

Fairy Tail 391

Chapter 391: Battle Under Crocus; Part 2

As Father continued to walk towards Alfonzo, with no preparatory movement, he touched one of the pillars supporting the caves ceiling. Then, in the next instant, a spike extended from the pillar and shot towards Alfonzo, aimed at skewering him through the heart.

"You're gonna have to try harder than that, Dick Head." Alfonzo said without even moving.

As soon as Alfonzo's words fell, the metal spike, though it continued to grow from the pillar, suddenly curved back, aiming at Father's heart, instead.

"It would seem your epitaph is not mere hyperbole." Father said as he raised his left palm in front of the incoming adamantite spike.

Then, seemingly unbothered, Father allowed the spike to pierce his palm. However, instead of drawing blood, the spike's sharp tip began breaking down as soon as it came in contact with his hand.

However, this phenomenon was not limited to just the tip of the spike. Instead, the entire spike, and eventually the entire pillar was broken down into fine particles of sand.

"Are you trying to help me out, or something?" Alfonzo asked with a manic grin on his face. "Either way, thanks, Asshole. [Metal Magic: Metal Sand Coffin]."

A moment later, all the adamantine sand began to float off the cave floor. Then, it created a large dome around Father, before quickly shrinking in size. Then, when the entire pillar's worth of adamantine sand was compressed to a size only slightly larger than Father, Alfonzo shook his head.

'I knew that wouldn't work.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'But I didn't expect him to burrow underground to escape.'

In the next instant, all the adamantine sand Alfonzo controlled shot downward into a hole that was left in the place where Father once stood.

"That's enough!" A bestial roar sounded throughout the cave. "I'm going to tear you apart!"

Turning his head in the roar's direction, Alfonzo saw Erza with her foot on Envy's chest and her sword aimed downward, undoubtedly targeting Envy's Philosopher's Stone. Before she could thrust her sword into the stone, however, Envy's body began sparking with red electricity as it grew.

Leaping backwards, Erza readied herself for whatever Envy was about to throw at her.

Eventually, Envy took on his true form, a large chimera with multiple legs, a canine head, stringy black hair, and numerous faces all over its body.

"Such an ugly creature." Erza said sternly. "To think you actually call yourself a homunculus. How do you qualify as an artificial human?"

"*Roar!* I'll crush you!" Envy shouted in rage.

Before he could charge forward, however, a large man, Sloth, was slammed into Envy's side. On top of that, thin, multi-colored bands were binding Sloth's wrists to his ankles.

Following the bands, Alfonzo saw Marin holding the hilt of her kodachi and standing in a position that would suggest she just swung Sloth into Envy.

"It looks like I don't have to worry about those two." Alfonzo said as he sidestepped to the left. "I guess that means you get my full attention, Cock Sucker."

Just before Alfonzo stepped to the side, a hole opened up behind him. A moment later, Father rose from that hole and extended his hand to touch Alfonzo's back, undoubtedly aiming to use his Philosopher's Stone powered [Alchemy] to destroy Alfonzo's body.

Unfortunately for Father, ever since he sank into the ground, Alfonzo had been using radar waves to track his position.

"[Electromagnetism Magic: Zap Cannon]." Alfonzo chanted as he turned around to face father.

At the same time, Alfonzo raised his left hand, which was accumulating a large amount of violet electricity into a sphere on its palm. Then once his hand was raised, Alfonzo fired it at Father.

Though the heat and the impact from Alfonzo's spell was enough to blow Father away into the corridor leading to the Dragon Graveyard, damage his robes, and even burn away a large amount of the flesh on his chest, Father still managed to pick himself up as if he had not been injured.

There was one thing to note, however. Instead of the burned away flesh revealing the muscles, bones, or organs behind it, there was a black mass with a large eye in their place.

"Father!" Envy shouted as he ignored Erza, Marin, and Sloth to help Father. Then, after a few moments, Envy stopped in front of the place where the door used to be and glared at Alfonzo.

"Erza was right." Alfonzo said while looking over Envy with disdain. "You really are an ugly mother fucker."

Being called ugly for the second time in less than two minutes, Envy's anger spiked to new heights. Then, he lunged at Alfonzo, intending to crush him under one of his front feet.

"You're not very smart, either." Alfonzo said while shaking his head.

A moment later, an adamantite pillar with a pointed end rose from the ground at high speed, skewering Envy through his torso.

"Argh!" Envy shouted in pain as copious amounts of blood fell from the wound in his torso.

A moment later, Sloth was once again flung into Envy's side. Then, before he could fall away, Erza, in her [Black Wing Armor], flew forwards Envy and Sloth at high speed.

"[Tempest]." Erza chanted as she flew past the two homunculi.

Then, once Erza was clear of the two, an innumerable number of cuts appeared on their bodies. Then, they both fell apart into chunks of meat. On top of that, the Philosopher's Stone in Sloth's chest evaporated before it could hit the floor. Apparently, many of Erza's slashes landed on it as she flew past.

At the same time, Alfonzo was forced to dodge to the side, as a stone hand grew from the floor and tried to crush him in its grasp.

"I'll make you pay for what you've done." Father said angrily, his red eyes glowing ominously as he spoke. "Because of you and your guild, my plans have taken much longer to complete than they should have."

Although unintentional, many times over the last hundred years, ever since Fairy Tail was founded, many of their overly destructive fights have destroyed parts of the [Transmutation Circle] Sloth had been digging for the sake of the homunculi's plan. Which actually led to the Magic Council's strong dislike for Fairy Tail. Since many of its former members were enthralled by the homunculi's promise of immortality, should Father's plan succeed.

As soon as Father's words fell, a pair of stone hands rose on either side of Marin, intending to crush her between them. However, before they could even move, Marin jammed her kodachi into them. Then, the two stone hands turned into chains that connected a spiked ball to each of the hilts of Marin's kodachi.

"We'll see about that." Marin replied as she swung her arms towards Father with all her strength.

In the next instant, the two spiked balls were whipped towards father. Then, when they were lined up properly, Marin manipulated the stone to disconnect from the chain, resulting in the two stone, spiked balls flying in Father's direction.

Unbothered by the two incoming projectiles, Father stomped his foot. As a result, a wall of stone rose from the ground in front of him, blocking the two spiked balls. As a result, both the wall and the spiked balls crumbled on impact.

"[Echo Step]." Erza chanted, appearing just behind Father as she did so.

Hearing the voice coming from directly behind him, Father did not panic. Instead, he tapped the ground with his foot once more.

"[Squall Thrust]." Erza chanted as she aimed the tip of her sword at the location where Astraia told her she could find Father's Philosopher's Stone.

At the same time, a column of stone shot up from the ground between Erza and Father, knocking Erza's sword off course. Simultaneously, Father swung his hand back, intending to touch Erza and use his [Alchemy] to destroy part of her body.

Before Father's hand could reach her, however, Erza was forced backwards, as the metal in her armor dragged her away.

"You have to be careful, Erza." Alfonzo said. "With just one touch, he can end this fight for any of us."

"You should take your own advice!" Envy shouted, having healed all the wounds Erza inflicted with her [Tempest].

A moment later, Envy, while still impaled on the adamantine spike, forced himself towards Alfonzo, allowing nearly half of his body to be torn apart. Then, with his mouth wide open, he attempted to bite Alfonzo in half.

"I don't know why everyone screams at the top of their lungs before performing a sneak attack, but I guess I should be happy they do." Alfonzo muttered as he extended his right hand towards Envy's open mouth.

A moment later, just as Envy was going to close his mouth, tendrils of the metal coating Alfonzo's right hand and forearm shot in all directions. On top of stopping Envy from closing his mouth, they began shredding it apart as well. And as the tendrils inched closer to the base of Envy's tongue, Alfonzo could feel his level of panic increasing in real time.

"Looks like I've almost found your Philosopher's Stone, huh?" Alfonzo said with a malicious grin. "I guess you won't get the chance to make any of your threats come true, will you?"

Unfortunately, Alfonzo never got the chance to reach Envy's Philosopher's Stone. Even though he had not slowed his attack to make Envy despair, Father was not ready to see another of his creations destroyed.

So, just before Alfonzo could finish off Envy, a giant stone spike shot up from below Envy's regenerating body. Then, it bloomed into a large number of smaller spikes, ripping Envy into pieces in the process. On top of that, Envy's Philosopher's Stone was shot away, as well.

"Huh, I guess your daddy does care." Alfonzo said condescendingly. "Not that that will be enough to save you, though."

Just as Alfonzo finished speaking, a number of threaded golden needles shot out of another corridor leading to the Dragon Graveyard. Then, all the needles pierced into the flying Philosopher's Stone. And before anyone could react, the souls in the stone were released before it evaporated into the air.

"Damn it!" Father shouted angrily as he stomped his foot and fired stone shrapnel in all directions, causing all those in the cave to dodge the projectiles. "Where is Greed? There's no way he can't feel all the rumbling beneath the city."

And Father was correct. Not only Greed, who had entered the city after Father ordered him to find the Fairy Tail wizards before the attack began, but all of Crocus could feel the city shaking thanks to some of the impacts from the fight underground.

However, after Greed realized that Pride had not used his shadows to call him back to the Dragon Graveyard, he figured out that Pride must have been killed. So, he did not waste any time running away from the city, intending to never return. And after that day, no one ever saw Greed on Ishgar ever again.

"Looks like one of your kids ran away, Father." Alfonzo said in a mocking tone. "So, I guess that means you have no one left to help you, right?"

"Do you really think I need help to deal with a group of humans?" Father asked in an enraged tone as the human flesh he wore as a container was shredded away.

Now, instead of a handsome middle-aged man, Father had the appearance of a black, humanoid silhouette, with narrowed, beady eyes all over his body and a wide toothy grin that covered most of the lower part of his head.

"Yeah, I do." Alfonzo said as he appeared in front of Father in a burst of speed. Then, with his right hand covered in violet arcs of electricity, he continued. "[Electromagnetism Magic: Chidori]."

In the next instant, Alfonzo thrust his arm into Father's chest, gripping his Philosopher's Stone before his hand shot out of the First Homunculus' back. Then, he watched as Father's body slowly crumbled into dust.

"How is this possible?" Father asked in a horrified tone as his body crumbled away. "I was going to be a god... I was going to be perfect... I was going to gain all the knowledge this world had to offer..."

"Seeing you up close like this, it's no wonder Envy was so ugly." Alfonzo said, interrupting Father's dying monologue. "And as for you becoming perfect, you're naïve. Nothing in this world is perfect. If it were, it would be boring. The ability to grow and improve is what makes life worth living."

Hearing what Alfonzo had to say, Father's eyes, which were dimming quickly, turned to meet Alfonzo's. And he could not help but scowl.

Before Father could say anything, however, a large, black gate with [Alchemic] patterns engraved on it appeared behind father. A moment later, the gate opened. Then, a number of two dimensional hands

shot out of the gate and snatched Father's Philosopher Stone from Alfonzo's grasp before returning to the gate. Then, just as quickly as it appeared, the gate closed before vanishing from sight.

'Is that the Gate of Truth?' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'But can it just appear in the real world like that?'

"What the heck was that?" Marin asked as she approached Alfonzo.

"Indeed, it felt other worldly." Erza said apprehensively. "Divine even."

"I don't know." Alfonzo replied while shaking his head. "But it seems like something people like us shouldn't mess with."

In response, Erza and Marin nodded their heads in agreement.

"Fonzie~~~~!" Elicia shouted as she sprinted into the Dragon Graveyard.

As it turned out, the elevator leading down from the Bradley residence was not very close to the Dragon Graveyard, at all. So, Elicia spent a long time traveling to the battle. Luckily, her [Magic Power Detection] was able to stretch that far, even with the obstructing cave walls. On top of that, her threads could travel a lot faster than she could. So, she was able to intervene before Envy could be rescued by Father.

"Well, look who finally decided to show up to the party." Marin said in a teasing tone as she, Alfonzo, and Erza turned back to see Elicia running through the Dragon Graveyard.

Instead of responding to Marin's teasing, Elicia, when she was close enough, flung herself into Alfonzo's arms with enough force to knock him to the ground. Then, once his arms were wrapped around her, she began crying uncontrollably.

"That's right, Lici." Alfonzo said in a gentle tone as he combed his fingers through Elicia's hair. "It's okay to let it out. It's finally over. We finally got our revenge. Our parents and all the people sacrificed for their fucked up plans can finally rest in peace."

After seeing Elicia's actions and hearing Alfonzo's words, Marin could only smile at the two warmly. Meanwhile, Erza realized that the original villagers of Rosemary village had also been avenged, and she could not help but begin tearing up as well.

Eventually, Erza joined Elicia in hugging Alfonzo. And shortly after Erza, Marin joined the group hug as well.

Chapter 392: Dodging a Bullet

After some time spent letting their emotions settle, Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, and Marin were exploring the cave where the battle took place.

"What's up with all these animal bones?" Marin asked curiously as the quartet walked around the cave.

"I don't think these are just animal bones, Marin." Alfonzo said after putting his hands on one of the larger bones in the cave. "If I had to guess, these are dragon bones."

"Are you certain?" Erza asked, now looking at the bones with more interest.

"Not a hundred percent, but yea, I'm pretty sure." Alfonzo replied.

'Of course I'm a hundred percent sure these are dragon bones.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'This place looks identical to the place Gajeel found in the anime. But since I should have only ever seen one dragon, I have to act like I don't know. *Sigh* I really hate lying to these girls. But speaking of Gajeel, I should probably bring the Dragon Slayers here to see this place before too long.'

"By the way." Elicia said while looking at the bones like the others. "We never saw that homunculus that was made from Org. What do you think happened to it?"

"Now that you mention it." Marin said, turning back to look at Elicia. "Do you think he's hiding somewhere around here and waiting to ambush us?"

"I doubt it." Erza replied while shaking her head. "If you remember the story Ultear told after her trip to Dublith, there was a homunculus named Greed there, too."

"Yeah, but what's that got to do with this?" Marin asked as she tilted her head in confusion.

"Yeah, it's not like they were the same person." Elicia added.

"How can you be so sure?" Erza asked. "For all we know, they really are the same person. Just without their memories."

Hearing that, Elicia and Marin stopped to think. While Marin was genuinely considering Erza's words, Elicia was surprised that Erza came up with the right answer.

'I mean, I already knew the two Greed's were the same because I watched FMA brotherhood and read the FMA manga.' Elicia thought to herself. 'But I doubt there had been enough time for Greed's memories to reawaken this time, though. Unless that little reptile chimera, whose name I can't remember, happened to find Greed already.'

"Either way, I don't think we need to worry about him. Not for now, anyway." Alfonzo said, bringing an end to this conversation. "Even if he was watching and waiting for a chance to do something, if he happened to see how easily we dealt with the others, I doubt he would try anything."

"I agree." Erza said with a nod. "We should just enjoy the day and celebrate our victory."

"Celebrate, huh?" Marin said with a smile. "I could think of some ways to celebrate after we get back to the hotel."

Hearing that, Elicia and Erza's eyes lit up. Then, their eyes fell on Alfonzo, who was smiling wryly.

"Not that I'm complaining, but I saw that coming from a mile away." Alfonzo said with a shrug.

"Now that things are going in that direction, I remember that you said you had a new idea of how to add your [Transformation Magic] into the fun, Marin." Erza said, her gaze shifting to Marin once again. "I believe it was after you were attacked by that female homunculus."

"Oh, now that you mention it..." Marin muttered as she twirled a lock of her hair around her right index finger. "I guess I forgot after Fonzie so ruthlessly rejected my seduction attempt."

As she spoke, Marin's contemplative expression morphed into a pout. Then, she turned her head away from Alfonzo because she was still curious about what kind of secret he was keeping.

"Are we really gonna open that can of worms again?" Alfonzo asked, his wry smile growing more pronounced.

"No, we're not." Elicia replied quickly while wrapping Marin in a hug. "Come on, Marin, you know Fonzie would never do anything to hurt any of us."

"Yeah, I know that." Marin said, pouting even harder. "But I'm so curious... I really wanna know!"

"You're so cute, Marin." Elicia squealed as she squeezed Marin even tighter.

"In any case, I believe after defeating the homunculus, this should make the moment special enough for you to reveal your new idea, should it not, Marin?" Erza asked.

"Yeah, I guess it does." Marin said, sounding a bit deflated. "I still wanna know what the surprise is, though."

"You'll find out soon enough, Marin." Alfonzo said as he started combing his fingers through Marin's hair.

"Anyway, let's get out of this dreary cave!" Elicia said excitedly as she started pulling Marin towards the cave Alfonzo and the others used to enter the Dragon Graveyard, excited to try something new in the bedroom. "We should go celebrate."

Seeing Elicia's excitement, Alfonzo could only shake his head with a wry smile. Meanwhile, Erza followed Elicia without a word, as she was also curious to find out what Marin's new idea was.

Eventually, Alfonzo was left standing alone as he took another look around the area.

"I should take some of these dragon bones." Alfonzo muttered to himself. "I can probably make something out of them. Besides, having a dragon specialized armor would be good for Erza when the dragons attack after the Grand Magic Games. If that even happens this time. I wonder what me and Lici's presence in this time line will do to Rogue's future."

"Come on, Fonzie!" Elicia shouted from the cave entrance. "What's taking so long?"

"I'm coming.!" Alfonzo shouted back as he took one last look at all the dragon bones. "I'll come back here on my own one day and get some of the bones to experiment with later."

With that, Alfonzo jogged towards Elicia, Erza, and Marin as the four left the cave. Then, after two hours, the group of four entered the city. And when they did, they overheard many of the city's residents talking about the earthquakes that took place a couple of hours ago. However, the Fairy Tail wizards decided they would just go back to their hotel room without drawing too much attention to themselves.

To Alfonzo's, Elicia's, Erza's, and Marin's surprise, someone called out to them as they passed the Crocus train station.

"Lici? Alfonzo? Erza? Marin?" A familiar female voice called out in a disbelieving tone.

Turning to see who called them, Alfonzo and the girls saw Winry, Edward, and Alphonse exiting the train station with their luggage in hand.

"What are you guys doing here?" Winry asked curiously. "Don't tell me that quest you took was in Crocus."

"Winry, hi!" Elicia shouted energetically as she walked towards the group of three. "Yeah, there was a magical beast wreaking havoc nearby. So, we took the job to take it down."

Although that was not the real reason why Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, and Marin came to Crocus, they did actually take a quest to subjugate an S-Class magical beast that was causing trouble in the mountains at the western-most edge of the city.

'Now that I think about it, wasn't the Domus Flau built around the area where that weird, bat-thing was acting up?' Alfonzo asked himself. 'But when we went over there, it hadn't been built yet. Maybe they wanted to start building over there. That's why the job for that thing's subjugation was posted. I guess the first Grand Magic Games will be on the way, soon.'

As Alfonzo surmised, after hearing about the Battle of Fairy Tail tournament, Toma thought it would be good to hold a team based magic festival to prove which guild was the strongest in Fiore. And he would have a large stadium built to house it in the near future.

However, when his people went to survey the area, to determine the best place to build the large stadium, they were attacked by a bat-type magical beast that no one had ever seen before.

At first, the kingdom sent in a squadron of Cherry Blossom Holy Knights to deal with the beast. Unfortunately, it proved too much for them to handle. So, in desperation, they commissioned a quest for the bat-type magical beast's subjugation. And that was the quest Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, and Marin took as cover for their homunculus hunt.

"Really? There was a magical beast that strong in the city?" Winry asked in a shocked tone. "But how does something like that get into the city?"

"If I had to guess, it had been in those mountains for a longtime." Erza replied. "But since no one bothered it, it never showed itself. But when the kingdom surveyed the area for their new project, they most-likely disturbed it."

"Oh, I think I get it." Winry replied.

Meanwhile, Edward and Alphonse were looking at the group of four Fairy Tail wizards skeptically. After seeing them train for nearly a week, they had some idea of how strong the four in front of them were. So, they knew there was no point in all of them taking the quest to subdue a single S-Class magical beast together.

"Something about this seems fishy, Al." Edward whispered.

"Yeah." Alphonse replied in a whisper, as well. "Do you think they're here for the homunculi?"

"Probably." Edward answered. "But at the same time, they look too relaxed for that. I mean, do you remember the look on Alfonzo's face when he told us what they planned to do with the homunculi?"

"Yeah, he looked kinda unhinged." Alphonse replied. "Like he would have no problem destroying the whole city if it meant he could get rid of them."

"Exactly." Edward said. "But look at them now... They all look like a burden has been lifted off their shoulders. Especially Alfonzo, Lici, and Erza."

"Do you think they already fought them?" Alphonse asked.

"Who knows. But---" Edward replied before stopping when he heard the conversation of some nearby citizens.

"Hey, honey, I'm back." A man, appearing to be in his early thirties, said as he approached a pretty woman looking to be in her late twenties. "Man, that train ride was so long, I'm exhausted."

"Well, it's a good thing you didn't come back earlier." The pretty woman said with a smile. "About two and a half hours ago, the whole city was shaking. I think there was an earthquake."

"An earthquake, really?" The man asked in a surprised tone. "But I've never heard of an earthquake hitting Crocus before."

"Are you saying I'm lying?" The pretty woman asked, her tone sharpening as she did so.

"No, of course not, Honey.!" The man explained frantically. "I was just surprised that there was an earthquake here."

Overhearing that conversation, Edward and Alphonse exchanged glances. Then, they turned their attention back to Winry and the Fairy Tail wizards. And when they did, they happened to meet eyes with Alfonzo, who was smirking at them.

'They really did go take care of the homunculi.' Edward and Alphonse thought simultaneously.

'But I thought they said there was a good chance that a large part of the city would be destroyed.' Alphonse thought as he looked around the area. 'But from what I can see, there are no damaged buildings anywhere. On top of that, the people aren't even talking about a battle.'

'He tricked us.' Edward said to himself while gritting his teeth. 'He told us how dangerous it would be so we wouldn't try to get in the way of his revenge. And since we had seen him fight that Laxus guy earlier in the day, we believed him. Damn, he played us.'

As soon as Edward had that thought, Alfonzo's smirk widened into a full-blown, mischievous smile.

"So, do you guys wanna join us?" Elicia asked cheerfully. "We were just about to go have dinner before turning in our quest."

Instead of answering immediately, Winry turned back to seek Edward and Alphonse's opinion. After receiving a nod from Alphonse and an uncaring shrug from Edward, she turned back to Elicia with a smile.

"Sure." Winry said happily. "We'd love to."

With that, Alfonzo, Elicia, and the others made their way to the same restaurant, Sixth Sense Restaurant and Lounge, where Alfonzo and Elicia had dinner with Darkness before the execution.

When the group of seven arrived at the restaurant, they were surprised to see a pair of male knights with resigned looks on their faces carrying an unconscious, blonde, female knight, with a sloppy smile and an excited blush, out of the restaurant.

Seeing that spectacle, Winry was completely flabbergasted. Edward and Alphonse, who were part of and worked with the kingdom's military, respectively, had the same thought.

'So, that was the infamous Lady Dustiness, huh?' Edward and Alphonse thought to themselves as they watched the knights carry away their captain.

Meanwhile, Erza and Marin, after seeing Darkness being carried away, wiped a bead of sweat from their brows while thinking that they just dodged a bullet. Alfonzo and Elicia, on the other hand, had blank, distant gazes as they remembered their meal with Darkness in this very restaurant.

"Why does it look like no one is trying to help that woman who's being carried away by those men?" Winry asked in a concerned tone. "Instead, it looks like they've seen this happen too many times before."

"You really shouldn't worry about her, Winry." Edward said with a wry smile. "There are some rather weird rumors about her floating around the military. And she's got quite the... unique... personality. Trust me, she'll be fine."

"Really, like what?" Winry asked, her concerned tone turning into one filled with curiosity.

"We'll tell you about it after dinner." Alphonse chimed in. "Trust me, you really don't wanna hear about it while you're eating."

At the same time, Erza and Marin noticed the strange state Alfonzo and Elicia were in.

"Fonzie, Lici, are you two, okay?" Marin asked.

With Marin's question, Alfonzo and Elicia snapped back to their senses. Then, they exchanged glances before answering Marin's question.

"Yeah, we're fine." Alfonzo replied with a wry smile.

"That scene just reminded us of our last trip to Crocus." Elicia added.

"Ah, yes." Erza said. "If I'm not mistaken, something---"

Before Erza could finish, however, Elicia stepped forward and placed a finger on Erza's lips.

"Let's not talk about that right now, okay?" Elicia said with a wry smile. "It will ruin the mood."

In response, Erza nodded her head. Then, Elicia removed her finger from her lips.

"Anyway, let's go inside." Alfonzo said as he approached the restaurant's door. "The food here is great, and I'm starving."

Like that, the group of seven booked a table and enjoyed a nice dinner together while Elicia and Marin told Winry about the magical beast subjugation quest. Meanwhile, Edward glared at Alfonzo for being tricked.

Chapter 393: Marin's New Idea (R-18)

After dinner with Winry, Edward, and Alphonse, Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, and Marin said their goodbyes to the trio before heading back to their hotel. Then, after getting cleaned up, they gathered on the living room's couch in their preferred sleepwear.

While Alfonzo wore a sleeveless black shirt and matching shorts, Elicia wore a white tank top and baby pink shorts. Meanwhile, Erza wore a sheer black teddie with red panties, and Marin wore bright blue panties under one of Alfonzo's button down shirts.

"Now that the business with the homunculi is over, what's next for us?" Marin asked while snuggling into Alfonzo's right side.

"Now, we can finally start worrying about Lici and I's wedding." Alfonzo said.

"Yeah!" Elicia cheered excitedly. "I can't wait to finally be an official family with Fonzie!"

Hearing that, Erza and Marin smiled. Though, if one were to look closely, there was a bit of envy mixed into their expressions.

"*Sigh* I wonder when I can get married to Fonzie, too?" Marin asked wistfully.

"Indeed." Erza added. "By now, I've been engaged to him for four and a half years. I'd like to make things official, as well."

"Sorry, girls." Alfonzo said as he reached his arm past Marin and wrapped it around Erza's shoulder, who was sitting to Marin's right, and pulled them both closer. "Over the last few years, I've had a lot on my plate. But now, not only the two of you, but all the girls will get their own weddings, too."

"Really?" Marin asked with her eyes lighting up. "I wonder what Dad will think about this."

"As long as he doesn't react like Gildarts or Gozaburo, I'm fine with whatever. Even if he wants to give me the third degree."

"Oh, and speaking of your father, Marin." Elicia said. "I think Fonzie has a surprise for you."

"Huh? What's up with my dad?" Marin asked in confusion while looking at Alfonzo.

"I was gonna tell you after we got back from this little mission." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "But I guess Lici got impatient."

In response, Elicia stuck out her tongue playfully.

"Anyway, I had been talking to him through letters for a while after the Heartfilia Kanzen went under." Alfonzo continued.

"About what?" Marin asked curiously.

"About becoming the CEO of Sixth Sense Holdings." Alfonzo replied. "And I finally got an answer the day before we left."

"And what did he say?" Marin asked, anticipation shining in her eyes.

"He agreed." Alfonzo said with a smile.

Hearing that, Marin hopped up from her seat, landing on Alfonzo's lap, and kissed him passionately.

"Thank you for helping my dad, Fonzie!" Marin shouted happily after breaking the kiss.

"Don't worry about it." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "Since he's your dad, he's family at this point. So, of course I'd help him out if I could."

"But why didn't he tell me?" Marin asked while tilting her head in confusion.

"He probably didn't want to put any strain on your relationship with Alfonzo, should the deal fall through." Erza replied, hitting the nail directly on the head with her hypothesis.

"If he thinks that would have made me look at Fonzie differently, then he doesn't know me very well."
Marin said with a pout.

"Either way, it's better to keep business and personal stuff separate, though." Alfonzo pointed out.

"Fonzie's right." Elicia said as she reached forward and pulled Marin into her lap. "But I'm gonna break that rule after Fonzie and I get married... Sort of..."

"What do you mean?" Erza asked curiously.

"She wants Sixth Sense Holdings to buy out the Taylor Shop." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "She'd still be the majority shareholder of the Taylor Shop, though."

"Yeah, but at least the businesses will be completely family owned though, right?" Marin asked in a confused tone.

"Well, they would have been family owned anyway." Alfonzo pointed out. "But now, they'll all be under one umbrella."

"I don't get it." Marin replied while scratching her head.

"It's not worth paying attention to, anyway." Alfonzo replied with another shrug.

"If you say so." Marin said with a similar shrug.

"Besides, I believe we have more important things to do than speak of business matters." Erza said as she scooted closer to Alfonzo. "For example, celebrating our victory over the homunculi."

Their eyes lighting up, Elicia and Marin quickly nodded their heads in response. Then, without a word from Alfonzo, they both stood from the couch and started pulling his shorts down. Meanwhile, Erza wrapped her arms around his neck and pulled him into a passionate kiss.

===R-18===

Once Alfonzo's shorts were off, Elicia wasted no time dropping to her knees in front of him. Then, after licking her lips, she opened her mouth wide before engulfing the head of Alfonzo's dick.

"Mmm~!" Alfonzo moaned into his kiss with Erza.

At the same time, Alfonzo let his hands roam all over Erza's body. Meanwhile, Marin positioned herself behind Elicia, reaching under her shirt, and started fondling her breasts. However, even with the added stimulation, Elicia did not slow down in the slightest.

Slurp! *Slurp!* *Slurp!* *Gag!* *Slurp!*

As time went on, Elicia bobbed her head faster and faster, taking more of Alfonzo's dick into her mouth. Meanwhile, Alfonzo, with his left hand fondling Erz's breasts over her night gown, reached around with his right and started rubbing her pussy over her panties.

In response, Erza's breath hitched. Still, she continued to kiss Alfonzo passionately. And after seeing Alfonzo's hands, Marin decided to mimic him, letting her right hand slide down Elicia's abdomen and into her shorts, before gently brushing her fingertips over Elicia's clit.

"Mmm~~!" Elicia moaned with her lips still wrapped around Alfonzo's dick.

A moment later, instead of just rubbing Elicia's clit, Marin plunged her middle and ring fingers inside of Elicia.

"Mmm~~~~!" Elicia moaned once again, this time more intensely.

At the same time, Elicia put her hands on either side of Alfonzo's thighs while simultaneously raising her butt into the air.

By now, Alfonzo and Erza had broken their kiss in order for Alfonzo to slip her teddie over her head. And during that brief pause, Erza looked down at Elicia and Marin.

"Although I'm not complaining." Erza said as she pressed her breasts into Alfonzo's face. "But this doesn't seem any different than usual. So, what's your new idea, Marin?"

"Looks like someone's curiosity is getting the better of them." Marin said playfully as she could no longer finger Elicia due to her new position. "But I'll show you soon. I think Lici is all warmed up, after all."

Naturally, Erza wasn't the only one who was curious about what Marin would do. So, Alfonzo repositioned Erza so that he could continue to suck on her nipple and still have a view of what was to come. Meanwhile, Elicia tried her best to look over her shoulder while continuing to bob her head on Alfonzo's dick.

Seeing the looks of anticipation in the other three's eyes, Marin stood up. Then, she slipped her panties off and stepped out of them. A moment later, she unbuttoned the shirt she was wearing, exposing her breasts, abdomen, and pubic region.

Then, Marin flared her magic power before tapping a finger against her clit. And in the next moment, Alfonzo and Erza, who had a clear view of Marin's actions, opened their eyes wide in shock.

The thing that surprised them so much was the fact that Marin's clit grew insize before taking on the exact shape of Alfonzo's erect penis.

"Are you fucking serious?" Alfonzo muttered in disbelief while letting Erza's nipple slip out of his mouth.

Hearing Alfonzo's mutter, Marin smiled triumphantly. Then, she knelt down behind Elicia once again.

Meanwhile, Elicia, who could not see very well in her current position considered taking Alfonzo's dick out of her mouth to see what Marin had done. Before she could do so, however, she felt Marin pulling her shorts down. A moment later, she felt something rubbing against her pussy lips... Something she had felt many times over the years.

"*Slurp!* *Pop!* Wha--- Ahn~~~~~!" Elicia began to ask about what she was feeling after popping Alfonzo's dick out of her mouth.

Before Elicia could ask her question, however, she was interrupted when she was suddenly penetrated.

"Ahn~~~~~!" Marin moaned at the same time.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo and Erza watched with shock and disbelief.

"I didn't think this through all the way." Marin said while holding onto Elicia's waist and shivering in pleasure.

"What did you just put in me, Marin?" Elicia asked as she looked back over her shoulder.

"Mmm~~~~~!" Marin moaned once again as Elicia's small movement overstimulated her. "I... Ah~~~ used... Ahn~~~~~!"

Unfortunately, the stimulation was too much for Marin to get a word out. However, that exchange bought Alfonzo and Erza enough time to come back to their senses.

"She used her magic to [Transform] her clit into a copy of my dick, Lici." Alfonzo said with a chuckle. "And now that her clit is inside of you, she can't handle the stimulation."

After hearing Alfonzo's explanation, this time it was Elicia's turn to be dumbfounded. Meanwhile, Erza, curious about what was going on, stood up from the couch before repositioning herself behind Marin.

"Ahn~~! Erza, what are you~~~ Mmm~ doing?" Marin struggled to ask.

Without replying, Erza reached between Marin's legs from behind. Then, with her right index finger, she penetrated Marin's pussy.

Meanwhile, as he noticed Erza's actions, Alfonzo covered the walls, floor, and ceiling in a thin layer of metal with silencing sigils carved into it.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Marin screamed as her body shuddered. Then, she continued to moan as the movements caused more stimulation on her clit. "Mmm~~~~~!"

"Ahn~~~!" Elicia also moaned as Marin's clit craped the inside of her pussy.

"So, she didn't gain testicles." Erza said contemplatively.

"Of Mmm~ course I didn't!" Marin shouted as she pulled herself out of Elicia. "I only [Transformed] my Mmm~ clit. I didn't turn into a man!"

"And as we know about her magic, whatever Marin [Transforms] retains its base traits while changing its appearance." Alfonzo explained. "So, even though it's got the shape of my dick right now, it's still just as sexually sensitive as her clit."

"Oh, I get it now." Elicia said with a mischievous grin on her face.

In the next instant, Elicia lunged at Marin, pushing her down onto her back.

"Lici, what are you--- Ahn~!" Marin, in surprise, began to ask Elicia about her actions before she was interrupted by a jolt of pleasure.

After Elicia pushed Marin down, Erza was force backwards, too. Then, Marin's head fell onto Erza's lap. And while Marin was trying to figure out what was going on, Elicia pushed her legs back, grabbed her by her [Transformed] clit, and took the whole thing into her pussy, causing Marin to moan loudly as she climaxed.

Immediately after taking Marin's [Transformed] clit to the base, Elicia started bouncing her hips up and down. Then, she looked back over her shoulder at Alfonzo.

"Since she's still got a pussy, come fuck her, Fonzie." Elicia said while continuing to bounce up and down.

Smiling wryly, Alfonzo stood from the couch before dropping to his knees behind Elicia. Then, he lined up his dick with Marin's pussy before pushing it inside of her slowly.

Immediately upon feeling Alfonzo's dick invading her pussy, Marin's eyes opened wide as another ear shattering scream tore from her throat.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Marin screamed as she was once again being overstimulated.

Then, with Elicia bouncing up and down on her clit and Alfonzo pounding into her with reckless abandon, Marin was sent into a hell of pleasure torture. Meanwhile, with Marin's head resting on her lap, Erza simply watched the proceedings.

"What are you... Mmm~~~! Doing, Erza?" Elicia asked. "We're supposed to be cele... Ahn~~~~~ brating together."

As Elicia asked her question, Alfonzo reached around to the front of her body and started massaging her breasts while continuing to pound Marin. As a result, Elicia, while continuing to raise and lower her hips forcefully, leaned back onto Alfonzo's chest.

Meanwhile, Erza, who usually enjoys being denied the pleasure everyone else is feeling until she can't handle it anymore, contemplated Elicia's words. As she did, she watched Marin's expression, which was clearly overloaded with pleasure. Then, she watched Elicia bouncing up and down on Marin while enjoying the feel of Alfonzo's hands on her breasts. And finally, she looked at Alfonzo, who was swinging

his hips vigorously. Though, thanks to Elicia's position, it was clear that he was being slowed significantly.

Eventually, Erza made her decision.

Lifting Marin's head from her lap, she placed it on the floor gently. Then, she straddled Marin's head before sliding her panties to the side and lowering her pussy onto Marin's open mouth. A moment later, after she was comfortable and could feel Marin's tongue, lips, and labored breaths on her pussy, Erza leaned forward and started sucking on Elicia's nipples.

Like that, the quartet continued for nearly twenty minutes. Then, when Alfonzo felt his limit approaching, instead of speeding up his strokes, he pulled out of Marin, surprising both Elicia and Erza while Marin felt a tangible amount of relief at the reduced level of stimulation.

Paying no mind to the girls' reactions, Alfonzo crawled to Marin's right side. Then, he gently moved Erza from atop Marin's face. After that, he straddled Marin's abdomen and let his dick lay on Marin's chest, between her breasts.

Meanwhile, Marin could only look on with glassy eyes, an open mouth, and drool flowing down the side of her face as Alfonzo grabbed her breasts and squeezed them around his dick. Then, he started swinging his waist back and forth.

A moment later, Marin was able to put together what Alfonzo was planning as she watched the head of his dick pop out and disappear between her breasts. So, she closed her eyes and opened her mouth in his dick's direction.

Had she been in her right mind, Marin would have also extended her tongue with her magic to wrap it around Alfonzo's dick, as well.

Eventually, Alfonzo finally reached his limit.

"Ah~ Fuck!" Alfonzo groaned as he sprayed his semen all over Marin's neck and face.

"Ahh~~~~~!" At the same time, Marin screamed once again as she orgasmed. Though, by this point, she would not be able to tell anyone just how many times she had climaxed.

After that scream, Marin, exhausted from the pleasure hell, passed out with her [Transformed] clit reverting back to normal.

"Ahn~~~~~!" Elicia moaned while she orgasmed from the feeling of Marin's clit being retracted from her pussy at such high speed.

Then, Elicia slumped weakly onto Alfonzo's back.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo looked down at Marin, who was covered in his cum, and felt a bit bad for her.

"I guess that was too much for her, huh?" Alfonzo asked with a wry smile.

"That's what she gets for just springing that on me." Elicia said between ragged breaths.

"Anyway, I guess we should let her sleep." Alfonzo said as he climbed off of Marin.

Before he could lift her and take her to the bedroom, Elicia leaned forward and started licking the semen off Marin's face and neck.

"Just let me clean this up first, Fonzie." Elicia said lustfully. "After that, you can put Marin to bed, and we can continue when you come back."

Shrugging his shoulders, Alfonzo simply waited for Elicia to finish.

Meanwhile, Erza, who had been sat to the side when Alfonzo decided to titty fuck Marin, was rubbing her thighs together vigorously.

'I don't know if he did it on purpose, but I was just about to cum when he moved me from Marin's face.' Erza thought to herself with reddened cheeks. 'And now they're making me wait until we get started again... *Sigh* This is great!'

Chapter 394: Making a Trip Back to Edolas

"Ahahahahahahahaha!" Cana laughed uproariously after hearing about Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, and Marin's trip to Crocus. Especially about the night they had after killing the homunculi. "Wait, wait, wait! Are you telling me you ended up overloaded with pleasure and passed out only twenty minutes into your celebration?"

A few days have passed since the battle under Crocus took place. And in those few days, Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, and Marin decided they would take a short break in Crocus before returning home. Though, they did not do much in that time, the time to relax was nice.

Then, as soon as they got home, they found all the residents of the mansion hanging out in the living room. And their time in Crocus was eventually brought up as a conversation topic. And around the time the story ended is when Cana's previously stated laughter began.

As she laughed, Cana constantly slammed her hand on the armrest of the couch she was sitting on.

Though not as hard as Cana, Ultear, Mirajane, Sun, and Lucy were also laughing at the story they just heard. Though, they were quite nervous when they heard about the battle with the homunculus at first.

"It wasn't that funny." Marin said with a pout and her arms crossed in front of her chest. "It was just a simple miscalculation."

"How do you make a 'miscalculation' like that?" Ultear asked while hiding her smile behind her hands. "I mean, you should know your magic better than anyone, right? How did you forget that the things you transform keep their original traits."

"Can we please stop talking about this?" Marin asked, a combination of embarrassment and resignation in her tone.

"Besides, I think there was something more important in that story, right?" Lucy asked. Though, she was still giggling at Marin's misfortune.

"You mean the wedding, right?" Sun asked, her eyes lighting up as she did so.

"That's right." Lucy replied.

"So, do you have a date yet?" Mirajane asked curiously.

With that, the atmosphere in the room changed almost immediately. Meanwhile, Alfonzo and Elicia exchanged glances.

"I think we should set it for the middle of September." Alfonzo replied.

"That's sounds good to me." Elicia replied. "We just need an exact date."

"I'll let you decide that." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "It's not like I can't free up the time whenever."

"Hmm... Let me think." Elicia said, taking on the classic thinker pose as she contemplated.

"Why so long?" Marin asked, sounding much more relaxed after she was no longer the topic of conversation.

"Well, I still have a few things to take care of with the surprise." Alfonzo replied casually. "And that should give me enough time to get them done."

"Ah, yes, that infamous surprise." Ultear said with her eyes narrowed. "That surprise that you even turned down a foursome with Erza, Marin, and Lucy to keep secret."

"Yup." Alfonzo replied with a wry smile and a nod.

"Are you sure you don't wanna tell us?" Ultear asked seductively. "If you do, I'll allow you to pleasure me tonight."

"*Sigh* She's at it again." Cana said in an exasperated tone. "Why can't she just be honest about her desire to be dominated?"

"Cana~~~~!" Ultear squealed. "Shut up~~~~!"

Once again, the living room was filled with happy laughter at another girl's expense.

"Still, Alfonzo did give us a hint about the surprise this time." Mirajane said while getting her laughter under control.

"Yeah, he said that it had to be done before the wedding." Lucy added.

"Still, that doesn't really tell us what it is." Sun replied while cutely tilting her head.

With that, the ladies, other than Elicia, who was still considering the date of the wedding, started discussing what Alfonzo's surprise could be.

'It looks like they all forgot that I said I'd take care of the venue, huh?' Alfonzo said to himself while leaking cold sweat from his back. 'If they hadn't, they would know that my surprise has something to do with that. And one of the smarter ones, like Tear, Lici, or Lucy might be able to figure it out ahead of time.'

["Yeah, it's a good thing they weren't really paying attention back then."] Bedlam said. ["It was good timing to talk about it while they were all so sexually charged."]

["Not that he was thinking so far ahead."] Riot said snappily. ["He was mostly thinking with the head between his legs that night, too."]

["I can't deny that."] Bedlam said with a shrug.

"How about September 17?" Elicia said as she came out of her contemplation.

Naturally, Elicia's declaration brought the conversation about what Alfonzo's surprise could be to an end. Then, Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, and Sun turned in Alfonzo's direction to see his reaction to the chosen date.

"Sounds good to me." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "Then, I guess we have some things to plan. WE need to figure out the size of the bridal party, who we're gonna invite, color schemes, decorations... There's so much to consider."

With that, all the girls broke into a heated debate about all the things Alfonzo just mentioned, and so much more. Meanwhile, Alfonzo felt as if he were being excluded from the conversation completely.

'It looks like the only thing I'll have any say in is the size of the bridal party and the invitations.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he watched the girls discuss so fervently. 'Oh, well, I'll just worry about filling in that big ass [Transmutation Circle] and talking to Mystogan about the plan to move the mansion to the lake.'

Edolas, Edolas Continent, Royal capital.

August, x785.

After that, time passed quickly. During the next month, all of Elicia's time and effort was spent on the wedding. Meanwhile, Alfonzo did exactly what he said he would do, he went about Fiore filling up the giant [Transmutation Circle]. On top of that, many invitations to the wedding had been sent out as well.

On top of that, just as Elicia guessed, Alfonzo, after taking a quest with him, asked Alzack to be his Best Man. He also asked Laxus, Gray, and Elfman to be groomsmen. And they all accepted. However, he made sure to warn Elfman about the pain he would have to suffer if he started spouting that "real man" crap during the ceremony.

Elicia also chose her maid of honor and four bridesmaids, as well. With Cana, her best friend, as her Maid of Honor, there were a few people who were quite worried. They could only hope that Elicia's bridesmaids, Laki, Marin, Sun, and to everyone's surprise, Evergreen, could keep her in check.

Hearing that everyone thought she would need to be kept in check, Cana was visibly offended. However, when she drank nearly half a fifth of spiced rum in one go after that, everyone deadpanned at her. But Cana did promise to be sober that day. At least for the ceremony, anyway...

On a side note, Erza pouted for nearly an entire day about not being chosen as a bridesmaid. And though it's true she felt like she was close enough to Elicia to be part of the bridal party, that was not the main reason for her pouting. Instead, it was because she wanted to have one of the dresses Elicia designed for her bridesmaids in her collection.

Another thing to take note of was the fact that Alfonzo had also commissioned the masons and contractors to put the finishing touches on his project shortly after the date of the wedding was decided. And the scheduled date of completion was September 10, a week before the wedding.

But today, Alfonzo was taking a trip to talk to the last of his potential groomsmen. On top of that, he had to talk to him about making sure the whole town of Magnolia was asleep when Alfonzo placed his recreation of the Playboy Mansion in the center of Lake Sciliora the night before the wedding.

"I wonder what everyone will think when one of my groomsman is masked at the ceremony." Alfonzo said with a smile as he stepped through a single-person Anima into the airspace over the Edolas Royal Capital. "I'm almost certain there will be a bunch of people saying some shit about how rude it is."

["Do you really think so?"] Bedlam asked.

"Actually, now that I think about it, not really." Alfonzo replied after thinking for a moment. "Even though we're not as destructive as we used to be, Fairy Tail is still considered a group of ruffians by the public. So, it probably won't bother anyone all that much."

["If it weren't for that damn Jellal escaping from prison, he wouldn't even need to wear a mask, though." Riot said angrily.

As Riot said, a couple of weeks ago, it was reported that Jellal Fernandes, the traitor of the Magic Council, broke out of prison. Though, with Ultear and Meredy in Fairy Tail, Alfonzo and Elicia were unsure of who would have broken him out.

Especially since there was no chance that Junko and Himiko, who replaced Ultear and Meredy's canon versions in Grimoire Heart, would have turned over a new leaf to rid the world of evil and create Crime Sorcière. Though, they did not rule out the chance that they were the ones to break him out. Even if there was very little chance that he would join up with them.

"That's really not a big deal, though." Alfonzo replied with a shrug as he lowered himself into the city. "I mean, it's not like anyone, other than a select few, ever knew what Mystogan looked like in the first place. So, seeing him without a mask might have caused even more confusion and trouble."

["I guess you're right."] Riot grumbled. ["Still, fuck that guy for trying to sacrifice Erza to bring back Zeref."]

["Don't be so hard on the guy, Riot."] Bedlam said. ["He was being manipulated, after all."]

["You think I don't know that?"] Riot asked back angrily. ["That doesn't change the fact that I don't like the guy."]

["Whatever you say."] Bedlam replied while shrugging uncaringly.

"Anyway, it looks like we've got a welcome party." Alfonzo said, not paying attention to his [Soul Armament Spirits'] usual squabbling.

As Alfonzo said, a group of Edolas Army soldiers had gathered around Alfonzo's expected landing point, just outside the gates of the Royal Castle, and had their weapons pointed at him.

["Choosing the Royal Castle as a landing point probably wasn't the best idea."] Bedlam said, still sounding as if he did not care. ["Not that those little soldiers could stop you if you were trying to break in, though."]

"Come down to the ground immediately!" A familiar female voice shouted from the ground, drawing Alfonzo's attention. "Flying over the Royal Capital, especially over the Royal Castle is strictly forbidden. You only have one warning. Should you not comply, we are prepared to use lethal force."

Looking down in the direction of the voice, Alfonzo was not surprised when he saw a tall, well-endowed young woman with long, wavy, scarlet red hair with an elegant, loosely tied knot in the back. What did surprise him, however, was that this woman, Erza Knightwalker, was wearing a black and white maid uniform instead of her revealing bikini armor.

"Well, I wasn't expecting to see that." Alfonzo muttered as he lowered himself into the Edolas Army's encirclement. "I wonder what the deal is with the maid uniform, though."

A few moments later, Alfonzo landed on the ground. And when the soldiers recognized him, they were thoroughly surprised.

"It's you." Erza Knightwalker said with hostility in her tone as she pointed her spear, Ten Commandments, at Alfonzo. "Why... No, how have you returned?"

"It's nice to see you, too, Captain Knightwalker." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "And as for how I got here, I was the one who created the new Anima. So, of course I could make one that can let me come back."

Hearing that, Erza Knightwalker gritted her teeth while tightening the grip on her spear. Meanwhile, not paying attention to her growing frustration, Alfonzo simply looked around his surroundings.

"Either way, for breaking the laws of the kingdom, you will be captured and imprisoned before the king decides on your punishment."

"I'd rather not." Alfonzo said nonchalantly. Then, he took a deep breath before empowering his next words with his magic power. "Yo, Mystogan! I came to talk to you about something! Mind letting me in?"

With that loud shout, most of the soldiers were forced to cover their ears. At the same time, Erza gritted her teeth as she lunged forward, ready to thrust her spear.

"Take it easy, Sweetheart." Alfonzo said without even looking at Erza Knightwalker. "On top of knowing that shit won't work, you already know that I'm a friend of your king. So, there's no reason to get your panties in a twist."

As Alfonzo spoke, he used his magic to stop the incoming spear in its tracks. Meanwhile, Erza Knightwalker, who was experiencing something like this for the second time could only glare at Alfonzo in frustration.

"Stand down, Captain Knightwalker." A deep, male voice said from the direction of the castle. "I believe I already mentioned to you that Alfonzo may come here from time to time."

"Yes, Your Majesty." Erza said as she tried to retract her spear.

Unfortunately, Alfonzo had not released his magic grip, resulting in the Edolas Erza glaring at him even harder.

At the same time, Mystogan, now the king of Edolas, made his way towards the gate while being accompanied by Coco.

"Do you think you could let her have her weapon back, Alfonzo?" Mystogan asked with a wry smile.

"If you say so." Alfonzo replied with a shrug before stopping his magic. Then, he turned towards Mystogan with a wide smile on his face. "It's been a while, Mystogan. So, what did you think of my parting gift?"

Chapter 395: Requests for Mystogan

"If you say so." Alfonzo replied with a shrug before stopping his magic. Then, he turned towards Mystogan with a wide smile on his face. "It's been a while, Mystogan. So, what did you think of my parting gift?"

Hearing that, Mystogan, Coco, and all the soldiers' expressions changed into something strange as they tried to keep a straight face while holding back laughter. They all knew exactly what Alfonzo was referring to when he mentioned his parting gift, after all. The only exception was the Edolas Erza, who gritted her teeth even harder.

Still, none of them would ever forget the expression on the former king's Faust's, face when he realized there was a permanent, hyper-realistic drawing of an erect penis on his forehead. And when he found out, everyone, without exception, thought that it would not be long before Faust committed suicide.

To their surprise, however, Faust did not commit suicide, still living in a cottage in one of the forests around the capital and vowing to have that image removed from his forehead before taking revenge on the one who put it there.

"Ahem..." Mystogan cleared his throat awkwardly, trying to get the image of his father out of his head. "Anyway, you said you had something important to talk about. What might that be?"

"Oh yeah." Alfonzo said with a grin. "Lici and I are finally getting married. And I need your help with something."

Hearing that, Mystogan was pleasantly surprised. Although he did not mingle with the members of the guild very often, he did know about Alfonzo and Elicia's relationship. And since they were among the few who could stay awake when he came to take a quest, he spoke to them more than a few times, as well.

Like Mystogan, Coco was also pleasantly surprised, feeling elated for Elicia, who resembled the woman who raised her so much. Erza Knightwalker, on the other hand, was bubbling with anger. Even though she knew that Elicia and Elicia Phyllis were different people, she did not like the thought of someone with the same face as that woman being happy.

"My help?" Mystogan asked in confusion. "What could you possibly need my help with?"

"Well, why don't we go inside?" Alfonzo replied with a smile. "I don't think this is the best place to talk about stuff like this, ya know?"

Looking around at all the soldiers who were listening to their conversation, Mystogan nodded his head in agreement. Then, while gesturing towards the castle, he turned around as he replied.

"You're right." Mystogan said. "You should come inside so we can talk."

With that, Mystogan started walking back towards the castle with Coco in tow. A moment later, Alfonzo followed them, passing by all the soldiers that had surrounded him.

Before any of them could get too far, however, Erza Knightwalker interjected.

"Your Majesty, please allow me to follow you as protection." The Edolas Erza said as she saluted.

"*Sigh* Very well." Mystogan said while shaking his head.

'It's not like she could do anything to Alfonzo, anyway.' Mystogan thought as he continued to walk.

Receiving a positive answer to her request, Erza Knightwalker hurried past the rest of the soldiers. Then, as she passed Alfonzo, she gave him the stink eye, before falling in line with Coco as she followed Mystogan.

Shaking his head with a wry smile on his face, Alfonzo simply followed Mystogan, the Edolas Erza, and Coco into the castle.

'I really hope Mystogan's plus one is Coco and not the other Erza.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'I really don't wanna deal with the trouble that sadistic redhead will bring on our big day.'

Not long later, Alfonzo and Mystogan were seated in a small meeting room while, Coco stood behind Mystogan respectfully. Meanwhile, Erza, with surprisingly graceful movements, served Alfonzo and Mystogan a cup of tea each.

"Before we get started, mind if I ask a question?" Alfonzo asked while glancing at the Edolas Erza.

"By all means." Mystogan replied before picking up his teacup and taking a sip.

"What's up with the maid uniform?" Alfonzo asked curiously. "That your fetish, or something?"

Spurt! *Cough!* *Cough!*

Immediately upon hearing Alfonzo's question, Mystogan spat out the tea he was drinking and began coughing violently. Meanwhile, Coco opened her large eyes even wider. At the same time, Erza, with her spear in hand, lunged towards Alfonzo once again.

"You shall pay for your disrespect to His Majesty!" Erza shouted as she thrust her spear forward.

And just like last time, Alfonzo used his magic to stop the Edolas Erza's spear before it could get too close.

"Captain Knightwalker." Mystogan said sternly. "Stand down."

"But Your Majesty..." The Edolas Erza tried to defend herself.

"Don't make me repeat myself." Mystogan said, his tone growing sterner.

"Yes, Sir." The Edolas Erza said as she tried to retract her spear.

"I think I'll hold onto this until it's time for me to leave." Alfonzo said, using his magic to rip the spear from the Edolas Erza's hands. "I promise I'll give it back, though."

With that, Alfonzo pulled Ten Commandments into his hand. Then, he spun it around for a moment before leaning it against the side of his chair. As he did so, he frowned minutely.

"This thing's balance is terrible." Alfonzo muttered. "It's a wonder she can use it as proficiently as she does."

Hearing that, the Edolas Erza's anger rose even higher.

"I could make a much better one." Alfonzo continued without paying the angry redhead any mind.

"If you would, I'm sure Captain Knightwalker would appreciate it." Mystogan said, also not paying his Second War Division Captain any mind.

"Yeah, but she'd probably only use it to try and stab me again." Alfonzo said with a shrug. "Then again, I guess that doesn't matter. It's not like it would ever get close enough to do that. Fine, as repayment for the favor I'm going to ask you, I'll make her a new one. I'll have to study it a little bit, though. My Erza told me that it has the ability to change spearheads."

"I don't need anything from the likes of you!" The Edolas Erza shouted angrily.

"Sure, whatever you say." Alfonzo said while waving dismissively.

Once again, the sound of Erza's teeth grinding was audible as she stewed in her anger.

"Anyway, what is this favor you were referring to?" Mystogan asked, trying to change the subject as he could see that Alfonzo was only trying to get under his captain's skin by this point.

"Oh, right." Alfonzo said with a grin. "There are actually two things I need to ask you for."

"Go on." Mystogan replied simply.

"First, I need you to use that spell you used to use whenever you visited the guild and put everyone to sleep." Alfonzo said, his expression becoming much more solemn. "This time, however, I need you to use it on a bigger scale."

"What kind of scale are we talking about?" Mystogan asked with his eyebrows furrowing slightly.

"The whole town." Alfonzo said with a shrug. "And I need it to be strong enough to put everyone, including people like Gramps, Laxus, and Lici to sleep."

Hearing that, Mystogan's eyes widened in surprise. A moment later, however, he gently shook his head.

"Unfortunately, I don't have enough power to do that." Mystogan replied. "And even if I could spread my spell's range to include the entire town, there's no way I can put people on Master Makarov's level to sleep."

"Well, that shouldn't be a problem with my help." Alfonzo said with a smile. "I'm sure I could whip up something to amplify the power and range of your spell. But since I can't emulate your spell. So, I'd need your help."

Hearing that, Mystogan started to consider Alfonzo's proposition. Then, after a few moments of consideration, he opened his mouth again.

"Let's assume that I was to agree to this request..." Mystogan said, curiosity lacing his tone. "Why would you need to put the entire town to sleep?"

Hearing that, Alfonzo could not help but smile brightly. A smile that made the Edolas Erza look at him with a heated gaze.

'His smile is just like that man's.' The Edolas Erza thought to herself. 'Because of that woman, I couldn't take him for myself and make him my plaything. But maybe I can with this one.'

As that thought ran through the Edolas Erza's head, Alfonzo began shuddering violently. Then, with his guard raised to its limit, he extended his [Magic Power Detection] to its maximum while looking around warily.

Naturally, Mystogan, the Edolas Erza, and Coco were surprised at Alfonzo's change in demeanor. And while Mystogan and Coco started to worry when they saw him like that, the Edolas Erza frowned.

'Did his instincts let him know someone was plotting against him?' Erza Knightwalker thought to herself after seeing Alfonzo's expression. 'His instincts are sharper than I thought. But that's what makes the chase thrilling.'

"Alfonzo, are you okay?" Mystogan asked in a worried tone.

"Yeah, I think so." Alfonzo replied while continuing to warily scan his surroundings. "I just felt like someone was plotting against me."

A moment later, Alfonzo shook his head to rid himself of that thought. Then, he made eye contact with Mystogan again.

"It's to move a surprise for Lici into the town without her knowing." Alfonzo said, finally revealing his purpose. "The problem is that it's pretty much a huge lump of magic power. So, even without spreading [MPD], any wizard in the area would be able to feel it."

Hearing that, Mystogan was taken aback. But considering how skilled a magic item crafter Alfonzo was, he did not find it all that surprising.

"And... If I may ask, what is this surprise?" Mystogan asked, interest evident in his tone.

By now, not only Mystogan, but Coco and the Edolas Erza were also listening with rapt attention.

"It's our new home." Alfonzo replied proudly. "Ever since Lucy joined us, our current place has gotten a little crowded. So, I decided to build us something bigger and better..."

Alfonzo then went on to tell Mystogan about the new mansion in great detail.

On a side note, Alfonzo ended up having to make quite a few modifications to the floor plan of the Playboy mansion he saw on the internet in his past life. And the reason for that was simple, the original only had six bedrooms. So, he ended up ditching most of the rooms that he knew he would not need. For example, he did not need the zoos, aviaries, or pet cemeteries.

Then, while keeping the floor plan as close to the source material as possible, Alfonzo molded it to his needs, making fifteen of the twenty-nine rooms bedrooms. On top of that, there would be a state-of-the-art kitchen, an indoor basketball/tennis court, as well as the infamous grotto.

Meanwhile, the other three people in the room were dumbfounded by everything Alfonzo told them about this behemoth of a mansion he had built.

"And last, but certainly not least, the whole thing will be powered by a number of rechargeable lacrima and the same system that will eventually allow the new Anima devices to be self-sufficient." Alfonzo said, ending his explanation with an excited smile.

Once his explanation ended, Mystogan, Coco, and the Edolas Erza could only look at Alfonzo with flabbergasted expressions. However, while Mystogan and Coco were only impressed, the Edolas Erza was thinking more.

'Maybe it would not be so bad to have a new spear built by this man.' Erza Knightwalker thought to herself. 'On top of that, this is a great reason for me to turn him into my possession.'

Once again, Alfonzo had that feeling as if he were being plotted on. However, this time, he decided to simply sharpen his senses. While he did not appear outwardly worried. Reacting like this allowed him to notice the glint in Erza Knightwalker's eyes.

'So, it was her, huh?' Alfonzo asked himself. 'I remember Lici telling me she had some kind of sick desire for my Edolas counterpart before Lici's counterpart killed him and herself. Is she thinking of replacing him with me? Oh, hell nah! After today, I'm not coming back here unless it's absolutely necessary. Damn, how are my weirdo admirers so much worse than Lici's? Even though hers are freaks, at least hers aren't violent...'

Eventually, Mystogan was able to come back to his senses.

"If things are like you said, I can see why you would need to put everyone to sleep to keep it a secret."
Mystogan said with a nod.

"So, will you help me out with this?" Alfonzo asked with anticipation.

"Before I decide, let me here your other request." Mystogan replied, not answering Alfonzo's question.

"*Sigh* Alright." Alfonzo said, releasing the tension he was feeling in that sigh.

Then, with the flames of determination burning in his eyes, he made eye contact with Mystogan again. With that, the atmosphere in the room grew tense. Meanwhile, Mystogan, Coco, and the Edolas Erza were growing more and more curious about what Alfonzo would ask for with every passing second. Then, just when Erza Knightwalker was about to lose her patience, Alfonzo opened his mouth.

"Mystogan, will you be one of my groomsmen?" Alfonzo asked with a brilliant smile.

Bang!

In response, Mystogan, Coco, and the Edolas Erza all fell to the floor comically when the tension was cut so abruptly.

Chapter 396: The Day Before the Wedding

After getting Mystogan to agree to his two requests, Alfonzo returned to Earth Land and went about his business as usual, never even telling Elicia or the other girls that he had made a trip to Edolas to see Mystogan.

After a little more than a month, today, the day before Alfonzo and Elicia's wedding, the town of Magnolia was decorated in a festive manner. Two of its S-Class wizards getting married the next day was a big deal, after all.

On top of that, many visitors from outside the town had arrived to attend the wedding. So, all the town's hotel owners were ecstatic over the extra income. Meanwhile, most of those visitors had gathered at the Fairy Tail guild hall.

"It's the day before his wedding." Tsunade said while holding a bottle of sake. "But he's off completing a quest, or something. That kid is so irresponsible."

"Although part of me wants to agree with you, Tsuna." Ritsu, with a cup of tea in her hand, said in a gentle tone. "You are the last person who should be commenting on someone being irresponsible. Or did you forget? You still owe the guild and I quite the sum of money."

"You owe money again, Lady Tsunade?" A fair-skinned woman, appearing to be in her mid-twenties with onyx-colored eyes and jet-black, shoulder-length hair wearing a bluish-black kimono with white trim asked in an incredulous tone. "How did that happen? I was only gone for eight months."

"How else could it have happened, Shizune?" Ritsu asked in an exasperated tone. "While Alfonzo was working on the new training facilities, she had the urge to gamble. So, she took the money she was supposed to use to pay for the new work and gambled it all away."

Hearing that, the black-haired woman, Shizune, Tsunade's apprentice, wanted to put on an astonished expression. However, things like this had happened so many times over the years that she could only sigh in resignation.

"And since you said she owes both you and the guild, Master Unohana, I'm assuming that you covered the costs, correct." Shizune asked in an exasperated tone.

"That's correct." Ritsu replied before taking a sip of her tea. "On top of that, I've been training her in an attempt to instill the value of discipline in Tsuna, as well."

With that, Tsunade, who was about to take a sip from her cup of sake, began shuddering violently.

'Instilling the value of discipline, my ass.' Tsunade thought to herself as she gently placed her sake cup on the table. 'That can't be called anything but torture. I mean, I'm not a hundred percent sure, but I'm pretty sure I've died at least a couple times during her training.'

By this point, not only Shizune was looking at Tsunade with pity in her gaze. But all the other members of Mermaid Heel, namely, Millianna, Kagura, Anko, Araña, Risley, and Beth, who followed them to Magnolia to attend the wedding were doing the same.

"So, it really did happen." Kagura said in her usual, nearly emotionless tone. "I thought you were acting strange that one day. You were acting strange the day they left, as well."

"Yeah, I remember the day when she snuck in like a thief." Anko said. "It was completely obvious, now that I think about it."

Hearing that, all the other girls nodded their heads in agreement.

"Would you brats shut up!" Tsunade shouted in embarrassment.

At the same time, the attending members of Blue Pegasus were also in the guild hall. Though, they were not all seated at a table and chatting amongst themselves. Instead, they had broken into a few groups to mingle with the wizards of Fairy Tail.

While Bob, the master of Blue Pegasus, was sitting at the bar and chatting with Makarov, Goldmine, and Ooba Babasama, Ichiya was currently in one corner of the guild hall by himself after being frozen from the neck down when he tried to kiss the back of Ur's hand.

Meanwhile, Hibiki and Eve were currently being batted around the guild hall as part of a brawl that was started after the ladies they tried to flirt with kicked them into other tables. Ren, on the other hand, was sitting with Sherry of Lamia Scale acting like a tsundere while flirting with her.

Then, there were Karen and Sorano, who were not even at the guild hall. Instead, while Sorano was offering any assistance she could with last minute preparations for the wedding, Karen was pestering Elicia to cancel the wedding and become her owner full-time, instead.

"It's good to see that the guild hasn't changed too much since we left." Bob said in a nostalgic tone.

"Yeah, a Fairy Tail without meaningless brawls isn't a real Fairy Tail." Goldmine added with a smile. "But this guild hall really is something else."

"Yeah, if it wasn't for Phantom Lord's attack last year, it would still be the same old guild hall." Makarov, with a mug of ale in his hand, replied. "I guess that's the only good thing that came out of Jose's foolish attack."

"I'm actually even more surprised that Jose passed away so shortly after his guild was defeated, though." Ooba said after taking a sip from a glass of wine. "Who would have thought he would have a heart attack in his sleep so soon after his magic power was crippled by [Fairy Law]."

'I'm actually not so sure that was the case.' Makarov thought as he took a swig from his mug of ale. 'I can still remember the killing intent Alfonzo and Elicia released after Jose said something about torturing and raping them. I wouldn't be surprised if they snuck into the prison and finished him off themselves. They did take a trip to Crocus shortly after the investigation ended, after all. I have no idea how they could have done it and left no traces if they did, though.'

With his thoughts reaching that point, Makarov decided it was better for his mental health to not think about it anymore. Instead, he decided he would simply chat with his old friends. It was a happy occasion, after all.

"Anyway, where is that young man you brought with you, Goldmine?" Makarov asked curiously. "The strange one with the bushy eyebrows and the green jumpsuit, I mean."

"Oh, he got someone to show him the training rooms." Goldmine replied. "And he hasn't come back since."

And just as Goldmine said, the young man who accompanied him, Might Guy, had been escorted to a training room by Reedus shortly after arriving at the guild hall. And ever since then, he had been working out under sixty times normal gravity while shouts of youth echoed through the entire floor.

On a side note, Goldmine chose to leave Bacchus at his guild hall. Even though Bacchus had given his relationship with Elicia some thought after Alfonzo knocked some sense into him, he unfortunately returned to his prior thoughts not long afterward. So, to not only keep the ace of his guild alive, but to also not sour relations with an allied guild, Goldmine forbid Bacchus from attending the wedding under the threat of excommunication.

Sitting at another table, Jura of Lamia Scale was chatting with Gildarts, Ur, Gozaburo, Ren, and Masa. And while the Fairy Tail wizards were all drinking, Jura chose to refrain from doing so.

"So, what's it like being a member of the Magic Council, Jura?" Ur asked curiously. "I mean, I have to do so much paperwork as a guild master, I can only imagine how bad it must be for you."

"Seriously, and that's why I refused to become the next guild master after the old man." Gildarts said with a hardy laugh.

Bang!

In the next instant, while he was laughing, Gildarts was slapped on the back of his head. As a result, his face was slammed into the table.

"Damn it, Ur!" Gildarts shouted. "What the hell was that for?"

"And just who do you think is responsible for most of my paperwork?" Ur shouted back. "If it weren't for you, your daughter, Erza, and Natsu, I would have almost no paperwork to do at all. Instead, because the four of you can't be bothered to care about your surroundings, I have so many compensation reports to fill out! I can only imagine how long it's been since you had Alfonzo's cooking!"

Like that, Ur continued to rant while violently shaking Gildarts by his collar. At the same time, Gildarts began feeling a wave of depression over the fact that he had not been able to enjoy Alfonzo's cooking in over four years. Meanwhile, all the other Fairy Tail wizards at the table could only look on with pity. Pity for Ur, that is. They only looked at Gildarts with a sense of schadenfreude. At the same time, Jura, with a peaceful expression on his face, watched the interaction calmly.

Meanwhile, the last of the guests, Darkness, watched the ongoing brawl in the guild hall with flushed cheeks and labored breathing. And while doing so, she constantly tried to insert herself into the fight. However, whenever she got too close, the nearby Fairy Tail wizards would somehow reconcile and stop fighting... Until Darkness took her distance again, anyway.

At the same time, back at Alfonzo and Elicia's mansion, Elicia, with all the mansion's residents, Evergreen, Laki, Bisca, Karen, and Sorano, was making any necessary last minute adjustments to their dresses while paying extra attention to her Maid of Honor and bridesmaids.

"So, did you ever get Fonzie to tell you who his last groomsman would be?" Cana asked while Elicia manipulated her threads to adjust her dress.

"Nope." Elicia replied with a slight pout. "He told me that it would ruin the surprise."

"That damn surprise again." Cana muttered. "He's making me so curious that it hurts."

"I know, right." Elicia replied, continuing to pout as she did so. A moment later, however, her pout turned into a smile. "Still, I'm really looking forward to seeing the surprise, you know. I don't remember the last time Fonzie kept a secret from me this long."

"Has he ever?" Erza asked curiously. "Alfonzo does not seem like the type of man to keep secrets, after all."

"Now that you mention it..." Elicia muttered as she continued to work. "I don't think he has."

"Hmph!" Karen, standing off to the side and watching Elicia work snorted. "He truly is not deserving of your love. To think that man would keep secrets from you. You should cancel this wedding and the engagement. Then, you can become my owner and punish me whenever I do something wrong."

"OMG! Does this chick ever quit?" Marin asked while wearing her own bridesmaid dress. "It's obvious she's only going to end up pissing Lici off if she keeps going on like this."

"I think that's what's she's aiming for." Ultear said in reply to Marin's exasperation.

"You all really shouldn't pay attention to her." Sorano said while shaking her head. "Karen really only thinks about herself, anyway."

Meanwhile, Elicia had come to the same conclusion as Ultar. Though, she also knew that Karen was genuine when she told her to break things off with Alfonzo. Still, Karen was more concerned about getting Elicia to punish her in any way.

"By the way..." Mirajane said, cutting into the conversation. "Does anyone know where Alfonzo took Alzack, Laxus, Gray, and my brother?"

In response, everyone, other than Elicia and Karen, exchanged confused glances, completely unsure of where Alfonzo and the other members of the bridal Party were.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Unnamed Island.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo, with Laxus, Alzack, Gray, and Elfman were walking through the recently finished mansion Alfonzo built off the coast of Fiore, near Cedar.

"So, you're planning to move this whole mansion from here to Lake Sciliora?" Alzack asked in an astonished tone.

"Yeah, shouldn't be that hard with my magic." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "So, what do you think?"

"You're insane." Laxus said bluntly. "You're gonna fly something this big over half of the kingdom, that's the only way I can describe you."

"Yeah, but if I built it any closer, there's a good chance someone could have seen it. Or at the very least, sensed it." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "The good thing is that no one will see it flying through the air. Since I can bend the visible light around it while it's airborne. That way, it won't cause a panic."

"But didn't you say you wanted to keep it a secret from your girlfriends until the wedding day?" Gray asked in a curious tone. "How are you gonna do that? They'll definitely find out tonight, won't they? I mean, I wasn't even using [MPD], and I could feel it when we were still over half a mile away."

"That's where my last groomsman comes in." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "I left a magic item in his house that will amplify the power of one of his spells to an insane degree."

"And who is this last groomsman of yours?" Laxus asked, crossing his arms in front of his chest as he did so.

"He's a member of the guild." Alfonzo said. "He's been gone for a while, though. But here's a hint, he tends to put everyone to sleep whenever he comes to take a quest."

Hearing that, Laxus, Alzack, and Gray stopped to think about what Alfonzo said. However, they did not get to think about it for very long.

"This house is fit for a real man!" Elfman, who had been overwhelmed by the sight of Alfonzo's new mansion, shouted enthusiastically after he finally regained his senses. "Mira's gonna love living here!"

That exclamation immediately pulled Laxus, Alzack, and Gray out of their contemplative states, causing them to glare at Elfman in annoyance. Meanwhile, Alfonzo could only pray to everything holy that Elfman was able to get that "real man" stuff out of his system with that... At least until the end of the ceremony, anyway.

Chapter 397: Mystogan's Return

"Today's the day." Mystogan, who just stepped through an Anima gate into the living room of his house in Magnolia, said. Then, after looking at the clock on the wall, which read, 4:15 a.m., he nodded in satisfaction. "And I'm right on time, too."

A moment later, Coco, who was also invited to attend the wedding stepped through the Anima gate, as well.

"Is this really the world where Lily and the others were sent to?" Coco asked as she looked around.

"It is." Mystogan replied with a nod while making his way over to the coffee table. "You should be able to see him later on during the ceremony and reception."

Hearing that, Coco smiled brightly as she stepped away from the gate. Shortly afterwards, the gate closed. Though, the sound of a female voice asking to be brought along could be heard until the gate closed completely.

"I can only imagine the trouble Captain Knightwalker would cause if she were to attend the wedding, as well." Mystogan said while shaking his head as he picked up the magic item lying on the coffee table.

"So, what are we supposed to do now, Your Majesty?" Coco asked. Though, it was obvious she was more interested in seeing Elicia and exploring than anything else.

"Wel...."" Mystogan replied as he looked up at the clock on the wall. "It looks like we have an hour or so until I'm supposed to act. So, I don't see why we can't explore the town for a short while. Though, at this time of day, there won't be much to see."

Hearing that, Coco's eyes lit up immediately. Then, she nodded her head vigorously, not caring that most, if not all, of the townsfolk would still be fast asleep.

After putting on his mask, hood, and cloak, Mystogan, with the magic item in hand, led Coco out of the small house. Then, he showed her around the dark, quiet town. And while there were a few people moving around due to coming home from the few bars in Magnolia, like Mystogan told Coco, there was not much to see. Still, Coco was enamored by everything she saw.

"Oh, and Coco..." Mystogan said as he reached the central plaza.

"Yes, Your Majesty?" Coco asked, excitement still shining in her eyes.

"While we're here, you can't call me 'Your Majesty'." Mystogan continued. "You have to remember, in this world, I'm not a king. I'm just an S-Class wizard from a Legal Guild."

Hearing that, Coco frowned slightly. AT this point, she could not imagine Mystogan being anything other than royalty. However, because she understood the situation, her frown smoothed out a moment later before she nodded her head in understanding.

"Then, what should I call you?" coco asked curiously.

"Call me Mystogan." Mystogan replied. "Just like everyone else."

"Understood, Your Majes... I mean, Mystogan." Coco said with a salute.

"You should probably not salute me, either." Mystogan replied with a wry smile. "Anyway, it should be about time for me to act."

As he spoke, Mystogan pulled one of the magic staves off his back. Then, with Alfonzo's magic item in one hand, he used the other to slam the end of his staff into the cobble stone at the center of the plaza.

"[Sleep]." Mystogan chanted.

A moment later, mist began to spread from the contact point of the staff and the cobble stone road. Then, at high speed, it spread towards the edges of the central plaza. And as the mist spread, Mystogan bent forward and placed the magic item on the ground next to his staff.

Once the magic item was on the ground and had absorbed a small amount of the mist, the mist began spreading even faster, eventually covering all of Magnolia, including the Fairy Tail guild hall, Alfonzo and Elicia's mansion, the Seto Families' mansion, and the whole of Lake Sciliora.

"That Alfonzo truly is a genius." Mystogan said as he marveled at the increased power of his spell.

Thud!

Meanwhile, as Mystogan watched his spell spread, Coco, who had no magic power to speak of, fell unconscious before falling to the ground.

"I didn't think it would affect Coco, too." Mystogan said as he leaned down to pick up Coco in one arm. "The spell was calibrated to only affect those with magic power flowing through their bodies."

In fact, Mystogan's assumption was completely wrong about why Coco fell asleep. Instead of the spell causing her to pass out, it was because of her taut nerves.

Ever since Mystogan asked her to accompany him to Earth Land, Coco had been bouncing off the walls in excitement. And as the day drew nearer, so did her excitement increase, having not slept the night before departure.

Finally, after more than a full day of anticipation, she finally fell asleep.

"I hope she wakes up in time for the wedding." Mystogan said as he held Coco in one arm. "It would be a pity if she were unable to see Elicia get married."

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Fiore Airspace.

At the same time, a gigantic structure covered in brick and stone, with a metal base, a magnificently maintained lawn, and an artificial shoreline, was flying towards Magnolia from the direction of Cedar. However, it seemed as if no one on the ground noticed it passing by. And the reason for that was simple. Thanks to Alfonzo's control over the visible light spectrum, because of his [Electromagnetism Magic], the entire gigantic structure was invisible from the ground.

"I can't believe this is really happening." Laxus said from the edge of the structure that would act as an artificial island once it was placed in the center of Lake Sciliora. "Your crazy ass is really flying this big ass mansion over Fiore."

"Yeah, this is incredible." Alzack added. "I always knew you were strong, but this is more than I could have ever imagined."

"Seriously." Gray said with astonishment in his expression. A moment later, however, he looked back to Alfonzo with concern. "But how are your magic power reserves? This can't be easy, right?"

"Yeah, it's pretty taxing." Alfonzo replied with a proud smile. "But if we continue at this pace, I should still have a quarter of my reserves left when we touch down."

"Damn, how much magic power do you actually have?" Laxus asked, turning his attention away from the scenery.

"Only a little more than you." Alfonzo replied. "But mine is much denser than yours."

"So, it's because of that compression exercise you told me about, huh?" Laxus muttered. "I guess I should work on that seriously, too."

"You mean you haven't been doing it?" Alzack asked in a surprised tone. "But Alfonzo told you about it... Almost a year ago, right?"

Hearing that, Gray also looked at Laxus incredulously.

"Seriously, even Fried, Bickslow, and Evergreen have been doing it." Gray muttered.

"Look, old habits die hard, alright?" Laxus said, looking away to hide his blush as he did so. "I'm still getting used to taking advice from Alfonzo."

In response, Alfonzo, Alzack, and Gray could not help but laugh. Then, after a few moments, they noticed that there was someone missing from the conversation. Simultaneously, the four turned their gazes towards the last member of their little group, Elfman.

When they finally laid their eyes on him, Elfman, with his eyes bulging and his fists clenched, was staring at the scenery below. At the same time, he looked like he was really struggling with something.

Naturally, Laxus, Alzack, and Gray were thoroughly confused by Elfman's expression and behavior. Alfonzo, on the other hand, had a pretty good idea of what was wrong with him.

"*Sigh* You can go on ahead and say it, Elfman." Alfonzo said in an exasperated tone. "Just make sure to put a lid on that shit during the ceremony, alright."

Hearing that, Laxus, Alzack, and Gray had the light of realization flash through their eyes. Meanwhile, Elfman took a deep breath. Then, he breathed out a sigh of relief. A moment later, he clenched his fists tightly, raised them over his head, and shouted at the top of his lungs.

"There's nothing like flying through the sky on an island!" Elfman shouted, his voice echoing through the surroundings. "This is how you travel like a real man~~~~~!"

"I don't even know why I didn't see that coming." Gray said in an exasperated tone.

"Seriously? Can't he say anything else in a situation like this?" Alzack added.

"Even though he's right..." Laxus continued. "But when I hear him say it, I just wanna kick him off the edge for some reason."

In response, Alzack and Gray nodded in agreement.

"We're almost there." Alfonzo said, breaking up the atmosphere. "I can even feel his spell. And just like I thought, my new amplification magic item worked like a fucking charm."

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Magnolia.

Hearing what Alfonzo said, Laxus, Alzack, Gray, and Elfman all stopped what they were doing to look in the direction of Magnolia. And to their surprise, it was completely covered in mist as high as the top floor of the Fairy Tail guild hall.

"What the hell is up with all that mist?" Gray asked in a shocked tone.

"Yeah, is the town under attack?" Alzack asked, reaching towards his holsters as he spoke.

"We gotta get down there!" Elfman said, flaring his magic power to cast his [Take Over Magic].

"That mist, it feels kind of familiar." Laxus said, leaning forward slightly to get a better look at the town. A moment later, after opening his eyes wide in realization, he looked back at Alfonzo with a shocked expression on his face. "So, he's the last groomsman, huh?"

Hearing that, Alzack, Gray, and Elfman were taken aback and pulled out of their battle ready states. Then, like Laxus, they looked in Alfonzo's direction to hear an answer to Laxus' question.

"I'm not surprised you were the only one who recognized that mist, Laxus." Alfonzo said with a smile.
"The other three always fell right to sleep whenever it came into the guild hall in the past."

"So, it really is him, huh?" Laxus said while rubbing his chin.

"It really is who?" Alzack asked, releasing his pistols in the process.

"Yeah, stop acting all mysterious." Gray added.

"Exactly, real men just say what's on their minds." Elfman said loudly.

Sigh! x 4

In response, and while feeling that the atmosphere had been shattered, Alfonzo, Laxus, Alzack, and Gray sighed in unison.

"He's talking about Mystogan." Alfonzo replied while shaking his head with a wry smile on his face. "He always used this spell whenever he came to take a quest. I gave y'all the same hint earlier, before we took off, remember?"

"Oh, now that you mention it..." Alzack replied.

"Yeah, but before we could think about it for too long..." Gray said, continuing from where Alzack left off.

"This moron shouted that shit about being a real man and broke our concentration." Laxus said, finishing the thought.

"Did I?" Elfman asked, confusion evident in his tone.

Sigh! x 4

Once again, the other four sighed in unison.

"It's to the point that he doesn't even remember saying it anymore, huh?" Alfonzo muttered while shaking his head.

In response, Laxus, Alzack, and Gray nodded their heads in understanding while Elfman continued to be confused.

Eventually, the flying artificial island flew over the town before reaching Lake Sciliora. A few moments later, after lining up the long pedestal at the bottom of the island with the base he had buried under the lake floor, Alfonzo lowered the island into the lake.

"Gray!" Alfonzo shouted as the floating island broke the surface of the lake. "I need you to freeze the displaced water! Fast!"

"On it!" Gray shouted back as he made his casting gesture. "[Ice Make: Rose Garden]."

In the next instant, All the water that overflowed from the lake was frozen before being molded into giant ice roses that surrounded the lake.

"Not bad." Laxus said with his arms crossed. "Nice touch."

"Yeah, it's really fitting for the occasion." Alzack said while nodding in agreement."

"Tch! Don't treat me like I'm as dumb as Natsu." Gray replied with a scoff while clicking his tongue.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo was focused on fusing the base with the pedestal extending down from the rest of the floating island. Then, once he was done, he could finally release his tension.

"*Sigh* It's finally done." Alfonzo said, wiping a bead of sweat from his forehead as he did so. Then, he looked over to Laxus before continuing. "Laxus, can you send up a bolt of lightning to get Mystogan's attention? That way, he'll know that he can stop his spell."

"Sure." Laxus replied with a shrug as he raised his right hand into the air.

"But why don't we just go get him?" Alzack asked in a curious tone.

"Yeah, I'll go get him." Elfman said as he prepared to leave the island.

"If you want to fall asleep before you can even get to the shore, be my guest." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "But this time, Mystogan's spell is strong enough to even put Gildarts to sleep... I think..."

With that, Elfman came to a complete and sudden stop. At the same time, Laxus lightning bolt lit up the sky, drawing Mystogan's attention.

About half an hour later, as the mist produced by Mystogan's spell slowly dissipated, Mystogan arrived at the shore of Lake Sciliora with Coco fast asleep in his arms and a completely dumbfounded look in his eyes.

"Is this what he was talking about when he came to ask for my help?" Mystogan mumbled while he gazed upon the floating island with the giant mansion standing atop it. "This is even more impressive than I had imagined."

Shortly after Mystogan arrived, Alfonzo brought Laxus, Alzack, Gray, Elfman, and Mystogan to a room where Mystogan could lay Coco down and they could discuss the plans for tomorrow.

Chapter 398: Alfonzo and Elicia's Wedding; Part 1

A few hours after Alfonzo placed the floating island and his new mansion in the middle of Lake Sciliora, the sun had risen and the residents and visitors to Magnolia started to stir. At the same time, Elicia, who was sleeping in the master bedroom with all the girls slowly opened her eyes.

If Alfonzo had been present, he would have been thoroughly surprised that Elicia had woken up on her own. Adding to that, Elicia seemed to be fully awake.

But if one were to think about it more deeply, Elicia waking up so early made perfect sense. Today was her big day, after all.

With a big smile on her face, Elicia sat up from her spot between Cana and Mirajane. Then, she stretched with her smile growing even wider. Before the excitement for her wedding with Alfonzo could flood her body any further, however, her head snapped in the direction of Lake Sciliora.

"What is that?" Elicia asked as she climbed over the pile of young women with whom she was sharing the bed. "The magic power is so dense. But I don't recognize it at all."

On a side note, Karen, who also spent the night at the mansion, was sleeping in the last of the spare bedrooms. She had gotten a little too out of hand around bedtime. So, against her better judgement, Elicia tied her up and threw her into the guest room before ignoring her for the rest of the night.

Unfortunately, that excited Karen even further. So, Elicia would more than likely have a lot to deal with later in the day.

Eventually, Elicia made it to the sliding door leading to the backyard. However, because of the wall surrounding the property, she was unable to see all of what drew her attention. Though, she was able to see part of the structure above the wall.

"What in the world is that/" Elicia muttered.

In a moment later, Elicia ran into one of her closets and grabbed a robe. Then after putting it on and tying it shut, she returned to the sliding door before pulling it open.

The sound of the door opening was enough to wake up a few of the girls in the bed. Namely, Ultear, Erza, and Sorano, who after hearing the sound slowly opened their eyes, as well.

"Is someone going outside?" Sorano asked groggily. "Ugh... What time is it anyway?"

"Mmm... I'm not sure." Ultear replied while wiping her eyes with her hands. "But we should probably get up, anyway. We've all gotta get ready for today."

"I think it was Elicia." Erza said while looking around the room. "She's no longer in bed."

Hearing that, while Sorano seemed unbothered and started to go back to sleep, Ultear was thoroughly surprised. It was no secret that Elicia was not a morning person, after all.

Before anyone could act on their present feelings, however, all three ladies noticed the large, unfamiliar magic power coming from the direction of the lake. Then, without worrying about their clothes, Ultear and Sorano, with their sleepiness blown away, shot up and ran through the sliding door, which Elicia had left open. Meanwhile, Erza, after [Requipping] into her [Heart Kreuz Armor] did the same.

After finally reaching the back yard, Ultear, Erza, and Sorano's eyes fell on Elicia, who was standing on top of the wall at the back of the property. Rushing forward, they all scaled the wall to stand next to her. And when they did, they, much like Elicia, were thoroughly flabbergasted.

"What the hell?" Sorano muttered in disbelief. "That definitely was not there yesterday."

"Yeah..." Ultear muttered in response.

"But where did something like that come from?" Erza asked curiously. "I mean, even if we were asleep, you would think we would have noticed someone building something like that, wouldn't we."

In response, Ultear and Sorano nodded in agreement. However, they all found it strange that Elicia had not said anything yet.

"Lici, are you okay?" Ultear asked, placing a hand on Elicia's shoulder as she spoke.

To Ultear's surprise, as her hand landed on Elicia's shoulder and she turned her head to look at Elicia's profile, she could see tears sliding down the bride-to-be's cheeks.

"Lici, what's wrong?" Ultear asked, concern lacing her tone.

Hearing the concern in Ultear's tone, both Erza and Sorano turned to look at Elicia as well. And like Ultear, they were also surprised to see Elicia crying. A moment later, however, all three ladies noticed that she was wearing one of the brightest, happiest smiles they had ever seen.

"Fonzie... I love you so much...." Elicia muttered as she gazed at the mansion floating in the middle of the lake.

Hearing Elicia's muttering, Ultear and Erza finally realized where the mansion on the lake came from. Meanwhile, Sorano, who had not heard anything about the surprise Alfonzo had been keeping secret, tilted her head in confusion.

"Now I see why he wanted to keep it a secret." Ultear said as her lips curved into a smile.

"Indeed." Erza replied. "It's magnificent."

"Um... what are you all talking about?" Sorano asked, confusion evident in her tone.

"Let's go back inside." Ultear said as she wrapped an arm around Elicia's shoulders. "We'll tell you about it while we're getting ready."

"Indeed." And it's quite the story, as well." Erza added with a smile.

With that, Ultear pulled Elicia off the top of the wall while Erza and Sorano followed them back into the house. At the same time, Ultear and Erza started telling Sorano about the secret Alfonzo had been keeping. Meanwhile, Elicia's smile widened with every word.

Not long later, Ur arrived outside the guild hall. And when she did, she was surprised to see Laxus, Gray, Elfman, and Mystogan waiting outside the doors. What surprised her even more was the fact that they were all dressed in black tuxedos with royal blue vests, matching ties, and white dress shirts.

"Wow, the four of you cleaned up real nice." Ur said with a smile. Then, she let her gaze focus on Mystogan. "And I gotta say, I wasn't expecting to see you here, Mystogan. I mean, Alfonzo told me that you could come back if you ever needed help with anything, but still..."

"Well, Alfonzo was one of the few friends I made while I was a member of the guild." Mystogan replied. "And it doesn't hurt that he was able to stay awake whenever I showed up at the guild hall, either."

Hearing that, Ur nodded in understanding. Then, she glanced at Laxus with a mischievous grin on her face.

"Yeah, but he wasn't the only one who could handle your [Sleep] spell, right?" Ur asked as her smile widened. "But you didn't really seem to connect with anyone else, other than Lici, did you?"

Instead of Mystogan, it was Laxus who responded to Ur's words.

"Look, I already know I was an asshole back then." Laxus said in a huff. "Do you have to keep bringing it up?"

"Yes." Ur replied, her smile widening as she did so. "Seeing you squirm in embarrassment is hilarious."

In response, Laxus snorted in annoyance. Meanwhile, Gray and Elfman had to try hard not to laugh out loud.

"Anyway, why are the four of you waiting out here?" Ur asked, wiping the smile away from her face.

"We're here to escort groups of guests to the wedding venue." Gray replied politely.

"I see." Ur said with a nod. "And if I had to guess, the venue is on Lake Sciliora, right?"

"Exactly!" Elfman said energetically. "It's the perfect place for a real---"

Before Elfman could finish, he clamped his mouth shut. For some reason, he could feel a potent sense of annoyance locking onto him. And he had a sneaking suspicion that it belonged to Alfonzo. Though, he was completely baffled as to how he could know what he was about to say.

"Ahem! Once a sufficient number of guests arrive, we'll lead you all to the venue." Elfman said after awkwardly clearing his throat.

"I see." Ur replied as a grin crept onto her face. "Well, you don't mind if I wait inside, do you?"

"Not at all." Mystogan replied.

"Good." Ur said as she walked past the four young men and made her way into the guild hall. "Just let me know when the first group is set to leave. I'm really looking forward to seeing this so called venue."

In response, Laxus, Gray, Elfman, and Mystogan only nodded in response as they waited for more guests to arrive at the guild hall.

Meanwhile, Alzack, Alfonzo's Best Man, while wearing the same ensemble as the other groomsman, was waiting at the shore of Lake Sciliora, in front of a bridge extending from the island. His task was to direct any magic vehicles into the underground parking garage. As for leading guests to the wedding hall, the groomsman will lead their groups of guests to it as they arrive from the guild hall.

"Man, I'm not even the one getting married, and I'm getting nervous." Alzack said while waiting for one of the groomsman to arrive. "And I don't wanna even think about what will happen if someone messes up today. Alfonzo and Lici are gonna lose it if that happens. And I definitely wouldn't wanna be around for that."

While Alzack was psyching himself out, the path leading from the bridge to the mansion's front door rose up from the ground. A moment later, a black magic vehicle with a long body and tinted windows, a limousine, drove out from the opening in the road. Then, it stopped to the next to Alzack.

Once the limousine came to a stop, the driver's side window rolled down. Surprisingly, the one sitting behind the wheel was Coco.

"Hey, Mr. Alzack." Coco said energetically.

"Ahh~!" Alzack shouted, surprised to hear someone talking to him from so close. On top of that, because of his nervous muttering, he did not hear the path to the garage opening. "Oh... Coco, it's you... What's up?"

"I just wanted to let you know that I'm leaving to pick up Miss Elicia and her bridesmaids." Coco replied with a smile.

"Oh, okay." Alzack said, patting his chest as he tried to calm himself down. "Alright, when you get back, make sure to lead them to the room Alfonzo showed us."

"Yes, Sir!" Coco replied with a salute. "Well then, I'll be back soon."

With that, Coco rolled up the window before she drove away.

"She sure learned how to drive fast." Alzack muttered as he watched the limousine drive away. "I wonder if the people from Edolas are just better at stuff like that than us."

In reality, most people involved with the wizarding world learn to drive relatively quickly. The wizards of Fairy Tail are exceptions to that rule, however. Due to their inherent recklessness, they find it difficult to drive stably. Much like the way they find it hard to not damage the things around them when on quests... or anywhere, really.

A few minutes later, Coco pulled up outside of the gate to Alfonzo and Elicia's old mansion. Then, using the device Alfonzo installed into the limousine's dashboard, she opened the gate and drove onto the property, alerting all the residents of the mansion.

At the same time, all the ladies who spent the night in the mansion were gathered in the master bedroom. Having just taken showers and baths, they were all wearing casual clothes while taking care of their hair and make-up. However, as soon as Coco drove through the front gate, Elicia, Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Sun, and Lucy raised their heads before looking in the gate's direction.

"What's wrong with you guys?" Bisca asked curiously.

"Someone just came through the front gate." Erza replied while narrowing her eyes.

"Really?" Sorano asked. "I wonder who it is."

"Well, there's an easy way to find out, isn't there?" Marin asked as she hopped to her feet. "I'll just go take a look."

"Alright, we'll keep getting ready, then." Elicia said in response. "We need to finish doing our hair and make-up, anyway."

"Oh, I'm already done with mine." Marin said happily as she skipped out of the room in casual clothing.

A moment after Marin left the room, everyone present, without exception, rolled their eyes.

"Her magic is such a cheat." Cana grumbled as she applied her eye liner, gaining nods of agreement from everyone present.

A few moments later, Marin reached the front door. And when she did, she spread her [Magic Power Detection], immediately noticing the magic power of the limousine that was pulling up to the front door. However, she could not register the magic power signature of a driver.

"That's weird..." Marin said while tilting her head in confusion. "How did a car get here with no driver?"

As that thought crossed her mind, Marin opened the front door to see what was going on exactly.

"Whoa! That's a really long car!" Marin exclaimed in surprise. "I wonder how many people could ride in there?"

At the same time, the sound of the driver's side door opening and closing could be heard from the opposite side of the magic vehicle. A moment later, Marin caught sight of the short, puppy-like girl wearing a tuxedo without shoes or socks who just climbed out of the driver's seat.

"Hey, isn't that...?" Marin asked hesitantly.

"Ah! Good morning, Miss Marin!" Coco said as she sprinted around the car before stopping in front of Marin. "It's nice to see you again!"

"Yup, that's definitely her." Marin muttered with a wry smile. Then, she continued at a normal volume. "Hey, Coco, wasn't expecting to see you here."

"Yeah, I came with His Majest--- *Cough* I mean Mystogan to attend Miss Elicia's wedding." Coco replied energetically. "And since I was asking Mr. Alfonzo for something I could do to help, he gave me a crash course on how to drive. Then, he told me to come pick up Miss Elicia and her bridesmaids."

"I see..." Marin replied with an understanding nod. A moment later, however, she raised her head and asked her next question. "Then, what about the other girls? How are they supposed to reach the venue? Speaking of the venue, it's that mansion in the middle of the lake, right?"

"That's right." Coco replied while nodding vigorously. "Mr. Alfonzo said they should go to the guild hall. Then, one of the groomsman would lead them to the venue with groups of other guests."

"I see." Marin said with another nod of understanding. "Well, why don't you come inside. We need to tell the other girls."

"Sure!" Coco said energetically.

Not long afterwards, Elicia, Cana, Laki, Marin, Sun, and Evergreen, while carrying their dresses and what they needed to finish their hair and make-up, climbed into the limousine with Coco before heading to the new mansion.

Meanwhile, the other ladies continued to do their hair and make-up before they got dressed. Then, once their preparations were done, they piled into their cars and the Escalade before heading over to the guild hall, where they would be escorted to the venue by Alfonzo's groomsmen.

Chapter 399: Alfonzo and Elicia's Wedding; Part 2

About an hour and a half after Coco brought Elicia, Cana, Evergreen, Laki, Marin, and Sun to the new mansion, the girls were finished with their preparations, all the guests were seated, the priest had taken his place at the temporary altar, and all the groomsmen had returned to the mansion, as well.

Then, once everyone was in position, the priest began his address to the gathered crowd.

"Ladies and gentlemen, we are gathered to witness the joining of Alfonzo Marcus and Elicia Taylor in holy matrimony." The priest, an elderly man with ahead full of white hair, dark blue eyes, and a shaved face, said with a kind smile. "Now, before we get the ceremony started properly. Let's welcome the groom, Alfonzo Marcus."

With that, the doors leading to the hall used for the ceremony opened. And through those doors, Alfonzo, with his dreads pulled back into a low ponytail and wearing a pure white tuxedo with a royal blue vest, a black tie with a royal blue Fairy Tail emblem embroidered on it, a white dress shirt, and a pair of black leather shoes walked through it with confident steps and a bright smile on his face.

With Alfonzo's entrance, the audience stood to their feet as he walked down the aisle towards the altar.

"He really cleans up nice, huh?" Anko asked, to no one in particular while licking her lips.

In response, the younger members of Mermaid Heel nodded in agreement while Ritsu smiled gently. Meanwhile, Tsunade snorted, still upset about all the money she owed after he left Mermaid Heel back in June. Though, it seemed that she had completely forgotten that she was the reason for her debt in the first place.

Meanwhile, Bob had clamped his hand over Ichiya's mouth, stopping him from saying anything about how manly Alfonzo looked by his own standards, while Sorano and Karen were doing the same to the Trimens.

Though, Karen did not mind Alfonzo's entrance being disturbed, she knew Elicia would be upset if it happened, so she helped keep the idiots from her guild in check.

At the same time, the wizards of Fairy Tail, Lamia Scale, and Quatro Cerberus, along with the other guests, such as Nell Goldstein, the girl Nell adopted a few years ago, Nico, Darkness, Moka, Bobo, Adramelech, Simon, Shô, Wally, Pinako, Winry, Edward, Alphonse, Coco, Rebecca Landon and the residents of the orphanage in Hargeon, applauded politely.

Eventually, Alfonzo reached the altar. Then, the priest continued his address.

"Next, let us welcome the people closest to the bride and groom who they've chosen to share today's happiness with." The priest said, maintaining his smile as he did so.

Following the priest's words, the entire bridal party, separated into pairs, entered the hall through the same door Alfonzo used. First were Evergreen and Elfman walking together with their arms linked.

Following Evergreen and Elfman were Laxus and Sun, Mystogan and Marin, Gray and Laki, and finally, Alzack and Cana.

At this point, although all those in attendance had seen the men in their tuxedos, and they all found the fact that Mystogan was wearing a mask and a bandana a little strange, they did not react much. However, when they saw the matching, strapless, backless, calf-length, baby blue dresses with royal blue sashes and matching high heels all the bridesmaids wore, the audience gasped in awe.

Meanwhile, Erza, who had already wanted one of those dresses in her collection, had her eyes blazing with desire.

Eventually, the first pair, Elfman and Evergreen, reached the front of the altar. As they did, they released each other's arms. Then, while Evergreen turned to the left, Elfman turned to the right and they both made space for the pairs behind them to do the same.

By the end, the entire bridal party had lined up on either side of the altar with the Maid of Honor and Best Man standing closest to the bride and groom's positions.

"And lastly," the priest continued once the bridal party was in place, "Let us welcome the bride, Elicia Taylor, accompanied by Gildarts Clive, the best friend of our couple's deceased parents."

With that, the sound of a pipe organ playing the Bridal March could be heard. The strange thing about that, however, was the fact that there was no pipe organ, or instrument of any kind, in the hall.

However, considering the fact that Alfonzo was a magic item crafter, everyone just chalked it up to something Alfonzo created for today.

A moment later, instead of the older Elicia, the little Elicia, Maes and Gracia's daughter, wearing a frilly pink dress with a flower crown on her head, walked into the hall, with a bright smile on her face, and approached the altar. And as she walked, she created flower pedals with her magic, [Arc of Embodiment], and let them fall onto the red carpet leading to the altar.

"Look at my little Elicia!" Maes said, sounding as if he were trying to shout while whispering at the same time. "She's so adorable."

"Maes, Darling..." Gracia said while whispering in an ominous tone. "Be quiet!"

"Yes, Ma'am." Maes replied quickly before shutting his mouth.

Once little Elicia reached halfway down the aisle, Elicia, with Gildarts escorting her, stepped into the hall, drawing every eye in the room.

With her face covered by a sheer veil and a bouquet of white roses in her left hand, Elicia wore a backless, sleeveless, pure white wedding dress that reached to the floor with a strap that wrapped around the back of her neck, a baby pink sash tied around her waist, white high heels, and a train that flowed behind her.

Meanwhile, Gildarts wore a tuxedo identical in design to the groomsmen. And to the surprise of everyone who knew him, Gildarts' hair was slicked back and shiny while his beard was neatly trimmed for today.

"Holy shit..." Ur muttered in a tone filled with disbelief. "Gildarts doesn't look like a hobo... Is the guild in some kind of danger?"

Naturally, all the Fairy Tail wizards in the hall had to stifle their laughter because of Ur's question. Meanwhile, the smile on Gildarts' face cramped as he thought about the best way to get Ur back.

A moment later, Wendy and Carla, wearing dresses similar to the bridesmaids but less revealing and carrying Elicia's train, also entered the hall, as well.

Eventually, little Elicia reached the end of the aisle. Then, after releasing a large number of flower pedals into the air, she scurried off to sit with her parents.

Shortly afterwards, Elicia and Gildarts reached the altar, as well. And when they did, they both turned to face Alfonzo. Then, with Elicia's right hand in his left, Gildarts extended his left hand towards Alfonzo.

"From now on, she's yours in the truest sense." Gildarts said in a solemn tone. "And should you do anything to break her heart, I'll kick your ass in Orlando's place."

"I Understand." Alfonzo replied in an equally solemn tone as he accepted Elicia's hand.

Nodding in response, Gildarts then turned to Elicia.

"And if you ever do anything else to hurt him, Lici..." Gildarts said, this time only loud enough for Alfonzo and Elicia to hear. "I'll make sure you get another frozen spanking from Ur."

"I promise, nothing like that will ever happen again." Elicia replied just as solemnly.

On top of that, to those who were paying close enough attention, they would be able to see Elicia shiver minutely after Gildarts made his threat.

With that, Gildarts nodded in satisfaction. Then, like Wendy and Carla had done after Elicia reached the altar, he joined the rest of the audience to watch the rest of the ceremony.

Once everyone was in position, the priest spoke once again, leading the congregation in a prayer. A few moments later, he made eye contact with the bride and groom before once again addressing the crowd.

"Now, let us witness the exchange of vows." The priest said. "As they have opted to write their own vows, the floor is theirs. Alfonzo, if you would?"

At that point, there was pin drop silence in the hall, which was broken when Alfonzo took a deep breath to calm his nerves.

"Elicia... For as long as I can remember, you've always been by my side." Alfonzo said in a solemn tone filled with love and affection. "When I was at my lowest, you were there, supporting me through it. And when I reached heights that I never could have imagined, you were there to share in the happiness. You've always been what kept me anchored to the ground, despite the fact that I could have lost myself

in success. And for that I am truly grateful. And because of all you've done, all the love you've given me, and all the wonderful moments we've shared, the words I love you could never describe how I feel about you. Therefore, I promise, from this day forward, I will spend the rest of my life trying to give you even a fraction of the happiness your presence has brought into my life."

By the time Alfonzo finished, his voice was shaking, and he was doing all that he could to hold back the tears he felt welling up in his eyes. Elicia, on the other hand, had no issue letting her tears flow freely.

Seeing Elicia's tears, Alfonzo raised his left hand, intending to wipe her tears. Before he could, however, he stopped, afraid to ruin Elicia's make-up. The confused and concerned expression on his face, gaining a light chuckle from most of the onlookers.

The expression on Alfonzo's face was enough to stop Elicia's tears, as well, causing her to smile brightly despite the tears still present on her cheeks. Then, without wiping away the tears, Elicia, like Alfonzo had done moments before, took a deep breath to calm her emotions.

"Fonzie... For all my life, I've been more than a little impulsive" Elicia said, beginning to make her vows. "More than a few times, I've done or said something without thinking it through or considering the consequences..."

Reaching this point, Elicia's tears began dripping from her eyes once again.

"Despite all my short comings, you've been by my side." Elicia continued. "Even when my impulsiveness hurt you, you found it in your heart to forgive me. And for that, I could never thank you enough. Fonzie, I love you more than life itself. And because of that, I promise to continue loving you with all that I am. Not only in this life, but in every life to come afterwards as well."

Most of the crowd, after hearing Elicia's declaration of loving Alfonzo in the next life considered it a figure of speech. However, since he had experienced Elicia's love spanning over two lifetimes, Alfonzo believed her with all his heart. As a result, his left hand, still holding Elicia's right, tightened subconsciously while the tears threatened to flow from his eyes once again.

At the same time, some of the more emotional people in the crowd had to dab the tears away from their eyes.

"With the vows made," the priest said after giving everyone a moment to digest Alfonzo and Elicia's vows, "I believe it is time to present the rings."

With that, both Cana and Alzack stepped forward, each with a ring case in hand. At the same time, Alfonzo and Elicia released each other's hands. Then, they turned towards their Best Man and Maid of Honor, respectively, and accepted the ring cases, while Elicia handed Cana her bouquet, as well.

Once both Alfonzo and Elicia had the ring cases in hand, they opened them simultaneously.

In the case Alfonzo held, there was a band with the name Elicia Marcus Taylor engraved on it, that perfectly matched her engagement ring.

Meanwhile, the ring in Elicia's case had an orichalcum band with a pink diamond set in one of the eight fittings visible on the ring. Judging by the ring in the case, it was clear that Alfonzo expected several more weddings in the future.

A moment later, each with a ring in hand, Alfonzo and Elicia gazed into each other's eyes tenderly.

"Alfonzo Marcus." The priest said.

"Yes." Alfonzo replied.

"Do you solemnly swear to take Elicia Taylor as your lawfully wedded wife from this day forward? To have and to hold, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until you are parted by death?" The priest asked in a solemn tone.

"I do." Alfonzo replied in a strong, resolute tone.

Then, as soon as he gave his response, Alfonzo slipped the wedding band onto Elicia's left ring finger alongside her engagement ring.

"And Elicia Taylor." The priest continued, maintaining his solemn tone.

"Yes." Elicia said, her eyes welling up with tears again.

"Do you solemnly swear to take Alfonzo Marcus as your lawfully wedded husband from this day forward? To have and to hold, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until you are parted by death?" The priest asked, still in that same solemn tone.

"I... do..." Elicia said, her voice shaking excitedly.

Like Alfonzo, as she gave her reply, Elicia slipped the ring in her hand onto Alfonzo's left ring finger.

"Then, by the power vested in me, by the Kingdom of Fiore, I now pronounce you husband and wife."
The priest said, his tone turning much more jovial. "You may..."

Before the priest could even finish, Elicia flung herself forward, wrapped her arms around Alfonzo's neck, and kissed him passionately.

"... kiss the bride!" the priest continued before smiling wryly.

A moment later, the entire crowd broke into loud, uproarious applause.

"Congratulations!" The crowd shouted excitedly.

On top of the cheering and applause, Natsu, who was standing with the rest of the Fairy Tail wizards released a stream of fire into the air in excitement.

Bang!

Before Natsu could spew his flames for too long, however, he was hit in the middle of his forehead by a metal ball moving at high speed and sent flying from where he stood.

That was enough to cause all the cheering and applause to come to an abrupt stop. Then, after tracing the trajectory of the projectile, they noticed Alfonzo, while still kissing Elicia, had raised his left hand in Natsu's direction. Then, everyone remembered that this hall was part of Alfonzo's new home. And all the Fairy Tail wizards vowed to do their best to stay in control of their more destructive impulses during the reception.

Chapter 400: The Reception; Part 1: Best Man's Speech

Shortly after Alfonzo and Elicia were declared husband and wife, the entire group relocated to the mansion's front yard. And when they arrived, there were a number of metal tables and chairs set up for the reception.

On top of all the tables and chairs, which were set up in a circle around an open area, there was also a temporary kitchen close to the house. And standing at that temporary kitchen was Erina Nakiri, the young woman Alfonzo poached from the Mermaid Heel guild staff.

"Tch!" Tsunade clicked her tongue as soon as she saw Erina. "I still have no idea what he offered her to leave our guild."

"What who offered her?" Shizune asked while following Tsunade's line of sight to Erina.

"Who else?" Tsunade asked with a scoff. "The groom himself, Alfonzo."

"Whatever it was, it must have been quite the offer for her to leave a prestigious guild." Ritsu said.
"Though, I must admit, I am quite curious, as well."

While that conversation went on, the guests moved towards the tables to take seats for the coming banquet. However, when they made it to the nearest table, they noticed that each table had names etched into their surfaces in front of the chairs.

"It looks like there are assigned seats." Makarov said after arriving at one of the tables. "I wonder how they decided on that."

"They probably put people they knew got along at the same table." Goldmine replied while scanning the other tables for his name.

"Yeah, your children sure are considerate, Maki." Bob added with a smile.

"Well, they are my children, after all." Makarov replied with a proud smile.

"If they took after you, this would have already turned into a bedlam." Ooba shot back. "So, I don't know what being your children has to do with it."

With that, Bob, Goldmine, and Ooba all laughed good naturedly at Makarov's expense. Meanwhile, Makarov wore a dumbfounded expression.

Eventually, everyone was seated, chatting amongst those they were seated with. Then about fifteen minutes later, the bride, groom, and entire bridal party made their way out to the yard, as well. And when they did, they took seats around the last, unoccupied table.

"Laki, would you mind setting up the dance floor?" Elicia asked with a smile while snuggling into Alfonzo.

"Of course." Laki replied as she stood from her seat.

A moment later, Laki had arrived in the center of the open area between all the tables, drawing the attention of all the guests.

"[Wood-Make: The Shy Maiden Dances Under the Moonlight]." Laki chanted as she pressed her hands on the ground.

In the next instant, a square, parquet floor appeared under Laki's feet and expanded to cover nearly the entire open area.

"That spell name almost made perfect sense." Macao muttered as he watched the dance floor appear.

"Wow, we're gonna be able to dance, Natsu!" Lisanna shouted happily. "Will you dance with me?"

"But I don't know how to dance." Natsu replied while scratching his head.

"Don't worry, I'll teach you." Lisanna said while smiling happily.

A moment later, Laki returned to her seat at the main table. Then, from the temporary kitchen, a number of wait staff, called from the various Sixth Sense Restaurants around Fiore started carrying out plates of food.

Though it was not mentioned, While Laxus, Gray, Elfman, and Mystogan escorted the guests from the guild hall to the mansion, they were asked to fill out a form, a form that gave them a few options for their meal at the reception.

Then, while the ceremony was going on, Erina took care of cooking all the meals. Though, she was slightly upset that she had to work instead of being invited to attend the biggest wedding in recent years. However, she and the rest of the cook-staff were able to watch the ceremony through a lacrima Alfonzo set up to record the event.

And just like with the ceremony, Alfonzo had several lacrima set up to record the reception, as well. Having all the highlights to look back on in the future would be nice, after all.

Once everyone had a plate and a drink in front of them, before anyone could start eating, Alzack stood from his seat. And to everyone present, it was clear that he was nervous. Still, he gathered everyone's attention on himself by tapping his fork on his wine glass.

Ting! *Ting!* *Shatter!*

Unfortunately, thanks to his nervousness, Alzack put too much power into the hand holding the fork. As a result, he shattered his wine glass.

"*Sigh* The Fairy Tail effect has started." Alfonzo said while smiling wryly.

"I'm actually surprised it took this long for anyone to break anything." Elicia chimed in while wearing a similar wry smile.

Naturally, those two statements caused everyone not from Fairy Tail to laugh hardily. Meanwhile, the Fairy Tail wizards could only smile wryly like Alfonzo and Elicia had done. Everyone except Alzack, that is.

Instead of smiling wryly, Alzack was blushing heavily with embarrassment. As Alfonzo's best man, it was expected that he would say a few words. However, he had messed up before he could even get started.

Meanwhile, Bisca only had one thought in her mind while watching Alzack.

'His embarrassed face is so cute.' Bisca thought as her cheeks reddened, as well.

"Calm down, Alzack." Alfonzo said as he reached over and patted Alzack on his shoulder. "Just take a deep breath. There's no reason to be so worried. I mean, it's not like anyone will be able to show you your fuck up in the future, right?"

After hearing Alfonzo's voice and feeling his hand on his shoulder, Alzack turned in Alfonzo's direction. And when he did, his embarrassed blush disappeared immediately, replaced by a fearful pale complexion.

'God damn it!' Alzack exclaimed internally. 'I really will get the chance to see my fuck up later. Alfonzo is recording everything from today. I really need to get my shit together.'

In the next instant, Alzack's eyes became clear while his expression turned solemn. Then, he began speaking just as a server finished cleaning up the spilled wine and shattered glass.

"Ladies and gentlemen, today we're all gathered to celebrate the marriage of our friends, Alfonzo and Lici." Alzack said in a sonorous tone.

Hearing Alzack's tone and seeing the expression on his face, everyone, without exception, focused on his next words.

"For as long as I've been a part of the Fairy Tail family, Alfonzo and Lici have been here." Alzack continued. "And from what I've seen, they have always been a driving force in making Fairy Tail what it is today."

With that, everyone present started to think back to everything that had happened since Alfonzo and Elicia joined Fairy Tail.

"They've aided in training nearly everyone who joined the guild after them." Alzack said. "As a result, we've all been able to overcome all the challenges we've faced. We survived an attack from a guild that was said to be on par with us, we returned when the entire town was turned into a lacrima, we've defeated two of the three guilds making up the Balam Alliance, and we even survived an attack from the Dragon of the Apocalypse, Acnologia."

While having all the feats laid out over just the last year, Alzack, along with all the other Fairy Tail wizards puffed their chests out with pride. Meanwhile, after having all those feats laid out in front of them, all the other wizards in the crowd showed appreciation in their gazes.

"But that's not all." Alzack continued. "On top of making the guild stronger, they've both done so much to help the people of Fiore... No, of Ishgar, and maybe even the whole world. While Lici has helped beautify the population as a whole with her wonderful clothing and Alfonzo has made life much easier as the inventor of many magical appliances and the new magic vehicle engines."

This time, not only the wizards, but all those in attendance, especially the normal civilians looked at Alfonzo and Elicia in appreciation. At the same time, Nell smiled proudly. She was the one who trained Alfonzo as a magic item craftsman, after all.

Meanwhile, Nicoletta Goldstein, or Nico for short, a beautiful young woman with shoulder-length, wavy, black hair pushed back with a plaited hairband, light tan skin, and brown eyes wearing red framed glasses, a simple black, knee-length dress, and brown cowboy boots, looked at Alfonzo with shining eyes.

Nico had heard quite a few stories from her adopted grandmother, Nell, about the most talented boy she had ever seen over the years. Despite that, she had never met him. So, once everyone was free to mingle, she was looking forward to picking his brain.

"And then, there's the amazing, new guild hall Alfonzo designed and took charge of constructing." Alzack said, looking towards the tall tower with a Fairy Tail emblem hanging from it in the distance. Then, after pausing to appreciate the guild hall for a second, Alzack turned his attention back to the crowd. "But on a more personal note. Alfonzo and Elicia, after realizing that I had not awakened an innate type of magic when my magic power awakened, were the ones that helped me find my own path as a wizard."

When Alzack got to that point, Alfonzo and Elicia could not help but smile sheepishly. They had information about Alzack's talents, after all.

"On top of that, once Alfonzo reached a certain level in magic item crafting, he made my weapons of choice." Alzack continued proudly. "A pair of magic pistols like nothing I had ever seen before. And with those, I was able to raise my abilities as a wizard to new heights."

At that point, all those who knew what Alzack was capable of nodded in agreement. Meanwhile, Alzack's expression relaxed by quite a bit.

"On top of that, Alfonzo never once charged me for the pistols, the ammunition, or their maintenance." Alzack said with a smile. "And I think we all know how Alfonzo feels about working for free."

Then, Alzack smiled smugly at the crowd.

"Jealous?" Alzack asked playfully. Then, after receiving a few chuckles and envious glares, he continued. "But seriously, I never took that for granted. Instead, I worked even harder. To show him, my best friend that I was worthy of the care and help he's given me."

Then, Alzack turned towards Alfonzo and Elicia.

"Ever since I joined the guild, I was told that everyone was family." Alzack said, a sincere smile appearing on his face. "And they were right. Ever since that day, I always have, and always will, see the two of you as my older brother and sister. And now that the two of you have tied the knot, I couldn't be happier for you."

With that, Alzack reached down to the table, picking up his new glass of wine, and raising it into the air.

"So, for the years to come, I pray for your happiness." Alzack continued. "And I look forward to the things the two of you will accomplish together. Because if the things you've accomplished alone are any indication, we've got a lot to look forward to. Now, everyone! Raise your glasses and join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Marcus on their wedding! Cheers!"

"Cheers!" The crowd, with their glasses raised shouted in unison.

Then, as one, everyone in attendance took a sip from their glasses.

A moment later, Alfonzo, with a big, silly smile on his face, and Elicia, while holding back happy tears, stood up from their seats. Then, Elicia rushed to give Alzack a hug.

"Thank you, Alzack." Elicia said in an emotional tone. "You know we love you just as much, right."

"Of course I do." Alzack replied with a smile while returning the hug. "If you didn't, I wouldn't be where I am today."

Smiling brightly, Elicia released her hug and stepped back. A moment later, Alfonzo stepped forward and pulled Alzack into a hug as well.

"All it took was lighting a fire under your ass to get you going, huh?" Alfonzo asked playfully. "Still, I knew you had it in you."

"Yeah..." Alzack replied with a wry smile. "You nearly scared the hell outta me, though."

"Yeah, but you got it done." Alfonzo replied as he patted Alzack on the back. "And I like the smug confidence you showed during your speech. There's always room for a little smug in situations like this."

Hearing that, Alzack could not help but laugh a little as he and Alfonzo released their hugs. In the next instant, however, Alfonzo leaned in to whisper into Alzack's ear.

"Now, we just need you to show that kind of confidence when you talk to Bisca." Alfonzo whispered with a grin on his face. "It's seriously getting tiresome to see you two dance around each other like that, you know."

With that, all the confidence Alzack had shown since he started his speech evaporated immediately. Instead, it was replaced by a nervous and embarrassed blush as he stole glances at Bisca.

Meanwhile, Cana, who was sitting next to Elicia at the main table, finished her glass of wine.

"Damn, I'm glad I opted to not give a speech." Cana muttered. "What the hell was I even supposed to say after a speech like that?"

In the next instant, Elicia sat back down in her seat and pulled Cana into a hug.

"You would have done just fine, Cana." Elicia said happily.

In response, Cana only smiled wryly.

"Anyway, now that the Best Man's speech is out of the way, Let's eat, drink, and be merry!" Alfonzo shouted just before taking his seat and picking up his silverware.

"Yeah~~~~~!" The crowd shouted happily as they, too, picked up their silverware and started to eat.