

4 🌀 Payment

Your eyes widened in shock. What did Solomon just say? Mammon? What was he doing here? You glanced around, your pupils trailing to where the sorcerer was eyeing. Nothing.

"Mammon...Where?" You questioned curiously. Great.You were here to enjoy a show to take your mind o everything that happened, yet somehow the brothers still manage to ruin it. It was already bad enough that you had to see them this morning but...

You shook your head and forced a bitter smile as you waited for the sorcerer's reply. Part of you hoped that he confused a random demon with him but another part of you knew that the "Witty sorcerer" would not make such an error.

"He's not here, Solomon must have been mistaken," Simeon answered you instead

"He's not?" There was a little feeling of relief that bloomed inside of you upon hearing Solomon might be mistaken. But...He wasn't the type to make such a blunder. You looked around the tent, all kinds of demons dotted the seats but there was no sight of the conspicuous white-haired demon. Was he really mistaken?

"If you say so..."

Dubious yet relieved, you turned back to the stage. The curtain had been drawn and the light had dimmed, it was time for the show to start. The performance was smooth sailing, all kinds of curious acts were executed. You enjoyed every moment of the production so much that you nearlyforgot about everything else.

You heard demons around you whisper in a low voice to each other, signaling the start of the finale.

Crimson rose petals rained down as the ringmaster once again stood in the middle of the stage, a smile plastered across her face. Strands of curly black hair brushed the mask she was wearing, a small glistening belladonna at its corner. There was something familiar about her but you couldn't pinpoint what. She seemed to be looking your way each time she talked. Her voice was soothing yet at the same time sent chills through your body. You instinctively huddled yourself with your arms, trying to stop yourself from reacting inappropriately.

At last, the curtain started to close, everything was finally coming to an end. You weren't sure how you went through the last hour of the show, the chilling gaze of the ringmaster now firmly stuck in your mind. Her gaze was not of a maiden but those of a predator who finally found its prey. You hoped that everything was your imagination but somewhere deep inside your heart, you knew that she had her eyes set on you.

You heard the distant cry of an owl as you exited the tent-like structure, the sky was dotted with grey clouds, complimenting the moonless night. Nothing much happened on your way home except for idle little chatters with those from the Hall Of Purgatory. Everything was peaceful and quiet, a bit tooquiet for your liking.

On these tranquil nights, you would always find your mind wandering o to somewhere else and the memories of the past coming back to haunt you. These silent yet dark nights were the perfect backdrops for your cries, letting the tears slowly drip out as you remorse and remember. In the darkness, nobody would be able to see how vulnerable and fragile you were.

Solomon and the angels dropped you o in front of the House of Lamentation first before heading back to the Hall of Purgatory. You watched them completely disappear into the distance before finally deciding to enter the house.

You clicked open the door to the House of Lamentation, your home for the year and your hell.

"Where did you go this time?" You heard a deep growl sounding from inside.

The sudden voice made you freeze, you were about to respond when the person continued to speak.

"You didn't go o to gamble money again? I already have a huge pile of bills sitting on my desk right now."

Oh...He wasn't speaking to you, he probably didn't even notice your presence. There were a few moments of silence without any answer before the demon's voice broke again.

"Mammmmmmmon???"

"Yikes!!! I didn't go to the casino this time!!! I went to a circus...Okay?"

There was another loud scream from Mammon before he was dragged away by Lucifer.

A er they finally le , you came out from where you were standing, you hadn't even realized that you had hidden away out of instinct. It would probably take quite a long time for you to completely get rid of your fears.

"It's annoying..."

What's annoying?

"!!!"

"Why are you so surprised, sweetheart?"

"Why are you here...?"

"How could you be so mean? Is this how you're supposed to act?"

"Please..." You sighed exasperatedly as you walked upstairs.

"Okay. I'll stop teasing you."

The wind spirit giggled so ly before speaking again, " *So, why the long face?*"

"It's nothing, really." You shrugged carelessly, "You should go, it wouldn't be good if the brothers found out about you or any of the others."

"Eh? Hm? Alrighty!" With a pu of wind, she disappeared into thin air.

Your words were right on cue as an angry Leviathan stormed out into the hallway, but somehow became paralyzed when he saw you. You pretended you didn't notice and walked right past him with a straight face. Today really was really full of misfortune, maybe that was your payment for having fun for once? You gripped your fist and clenched your teeth tightly, forgiveness wasn't something that comes easily, and no matter how much you bu , none of it will ever be true.

"Hmph, those stupid normies are so annoying," You squeezed your heart upon hearing Levi's careless words. The walls in this house weren't exactly soundproof...

Crashing onto the bed of your room, you took your DDD. You weren't sure why you chose to text that shady sorcerer, but you didn't really have anyone else that can actually understand you AND can use technology properly.

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Solomon...

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