

For Your Failed Unrequited Love

#Chapter 101 - Read For Your Failed Unrequited Love

Chapter 101

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Duke Berg had a satisfied look on his face while sipping wine.

There was nothing but darkness outside the window.

A few hours ago, he stood outside his office and heard his wife tell his son about the prophecy, but he did not stop her.

Fortunately, Felix's manner had been strangely obedient for some time. He seemed to have finally settled down as his successor, and he seemed to be serious about learning the business of his family. Sooner or later, he will tell him about the prophecy and try to finish everything.

However, the Duke was still hesitant about the story of the temple's vault. His eldest son, unlike his second son, was always rebellious and rough. He always thought of him as a suitable successor rather than his second child, who seemed obedient and strangely unmotivated. But his sometimes erratic behavior needs to be corrected.

Moreover, even if his attitude had changed recently, he was not sure if Felix had completely changed his mind. That's why he's been holding off on talking about the vault in the temple. Unexpectedly, his wife first revealed how she found out about the vault.

He was angry for a moment, but the Duke calmly thought about it.

Isn't he the son who is gradually accepting his role as the successor?

His previous reaction may be nothing more than a moment of rebellion. If he gives him some quiet time to think alone, his son will eventually realize. What an honor it is to live as the Duke of Berg. What a joy it is to work for this wonderful and perfect family.

That all of this is a life that no one dares to dream of.

His son, who will be the next duke, will live for the prosperity of his family after him. The Duke smiled once more satisfactorily. He asked the servant who was waiting.

What is Felix doing?

The young master remained in his room quietly. I just double-checked with another servant who was bringing him food.

All right,

He slowly rose from his seat.

Now the moment has come to tell his eldest son directly. For the infinite glory he will enjoy and the obligations he must have before that.

* * *

As the Duke opened the door, his eldest son, who was looking out the window far away, turned to look at him. He had an obedient look in his eyes recently, but it appears to have returned to a sharp look now.

Felix,

Even though the Duke called him, he only looked at his father coldly. The Duke sat down at the table with a blank expression on his face. He nodded his head to the opposite seat.

Sit down,

Felix, who stood silent for a moment, walked slowly and sat down. As he stared at his father, he opened his mouth.

are all the stories of prophecy true?

Yes, that is the prophecy and myth of this great Berg family. The power of the family will extend to the extent of the land he has, and the honor of the family will be built up to the height of the gold he has.

The Duke raised his hands proudly.

And look, son, now the prophecy is not just a matter of the future, it has become our reality. For the great Dukes of Berg carved prophecies in their hearts and worked hard for the prosperity of their families.

However, when he heard that, he looked neither thrilled nor proud at all. He still looked at his father with a look of resistance, and then said:

I suppose you have something to say about the last phrase of the prophecy. You tried to kill Adrian mercilessly just because of that sentence.

He ought to be grateful to be alive. The Duke laughed.

If it hadnt been for the resemblance between him and you, I would have had him gone. But he has many uses. Thats why Ive kept him alive.

Felix gritted his teeth as his tone did not reflect any affection for his son. The Duke once again made up his mind to correct that weak mind. He could not distinguish between the front and the back, when it came to his younger brother.

what will you do now that you know the whole truth? asked the Duke.

Youve always acted like you felt sorry for him. But do you still feel that way after knowing the truth? Hes not your brother; hes like a thief who came to steal everything you have. He will divide the land, property, and all the honor that you will inherit into halves. When that time comes, the power of our family will be halved!

The Duke raised his voice, but the next moment he lowered his voice again and whispered like a devil.

Felix, kill Adrian with your own hands. so that your place will be firm.

His wonderful but useless first son needed to be more cruel and ruthless. Only then can he lead the Berg family, keep the Imperial family and the other families in check.

Even after hearing his fathers words, Felix didnt budge.

The Duke added threatening words.

If you dont obey me. I have no choice but to give up on you and make Adrian my successor.

Giving up meant killing him. It was a small wonder.. for two sons couldnt live under the Berg familys roof.

If one was alive, the other had to disappear.

Felix opened his mouth and roared, as if he had come to his senses.

First you tried to kill Adrian and now youre planning to make him your successor? You really think of him as a toy horse. Dont you feel sorry for Adrian at all?

No.

Not at all?

Not a speck of dust,

Felixs eyes were blazing with anger more than ever before.

Are you about to rebel again?

The Duke wondered how his son would turn out.

But the next moment, all the emotions were drained from Felix's face. It was a strange expression that he had never seen in his son before.

Expressionless face. Empty eyes. Determined lips.

He just sat still and stared at his father as if he had given up all his expectations of the world. Even the Duke felt chills for a moment as he seemed not to bleed even if he stabbed him.

I won't follow your plans. he said with an expressionless face in a low voice.

I'll lay everything on the table and report all your misdeeds in a formal complaint. I'll do my best to testify.

After all, you're saying this again.

The Duke's face turned bright red.

To his disappointment, his son seemed oblivious.

You still haven't given up on that silly idea! You can't make me stand on the threshold of the presiding judge unless you have the papers I kept at the temple.

I'm sure the papers will come into my hands.

Foolish thing! Do you think I'll let you do that or let someone else bring the papers for you? No one can take it out unless it's you and me. You won't be able to enter unless a priest confirms your family crest.

The Duke slammed the armrest with excitement. He stared at Felix with a sharp twitch of anger.

I didn't expect my son to be so unreasonable!

He had expected Felix to come to his senses one day and understand what he meant. He was willing to overlook his insolent and selfish behavior to some extent since it's something a successor of the Berg family should exercise.

However, his son was more stubborn than he expected. He dared to accuse him and put him in prison. The look on his face was as frustrating and uncomfortable as that of his second child, about whom he had no idea what was running through his mind.

Felix Berg! You stupid thing! This pathetic!

But suddenly the Duke stopped moving.

His angry face flashed with bewilderment. The ominous thought at first glance drove him into shock. His protruding eyes began to examine his sons face. Eyes, nose, mouth, forehead, and everything else. But no matter how much he looked at it, the duke could guarantee nothing. In the process, a face identical to the one before him appeared over it.

At last the Duke opened his twitching lips and uttered a trembling voice.

You you I dont believe it!

He pointed his finger at his son in front of him with a shaky hand.

How dare you!

But his son only stared at his father with calm and cool eyes.

Adrian How dare you!

The Duke felt suffocated and was out of breath. His eyes twitched, and he felt dizzy and nauseous at the same time.

In recent months, he had been overworked, and he was on the verge of collapse due to the sudden shock. But, as he staggered, his imagination was clearly running towards the worst.

He clearly imagined the appearance of his eldest son, who had managed to escape the mansion and would have arrived at the temple by now, and the fact that he held the documents in the safe in his hand.

He gasped and collapsed under the sofa.

How can you betray me like this?

He looked at Adrian, sitting quietly on the opposite side of the sofa with furious eyes. The Duke held his chest as if his beating heart was about to burst. He needed a doctor. He reached out to Adrian in front of him and commanded.

C, call someone!

The next moment, however, he faced his sons face with no sympathy for him. Only then did the Duke realize that it was not time for him to give orders.

Adrian call someone right now I beg you

He was now pleading for Adrian. The fear of death seemed to hang before him. Adrian only stared down at his father, and did nothing.

Adrian, please call someone.

Father,

At last Adrian opened his tight lips.

Perhaps Felix would have. He wouldn't have simply abandoned someone in trouble.

His low, shady voice enveloped the duke like a fog.

Even if it's trash like you,

Adrian!

But I'm not,

Adrian uttered words that were far too desperate for the Duke.

It's so much fun to see you struggle in such a miserable way now. Maybe I'm the same trash as you are. But I can't help it. You made me do this.

The Duke's eyes appeared fuzzy. He was unable to see anything.

Instead, he could clearly hear his son ridiculing him.

Why didn't you try to distinguish us properly?

At the end of his speech, the Duke lost his mind. **Sienna**

Chapter 102

A massive horse galloped through the darkness. The tip of her nose tingled as the wind brushed against her face.

Lucy tightened her grip on Felix's waist as it was her first time riding a horse this fast.

About twenty minutes after leaving the Duchy. The horse's quick pace allowed the two to arrive at the temple faster than expected.

Lucy's gaze was drawn to the huge temple in front of her. It looked beautiful in pictures, but in person, it was indescribably magnificent and reverent.

But now was not the time to marvel at the enigmatic appearance. Felix yanked the reins and came to a halt as the horse crossed the square and entered the front yard of the temple. He got off the horse and helped Lucy down.

Felix's expression as he lowered himself to the ground was unusual. Lucy was concerned as she noticed his tense expression.

I hope Adrian-sunbae is safe.

A short while ago, she was going about her usual routine in the library, watching over the return table or mopping the floor.

The floor was already polished and gleaming. Nevertheless, Lucy continued to wipe. Otherwise, she didn't think she'd be able to stop the constant flurry of thoughts in her head. She felt terrible about turning down the Duke's invitation. Felix told her not to worry, but she couldn't stop worrying as she remembered the Duke of Berg's frightening face.

The Duke will scold him harshly regardless of his age. Perhaps I should have been more polite in my rejection.

Lucy became even more concerned when Felix did not return to the Academy until late in the evening.

She ran into Adrian as she was about to leave the library. She dashed to him like a traveler who discovered an oasis.

Adrian-sunbae!

Lucy,

Has Felix-sunbae gone back to the dormitory?

No

Adrian frowned and blurred the rest of his words in response to Lucy's question.

I'm worried about Felix-sunbae. He's not going to get in trouble because of me, is he? The Duke invited me today, but Felix canceled it on his own and went instead.

Adrian, who had always comforted others with his soothing words, listened to her and sighed deeply.

His reaction made Lucy feel uneasy.

I'll go home and look into it.

Adrian then abruptly turned away. Lucy followed closely. Adrian inquired, noticing she had followed him to the stable.

You want to come, too?

Yes, Im coming, too! Lets go!

Lucy was the first to enter the stable and urged Adrian.

She was concerned that Felix would speak nonsense in front of the Duke in vain. Words to defend themselves, for instance.

If that was the case, she was willing to stand up and claim that Felix had nothing to do with her and that she had followed him on her own. She didnt want Felix and the Duke getting into a fight because of her.

Sunbae, hurry up!

Adrian had a troubled expression on his face as he looked at Lucy.

Youd better not go,

Ill just wait outside the house! I just want to see Felixs face!

Lucy lied as she begged.

Adrian felt compelled to say yes when she didnt move at all in front of the horse. While old Fred snored and slept, they rode out of the academy.

Contrary to Lucys ominous predictions, the house was peaceful and quiet when they arrived. Subtle lights shone through each window, as she had seen before.

Did I worry for no reason?

She was relieved that nothing bad had happened. Adrian spoke in a low voice as he turned to face Lucy, perhaps feeling at ease given the atmosphere of the home.

I dont think its a big deal, given how quiet it is.

Adrian, who was observing the hallway, suddenly became serious.

Whats the matter?

Hush,

He pressed his finger to his lips and motioned for Lucy to be quiet. Then he quietly beckoned her to follow him.

Lucy didn't notice her until she got to the bottom of the stairs. This floor was filled with a sinister voice.

Adrian guided Lucy to the open area beneath the stairs. They crept into the darkness and began to listen in.

Lucy recognized the cold tone of the voice. The Duke's tone of voice. He was speaking to someone in a low, cool tone.

The sound of footsteps thumping down the hall continued. She noticed several armed men heading upstairs.

Let's get out of here, Lucy.

Adrian said quietly.

But

With terrified eyes, Lucy peered up. The men's rough footsteps were thumping the stairs.

Let's go out for the time being.

Adrian led Lucy, who kept looking up, out.

What exactly is going on?

I don't know, either. I think we should hear it from Felix.

Adrian led her to the house's backyard.

Look, that's Felix's room; the light just went on, and I can see people moving around.

As he said this, she noticed people's shadows swaying through the curtained window.

I don't think it's possible to go up using the stairs.

He abruptly rolled up his sleeves and placed his hands between the bricks. It was a sight she had seen before.

Are you climbing the wall?

This is the only way

Do you both enjoy climbing walls?

Adrian tilted his head, as if he didnt understand the question, and then strode up to the window in an instant. As he approached the window, he looked inside and gently knocked; the window soon opened, and Adrian vanished beyond it.

Lucy curled up in the darkness, waiting for Adrian to reappear.

The window opened once more shortly after. Lucy looked up.

A man with bright golden hair fluttering in the moonlight looked down. Unsurprisingly, he stepped on the window sill and gently jumped down.

Lucy!

He looked around as soon as he landed and quietly called her name. When Lucy crawled out of the shadows, he ran up to her and hugged her.

Felix-sunbae!

Felix cradled Lucy in his arms before releasing her. Without giving himself a chance to feel good about it, he spoke quickly.

I have to go to the temple right now.

Is he going to take your place?

Lucy inquired, but he held her hand with a face that said he didnt have time to waste and began running to the horses side.

Ill explain everything as I go.

* * *

Felix said he needed to find important documents, so Adrian pretended to be him and was locked up in his room because he needed to find the papers without his fathers knowledge.

Lucy couldnt hear the entire explanation because its difficult to hear the words clearly while riding a galloping horse.

After a brief identification, they entered the temple.

I need to look for something in the Bergs vault.

The white-bearded old priest looked Felix in the eyes and replied,

We must see the Berg seal, which was carved by the high priest himself.

Felix nodded to indicate that he was prepared, and the elderly man led the way without saying a word.

He reappeared after a while, carrying a box filled with piles of papers. Felix seemed perplexed by the larger amount than he had anticipated.

It will take a long time to review and sort out.

He murmured as he looked down at the papers.

Can you lend me another vault?

He inquired of the elderly man.

Felix left the temple with Lucy after safely storing the documents in another vault.

What do you intend to do now?

Im going to take Adrian out of the house. I hope my father didnt notice that Im gone.

He mumbled nervously while grinning as if his comments were amusing.

Well, you dont have to worry about that,

* * *

Running down the path they had taken before, they returned to the duchy. In front of the mansion, Felix said to Lucy.

I dont know whats going to happen, so stay here. Ill go in there and get Adrian.

He got off the horse and handed the reins to Lucy.

But then the mansions main door unexpectedly opened. Then, from within, a shadow appeared.

Surprisingly, the shadows owner called out their names as if he recognized Felix and Lucy standing in the dark.

Felix, Lucy,

Adrian? Felix asked, surprised, as he heard his brothers voice. Adrian quickly opened the door for them.

Please come in.

Felix and Lucy approached him after exchanging puzzled looks at his calm voice.

Adrian Is everything okay? Felix inquired, wary of his surroundings.

Adrian smiled at the sight, a strange smile that is faint and somewhat bitter, but on the other hand, he appears truly happy.

Felix, come in with confidence; no one in this house will dare to disobey you.

What do you mean? Felix inquired.

Adrian, still smiling, hugged Felix as he approached. Adrian, who had been patting him on the back, let him go once more. Then he added,

I mean, youre the head of the family.

The remark made Felix frown. He looked as if he didnt understand what Adrian was saying.

Then, in a slightly shaky voice, his twin brothers took a deep breath and confessed the situation.

Father has collapsed, and the doctor says he may not be able to wake up.

Sienna

Chapter 103

Felix stepped into the bedroom.

In the center of the large, luxurious bed a pale-faced duke lay dead. The duchess sat by his bedside, looking down at her husbands face with an expressionless face.

The scene was so static that it seemed as if time had stopped like the world in a picture.

Only the doctor and servants, who were checking the Dukes condition, were busily moving around the bed.

What happened?

Felix whispered to Adrian standing next to him.

He was shocked and collapsed when he realized that I was the one trapped in your room. He hasnt come to his senses until now.

Felix approached the bed.

The Duke really looked like a corpse. Originally, he had a pale and sunken face, but after he collapsed, his complexion disappeared and he could be believed to be dead.

Shouldnt we put him in a coffin, not a bed?

Are you sure hes alive?

Felix asked the doctor. The doctor replied, Y, yes, with a flustered face.

is there any chance of him regaining consciousness?

The Duchess, who was not saying a word, opened her mouth for the first time.

Im sorry, madam. As I said before, it will be hard for him to regain consciousness. And even if his consciousness returns, whether he can speak and move as before.

The doctor blurted out the end of his sentence. He snuck a glance to see if the Duchess and the princes would be upset and would accuse him of being incompetent.

But no one was angry at his hopeless diagnosis. No one was sad.

Someone just looked down at the Dukes face with an indifferent face, and another turned his head with a face that said it didnt matter.

If the master cannot wake up like this,

This time, Reilly, the butler who was quietly guarding the bed, opened his mouth. His eyes slowly shifted to Felix.

The young master will have to take charge of the familys work in earnest. Of course, I and my secretaries will sincerely assist you.

With the words, all eyes in the room turned to Felix. All responsibility was now on his shoulders.

Leading the Berg family, managing the businesses that his father had started, and everything else that was going to happen.

Isnt this what Ive been hoping for? To have the power that even father couldnt control.

However, when the moment came and he thought that all the responsibility had been imposed on him, Felix suddenly clenched his fist under pressure.

The butler tried to clear up the situation, perhaps because he noticed Felixs feelings.

We will do our best to assist you, master. So dont worry too much, madam and young masters.

The Duchess rose slowly from her seat at the end of the butlers words. She gave the lying Duke a cold look and said.

Ill sleep in another room starting today.

A maid left the room as soon as she said those words to lead her to the other room.

Except for the Dukes servants, no one was willing to stand by him. Felix and Adrian left the Dukes room as well to go to their own room.

Despite the fact that the lord of the mansion was unconscious, the mansion was more serene and tranquil than ever.

Adrian.

He called his brother walking ahead. Adrian looked back at him with an indifferent face.

No signs of grief were visible on his face. However, he did not express his feelings of joy. As opposed to earlier when he had greeted Felix with a faint smile, his face is now completely blank.

Felix called him, but he didnt know what to say. He was filled with conflicting emotions.

Only then did Adrian smile and speak to his brother.

Good night, brother. Dont worry about anything tonight.

Adrian then disappeared into his room.

* * *

As Felix entered the room, Lucy, who was sitting on the sofa, jumped up. She came running with a worried look on her face and asked.

What happened?

My father collapsed.

The Duke?

Lucy asked back with her round eyes.

Not knowing exactly what was going on in Felix's family, she carefully examined his complexion.

Are you okay?

Im very fine.

But if he answers like that, Lucy will be surprised.

Instead of answering, Felix smiled affectionately and put her back on the sofa.

You're hungry, right? I told them to bring my meal to my room.

Well

Lucy, still hesitating, turned her eyes out of the window. It was now completely dark.

It's late. Curfew is approaching.

Don't worry, I'll ask them to take you back in a carriage.

At the end of Felix's words, the servants came with their dinner.

Come on and let's eat. I'm hungry.

Felix said, pushing the plate of food in front of her.

Lucy looked down at the food timidly and eventually picked up the fork.

Although it was in the same capital, going to the temple during this night was tiring. Besides, Lucy doesn't seem used to a fast-paced horse.

Felix smiled as he watched Lucy shovel food into her mouth with more vigor than usual, acting as though she was famished.

Perhaps because they were only concerned with eating to satisfy their hunger, their meals were brief.

I really need to get going now.

Lucy said as she got out of her chair and awkwardly peered down at her empty plate.

The curfew has already passed, but we have no choice but to receive a penalty point.

It's already past midnight.

Flora should have gone to bed by this point. Perhaps she'll be irritated if Lucy wakes her up to go to the dorm.

Felix looked out the dark window and said quietly.

Do you want to sleep here?

Lucy opened her mouth in surprise while she was putting on her jacket.

What?

When Felix smiled at Lucy, Lucy's face turned red.

Felix approached the bed, patted it, and said.

You sleep here, and I sleep on the couch.

But

Lucy paused before speaking. Felix, on the other hand, took the pillow and went to the sofa. Lucy remained motionless.

Oh, I guess I should ask for some clothes.

Lucy was still in her school uniform.

But

Felix waved the bell again, ignoring what Lucy was saying. The maid entered immediately and waited for the order.

Please prepare clothes and bath water for Lucy.

Yes, young master.

The maid left the room, bowing her head.

Do you want to wash up?

No.

Lucy immediately replied with a stiff face.

Felix smiled mischievously, shrugged his shoulders, and entered the bath.

Lucy had changed as well when he returned to the room after washing up. Wearing the duchesss pajamas, she sat on the sofa.

Lucy cast a sidelong glance at Felix's face before moving her gaze elsewhere when he returned.

Why are you sitting there?

Felix asked Lucy, who showed no signs of moving on the sofa.

I'll sleep here.

I'll move you to the bed if you sleep there.

Felix sat down next to Lucy and laughed.

Hurry up and go to bed. Or do you want to sleep here with me?

Lucy got up from her chair and sprinted to bed even before Felix had finished speaking. As she climbed into bed, she lifted the blanket up to her neck and wrapped it around her entire body.

Felix gave her a friendly smile before blowing out the candle and lying down on the sofa.

After some time, he heard movement on the bed. Lucy was suddenly swinging her arms wildly and staring at the bed linen.

It's my first time lying on such a big bed.

Lucy muttered in the dark.

It feels more empty because it's too big.

Shall I sleep with you?

I'm good.

Lucy refused sharply once more and closed her eyes, avoiding Felix's gaze.

The room was dark with all the lights turned off, but Lucy's face was dimly visible under a blue moonlight streaming in.

she looked restless.

Felix looked at her face in silence.

What is she thinking?

Now that his father collapsed, Felix was more relieved than ever. He's so comfortable right now, but Lucy looked disturbed.

And after a while, Felix realized why.

Don't worry.

Felix whispered in the dark.

I will definitely bring them to the capital.

Lucy opened her eyes again and looked at him.

Your family. Somehow, I'll bring them here.

Lucy smiled a little at his words.

Yes.

Then, with a relieved face, Lucy closed her eyes quietly.

* * *

News that Duke Berg was unconscious began spreading throughout the empire through gossip.

No one thought it was strange that the Duke suddenly collapsed and was unconscious. Some people were already bragging about what they had expected.

He already stumbled in front of people twice due to dizziness.

Butler Reilly explained.

Furthermore, one of them was at the royal banquet where many people gathered. From then on, people began to doubt the health of the master.

The Duke was already in poor health due to overwork.

Since the former Duke of Berg died of overwork in a carriage, people related this to him and referred to it as the Curse of the Berg family. **Sienna**

Chapter 104

Is it a curse?

Felix muttered, looking down at his fathers face, who was still unconscious.

The second day since the Duke collapsed. As his doctor said, he didnt show any signs of waking up. It was fortunate that it brought freedom and peace into the lives of other families, but the problem lies elsewhere.

He cant be investigated at this rate.

Felix touched his head. On the other side, Adrian was also looking at the Duke with a troubled face.

The Duke was unconscious and unable to make a statement. Even I If he filed a complaint, he wouldnt be able to sit on the bench.

In addition, the smell of some nobles who promoted business with the Duke was unusual. Following the fall of the duke, they observed the duchys movements in their own way and seemed to notice Felixs intention to accuse his father.

They feared that their sins would surface and be exposed. They were prepared to plan things among themselves and hold Felix responsible for all their wrongdoings.

Unfortunately, Felix was unable to act quickly because there was evidence supporting their conspiracy. This is due to the fact that there was ample proof that Felix was present whenever the Berg familys business was being conducted.

Its because of me.

Adrian held himself responsible. He attended various events as Felix on the Dukes orders. He looked deeply regretful about the past.

Because I couldnt disobey fathers order, I didnt consider this situation Youre the only one in trouble because of me.

The other nobles who had taken part in the incident were attempting to find their own escape routes since the Duke could not be investigated.

Instead of accusing them, Felix couldnt help but think of another way to correct their wrong doings.

Knock, knock.

Then someone knocked on the door. The Dukes aide followed.

Master Felix, I am ready to go to Ikar as the Duke instructed me not long ago; when are we leaving?

During the uncomfortable dinner with the Duke a few days ago, he talked about the right to negotiate stone. The Duke had earlier prepared to send Felix to Icar.

Felix thought for a moment and said,

We will not proceed with the negotiations.

Then he received a document from Reilly and handed it to his aide.

Deliver this to the imperial family.

The aide, who was looking at the documents, looked up with a bewildered expression.

Young master, this is a document that hands over all negotiating rights related to the stones of Ikar. Are you really delivering it to the imperial family?

The aide seemed confused by the orders that were clearly different from those given by the Duke so far.

Yes, deliver it to the imperial court right now. However, make up moderately different reasons for how my father got this.

The aide had a suspicious look on his face, but he looked at the Dukes face lying dead and walked out without saying anything.

The stone could then be supplied to the East at a reasonable price. If, as his father predicted, the war would end with the empires victory, then a strong wall must be built in the east as soon as possible.

Because he didnt want any more devastating news like invasion, looting, and war to happen to Lucys hometown.

This is how we can correct it one by one.

Felix murmured in the Dukes room, which was quiet again.

If we cant accuse father We have no choice but to come forward and correct the wrong things.

Soon a strong and determined light came over his eyes.

* * *

Felix had a busy day, as if to demonstrate his grit and determination. Even before he could enjoy his newfound freedom, he had to spend the entire day in his office reviewing documents.

Soon after, a servant arrived at the office and delivered the news from the messenger who had returned from Brom. Felix finally received the good news he had been hoping for.

I found the whereabouts of the Keenan family. They have been under the protection of the Count of Dern, the closest refuge to Brom, since a few days ago.

Felix let out a sigh of relief. Fortunately, Lucys family was safe.

He was nervous that something might have happened because he rarely heard news about them.

Okay. Send someone to bring them to the capital as soon as possible.

Oh, but.

The servant blurred out the end of his words with an embarrassing look at Felix's command.

Whats going on?

The residents of the eastern part of the country are not allowed to leave the shelter without permission; Your Majesty has issued an immigration ban on them; The Imperial army has been monitoring them for several days.

Felix frowned.

Because of the war, a movement ban was imposed to prevent people from leaving the east and moving to another area.

Try to contact the Count of Dern, and no matter how much you pay them, bring them here safely.

Felix spoke without hesitation. The servant bowed his head. Then he raised his head again and began speaking.

And I found a young man who looked as similar to you as possible, with the same hair, eye color, height, weight, and face.

Okay. Ask him if he can sign a contract based on what I told you in advance.

I see.

The servant stepped out.

But the door did not close. Adrian soon appeared behind the door.

who is that young man? He asked.

You're here.

Adrian frowned at Felix's short answer.

Are you looking for someone to send to the battlefield instead of me?

Felix paused, knowing Adrian would be upset.

Sure enough, he walked into the office, unable to hide his displeasure.

Felix, there are many nobles from the capital who are already familiar with our face. It's not as simple as lying. If this is discovered, you will be held accountable.

I will bargain with the Knights and send the young man to a location with the fewest people and the highest rank of knights, where no one knows your face.

It's a stupid idea because no matter how well you prepare, you can't avoid everyone's gaze.

Adrian refused to back down. He tried to persuade Felix that he couldn't accept the plan.

His brother, on the other hand, was a formidable opponent.

I will never send you to war.

Felix responded with a determined expression.

He couldn't put his younger brother, who barely escaped his father's hand, on another death's doorstep because he had already had enough of a cruel life.

Now that Felix is the head of Berg. He intended to protect his brother by any means.

So, do as I say.

Adrian sighed with a complicated expression at his more determined tone than expected.

The twins did not return to the academy after the Duke collapsed. Not only did they not have time to go, but the academy's graduation was no longer a priority for them.

For Felix, dealing with Masters work was more important, and Adrian was torn between going to war and not.

Felix hastily organized the documents he was reviewing and rode to the academy after receiving a report from the servant. He became increasingly agitated at the prospect of meeting Lucy and telling her about her family.

He spent his days agonizing because he hadn't heard from Brom in a long time. Lucy must have been even more upset. He wanted to tell her that her family was safe as soon as possible and see her relieved expression.

When Prince Berg unexpectedly appeared at the academy, all eyes were drawn to him. They became more intrigued after seeing him greet his friends and recognizing him as Felix.

It was only natural to assume that Felix would succeed the Duke after word that he was unconscious spread throughout the entire capital.

The students were busy looking at the next Duke of Berg who was looking for someone in the corridor with a different look than usual.

He wandered around like that for a long time.

Felix was finally able to find the face of the person he was searching for in front of a classroom.

Lucy!

As she came out of the classroom, she turned her head in surprise at the sound of calling her. Soon Lucy found Felix and stopped there.

She also seemed pleased to see Felix, but she did not come directly to him as if she were conscious of the eyes of the people around her. Felix ran toward Lucy at once.

Uh sunbae. Did you attend your class today?

She said, looking at people's faces. Instead of answering, Felix suddenly hugged Lucy tightly.

Sunbae

Lucy's embarrassed voice came out from inside his arms.

Lucy wasn't the only one who seemed surprised. The students around him who were watching the scene also stood firmly on the spot, gasping, and inhaling.

But Felix didnt care. Now that there was no one to cross between him and Lucy. **Sienna**

Chapter 105

The scent of Lucys hair caused Felix to unconsciously rub his face on her. Lucy, who was struggling in his arms, patted Felix on the back.

Then he released the arm that was holding Lucy. People around them were still whispering and looking at them with surprised expressions.

Lucy grumbled, furiously pushing his chest away.

There are people watching.

Let them see,

Lucys eyes widened at his confident response, but she grinned with an irresistible look the next moment.

Youve become more brazen. Is this what power is like?

Yes, thats right. Its good to have power.

Students had gathered around the two. The couples unexpected appearance gave them an excited look as they made a scene.

Lucy took Felixs wrist and started walking out of the hall. The students were once again taken aback by Felix, who was dragged into her arms with no resistance.

They slowed their nearly running steps and began to walk slowly down the hall once they were clear of the spectators.

Felix delivered the news from Brom to Lucy after taking a breather on the empty third floor.

A messenger came from Brom.

In that one sentence, Lucy raised her head and looked up at Felix.

All of your family is safe and sound. It seems they are protected in Count Dernas castle.

Lucys eyes quickly became teary after hearing about her familys safety. She asked again in a trembling voice.

Really? Is that true?

Yes, indeed,

The dark shade that had rarely left her face since the war broke out seemed to be removed for the first time. Lucy smiled brightly after a long time, recovering her bright smile.

I'll bring them to the capital. So don't worry about anything and wait a little longer.

As soon as his words were over, Lucy wrapped her arms around his waist and hugged him. Then she buried her face in his chest and clutched his hem tightly. A tearful voice came from her unseen face.

Thank you very much.

Felix patted Lucy on the back, who kept murmuring thank you.

And at that moment, he was able to realize once again how sincere his feelings for Lucy were.

He was ready to do anything for her peace and safety.

Have you heard from Baron Connor?

Felix swept the back of his head with a troubled face.

Perhaps the Baron and his wife were guarding Brom. For the lord must never abandon his estate.

He remembered Collins' face as he worried about his father going to war. When he thought of his dreary face, Felix felt terrible, too.

Lucy didn't ask Felix, who didn't answer, about Brom's news anymore.

I hope the war will end soon.

Lucy muttered as she looked down at the floor. But the war had just begun.

They turned their heads out of the window at the same time. The campus seemed to be empty. Many boys had already left for the battlefield.

Felix could not believe the changes that had occurred in just a few weeks. The country and his family were rolling unpredictably.

Lucy held Felix's hand and led him. When he felt the warmth, he felt a little relieved.

They walked in the empty hallway for a while after the students left.

* * *

The Berg servants hoped that the Dukes vacancy would be filled as soon as possible. Furthermore, not only the butler but also his aides appeared to want Felix to succeed the duchy.

Felix, however, was unable to do so quickly. He felt uneasy, as if there was still a problem he hadn't solved.

I've never seen you eat with such zeal.

It's dinnertime. Felix said this while staring at Adrian, who sat across from him and ate everything in front of him. Adrian looked down at his plate, which had been emptied, with surprised eyes.

Then he smiled as he looked at Felix and his mother.

I know. Maybe it's because it's been a while since the whole family had a meal together.

Adrian glanced at the empty upper seat.

After the Duke collapsed, the atmosphere in the Berg family changed. First of all, the Duchess no longer looked like a ghost wandering through the mansion. She didn't act like a coward or a timid person.

The same was true of Adrian. He laughed more than before, and showed as much enthusiasm reviewing documents as Felix did.

However, unlike the Duchess, Adrian felt a strange sense of incompatibility.

Felix, who was born and brought up with him, knew instinctively.

Adrian's smile was all made up. There must have been something wrong with him.

Adrian, who had eaten first, rose from his seat and headed out to the terrace. Felix followed him quietly. Adrian looked back, feeling his presence.

Look, Felix, said he, standing on the railing, looking around at the wide view of Berg.

This has always been a place that keeps me breathless, but not anymore. It looks so peaceful now.

His brother stood with a calm look on his face, as if he had no real worries. Felix was not convinced.

Adrian looked at his brother, who had no answer, and said,

You look very tired,

Felix's face was a little emaciated because he hadn't slept enough to review the papers for days.

I don't usually like sitting at my desk.

You're lying. replied Adrian, smiling.

I've always known. That you are deliberately making mistakes in your exam questions and pretending to be insincere in class.

Adrian suddenly bowed with regret.

I was afraid that if you were too perfect as the successor, father would think I was useless, and that he would not try to use me more. I knew you were doing it on purpose, but I pretended not to know.

Felix listened to him silently. He wasn't surprised or angry at all. He just wanted to put the past behind him.

Adrian suddenly revealed a serious fact to Felix.

Felix, you don't have to find someone for me. I'll go to the battlefield.

I've already told you, but you can't. replied Felix firmly. Adrian didn't back down and immediately refuted it.

Didn't you say with your own mouth that we should correct the wrongdoings of our family? But you're planning to buy an innocent young man with money and drive him to death? Because of me, who's not worth it?

The words sent Felix into a rage..

Why aren't you worth it? You are my family. I'm willing to pay more to avoid sending you to war.

No,

Adrian interrupted him with a precarious look.

I'm not such a good family as you think.

What are you talking about?

Adrian hesitated for a long time after saying something meaningful. He bit his lip, took a deep breath, and his eyelids quivered.

What are you blaming yourself for again?

Felix looked at him with regret and disapproval.

What are you worrying about alone?

His younger brother, who rarely reveals his true feelings. He didn't know what he was thinking at this moment, but Adrian was Felix's only brother, friend, and half.

Whatever he said, Felix was ready to listen and comfort him. So he waited.

Then Adrian looked up as if he had made up his mind. Then he slowly opened his mouth and uttered an unexpected remark.

mother was indifferent to you because of me.

Adrian's eyes shook.

After I realized father was trying to kill me, I cried and begged mother to love me more than you.

The wind of early winter blew through the terrace, scattering the brother's hair, but they didn't move a bit from their position.

I was so envious of you, who took everything in this family, and even avoided the deadly touch of our father. I was resentful for a time. So I begged mother. I beg her to love me more than he loves you. To please love me more, even if it's just her.

His unexpected confession left Felix speechless. Hearing it made him dizzy.

Say something.

His head gave orders in front of his brother's face. At that moment, however, he could not think of any words.

Adrian confessed one more shocking fact to him.

And I'm the one who made father like that.

What?

I am the one who kept him from moving forward.

Felix frowned at the sudden remark.

Father collapsed from overwork.

No, That night, right after father collapsed, I didnt call anyone on purpose. I just watched him slowly as he was on the verge of dying. If I had called someone, it wouldnt have gone that far.

All that remained of Adrians face now was regret.

Do you understand now? Felix, Im the one who made you feel lonely all your life and drove our father to the brink of death. I dont want to commit any more sins.

He breathed out slowly. Then he said,

So allow me to go to war and atone for my sins. **Sienna**

Chapter 106

Atone?

Felix stared blankly at Adrian, who was buried in the evening dusk.

The manner in which Adrian appeared to have given up everything was more shocking than what he said about their mother or the fact that he pretended not to know their father collapsed.

He had the feeling that something was lodged in his stomach.

What do you mean to atone?

It was a word completely out of place with his brother.

instead of saying *Ill win and come back you are saying I want to atone for my sins and leave for the battlefield?* said Felix with a smirk.

You think Ill let you go comfortably?

As I told you before, Even if you send someone who looks like me, theyll soon find out. Do you think well be the only ones in trouble then? Even our mother will be involved.

Adrians face was firm.

In fact, there was nothing wrong with what he said. He didn't want to let his brother go, so he bragged that he would find a replacement, but Felix also knew. No matter what method he uses, he can't fool the world perfectly.

There's not much time left. Whatever you say, I'll leave in two days.

Two days later, Felix will be officially proclaimed duke. For the duchy could not keep up if the position was left unattended.

There was a problem with father's way of treating us but among the things he has said over and over again, it is true that you and I clearly have different paths to take. said Adrian in a distinct voice. There was still a deep shade on his face, but his eyes were firm.

You have work to do for our family, and I also have a duty to do. So please don't stop me.

It was definitely a stern talk. It was a tone that showed a firm determination. Still, Adrian looked precarious.

Soon Felix knew the reason.

Adrian maintained a calm demeanor, as if he didn't care what would actually happen to him. When he looked at him, he had the uneasy feeling that he would not do his best for his life even during the war.

In actuality, to claim that Adrian's confession was meaningless would be a lie. He never imagined that his brother would beg their mother to love him more than him.

However, even if he found out about it, his affection for his brother remained unchanged.

Adrian's attempt to rid himself of guilt by going to war. It was far from what Felix had hoped for.

He will never allow Adrian to fight in the war.

Knock, knock.

At that time, someone knocked on the terrace door. It was a servant who showed up.

Master,

He entered the terrace and was about to speak with Felix when he noticed the twins were engaged in conversation. Instead, he lowered his voice and bowed his head subtly.

Talk to him. Im leaving.

Adrian fled the terrace before Felix could apprehend him.

Felix couldnt pursue Adrian because the servants expression was unusual, as if he needed to say something urgent. He turned to face his brother, then to the servant.

Whats the problem?

The messenger from Brom rushed in with more news.

What news? Felix inquired, his voice trembling. It hasnt been long since he learned that Lucys family was safe, but what else can he say in such a hurry?

Lucy Keenans father and grandmother are said to be missing from the battlefield.

The moment he heard it, Felix felt his mind go blank as if he had been beaten hard. He looked at the servant with a puzzled look as if he had heard that his father had woken up again.

what do you mean? Im sure he said that they are safe under Count Derns protection? asked Felix in a vain voice. The messengers shocking news was delivered by a servant with a regretful expression.

It is true that they were in the Counts evacuation center, but it appears that Keenans father was a doctor and his grandmother knew how to treat, so they were transferred to a rear support group due to a lack of manpower

As the servant noticed Felixs expression of shock, he stumbled over his final words.

so he wasnt able to find them.

The Count is so busy commanding the battle that he is not even trying to find the missing. So now were working on a separate search with the personnel sent by the Berg family.

Find them no matter what. said Felix with blaring eyes. The servant bowed quickly at his unusual momentum and left the terrace.

Felix, who was left alone, swept his face roughly with his hands. Suddenly, it felt like hope and other things penetrated the floor and were buried underground.

He confidently promised Lucy that he would bring her family to the capital. He couldnt take that hope away, which she had barely put in his hand, like this in vain. He had to find her family and bring them safely at all costs.

* * *

Late into the night, Felix did not return to his room and paced around the terrace. He doesn't want to see Lucy grieving. He doesn't want to see her in despair either.

But if he can't find Lucy's family.

Felix closed his eyes in agony.

At the same time, Adrian's involvement in the war made him suffer in agony for a long time.

He pondered over and over again about various methods. However, no matter what method he came up with, he reached only one conclusion.

Perhaps it was the conclusion he had in mind for a long time.

He was the only one who could solve this problem. Finding Lucy's family and bringing them safely to the capital, and preventing Adrian from throwing himself into the middle of the battlefield, it was all up to him.

Felix finally made up his mind.

* * *

There was a knock in the dark corridor.

He was not told to come in, but Felix opened the door without hesitation. The owner of the room sat in bed, still awake.

When Felix appeared, Adrian looked at him quietly.

are you really sorry for me?

Felix stood at the door and asked a low question.

Then stay here. You will be the head of the household and lead the family.

Adrian immediately frowned and asked.

What are you talking about?

I'll go,

Adrian raised his eyebrows at Felix's incoherent remark.

Im going to the battlefield.

There was silence in the room when Felix had finished speaking. After a while Adrian sighed deeply.

Dont say nonsense,

What doesnt make sense? Id rather go than you. You cant even fight. Have you ever punched someone before?

At Felixs words, Adrian shook his head feeling hopeless.

Felix,

Im not saying this on impulse, either. The truth is I may have been thinking about this decision since the draft was issued. Im much better at swordsmanship and Im stronger.

Felix, please,

So you stay here. You dont fit in with the battlefield. It would be better for you to take care of the family. Ive seen what you can do.

Felix approached Adrian and put his hand on his shoulder.

Adrian, you are not the only one guilty. I, too, lived without any material deficiencies. The prosperity of this family is a sin for all of us. Therefore, lets end it here. Lets work together to end the greed of this family.

Felixs fingertips, which held him by the shoulder, tightened.

If you cant come back from the war I dont think Ill have the confidence to do it on my own. Thats why you stay here. Im sure Ill come back alive.

Adrians eyes were filled with indescribable emotions. This time he looked up at Felix with a shocked face.

Staring at his brother, Felix added another reason why he had to go to war.

Lucys father and grandmother were reported missing on the battlefield.

Felixs expression as he looked into Adrians eyes was determined. He spoke in a firm tone of voice.

I must find Lucys family and bring them to the capital, no matter what. I promised Lucy.

If thats the case, Ill!

Come on! You stay out of our way.

Felix interrupted Adrian and forced him into bed. Then he tucked the futon over his head.

Felix!

Adrian struggled under the covers and called him. But Felix left the room before his brother could catch him.

As soon as he closed the door, he felt a movement.

The Duchess, with a complicated look on her face, stood. She seemed to have heard all the voices coming out of the room.

Felix

She still called Felix and grabbed him by the arm.

A son who she once thought would have everything in this family, so she did not show him affection unlike his other son.

Now that she realizes that her son is willing to walk into the middle of the battlefield, what is she thinking?

Do you regret the past a little bit? Do you feel sorry for me?

However, he didnt think it would be okay for her to apologize now. Because he still wasnt alright.

Take good care of Adrian.

Felix pulled his arm out of his mothers hand. The Duchess eyes trembled thinly. He left his mother at the door.

There was another unexpected variable in his future. But he didnt regret it.

Despite having made a very foolish decision to walk into deaths door on behalf of his brother, he felt more relieved and at peace than ever before.**Sienna**

Chapter 107

The problem was Lucy.

How would she react if she learned that her family had been reported missing and that he was heading to the battlefield instead of Adrian? Just imagining it gave Felix conflicted emotions.

His steps toward the academy were as heavy as a block of stones.

The sky, which had become quite dark in winter, was now cloudy and gloomy. On campus, the trees stood with their arms bare and their leaves falling.

Its the perfect weather to talk about going to war.

Felix contemplated the desolate surroundings with bitterness.

When he showed up at the academy, Lucy, who had seen him from a distance, immediately ran over. She asked Felix, not realizing that the wind had made her hair a mess.

Youve been visiting the Academy quite frequently lately, havent you? Arent you busy?

Her slumped appearance has vanished, and she now exudes a cheerful demeanor.

She must have been relieved to learn that her family was safe, and that Felix had promised to transport them to the capital.

Maybe she has no doubts and believes him wholeheartedly.

I have something to tell you; would you like to join me for a walk?

Lucy agreed with his suggestion. The two walked into a peaceful academy garden. The seasons had changed as they walked side by side next to a fountain with withered lawns and fallen leaves floating, but he remembered the good old days.

Why does it seem so distant even though it happened only a few months ago?

Right then, it seemed as though the tranquil and laid-back time was all a dream.

While he was considering how to approach the subject, Lucy started the conversation.

What about Adrian-Sunbae?

She inquired, her gaze fixed on Felix's face. Knowing how well-liked the twins were to one another, she was concerned for Felix, whose brother would be departing.

I havent seen Adrian-sunbae in a while; Ive been so busy lately that I forgot about him.

She was still under the impression that Adrian was heading to battle.

Adrian-Sunbae helped me with a lot of things I dont know what to say at times like this.

With a worried expression, she continued speaking.

I know Im being difficult, Im sure youre struggling as well.

Lucy took hold of Felixs hand. She comforted his heart as her thumb delicately brushed the back of his hand.

Im sure Adrian-Sunbae will be fine.

Lucy,

Lucy turned to face Felix when he quietly called to her.

I have something to tell you,

He thought he couldnt put it off any longer. His expression abruptly took on a serious tone, which caused Lucy to follow suit.

Whats the matter?

Felix was unable to speak. He would rather flee the situation. But he knew he couldnt do that. He quickly closed his eyes, then he opened them and said,

Your father and grandmother are missing.

.

Lucy, who was holding Felixs hand, began to feel weak. She let go of his hand.

What?

Gradually, her expression started to change. When Felix noticed the profound shock and despondence on Lucys face, he felt as though his own heart was about to give out. Perhaps she was unable to accept the situation.

Lucy,

Felix grabbed her arm and shook it, but Lucy didnt respond.

Felix calmly explained to her the news he had received from Brom. However, Lucy continued to maintain her blank gaze directed upward at Felixs face.

It was as if she had no idea what he was talking about.

I'll find your family no matter how long it takes. The people I sent are looking for them.

Lucy, however, took a rough breath and lowered her head.

How likely is it that someone who has gone missing will eventually be located on the battlefield?

After carefully lifting her up, Felix grabbed her by the face. As he stared at her, his eyes glistened resolutely.

I'll go and fetch them.

The moment Lucy heard it, she scowled as if it were the most ridiculous thing ever.

What do you mean? You're leaving?

I'll immediately join the Knights and set out for the East; I'll make sure to find them and bring them to the capital.

What are you talking about? asked Lucy, as if she still didn't understand him.

I decided to go instead of Adrian because Adrian has a job in our family.

No, you can't.

Lucy immediately shook her head. Her eyes turned red in a flash.

I've made my decision, and I'm not going to change it, but I promise you this: I'll be back.

You can't. Don't say that!

Lucy pushed Felix away, removing his hand from her cheeks. She responded with a stern face.

Don't worry about my family from now on. I'll take care of them myself!

Lucy,

Don't say anything!

She immediately cut off Felix. Her eyes were welling up with tears, which were about to fall.

I have to go.

No.

Lucys face was now filled with anger.

If you go there, be prepared not to see my face again!

Im leaving tomorrow.

Im serious.

Felix tried to hold Lucys hand, but she shook it coldly.

She glared at Felix for a moment with red eyes, and then turned her back.

Lucy!

Despite Felixs call, Lucy sprinted out of the garden. Felix wanted to pursue her, but he knew he couldnt give into her demands. He simply gave her a dejected expression as he looked in the direction she had left him.

Lucy did not return to the garden until he had finally left.

Felix was thinking about Lucys back. However, he had already decided what to do, and there was no chance that he would change his mind.

Felix completed all the preparations and left the room the following morning.

No more soft bed for a while.

He thought as he closed the door.

He entered the hallway and proceeded to Adrians room. When he entered the room, he saw his brother with his wrist tied to the bed. Adrian attempted to sneak out of the house early in the morning, but was apprehended by the servants Felix had placed in advance and brought him back to his room.

undo this quickly.

After I finish the apprentice joining ceremony, Rayleigh will come and release you.

With his arms folded, Felix smiled as he looked down at him.

With disapproving eyes, Adrian looked up at him. He appeared as though he had never anticipated his brother would act in this way.

But Felix said without regard.

I have a favor to ask of you. Take care of Lucy while Im away.

Adrian laughed as if he couldnt say anything.

I want you to keep an eye on every one who flirts with her. Noel Roman in particular, that fellow.

What if I make a move on her?

With a serious gaze, Adrian incited.

Youre scared, arent you? Quickly free me!

But Felix stood his ground. He responded with a smile.

My Lucy also has her own preferences, so its not really that scary.

You and I look alike. What preference?

There is,

Because she knows me like a ghost.

Felix looked down at Adrian, his younger brother.

Someday youll meet a woman who recognizes you like a ghost. Then youll understand what I mean.

Anyway, Im asking you. Please take care of Lucy and Mother, too. And clean that up. said Felix, pointing at the pile of papers which he had brought as an example to Adrians bedroom. The amount was enormous, and it would probably take months to get through them all.

Why do you think its more difficult for me to process those papers than for me to go to the battlefield?

However, he felt sorry for his brother since he seemed to be running to the battlefield because he didnt want to work.

He patted Adrian on the shoulder, encouragingly, and turned his back.

Felix!

Im going,

He didnt like long goodbyes. He left the room after a short greeting.

Before leaving the mansion, he greeted his mother, butler, and the employees.

He didn't want to hang around here any longer. He mounted the horse after giving a brief order to the butler and the staff to look after Adrian.

Before departing, he looked up at the mansion where he would be away for a while. When the servants saw it, they blinked their tears away. They might have thought he didn't want to leave the house, but they were mistaken.

But he had no attachment to the house. The only thing that actually caused him to regret it at that time was that moment.

Should I have followed you all the way to the end yesterday?

Felix recalled the face that had yelled at him while crying and the back of her head that had vanished as if she were fleeing.

His heart broke because he felt like he had done a lot of damage to her.

In the end, he left without ever seeing her face.

The more he thought about it, the more he didn't want to leave. With a firm resolve, Felix firmly shook Lucy's face from his mind.

Finally he turned his head to set off.

It was then.

He heard the sound of horses' hooves running fast toward the mansion. People turned their heads toward the sound.

A horse carrying two people quickly entered the mansion.

The bewildered gatekeeper tried to stop them, but in the blink of an eye, the horse came in front of the mansion and ran before Felix.

Colin, who was holding the reins, stopped the horse in a hurry, and the rider behind him rolled to the ground.

Lucy!

Surprised, Felix rushed off the horse and ran toward her.

Felix Sunbae!

Lucy jumped straight into Felix's arms. **Sienna**

Chapter 108

Lucy's arms quickly wrapped around Felix's waist. Her shoulders trembled as she sobbed softly in his arms while burying her face in him.

Lucy didn't let him go for a long time. Her grip on the hem of his clothing tightened over time, almost as if he wouldn't let Felix go.

Felix gave Lucy a gentle pat on the back and swept her hair. Although he was determined to leave the mansion, he suddenly felt reluctant to do so when he saw Lucy standing in front of him.

are you really going?

In her arms, Lucy's voice was heard mumbling.

Hmm,

Even if I stop you?

I'll be right back.

Lucy didn't respond to his calm reply.

She struggled to control her tears as she continued to exhale one after another. Then, with her head down, she wiped her eyes with her sleeve.

After some time, Lucy, who seemed determined to never let go of Felix, finally relaxed her grip. She moved slowly away from Felix, her eyes still red.

Lucy, I have to tell you something.

Looking at Lucy in tears, Felix thought it was time to say it.

I want you to

Her palm, however, touched his lips before he could finish speaking. With her hand over his mouth, Lucy said quietly.

No matter what it is, if you want to say something, come back safely, and when you're ready, tell me. I'll be waiting.

Soon the warmth of her warm hands fell from Felix's mouth. Lucy looked up at Felix and said,

Have a safe trip, don't get hurt.

Yes,

Don't get sick.

I won't,

It was really goodbye now.

Felix nodded to Colin, who was standing nearby, and then continued on his way.

He at last caught Lucy's face in his gaze. He felt as though he could do anything without losing hope just by thinking of her face.

Then,

Felix gave her one final smile before grabbing the reins. The horse soon started to turn around and get ready to run.

He continued to spur, and the horse started galloping toward the front gate.

The faces of the people, the enormous mansion, and the one person whose presence had long ago broken his heart with longing, vanished from his sight with the sound of the wind.

He was still eager to see Lucy. He felt an urge to go back and stay with her even now. He did not, however, stop.

There have been numerous changes.

He looked back on the past few months.

The situation of the Empire, which was only peaceful, and his relationship with his family that made him suffer. Everything has completely changed.

The most significant change occurred in Felix.

He himself was amazed. He was unaware of how someone could make him feel so happy.

He had no idea that someone could make him feel so bad or that he would push himself into the middle of a battlefield on someone else's behalf.

He had never thought that he might risk everything for one person.

I'll be waiting.

That there are people waiting for him.

That put Felix in a situation where he had no idea what would happen.

He drove the horse with a powerful heave of the ground, as if he were not moving away from Lucy but rather racing toward her.

I'll definitely come back,

Furthermore, Felix murmured as if he was resolute in his resolve.

I'll be back. I'll be sure to.

Even when there was war, nature remained honest. It returned with the arrival of spring.

The sun warmed the chilly, frozen ground.

On every barren branch, new growth sprouted, and birds that had flown off during the winter flew back in.

Perhaps due to the bright sunshine, the atmosphere of the capital, which had been in turmoil, began to recover gradually. It seemed to have contributed to the fact that the war situation in the East was not so bad.

Additionally, the arrival of spring brought Lucy's long-awaited people. The two people she believed to be missing—her mother and grandmother—had at last made it to the nation's capital without incident.

Grandma!

Lucy sobbed loudly as she held her grandmother's neck.

She was relieved to be reunited with her family safely. It was all thanks to Felix for keeping his word.

Despite the fact that she was unable to see her father because he chose to remain in the East to care for the injured soldiers, Lucy was overjoyed to see her mother and grandmother.

A letter from Felix was presented to Lucy by her grandmother. It was a letter filled with only concern for Lucys well-being. The letter was worn out from Lucys constant reading of it all day.

Meanwhile, spring has passed quickly. The following summer was the same.

Autumn came in a flash.

It was a challenging time of year for her as many memories flooded her mind. Lucy prepared allergy medication and mailed it to Felix. His letter, stating that he had received it well, finally arrived after a lengthy wait. Lucy started to cry just from looking at the brief letter.

By the time she finished reading the letter and stopped crying, Autumn was over. Winter follows. Finally, spring returns.

The war appeared to be slowly coming to an end over the course of five seasons.

There are rumors that the Beros Empire and the Kingdom of Lausanne have settled their differences through negotiation and that the conflict has already been resolved. As if to prove it, the young men who had gone to the battlefield began to return one by one.

However, Felix was still not in sight.

The campus without him seemed desolate to Lucy.

I cant believe were graduating.

After the winter break, spring is finally beginning to blow across campus.

Colin yelled as he walked along the promenade, If you cant go up to the podium tomorrow as well.

He shouted frantically and abruptly raised his eyebrows.

Im going to punch Eric Roman in the face!

As she saw him raise his tiny, insignificantly menacing fist in the air, Lucy burst out in an embarrassing laugh.

Im sure you will, and Ill be happy if youre not hit, she said.

What do you think I am? One punch will do him in!

Colin kept bluffing.

Tomorrow was the commencement ceremony, about which he was so excited.

Lucy, who had risen to the top of the class until the last semester, was having more difficult days than ever. Because she hasn't decided what she wants to do after graduating from the academy.

Lucy Keenan, who is graduating from Xenomium Academy this year, has received a ton of offers to enroll in various medical schools as a result of the widespread rumors that she wants to become a doctor that have already spread throughout the capital.

Furthermore, Lucy had been completely distracted by Mr. Archel, who had been bugging her to join the history society. Due to the teacher's unpredictable appearance at any time or location, Lucy needed to be alert.

Anyway, if he has a conscience, he'll have to make his own decision; you've always been the best in the last year.

After losing the top spot to Eric in one test, Lucy regained it in the following test, and she has kept it ever since. This led to the widespread assumption that Lucy would receive the highest grade and graduate.

However, because this was an academy that secretly discriminates against commoner students, Lucy's place on the podium at the graduation ceremony was uncertain.

There's nothing new,

Lucy dismissed the issue.

In fact, she didn't give much thought to how the academy was treating her right now. She had been worried about just one person for the past year. Most things don't even interest her anymore.

It was a wise decision for her not to waste any energy getting to the podium.

For she had concerns on the day of her graduation.

All of the seniors, including her, were dressed in their graduation gowns and making their way to the Great Hall. Along the way, there were a lot of enrolled students and visitors from families who came to the campus to watch the graduation ceremony.

Lucy looked around the crowd. His mother and grandmother, who reside in the mansion owned by the Berg family, were also arranged to attend today's ceremony with Adrians assistance. With this many people, it was challenging to locate her family.

She immediately gave up, and Lucy moved forward.

They could already be inside.

She observed couples of male and female students walking around together as she continued to move silently.

I wish Felix was here, too.

His absence suddenly left Lucy feeling incredibly void.

Lucy Keenan!

The familiar, irate voice caused Lucys body to tense up.

She quickly lowered her shoulders as she peered around. Indeed, Mr. Arkel was searching for her in the area.

Ah! Really.

She didnt want to be inconvenienced today by him. She might be told to join the conference before the graduation ceremony if Mr. Arkel catches her now.

Lucy quickly walked away from the area.

She ran so quickly that she stepped on a middle-aged mans foot. With a slight scowl on his face, the man wearing the knights armor turned to face Lucy.

Oh, Im sorry!

Its all right.

Despite Lucys apology, he gave a stern response and moved quickly as if something urgent had occurred.

Lucy happened to hear the conversation going on in that direction between the man and his group.

I brought him here to escort me; where the hell did he go?

The person Lucy stepped on became enraged. Another man, who appeared to be his subordinate, then murmured while sporting a disapproving expression.

Sigh that wretch. I should have known when he said he'd wash his hair with oil last night. He must have gone to see his woman!

I'll shave off that hair! **Sienna**

Chapter 109

Anger flashed in the middle-aged knight's eyes. Intent on finding the man he was seeking and shaving his head off, he was scanning the area.

Lucy hurriedly glanced away after overhearing the conversation.

Lucy!

When she got to the Great Hall, Princess Clothil was in front of the door grinning brightly and waving at her.

She handed Lucy the huge bouquet of flowers she was holding as she approached. Clothil even offered her congratulations in the now-natural Beros accent.

Congratulations on your graduation! It's too bad that I won't be able to see you in the new semester!

Princess Clothil, who was accepted into the Xenomium Academy a year ago, not only learned the imperial language at an alarming rate but also faithfully carried out her library duties and successfully adjusted to academy life.

Clothil could not conceal her gratitude whenever she saw Lucy because it was all due to her assistance.

By the way, I saw a really handsome guy over there earlier. I've never seen anyone like that since the entrance ceremony.

Handsome guy?

Yes! He was a handsome man with shiny blond hair, his hair looked better than mine, but he vanished in an instant. I wanted to ask his secret. Clothil murmured, a regretful expression on her face.

Someone else came to mind when she heard he was blond. Lucy experienced a resurgence of loneliness as she thought of the face she had sorely missed.

As Clothil's congratulations appeared unlikely to end, Lucy managed to escape and enter the hallway.

Lucy, youve arrived!

Colin, who had arrived earlier, called her and waved. Colin was surrounded by his grandmother and mother, Adrian, as well as Noel and Ros, who had returned to the Academy for the first time since graduation.

Everyone greeted her with congratulations as she came closer. Her grandmother, in particular, hugged Lucy with such pride that she almost burst into tears.

Fortunately, as soon as she was released from her grandmothers arms, the tears that were about to fall out of her eyes vanished due to Noels antics.

Lucy! Dont go! From Adrian-sunbae to Lucy-sunbae..! Please dont leave me behind!

Noel, who will be a third-year student this year, was unanimously elected as the new head of the book department by his juniors. He sighed bitterly, as if he didnt have a future.

Dont worry,

Adrian smiled and patted Noel on the shoulder.

You wont die, no matter how difficult it is.

Lucy burst out laughing as she looked at Noel, who was pondering his words.

Adrian has undergone the most changes in the last year. He was oddly brighter than before, despite the fact that he still appeared busy and exhausted. Before she even noticed, the shadow that had been lingering in the corner of his face appeared to have vanished, and he was smiling warmly at the crowd.

I was worried, but now Im relieved.

Lucy smiled joyfully at Adrian, who was improving day by day.

Suddenly, someone grabbed Adrian by the collar and turned him to face himself.

Hey, boy! I was wondering what you were up to, and all you were doing was chatting here?

A man with a rough beard on his chin gave Adrian a ferocious stare. It was the same man who had been with the knight whose foot Lucy had stepped on earlier.

Whats wrong with you?

Colin and Noel, caught off guard, quickly barred him. Adrian also had a bewildered expression on his face as he observed the knight. The knight who had grabbed him by the collar soon squinted his eyes and paid close attention to Adrians face. Then he examined Adrians hair and clothing. After a while, the knight let go of his collar in surprise.

Oh, Im so sorry; I mistook you for someone.

After apologizing and lowering his head in humiliation, he quickly melted into the crowd.

Hmm, its not a face youre going to confuse anyone for, Rose murmured, tilting her head.

If it wasnt him.

Immediately after hearing it, Lucys mind immediately sparked with an idea. After realizing why she had been feeling strangely uneasy earlier, Lucy started to scan her surroundings.

Whats wrong?

Lucy dove into the crowd, ignoring Colins puzzled question. To see the people, she continued to walk through the crowded hallway. But she couldnt find the face she was looking for anywhere. She spent a long time circling the crowd before stopping in one spot.

Yes, there is no way he could be here. I was in delusion because I was missing you so much.

Lucy sighed in disappointment. The anticipation she had before the graduation ceremony vanished all at once.

*

Colin next to him looked nervously at the hosts lips as the graduation ceremony began. Lucy had a general idea of his thoughts.

Perhaps he is fervently hoping that she, rather than Eric, will be the valedictorian.

She felt bad for him, but she didnt mind if she didnt become the valedictorian.

I will give it to Eric once more. He must be extremely disappointed to consistently come in second.

With a diploma to present to the valedictorian, the principal at last approached the podium. The hall was so quiet that Lucy could hear Colin gulping. Finally, in the midst of the silence, the host called out a name.

Lucy Keenan,

At the same time, all of the students sitting around Lucy were staring at her.

Lucy, you earned valedictorian honors!

Lucy's seatmates Colin and Jemima shook her and grabbed her shoulder.

Lucy stood up, perplexed by the unexpected call. She received a warm round of applause from those in the room. She approached the podium with a puzzled expression, once more taken aback by the sight.

Looking up the stairs, the principal didn't express his disapproval outright but he didn't appear eager to welcome her. She stood in front of him, unfolding her diploma with a scowl on his face, as he began to read the contents in a monotonous voice.

Lucy Keenan, a third-year student from the prestigious Xenomium Academy.

Lucy could hear the principal's voice in her ear. But, no matter how much he despised the situation, she was unconcerned.

I'm sure my grandmother and mother are proud of me.

She shifted her gaze to the auditorium, where her family would be seated. But at that precise moment, she spotted a remarkable face close to the door.

Lucy's eyes widened.

Uh what?

She quickly opened her tightly closed eyes. However, the face was still visible.

not only for him, but for three years with excellent grades and exemplary behavior Huh!

Suddenly, Lucy grabbed the diploma that the principal was holding, and the principal, who was reading her diploma, raised his head in shock.

Give it to me!

Huh?

All right, just give it to me now!

Lucy yanked the diploma from the confused principals grasp.

Now that I have it, can I go down?

Prior to the principals response, Lucy had left the podium and was off in the distance. People watched the scene with astonishment.

With no hesitation, Lucy sprinted for the door. The face she had seen had vanished somewhere.

No, dont leave.

She heard the principal calling her in a confused tone from behind her. But Lucy ignored it and bolted out of the hallway, nearly galloping.

She then yelled while scanning the area.

Felix-sunbae? Felix-sunbae!

There was no response. There was silence everywhere.

Only the barren trees, which had not yet sprouted, stood and gazed at her, as if mocking her.

Sunbae!

With all her might, she called. However, there was still no response.

Haha

Lucy laughed in vain. She soon appeared to collapse and sank to the ground. She started crying and buried her face in her lap.

I missed him so much.

Lucy threw her diploma to the ground. Her diploma means nothing to her. Being the valedictorian doesnt matter. She simply wishes to see her sunbae.

Hmm, why did you jump off the podium?

Then she heard a familiar voice. A warm, large hand wrapped around Lucys back at the same time. If thats the case, I cant just watch you any longer. Lucy felt her heart racing and looked up. She was filled with tears when she saw him.

Felix-sunbae?

Vision?

Did I end up seeing such a vivid vision? I hope I didnt go crazy because I missed you so much.

Felix, however, who was in front of her, even cracked a slight smile.

Carefully extending her hand, Lucy touched his face. In her hands, she could feel his warmth. He was really in front of her.

Lucy hugged Felixs neck with a surprised look. He also embraced Lucy tightly in return.

Hard arms. Although longer than when he left, his golden hair is still soft.

How have you been?

and even a friendly voice.

Everything was real.

whats going on? Why are you here?

Ive escorted one of the distinguished guests to the capital for todays event, which I couldnt tell you about in advance because it was a last-minute decision.

He slowly placed his forehead against Lucys.

I never expected to see you so close.

And when he was about to press his lips against Lucys.

Felix!

Their ears were pierced by a loud voice.

Sigh

A moment before kissing her, Felix sighed as if he was tired. When Lucy turned her head in the direction of the sound, the middle-aged knight she had previously seen stood tall and appeared to be enraged.

What are you doing here? I told you to wait in the hall, didnt I?

The Knight gave Felix a terrifying look as he continued to advance without pausing. He soon gave a thunderous command.

Get down!

Before Lucy could comprehend this sudden situation, Felix knelt down and put his head on the ground.

Sienna

Chapter 110

What is this?

Lucy watched at the situation with a stunned face.

He was just about to kiss her, what is going on?

Felix, who had fallen and hit his head on the floor, maintained his posture as though it were something he was accustomed to doing, in contrast to the bewildered Lucy.

The middle-aged knight howled like a thunderbolt at him.

What are you doing out here? Didn't I tell you to keep your position?

Didn't you say I'd only be escorting you until you got to the capital? Why do I have to wait and watch you attend this graduation ceremony?

It was you who insisted on attending this graduation!

As Felix, who had been speaking without losing, shut his mouth, it seemed that the knight's words were true.

I was wondering why you've been going missing all this time, and now you're here kissing your lover. Are you crazy?

Don't worry, I couldn't even touch her lips because the leader interrupted me just in time!

This kid keeps talking back!

The Knight, who Felix referred to as the leader, pulled a pocket knife from his clothing. Surprised to see it, Lucy leaped out of her seat.

But the Knight didn't care. He glared at Felix and pointed a knife at his head.

I'll shave your ugly head today!

The only person who became pale at the ominous words was Lucy. She had moved in front of him before the knight had finished speaking.

Cutting his hair? Who says?

I have to stop him. I have to protect his hair!.

The Knight frowned at Lucy, who jumped in front of him.

This is not a matter for the lady, is it?

But Lucy gave the knight a menacing glare instead.

Normally, she would have just kept quiet in front of a terrifying knight, but because this was about Felix's hair and beauty, she couldn't just sit back and watch.

You can't cut your sunbae's hair! Just leave it like this!

Lu, Lucy?

Hearing these words, Felix let out a strange voice, and the knight laughed at her shrill voice.

Oh! You're an interesting girl.

The Knight put his pocket knife back in his pocket. Then he gave Felix a kick in the groin and said,

Get up,

Felix leapt from his seat, and the Knight exclaimed,

You've seen your lover, so I think you should stop here; if you leave again without permission, I'll punish you severely!

The Knight warned for the last time, and then proceeded to the Great Hall.

by the way,

When he was completely out of sight, Felix suddenly raised one eyebrow and looked back at Lucy.

I didn't know you cared so much about my hair.

At his words, Lucy avoided his gaze with an uncomfortable look on her face.

Just go and watch him, before he comes back again.

Embarrassed, she said something she didn't mean.

Felix narrowed his eyes at Lucy and pouted his lips in disappointment.

I'll come and see you when I'm done with my escort mission. Later at the graduation ball.

Lucy, who had pretended to be indifferent a while ago, had hoped he wouldn't leave but nodded quickly.

Felix promised and left in a flash. Only after he disappeared did Lucy slap herself in the face to see if it was a dream.

She felt a tingling sensation in her cheek, perhaps because she hit herself too hard. But Lucy was so overwhelmed that her eyes were burning. She felt so good even though it was painful.

At last, Felix returned.

The graduation ceremony was over, and Felix and she were reunited.

People gathered here and there to greet her and look at her curiously as she returned.

Not only strangers, but also Colin and her other friends, inquired as to why she abruptly jumped down from the podium.

She decided that it would be best to keep them in the dark about Felix's return to the capital since he was still on duty.

Instead, she returned to her dorm with her friends and changed into a dress in preparation for the next day's schedule.

The ball began in the early evening.

They all removed their uniforms and entered the Great Hall, which had been transformed into a ballroom.

Although Lucy didn't initially enjoy balls, it was unfortunate that it would be her final memory of the academy.

Lucy! Dance with me!

She nearly clutched Colin's outstretched hand.

Oh, no. I'm fine.

She quickly withdrew her hand from Colin's reach and refused.

She could still clearly recall how he had dragged her around during the literature night.

Ill just sit here and watch,

Colin grumbled at her passive demeanor, but when he saw Rose walking magnificently into the hall, he changed his target and left.

Would you like to dance with me?

Lucy turned her head and looked back at the familiar voice behind her.

Adrian smiled and held out his hand toward her.

Ah Adrian-sunbae,

You look very disappointed.

He said this with a jealous expression on his face.

What? Its not like that!

Lucy waved her hand, shaking her head.

As Adrian still did not put his hand down, Lucy, unwillingly, took his hand and stepped out into the middle of the ballroom. It was fortunate that slow and calm music was playing.

She didnt want to show off her dance moves in front of Adrian.

So,

Adrian gently guided Lucy while whispering for only her to hear.

Where is Felix right now?

Lucy looked at him in surprise.

how did you know?

It was obvious. You ran down the podium like youd seen a ghost, but I dont think you have. Plus, your mouth was smiling and you were stamping your feet like you were waiting for someone.

Did I?

Lucys face turned red with embarrassment. Adrian, who was smiling at the sight, said, as if reminiscent of the old days.

when we were young, we prioritized each other, but now Felix prioritizes you over me.

Lucy rolled her eyes around because she didnt know what to say in response to Adrians words. But he didnt appear to be disappointed. He instead stated:Pages:Page 1, Page 2