

# Nine Therians and Their Only One Queen

## chapter 21-30

### When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 21

[ 1,860 words ]

When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 21 Summary

In Chapter 21 of “When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live,” the narrative unfolds with Damian confronting Emma Tibarn about her decision to sever ties with her matches. His urgency reveals his concern over the implications of such a choice, questioning the motivations behind the offers she received from two powerful suitors. Emma’s nonchalant attitude towards the dissolution of her match contrasts sharply with Damian’s frustration, as he recognizes the potential threat to their society posed by these reckless individuals.

Emma reveals the staggering amounts offered to her—50 Rank 5 beast cores and up to 150 million star coins—demonstrating her lack of emotional investment in her current match with Damian. Despite her casual demeanor, she offers Damian an opportunity to withdraw from their bond for a mere 10 million star coins, a gesture that he finds both hurtful and insulting. Damian’s refusal to consider ending their connection highlights his deep feelings for her, as he insists on standing by her side regardless of the circumstances.

As the conversation shifts, Emma questions Damian’s intentions, prompting him to suggest a way to expedite the process of connecting with her matches. His proposal to create a group chat raises concerns for Emma, who reflects on the potential dangers of revealing identities before they meet in person. The weight of this decision weighs heavily on her, as she understands the catastrophic consequences that could arise from eliminating her competitors, which could also affect her own power and mental state.

Damian’s earnest vow to protect her and his willingness to swear by the Beast God underscores his sincerity and commitment to Emma. This moment solidifies their bond, as she agrees to his plan and activates her lightcore to establish the group chat. The initiation of the chat marks a pivotal point in their relationship, with Emma now taking a step towards embracing the life she had previously feared, while also navigating the complexities of her connections with her matches. The chapter ends with Damian leading the way in the group chat, setting the stage for the unfolding dynamics between the characters.

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\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\*

\*\*Chapter 21: Damian's Motive\*\*

“What is going on here? Ms. Tibarn, did you really sever your match with them?” Damian’s voice was brisk, laced with urgency. He couldn’t help but wonder, which two formidable beasts possessed such power that their connection could be undone with such ease?

“They offered me star coins and begged me to end things with them. So, I agreed,” Emma replied casually, her tone as indifferent as if she were sharing that she had merely quenched her thirst with a glass of water.

To her, the dissolution of a match seemed trivial, devoid of any weight.

His jaw tightened in frustration. These individuals were dismantling the very fabric of their society, as reckless as Drake himself.

“Ms. Tibarn, what was the amount they offered you?” He forced a smile, suppressing the urge to unleash a torrent of fury that felt like it might erupt from his throat.

Emma paused, her brow furrowing slightly in thought. “One of them gave me 50 Rank 5 beast cores along with five million star coins. The other one, however, offered me a staggering 150 million star coins.”

“Damian, if you’re also considering withdrawing, just pay me. I’ll end our match right away. I know you’re not as wealthy as they are, so don’t fret—you don’t need to pay that much. Just 10 million star coins will do,” she insisted, her voice steady and almost generous.

It was not as though she hadn’t extended an olive branch. In fact, her offer was rather magnanimous.

Ten million star coins? He couldn’t help but scoff inwardly. There was no way anyone could pry even a single star coin from him.

“Ms. Tibarn, what are you suggesting? That’s truly hurtful. How could I ever contemplate severing my connection with you? Even if the entire world turns its back on you, I will stand by your side.” He grasped her hand firmly, his voice imbued with sincerity.

Her smile sparkled, her eyes glinting like the stars above—completely captivating.

For a fleeting moment, Damian found himself entranced, caught in the orbit of her charm.

“Damian, you truly don’t want to end the match?” she probed again, her voice tinged with curiosity.

I haven’t received a single star coin from her, and there’s no way I’ll let our bond go. He took a deep breath, regaining his composure before nodding firmly. “Ms. Tibarn, I simply couldn’t bring myself to do that.”

Emma regarded him with a puzzled expression. If he didn’t wish to end their match, what was his true intention?

Deciding to shift the conversation away from the weight of their current predicament, she asked, “You mentioned you were waiting for me. Was there something specific you wanted?”

The question jogged Damian’s memory, and he chuckled softly. “Ms. Tibarn, since the other matches haven’t arrived yet, why don’t you allow me to take charge? I can reach out and bring them to you quickly.”

“How am I supposed to hand them over to you? I can’t even contact them right now. The system won’t let me share their names or details with other matches until they are physically present with me,” she clarified, her tone pragmatic.

His smile widened, a glimmer of mischief in his eyes as he replied, “That’s simple. Just create a group chat. Once they’re in, I’ll handle contacting them one by one.”

12:18 Tue, Nov 4 MG.

**\*\*Chapter 21: Damian’s Motive\*\***

Finished.

Emma contemplated his suggestion. After all, there had been instances where a suitor, upon learning the identities of his competitors, sent assassins to eliminate them before they could ever meet their match.

Since I haven’t encountered those men yet, their potential demise doesn’t weigh on my conscience.

However, once I face them in person, the act of eliminating them transforms into an entirely different dilemma. It would inflict pain upon me, shatter my mental fortitude, and unleash a backlash that could be catastrophic.

The remaining matches—bonded to me through our connection—would experience the same turmoil, unraveling our powers until we ultimately collapsed and self-destructed.

This was precisely why the Beastmate System had implemented such a precaution: All personal details among the suitors remained concealed until a match met their designated female face-to-face.

As Emma mulled over his proposal, she hesitated to give her assent immediately. Instead, she scrutinized him closely, her gaze sharp and piercing, probing for the truth behind his intentions regarding the other suitors.

Damian met her gaze, realizing that she had misconstrued his motives. “Ms. Tibarn,” he declared earnestly, “I swear to the Beast God—I would never bring harm upon them. My only desire is to assist you, to unite you with them swiftly so they can offer you their protection.”

The mention of the Beast God, the supreme deity among their kind, held immense weight. Swearing in his name was akin to sealing a binding pact.

To break such an oath could lead to dire consequences: a loss of power at the very least; death at the most.

Damian’s willingness to make such a vow indicated his sincerity.

Emma nodded slightly, activating her lightcore, and began the process of establishing a group chat.

The system prompted her about creating the group.

“Honorable Ms. Tibarn, have all your matches come and met you in person yet?”

Emma selected ‘No.’

**\*\*System Notice:\*\*** Since your matches have not met you yet, their personal information will be concealed to ensure the safety of both parties.

The chat group was initiated following the notice.

The other matches appeared only under code names, with the exception of Drake and the two who had already severed their bonds, their profile images reduced to mere question marks.

Match No. 1 was Damian, who was the first to respond.

Emma had no idea which of the other six matches belonged to whom.

**\*\*Match No. 1 (Damian):\*\*** Hi everyone, I’m the first match. Who else is here? Please step up and introduce yourselves.

## Conclusion

As the digital chat buzzed to life, Emma felt a strange mixture of apprehension and anticipation. The weight of her decision hung heavily in the air, yet she sensed a flicker of hope igniting within her. Damian's unwavering support and his solemn vow to the Beast God reassured her that not all bonds were forged from greed or ambition; some were rooted in genuine care. In that moment, she realized that opening the door to a life she had once feared meant not only embracing the unknown but also allowing herself to trust again. The path ahead was fraught with challenges, yet the prospect of uniting with her matches ignited a spark of courage within her heart.

As the group chat filled with introductions and tentative banter, Emma felt the stirrings of a new community forming around her—one that could either uplift or shatter her. She was no longer just a pawn in a game; she was a player, ready to navigate the complexities of her destiny. With each message that flickered across the screen, she understood that she was not alone in this journey. The emotional arc of her story was shifting, transforming her fear into a burgeoning sense of agency. Emma took a deep breath, steeling herself for the encounters to come, ready to embrace the life she had once shunned, knowing that true strength lay in vulnerability and connection.

## What to Expect in Next Chapter?

**\*\*What to Expect in the Next Chapter?\***

As the tension escalates, readers can anticipate a whirlwind of emotions and revelations in the upcoming chapter. Emma's decision to create a group chat is just the beginning. With the stakes higher than ever, the arrival of her other matches promises to ignite a fierce competition, but not without its complications. Will Damian's intentions truly align with Emma's best interests, or are there hidden agendas lurking beneath his charming facade? The dynamics among the suitors are bound to shift dramatically as they unveil their identities, and Emma must navigate the treacherous waters of alliances and rivalries that could spell disaster for her and her newfound connections.

Moreover, the looming threat of violence and betrayal casts a shadow over the proceedings. Emma's internal struggle regarding the potential consequences of her matches meeting in person adds a layer of suspense that will keep readers on the edge of their seats. Will she find the strength to confront her fears and embrace the chaos that comes with her matches? As the group chat unfolds, secrets may surface, alliances may be tested, and the very fabric of their society hangs in the balance. Prepare for unexpected twists and heart-stopping moments that will challenge Emma's resolve and redefine her understanding of love, loyalty, and the life she has been afraid to live.

Sara Lili

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## **When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 22**

[ 1,837 words ]

### When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 22 Summary

In Chapter 22 of "When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live," the tension among the group of suitors escalates as Damian grapples with the silence surrounding their female counterpart, Emma. The chapter opens with a digital chatter that reflects the anxiety of the group, particularly focusing on Damian's frustration at Edric's absence. Emma, sensing the mounting pressure, tries to diffuse the situation by suggesting to Damian that he take a moment to breathe while she checks on another suitor, Drake. This moment highlights Emma's calm demeanor amidst the chaos, contrasting with the growing frustration of the others.

As the narrative unfolds, Edric finally reaches out to Emma after a prolonged silence due to being stranded on Duskora. His late communication adds to the tension, as Damian informs him of Emma's anger, leading Edric into a spiral of despair. The emotional weight of Edric's guilt and fear of Emma's reaction is palpable, symbolized by the physical manifestation of his serpent's tail thrashing in turmoil. This imagery effectively conveys the deep-seated anxiety that therians, particularly cold-blooded ones like Edric, feel in their interactions with females.

Damian's role becomes increasingly pivotal as he teases Edric about the situation, yet he also offers to mediate between Edric and Emma. This duality of Damian's character—both a source of tension and potential resolution—adds complexity to the dynamics within the group. Edric's internal struggle is further intensified by his decision to reach out to Emma directly, showcasing his desire to express sincerity despite the overwhelming fear of rejection.

Meanwhile, Emma's interactions with Drake reveal her nurturing side as she works to soothe him. The scene shifts to a more intimate moment as Drake, feeling comfortable, engages with Emma, creating a stark contrast to the anxiety surrounding Edric. This

juxtaposition emphasizes Emma's ability to connect with others on a deeper level, even as she navigates the complexities of her suitors' emotions. The chapter ends with a lingering curiosity from Drake, leaving readers eager to see how Emma will respond to the unfolding dynamics among the characters.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

**\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\***

**\*\*Chapter 22: The Panicked Serpent\*\***

The digital chatter buzzed around him, a cacophony of anxious energy and unspoken tension.

'Match No. 1 (Damian): How long do you think you can go without checking in with our female? Care to give an explanation?'

The air was thick with silence...

A minute passed, then another, stretching into an eternity. Not a single soul among them dared to break the quiet.

Damian found himself momentarily at a loss for words, grappling with the unexpected stillness.

Emma had foreseen this reaction, so she remained unfazed, her mind already racing ahead.

With a gentle, reassuring pat on his shoulder, she offered, "They're probably caught up in their own affairs. I'll go check on Drake for now—you should take a moment to breathe."

With that, she turned her focus away from the group, her footsteps light as she made her way to find Drake.

Damian, however, remained fixated on the glowing chat window pulsating on his wrist console, frustration simmering beneath the surface.

What is wrong with these beasts? he pondered, irritation gnawing at him.

Not one of them has reached out to the lady—are they completely out of their minds?

Just as he was about to switch off the device in annoyance, a flurry of new messages illuminated the screen, catching him off guard.

'Match No. 2 (Edric): My sincerest apologies, my lady. I was stranded on Duskora, far beyond the system, with no signal. That's why I couldn't reach out sooner.'

'Match No. 2 (Edric): The moment I got wind of the situation, I rushed back as fast as I could.'

Finally! A smile broke through Damian's frown as he absorbed the words.

His lips curved upward, and he quickly typed a private message in response, eager to connect.

Though they couldn't form friendships in the traditional sense, the group system allowed for direct communication among its members.

Damian: Buddy, what on earth were you doing on Duskora? Do you have any idea how furious our lady has been with your silence?

Edric had just landed on S-1233. The instant his lightcore detected a signal, he opened it, only to discover that the lady had initiated a group chat in his absence.

He hurriedly typed out an explanation after glancing at the accusations levied by Match No. 1.

However, a simple message didn't suffice for Edric. He yearned to initiate a holo-monitor, to convey his thoughts face-to-face, to truly express his remorse.

Before he could navigate to Emma's private channel, though, a direct message from Damian flashed on his screen. Edric paused, his heart racing as he read the words, then cautiously crafted a reply.

12:18 Tue, Nov 4 M G

**\*\*Chapter 22: The Panicked Serpent\*\***

Edric: Is our lady truly that angry with me?

'Damian: Naturally, she is. The moment I sent that message in the group chat, every other suitor reached out to the lady privately. You, my friend, were the very last to contact her. How could she not be upset?'

In truth, it was only Emma's remarkable patience that kept her from exploding. Any other female would have lost their temper long ago after being so utterly ignored by their suitors.

As Edric read the message, a wave of despair washed over him, darkening his thoughts. It felt as if the very sky had collapsed around him.

I'm done for. I'm completely finished.

The lady is genuinely angry with me.

What should I do now? What can I even say?

Overwhelmed, his serpent's tail emerged from his body, thrashing against the floor in wild, chaotic coils, a physical manifestation of his inner turmoil.

Cold-blooded therians rarely found favor with their female counterparts, and being the last to reach out? The thought alone sent shivers down his spine, making him dread the fury she must be feeling.

Noticing Edric's prolonged silence, Damian's grin widened, relishing the moment. He decided to send a few more messages to further escalate the tension.

Damian: Buddy, let me give you a piece of advice. She's upset right now. Whatever you do, don't reach out to her again—you'll only make things worse.

Edric: So what am I supposed to do?

Damian: We're all in this together, my friend. I know you didn't intend to ignore her. Don't worry—I'll talk to her and explain your side.

Damian: Once I've calmed her down, I'll let you know when it's the right time for you to reach out.

Could he really be that generous? Edric felt a flicker of suspicion rise within him.

He pressed his lips together, staring intently at Emma's lightcore ID. Ultimately, he concluded that the best course of action would be to call her directly. That would show his sincerity.

No sooner had he made the decision than he acted on it. He retracted his serpent's tail, seeking a quiet corner, and initiated a video call to Emma.

However, she was currently in Drake's quarters, engaged in the delicate task of soothing him.

During this calming session, interruptions were not an option—her lightcore was switched off, and Edric's call went unanswered.

This time, Emma managed to maintain the session for a full ten minutes—double her previous record.

Drake reclined against the bed, one hand lazily draped across his forehead, a satisfied smile playing on his lips as he allowed his dragon's tail to stretch freely.

The black tail shimmered under the soft lights, its scales reflecting a spectrum of iridescent hues. The fin at the tail's end curled around Emma's waist, its scales brushing against her clothing with a gentle caress.

He thought, The female's waist is so slender and delicate!

He couldn't shake the worry that if he squeezed just a bit too hard, he might inadvertently hurt her.

Yet Emma remained unfazed. Before arriving in this world, she had owned a corn snake as a pet—one that had also enjoyed curling snugly around her waist.

Even after the draining session, she felt far less weak and shaky than she had expected. Calmly, she pried his tail away from her, feeling the firm, heavy weight of a dragon's tail compared to a serpent's.

"That will conclude today's session. I need to return to my rest now," she announced, standing up and turning to leave without a moment's hesitation.

"Wait." Drake's voice rang out, halting her in her tracks.

Confused, Emma glanced back at him, curiosity dancing in her eyes.

## Conclusion

In the quiet aftermath of the chaos, a sense of clarity began to settle over the group. Damian's playful manipulation of Edric's anxiety had served a purpose beyond mere mischief; it had illuminated the fragility of their situation. As Emma navigated the emotional landscape of her suitors, she remained a steadfast beacon of patience, embodying the strength needed to bridge the gaps created by fear and misunderstanding. The tension that had once threatened to suffocate them began to dissipate, revealing the underlying bonds that tied them together. Edric's impulsive decision to reach out to Emma, despite the risks, signified a pivotal moment in his emotional arc—a shift from despair to a willingness to confront his fears head-on.

As Emma stepped away from Drake, her heart echoed with the unspoken connections that lingered in the air. The journey they had all embarked upon was fraught with uncertainty, yet it was precisely that uncertainty that held the promise of growth and transformation. Each character, in their own way, was learning to embrace the life they had once feared, stepping through the metaphorical door that led them toward deeper understanding and connection. In this moment of vulnerability, as Edric awaited Emma's response, the promise of new beginnings shimmered on the horizon, hinting at the possibility that love, however complicated, could indeed flourish amidst the chaos.

## What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the upcoming chapter, readers can expect a whirlwind of emotions and unexpected developments as the tension between Edric and Emma reaches a boiling point. With Edric's anxiety palpable and his desperation to make amends, his decision to reach out directly may lead to unforeseen complications. Will Emma be receptive to his overtures, or will the simmering resentment from his earlier silence cloud her judgment? As the stakes rise, the dynamics among the suitors will shift, and alliances may form in the most unexpected ways.

Meanwhile, Damian's role as the mediator will be put to the test. His intentions to soothe Emma's anger could backfire, especially if he misreads her feelings or underestimates the depth of her frustration. The tension will not only challenge Edric's resolve but also reveal the complexities of their intertwined fates. As Emma navigates her feelings and the suitors' varying approaches, readers will be left on the edge of their seats, eagerly anticipating how these relationships will evolve. With the emotional stakes higher than ever, the next chapter promises to be a thrilling exploration of vulnerability, connection, and the courage to confront one's fears.

Sara Lili

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## When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 23

[ 1,790 words ]

When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 23 Summary

In Chapter 23 of "When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live," Emma and Drake engage in a conversation that reveals the dynamics of their relationships with other characters, particularly Damian. Emma's curiosity about Damian's identity prompts Drake to share that Damian belongs to the powerful Ashenflame Fox clan, known for their wealth and influence within the Empire. This revelation stirs protective feelings in Drake, who is increasingly concerned about

Damian's proximity to Emma, highlighting his growing emotional investment in her well-being.

As Emma processes Drake's information, she begins to reassess her understanding of Damian, realizing that he may not be as humble as he presents himself. Meanwhile, Damian is preoccupied with his own thoughts, feeling slighted by Edric's attempts to connect with Emma. His annoyance quickly turns to amusement as he learns about Edric's background as a cold-blooded therian from the Ophidian clan, which complicates Edric's chances with females. Damian's laughter at Edric's predicament reveals his manipulative nature, as he sees an opportunity to exploit Edric's vulnerability for his own gain.

The chapter further explores themes of deception and ambition as Damian concocts a plan to win favor with Emma by offering to help Edric win her back. He requests a substantial sum of money from Edric under the pretense of buying a gift for Emma, showcasing his opportunistic tendencies. When Edric complies, transferring a significant amount of star coins, Damian's excitement reveals his true character—a blend of charm and cunning, ready to take advantage of those around him.

Throughout the chapter, the emotional undercurrents are palpable, particularly in Drake's protective instincts and Emma's evolving perceptions of the men in her life. As she navigates her feelings for both Drake and Damian, the tension between innocence and manipulation becomes evident. The interactions set the stage for potential conflicts and alliances, as the characters' true intentions begin to surface against the backdrop of their complex relationships within the interstellar society.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

**\*\*Chapter 23: The Naive Violet Obsidian\*\***

"Is there anything more?" Emma asked, her voice laced with curiosity.

Drake's gaze, relaxed yet perceptive, settled on her face. In that moment, he found himself captivated not by any extravagant scent from advanced interstellar skincare products, but by the pure, natural aroma that enveloped her—a clean, fresh fragrance that was unexpectedly delightful.

Just standing near her, he could catch a hint of that scent wafting through the air, and it was utterly enchanting.

What is the source of this lovely fragrance? he wondered, his mind drifting to thoughts of her essence.

Turning his focus back to the conversation, he leaned in slightly, his brow furrowing with intrigue. "Do you have any idea what kind of therian Damian is?" he asked, his voice steady.

Emma nodded, her expression earnest. “He mentioned he belongs to the Ashenflame Fox,” she replied, her tone revealing a mix of admiration and curiosity.

Drake felt a twinge of unease at the thought of Damian being so close to Emma. It wasn’t his usual nature to interfere, but something about the way Damian hovered around her stirred a protective instinct within him.

“Do you know the status of the Ashenflame Fox clan within the Empire?” he pressed, his tone firm yet gentle.

Emma shook her head, a hint of confusion crossing her features. “Aren’t they all just therian?” she asked, her innocence shining through.

The lightcore merely illuminated the different species, but it said nothing about their ranks or influence—a fact Emma truly seemed to overlook.

Drake studied her for a moment, and then a subtle smile broke through his typically sharp demeanor. “Allow me to enlighten you,” he said, his voice smooth. “The Ashenflame Fox is known as the financial powerhouse of the Empire. They possess considerable wealth. Even the least favored members of their family are affluent.”

He felt a sense of relief wash over him; he had ensured that Damian wouldn’t reveal his true identity. This information was merely a glimpse into the workings of the Interstellar Empire, not a breach of trust.

Emma’s eyes widened as she processed his words. “Thank you. That’s really helpful,” she said, her gratitude evident.

Regardless of his motives for sharing this, I appreciate it, she thought, her mind racing. So, Damian is just pretending to be poor, then.

Meanwhile, Damian found himself entangled in his own thoughts, trying to keep Edric on the line when a sudden sneeze interrupted his concentration.

Who’s talking bad about me? he mused, annoyance flickering through him.

“Ugh, it must be those envious beasts,” he muttered under his breath, rolling his eyes at the thought.

Shifting back into a comfortable position, he resumed messaging Edric, eager to keep the conversation going.

‘Damian: Buddy, did you just try to video call our lady? She didn’t pick up, right?’

‘Edric: How did you know?’

Of course, Damian was well aware. Emma had been preoccupied, comforting Drake just moments before, and during that intimate exchange, no one could interrupt her. Her lightcore had to be switched off, rendering her unable to answer Edric's call.

'Damian: Of course I know. I'm an Ashenflame Fox. You should recognize how much females admire us. Out of everyone, I'm the one she seems to prefer.'

'Damian: My lady desires my company every night from now on!'

The Ashenflame Fox was indeed renowned across the stars for their charm, especially with females.

Edric didn't question him for a second—he felt as if he had discovered a lifeline while staring at Damian's question-mark avatar.

'Edric: Buddy, can you assist me here? What can I do to earn her forgiveness? I promise I'll make it up to you later.'

Damian's interest piqued.

'Damian: Buddy, what species are you? Tell me, and I'll see if you can use it to gain an advantage and win the favor of the female.'

'Edric: Dude, I'm a cold-blooded therian... from the Ophidian.'

In truth, Edric belonged to the royal lineage of the Ophidian—the prestigious Violet Obsidian, a name that carried weight in the Empire. Yet, despite his noble background, cold-blooded therians often faced rejection from females, a reality that weighed heavily on him.

When Damian read Edric's message, laughter erupted from him.

So, he's an Ophidian, he thought, amusement dancing in his eyes. And since he doesn't clarify which Ophidian he belongs to, it's clear he isn't from the Violet Obsidian.

If he isn't from the Violet Obsidian, then there's nothing to be concerned about. Easy target!

'Damian: Dude, you're from the Ophidian? Buddy, I feel for you. Cold-blooded therians really struggle to win females over.'

'Damian: But don't worry. We're buddies now. You'll be fine with me by your side—I'll make sure you win the lady back.'

'Damian: If you trust me, send me one million star coins. I'll select a gift for our lady in your name.'

'Damian: I've spent several days with our lady. I know her likes and dislikes perfectly. I guarantee she'll love what I choose.'

Testing the waters, he began with a request for one million star coins, unsure of Edric's wealth.

Moments later, a notification pinged on his device.

'Edric transferred 10 million star coins.'

'Edric: Buddy, make sure to get her something really nice for me!'

Damian's eyes widened in shock as he leaped from his bed. Well, well—looks like he has deep pockets.

'Damian: No problem. I'll go ahead and put in a good word for you right away. Our lady will be the one calling you soon.'

Once Emma finishes comforting Drake and notices Edric's missed call, she'll definitely get back to him.

With a grin stretching across his face, Damian glanced at the 10 million star coins now comfortably nestled in his account. He quickly messaged his assistant.

'Damian: Go find me a decent-looking stone—something worth around two star coins, no more.'

Regardless of the time, it's always the naive who are the easiest to take advantage of, he thought, a sly smile creeping onto his lips.

With the task assigned, Damian returned to messaging Edric, his mind racing with possibilities.

## Conclusion

In the intricate dance of emotions that unfolded in this chapter, both Emma and Drake found themselves navigating the complexities of trust and attraction amidst the shadows of their pasts. Emma's innocence and curiosity shone brightly, illuminating the path ahead, while Drake's protective instincts clashed with his growing admiration for her. As they delved deeper into the world of therians and the intricate politics of the Empire, their connection deepened, revealing the layers of vulnerability that lay beneath their respective facades. Emma's gratitude towards Drake for unveiling the truth about Damian was a pivotal moment, marking her gradual awakening to the realities of her surroundings, while Drake's subtle smile hinted at the burgeoning feelings he harbored for her.

Conversely, Damian's calculated manipulation of Edric showcased the darker side of their world, where charm could easily mask deceit. His amusement at Edric's plight and the ease with which he exploited the naive underscored the emotional turbulence that surrounded Emma's interactions with the two men. In this chapter, the emotional arc culminated in a delicate balance between innocence and cunning, revealing the stark contrasts in their personalities. As Emma stood on the precipice of a life she was both curious and afraid to embrace, the dynamics between her, Drake, and Damian hinted at the challenges ahead, leaving readers eager to see how these relationships would evolve in the face of impending trials.

### What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the next chapter, readers can expect to dive deeper into the intricate web of relationships that are beginning to unfold. With Emma's newfound awareness of Damian's true identity as an Ashenflame Fox, the tension between her and Drake will intensify. Will she be able to navigate the murky waters of her feelings for both men, or will the allure of wealth and power cloud her judgment? As Drake's protective instincts continue to surface, the stakes will rise, forcing Emma to confront her own desires and fears. The choices she makes could alter the course of her life in ways she never imagined.

Meanwhile, Damian's scheming takes a darker turn as he revels in his newfound financial advantage. With Edric unknowingly at his mercy, the dynamics of their friendship will shift dramatically. How will Edric react when he discovers the truth about Damian's manipulations? As the Ashenflame Fox plays his cards, the tension will mount, leading to a confrontation that promises to reveal hidden motives and test loyalties. The chapter will leave readers on the edge of their seats, eager to see how these relationships will evolve and what secrets will be uncovered in the Empire's shadowy corners.

Sara Lili

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**When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 24**

[ 1,918 words ]

## When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 24 Summary

In Chapter 24 of “When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live,” the story revolves around Edric and his nervous anticipation of a video call with Emma. Damian, a supportive friend, advises Edric to take full credit for a gift that is set to arrive for Emma, emphasizing the importance of authenticity in their budding relationship. Edric, filled with excitement and apprehension, prepares himself for the call, worried about how his snake tail might be perceived by Emma. His determination to impress her is evident as he meticulously checks his appearance.

When the call finally connects, Emma is taken aback by Edric’s striking appearance and feels a mix of curiosity and concern. Edric, on the other hand, is overwhelmed by Emma’s beauty and the softness of her voice, which helps to ease his anxiety. Their interaction reveals a genuine connection, with Edric apologizing for his delayed response due to being in a remote location. Emma’s understanding and reassurance create a comforting atmosphere, allowing Edric to relax and express his true feelings.

As they converse, Edric shares his recent adventure involving a high-tier Chitinid, though he downplays the danger he faced. Emma’s concern for his safety highlights her caring nature, and Edric revels in the fact that she cares about him. He expresses his eagerness to bond with her, indicating his commitment to their relationship. This moment marks a significant turning point for both characters, as they begin to see the potential for a sincere and meaningful connection.

Emma’s realization that Edric is different from her previous matches brings a sense of hope and warmth to her heart. The chapter concludes with Edric’s determination to solidify their bond, showcasing his readiness to embrace a future with Emma. The emotions of excitement, nervousness, and budding affection create a rich tapestry of feelings that propel the story forward, hinting at the possibilities that lie ahead for both characters.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\*

\*\*Chapter 24: The First Truly Sincere Match\*\*

Damian leaned in closer, his voice a low whisper filled with urgency. “Listen, buddy, whatever you do, don’t breathe a word of this to her. When the gift arrives tomorrow, just take full credit for it. If she finds out I had a hand in picking it out, she might think it lacks authenticity. That would only serve to upset her more than you can imagine.”

Edric nodded earnestly, a grin spreading across his face. “Got it! I won’t say a thing. Thanks a ton, buddy!”

He had complete faith in Damian's judgment, convinced that he was a genuinely good theurian. \*Once I manage to get closer to her, I'll make sure to show my gratitude properly,\* he thought, his heart racing with anticipation.

With Edric now set on his path, Damian glanced at the clock, a sense of urgency washing over him. \*By now, Emma should have calmed Drake down,\* he mused, tapping his fingers against the table.

He quickly typed another message to Edric, his fingers flying over the screen.

Damian: "I've already praised you in front of our lady, and I managed to ease the situation. She should be reaching out to you for a video call any moment now."

The moment Edric read that Emma would be the one contacting him first, a wave of nerves washed over him like ice water.

His snake tail instinctively curled tightly around the nearby pillar, the pressure so intense he feared it might snap the black-gold ore in half. \*No, no, no—she can't see my tail! What if it frightens her? Come on, tail! Retract already!\*

With a swift motion, he pulled it back, forcing himself to focus. He quickly checked his appearance. The uniform was freshly pressed, neat, and immaculate—everything looked perfect.

Just as he finished inspecting his attire, the call from Emma came through, and his heart leaped.

Emma had just stepped out of Drake's room, her mind still swirling with thoughts of the little one. As she glanced at the group chat, her heart skipped a beat when she saw Edric's previous messages. She noticed the missed video call too, but had been too occupied with calming Drake to respond.

Taking a deep breath, she retreated to her own room, her heart racing with curiosity and a hint of trepidation, and decided to call him back.

As the holo-monitor flickered to life, it revealed a tall, striking figure dressed in a black-and-purple combat outfit. Edric stood there, inside a dilapidated building, towering at six-foot-two. The uniform clung perfectly to his long legs and lean waist, and Emma couldn't help but wonder about the definition of his abs beneath that fabric.

His dark, violet-hued eyes locked onto hers through the feed, filled with a mix of excitement and anxiety.

Edric stood rigidly, his hands pressed firmly against his sides, as if he were a soldier on guard, unwilling to shift even the slightest bit.

Emma noticed his tense posture, her brow furrowing slightly. “Edric?” she spoke softly, her voice gentle and cautious, as if she were afraid to startle him.

“It’s me, my lady!” he exclaimed, the nervousness evident in his tone. This was the first time he had ever spoken to her like this, and his heart raced in his chest.

\*She is even cuter and more stunning than I imagined,\* he thought, his heart swelling with admiration. \*My lady’s voice is so soft and soothing.\*

“Edric, you don’t have to be so anxious,” she said, trying to soothe him. She couldn’t quite understand why he seemed so tense.

His gaze fell to the ground, his long eyelashes casting shadows over his striking dark violet eyes. The handsome features of his face bore a brooding demeanor, one that seemed to silently warn others to keep their distance.

“Was there something you wanted to discuss?” she ventured, her curiosity piqued.

Recently, she had braced herself for disappointment, half-expecting that every match reaching out to her would end in a cancellation.

But as she spoke, the softness of her voice began to gradually ease the tension coiling within him.

He focused solely on her image in the hologram, his heart pounding as he offered a heartfelt apology. “I’m sorry, my lady. When the system matched us, I was on Duskora, and there was no signal there. I couldn’t reach out to you right away.”

“I saw your explanation in the group,” she replied honestly. “I didn’t hold it against you.”

\*I truly didn’t,\* she thought, feeling a flicker of understanding for his situation.

Edric hadn’t expected to be matched so suddenly either. The moment he received the notification, he had turned on his heel and rushed back as quickly as he could.

In comparison to the others, he was already displaying a level of sincerity that felt refreshing.

Finally, Emma felt as if she might have stumbled upon a genuinely normal match. It was almost miraculous.

When she assured him that everything was fine, Edric released a substantial sigh of relief, the tension in his shoulders visibly easing.

“My lady, I was initially supposed to take at least a month to return,” he explained, his face lighting up with excitement. “But I was fortunate—on my way back, I encountered a high-tier Chitinid. Due to certain events, I managed to return to S-1233 much sooner.”

He conveniently left out the harrowing details of his near-death experience, instead feeling gratitude towards the Beast God for allowing him to come back so soon.

The mention of a high-tier Chitinid made Emma’s heart constrict with worry.

“You faced a Chitinid? You weren’t injured, were you?” she asked, her voice laced with concern.

\*And a high-tier one at that—such a dangerous encounter could have easily resulted in his demise!\*

He shook his head vigorously. “No, that hideous creature was no match for me. I took its core, and I’ll be bringing it back as a present for you.”

Inside, he was practically bubbling with excitement. \*Ahhh... my lady cares about me!\*

“My lady, I’ll arrive at F-268 in two days. Just wait a little longer for me, and we can bond,” he declared, his voice filled with determination.

Bonding meant transferring every single asset he possessed to his female, a commitment that he was more than ready to embrace.

Edric had already instructed his subordinates to begin liquidating his assets, although he knew it would take time to organize everything properly.

Emma thought to herself, \*He’s the first match to be this honest and sincere about wanting to bond with me.\* A warmth spread through her heart, igniting a flicker of hope she hadn’t expected to feel.

## Conclusion

As the call ended, both Edric and Emma found themselves enveloped in a newfound sense of connection, a thread of sincerity weaving between them that had long been absent in her previous matches. Emma’s heart, once guarded and braced for disappointment, began to soften as she realized that Edric’s earnestness was genuine. The warmth that spread through her was not just a fleeting moment; it was the first real spark of hope she had felt in a long time. For Edric, the weight of his anxieties began to lift, replaced by the thrill of anticipation for what lay ahead. He had stepped into the unknown, ready to embrace the life he had once feared, driven by the desire to bond with someone who had already begun to see him for who he truly was.

In this pivotal moment, both characters stood at the threshold of a new chapter, one that promised growth, vulnerability, and the potential for a deep emotional connection. Edric's determination to protect and cherish Emma resonated with her own yearning for authenticity and understanding in a world that often felt superficial. As they prepared to embark on this journey together, the door to a life once overshadowed by fear began to creak open, inviting them to step forward into the light of possibility. The emotional arc of both Edric and Emma converged, creating a shared space where hope could flourish, and the life they had been afraid to live began to take shape before their very eyes.

### What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the upcoming chapter, readers can expect the tension to escalate as Emma and Edric navigate the complexities of their newfound connection. With Edric's imminent arrival, the stakes are higher than ever, and Emma will grapple with her emotions as she prepares to meet someone who has shown her a level of sincerity she has yet to encounter. Will she allow herself to embrace the possibility of a genuine bond, or will her past fears hold her back? The anticipation builds as both characters inch closer to a pivotal moment that could change everything.

Moreover, Edric's determination to present a gift—a high-tier Chitinid core—adds an intriguing layer to their budding relationship. As Emma contemplates the significance of this gesture, she will have to confront her own expectations and fears about bonding. The chapter promises to explore the nuances of trust, vulnerability, and the weight of commitments in a world where every decision can have life-altering consequences. Readers are left wondering: can Edric's sincerity break through Emma's walls, or will her apprehensions lead her to retreat just when a genuine connection is within reach? Prepare for a whirlwind of emotions as the story delves deeper into their intertwined fates.

Sara Lili

Sara Lili is a daring romance writer who turns icy landscapes into scenes of fiery passion. She loves crafting hot love stories while embracing the chill of Iceland's breathtaking cold.

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**When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 25**

[ 1,851 words ]

## When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 25 Summary

In “When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live,” Emma experiences a transformative moment as her hardships come to an end, bringing her overwhelming relief and joy. When Edric, the leader of the Interstellar Hunter Alliance, offers her a significant amount of star coins, Emma is filled with gratitude and excitement. His generosity and the promise of future support make her feel cherished and valued, igniting a sense of hope for the life she has long desired but feared to embrace.

As their conversation unfolds, Emma learns more about Edric’s impressive status and abilities, which further deepens her admiration for him. She expresses her eagerness to support him during his advancement to level ten, showcasing her desire to be a part of his journey. Edric, touched by her kindness, feels a strong connection with her, viewing her as the best partner he has ever encountered. However, a moment of anxiety arises when he hesitantly reveals his beast form, the Violet Obsidian, unsure of how she will react.

To Edric’s surprise, Emma’s reaction is one of excitement rather than fear. Her fascination with the Violet Obsidian, a creature she has long admired, showcases her genuine interest and affection for him. Emma’s enthusiasm shines through as she eagerly asks to see his beast form, completely overlooking any potential concerns. This interaction highlights the bond forming between them, as Emma’s excitement about Edric’s true self reinforces her feelings of connection and attraction.

As they continue to talk, Emma insists on calling Edric by his first name, signaling a shift in their relationship dynamic. She feels a deep sense of familiarity and comfort with him, as if they have known each other for much longer than they actually have. The chapter concludes with a sense of warmth and promise, as Emma smiles, reflecting on the budding relationship and the adventures that await them both.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\*

Emma felt as if the clouds had finally parted, revealing the sun after a long, relentless storm.

Her days of hardship had come to an end, and the relief washed over her like a warm tide.

She was so overwhelmed by this turn of fate that tears threatened to spill from her eyes.

With a voice trembling with emotion, she declared, “Okay, I’ll wait for you to come back.”

As soon as those words left her lips, a notification chimed in the lightcore chat interface, drawing her attention like a moth to a flame. Edric had sent her a substantial amount of money.

Edric: 'Transferred 100 million star coins!'

Edric: 'Transferred 500 million star coins!'

Edric: 'Transferred a billion star coins!'

He continued, "Ms. Tibarn, feel free to use these star coins however you wish. Buy anything your heart desires. If it isn't enough, just let me know, and I'll send more your way. When I return, I'll transfer all my assets into your name. You'll have the freedom to spend as you please. There's no need to worry about running out. Star coins are the one thing I'll always have in abundance."

As the leader of the Interstellar Hunter Alliance, Edric had amassed more beast cores and star coins than anyone could imagine.

If Emma wished, he could even acquire the F-268 and present it to her as a gift.

Inside Emma's heart, a little voice screamed in pure delight.

Ahhh!

Beast God, please send me more matches like this!

"Edric, you're absolutely incredible!"

Caught in the whirlwind of star coins, Emma found herself at a loss for words, struggling to express her gratitude.

When Edric noticed the radiant joy lighting up her face, a smile crept onto his lips as well.

Damian hadn't been mistaken; it was clear that women truly did have a fondness for star coins.

Suddenly, a thought struck Emma, and she asked, "Edric, what level are you currently at?"

She was curious whether he could join her in two days. If he was at a high enough level, they could hunt beasts together.

Edric replied earnestly, "Ms. Tibarn, I'm currently at the peak of level nine. When I return, I'll advance to level ten."

That was an impressive level, and Emma's heart raced at the revelation.

12:19 Tue, Nov 4 MG.

**\*\*Chapter 25: A Partner Like No Other\*\***

Handsome, wealthy, genuine, and powerful—this perfect man was hers.

She was so elated that she nearly tumbled off her bed in excitement.

"I'll be here to support you and keep you company during your advancement when you come back," she promised.

Her words made Edric feel a rush of warmth and gratitude.

"Thank you, Ms. Tibarn," he replied, genuinely touched. To him, she was the best partner he had ever encountered.

But...

Did Ms. Tibarn know about my beast form?

Edric studied her face, feeling a twinge of anxiety. He asked hesitantly, "Ms. Tibarn, do you... do you know what my beast form is?"

Emma shook her head, her expression curious. "Not yet."

But she was not concerned. Even if his beast form turned out to be less than attractive, his handsome face was more than enough to win her over.

Taking a deep breath, Edric spoke softly, "Ms. Tibarn, I'm a cold-blooded therian. My beast form is the Violet Obsidian. You..."

"What?"

Emma had been reclining on her bed, but at the mention of the Violet Obsidian, she shot up, wide-eyed.

Edric's heart raced as he observed her reaction.

So she must hate my beast form, doesn't she?

"I'm sorry, Ms. Tibarn, I..." he began, his voice trailing off.

"What are you apologizing for?"

Emma was too caught up in her excitement to notice the flicker of insecurity in his eyes.

Thrilled, she exclaimed, "Edric, are you really a Violet Obsidian? Can you show me your tail?"

Her fascination was palpable.

She adored Violet Obsidians.

Before arriving here, she had owned several snakes herself. Two years ago, she had encountered a colossal snake in the interstellar realm, its body a mesmerizing purple-black. It radiated power and beauty.

Upon researching, she discovered it was a Violet Obsidian, a therian belonging to the royal family of the Central Planet. A mere ordinary female like her would never have the chance to come face to face with one.

12:19 Tue, Nov 4 MG.

**\*\*Chapter 25: A Partner Like No Other\*\***

That snake had remained etched in her memory.

And now, the Beast God had gifted her one.

"Huh?"

Edric was taken aback, his mind momentarily blank.

Why is she so thrilled about my being a Violet Obsidian?

Isn't she supposed to be frightened?

Emma blinked at him, her eyes shimmering with eagerness.

"Edric, please, show me. I absolutely adore your kind's tail."

The mere thought of touching it sent her heart racing.

She was playfully coaxing him, her excitement overshadowing any fear of his beast form.

Edric found himself at a loss for how he revealed it. He noticed that as she gazed upon his tail in the projection, her eyes widened in awe. The excitement radiating from her was genuine.

In a hushed tone, he asked, “Ms. Tibarn, do you... do you want to touch it?”

“Of course!”

Emma nodded eagerly. “But you’re too far away right now. I can’t reach it. However, when you come back, I’ll make sure to touch it as much as I want.”

Edric felt heat rise to his cheeks, a blush creeping over him.

“Okay, when I return, I’ll let you touch it as much as you desire.”

Emma was unlike anyone he had ever met.

“Don’t call me Ms. Tibarn anymore. Just call me Emma,” she insisted.

With someone as genuine as Edric, she couldn’t bring herself to treat him the same way she did with Damian or Drake.

She felt an instant connection with him, as if they were old friends despite their recent acquaintance.

He was hers. From that moment on, every part of him belonged to her.

There was no need for pretenses or distance.

They chatted a little longer until Edric received a call from someone on his side. Emma urged him to take care of it first, and after bidding him goodbye, she hung up, a smile still lingering on her lips.

## Conclusion

In the wake of that pivotal conversation, Emma felt a profound shift within her. The weight of her past struggles began to lift, replaced by a burgeoning hope that she had long thought lost. Edric’s unexpected generosity and the revelation of his beast form ignited a spark of excitement in her heart, one that transcended mere material wealth. It was not just the star coins that thrilled her, but the promise of a partnership that felt genuine and profound. As she envisioned the adventures they would share, her fears began to dissipate, replaced by a sense of belonging and possibility. Emma was no longer just a girl afraid to embrace life; she was a woman ready to step into her future, hand in hand with someone who saw her for who she truly was.

As the door to her new life swung open wider, Emma realized that this was just the beginning of a beautiful journey. The connection she felt with Edric was unlike anything she had experienced before, a bond that transcended their differences and drew them closer together. No longer burdened by the shadows of her past, she was invigorated by the prospect of discovering not just Edric’s world, but also her own potential. With every

heartbeat, she felt more alive, more empowered, and more certain that she had chosen the right path. Together, they would navigate the challenges ahead, and in doing so, Emma would learn that love and friendship could flourish even in the most unexpected of circumstances. The storm had passed, and now, the sun was shining brighter than ever.

### What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the next chapter, readers can expect to delve deeper into the complexities of Emma and Edric's burgeoning relationship. With the revelation of Edric's beast form, the stakes are raised, and Emma's fascination with the Violet Obsidian will lead to unexpected encounters that challenge both their boundaries and perceptions. Will Edric's insecurities about his beast form hinder their connection, or will Emma's unique appreciation for his true self strengthen the bond they share? As Emma eagerly awaits Edric's return, the anticipation of their first adventure together looms large, promising both thrilling encounters and heartwarming moments.

Furthermore, the chapter will explore the implications of Edric's wealth and power in their dynamic. How will Emma navigate the world of star coins and the responsibilities that come with such wealth? As she begins to embrace the life she's always longed for, the choices she makes will shape her future and the course of her relationship with Edric. Will she remain grounded, or will the allure of her newfound freedom lead her astray? With the backdrop of the interstellar realm and the challenges that await them, the next chapter promises to be a rollercoaster of emotions and revelations, leaving readers on the edge of their seats, eagerly awaiting what comes next for Emma and her extraordinary partner.

Sara Lili

Sara Lili is a daring romance writer who turns icy landscapes into scenes of fiery passion. She loves crafting hot love stories while embracing the chill of Iceland's breathtaking cold.

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## **When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 26**

[ 1,921 words ]

## When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 26 Summary

In Chapter 26 of “When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live,” Emma experiences a surge of excitement after a phone call that signals the beginning of a new chapter in her life. The prospect of having a mate fills her with joy, alleviating the loneliness that had previously weighed her down. That night, she lies awake, lost in thoughts of possibilities and dreams, before finally falling asleep under the twinkling stars.

The following morning, Emma’s cheerful demeanor catches Damian’s attention as he waits impatiently for breakfast. Despite the dark circles under her eyes, Emma’s spirits are high, and she playfully brushes off Damian’s concern about her lack of sleep. As she prepares a special meal in the kitchen, the enticing aromas draw Damian closer, igniting his curiosity about the unfamiliar foods she is making. Emma shares a small taste with him, but the gesture is bittersweet, leaving him both grateful and longing for more.

As they share breakfast, Emma maintains a sense of fairness, reminding Damian that he must earn his food like everyone else in the house. This moment emphasizes the dynamics of their relationship, with Emma’s playful teasing contrasting with her serious demeanor when discussing her upcoming hunting trip. Damian, determined to support himself, vows to work hard to earn money, showcasing his resilience despite the challenges he faces in the household.

After breakfast, Emma informs Drake about her plans to hunt beasts for a week, asserting her independence and capability. Although Drake expresses concern for her safety, Emma remains confident in her abilities and her decision to have Damian accompany her. This declaration marks a pivotal moment in her character development, as she prepares both physically and mentally for the challenges ahead. Before heading to the training room, she sends a thoughtful message to Edric, revealing the depth of her feelings for him and the care she takes in maintaining their connection, contrasting with her more playful interactions with Damian.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\*

\*\*Chapter 26: One Week Away\*\*

After hanging up the phone, a wave of exhilaration washed over Emma, prompting her to roll joyfully across her bed.

Finally, she was going to have a mate.

In the vast expanse of the interstellar world, she would no longer have to face the solitude that had once enveloped her like a heavy fog.

That night, as the stars twinkled outside her window, Emma lay awake for what felt like hours, her mind racing with possibilities and excitement, before finally surrendering to sleep.

The following morning, Damian was sprawled on the couch, his eyes flicking to the clock every few minutes, waiting impatiently for 8:30 a.m. When Emma finally descended the stairs, he couldn't help but notice the dark circles shadowing her eyes.

"Ms. Tibarn, did you not sleep well last night?" he inquired, his brow furrowing in confusion.

Could it possibly be that wretched snake beast that had robbed her of her slumber?

"I just went to bed a little late," Emma replied, a hint of a smile creeping onto her face as thoughts of Edric danced through her mind. "It's fine, I'll take a nap later."

With that, she headed straight into the kitchen, her steps light and purposeful.

Damian followed closely behind, intrigued by her movements. He watched as she expertly navigated the kitchen, the aroma wafting from the pan tantalizing his senses and making his stomach growl audibly.

"Ms. Tibarn, what are you making? It smells absolutely divine," he asked, his curiosity piqued.

Emma, her mood buoyed, explained, "I'm making something special with herbs. It's called a pancake. And here we have bacon, along with dumplings made from beast meat and herbs."

Pancakes? Bacon?

These were unfamiliar terms to him, yet the enticing scent was enough to make his mouth water.

With hopeful eyes, Damian gazed at her. "Ms. Tibarn, may I have a taste?"

"Of course," Emma replied with a nod, her playful nature surfacing.

Fishing always required bait, and she was more than willing to share. She discreetly handed him half a piece of bacon along with a pancake.

"Now, I'm sneaking these to you. Make sure to eat them quietly, and don't mention it to Drake. He paid star coins for this food, and it wouldn't be wise for him to see you indulging. And remember, this is a one-time deal. I can't do this again next time."

Just this tiny morsel?

It felt like a mere tease, hardly enough to satisfy the hunger gnawing at him.

Damian gazed at the small piece of bacon and the pancake, a mix of gratitude and disappointment swirling within him. He couldn't bring himself to push Emma for more; she was a handful as it was.

"Thank you, Ms. Tibarn. You're so kind to me," he said, accepting the plate with a grateful smile.

Emma returned to her cooking, her back turned to him, while Damian settled at the table, anticipation building. He took a cautious bite of the pancake, and his taste buds exploded with delight. He couldn't identify the herbs, but the texture was soft and fragrant, and paired with the sauce Emma had crafted, it was almost overwhelming in its deliciousness.

The bacon, when combined with the pancake, was nothing short of extraordinary.

In mere moments, Damian devoured the meal, yet he found himself longing for more, his gaze fixed on Emma with yearning eyes.

Emma had already served Drake, who was calmly eating across the table. Noticing Damian's expectant expression, she turned to him with a serious tone. "I can't give you any more. If you want to eat, you'll have to pay like Drake. As the lady of the house, I can't show favoritism. Don't you agree?"

Watching Drake munch away without a care, Damian swallowed hard, resigning to the fact that he wouldn't eat again.

He had nutrient fluid to sustain him, so he wouldn't starve, but no one was going to squeeze a single coin out of him.

"Ms. Tibarn, I promise I won't make things difficult for you. I'll work hard to earn money so I can eat in this house," he declared resolutely, suppressing the urge to offer her star coins as he swiftly exited the dining room.

He retreated to his room, retrieving a bottle of nutrient fluid with the best flavor, but as he opened it, he couldn't shake the feeling that it tasted bland and lifeless compared to Emma's cooking.

After breakfast, Emma turned her attention to Drake, who was still seated across from her.

"I'm going out tomorrow to hunt beasts. I won't be back for a week, so I won't be able to cook or provide you with any mental comfort during that time," she informed him, her tone serious.

“You’re going alone?” Drake asked, his brow furrowing with concern.

“Damian will accompany me,” Emma replied, her voice steady.

Drake’s expression darkened slightly. “Do you really believe that fox will protect you?”

Damian possessed the strength of an eighth rank, yet he intentionally restrained himself to the fifth rank in Emma’s presence. It was clear he didn’t wish to exert himself.

“I don’t need him to protect me. I can take care of myself,” Emma asserted, her confidence unwavering.

She had never expected Damian to come to her defense; she was acutely aware that he was indifferent to her fate.

Once she left the dining room, Emma made her way directly to the training room.

With her departure looming, she was determined to prepare herself physically and mentally for the challenges ahead.

Before entering, she sent a quick message to Edric.

Emma: ‘Edric, I’m heading to train now. The training room doesn’t have a signal, but if you need anything, just send me a message. I’ll respond once I’m done.’

Her demeanor toward Edric was markedly different from how she interacted with Damian.

With Damian, she was casual and playful, always seeking ways to tease him.

But with Edric, her responses were thoughtful, imbued with genuine care.

She made it a point never to let him feel overlooked or neglected.

As Edric boarded the starrail, he caught sight of her message and couldn’t help but smile, warmth flooding his chest.

Emma was considerate, keeping him in the loop about her activities.

It brought him comfort, making him feel that even though they had yet to meet in person, he already held a significant place in her heart.

## Conclusion

In the final moments of this chapter, Emma stands on the precipice of a new beginning, her heart swelling with hope and anticipation as she prepares for the adventures that lie

ahead. The exhilaration of forging connections, particularly with Edric, ignites a spark within her that dispels the shadows of her past solitude. Emma's playful banter with Damian reveals the blossoming of her spirit, as she learns to navigate her relationships with both levity and sincerity. The kitchen, once a mere space for sustenance, transforms into a sanctuary of warmth and camaraderie, where Emma's culinary creations serve as a bridge between her world and those around her. As she readies herself for the challenges of the hunt, her newfound confidence shines through, signaling that she is not just stepping into the unknown but embracing it with open arms.

Meanwhile, Damian's quiet longing for connection underscores the emotional stakes of this journey. His gratitude for Emma's kindness juxtaposes his struggles with self-worth and the harsh realities of his existence, creating a poignant tension that resonates throughout the chapter. As he vows to work hard for his place in her world, it becomes clear that the bonds they are forming are not just about survival but about finding belonging in a universe that often feels isolating. Emma's determination to assert her independence while still nurturing her relationships hints at a deeper emotional arc that will unfold as they face the trials ahead. Together, they are poised on the brink of transformation, ready to confront not only the beasts of the wild but also the beasts within themselves, forging a path toward a life they were once afraid to embrace.

What to Expect in Next Chapter?

**\*\*What to Expect in the Next Chapter?\***

As Emma prepares for her week-long journey into the wild, readers can expect a thrilling exploration of her character's growth and resilience. With the looming uncertainty of the hunt ahead, the stakes are higher than ever. Emma's determination to prove her strength and independence will be tested, not only by the beasts she seeks but also by the dynamics of her relationships with Damian and Drake. Will she be able to navigate the complexities of their interactions while maintaining her focus on the hunt? And what challenges will arise when she encounters the unexpected in the wilderness?

Moreover, the chapter promises to delve deeper into Emma's connection with Edric, revealing how their bond evolves even in the absence of physical presence. As he awaits her return, Edric's thoughts and feelings will be explored, potentially unveiling hidden depths to his character that could alter the course of their relationship. The anticipation of their eventual meeting looms large, and readers will be left wondering how their interactions will change once they finally come face to face. With tension building in the air and the thrill of the unknown ahead, the next chapter is sure to captivate and keep readers on the edge of their seats.

Sara Lili

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## **When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 27**

[ 1,943 words ]

### When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 27 Summary

In "When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live," Edric's infatuation with Emma is evident as he eagerly communicates with her and arranges for a gift to be delivered. His subordinates tease him about his lovestruck demeanor, contrasting it with his usual cold and calculating nature. Despite their mockery, Edric remains focused on winning Emma's affection, believing that his gestures will help him connect with her on a deeper level.

Meanwhile, Damian, Edric's friend, is less than impressed with Edric's romantic approach. He expresses skepticism about the effectiveness of gifts in winning a woman's heart, reflecting a more cynical view of relationships. His irritation grows as he prepares to deliver the gift to Emma, feeling burdened by Edric's romantic pursuits. However, when he finally presents the gift—a necklace—Emma's reaction surprises him; she genuinely likes it despite his attempts to undermine its value.

Emma, having just completed a vigorous training session, is filled with a sense of accomplishment and determination to improve her skills. When she receives the necklace, she is initially curious and somewhat cautious, especially given Damian's condescending remarks about Edric's financial situation. However, instead of feeling insulted, she embraces the gift, fastening the necklace around her neck with pride. This moment signifies her acceptance of Edric's feelings and her own readiness to explore a life beyond her fears.

The chapter captures a blend of emotions: Edric's hopeful affection, Damian's cynicism, and Emma's evolving perspective on her worth and relationships. As Emma chooses to wear the necklace, it symbolizes her willingness to open herself up to new experiences and the potential for love, marking a pivotal moment in her journey.

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**\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\***

Edric responded with a warm smile, “Alright, Ms. Tibarn. Just keep your mind focused on your training.”

He continued, “When you head out for the hunt, don’t forget to send me your location. I’ll catch up with you once I reach F-268.”

Nearby, his subordinates exchanged glances, their whispers barely containing their amusement as they observed Edric’s lovestruck expression.

One of them leaned closer to his companion and murmured, “What kind of mate did the Boss end up with? Look at him—grinning like a lovesick puppy. Is this really the same cold-blooded lunatic we used to know?”

The other nodded, a smirk playing on his lips. “He’s still the same man, but it’s as if some beast has stolen his brain and replaced it with fluff.”

Edric shot them a sharp glare, but he chose to ignore their teasing. What could a couple of unmated males possibly understand about matters of the heart?

If he didn’t play the part of the devoted sweetheart in front of Emma, how else would he ever win her affection?

Closing the chat window with Emma, he swiftly opened another interface, fingers hovering over the screen as he sent a message to his friend, Damian.

“Hey, buddy, did you manage to deliver the gift to Ms. Tibarn for me?”

Damian was lounging in his room when Edric’s message pinged through, interrupting his thoughts. He rolled his eyes in irritation, feeling a familiar frustration rise within him.

Gifts again? That fool only knows how to pander to females. Does he honestly believe that tossing a present her way will win her heart?

Those selfish females are heartless. They might shower you with affection today, but tomorrow, they’ll be enamored with someone else. They’ll take your offerings, cozying up to another male, leaving you humiliated and broken, never sparing a thought for whether you live or die.

When Edric didn’t receive an immediate response, he shot off another message.

“Hey, you there?” he pressed, his impatience growing.

Damian took a deep breath, pulling up the control panel of his lightcore.

“I’m here,” he replied, his tone flat. “I’ve got the gift, but Ms. Tibarn is currently in the training room. I can’t hand it to her just yet. Once she’s finished, I’ll make sure she gets it right away.”

Edric nodded, satisfaction washing over him.

“Thanks, buddy. I really appreciate it,” he said, transferring five million star coins to Damian’s account.

As the transfer notification flashed across his lightcore, Damian’s sour expression softened just a bit.

“Finally, some gratitude,” he muttered under his breath.

Emma didn’t step out of the training room until the evening, her body buzzing with energy and accomplishment. This time, with enough fifth-tier beast cores under her belt, she could feel her abilities surging forward, and she was convinced that after the next hunt, she would retreat into seclusion for training. She was determined to reach Rank 5 within a month.

This was her little secret, a goal that burned brightly within her.

Unlike many other Etherians in the Interstellar Empire, Emma faced no hindrances in her advancement. As long as she had a sufficient supply of beast or insect cores, she could absorb energy at an astonishing rate, breaking through barriers that others struggled with.

After finishing her training session, she showered, the warm water washing away the sweat and fatigue. She downed a tube of nutrient fluid, her stomach growling softly, but the thought of cooking was unappealing at this hour.

Once she felt refreshed, Emma stepped out of her room, intending to offer Drake some mental comfort, hoping to ease his worries.

“Ms. Tibarn.”

Damian, who had been lurking on the second floor, stepped forward, blocking her path with a determined expression.

“What is it?” Emma asked, her gaze sharp as she assessed him.

Damian extended an exquisite red gift box toward her, his demeanor a mixture of reluctance and obligation. “A gift from Edric. He asked me to deliver it to you.”

Emma's brow furrowed slightly. A gift from Edric? Why on earth would he send it through Damian?

She accepted the box from him, her expression inscrutable as she questioned him, "Are you and Edric close? If this is a gift for me, why didn't he bring it himself? Why go through you?"

Damian shifted uncomfortably, a hint of embarrassment coloring his features. "Edric mentioned he's hopeless at choosing gifts for women, so he asked me for help. I picked out several options for him, but in the end, he..."

He gestured toward the box in Emma's hands, his face a mix of exasperation and disappointment. "Ms. Tibarn, you should really open it and see for yourself."

Emma glanced down at the beautifully wrapped box, her long lashes casting shadows over her thoughtful eyes as she lifted the lid.

Inside lay a necklace—a delicate gold chain adorned with a teardrop-shaped gemstone of deep violet-black at its center, reminiscent of the ophidian's tail that Edric had shown her just the day before.

To her surprise, she found herself genuinely liking it.

Damian's gaze fell on the necklace, and he let out a heavy, dramatic sigh, his tone laced with condescension.

"Ms. Tibarn, please don't be angry with Edric. He's probably low on credits and couldn't afford anything better. That's why he gave you this worthless necklace made from discarded ore."

So that was his game—he was trying to create discord between her and Edric.

Emma had anticipated this; she knew Damian well enough to recognize that he would never willingly deliver something for Edric without a hidden agenda. And after the substantial sum of star coins Edric had transferred to her just the day before, there was no way he was broke.

But why would Edric allow Damian to choose a gift for him? Edric was typically obedient to a fault. Had this cunning fox played a trick on him?

When Emma remained silent, her gaze fixed on the necklace in the box, Damian pressed on, eager to exploit any hint of disappointment.

"I already told Edric that giving Ms. Tibarn such a cheap necklace is an insult. But he didn't seem to care. Clearly, he doesn't value you at all."

He leaned in slightly, lowering his voice as if sharing a secret. “Ms. Tibarn, I know you’re upset. Just give me the necklace, and I’ll dispose of it for you.”

Any Etherian of worth would never give such a trinket a second glance, but even the Subtherian females would find a way to profit from it. Even in the lower-tier markets of Nexus Prime Tech, it could fetch a decent price.

“That won’t be necessary.”

To Damian’s utter astonishment, Emma lifted the necklace from the box with a clear expression of delight, fastening it around her neck with a sense of pride.

## Conclusion

As Emma fastened the delicate gold chain around her neck, a wave of warmth spread through her, dispelling the lingering doubts that had clouded her mind. The necklace, with its deep violet-black gemstone, was not merely an accessory; it symbolized a connection, a gesture of affection from Edric that transcended the superficiality of material value. In that moment, she realized that the true worth of the gift lay not in its monetary significance but in the intent behind it. Edric, despite his difficulties in expressing himself, had made an effort to bridge the emotional chasm that had formed between them, and Emma felt a flicker of hope ignite within her heart. She was ready to embrace the life she had once feared, to step into the unknown with the courage she had cultivated through her training.

With newfound determination, Emma decided to confront her feelings head-on, no longer allowing the shadows of uncertainty to dictate her choices. The teasing whispers of Damian and the doubts that had plagued her were now mere echoes in the background, overshadowed by the realization that she was deserving of love and connection. As she walked away from Damian, her head held high, she felt a sense of empowerment coursing through her veins. The necklace glimmered against her skin, a reminder of the bond she was willing to nurture with Edric. Emma was ready to open the door to the life she had been afraid to live, embracing both the challenges and the joys that awaited her in this new chapter of her journey.

## What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the next chapter, readers can expect a whirlwind of emotions and revelations as Emma grapples with the unexpected gift from Edric. With the necklace adorning her neck, she finds herself caught between the teasing words of Damian and the genuine affection she senses from Edric. Will she allow the negativity of others to cloud her judgment, or will she embrace the gesture as a sign of Edric’s growing feelings for her? As her determination to rise in rank intensifies, the interplay between her personal ambitions and budding romance will create a captivating tension that propels the story forward.

Moreover, the stakes will rise as Emma prepares for her next hunt, where danger lurks at every turn. With her newfound confidence and abilities, she is eager to prove herself, but the complexities of her relationships may complicate her focus. Edric's unwavering support and the shadow of Damian's cynicism will challenge her resolve. Will she be able to navigate this treacherous path while staying true to herself? As the hunt unfolds, alliances will be tested, and Emma may discover that the life she was once afraid to live is more exhilarating—and perilous—than she ever imagined. Prepare for an exhilarating blend of action, romance, and self-discovery in the chapters to come!

Sara Lili

Sara Lili is a daring romance writer who turns icy landscapes into scenes of fiery passion. She loves crafting hot love stories while embracing the chill of Iceland's breathtaking cold.

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## **When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 28**

[ 1,905 words ]

When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 28 Summary

In Chapter 28 of "When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live," Emma expresses her delight in receiving a necklace that reminds her of Edric, despite its low value. This sentiment puzzles Damian, who expected her to be upset about such a trivial gift. As the evening progresses, Drake's disdain for the necklace becomes evident, leading him to offer Emma a rare black gemstone, which possesses immense power. However, Emma declines the offer, choosing to honor the emotional significance of her necklace over its monetary worth.

Drake is baffled by Emma's perspective, as he believes that women should only possess the finest things. Emma stands firm in her belief that the necklace represents Edric's feelings, emphasizing that its value lies in sincerity rather than price. Meanwhile, she reflects on Edric's trusting nature, realizing he needs to learn discernment. As the evening unfolds, Emma manages to calm Drake's chaotic mental state, showcasing her growing abilities and establishing a deeper connection between them.

After their session, Emma reminds Damian about their upcoming departure, leaving him both intrigued and confused by her demeanor. Despite his charm and allure, he feels unnoticed by Emma, which stings his pride. Meanwhile, Emma enjoys a video call with Edric, proudly showcasing the necklace. Edric's approval reinforces her choice, even as the necklace's true value remains questionable. Emma's confidence in her decision highlights her emotional resilience, while Damian's wounded pride reflects his struggle to comprehend her feelings. The chapter encapsulates themes of self-worth, emotional connections, and the complexities of relationships within a fantastical setting.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

**\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\***

**\*\*Chapter 28: Damian's Wounded Pride\*\***

The atmosphere was charged with an unexpected delight as Emma held up the necklace, its gemstone shimmering in the light. "The color of this gemstone reminds me so much of Edric's ophidian tail. It's as if he's right here with me when I wear it. I truly love it."

Damian stood there, utterly flabbergasted.

Wait, was she serious? A necklace worth barely two star coins? Shouldn't she be livid, ready to sever her match with Edric at a moment's notice?

As the evening unfolded, a peculiar scene took shape. For the first time in what felt like ages, Drake wasn't lounging carelessly on his bed. Instead, he was perched on the couch, positioned strategically by the expansive floor-to-ceiling window, engrossed in business dealings on his lightcore.

When Emma entered the room, his eyes immediately zeroed in on the necklace that adorned her neck.

"Seriously? You're actually wearing something that cheap?" he scoffed, his tone dripping with disdain.

Was it possible that all her matches were utterly worthless? How could they allow a fourth-tier female like Emma to be reduced to flaunting such a pitiful piece of jewelry?

Drake, in a moment of defiance, retrieved a black gemstone from his personal storage, its size comparable to his palm. Emma couldn't quite identify the material, but she was acutely aware that anything Drake chose to reveal was anything but ordinary.

"Take this," he insisted, extending the dark crystal towards her. "You could have a far superior necklace crafted from it."

This was no ordinary gem; it was the rarest black crystal found within the vast reaches of the Interstellar Empire, pulsating with immense power. It not only had the potential to amplify one's abilities but could also serve as a lifesaver in dire situations.

Despite his lack of interest in forming any bond with Emma, he couldn't bring himself to let her parade around with that worthless trinket dangling from her neck.

"Thank you for the generous offer," Emma replied, her voice steady as she declined the gemstone he presented. "But I can't accept it."

While the black crystal was undeniably precious, Emma understood the unspoken rule—accepting a favor meant incurring a debt. She could negotiate with Drake, but accepting his gift without any strings attached was not an option she was willing to entertain.

Drake was perplexed by her response.

"You'd prefer to wear that worthless trinket instead of taking the black crystal I'm offering you?"

Emma stood her ground against his judgment.

"This necklace was a gift from my match. It embodies his feelings for me. How could it possibly be worthless?" she countered, her gaze unwavering. "You see it as a mere price tag, but I see it for the sincerity it represents."

She was acutely aware that Edric had no clue that Damian had delivered such a meager token in his name. Yet, the gesture was still Edric's, and she felt compelled to honor it by wearing the necklace.

How else would Edric ever discover that Damian had swindled him?

The memory of Edric's sweet demeanor during their video call last night flashed vividly in her mind. He was far too trusting, far too innocent. He needed to learn the art of discernment.

As the clock ticked on, the evening wore on, and Drake found himself utterly baffled by Emma's perspective. In his world, females were delicate and proud, deserving only the finest—be it food, clothing, or jewelry. Anything less was simply unacceptable.

"Suit yourself," Drake muttered, dismissing the topic with a wave of his hand.

Emma, sensing the tension, pressed her cool fingertips gently against the center of Drake's forehead. The soothing sensation enveloped him, washing away the chaos of the moment.

In an instinctive response, his dragon tail uncoiled and wrapped around Emma's waist, as if drawn by an unseen force.

How could her waist feel so impossibly soft?

This time, Emma made a significant breakthrough, managing to maintain the mental comfort for a full twenty minutes. She had discovered that when she unleashed her mental power without restraint, it returned to her twice as strong the following day.

Drake's mental consciousness finally settled into a state of complete calm. The dense black mist that had previously cloaked it began to dissipate, fading to a soft white. In some areas, it was even becoming translucent.

Once every trace of that black mist vanished, leaving only clarity behind, Drake's mental power would be fully restored.

When their session concluded, Emma stepped out of his room and made her way down the hallway, stopping at Damian's door. She raised her hand and knocked lightly.

The door swung open almost immediately.

Inside, Damian reclined on his bed, draped in a silk robe adorned with intricate ink-wash patterns. His chest was half-exposed, and his eyes, heavy with languid charm, lingered on Emma, who stood poised at the threshold.

"Ms. Tibarn, why are you lingering in the doorway? Come in," he invited, his voice rich and inviting.

Emma remained steadfast, her gaze calm and resolute. "I just wanted to remind you. We leave at seven sharp tomorrow morning. Don't oversleep."

With that, she reached out, gently closing the door for him, and turned on her heel to leave.

Back in her own room, she gave a light pat to her chest, feeling a mix of relief and amusement.

Foxes truly lived up to their reputation as natural seducers.

Fortunately, her willpower was stronger than most. Otherwise, that charmer would have swept her off her feet, stealing her very soul in the process.

Meanwhile, downstairs, Damian was utterly perplexed. Since moving in with Emma, he had lost count of how many times he had questioned his very existence.

Was she even a real female?

Here he was, the epitome of male allure, draped in luxurious silk, radiating an undeniable sex appeal. Yet, Emma didn't even bat an eyelash. There was no spark in her eyes, no flicker of desire.

Oblivious to Damian's wounded pride, Emma was sprawled comfortably across her bed, engaged in a video call with Edric.

On the other end, the striking man lounged in the Starrail Lounge, and Emma pointed to the necklace around her neck, a wide grin illuminating her face.

"Edric, what do you think? It looks good on me, doesn't it?"

Edric nodded without a moment's hesitation. "It looks good."

If Emma liked it, then it was beautiful, even though anyone with discerning eyes could tell the necklace was nothing more than a cheap trinket.

Why would she choose to wear something so worthless?

Had she truly been deceived by a beast?

### Conclusion

In the quiet aftermath of the evening, Emma stood at the crossroads of her emotions, her heart swelling with a newfound strength. The necklace, a simple gift from Edric, had transformed into a symbol of her defiance against the superficial values that surrounded her. As she navigated the complexities of her relationships with Damian and Drake, she realized that true worth transcended material possessions and societal expectations. Emma's unwavering conviction in the sincerity behind the necklace spoke volumes about her character; she was determined to honor the affection it represented, even when faced with judgment and ridicule. This moment marked a pivotal turn in her journey, where she began to embrace the life she had long feared, asserting her identity in a world that often sought to diminish it.

Meanwhile, Damian's bewilderment echoed in the silence of his room, the allure he exuded seemingly ineffective against Emma's resolute spirit. Her rejection of his attempts to impress her with wealth and status left him grappling with his own insecurities. The wounded pride he felt was not merely about being overlooked; it was a reflection of the deeper realization that true connection could not be forged through superficial gestures. As Emma closed the door behind her, a quiet understanding settled over him, hinting at the possibility of a bond that could flourish beyond the confines of their roles. Both Emma and Damian were on the brink of transformation, ready to confront their vulnerabilities and step into a life that promised authenticity and genuine connection, even amidst the chaos of their intertwined fates.

## What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the upcoming chapter, readers can expect a deepening of the intricate dynamics between Emma, Damian, and Drake as their relationships continue to evolve under the weight of unspoken emotions and hidden agendas. With Emma determined to honor Edric's gesture despite its perceived worthlessness, she will face mounting challenges that test her resolve and force her to confront the underlying tensions in her world. How will Damian react to Emma's steadfastness in the face of Drake's disdain? Will his wounded pride push him to take unexpected actions that could alter the course of their interactions?

As the clock ticks down to their departure, the stakes will rise, and secrets may begin to unravel. Emma's decision to wear the necklace could spark a series of events that challenge the status quo, igniting jealousy and rivalry among the males vying for her attention. Readers will be left on the edge of their seats as they wonder whether Emma can navigate the treacherous waters of her relationships without losing herself in the process. Will she be able to maintain her independence while grappling with the complexities of her feelings for Edric, and the magnetic pull of both Damian and Drake? The tension is palpable, and the next chapter promises to deliver revelations that could shift alliances and reshape destinies.

Sara Lili

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## **When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 29**

[ 1,937 words ]

When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 29 Summary

In Chapter 29 of "When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live," Edric grapples with his feelings regarding a necklace that Emma, affectionately known as Ms. Tibarn, has received from Damian. Despite his initial disdain for the necklace, which he believes is unworthy of Emma, he is taken aback when she expresses genuine affection

for it, simply because it was a gift from him. This moment reveals Edric's deepening feelings for Emma, as he wishes to provide her with something truly beautiful and special, highlighting his desire to protect and cherish her.

Emma's excitement about the necklace and her belief in Edric's talent to craft jewelry further underscores the bond between them. Her innocence and enthusiasm are infectious, making Edric feel warm and cherished in return. However, once their call ends, Edric's demeanor shifts dramatically. He becomes consumed by darker thoughts, revealing a more complex side to his character as he decides to investigate Damian's motives. This contrast between his charming facade with Emma and his underlying determination to confront potential deceit adds depth to the narrative.

The chapter then shifts focus to Emma's dynamic with Damian as she wakes him for a beast hunt. Her eagerness and assertiveness are evident as she attempts to motivate him, contrasting with his groggy reluctance. The playful banter between them showcases their camaraderie, yet there is an underlying tension as Damian feels slighted by Emma's choice to give more food to another companion, Drake. This moment captures Damian's frustration and desire for recognition, hinting at his complicated feelings for Emma and his need for validation.

Overall, the chapter explores themes of friendship, loyalty, and the complexities of emotions in relationships. Edric's protective instincts, Emma's innocence, and Damian's feelings of inadequacy create a rich tapestry of interactions that propel the story forward. As the characters navigate their feelings and the challenges ahead, the reader is left anticipating how these dynamics will unfold in their journey.

Continue Regular Chapter Reading Below

\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\*

\*\*Chapter 29: The Trick\*\*

Finished

What on earth were they thinking, allowing Ms. Tibarn to don such a ridiculous necklace? Was it crafted from the very droppings of beasts, or was there some other explanation for this travesty? Edric couldn't wrap his mind around it.

His striking features, usually so relaxed and charming, momentarily tightened as he hesitated before speaking. "Ms. Tibarn, do you genuinely like this necklace?"

In his heart, he felt a pang of disappointment. My Ms. Tibarn deserves to adorn herself with the most exquisite jewelry, not something that looks like it belongs in a bargain bin.

"Yeah." Emma's face lit up with an infectious enthusiasm that made his heart flutter. She didn't even pause for Edric to inquire further; instead, she launched into an

explanation. "Because it's from you. Sure, you had Damian hand it over, but I still love it."

Edric was momentarily taken aback, left without words.

That clever trickster, Damian, had actually managed to pull one over on me. I thought I could trust him, thought he was a friend. What a fool I was!

"Edric, what's going on with you?" Emma asked, tilting her head in a way that could only be described as adorably curious. She noticed his silence, her brow furrowing in concern.

From the look on his face, it was clear that Edric had pieced together Damian's little game.

"Ms. Tibarn, I assure you, I'm perfectly fine." Edric forced a gentle, almost boyish smile, though it didn't quite reach his eyes. "Yes, I did ask Damian to select this necklace for me. However, I never got to see what he chose until now. Honestly, looking at it, I don't think it suits you at all."

"Huh?" Emma blinked at him, her eyes wide with surprise, before glancing down at the necklace resting delicately against her collarbone. Her brow furrowed slightly as she echoed softly, "Yeah... maybe it doesn't suit me that well."

Edric's smile softened, warmth radiating from him like sunshine breaking through clouds. "Ms. Tibarn, why don't you take it off for now? When I return, I'll craft something special just for you. Something that's truly perfect. How does that sound?"

"Edric, that's incredible! You can make jewelry too?" Emma's excitement was palpable. She had a knack for complimenting him in a way that felt genuine, and her eyes sparkled with surprise and admiration.

Edric held her gaze, entranced by the brightness in her eyes. In that moment, she looked utterly enchanting, a vision of sweetness that made his heart ache.

Ms. Tibarn is so innocent. It's no wonder she keeps getting tangled up in Damian's schemes.

"I have plenty more tricks up my sleeve. Once I'm back, I'll reveal them to you, one by one."

"Edric, you're the sweetest." Emma's sincerity shone through, and she truly believed he was the perfect match for her. He wasn't just gentle; he had a way of coaxing her that made her feel warm and cherished inside.

They continued to chat, laughter and lightness filling the air, but soon Emma felt the familiar tug of sleepiness creeping in. With a reluctant sigh, she ended the lightcore call, curling up in her cozy space, reminding herself that an early rise awaited her for the beast hunt the next day.

On the other end of the call, however, as soon as the connection severed, Edric's cheerful demeanor vanished. His expression darkened, shadows flickering in his eyes, revealing a storm of unspoken thoughts.

\*\*12:20 Tue, Nov 4 M G#.\*\*

\*\*Chapter 29: The Trick\*\*

He turned to the two men standing behind him, their expressions a mix of curiosity and concern. "I need you to dig into Damian from the Ashenflame Fox for me."

I can play the obedient, charming friend in front of Ms. Tibarn, but that cunning fox thinks I'm just going to let him walk all over me? He's got another thing coming. Just wait and see.

At the crack of dawn the following day, Emma burst into Damian's room, her energy palpable as she yanked him straight out of bed.

"I told you yesterday, didn't I? We've got beasts to hunt, and we're heading out any minute now! How can you still be sleeping?"

Damian, bleary-eyed and disheveled, squinted at the clock on his holopad, his entire expression radiating disbelief. "Ms. Tibarn... It's only five in the morning."

We're just going after a level 5 beast. Is it really necessary to rise at this ungodly hour?

"I promised Laura we'd leave at five-thirty sharp," Emma replied, her gaze fixed on him, unimpressed by his choice of bright pink pajamas.

Do foxes really wear colors this gaudy?

"Come on, get up and wash up! I'll whip us something up in the kitchen. We need to be out the door in twenty-five minutes. We're meeting Laura's family at the villa out front," Emma urged, her tone firm. She despised being late; it felt inconsiderate. She preferred to arrive early rather than keep anyone waiting.

"Breakfast?" Damian's eyes lit up at the mention of food, the sleepiness evaporating from his face in an instant.

He had been dreaming about the pancakes and bacon from the previous day, the flavors lingering tantalizingly in his memory.

“Ms. Tibarn, do I get a share too?” he asked, his voice hopeful.

“As long as you make it downstairs on time,” Emma replied with a playful smirk, before heading to the kitchen, leaving him to fend for himself.

The promise of breakfast was enough to propel Damian out of bed. He hurriedly dressed, splashed water on his face, and dashed downstairs to find her.

Emma had prepared dumplings the night before, leaving them uncooked for the morning. She steamed a fresh batch and made a pot of fruit oatmeal, knowing it was Laura’s absolute favorite.

The interstellar stove hummed with a strange, almost magical flame that cooked everything with astonishing speed. Within ten minutes, breakfast was ready, the delightful aroma wafting through the air.

By the time Damian arrived, Emma was just sealing the food into lunch boxes, her movements efficient and practiced. She handed him a neatly packed half-portion. “Here. This one’s yours.” Another box was set aside for Drake, while the last three were tucked into her storage band.

Damian eyed the generous portion she had reserved for Drake, his expression scrunching in protest. “Ms. Tibarn, how come his is so much bigger than mine?”

This is so unfair!

\*\*12:20 Tue, Nov 4 M G#.\*\*

\*\*Chapter 29: The Trick\*\*

“Because Drake gave me star coins,” Emma retorted, her tone laced with a sense of justification.

Finished

“But I hunted beasts today too! I could’ve earned you star coins as well,” Damian protested, feeling a swell of indignation.

I’m working hard today too! It’s not like I’m just lounging around doing nothing. So why does she give me so little?

Conclusion

As the chapter draws to a close, the emotional arc of Edric and Emma takes a pivotal turn. Edric’s initial disappointment over the necklace reveals his deep-seated desire to see Emma cherished and adorned in the finest, reflecting his genuine affection for her.

His willingness to craft something special just for her signifies a shift from mere friendship to a more profound connection, one where he yearns to be the one to bring her joy. Meanwhile, Emma's infectious enthusiasm and unwavering belief in Edric's talents showcase her innocence and the bond they share. It's a delicate dance of emotions, where Edric grapples with his darker thoughts about Damian while simultaneously nurturing a blossoming relationship with Emma, who remains blissfully unaware of the underlying tensions.

In stark contrast, Emma's spirited interactions with Damian highlight her determination and resilience. Her insistence on punctuality and her nurturing spirit shine through as she prepares breakfast, embodying a sense of responsibility and care. Yet, the playful banter between her and Damian reveals an underlying tension; despite their camaraderie, there exists a competitive edge that hints at deeper complexities in their relationship. As the chapter closes, the reader is left with a sense of anticipation for what lies ahead. The stakes are rising, with Edric's protective instincts ignited against Damian's cunning, while Emma's bright spirit continues to illuminate the path forward, suggesting that the journey ahead will test their bonds and reveal the true nature of their relationships.

What to Expect in Next Chapter?

**\*\*What to Expect in the Next Chapter?\***

In the upcoming chapter, tensions are set to rise as Edric dives deeper into the enigma that is Damian. With a newfound determination to protect Emma from his manipulative grasp, Edric's investigation will uncover secrets that may shake the very foundation of their friendship. As he delves into the cunning fox's past, readers can anticipate a thrilling exploration of loyalty, betrayal, and the lengths one will go to for love. Will Edric's charm and wit be enough to outsmart Damian, or will he find himself ensnared in a web of deception?

Meanwhile, Emma and Damian's dynamic is bound to shift as they embark on their beast-hunting adventure. With their playful banter and budding camaraderie, the stakes will rise as they confront not just the beasts lurking in the shadows, but also the unspoken feelings brewing between them. Will Emma's unwavering energy and optimism be enough to keep them both safe, or will Damian's jealousy and insecurities threaten to unravel their newfound partnership? As the dawn breaks on their expedition, readers will be left on the edge of their seats, eagerly awaiting the revelations that lie ahead.

Sara Lili

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## **When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 30**

[ 1,819 words ]

When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live 30 Summary

In “When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live,” Emma expresses her skepticism about Damian’s abilities as a Rank 8 Etherian, questioning his confidence in taking down beasts. Despite her playful teasing, Damian feels a surge of determination to prove himself, especially after Emma shares her breakfast with him, igniting a competitive spirit. Their banter reveals a budding camaraderie, with Emma promising a special treat if Damian succeeds in his hunt, which further motivates him.

As they prepare to face the challenges ahead, Drake, a commanding figure with a watchful eye, orders surveillance on Emma’s hunting expedition, revealing his underlying concern for her safety. His cold demeanor contrasts sharply with the warmth of the breakfast scene between Emma and Damian, highlighting the different dynamics in their relationships. Drake’s thoughts reveal a possessive side, as he contemplates the implications of Emma’s potential danger on his own peace of mind.

Emma’s encounter with Laura showcases her nurturing side as she brings her friend a bowl of fruit oatmeal, reinforcing their bond. The arrival of a luxurious Gravicar stirs Emma’s aspirations, revealing her desire for a life filled with adventure and stylish possessions. Damian’s playful challenge to buy her a Gravicar despite his lack of funds adds a layer of humor and lightness to the narrative, while also hinting at his willingness to support Emma’s dreams.

The chapter concludes with an air of anticipation as the characters prepare for the hunt, each driven by their motivations and emotions. Emma’s excitement about the hunt and the prospect of a new Gravicar contrasts with Drake’s protective instincts, setting the stage for potential conflict and growth in their intertwined lives. As they step out into the world, the promise of adventure looms, filled with both risks and rewards.

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**\*\*When She Opened the Door to the Life She Was Afraid to Live \*\***

"I understand," Emma replied, her head nodding slightly, but her expression was a mixture of concern and disbelief. "But the truth is, you haven't even taken down a single beast yet. And with your current Rank 5 status, who can say how many you'll actually be able to take down when the moment arises?"

Damian stood there, his mouth agape, utterly bewildered by her words.

What does she mean by that? Is she really questioning my abilities? I'm an accomplished Rank 8 Etherian. Taking out a few level five beasts? That's child's play—like swatting away annoying flies.

"I'm already going out on a limb for you here, sharing half of my breakfast. If Drake finds out, he'll probably label me as unfair." Emma began to retract the half-filled bowl of fruit oatmeal, her eyes narrowing playfully. "If that feels insufficient, you can always skip it."

"I'll eat it," Damian declared, snatching the bowl as if it were a precious artifact that might disappear at any moment. "Ms. Tibarn, I assure you, I will slay plenty of beasts. Just wait and see; you'll view me in a whole new light after that."

I don't even know what's in this bowl, but it smells so sweet and inviting.

By the time Damian made his way downstairs, he was already swallowing hard, anticipation gnawing at him.

Fine. If she's a good cook, I'll show her my true capabilities and take down a few extra beasts to justify my meal.

Emma was well aware that Damian was not the type to refuse food. With a mischievous grin, she dangled a tantalizing promise before him. "I'm confident you'll take down a lot of beasts. And once the hunt is over, I'll prepare something for you that you've never tasted before. It'll be my treat."

The mere thought of a mystery dish ignited a spark in Damian's eyes. "Deal. But don't you dare back out on me."

Emma playfully thumped her chest as if sealing a vow. "Back out? Not a chance."

He's just a fox. How clever can he really be? If I put my mind to it, I could have him eating out of my hand within minutes.

The two of them finished their breakfast and promptly headed out into the world beyond.

As soon as Emma stepped outside the villa, a shadow glided silently to a halt just outside Drake's bedroom door.

“Mr. Smith, we’ve confirmed it. Ms. Tibarn has gone out hunting with a woman named Laura, who resides in the front villas. The beast they’re pursuing originated from the outer battlefield. Two high-tier Chitinids are hiding within it.”

The door opened without a sound, revealing Drake, who stepped out slowly, his black robe trailing behind him like a dark cloud. The gold threads woven into it shimmered with every movement, reminiscent of a dragon poised to strike. His brows were sharp, his gaze cold and commanding, and even before he uttered a word, the gravity of his presence weighed heavily on anyone nearby.

He strolled into the kitchen, his eyes briefly scanning the untouched breakfast on the table before addressing the man who had followed him. “Send two experts to keep an eye on her. They should maintain a safe distance as long as she’s unharmed. Only intervene if her life is in jeopardy.”

It’s not that I’m worried about her. What genuinely concerns me is that if that woman were to die, there would be no one left to soothe my nerves, and I wouldn’t get to savor food this good again.

—

Emma arrived at Laura’s place, breakfast in hand, and offered it to her with a bright smile.

“Laura, I brought your favorite fruit oatmeal.”

Laura had always had a soft spot for Emma’s culinary skills, and that oatmeal was nothing short of divine.

“You really know how to spoil me,” Laura said, taking the bowl with both hands, inhaling deeply the sweet aroma as if it were a fine perfume, before tucking it into her storage band.

She had already consumed a bottle of nutrient fluid provided by her mate upon waking, so this delightful treat would have to wait until lunch.

Emma glanced at the time, curiosity piqued. “So... those two teams you mentioned yesterday, have they shown up yet?”

Laura had informed her that, due to the suspicion of a high-tier Chitinid, she had requested two Etherian teams to join them for added security.

“They should be arriving any minute now.” No sooner had Laura spoken than a medium-sized Gravicar, shimmering in violet-gold, came to a smooth halt outside her place.

Emma's eyes widened in envy, her heart racing. She had seen that very model a few days prior on Lightcore's promotional page. Nexus Prime Tech had just released it last month, priced at a staggering two billion star coins.

The Gravicar wasn't just spacious and swift; it was also incredibly stylish, boasting a built-in defense shield and state-of-the-art weapon systems.

"Do you like it?" Damian leaned closer, noticing how Emma's gaze was fixated on the Gravicar. He lowered his voice, almost conspiratorially, in her ear.

Emma nodded enthusiastically. "That's the latest model from Nexus Prime Tech. It's packed with features, a solid price, and great value for what you get."

Her gaze lingered on the radiant violet-gold sheen of the Gravicar, and out of nowhere, Edric slipped into her thoughts.

A smile spread across her lips. "I heard we can customize the colors. Once I return from this beast hunt, I'm definitely getting one. Mine will be black with a violet finish."

Just like my little Edric.

"What's so special about black with violet, anyway?" Damian shot her a skeptical look, clearly unimpressed. "If that's what you want, fine. When I return from hunting that beast, I'll buy you the Gravicar."

Pink. Pink looks stunning! Red works too, just like a tail.

Emma gave him a once-over, arching an eyebrow. "You don't even have a single star coin to your name. How do you plan on buying one?"

Damian fell silent, clearing his throat, a hint of embarrassment creeping in. "I've got a buddy at Nexus Prime Tech. I can probably get one through him, maybe even at a discount."

## Conclusion

As the sun rose higher in the sky, casting a warm glow over the landscape, both Emma and Damian felt a shift within themselves. The playful banter and shared aspirations had forged a connection that was both unexpected and exhilarating. Emma's initial skepticism of Damian's capabilities began to dissolve, replaced by an eagerness to see him rise to the challenge. For Damian, the promise of a shared meal and the prospect of impressing Emma reignited a sense of purpose that had been dulled by past uncertainties. Their lighthearted exchanges, laced with teasing and camaraderie, hinted at the possibility of a deeper bond, one that could transcend the challenges that lay ahead.

Yet, lurking in the shadows was the ever-watchful Drake, whose intentions remained shrouded in mystery. His concern for Emma was palpable, but it was also tinged with a possessive edge that hinted at unspoken feelings. As the two pairs of hunters prepared to face the lurking dangers of the outer battlefield, the stakes were raised not just for their physical safety but for the emotional ties that were beginning to intertwine. The chapter closed on a note of anticipation, with both Emma and Damian poised to confront their fears and aspirations, while the unseen forces around them threatened to complicate their journey. In this moment of choice and challenge, they stood at the threshold of a life they had both been afraid to live, ready to step through the door together.

### What to Expect in Next Chapter?

In the next chapter, readers can expect the tension to rise as Emma and Damian embark on their beast-hunting expedition. With the stakes heightened by the looming threat of high-tier Chitinids, their journey will be fraught with challenges that test not only their skills but also the budding camaraderie between them. Will Damian live up to his boastful claims of slaying beasts, or will Emma's skepticism prove justified? As they venture deeper into the wilds, unexpected encounters and fierce battles await, promising to reveal the true nature of their abilities and the strength of their partnership.

Moreover, the shadow of Drake looms large as he orchestrates events from afar, ensuring that Emma remains protected while grappling with his own conflicting emotions. His enigmatic presence will add an intriguing layer to the unfolding drama, leaving readers questioning his true motivations. Will he intervene when the time comes, or will he allow Emma to face her fears alone? As secrets unravel and alliances are tested, the chapter is set to explore themes of trust, bravery, and the complexities of their intertwined fates. Prepare for heart-pounding action and unexpected twists that will keep you on the edge of your seat!

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