

SANCTUARY NIGHTMARES:
5. ONLY IN DARKNESS

THE TAVERN
WAS DULL.

USUALLY, HE'D HAVE
AN ALE AND BE THE
FIRST TO LEAVE.



BUT TODAY IS
DIFFERENT...

...HE CAN'T LEAVE YET.

BECAUSE
OF HER.



HE CAN'T PUT HIS FINGER
ON WHAT IT IS ABOUT
HER. EVEN HER SMALLEST
IMPERFECTIONS ARE
MESMERIZING.

HE MAY NOT
KNOW MUCH, BUT
HE IS CERTAIN OF
ONE THING...



...HE WILL FOREVER
REGRET LEAVING THIS
PLACE WITHOUT HER.

HE GATHERS HIS
COURAGE, MAKES HIS
WAY THROUGH THE
ROWDY TAVERN.

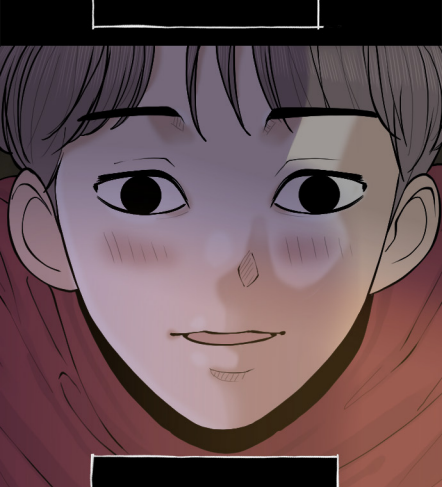


TO HIS
SURPRISE, SHE
SMILES AT HIM.

SHE INVITES
HIM TO SPEND
THE NIGHT
WITH HER.



A SINGLE NIGHT.

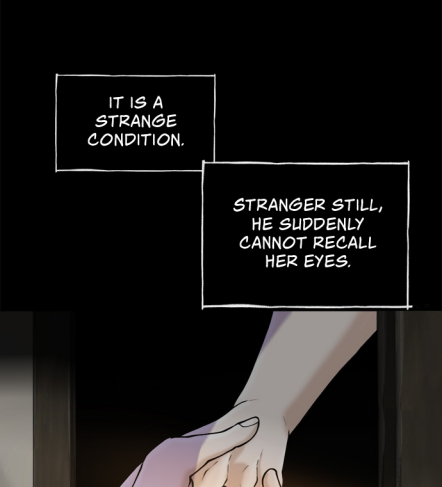


AND IN THIS
ONE NIGHT, SHE
BECOMES HIS
EVERYTHING.



SIGH...

NO MATTER WHAT
HE DOES, HIS MIND
GOES BACK TO HER.



HE MUST SEE
HER AGAIN.

HOW PATHETIC.



MY FEELINGS
FOR YOU HAVE
GROWN BEYOND
OUR ONE NIGHT OF
PASSION.

I WISH
FOR US TO
BE TOGETHER
FOREVER. PLEASE...
GIVE YOUR LOVE
TO ME AND ME
ALONE.

HER ANSWER WAS
UNEXPECTED.



ALRIGHT.

THE MAN'S FACE
LIGHTS WITH JOY.



SHE'S MINE!

I HAVE ONE
CONDITION.

YOU WILL
KNOW ME...

...ONLY IN
DARKNESS.

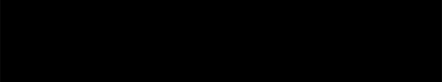
IT IS A
STRANGE
CONDITION.

STRANGER STILL,
HE SUDDENLY
CANNOT RECALL
HER EYES.



EVEN NOW, IN HER
SHADOWED DOORWAY...

...HE SEES ONLY
TEETH, GLITTERING
IN THE DARK.



IT'S ODD FOR
SOMEONE TO
BE SO SHY...

...BUT HE CANNOT
BE APART FROM
HER. NOT AGAIN.

THAT DAY...

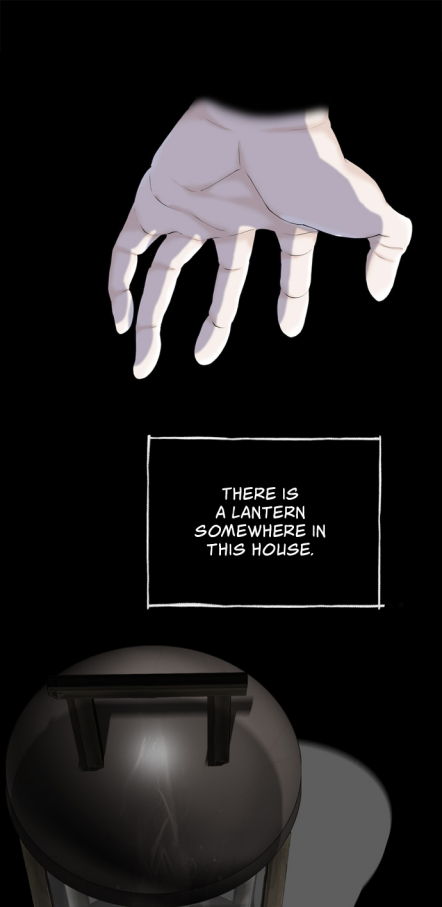
...HE LAYS IN HER BED...

...AND LOSES ALL
SENSE OF TIME.

PERHAPS A DAY
PASSES, OR PERHAPS
A YEAR. THE DARKNESS
MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE
TO KNOW.

REGARDLESS, A
QUESTION BURNS
IN HIM.

A NEED TO
KNOW HER
FACE.



THERE IS
A LANTERN
SOMEWHERE
IN
THIS HOUSE.



IT IS NEXT TO
THEIR BED, HE'S
CERTAIN OF IT.

SOMEWHERE
AROUND HERE...



CLINK

THERE.

NOW...



...HE CAN
SEE HER!



CLATTER

THE LANTERN SLIPS
FROM HIS HAND.



THE FLOOR IS
ABOUT TO CATCH
FIRE...

...AND SO THE
MAN HASTILY PUTS
IT OUT.

HE CANNOT SEE HER
CLEARLY ANYMORE, BUT
HE CAN HEAR HER SHRIEK.



GET OUT.
NOW.

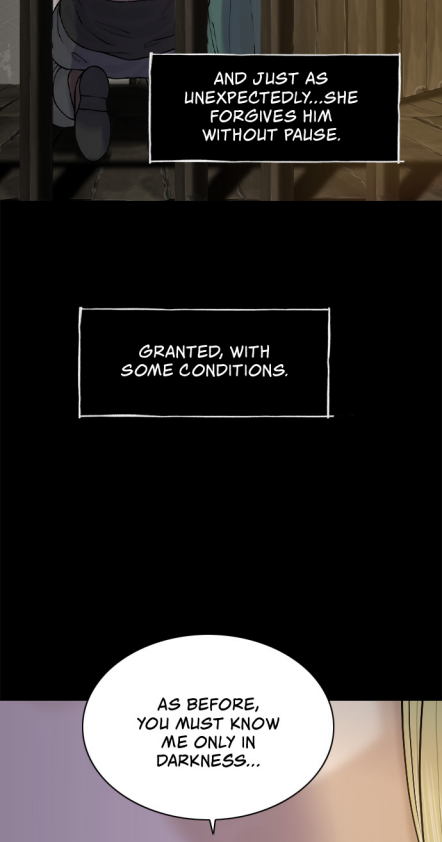
HE HAS NEVER
HEARD HER VOICE
SOUND SO DEEP,
SO BOOMING WITH
RAGE.



I'VE ANGERED HER.

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT.

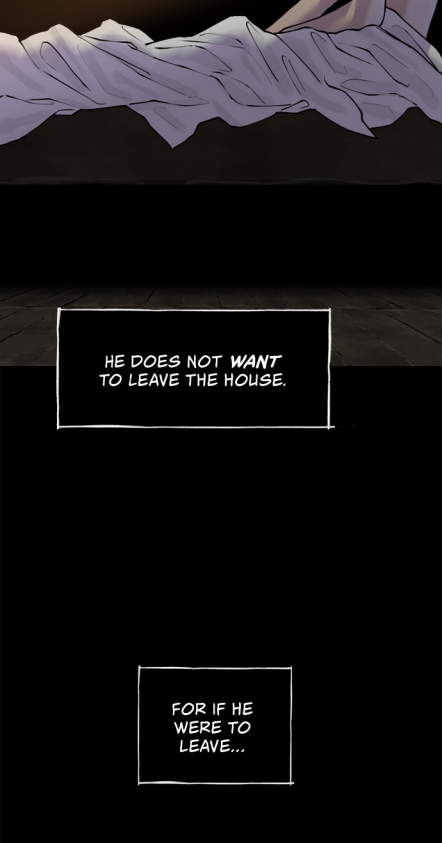
I DON'T
DESERVE HER.



I BROKE MY
SACRED PROMISE.

AFTER WHAT HE DID,
HE CAN NO LONGER
SEE HER AGAIN.

BUT A WORLD
WITHOUT HER...IS
DARKER THAN ANY
NIGHT THEY SHARED.



I CAN'T
FORGET HER.

THAT
WOMAN...

...SHE IS
EVERYTHING
TO ME.

IT PAINS HIM TO
EVEN THINK OF HER.

AND WHEN HE HEARS
THE OTHER MEN IN THE
TAVERN SPEAK OF
HER...

SHE LET ME
RIGHT IN.

WHOA! IS
THAT SO?

A BEAUTIFUL
CREATURE
LIKE THAT!

HE IS HAUNTED
BY HER SMILE.

BY HER VOICE.

AND BY THE IDEA OF
LIVING AN ENTIRE LIFE
WITHOUT HER.

I WILL LOSE
HER FOREVER
UNLESS I ACT.

HE BEGS FOR
FORGIVENESS,
MUCH LIKE
HOW HE FIRST
PROFESSED HIS
LOVE FOR HER.

AND JUST AS
UNEXPECTEDLY...SHE
FORGIVES HIM
WITHOUT PAUSE.

GRANTED, WITH
SOME CONDITIONS.

AS BEFORE,
YOU MUST KNOW
ME ONLY IN
DARKNESS...

...AND YOU MUST
LIVE WITH ME HERE,
FOREVER.

THE MAN IS SO
DESPERATE, HE
ACCEPTS WITHOUT A
SECOND THOUGHT.

HE DOES NOT WANT
TO LEAVE THE HOUSE.

FOR IF HE
WERE TO
LEAVE...



...THOSE MEN IN THE TAVERN WILL EAGERLY TAKE HIS PLACE.



HE HAS TO STAY, OR ELSE BE WITHOUT HER.



THIS TIME, HE WELCOMES THE DARKNESS.

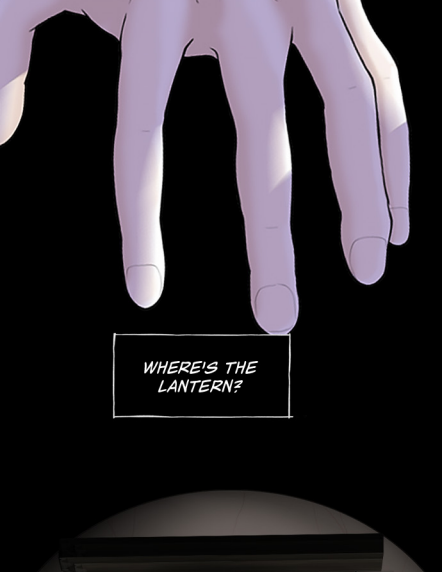


IT IS AS IF HE HAS ALWAYS LIVED IN THE DARK.



Plmgh

...



HMM...



WHAT WAS THAT SOUND?



I SHOULD LOOK...



WHAT IF SOME THIEF IS BREAKING INTO OUR HOME?



OR WORSE, WHAT IF THOSE FOOLS FROM THE TAVERN HAVE COME TO TAKE HER FROM ME?



WHERE'S THE LANTERN?



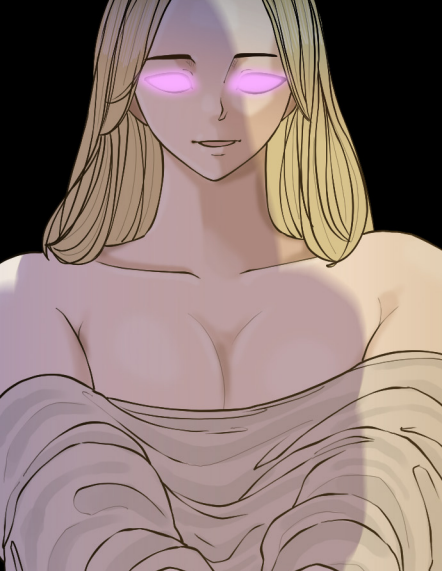
I REMEMBER IT WAS SOMEWHERE HERE...



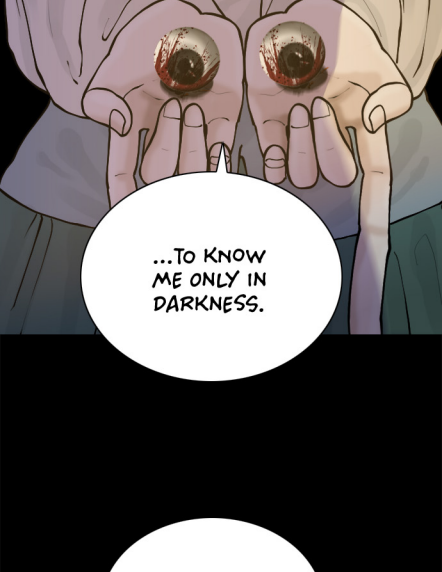
HE BRUSHES THE LANTERN WITH HIS FINGERTIPS.



HE CAN FEEL THE HEAT.



THE LANTERN... IS LIT.



BUT WHY AM I STILL...



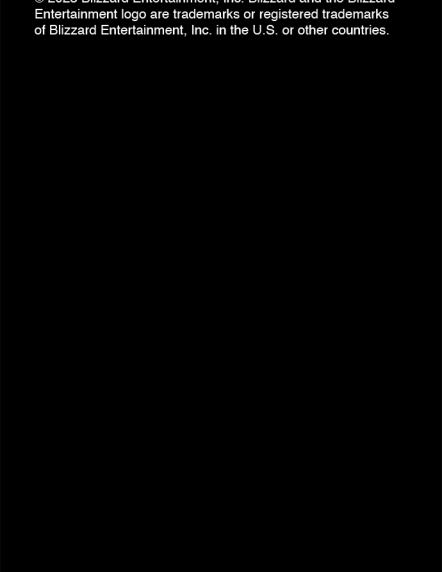
...IN THE DARK?



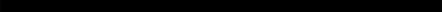
YOU VOWED...



...TO KNOW ME ONLY IN DARKNESS.



YOU BROKE YOUR WORD ONCE...



...AND YOU NEVER WILL AGAIN.

THAT'S RIGHT...

I LOVE YOU.

