

Restart diary

"Everyone. Your group is disbanding."

... Truth be told, I knew this would happen. Our team has talent second to none, yes. We sweep away all the prizes at award ceremonies, yes. And our group is the rising star who rewrote idol history, yes. But... The atmosphere among the team was beyond suffocating. We had the worst relationship with one another. Well, actually, I didn't have a relationship with the others, whether it be good or bad. The rest had a bad relationship with each other. I'm surprised we even made it this far. How we even worked together on stage is a mystery to me. Anyway, our teamwork was terrible and needless to say, our fans noticed our discord and fights began breaking out within our fanbase. Our fans weren't our fans. They were fans of one particular member who just happened to be in our group. Of course, if we had good relationships, I'm sure our fans would be fans of everyone. A friend of my idol is my idol too kind of thing. However, that wasn't the case. Anyway, we disbanded and I went back to my parents' house.

- 10 years later

I now work as a teacher and a babysitter on my off days, like the weekends or school break. I always liked taking care of people and was good at it, so this is right up my alley. Although kids are cute, they are troublesome. I spend all my time breaking up fights, taking care of them when they're sick, getting them to sleep, etc when I'm not having class or preparing for lessons. Still, it is very rewarding.

"Seraphina, turn the TV on for me, will you?"

"Yes, mother. Which channel?"

"Anything! Maybe the award ceremony?"

"Okay~!"

"And this year's Oscar goes to... Akiro Minako!"

... Akiro... Where have I heard that name before...? Akiro... Akiro?! And the last name Minako too... That means... That Akiro became an actor? Wait... If so... I quickly take out my phone and type other names I know. Axel Williams... He's topping the charts with all his songs and is a famous singer?! And everyone else is famous in their respective fields... I guess I'm the only one living a normal life. When I was 15, I debuted as a group in an entertainment agency. However, due to discord

between the members, we quickly disbanded. If only I could go back in time. I feel like... I could've changed everything if I had just been more confident and tried to make amends instead of just avoiding and pretending nothing was wrong. I like taking care of people, but I felt it'd be impolite if I spoke up as I was the youngest in the group. But seriously, it's such a shame. After all... If we looked at potential only, our group topped everyone else, no questions asked. From visual to vocals to dance, we were made out of the best of the best in our agency. Not to mention, we self produced our music. No need to pay a composer to do it. And who composed all the music, you ask? I was the composer of the group. I would make melodies, write the lyrics, etc. I also liked editing and remixing existing songs to make them sound totally new and different. I was actually surprised I was even accepted. I was bullied a lot for my looks. Specifically, my eyes. I have heterochromia, which means my eyes are mismatched. One is blue and the other black. It got so bad I took the GED at 14 to not go to school anymore. But honestly speaking, I don't think I look that bad. Unique or unusual? Certainly. But not ugly.

Seraphina Eris ↓



Long dark hair

Different colored eyes, one bright blue, one black

Looks like a K pop idol (asian)

I was also the main vocal along with Axel. He was 17 while I was 15. He... Really really hated me. He hated me so much I thought I did something to him at first. Turns out... He just didn't like the fact that I was a good singer. Axel, until I came into the picture, was the best singer in the agency. Having both talent and passion, he was improving by the day, and he was originally gifted. He was the agency's poster child when it came to singing. However, it turns out I had just as much passion and talent, if not more. Plus, I was younger. As a result, everyone started talking about how I would surpass Axel soon or how I and Axel were both the best. Axel was always stubborn and prideful, but was especially proud of his singing, so when people started comparing us, he grew very offended. However, Axel was also very kind and compassionate. You just don't really see it that often unless you're important to him. He's the kind of person that will worry about you being affected because you're close to him when he's going through something far worse. He's also harsh and sensitive most of the time, and he doesn't back down, even when his opponent is far older or stronger than him. He just stands his ground and strikes back

, but he's never said anything that was wrong or false either. He has a very strong set of morals he abides by. If I get another chance, I want to get to know him better. I was able to discover all sorts of his charm in a few months after all. Kind, selfless, diligent, empathetic, honest, and more. We never really saw each other after we debuted because... He didn't like me. He was forced to be with me at shows, but other than that, he went out of his way to avoid me. I discovered these aspects of his personality while spending time at the company as idol trainees. As for Akiro... He was, without a doubt, the visual of our group. Now that I'm looking back, I feel guilty. Akiro, as you can probably tell by his name, is Japanese. At the time he entered our agency, he hadn't been in Korea for long and was struggling to express himself properly. He could more or less hold a simple conversation, but the others all made fun of his pronunciation and ostracized him from everyone else. It didn't really help that he was 18 when we and the others first met and debuted in the same year. He was very attractive, so he was probably the reason why we had so many fans at the beginning. I should've stood up for him or at least tried to befriend him. I feel so regretful. He seemed really nice, I guess I was scared I might be bullied too if I spent time with him. I was especially sensitive to that because of my past experience with being bullied and ostracized from my peers, but that's all the more reason I should've helped! I know how hurtful it is more than anyone. I really want to slap some sense into past me right about now. Anyway... We got the vocal and the visual, so who's left? Oh, right. The dancer, rapper, and our variety show charmer. By the way, I really admired them all. I can't dance because I have a weak physique, nor can I rap because the fast and continuous style of rap is very different from how I sing. Not to mention, I have a very shy and quiet personality and always felt so awkward on TV. That's actually why I was good at singing. I spent all my time on singing while the others practiced dance and rap, especially since I had no friends. Honestly, Axel had no reason to feel threatened. Our voices were very different, so everyone agreed we sounded best together. I had a very pure and clear high pitched voice, kind of like crystal or watercolor. At least, that's how our singing coach described it. Axel's voice is bolder and... More vibrant, somehow. Not to mention, he has a broader range than I, so his strength lied in his high notes. Anyone who heard him go high was awestruck. I can go higher than him, but because of my natural high pitch, it doesn't stand out unless it's the kind of window shattering high. We made up for each other's weaknesses tenfold. Not to mention, he was a good dancer too. Anyway, enough about Axel, I was actually so excited to meet him and was hurt when he spurned me, which is why I'm so invested in our past, back to the other members. Our dancer's name was Ra i Han. At 21, he was the oldest. He'd been in the agency since he was 17 and had the most experience out of all of us. Because of his age, he was the leader. He was also super meticulous and had a strong sense of responsibility, so it seemed ideal, but... He was a bit too interested in the lives of other people and often gave unwanted advice or input. To put it simply, he was meddling, but with good intent

ions. But keep in mind, kids who are in high school or in their first couple years of university aren't exactly going to be thrilled that someone keeps poking their nose into their business. Even if he had pure intentions, it's going to feel like an invasion of privacy. A lot of members got annoyed with him, which was partly responsible for our discord. Our rapper, Aalto Caspian. He also composed a bit, but I was the main. He just helped me out at times. He was what some would call cold. He always seemed indifferent and didn't really care about anyone. Well, that was the impression he gave off. However, his raps flowed like water and I loved listening to him rap away. Lastly, the charmer, Zeki Vega. We all knew him as Zeke instead of his actual name though, so I'll just go with Zeke. It feels weird calling him by his real name. He's 17. He was probably the most carefree of the group and was amazing when filming on variety shows and the like. He had lots of charm and flair. A bit dramatic at times, but mostly in good fun. However, he was a bit too careless at times. He wasn't really able to tell apart a good and bad time to joke around, which led to some of the more sensitive or serious members to lash out or develop dislike for him. Axel, being sensitive and very serious about his singing, especially found him difficult to get along with. I was fine, but I did get a bit hurt at times or internally wince when he made a joke at a bad time or about something he shouldn't make fun about. I generally tried not to let it show though. If only... I pick up my diary and start reading through it. The diary was a gift my parents gave me when I moved out and started living with all the other trainees at the agency. I used to be part of another agency, but the management was a mess, not to mention something happened and the situation got complicated, so I moved. Anyway, I used to write down everything and anything that happened. Nothing was too unimportant to be included in my diary. If I remembered something, I would write it down in my diary, whether big or small.

The diary ↓



White cover

Blue jewel butterfly

Blue ribbon bookmark

Wow. Such detail. I feel like I'm reliving my life. I flip to the last page and write down my regret before going to bed, deciding to take a quick nap.

"Sera? Sera~!"

"M- Mother?"

"Yes, Sera. It's mom. Why are you suddenly calling me mother?"

"What are you saying? I stopped when I was 18."

"...18? Sera, darling. I think you just had a very realistic dream. You're still 15, dear."

I grab my pho- Huh?! This phone is my old model... Whatever. I check the date to see it's really 10 years ago...

"It seems you're still half asleep, darling. Come out when you're ready. It's Monday, so you'd better get back to living with the other trainees at your agency."

Right... I used to head home for the weekends and come back on Monday. My mom leaves the room and a bright light flashes in front of my eyes. Next thing I know, I see a status window.

Seraphina~! Welcome to the past! ^^ Let's walk a path filled with flowers from now on! Now that you're a trainee again, you need to reclaim your place as a top idol! You can do it! I believe in you! Go, Seraphina~! ^^

After displaying a very... Supportive and friendly message, it shows me my stats as an idol.

Visual: B

Singing: A+

Dance: C

Rap:D

Composing: A

Stamina:D

Charm/stage presence: A

Special skills

- None(currently)

... I get everything else, but... Stamina?

Yes! Stamina! If you increase your stamina, you will be able to improve your dance
~! Because of your weak physique, your dance is a C!ππ You will still have a weak
constitution, but you will be able to dance for longer periods of time!

Well... I guess that makes sense. I always had to take a break 5 minutes in because
I was so exhausted. But why are you upset about a C in dance but not a D in rap?

Rap isn't that important! A singer rarely raps, and you are an amazing singer! ^^

Okay... Thanks. Do you have any quests for me or something I can do to earn points
to improve my stats?

Yes! Your first mission is... Wish upon a star! Tell me your wish! Until 12 o'clock
tonight! You'll get a special skill as a prize!

Okay... Does it have to be upon a star?

No, it's just the name! You can do it right now! Stars are in the sky, you just can't
see them because the sun is too bright!

Okay then. That sounds easy enough. I open my curtains and look at the sky. Such a
beautiful day. I close my eyes and clasp my hands together, as if I'm praying.

"I... I wish... To debut with all my members again. I don't want us to disband due
to silly arguments or fights. This time... I want us to truly be a team that supports
each other through thick and thin. A team where everyone, our fans, the public,
others in the industry, and everyone else out there knows how close we are and how
much we cherish each other. I want to stand on stage with them and give it our
all so we don't regret anything!"

The status window dings with a quest completion message.

Wow~! Such a lovely and touching wish! Congratulations! Your reward is the special
skill... Mind reading, lv. 1~! I was so touched I decided to give you an extra skill!
It's called... Honesty!

Mind reading and honesty?

Find out what your new skill can do! Go outside and try talking to people to use your
brand new skill and see what it can do! If you do this, I will level up your skill!

Just then, my mom opens the door.

"Sweetie, are you okay?"

A text box pops up next to her. It reads...

"My daughter has been acting strange."

... That was easy... With a quest completion message, my skill is leveled up. The text box now reads...

"My daughter has been acting strangely since this morning. I'm worried. Is she under a lot of stress lately?"

Oh, I see. The level up means I can see what people are thinking more specifically, which is a very useful skill. I often wondered what my members were thinking or how they were feeling. I plaster a quick smile on my face.

"I'm okay, mom! I should get going now, though. Bye~! See you on Friday~!"

That settles mind reading, which was pretty straightforward anyway, but what does honesty do? It's more of a virtue than a skill name...

Honesty! It is a skill that helps people tell you how they truly feel!

I see... Thank you so much, system! That is such a wonderful skill! You know... This kind of feels like school. It would've been so much easier if I had these skills when I was at work. Anyway... I get back to the dorms. I'm... Apparently the only girl who was good enough to get accepted, so I have the best room in the dorms with a connected bathroom and all that. I was worried I learned I'd have to share with all boys, but that didn't happen as my bathroom also has a bathtub, a shower, etc. Everything you might need.

"Seraphina, hello."

"Ah... Hi, Rai."

I didn't get along well with the others, but Rai always greeted me. Speaking of... I should probably thank him.

"Rai, wait!"

He turns around, looking confused. After all, I barely talk to him if he doesn't initiate conversation first.

"Thank you for always looking after me. I honestly felt really nervous because I was as the only girl, plus the youngest, but you always made an effort to greet me and

make me feel welcome. Sorry for thanking you this late, I just felt there was never a right time to properly say thank you. I eventually decided I should just say it outright, regardless of occasion. I realize it must be surprising, but I just... Really wanted to thank you for all you do."

I duck my head, feeling my cheeks heating up. I didn't expect my thank you to be that long, nor did I think it'd be this awkward... I suddenly feel a hand stroking my head, so I slowly look up to see Rai petting me.

"Sure. Let me know anytime you need help."

Wow~! So sweet~! I'll give you an extra reward for taking the first step! Your next quest was going back to the dorms, but you didn't even need my prompting! Good job!^^ Your reward is... Being able to see the level or affinity and mood of others around you!

Mood?

If their mood is neutral, it will be 0! If they're in a bad mood, negative! If good, positive! The more negative or positive, the more intense their emotion is!

But... I already have mind reading.

Yes, but this allows you to instantly see when someone is in a bad mood. Mind reading tells you what they're thinking, but it only works on one specific person at a time. This will help you see who to use it on! Good luck, Seraphina! You got this~!
!^^

Oh, okay. I look at the status window and see there's a new feature. Friend list. I click on it and see all the people I know. I click on the names of my members. Rai Han, Akiro Minako, Zeki Vega, and Axel Williams. I just did it in age order. I can see mood and affinity at the top, but... Nothing's written here!

You need to interact with each to unlock their mood and affinity!

You know what? Fair. It was way too arrogant of me to think I could see how they feel and their affinity without making even the slightest bit of effort to talk to them and get to know them... Again. Come to think of it, it'd be useful if I knew the future. I remember major events, but the details of each are kind of fuzzy. I wrote everything down in my diary, but of course that's all gone now. I might as well write down all I remember before I forget anymore. Every detail will help. I open up my diary, but I'm stunned. Everything I wrote is intact, right down to what I wrote on the last page before I traveled back in time. A record of future events

are in my hands... I never felt more thankful for my habit of writing down everything in great detail. Thank you, past me, for doing this! It must've been a hassle, but well done! Well... Let me see... The closest event... A singer/songwriter from a foreign country will come and give us lessons on singing and rap. Axel was acting strange. Hmm... It seems something happened. But it's a couple days later, so we have time. I'm going to take a look at mood. I can see numbers above everyone's head that represent their mood, but the system allows me to see the mood of my friend list even when I can't physically see them. Anyway... Let's see... Is anyone here in a bad mood? I scan the room. You've got to be kidding me. Zeke? I'm surprised he can even be in a bad mood. He's always so... Chill about everything. It seems he's talking to someone on the phone. I don't think it'd be nice to interrupt him, but...

Quest!

A member seems to be in a bad mood! Lift his mood and help him~!

Reward: Believe in yourself lv.1

Is that a new skill? But... Now? Really? Ah, whatever! I guess system knows best. I walk up behind him and say

"Zeke, there you are! I've been looking for you everywhere! Come on, everyone's waiting for you, let's go now."

I make sure to talk a bit loudly so the person on the other end can hear me too. He quickly looks behind him, his eyes widening, as if surprised. He looks relieved though and quickly cuts the call.

"I have to go now, goodbye."

After that, he turns to me with his signature smile.

"So, what do you need?"

"Hahaha... I'm sorry, that was a lie. You seemed uncomfortable, so I lied to get you out of the situation."

"Oh, umm... I..."

Mind reading skill, activate! Hmm... It reads... "I was really uncomfortable, so I'm thankful she showed up when she did. But I didn't mean to let it show. She's al so younger than me, so this is embarrassing." Oh, he's embarrassed... I should try to find out more. I don't remember anything that made him shy before.

"Anyway, who was that on the phone?"

"Oh... She was my... Mother."

"Your mom?!"

"Yeah. My mom."

"You don't have a good relationship with her?"

"Umm... It's complicated."

Of course he's not going to tell me what's going on immediately. Let me use my other skill, honesty.

"Let's talk elsewhere."

He grabs my hand and leads me to a secluded room.

"I have an older twin brother. His name is Levi."

Zeki and Levi Vega, huh? Well, their names sure sound like twins. They rhyme.

"Levi and I are identical twins and had a great relationship until we turned 10. Levi suddenly fell ill. He's been in and out of the hospital for years now. Mom and dad are always so focused on Levi they never even notice me until Levi wants me. I'm expected to drop everything if he calls."

"And that's why your mom's calling you?"

"No. She called me for money to pay for Levi's hospital bills."

"Money?! But... You're already so busy since you're a trainee..."

"That doesn't matter to my parents. I already sent them all my cash last week anyway, so I don't have more money. I bring in around 1400000 won per month."

"And... How do you earn all this money?"

"Oh. Part time jobs. I work around 16 to 24 hours per week."

"... 2 to 4 hours per day?!"

"Yeah? Why do you look so shocked?"

"... I... I... Nevermind."

"Oh, you've never worked a day in your life, have you?"

"... I can't even deny it because it's so true. I've never worked, ever."

"Hahaha, figured. You give off only child vibes. Plus, you're so weak you can't even dance for long, of course your parents aren't going to let their princess work."
"

"I'm so sorry..."

"No, no. It's cute. I found you very endearing as you tried to offer words of comfort despite you not being able to relate. Thanks. It helped to talk to you."

Let me see what he really thinks. Surprisingly, he's telling the truth. He feels much better now that he told me all of this. He runs his fingers through my long dark hair, smiling gently.

"I know I've already said this, but... Thank you. You're a really good listener. You listen really attentively, and interject at just the right moments."

... I was totally wrong about Zeke. I always thought he was a person who could never take anything seriously, but that bright personality was just a facade. He acted bright intentionally so none of us would worry about him. I'd notice he looked tired at times but brushed it off.

"I... I know I'm not very reliable, but... Please let me know if you want to talk! I can't do anything but listen, but I'll gladly listen to you all day if you'd like!"

He stares at me for a few moments before bursting into laughter.

"Hahaha... Honestly, you're adorable. Right. I promise. I'll let you know if I want to talk, okay?"

I nodded as the system window dinged.

Quest complete! Believe in yourself lv. 1 has been rewarded! When used, it increases the confidence of everyone around you by 1.5 times.

This is actually going really well... Wow. My experiences as a teacher are helping a lot! Now that I think about it, all of them are young adults or teenagers. I now

have a better understanding of how their minds work. They all seemed so much older and more mature than me at the time. Well, of course they did, since I was only 15

- A few days later

And today is the day the foreign singer comes. I remember being so shy I couldn't say a word to him, so there wasn't a lot I could write about. I do remember his songs were great though. Another thing, according to my diary is that Aalto was looking forward to this a lot. I can see why. This guest became one of the top singers and songwriters. As I said, amazing skill. Even I can tell that much. Speaking of amazing skill... I wonder how my relationship is with Eternity. In case you think I'm literally talking about forever, no. Eternity is the name of one of the most popular idol groups, and they used to have contracts with YMJ agency. Since I was the youngest in my previous agency as well, they all fussed over me and treated me like their little sister. Then YMJ started being unfair, and they switched to managing themselves. It was fine though, since one of their members wrote over half of their songs anyway, even when under a contract, plus they were so famous people were calling for them left and right. Their songwriter taught me a little about how to compose and write lyrics, which is how I began composing. Sometimes, we even composed songs together as partners. I ended up getting into a huge fight while trying to get YMJ agency to release Eternity from their contracts early because I didn't want to see my big brothers suffer, which got me expelled too. I remember we were super close all throughout the years, and they called me and spent quality time at least once per week, before debut, during debut, and after debut. Since I had work, we spent time together on the weekends. At this time... I believe some of the older members were in the army? It's mandatory in Korea. I should check my diary later and contact them sometime soon. Anyway... The me of now and the me of then have one thing in common. We both truly did treasure our members. I was just so shy I never really expressed it. Now, this foreign star spoke English, as he was from U.K. and had a very strong accent. I was exposed to English from a very young age, and actually learned to read and write English at an earlier age than Korean, so my fluency in English is practically first language. I did learn American English, but I had multiple British teachers with accents and could understand all of them perfectly fine, so it should be no problem. I also remember me understanding everything but not saying anything because, again, I felt so shy I couldn't bring myself to say anything. I remember Aalto looking at us for help because he couldn't speak English, and me just walking away from him despite the fact I could've helped him if I wanted to. I have to help him this time, even if it's just for my own guilty conscience.

"Everyone, come here to meet Oliver James. He's a singer and songwriter."

As I expected, Aalto starts asking all sorts of questions. Our singing coach translates for a while, but quickly grows tired. Mainly because Aalto's questions are very in-depth and Oliver's answers are super detailed, and, as a result, really long. Eventually, she gives up.

"Aalto, you seem to be very interested in Oliver's songs."

"Yes, that's right! I want to ask him so many things!"

"Right. Well, how about you spend the day with him to ask him all you want?"

"What...?"

"Great, then I'll leave him to you!"

Aalto looks so lost...

"Sorry, excuse me!"

Aalto looks relieved to see me, probably only because he can actually properly communicate with me.

"Hey!"

"Do you need some help?"

"Can you speak English?"

"A little. My parents made me learn 3 other languages other than Korean. English is my second most proficient."

"You can speak 4?!"

"Yeah. Excluding Korean, I can speak English, Chinese, and Spanish. English is the best out of all of them. It's American English, but I can understand British fine and my British teachers also had no problem understanding me. It'll be fine!"

After reassuring Aalto, I turn to Oliver and start talking to him in American English. As expected, he understands me just fine and we're getting along like a house on fire in no time. Aalto looks stunned. I told him I was fluent in English. I guess he didn't know I'd be this good. We, that is, I and Oliver, agree to first go to the hotel so Oliver can leave his luggage there. I relay this decision of ours to Aalto in Korean and he says okay. After that, Oliver says he wants to hear Aalto's compositions. He looks thrilled, but realizes we need to get back to where we

were prior as he needs to get his laptop from his workroom. I translate and relay the message, and Oliver says it's fine. While Oliver is listening to Aalto's songs and raps, I decide to work on my own songs. Aalto notices a few minutes later.

"Oh? Seraphina, you compose too?"

"You... Didn't know? I thought you already knew about it."

"I didn't. Can I give it a listen?"

"Sure, I guess. I did everything from writing the lyrics, singing as the guide vocal, and composing it though, so I doubt it'll sound super good or professional."

"It's fine, it's not like mine is great."

Says the one who was hailed as a genius. My songs feel so inexperienced now that I'm giving them a re-listen after years.

"What the... This is insane... Oliver!"

"Yes?"

"This is... Seraphina, could you translate?"

"Okay, what do you want me to say?"

"Tell him you also compose and you want him to give your songs a listen too."

"What?! No! I'm not doing that! It makes me sound arrogant and disruptive!"

"Fine! I'll try it. Oliver... She composes."

... Wow. Aalto, no shame, but... I didn't expect you to be this bad. Thankfully, Oliver seems to understand his konglish.

"Oh, really? Can I listen to her work too?"

Aalto looks back at me. I quickly translate for him.

"Ah, yes, yes. Here you go."

Aalto hands him the earphones.