

Melody 691

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 691

Chapter 691: Futari No Monogram Part 7

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Chapter 691 Futari No Monogram Part 7

Thursday, February 10th, Iro Road High School, 1;30pm

For Kira Jun, it is difficult to simply describe Ibuki Sumire's existence in his life with mere words. He knew the others in his team would think so too.

She is their requiem. She saved them all; she connected all their threads together. But for him, the most important thing is that she gave him his dream. She gave him something worth fighting for, something worth living. If he did not give her this dream, then he would not have connected with the others. He would not have met them.

One of the first set of memories he recalled was meeting a young girl around a year older than him. When he asked her what she was doing, a girl he found singing in the park talked loudly. She looked at him with wide eyes, surprised, ' You don't know what singing is? Or rather this it's music, you don't know?'

When he learns of the concept of music, it does not take him long before he becomes fond of it. Because she gave him his dream, he was no longer an empty shell. Although he still spoke in a monotone for many years and didn't understand individual emotions all too well. He was already a 'human' a long time ago.

That girl's voice that gave him life. The reason why he became so fond of singing and dancing was because of her. Had somebody else shown him, it would not have interested him. It's because she's the one who showed him.

If she didn't show him, then for sure, he would not have become interested at all.

"Semei."

Where did that hamster of his go again? Recently he keeps sneaking off. It did not take Jun long to find himself in a familiar field behind the school. There were different types of flowers blooming. It's unusual; it's still February, so why are the flowers blooming like this?

As he pondered on this, he spotted a girl with brunette-colored hair. Oh, this location is near where she said she would find inspiration to draw. Currently, it is free study for art students. They normally use this chance to practice drawing. He was no exception, although he joined the department due to the bullying situation. He has always been interested in art.

Although he is still a newbie at this, now that he thought about it, he became interested in drawing after the bullying incident.

Jun makes his way over and greets her. "Sumire-san."

"Oh Jun-kun. Were you looking for Semei?"

Jun nodded, and the brunette pointed to the flower nearby to see his hamster use the petal as a blanket.

"When I found him like this, I thought it was pretty cute, so I didn't want to disturb him."

In other words, she remained here to guard over him. Everybody has seen him with this hamster, after all. Although the bullies are being investigated and are currently suspended from school, who knows how many friends they have? This is no good; he still feels tense. Jun felt the familiar sensation of goosebumps all over his skin. But that faded when he saw Sumire's bright smile.

"Thank you."

Sumire nodded, and it was then he saw it, the drawing he did not too long ago. But it got blown away by the wind.

"Why do you have that?" Jun wondered.

"Oh, this? I picked it up the other day. It was blown by a strong breeze and landed on my face. I kept it since it was so wonderful." Sumire said, her gaze softened.

Jun averted his gaze. "People who only rely on hard work for art are poor judges of art, too, huh?" He mumbles. "I can't believe you kept such a worthless drawing."

"It's true I can't make wonderful drawings like you and Yuhi can. But, I do know that this drawing is wonderful. When I look at this drawing, I can feel the joy you felt when you looked at these flowers. It makes me smile. I love it."

"You must be stupid. Nobody would like such a drawing."

"But I like it. It really is wonderful. Being able to express their feelings with such colors like this, I really am impressed." Sumire said, smiling brightly.

By this point, Jun knows he can't hide it anymore, or rather she saw through him right from the beginning, didn't she? Jun slumped on the ground.

"Jun-kun?"

"You have me beat Sumire-san. I give." Jun muttered, defeated.

"En. I knew right away this was your Jun-kun. Few people can draw this well with this faint stroke and markings. This gentle usage of colors can only belong to someone with equally a gentle heart. " Her sweat trails dropped, "That's why I knew that it didn't belong to Yuhi. That guy always draws everything based on his current emotions, after all. That's why I know it can't have been his."

"Sumire-san, you really like Yuhi-san's paintings don't you?" Jun said.

"Yes. Jun-kun, you knew about it, didn't you? That I was searching for the one who did that painting."

He gave a small nod of confirmation. How can he forget? That was one of the main reasons why she came along with them to TOKYO in the first place.

"That painting, truthfully I already knew a long time ago who painted it. Just now I admitted that I can determine which paintings belong to certain people. I knew it was his, so I set off to TOKYO. Perhaps he already stole my heart then."

So that's how it was; he figured there was something strange about her when they mentioned TOKYO first. Her tension seemed to be high, and she was even more clumsy for the next few days.

Sumire-san really cares about Yuhi indeed; it's exactly like Mamoru-san

said. However, if he thinks about it carefully. Isn't there another meaning behind why she came here?

Perhaps, even now, Sumire-san doesn't understand her true feelings very well. He wants to believe in her. Believe that the love he's seen these past few years won't be destroyed by just a few months' worth of tenderness and affection. However, the world is 'illogical'; it's unpredictable.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 692

Chapter 692: Futari No Monogram Part 8

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Chapter 692 Futari No Monogram Part 8

Ever since the girl came to Tokyo, she has faced many challenges, such as confronting her ex. The ex who hurt her and caused her last remaining hope in the world to fade. If it wasn't for Nagawa Sano breaking up with her, then perhaps Sumire wouldn't have lost her remaining morals. But it is already far too late to think of what-if scenarios; he should focus on the present.

Jun reached over and patted the girl's hair, causing her to blink, confused.

"What is it?"

"Paint."

"Aha, right."

"Sumire-san, what are you doing here?" Jun wondered. There is nothing but meadows here. Although she could draw the flowers, he knew that Sumire-san liked to find places with complicated shapes for her free time drawing.

"Oh, I was going to call you. It's time to have our first meeting regarding the festival."

"I see, then we must be on our way."

"It's unlike you to be late. Is there something wrong?"

If there is anything that is wrong, it's him coming to terms with his memories. Right after he returned home from meeting her

"Sumire-san, you seem strange recently."

"Strange?"

"According to my data, you're stressed."

Is it about returning to the entertainment industry? No, there is something else. But if he pries too much, she will surely try to run away. Is it to do with their conversation the other day? However, after Yuhi-san showed up, she seemed okay.

"Hmmm, if I'm stressed, it's probably due to the mental blocks I have while composing music. Although it is normal to occasionally get stuck, it has never lasted this long for me. Saying that, however," Sumire pulled out her composition notebook. "I made some adjustments for your song. I think it's fine now, but you should still check."

Despite those vague sounding words, Jun sensed her confidence behind them.

Jun's gaze fell on the song, and his eyes widened, surprised. What is this? It seems different from her other songs. When he saw it the other day, it felt like something was lacking. But not only has that something vanished, but there is something else.

"I will write lyrics to this as soon as possible."

"Really? Thank goodness."

"Sumire-san, can you do me a favor?"

"What is it?"

"I want to hear you sing," Jun admitted.

His heart still feels unsettled. After he returned home from having that conversation with Hino, he felt even more frustrated.

'It is unfair for him to have all those memories to himself!' Yet, the main reason why he couldn't get mad was because he could see the pain in Narasaki Hino's eyes.

"God Bless You

I never thought I'd be able to love someone this much -

Now that I know this feeling, I'll never be the same!

We shared the one true happiness that exists in this world:

That's the reason for my joy... and these overwhelming tears!

Even if one single drop (of blue sadness),

Were to fall in your heart... I'll release an arrow of light! (Pierce on through!)

If this love is a miracle... please, God... guide it every step of the way!." Sumire sang.

What's with this voice? This i- this isn't like any of her other songs. It's resounding in his heart and sends goosebumps down his skin, but those goosebumps aren't due to fear but excitement. This sort of feeling it's the same as that time.

It's almost as though she's saying, 'even if it's painful, sad. Please smile because I will be there for you.'

She truly hasn't changed; she is still the same as back then.

Jun paused for a moment. Just now, why did he-?

'Kira, even if you do not have your memories now. The bonds you formed haven't changed. Believe in the present rather than the past.'

"Jun-kun, is something the matter?" Sumire asked, breaking his thoughts.

"The FNS J festival. I will perform it there."

At those words, Sumire beamed happily. "You already decided on a venue; that's expected of you."

Four days later, at the FNS J Festival.

Jun was slightly concerned that Sumire and Yuhi wouldn't make it. Four days prior, since Yuhi didn't show up to the meeting and didn't return home. It seemed the two had a small fight. However, his worry disappeared when he saw them walking hand in hand in the backstage area.

You do not have to be a genius to figure out that the two have completely resolved everything with each other. There is a healthy-looking glow on Sumire's face, and the dark, gloomy aura around Yuhi is gone. He figured it wouldn't take that long; it's these two, after all. Even if everything gets blown out of proportion, they will find a way to sort it out.

Jun recalled what Narasaki Hino mentioned not too long ago. Indeed, it seems like from the very beginning, he has had a strong faith in their relationship.

"And now it's time; the opening act of the FNS J festival is Kira Jun."

The opening act of this large festival was initially supposed to be Yuhi. However, when he received a solo slot offer. Yuhi suggested to the organizers that he would do the opening instead. It took some persuasion, but it seemed like Narasaki said something too. Unfortunately, the pressure from receiving the solo offer to the opening act caused him to fall sick.

'I am feeling much better, but I won't last long. So before I collapse, I want to convey my present emotions.'

He turned to the brunette, her gaze blazed with worry.

"Jun-kun," Sumire mumbled.

"I am alright now. And I will sing your song, so please enjoy yourself."

With those words, Jun stepped onto the stage.

"A monogram becoming one in two,

What kind is our form?

Though it seems foolish, such a childish thing

Somehow, it's what we always draw

Tied to my theoretical heart
It is an extremely difficult paradox
I didn't understand my former self,
But now, I feel like I understand now
The future burst forth the instant our eyes met
Speeding straight to the heavens,
That's what I'll aim at forever
Shall we make our overlapping dreams be as one?
I'll take you there
I swear on my life, to wherever it may be
The confidence to make everything we wish for come true,
I have it, so I swear to you." Jun sang.

Eternal Melody C693 Be Proud *Ran*

Chapter 693 Be Proud *Ran*

Where did she rush off too? Ran found himself looking all over the festival for Sumire. After Jun did the opening song, naturally, people flocked to him. Although Yuhi didn't perform, once people saw him, they naturally surrounded him too. Kou and Tetsuo said they would arrive later, but there was still time for their group performance. Sumire must have left once she saw all those people. However, it's not safe for her to be alone in her state.

He still felt awkward after what happened the last time they spoke properly. But he doesn't want it to continue being awkward. It feels like a lot has happened since Mamoru's accident.

'I wasn't close to him, but it still felt strange to me hearing that guy was gone.' He saw how much it affected his childhood friend Momoi Futaba and his other acquaintances. So, it was difficult for him to ignore the situation.

After running around for a few minutes, he was on the verge of giving up when he saw somebody hunched over by the tree in the forest area. Despite it being dark, Ran could see the brunette.

He walked over and found the person he was looking for. She had just finished throwing up. Ran patted her back. "Are you alright?"

Sumire turned to him weakly and laughed. "Aha, this is embarrassing."

"Your nausea is bad, right? Kou told me about it."

"Indeed, Kou knows my condition since he has visited me; both Tetsuo and Jun-kun always message me." Sumire stood up and placed her hands on her hips as she leaned forward. "As for you, you've been avoiding me, correct?"

Ran could only look at her with wide eyes. For someone who was hunched over moments ago, she certainly has a lot of energy right now. He couldn't deny her words even if he wanted to. It's true after his short emotional outburst last time; he has avoided being left alone with her. However, it wasn't her fault. He avoided her because he wanted to settle the emotions in his heart. Until he fully settled them, he didn't want to be left alone with her.

'It should be fine now.' After he had that talk with Yuhi, he felt much better. He silently criticized his behavior this entire time.

"Oh my, you're surprisingly honest today. If that's the case, treat me to something nice, and then I will forgive you."

This girl does everything at her own pace as usual. Ran nodded, and she raised her fist in the air and did a mini victory pose as she said, 'I did it.' Ran had to stop himself from commenting on how cute she was.

He found a nearby stand that sold hot dogs and bought her that. But it did not take long before that one meal turned into several. Eating and walking would mean they could blend in better. However, not when they are carrying so much food.

So after struggling to carry the several food boxes, they eventually found a table in the corner away from most of the stalls.

The moment he put the last box down, Sumire laughed. "You should have seen your face while we walked."

"This is heavier than it looks."

"That's why I offered to carry some; you're the one who was being stubborn."

How could he possibly allow her to carry any of this when she is pregnant? When he first heard the news, he silently praised himself regarding his timing to stop sulking. Indeed, it would have been difficult to take the news if he was still in the same emotional state. But, the situation has changed now.

'I think what bothered me the most was learning that Terashima Yuhi is actually a good guy.'

One of the main reasons why he accepted being in a group with Terashima Yuhi was because he wanted to find his flaw. If he found his flaw, then he would have a valid reason to take Sumire away. But he couldn't find any. Not only was Terashima Yuhi not like the rumors, but he was also a good guy who cared a lot for his friends.

He couldn't find a single thing to hate, no matter how hard he searched. Even when the rumors of the childhood friend came, Yuhi handled the situation perfectly. Sumire wasn't uneasy for long, and now she doesn't even talk about it.

Ran hated to admit that Yuhi was the perfect person for Sumire. Not only did Yuhi treat her well, he understood her better than anybody else. They have perfect harmony.

His gaze fell on Sumire, who was eating the takoyaki with a bright smile on her face. "This is so good."

"Slow down; you're making it seem like you haven't been able to eat this stuff in a long time."

"That's because I haven't! Since my pregnancy Yuhi-san has been strangely controlling over me eating street food. He acts like I am going to be poisoned."

"You never know that could happen." Ran looked at the other boxes.

'Maybe I should check the rest?'

Sumire followed his gaze and frowned. "Don't you start too? It's enough for my dearest and my manager to nag."

Her manager is Narasaki Hino right?

"Ah, only Shin and Kou are good to me."

At the mention of the former, Ran frowned a little. The main reason why he is tossing aside his grudge against Yuhi isn't because he suddenly matured. It's because he diverts his attention to the newfound pest by her side. He thought it unusual, but why was she close to Nakara Shin?

"Hey."

"Hmm?"

"Did you know Nakara Shin before you came to Tokyo?" Ran decided to just ask her.

Instead of worrying about it silently, he knew she would tell him if he just asked her. She is that type of person, after all.

"Mm a little. Shin was an active member of the underworld not too long ago. I guess you could say I saved him from a life-and-death situation. Before then, we didn't speak much unless it was during the meetings for large raids. Ran, you were solo and didn't join any organizations, but you understand how the underworld works, correct?"

"I do."

"During large-scale operations, we would form a large group and team up with other organizations. Of course, this only ever happened when a major incident occurred. Otherwise, most groups tend to keep themselves and contact other groups as small as possible. Shin is one of his organization's leaders, meaning he was present during those meetings." Sumire paused and laughed. "Actually, I just recalled something."

"What is it?"

"We often got into disputes how the fights would go. Shin is a good guy; he would choose the best possible route that involved fewer sacrifices. While I didn't hesitate to sacrifice people if need be."

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Chapter 694: Be Proud Part 2

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Chapter 694 Be Proud Part 2

"Which one of you is right?"

"That would depend on the situation. There were times when Shin would be right and times where I would be, and vice versa. In the end, there is no right or wrong. Both of us fought for what we believed in. After I saved him, we started to speak a bit more. He also confided in me his decision to leave the underworld and pursue his career. I was the one who introduced him to Atsuro too."

Listening to this, it seems like they have known each other for a long time. This is frustrating.

"Now it's my time to ask questions." Sumire trailed off. "The reason you're asking, Ran, is because you're jealous of Shin, right?"

"Who is jealous about that bastard-" Ran paused in mid-sentence, but Sumire had heard him already.

"I see."

"Uh." Ran awkwardly averted his gaze. This is bad; if she finds out he is being petty again, she will get angry. Just when they finally started talking properly again. Seconds turned into minutes, and as each minute went by, he felt his face break out into cold sweat. After two or three minutes had gone by; however, Sumire burst into laughter.

Ran looked at her, surprised, not understanding her reaction.

"Sorry, sorry. It's really fun to tease you, Ran. Since I don't have many opportunities to do so, I figured I'd take advantage of this moment."

At those words, he sighed deeply. "It seems that bad habit of yours hasn't changed. I thought dating Yuhi would make you cuter, but that's not the case here."

"I should be offended, but what you think doesn't matter. As long as my dearest thinks I'm cute, adorable, and loveable, then it doesn't matter."

"The first one aside, your ego must have gotten larger for you to add the other stuff."

"But it's true, Yuhi won't be able to find anybody as perfect as me."

This girl is completely head over heels, Terashima Yuhi. He can't even feel disgusted by how obviously she displayed her feelings.

"So me disliking Nakara Shin is okay for you?"

"As long as it isn't my dearest," Sumire said firmly.

'I almost forgot how cold she can be. Since me and the others came here, we have silently observed her. It almost seemed like she was a different person, but I see, she hasn't changed at all.'

He would pity Nakara Shin if it wasn't for the bracelet Sumire always wore. It was just a coincidence, but he happened to see what happened during Christmas. He didn't think that bracelet she always wore was a gift from Nakara. It irked him, considering how she is the type not to wear presents from other guys when she has a boyfriend.

Ran took a deep breath. "I know it's a bit late to say this, but I will apologize for my behavior since I came here."

"Right, you were acting like such a huge jerk that I personally wanted nothing to do with you."

"That hurts more than you think, but I deserve that."

"Now that we have gotten that out of the way." Sumire trailed off. "Ran, you have been investigating those people as well, right?"

"Yeah."

"What do you think?"

"Ever since this year started, it feels like they are not only acting more openly, but I feel like their control in this city is stronger than we think." Ran admitted.

"Meaning?"

"They have connections everywhere. I was following one of their members the other day, and imagine my surprise when I saw them meeting with a famous politician."

"Hino told me about his father, so it shouldn't surprise me. But, if this is truly the case, then every member of the underworld is in danger. If Lucifer openly declares war, there is a high chance that every single person involved in the underworld could get arrested before the fight even happens."

Ran nodded. "This is why I suggest we plant our own spies within the government."

"It's not like we don't, but they are more low-key. I would never have thought the day would come when we would have to use them. But, it seems like there is no choice." Sumire paused. "Still, it's rare for you to do spy work; what brought this on?"

Ran wanted to end the topic there, but Sumire's question prevented him otherwise. "Ummm."

He knew he couldn't hide anything from Sumire; she was too sharp. But, considering his behavior so far, it still feels awkward for him to admit this. Ran took a deep breath.

"Right now, M5 is doing very well, so I don't want to cause a scene and do something that will damage our reputation."

While he has been assisting, his jobs so far are limited to following people instead of participating in actual combat.

At those words, he suddenly felt Sumire's hand on his head. She was patting his hair and wore a gentle smile on her face.

"Good boy."

"H-huh?"

"As I thought, Ran, you are a very kind person, you may have a short temper, but there is no doubt that you are a good person."

Ran felt his entire face burn the more Sumire patted his hair. 'Is she treating me like a little kid again?' But, there is something nice about her patting his head like this.

"I see you two are getting close without me." A familiar voice said.

He looked over and spotted Yuhi. Sumire patted his head a bit more before removing her hands.

"Isn't it your fault for leaving me alone?"

Yuhi gently kissed Sumire's forehead and squeezed her hands. "Sorry about that; they swarmed me before I knew it."

"Then again. Jun-kun shouldn't have called our names so loudly. I managed to escape, but Yuhi-san, your escaping skills have gotten worse."

So, it seems like they would have surrounded Sumire too. Ran sighed in relief. It seems like her gradual return to the entertainment industry is working. Although people are still hostile, she is regaining the fame she ought to have.

Yuhi stretched her cheeks. "But what is all this food? What did I tell you?"

"Eep, Ran quick, hide the evidence."

"Nice try, but I have already seen it." Yuhi sighed. "Well, forget it; it won't be bad to spoil you occasionally."

"You say that, but Ran was the one who paid for my food." Sumire pouted. "If you buy me something on the way home, however, I will forgive you."

Ran could only sigh, watching her behavior. Indeed, if he entered a relationship with Sumire, it probably wouldn't work very well. He would end up over spoiling her or neglecting her too much. On the other hand, Yuhi is different; he finds the perfect balance.

Watching the two of them like this, he doesn't feel as bitter as he does anymore.

'I can't say that I am not envious or that I have gotten over her; there is no doubt that I still love her. But, I do not want to get in the way anymore.'

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 695

Chapter 695: Be Proud Part 3

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Chapter 695 Be Proud Part 3

It was an unusual feeling, but he certainly meant it. There is no longer any use in confessing to her or pursuing her romantically. After all, this is the first time he has seen such a clear look in her eyes in a long time. Unlike that hazard gaze from before, this situation is much better.

"Did you speak to Shin yet?"

At those words, he snapped out of his trance. Nakara Shin is here?

"Ah, is Shin here?"

"He said he had something to give you."

"Mm, it's probably the SF's recent activities report. My dear, I'll disappear for a bit."

"Sure, he is waiting near the stage area."

Sumire's gaze briefly met his, and she laughed almost like she knew what he was thinking. "I will tell Shin you say hello, Ran."

"Like hell." Ran replied as the girl merrily rushed away.

"Sorry about that, but you know how she is."

Indeed he does know. He was one of the few people who got along very well with her.

"Her personality is really bad, though. How do you put up with it?"

Yuhi only laughed at his words.

"Yeah, but I find everything she does cute. Even when she acts weirdly possessive."

Ran stared at him and sighed. "Now I understand, your both weird. What a perfect couple."

"You are saying this, but I know you still like her."

"Yeah." Ran admitted. "But, I am going to take a step back. I don't want to be that jerk who steals his friend's girlfriend."

"So, we are friends now?"

Hearing Yuhi's tone, Ran frowned. "On second thought, let's change that to a team member."

This only earned more laughter from Yuhi. It's strange, but when this person laughs, he doesn't find it annoying like he did with Mamoru-san. There is something gentle behind that laughter.

"Did she give you your song yet?"

"I haven't asked her." Ran admitted.

"You also got offered to do a solo performance on the fourth day, right? Why don't you perform the new song there?"

So from what Yuhi just said, it seems like Sumire has already finished writing his song. That shouldn't surprise him, but it does. He thought it would take a bit longer, considering they haven't been on speaking terms.

The song he sang when he first came here, 'only one,' was something she wrote for him before Mamoru's accident. But before they could work on it properly, Mamoru ended up hospitalized. He wanted to respect her decision to spend time with him, so he delayed releasing the song.

The reason why Sumire wrote only Kou and Jun's new songs not too long ago was simply due to him and Tetsuo maintaining a distance. Unlike the other two, Tetsuo and he hasn't gotten close to her since she

came to Tokyo. It's not like he didn't want to get close, but whenever he recalled her state in Star town. He would feel angry at himself.

Why did they go abroad right after the selection? If they didn't, if they were with her right after the accident, then perhaps she wouldn't have ended up in that state.

'Who am I kidding? Mamoru was so important to her. Even if we were there for her, nothing would have changed.'

"Then, I'll ask her about it when she returns."

"Yeah."

"Is there something else?"

"I was actually wondering if you could join the front lines and fight for a while. But I understand why your not."

"Are we truly lacking fighting force? They have Aki, the three Princesses, and four heavenly kings, right?"

"But the three Princesses are members of the entertainment industry too, and one of them is missing right now."

"If it's Nase, she is the same type as Mamoru; she has the adventure blood in her and wanders off a lot. She doesn't stay in one place for too long."

"That's exactly why. If Nase were around, I wouldn't have to ask you, Ran. That girl is good at not getting caught, from what Jun told me."

"I understand. It's better than Sumire, going off on her own again, right?"

'I heard what happened recently.' But even then, he couldn't believe it. He knew how much Sumire wanted a child with Yuhi. Ever since she gave birth to Mamoru's child, she would often make comments like.

'It would be nice if I have one with Yuhi-san too.'

To think she would go off recklessly and endanger herself and her children. He was under the impression that with Yuhi around, there is no longer any need to be so overprotective over Sumire. However, it turns out that is not the case. Even if he cannot be together with her romantically, at the very least, he wants to watch over her as her friend.

"Despite what it looks like, I know how to keep my safety margins. I shouldn't get caught."

There is a reason why he has survived as a solo this entire time; in the underworld belonging to a group is crucial. However, he never saw the need to get involved with people who are similar to themselves. Every underworld member is trained to kill, to take human lives. Why would he bother making himself even more corrupted?

But neither Kou nor Sumire is like that; those two, despite having stained their hands with blood numerous times, continue to emit a radiant and bright light. It's not just them but even Yuhi. He heard

the rumors regarding how vicious Yuhi was. However, this man showed a bright smile during their first meeting.

"Then I will count on you." Yuhi began to pack the food back into the boxes. "You don't mind if we take this, right?"

"It's fine. I did buy it for her."

"I don't mean to be so controlling regarding her meals, but I am just taking extra caution with everything that has happened recently. Sumire probably has no idea how many people plot to kill her every day."

"I think she does know, and that is why she is living her life to the fullest."

His reply came swiftly and Ran looked away awkwardly, realizing what he had just said. "I mean, you probably understand her better."

So much for not making things awkward. However, they have been on better terms ever since he apologized. Ran still found it awkward to speak to him, considering his behavior since they met in person.

"No, you're certainly right. Even if she knows she is in danger, she will not let that scare her and continue living her life as she wants." Yuhi trailed off. "Although if you ask me, she has gotten a bit too relaxed, with her attacking me all the time."

Ran's eyes twitched, annoyed. "Oi, here I am being nice, and now you're flaunting your relationship."

"Aren't you my friend? You should listen to my concerns." Yuhi said seriously.

He sighed, hearing those words. "Isn't it simply because she is more comfortable around you now? You should be relieved."

"Don't get me wrong; I am more than relieved. You probably don't realize how difficult it was for me to confess to her again. With her heart in that state, I didn't want to look like I was taking advantage of her. But at the same time, I knew I couldn't leave her alone."

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 696

Chapter 696: Be Proud Part 4

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Chapter 696: Be Proud Part 4

It was difficult huh? This is the first time hearing Yuhi speak of this.

'I thought it would be simple for the two of them to start dating since Sumire already liked Yuhi. But it seems Yuhi has had his own fair share of troubles.'

Then again, there have been signs. It's not like this happened out of nowhere.

"My dear, you're making me sound so needy." A familiar voice said.

He looked over and spotted Sumire. She had returned with Nakura Shin and was pouting.

"I'm just talking about my struggles. You said it yourself, that loving me was painful."

"Ah you're holding a grudge! My dear you know that's not what I meant." Sumire rushed over and clung to his arm. "If you don't believe me, I will cry."

"Pfft." Yuhi cupped her cheeks. "I find your tears pretty, so I wouldn't mind."

Ran sighed seeing the scene before him. These two whenever they are around each other tend to get lost in their own world. His gaze fell on Nakara Shin. This person doesn't seem to mind either. Out of all the other guys who have gotten close to Sumire. Sumire seems to be particularly close to Nakara Shin. The main reason for that, is it because she has no romantic feelings for him and can treat him like a friend? That does seem to be the case here, but he can't be too sure. Sumire is far too popular.

"Sumire, Yuhi. I'm going to head on home." Ran called out.

"Ah Ran." Sumire quickly made her way over and passed her composition notebook at him. She pulled out some scores. "This is your song, have a look. If you want to make changes, you can tell me anytime."

"Uh sure."

Even just a brief glance at the score sheets he knew it was glowing. She is amazing as ever. Ran took one last glance at the two and then briefly at Nakara before heading in the opposite direction. The rest of the festival was still going on around him. But Ran wanted nothing more than to head home. His gaze fell on the dark skies, there is no star in sight tonight. But, the moon is shining so beautifully.

Ran felt a throbbing sensation in his chest. 'I have to hurry home.'

If he doesn't hurry home, this situation will get worse.

At the M5 Mansion, Tokyo - 11:00pm

The clock hit eleven pm by the time he reached the mansion. Ran immediately closed the curtains blocking the sunlight. He curled into a ball shape in the corner of the room. The moment he did that the feeling he was suppressing finally released itself. In seconds large waves of blood emerged from his fingertips, painting the room in red.

'Out of all the evolved human abilities to have, why do I have to be a hanyou?' A hanyou is a special type of evolved human, that resembles a vampire more than an average human with special powers. The abilities he has use his own 'blood.' But what bothered him the most was the blood urges, the urges to drink another

persons blood.

He snatched the mirror from the wall and threw it across the room and watched it shatter to pieces. Some of the shards landed near him so he picked one of the pieces and cut his hands. The blood flowed faster and faster and he brought it to his lips. It's disgusting, even if he drinks his own blood like this. He cannot get rid of his thirst, what will it take for it to go away?

How can he get rid of this craving, this desire? Should he find somebody? 'I need a woman.' Naturally cravings can only disappear drinking the blood of the opposite gender, it doesn't work drinking your own blood or drinking blood from the same gender.

The blood started to flow faster and wrap around him like a shield. His 'power' isn't as strong as Sumire's and Yuhi. Those two probably have a terrible time. No those two are fine, they have each other.

Ran could no longer contain the pain and let out a blood-curdling scream and moved his hands to his head, gripping his hair as if to yank it out. He needs to focus, and get rid of this wall. Ran mustered his remaining strength and released the blood, causing it to splatter across the plain white walls and sheets.

His thoughts break off when he felt a pair of soft hands on his shoulders. He weakly looked up and saw a pair of amethyst coloured eyes. It was Sumire, she had brought a blanket and draped it around his quivering figure.

For a moment he couldn't believe who he was seeing.

"Ran? Are you alright?"

Even during midnight, she looked absolutely beautiful. Her white dress that was filled with diamonds and gems sparkled. She looked at him concerned.

"What happened?"

Ran averted his gaze embarrassed that she saw him in this condition. Now that he was thinking it through, what was he doing?

He watched as she undid the ribbon around her neck and wrapped it around his injured hand. Ran briefly gets a glance at her eyes, they were filled with worry and panic. She was staring at the red liquid on his hands.

"Why did you come?" Ran had to control his urge from running his blood stained hands in her brunette coloured hair, staining that pretty brown with a deep red colour.

Honestly he was half tempted to pin her down. She is the one who came marching in his room in the middle of the night. She can't possibly blame him if he does anything.

"Hmmm, because we are friends."

Ran only frowned at those words. That answer didn't satisfy him. Or rather, she is indirectly drawing a line between them again. He needed more answers and he knew she would be the only one who could answer them.

"You were behaving strangely and Yuhi-san told me the reason why."

"I understand that but does that mean that you can barge into my room? That's simply trespassing," Ran stated.

He wasn't actually bothered, in fact he is flattered that she came after him

like this. It shows that he is still important to her. Ran stood up and slowly pushed her back against the wall, his body over hers as he leaned closer to her, using his arm as a support against the wall. He was being careful not to crush her but also preventing her from escaping.

Sumire stared at him, not bothered by his actions.

"You do realise that it is the middle of the night right?"

Sumire averted her gaze. "You're wrong. I didn't come here for that!"

Ran raised his eyebrows at those words. Well she isn't stupid, he doesn't have to spell it out to her what it means to enter a man's room in the middle of the night. Knowing her, she really did just come here to check on him because of what Yuhi and what Kou most-likely told her.

ETERNAL MELODY Chapter 697

Chapter 697: Be Proud Part 5

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Chapter 697: Be Proud Part 5

He stared at her like he always did. He didn't like her response, even though he knew it was the truth. She cares for him but because she is in a relationship she has to draw a line. He hated it, Ran wanted her to come here because she genuinely worried about him.

'She is a cold woman, but it's not like I didn't know that. Unlike the others, I have always had a better understanding of Sumire. I was the one who ended up becoming closer to her.'

Seeing her close her eyes and her body trembling, Ran frowned and picked her up.

"Ah? Hey Ran?"

Ran didn't reply to her and threw her down on the bed.

"Ouch." Sumire winced in pain.

"Hah... ..You're easy to pin down. You can't resist well like this. But still, don't try."

"Ran stop, just recently you made up with Yuhi. Your going to change from now on right?"

"I will shut you up by force!! Like this-" Ran leaned forward and brought his lips to her neck and started to drink her blood,

What is this? Ran felt the throbbing pain in his chest slowly decrease. But this isn't enough, he wanted more.

"What's with that voice... ..? Are you feeling it since I'm doing it forcefully? You really are lewd. You're dishevelled."

"I-I'm not lewd." Sumire exclaimed.

"Then explain this?" Ran bites harsher and Sumire's breathing became even more unsteady. The girl was trying to hold back her voice, but her attempts were futile.

"Admit it. That you're so shameful to the point you're helpless... .."

".."

Sumire bit her lips causing him to frown. Why doesn't she just admit it? Why is it so difficult? Why is he the only one she hesitates getting close to?

"If you admit it, I'll be a bit more gentle." Ran said in a kinder tone.

This is the first time he is drinking her blood, he doesn't want to frighten her too much.

"You're right." Sumire murmurs quietly at first.

Ran halts in his advances, " Ah... ..?"

"You're right. I'm lewd. Happy? I said it. Are you satisfied?"

Ran looked away frustrated. He wasn't expecting this reply from her.

"Now then, let's talk again shall we?"

Ran frowned and shook his head as he pulled away from her and sat up. "You just want to talk about Shin again. I know he is your friend but you know how I feel about all of this. Who is more important to you? Him or me!?"

The main reason why he felt so agitated was because she kept talking about Shin,

"Don't be so silly, right now M5 is my priority. I have had many opportunities to meet with the members of EMMA and compose for them. But I am prioritising you and the guys in M5."

Sensing her serious

tone Ran sighed. "I already know that. I'm just doing this to vent my frustration."

"Mm, maybe you just need some rest, You already drank some of my blood. You should be okay now."

Now that she mentioned it, the parched feeling in his throat has disappeared. That's right, his thirst can only vanish if he drinks from the opposite gender or from the woman he loves. He supposes his feelings for her won't disappear.

"I'm fine now, you can go home." Ran paused and looked at the time. Before he knew it, it was already midnight. It would be bad for her to walk out this time. He would offer to take her, but he doesn't feel confident walking in the streets in his condition.

"Then, I'll just stay here."

Ran looked at her puzzled for a moment and Sumire tilted her head. "The other rooms are so far apart from each other and I'm sleepy, I will stay here."

It took him a moment to process those words and Ran exclaimed. "Hey! Don't say something so careless, I just attacked you."

"I had the situation under control. If you did anything more than drink my blood, I would have gotten angry at you."

Right she is stronger than him.

"I will sleep on the couch."

"But the bed is large enough,"

"Sumire." Ran placed his hands on her shoulders and looked at her seriously. "I think I told you this back in high school, but you're too careless around guys. I know we are friends and that you trust me. But I am still a guy who likes you."

Sumire paused and slowly nodded. "Then goodnight?"

"Goodnight."

Ran walked over to the couch and laid down. He briefly glanced over at the bed and saw Sumire lay down. He could hear her breathing in seconds. That was fast, she must have been tired. She did look exhausted earlier. It is her second time getting pregnant, but her body still can't adapt very well.

He felt the temperature on his cheeks rise and his heart beat increase. The more he ignored it, the more it got worse.

This is bad, 'I doubt I will get much sleep tonight.' Ran's thoughts break off hearing the sound of his phone.

From: Yuhi

I will pick Sumire up tomorrow.

From: Ran

Pick her up now bastard.

From: Yuhi

Is she staying in your room?

Ran rolled his eyes reading that message. Yuhi understands her very well huh?

From: Ran

Right so pick her up now.

From: Yuhi

Unfortunately something urgent came up. I would be more assured if Sumire is within your sight now.

Frowning Ran was tempted to call him but didn't want to wake her up, he sent a quick message before putting his phone away. Now then, will he actu

ally be able to get some sleep tonight?

Ran tossed and turned before he finds himself pulling up a chair and placing it beside the bed. His gaze fell on Sumire who was shifting uncomfortably in the bed, her entire face covered in sweat. Ran rummaged through the draw and pulled out a towel and wiped her sweat.

"Ru." Sumire said quietly.

Ran freezes for a moment before sighing deeply. He recalled his exchange with Yuhi earlier. It seems Yuhi is struggling more than he thinks. On the surface Sumire and Yuhi's relationship with one another looks perfect. But of course there is an issue. After all, the impact Mamoru-san made on Sumire's life is large.

He rested his head on the pillow for a moment and before he knew it he was drifting off.