided to leave.

If things had ended there, it wouldn't have been a big deal. But then, without understanding the reason, from the mouth of what seemed like a refined lady, insults and provocations began to rain down.

And the worst thing is... they were good. Many among those present even thought she was too talented for that.

It was when it seemed that the conflict would definitely escalate and that, again, there would be a need for them to intervene, that it all came to a sudden end. In an instant.

Only for it to then begin a one-sided beating by she towards the two poor men, who now the group of men felt more sorry for her than anything else.

It was so brutal and concise that all the men watching felt cold in the crotch and whispered among themselves for fear of being discovered even though they were at a considerable distance.

Finally, as they were definitely not needed they decided to slowly withdraw, wanting to avoid attracting attention and being next, But there was one who stood watching the scene and stared intently.

"...." (Will)

"~Hey Will, why are you standing there, what's wrong?"(Alex).

"~It's nothing, but she... hmmm... I don't know how to say it..." (Will).

"~What, you liked her? You're crazy, dude! I'd heard that all Silvercrest people were crazy and it's true."
(Tharen)

"~Yeah, she's really pretty...but if I had to be with someone like her..... ugh! guys come on, I'm scared. "
(Mike)

"~I understand you, Look how she persistently attacks there... ugh, I'm going to have nightmares," (Ivan).

"~It's not that... it's just that she, for some reason... uhm, I don't know..." (Will).

"~Well, let's go anyway. If she finds us, even the girls won't be able to save us. Let's go!" (Ban)

"~Alice... I'd save myself." (Alex)

"~She won't. And if you keep this up, she probably will herself. We all know how much she looks up to her and follows her." (Mike)

"~In fact, there was a time when I was asking her out often... that I started getting chills in my balls. Now I know why. If I were you I'd break off that engagement for initiative." (Ivan)

"~/_\" (Alex)

Finally, William followed his friends and they left the scene, though he still had that lingering feeling of a something at the sight of Miss Silvercrest.

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"Humm, but you know, I've noticed that the prettier a girl is... the more dangerous and troublesome she is." (Ivan)

When they were far enough away and safe enough, Mike was the first to speak as they rambled through that complicated maze of roses. The topic caught the attention of most.

"Oh really? Go on, elaborate."(Mike).

"Look, in our group, all but one of them are outstanding beauties, right?"(Ivan).

"Hey, I'll tell Aurora later." (Esteban)

"Tsk! Who mentioned names? Well, look, even the cutest and most harmless ones like Selene are the most dangerous." (Ivan)

"Huh? Selene? Not Eira?" (Tharen)

"Come to think of it, you guys don't know this because you're new additions, but Selene is the most dangerous one here. So be careful... this fool checked it out." (Ban)

"Don't even remind me. There was one time, I was just - and I mean just - going to pet her ears a little bit. I mean, they're so cute and pink and fluffy! But that was my biggest mistake. She woke up, said something about 'defense mode'... and chased me relentlessly with a giant axe!" (Ivan)

"hehe~, I remember, that was funny! You were crying like a little girl." (Mike)

"I didn't cry! But I barely survived, because defense is my forte. She had no mercy. Then Chris and Eira found out...and they gave me another beating. And at that time they didn't even get along." (Ivan)

"Yeah, we almost lost Ivan that day. The only good thing is that Chris was healing him...only to prolong his suffering. He's very protective of his girlfriend, and Eira of her sister, so the danger is threefold" (Alex).

"So if you don't want to live through hell, stay away from her." (Ban)

"Oh really, it's a good thing. I was a little tempted to do it too, I really thought Eira was the most dangerous, if you had to choose between the two..." (Esteban)

"That too. But the Eira you know now is half as aggressive as she was before. Since she started dating Chris, she only initiates conflict during practice. Before, just making eye contact with her was dangerous, Ivan was frozen about 30 times since the year started." (Mike)

"ugh in a way I thank Chris, but see there's my point, beautiful girls are dangerous. Even Lys... I wouldn't be surprised if Silvia, now that she's beautiful, was too." (Ivan)

"What, Lys too? But she looks like the most normal one!" (Esteban)

"And she is. But when I asked her out, her rejection was so careful...and how she looked at me, as if even if she had to break our friendship, she would reject me without hesitation. It hurt me so much...it's dangerous for my heart, For some reason I feel that a cutting and cold one like Elena's is a thousand times better." (Ivan)

"You really have tried them all. Nothing matters to you, does it? I heard that even with Cordelia... It's lucky she rejected you right away." (Tharen)

"Hey, not with all of them! I haven't done it with Aurora, there's my point, look she's not beautiful and she's , the only decent one, and the one we can get along with." (Ivan)

"uhm..., you've got something there, but only, because you haven't tried with her, because she's not pretty, you're just shallow"(Ban).

"I'm sure Aurora would also reject you without hesitation"(Esteban).

"..." (Ivan)

"Even the one-san don't want it. But more importantly... we've been wandering around. isn't it bad to be out for so long, I heard there was going to be a toast or something?"(Mike)

"Yes, it's not so serious but it's a lack of etiquette and respect, that's why the instructors told us it was better not to go out,... but to go back in there is..."(Alex).

"And that's saying something, since no one even grabbed your ass." (Tharen)

"I think everything will be fine... as long as we separate ourselves from Will." (Ban)

"Oh!, that makes sense. I'm sorry, Will, but I don't want my integrity compromised again." (Ivan)

"..." (Will)

"Hey, you been like this for a while now, like you soulless... Do you really like Miss Silvercrest? Did you have a crush on her?" (Tharen)

"You've got complicated taste, dude." (Esteban)

"hee~, The pot calling the kettle black. Everyone in the group knows you two are going after Cordelia, though you seem to have less hope than Alex." (Ivan)

"HEY! I have a better chance than Alex! All that's left is for this idiot Esteban to give up." (Tharen)

"You're going to need more than that. Besides, I'm more recognized than you. Even Chris and Cordelia forget your existence." (Esteban)

"Ugh! Fine, but at least I don't have an unspoken rejection like Alice does with Alex." (Tharen)

"Curse, don't involve me in your affairs, I know you're all jealous just because I have a beautiful fiancée."(Alex)

"No, it's not like that, it's just that I was offended by that comparison." (Tharen)

"Me too, your situation is not enviable." (Esteban)

"/_ \..." (Alex)

"But seriously now... What's the matter, Will? What are you thinking about so much? Were you attracted to something about her?" (Ban)

"Uhhh... It's just... I don't know how to describe it... There's something about her that... Wait! Did you hear that...?" (Will)

Just when Willian was trying to understand that strange sensation that Seraphina's actions were causing him, a sound caught his attention.

It wasn't coming from the side where the girls had left; they were far enough away now that they wouldn't be heard, even if they screamed.

The sound was coming from the opposite direction. Although they hadn't noticed it because they were chatting aimlessly, they were already in the deepest parts of the labyrinth.

It was just a small whisper... but something inside Willian told him that he should pay attention to it. Willian felt it with his whole being and every time he felt this way it was a really big deal.

"What all of a sudden-" (Mike).

"Wait, Mike ace quiet a minute. There's something...it's coming from over here." (Will)

Willian didn't know what it was exactly, but he felt he had to act. He took the path in the direction of where the sound was coming from.

The rest of the boys, though confused, followed him silently. It was strange to see him so serious.

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Willian continued cautiously, feeling more and more strongly that this was the place to go.

Finally, the whisper became more tangible.

He stopped his footsteps and brought his ear closer to the wall of roses. Willian, as he drew closer, could hear it clearly. It was a conversation.... four voices: two male and two female.

When the others caught up, Will signaled them to be silence. Then they all curiously moved closer and listened to the conversation.

"Phew~, it was hard, bypassing security, but we finally made it?"

"Yes. They are all ready and connected. In 15 minutes they will explode, giving them a taste of their own medicine."

"...." (All)