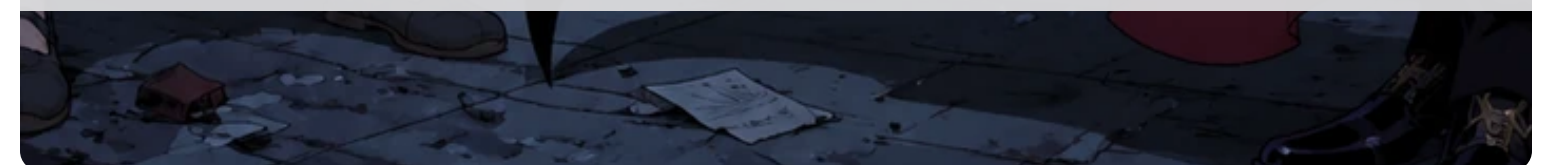




Shop Till You Drop... Dead!

Evie





You catch your breath in the dimly lit, decaying food court, having just survived the harrowing maze of classic mummies and gargoyles. With the final task completed, you and your exhausted friends believe the nightmare in this trapped, abandoned mall is finally coming to an end.



You gather at the central atrium where the mastermind awaits, stepping onto the cracked marble plaza under the shattered skylight. Count Valerius, the theatrical vampire in his high-collared velvet cloak, sweeps into the light with a dramatic bow and an ominous, mocking sneer.



Instead of granting the promised freedom, Valerius cruelly breaks his word, tormenting your terrified friends with theatrical taunts before striking. You watch in utter horror as he feeds upon them one by one, tossing their motionless bodies aside like discarded props.



Valerius wipes his mouth with a lace handkerchief and slowly turns his gaze upward, catching you watching from the shadow of a rusted escalator. His crimson eyes widen not with fury, but with an eerie, theatrical delight as he locks his gaze onto yours.



You turn and sprint toward the shadows, but Valerius vanishes and reappears instantly in your path, grabbing your shoulders. He pulls you tight, confessing his secretly burning, possessive devotion that he hid so well you never suspected a thing, before sinking his fangs deep into your neck.



As the dark venom courses through you, remarkable visual changes sweep across your body. Intricate silver filigree veins branch across your pale skin, your irises morph into liquid obsidian bounded by glowing crimson rings, your fingernails harden into obsidian claws, and your hair deepens into a raven sheen as dark mist clings to your silhouette.



Driven by panic, you break from his grasp and run down the overgrown mall corridors while the strange physical metamorphosis alters your appearance further. Behind you, Valerius dramatically swoons and laughs with delighted adoration, captivated by the breathtaking monster you are becoming.



You shatter through the glass emergency doors of the mall, stumbling out into the crisp, moonlit air of the midnight parking lot. Free from the haunted complex, you run across the cracked asphalt with every ounce of strength you have left.



Before you can reach the highway, a shadow stretches across the pavement and Valerius materializes directly in front of you. He swoops in and catches you effortlessly in a tight, protective embrace, refusing to ever let you slip away.



Gazing down at your stunning, newly transformed features, Valerius smiles with genuine, possessive tenderness. He gently caresses your face under the silver moonlight, whispering that you are now his eternal queen in this dark, endless world.