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The footage in front of me gradually became clearer. I could see two silhouettes, Peter and I. We

appeared at the lower corner of the screen and were walking to the glass cabin door while chatting. I

remembered that we were talking about the similar frequencies emitted by the merman and dolphins

when they went into heat.

A few minutes later, the merman swam towards me and placed his hand onto the glass exactly as I

remembered. After a while, I also placed my hand onto his through the glass.

Gary's breath suddenly became labored with dissatisfaction as if he didn't want to see the events before

him. He got up,wa1ked toward the window and firmly landed a punch onto the window. I, on the other

hand, was staring at the footage where the merman and I gazed deeply into each other. My heart started

beating rapidly, it felt like it could jump out of my chest at any moment.

Knock knock! Someone was knocking on the door of the room. I exhaled a breath of relief and Gary quickly came to my side. He closed the laptop and disconnected the

hard disk, it seemed that he didn't want anybody else seeing it.

It was only after that that Gary went to open the door.

Beyond the door stood a tall, young woman. She wore the research facility uniform but I realized she

wasn't the same as the other personnel. She wore a badge in front of her chest, and by the looks of it, it

seemed she was affiliated with the military.

I was even more shocked when I looked behind her. There were several muscular soldiers following her

in an orderly fashion. She must be really respected.

Gary seemed to be very surprised by her arrival and said respectfully, "Colonel Laura, why have you...

"

The woman interrupted him with a smile. "Please refer to me as 'doctor' while we're here"

She quickly walked towards me as soon as she finished her sentence. She extended her hand and smiled,

"You must be the beautiful genius, Ms, Linda from the maritime university. Hi, I'm Laura. I'm the head of

this research facility and also the colonel of the 5th regiment in the Japanese navy. It's a pleasure to meet you."

Her position was really impressive, no wonder Gary behaved so respectfully toward her. I was really

impressed by such a capable woman.

"Hello," I extended my hand to shake hers and anxiously continued. "Hello, I'm Linda. I'm currently a

postgraduate researcher from the biology department of the maritime university."

Laura smiled and nodded, then said eagerly, "Linda, yesterday several research personnel sustained

heavy injuries as they were assaulted by the merman when they got close to him. The merman is now

extremely aggressive, and Professor Peter is still unconscious."

As she said that, she took out a black box out of her pocket, it was the same as the one Peter had shown

me yesterday. She handed the box to me and said, "I assume Peter told you that the merman is currently

in a rut. I also heard that you're the only one who can communicate with the merman. If this is true, we

hope you will help us with the merman's mating process."

"What? Mating? Does this mean that mermaids exist as well?"

Laura shook her head and said, "It's just a clone. The facility received a mermaid before but she was

extremely weak and only lived for several days. The one we have now is her clone. It was estimated that

she had a year left to live, but now it looks like she can't make it past one week."

"I 'm willing to help! ", I blurted without thinking.

This was a valuable opportunity to research merpeople! I could examine the mating and reproduction

process closely, and could even correct Dicken for mistaking me as his mating partner.

When this thought came to my mind, I felt my body grow hot. An unexplainable wave of pleasure

travelled up from my crotch. This made me feel embarrassed and it was difficult to contain myself.

What is going on with me?

My mind started to feel drowsy. There seemed to be something slippery grinding against my crotch and

my legs were losing their energy...

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"Linda! Are you okay?"

I woke up after I heard Gary say that. I couldn't believe that I had fainted again, against Gary's chest no

less!

I quickly tried to get up but Gary hung onto my arm and didn't let go.

"Linda, are you alright? Are you having a fever? Your face looks flushed." Laura placed her hand onto my forehead to check my temperature.

Gary gripped my arm tightly and said strictly, "Colonel Laura, as Linda's professor I'm strongly against

Linda participating in the research on merpeople reproduction! We should at least wait until Professor

Peter is awake! "

I angrily snatched my arm away from his grip in rejection. "No! I won't give up on a chance like this! "

Gary's muscles tensed and his face displayed a grim expression. He raised his voice and shouted, "

Absolutely not! "If Laura hadn't been around, he probably would have restrained me with physical force.

After seeing the situation at hand and knowing he was afraid of Laura, I quickly hid behind her and stuck

my face out mouthing the words 'f*ck you'.

Then, I grabbed a windbreaker and put it on before following Laura. "Doctor Laura, let's go. I'm willing to participate in the inerpeople mating research project."

As I entered the research room within the reservoir for the second time, I smelled the fragrance again. I

quickly covered my nose with the fabric of my clothes, the smell of disinfectant on it momentarily

cleared my head. I realized that the fragrance caused me to think irrationally.

Even though my mind was conscious, my body seemed to be reluctant to enter the reservoir. I didn't

even dare to look for Dicken in the water around us.

I was scared to see him, especially when it was confirmed that he was in a rut! He even referred to me

as his mating partner. It felt too shameful!

I followed Laura up the stairs without even looking up. This was another research room above the

library. Peter didn't bring me in here last time, it looked like access here was restricted.

The floor below my feet was made of glass and below the glass was seawater of a deep blue. Standing

here, it felt like I was floating on the surface of the sea with swaying seaweed and shoals of fish below me.

I still couldn't help but search for Dicken, but I sighed a breath of relief when I couldn't see him.

"What are you looking for? That imbecile of a merman?", I jumped when I heard Gary's moody voice

next to my ear. I turned to look at Gary and felt slightly fearful but masked it with anger and said, " What

are you saying? How can you describe mythical beings like this? Even before we caught this merman, you

already referred to them as seductive evil beings! "

"But this is a male, a greedy and barbaric male. You must have been fooled by his appearance! " Gary

gave me a death stare as if he was trying to find any weakness in my resolve. He gritted his teeth and

said, "That thing did..."

"Linda, look here! That is our mermaid! "

Laura interrupted Gary and I raised my head to take a look. A cylindrical glass tank was slowly lowered

and when it was in front of us, I couldn't help but gasp in wonder.

It really was a mermaid!

I inadvertently walked toward her as she was just too beautiful! She really was like a seductive evil being,

just as Gary had said.

"Her name is Alice. She's a beauty isn't she?" Laura approached the tank and said, "She was in cryostasis

for a long time, that's why she looks so weak."

That's right, she did appear weak. But the combination of her weakness and her beauty made her look

unreal. She had silver hair like an elf and she didn't have a clam bra as depicted in fairy tales, so her

perfectly formed breasts were exposed right in front of us. Her skin was as bright as porcelain and she

had a pair of pitiful light green eyes.

She was depressed.

I felt her sadness, it seemed like she was mourning her own tragic fate. "I 'm sorry... You'll soon be with one of your kind, please don't be sad." I put my hands on the glass and said that as I wanted to comfort her but my heart was full of guilt.

Humans were so selfish, we created beautiful beings like this in the name of research but we weren't

able to let them live longer. And now, we were using her as a tool for research so that she would be of

value to us before she dies.

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I began feeling uneasy about this project, so I asked, "Doctor Laura, is it really okay for us to be doing this?"

"If the mating is successful, that is, when the mermaid becomes pregnant, can we successfully raise the

child with the current technology and our limited understanding of merpeople? This mermaid is naturally

from a warmer climate and Die... I mean the merman is from a colder climate. How can we know which

climate their offspring would be more suited for? Where would we release them?", I blurted out my thoughts.

Laura just coldly shrugged her shoulders. She walked to me and expressionlessly said, "I'm sorry, our

little researcher. We do not have the intention to release their offspring into the wild. We're not like you, we have different objectives."

"What do you mean you're not like me? What objective?" I was confused by Laura's words, wasn't this a

biology research facility?

But when I wanted to pursue this matter further, Laura signaled the men behind her.

I heard a splash.

"Wait!"

But it was already too late. Alice was already thrown into the water. Her long silver hair scattered in a

mess while her pale skin glistened in the water, her appearance was so graceful.

My eyes anxiously followed her, I had a bad feeling about this... As she sank down from the water

surface, she began to maneuver herself with her tail. She quickly adapted to her surroundings, and started to swim freely.

My heart rate suddenly became more rapid. I had a bad feeling about this and it was making me panic. I

clenched my fists in an effort to calm myself.

Alice seemed to have sensed the fragrance that Dicken had emitted and so she started seeking the

source.

I called out in my mind, 'Dicken, where are you? Your mate is looking for you.'

I anxiously waited for Dicken to appear and the uneasiness I had been feeling grew worse.

Finally, Dicken's dark silhouette appeared in the water. I suddenly felt shaken and my legs trembled to

the point where I almost fell.

Gary immediately came to support me and shouted, "Linda, stop watching! "

I escaped from his arms with annoyance and walked to Laura's side and asked, "Doctor, you have

cigarettes right? I'd like to have one."

I saw the pack of cigarettes in her breast pocket. Laura smiled and handed me a long and thin cigarette from it.

I took it and steadied myself mentally. I didn't have a nicotine addiction but I would occasionally smoke

when I was stressed or frustrated. Right then, I needed one to calm myself.

I squatted down, lit the cigarette, and took a long drag. The smell of tobacco overpowered the merman's

fragrance and it calmed my nerves.

Alice was slowly approaching Dicken and she seemed enthusiastic. She waved her tail in front of Dicken

several times as if she was dancing. This was a good start, many creatures would do this to attract

potential partners to mate with. I really hoped the mating process between them would be successful.

The aggressive Dicken from before was calm now. He wasn't as fierce as when he was with me before.

He was just floating peacefully in the water. He then extended both his arms, like a king welcoming his concubine.

This was also pretty strange however, because it was usually the male who tried to attract the female's

attention. Dicken's behavior was the opposite, it seemed like the roles were reversed.

Dicken! What are you waiting for? Go on!

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I was so anxious for Dicken that I broke out in a sweat. Here there was a gorgeous mermaid right in front

of him, and he was just floating there. What was he waiting for! I took another long drag from the cigarette. When Alice swam into Dicken's embrace, I almost forgot to

breathe! Dicken finally reacted as he embraced Alice. He tilted his head down into Alice's neck to take in

her scent. Alice seemed to enjoy this as she shook her tail happily. I became more and more invested in the scene before me that I forgot to remove the cigarette from my

lips. But then I saw something that I will not forget for the rest of my life.

"Ahhh! ", I screamed as I fell onto the floor. I was so shocked that I couldn't even move.

Laura, who had always been calm, also screamed in shock. She stumbled backward but thankfully the

men following her helped support her.

Alice's pale white corpse was muddled with purplish blood. Her body, limbs, and head floated up to the

surface of the water. Her green eyes were still opened and she was staring at us, accusing us of her tragic

fate!

Dicken looked like a harbinger from hell as he tore apart Alice's remains. He licked his lips and his deep

abysmal eyes were devoid of remorse , only desire and hunger befitting a savage beast. His handsome

face now only reflected ferocity.

It was as Gary said, he was a demon. I shouldn't have been deceived by his appearance!

I rushed down the stairs to where Dicken and Alice were and desperately banged on the glass door. I

desperately shouted, "Damn it, Alice. My Alice... Stop it, Dicken! She's of the same species as you, you can't do this!"

It was unclear whether Dicken had heard my shouting or whether he was just attracted by my

movements, but he stopped tearing Alice apart. He looked in my direction and the ferocity in his

expression disappeared. Surprisingly, it was replaced with a somewhat gentle expression.

His pursed lips were now curled into a small smile and his deep eyes were staring into mine. He licked his

lips and let go of Alice's carcass, then swain to me like he was chasing his lover.

In what felt like an instant, his hiking body was suddenly before me. I shockingly watched as he plastered

himself against the glass and started licking the areas on the glass where I had touched. In that moment,

he looked like a starved sex maniac.

I was taken aback by this teasing action. I took a deep breath, not knowing how I should react.

I felt someone's presence behind me so I turned to take a look. It was Laura and she was staring at me

with a curious expression.

Gary, on the other hand, had a dark and grim expression as he clenched both of his fists tightly.

Laura immediately regained her composure, with a look of mild surprise, she asked as she looked at

Dicken in front of me, "You named him Dicken?"

She coughed lightly and continued, "And he responded to you calling his name? How did you achieve

this? God, you've tamed such a scary and ferocious beast!"

Dicken was still lewdly teasing me. I immediately got away from the glass door and went somewhere

where he couldn't see me. Then, I replied, "No, it's not really his name. It's just something he responds

to. I've discussed this with Peter previously and this word could mean..."

Laura looked like she was eager for me to continue. She took a step forward and asked, "What could it mean?"

The words were stuck in my throat and I couldn't bring myself to explain. I held my breath and my face quickly grew hotter.

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The phrase referred to attracting a mate, in a rut, or courtship? I had no idea how to explain this phrase

and what Dicken had been doing.

Regardless, Dicken's actions were obviously of a teasing nature to me. If it were a monkey or gorilla

before me, I would analyze them rationally from a scientific perspective without feeling embarrassed

even if they were flaunting their penises.

But when it came to Dicken and his lewd hints, I couldn't explain the meaning behind the word, I would

rather bury my head in a hole like an ostrich.

Why did I feel that way? Was I subconsciously treating him as a human being?

No, that wasn't possible. That was definitely not true!

As I was being tormented by my own thoughts, Laura had been staring at me and waiting for my answer

which made me feel more ashamed than I already was. I could only turn to Gary for help. But when I

turned to look at him, he pretended not to see it. I felt as though he was saying 'See? You brought this

upon yourself! '

I could only say with a thick face, "This... refers to... '

partner'."

I swear I didn't mean to be untruthful to scientific facts! But the words continued to leave my lips. "

This phrase could have a special meaning to inerpeople. So when I shouted this phrase, it attracted him.

As for the specific meaning of this phrase, we will only know for sure when we analyze it with Professor

Peter after he wakes up."

Laura seemed disappointed with my answer. She sighed and said, "Alice was a lot of effort to raise as she

was our only mermaid clone. I didn't expect her to become that merman's food source. Why did he

suddenly go insane? This is unbelievable! "

Recalling what I saw earlier of Alice's tragic state, I couldn't help but feel my chest tighten. My inability to

stop that from happening tormented me with guilt.

I said sadly, "I don't know why this happened as well. Peter said that the merman had been refusing to

eat since he was brought here. He didn't even devour the dolphins that were with him. Why then did he

eat another of the same species... "

"This is exactly why we need your help, Linda", Laura interrupted as she placed a hand on my shoulder,

"only you can effectively communicate with him. You're really a genius in biology. With my authority as

the head of this facility, I cordially invite you to lead the merpeople research project. I will prepare an

official letter of employment. I suppose this will be a good opportunity for you to gather material for

your thesis. Of course, this project is also very important to the Japanese government."

I inhaled a deep breath, ruminating on what Laura had said. I asked, "You mean the government is hiring

me, and I will be working for the government?"

Pased on the years of experience as a student I could

Based on the years of experience as a student, I could tell Laura wasn't saying this as an academic but

rather, as a colonel. If I were to refuse, I would never have the chance to research merpeople ever again.

This was an outcome I could never accept as merpeople research had been my goal for the past several vears.

I nodded my head and said, "I accept."

"Then as her professor, I'm willing to supervise her as she completes this project, Professor Laura. She's

still quite young and has no prior experience in working here."

Gary seemed to have planned to say this line immediately after I finished mine. I could tell he was

anxious. I had never seen him be so careful before, and I could never comprehend the deeper meaning

behind his words.

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Laura crossed her arms. She said sternly with a smile, "That's a pity.

We'll only hire Ms. Linda for this

project if she does so independently. As for you, Gary, you need to have more faith in your student. She's

very impressive just as you said, and as her professor, you should be happy for her."

"No! You have no idea how terrifying merpeople really are! How can I let Linda research this on her own!

I need to be responsible for the safety of my students! "Gary argued as he stood in front of me, blocking

me as if I would be kidnapped that very second. This was the first time he behaved so stubbornly in front

of Professor Laura.

This made me scoff. Gary was the one who was the biggest threat to my safety. After all, he almost

raped me, twice! Besides, he wasn't my guardian, so how could he have made decisions on my behalf?

I walked out from behind him, stood next to Laura and faced Gary before I said, "I 'm confident that I can

complete this project independently, Professor Laura."

Yes, I deliberately did this out of spite. If it weren't for him almost raping me twice, my relationship

with Gary wouldn't have deteriorated to this extent.

Gary's expression was confusing and littered with emotions I couldn't comprehend. He still tried to stop

me. "Linda, you can still change your mind. So please, it's not too late to change your mind and come

back, alright?"

Gary seldom begged me like this and I even felt touched for a split second.

Before I could read between the lines of what Gary had just said, Laura had pulled out a fountain pen

from her pocket. When Gary saw the pen, he looked like he just saw something terrifying. He then

started twitching as if he got electrocuted, and fell onto the floor.

I was still shocked, and Laura exclaimed, "Oh my god! What happened to him? Someone take him to the

hospital! "

Several men in military uniforms came in and quickly carried Gary out of the room.

It was only then that I could react. I tried to follow them and asked, "Wait! What's up with him?"

But Laura held me back and comforted me as she said, "It's nothing serious. I've worked with Gary

before and found out he has epilepsy. He must have been too agitated earlier. He will be looked after by

medical officers so you don't need to worry too much."

"Goodness! Is that true?" I was quite surprised. Gary always seemed so healthy, but it also made sense

that he had epilepsy. No wonder he would sometimes lose control over his emotions.

Under Laura's arrangements that night, an office and living quarters with a bathtub were prepared on

the third floor of the research room within the reservoir. She arranged this specifically for my work here

as a researcher so that I could record the regular behavior of the merman. He was below the glass

beneath my feet after all.

I was very happy with the arrangements, but I was still somewhat scared to be living so closely with the

merman, so I expressed my concerns to Laura. She told me that there were security personnel right

outside my door. All I needed to do was press the emergency button on my desk and they would rush in

to protect me. She even gave me a new tranquilizer gun that didn't need to be reloaded after every shot.

This gave me some peace of mind.

I thought I wouldn't be able to sleep that night. After all, it was my first time having my own personal

research room. But the excitement from the past several days had worn me down. After I closed my

eyes, it didn't take long for me to drift away in a dream.

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Around midnight, I felt something heavy crushing me. My body was drained of the slightest energy and

my mind was still groggy. My body felt weary like I was having a fever and I kept hearing voices next to

my ear calling out my name. I realized I was in a nightmare. I frequently had nightmares like this when I

was researching.

I did what I would always do to wake myself up from a nightmare like this. I would silently repeat my

own name and clench my fists as hard as I could. But this time, the feeling of being paralyzed

exacerbated, and the weird voice started to sound clearer. I could faintly make out a string of syllables

that I was extremely familiar with.

When I realized what was going on, I broke out in a cold sweat. This was the merman's voice. He was

calling out my name! How could I hear his voice from here?

This room should be soundproof!

I fought to open my eyes and stiffly tried to move my neck. I wanted to know where the voice was

coming from. I saw the red light of the sonar detector blinking on my desk then I sighed in relief. It

turned out that I forgot to switch it off before I went to sleep.

I thought the merman had gotten out of the reservoir and had come into my room. What an

absurd thought! As if the merman could do that! Even if he was a ferocious beast, he couldn't have

bypassed the high-tech defense system.

Just then, I could feel my limbs starting to relax and I could slowly start to move them. I tucked my fringe

behind my ear and felt my forehead to check if I was having a fever. Since when was I this scared of the merman? As a researcher, I had to overcome my fear of the research subject. I would still need to interact with

him frequently in the future, so I needed to get used to being around him.

I rambled on and on in my head in an attempt to calm myself, but the feeling of discomfort only

intensified. It felt like I was floating on a heatwave and my cells were emitting steam. At the same time, a

strange tingly feeling crawled up from below my spine. This unsettling feeling made me toss and turn on

the bed, it was impossible to feel at peace. I couldn't take it anymore, so I got up to switch off the sonar.

As soon as I stood up, my legs couldn't support the weight of my body so I fell onto the glass floor.

Why were my legs numb all of a sudden? All I could do at that moment was stare at the blinking light on

my desk, I didn't have the energy to stand up.

The merman's hoarse voice that came from the sonar didn't sound like mere mumbling. Instead, his

voice felt like it was reverberating around me, as if Dicken was whispering right into my ear. It even felt

like I could feel his breathing and feel his tongue slithering all over my earlobe. My own breathing started

becoming heavier and heavier as well.

I felt like a curse had gotten hold of me and waves of lust had washed over my body. This feeling terrified

me because I couldn't explain this scientifically. Did this mean that what the elderly woman said in my

dream was true, that merman had some sort of mysterious powers? My body started to become more sensitive, in tandem with the increasing intensity of the merman's

hoarse voice. Beginning from the base of my spine, spreading out to my limbs, then finally concentrating

at the opening between my legs.

My thighs and private parts started to tingle as the thought of my body feeling empty crossed my mind.

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I unknowingly tugged at my panties causing the cotton material to rub against my sensitive spot. It only

satiated me for a short period but my yearning grew stronger after that. I couldn't lie to myself, my

opening was yearning for something to enter it.

"F*ck! "I couldn't help but curse out loud and desperately shake my head to get rid of the immoral and

shameful thought I just had. While I was thrashing about in bed, several buttons on my pajamas

somehow came undone. The skin on my bare chest was flushed red as if I was having a fever.

No matter how much I shook my head, I still felt like I was in a drunken stupor. I yelled at myself in my

mind, 'Linda, just get up! It's all just because of the sonar! All you need to do is switch it off!' I

desperately fought the urge to reach my hand down between my legs to please my raging urge. I

repeatedly reminded myself that I had to switch the sonar off.

I curled my legs and clenched my thighs as tight as I could and gathered some strength in my arms to

push myself up. I crawled toward my desk and switched it off. Dicken's hoarse voice finally stopped. The

aroused feeling finally disappeared, but I collapsed onto the floor because I had expanded too much

energy just now. The floor was smeared with tracks of my sweat. 'How did I sweat so much within such a

short time frame? It looked as if I just had an intense workout!

'Oh my god! What was I thinking?' I hit myself in the head several times to disperse the thought of two

bodies being entangled with each other. But the thought of being raped still reminded me of the

shameful state I was in.

'Did that mean that the merman's voice had an arousing effect? And that merpeople were naturally lewd

creatures?'

I suppressed my feelings of embarrassment by trying to convince myself that this was just one of the

special features of merpeople and a good aspect to research on.

After that, I crawled up and slumped down onto a chair. I took a moment to rub my exposed collarbone

before preparing to take a shower. Just then, I noticed a dark silhouette hiding within the seaweed

below the glass floor. In the dark night, a pair of luminescent eyes were staring at me from below! It

looked like he had been staring at me all along!

I quickly covered my mouth to stop myself from screaming. I closed my eyes momentarily and opened

them again to make sure I wasn't imagining things. Dicken pushed one hand against the other side of the

glass floor to balance himself while the other was on a large object below his torso. He saw that I noticed

him and so he pressed his body against the glass and rubbed against it several times.

Of course I realized what he was doing! The scene I saw earlier kept replaying in my head.

I was trying so hard to overcome my own problems that I didn't notice the situation beneath the floor.

While being underwater and beneath the glass earlier, he was watching me and bewitching me with his voice.

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My face immediately became red and my ears turned hot. What the f*ck! How did this happen? The

glass flooring was supposed to be convenient for me to observe the merman, but now it had become

something he used to spy on me. This was the joke of the century! But I couldn't bring myself to laugh. All I could feel was embarrassment. Luckily, I was the only one there.

If someone else saw what had happened, I would become the joke of the entire biology academia — the

researcher who fell victim to the sexual fantasies of her own research subject.

That would have been preposterous!

This wasn't going according to plan. It was a mistake! I had to correct the merman's perception of me

being his mating target. How could he even think of mating with someone of a whole different species?

Dicken was still beneath the floor, swimming around right below my feet, looking as though he was

reminiscing the rush of the climax he had. My thoughts were a mess and my clothes were uncomfortably

stuck to my body from all the sweat.

I didn't want to face this lewd merman any longer, so I walked towards the bathroom. I could see Dicken

following my footsteps underneath the glass, neither too fast nor too slow. Goosebumps rose on my skin.

I stomped my feet on the glass to muster up some courage and yelled, "Stop following me, you beast! "

But the merman didn't seem to catch what I was trying to convey and he continued following me

beneath the glass. He was still snooping at me with his deep abysmal eyes. His face was enveloped in the

shadow of the night and it made him look all the more creepy.

This was the third time I had cursed within the past hour. I was extremely frustrated. I had to take the

lead in this and not allow him to drag me by the nose!

I took a deep breath, gathered some courage and stood bravely in front of Dicken, then I removed all

items of clothing I had on me and exposed myself completely.

Dicken's expression became one of mild surprise, perhaps he didn't expect me to bravely do this in front

of him, or maybe he was surprised to see a lower body that was completely different from his. I finally

felt like I was more dominant and felt encouraged by what I had just done.

I squatted down and that made my thighs open up, but I didn't mind. I faced the glass floor and said, "

Look at me carefully, you beast. I am a human. I have legs and I walk on land. I am totally different from

you, so I can't be your mating partner."

I knew that there was no way he could have heard what I said, but I wanted to vent my frustrations. I

had to show that I was different from him and the only way to do that was to expose myself completely.

He probably guessed what I was trying to say. He stuck his face closer to the glass until his nose bridge

lightly touched it. His eyes were inspecting my body for a while and then he stopped below my opening.

He obviously became excited at the sight of it. He

stuck his tongue out to lick the glass right below my opening, and I saw him take a big gulp.

He started to become impatient and began hitting the glass several times with his webbed claws. It

looked as if he could climb though the floor at any second. I was rendered speechless from his actions.

He obviously didn't realize that my body was different from his, in fact, he desired my body even more

than before!

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I was shocked by the scene beneath me. Dicken had surprisingly stopped hitting the glass as well as all

his other movements. He paused for a while, then turned around to swim towards the deeper parts of the reservoir. As he was doing that, he halted momentarily and turned back to glance at me once more before

disappearing into the deep. With Dicken gone, I continued looking around anxiously. After I was sure he

wasn't spying on me nearby, I let out a sigh of relief.

I started to suspect that whatever I had seen was just a

misunderstanding from my end. Perhaps Dicken's

behavior wasn't because he was aroused, but because he was upset that I was of a different species,

maybe that's why he looked so sad when he left.

Otherwise, why would he have left so suddenly?

I pushed the thoughts away for the time being and turned on the shower to wash away the sweat from

my body. Suddenly, I heard a sharp siren coming from my room. I quickly wrapped myself in a towel and

rushed out to see what the commotion was.

I looked at the weather forecast on the screen in the research room and it said that a storm was coming!

My heart sank as I recalled what had happened on the boat.

"Linda! Hey, Linda! Are you awake? Can you hear me?" Laura's voice could be heard from the communicator on the desk.

I quickly picked it up and said, "I'm here, Professor. Is there a storm coining? What should we do?"

"You don't need to worry. No matter how severe the storm is, it will not affect the lab underwater. You

can continue your research with no problems. But I must let you know that Gary, the other personnel,

and I must leave the island. You'll be alone in the research room for several days. We will come back

immediately when the storm blows over, do you understand?"

I felt anxious because of the current situation, but when I recalled that I had enough food and water and

that I shouldn't cause trouble for others, I steeled myself and said, "Alright, please be careful everyone. I will wait here for your return."

"Okay", said Laura, "the communicator you're using can still be used to contact us over the next few

days. If you have any problems, just... "

Before she could finish, only the sound of static could be heard from the communicator as the signal

grew weaker and weaker. I tried calling her several times but the line was already dead.

I assumed that the brewing storin must have messed up the signals.

Perhaps it would work again after

the storm was over or when the line got fixed.

I nervously put the communicator down when I realized that there was a dark mass on the glass floor

next to my desk. I took a closer look and saw that it was a tangled bundle of seaweed and it was linked to

a trail of water stains. The trail led right outside the cabin door on the second floor.

The cabin door was opened just wide enough for one person to go through and the water level in the

reservoir had lowered by half!

A chill crawled up my spine.

I then noticed the reflection of something resembling a python looming above me on the glass floor,

several salty beads of water dripped onto me and the sound of breathing could be heard from behind

me.

I didn't have any more headspace to figure out how the merman had come in. All I knew was that the

merman behind me had lowered his head into my neck to breathe in my scent, kind of like a kid addicted

to the smell of gasoline.

And right then, I was only clad in a towel.

The fear left me petrified and my legs started to shake. I wanted to escape but my feet were planted

firmly onto the ground. My mind was also blank. I could feel Dicken's wet skin plastered against my back,

as well as a hot and hard object pressing against my tailbone. The moment I realized what that was, my

mind became blank.

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Without a care in the world, I began running, but Dicken swept his tail in front of me causing me to

stumble forward a few steps and collide with the desk. Suddenly I remembered there was something I

could use in the desk drawer — the tranquilizer gun!

This thing was like a savior to me, especially in this situation.

I quickly took the tranquilizer gun out from the drawer and held onto it with both hands before turning around.

The gun was coincidentally aimed at Dicken's chest as he pursued me. He immediately grabbed the gun and pushed it away. Damn it! He was so strong! He probably could have bent the gun in half if he wanted to!

I sweat profusely as I held onto the gun for dear life, and just like that, we were at a stalemate.

I didn't know why I was so scared of Dicken, he did try to protect me back on the boat after all.

Nonetheless, I kept having a bad feeling that if I didn't struggle to get away, something bad would

happen. I had a weird sense of déja vu that something like this had happened before.

Truth be told, I was scared that the merman was going to rape me. The thing on his lower body was right

in front of me. He didn't even bother hiding the lust in his eyes as he inspected my naked body. I couldn't

even try to cover my own privates, even though I desperately wanted to. I couldn't take it anymore. I placed a finger on the trigger and warned him, "Don't come any closer! If

you do, I will fire the gun! "After I finished my sentence, I poked his chest with the barrel as a threat. He

should have known what I meant since he was hit with tranquilizer darts before.

Dicken's eyes were dark. He bore his fangs that glinted in the darkness. He was obviously trying to

threaten me as well. Moreover, based on his expression, it didn't seem like he was scared of the

tranquilizer gun at all.

He held onto the gun and pushed the barrel away from his chest inch by inch as if he was only teasing me

earlier. The muscles in my arms were already sore. How could the strength of a woman like me compare

to the strength of a beast?

Right then, something cold and slippery wrapped itself around my ankle, his fishtail was forcing my legs

open. Then, I saw Dicken look at the bush between my legs greedily while licking his lips.

"F*ck off!"

I couldn't tolerate the shame of being violated any longer, so I pulled the trigger and a dart embedded

itself into Dicken's chest. His movements paused and his grip loosened. I immediately got away from

him, grabbed the communicator, and ran downstairs.

"Hello? Hello? Can anyone hear me? This is Linda, I need help! "

I shouted into the communicator as I ran, but only static could be heard from it. Eventually, I could make

out a voice from the choppy noises. I was familiar with that voice... Gary! "Hello? Is this Linda?"

Hearing Gary's voice in a situation like this was enough to move me to tears. But just as I was about to

respond, my legs stepped on something slippery and I rolled down the stairs.

By the time I hit the floor at the end of the stairs, my head was spinning and I could feel a sharp pain in

my knee. I must have injured myself. Perhaps I had broken a bone or injured a ligament because I didn't

have the strength to crawl up. What was worse was that the communicator and tranquilizer gun had

fallen a few meters away from me.

I had to get to them. I desperately pushed myself in that direction with my arms. I regretted not listening

to Gary. I shouldn't have accepted conducting research on the merman independently.

From above me, I could sense Dicken getting closer, his shadow could be seen looming larger and

stretching longer right in front of me. It looked like a n abyss, an abyss I would rather be trapped in than

to be here in this situation.

Dicken's ghost-like voice echoed throughout the empty reservoir.

"My... Linda..."

There was nowhere to run.

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Dicken's movements were slowed down by the stairs, so I took this opportunity to push myself forward

with all my might. By the time his looming shadow had fully engulfed me, I managed to grab hold of the

tranquilizer gun.

"D-i-c-k-e-n-D-i-c-k-e-n"

He sounded impatient and feelings of desire could be heard in his voice.

He sounded like a starved beast

that could swallow me whole right at that moment.

I knew that it would be too late if I didn't act there and then.

So, I aimed the gun at him again, but this time I aimed at his forehead.

The sight of his deep eyes made

me shudder for a second. But in the next second, I fired the gun at him without any hesitation.

*C1ick*Only a clicking sound could be heard from the gun, the gun was empty.

Why was there only one dart in this gun? Damn it!

There was no time to inspect whether or not the gun was jammed.

Dicken had already propped himself

upright with his tail. He stared down at me while his lips cracked open in a smile. He was laughing at my

futile actions!

I proceeded to hit him continuously with the gun but he caught it steadily with one hand. He redirected

his gaze to the gun before placing his other hand onto the gun. He bent the gun effortlessly until it

curved before tossing it aside like it was a mere plastic bottle.

"I -t -Ca-n -no-t -hurt -me" Dicken increased the pitch of his voice like he purposely said it for me to hear.

I didn't even know why I was shocked anymore. Was it his brute strength, the fact that he could speak

our language, or that he was deliberately trying to provoke me? He basically just said, "There's no way

this thing can hurt me! "

The prior experiences I had with him seemed like a joke now. Dear God, what did I do to deserve this?

From the corner of my eye, I noticed a fire extinguisher not far from me. It seemed unnecessary to have

a fire extinguisher here of all places, but right then it gave me renewed hope. I still had a chance to save myself!

I could do it! I started to crawl towards the fire extinguisher desperately while Dicken just stared at me

like I was a toddler who just took their first steps.

Just when the fire extinguisher was just an arm's reach away, I felt something tugging at my ankle and

just like that, I was dragged several meters away from my goal. "F*ck! ", I cursed despairingly.

"Sh*t!"

I continued to curse helplessly as Dicken dragged me to him. I could only curl myself up tightly and try to

cover my privates the best I could. It was the last line of defense a victim like me could have before being r*ped.

"F*ck off, you imbecile!" I must have been whimpering when I uttered those words because they

sounded so powerless. After he heard me say that, Dicken just bent down. Without much effort, he

forced my legs open even though I tried my best to keep them closed.

As I frantically thrashed around in an attempt to escape Dicken's control over me, he suddenly grab

ahold of my calves. In a split second, I was dragged right in front of him.

His that thing was right in front

of my face and drips of fluid oozed out of its tip.

I was so shocked that I could no longer think rationally. I just screamed like I was crazy. My screams

echoed throughout the entire reservoir but nobody could help me because I was all alone.

I instinctively struggled with all my might, but it still wasn't enough for me to avoid my fate. Both my legs hung on Dicken's rock- hard shoulders which made the injury in my leg even more painful.

However, the pain was nothing compared to how embarrassed I felt in that position. It was weird

though, because I felt like I had gone through this before. Did I? I almost started weeping as the feeling

seeped out from my subconscious.

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"You shameless bastard! Despicable beast, let go of one!"

I cursed at him as I cried, thrashing my arms at his head that was moving towards the sensitive area

between my legs.

My butt was suddenly raised up by his tail and my entire lower body was completely exposed to him.

He looked like a sex addict as he stared excitingly at my private parts, causing his eyes to light up. "L-in?d-a-m-y-li-n-d-a"

"Don't look at me like that! I'm a human! We are biologically different from you merpeople, you

imbecile. F*ck off!"

I became very furious because of the way he looked at me and because of the position he had put me

in. I shouted at him until my face became red. I tried to extend my hand out to cover up my exposed

sensitive spot, but I couldn't gather any energy in my arm while in that position.

Dicken leaned down and started licking at my wounded knee like it was a gourmet dish. He licked all the

blood away and the pain from the wound lessened.

I realized that Dicken was treating my wound, even so, I wouldn't back down because of this. I was right

in assuming that Dicken wouldn't let go of me once I had fully recovered. He just needed a healthy body

to accommodate him, that's why he was healing my wounds.

As expected, the moment the wound stopped hurting, he started to lick my inner thighs with the agile,

snake-like tongue of his and trailed it down towards my bush.

What was even more embarrassing was that I had become very wet down there! My minor reaction didn't escape Dicken's eyes.

"Ah... no... don't"

I didn't mean for my screams to sound like moans but I had never experienced being licked down there

before, I couldn't hold myself together from the overstimulation.

I tried to move my hips so that I could get myself away from the assault of his tongue but my hips were

locked in place by his arms.

The stimulation caused my rationality to slip away from my mind and instead caused it to be filled with desire.

If Dicken was a human, he would have been an experienced s*x guru. It didn't take long for me to let down my walls of defense. My entire body flushed a shade of red as I bit

my lip to prevent myself from moaning.

I never had s*x before, so why was my body so sensitive when this was my first time. 'What was up with you, Linda?'

Although I was painfully aware that I was being violated by a beast's tongue in such an embarrassing

manner, I shut my eyes tightly as I couldn't bear to look any further. I was so ashamed that I felt like I could die right there and then. I shook my head in an effort to push

away the erotic thoughts, but my body was yearning for more stimulation... It was like I wanted Dicken to violate me further.

Next chapter