

Fairy Tail 401

Chapter 401: The Reception; Part 2: The First Dance

In the front yard of the new mansion floating atop Lake Sciliora, the people gathered for Alfonzo and Elicia's wedding had finished their meal about fifteen minutes ago. Now, they were all mingling with other guests, drinking, and having a good time.

However, there were many people who were curious why a dance floor had been created, despite the fact that there was no music playing. At first, they were even confused as to why there was no band to provide the music. However, after remembering the Bridal March that played during the ceremony, they quickly dismissed those thoughts.

A few moments later, Alfonzo stood from his seat at the main table. Then, after smiling lovingly at Elicia, he started walking towards the dance floor.

"I can't wait 'til it's my turn to get married." Sun said with a smile. "Alfonzo and Lici look so happy today."

"Yeah, plus have you seen the way Fonzie is smiling?" Marin added. "It's making my heart skip a beat every time I see it."

In response, Elicia, Cana, Sun, and even Laki nodded in response.

"Still haven't given up on him, huh?" Cana asked after noticing Laki's nod.

In response, Laki shook her head gently.

"It's not that I haven't given up on him, but I know it's not possible." Laki replied, though she still smiled gently. "I'm not willing to share him. So, there's nothing I can do about it. But seeing him happy makes me happy all the same."

Hearing that, most of the people at the table smiled gently at Laki. The exception being Laxus. Despite that, he was not in opposition to Laki's statement.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo had reached the center of the dance floor, drawing the attention of everyone present.

"Alright." Alfonzo said, focusing all eyes on himself. "I really wanna thank everyone for coming and celebrating the day with me and Lici. But I think it's time to start the party for real."

As he finished speaking, Alfonzo turned back to the main table. Then, he extended his left hand towards Elicia.

"Lici, would you do me the honor of having our first dance as husband and wife?" Alfonzo asked with a smile.

Smiling back in return, Elicia stood up before walking around the table and making her way to the dance floor.

Meanwhile, many of the people gathered were confused. There was no music playing, after all. At the same time, Vijeeter, a Fairy Tail wizard who used [Dancer Magic] was the most excited. But before he could rush onto the dance floor, a glare from Ur stopped him dead in his tracks.

"Just what did you do to that boy, Ur?" Makarov asked curiously. "For as long as I can remember, getting him to stop dancing has been nearly impossible."

"Nothing really." Ur replied casually after taking a sip of her wine. "The two of us just had a long talk about when it was appropriate to dance."

After hearing Ur's tone and seeing the fear on Vijeeter's face, those sitting at the table with Ur, namely Makarov, Gildarts, Bob, Goldmine, Ooba, Jura, and Lyon, decided it would be better for their mental health if they did not know how that conversation went.

At about the same time, Elicia reached the dance floor. Then, only a moment later, she arrived in front of Alfonzo and gently grasped his left hand with her right. And as soon as their hands were connected, music began playing throughout the area.

{BGM: Jesse Powell – "You"}

Then, Alfonzo pulled Elicia close as wind chimes and a flute played the intro to the song. A few beats later, a violin took over. Yet another moment later, a piano melody began to play.

"You~~~~~." Alfonzo sang in tune with the music.

Hearing that, Elicia opened her eyes wide in surprise.

At the same time, all the others in attendance wore surprised expressions, as well. No one had ever heard Alfonzo sing before, after all.

Shortly after Alfonzo stopped holding his note, the beat dropped. Then, Alfonzo began singing the lyrics to the song as he began dancing gracefully with Elicia in his arms.

"I finally found the nerve to say~~... I'm gonna make a change in my life, starting here today~~." Alfonzo sang with mellow, tenor vocals. "I surrender all my love, I never thought I could~~. I'm giving all my love away and there's only one reason that I would~~~... And baby it's you~~~." "

By that point, Alfonzo was smiling lovingly as he sang and danced with Elicia under the stunned gazes of all the guests. Meanwhile, with a bright smile on her face, Elicia allowed herself to be led as tears of joy flowed down her face.

'He remembered!' Elicia thought to herself excitedly. 'This was supposed to be the first song we danced to when we got married in our past life. But since Jesse Powell doesn't exist here, I had given up on that. But somehow, Fonzie made it come true, anyway.'

Though it was not mentioned, during the two months leading up to the wedding, Alfonzo had put a lot of effort into making today as close to perfect as could be. So, he spent around a week of his free time creating a magic item for making and recording music. Then, he spent another three weeks recording the sounds of as many instruments as he could get his hands on to make it worthwhile.

After that, he spent nearly another month recreating the instrumentals to as many Hip-Hop, R&B, Pop, Rock, and any other genre that had songs that he liked just for the reception. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to hire people to sing the songs, though. Still, he figured all that would be enough.

Eventually, the song reached the break and a saxophone solo played.

"Any other couples are welcome to join us." Alfonzo said with a smile, snapping the audience out of their trances.

Immediately, several couples, Gozaburo and Ren, Maes and Gracia, Ren of the Trimens and Sherry of Lamia Scale, and Edward and Winry, quickly joined Alfonzo and Elicia on the dance floor. Even Alzack, with a completely red face, after deciding that Alfonzo was right, shyly asked Bisca to join him on the dance floor, too.

Then, just as the last of the couples reached the dance floor, Alfonzo began singing again. And this time, it seemed like he was just adlibbing. Performing runs while staring into Elicia's eyes.

Then, after another minute, the music began to fade, and Alfonzo's vocals became softer as they did so.

"I just wanna be yours~~~ From this day forth~~~." Alfonzo sang softly as the music completely faded.

Immediately after Alfonzo's final note ended, Elicia kissed him passionately. At the same time, the entire crowd broke into thunderous applause.

"Damn, is there anything that kid can't do?" Ur asked in a tone filled with shock and amazement.

"Yeah, it's been thirteen... No, fourteen years since we brought him back from Hargeon." Makarov added in the same tone. "And I don't think I've ever heard him sing... Or do anything musical, really."

"Miss Lucy! Miss Lucy!" Lyra, one of Lucy's Silver Celestial Spirits, who had, at some point, summoned herself next to Lucy, shouted excitedly once the song ended. "Do you think Mr. Alfonzo would teach me that song? It was so beautiful."

"Huh?" Lucy exclaimed in surprise, Lyra's presence pulling her out of her love-struck state. "Lyra, when did you get here?"

"Shortly after he started singing." Lyra replied excitedly. "But do you think he would teach me that song if I asked?"

"He probably would." Lucy replied with a smile after getting past her confusion at Lyra's appearance. "Well, unless he plans to make money off of it. Then, I'm not sure."

Like Lucy, Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, and Sun were also looking at Alfonzo with hearts in their eyes. Then, when they eventually returned to their senses, they, along with Lucy, exchanged glances. Very competitive glances as they all thought the same thing.

'I'm definitely gonna be the next one to marry him.' All seven of Alfonzo's other girls thought simultaneously.

Eventually, Elicia, with the widest smile of the day on her face, ended her kiss with Alfonzo. Then, they finally registered the sound of the applause. A moment later, they could hear the sound of footsteps rushing towards them.

Looking around, Alfonzo and Elicia eventually found the source of the footsteps. And to their surprise, it was the little Elicia running at Alfonzo with her arms opened wide.

With a smile, Alfonzo knelt down and scooped the little girl up in his arms as she drew near.

"Hey, Elicia, what's got you so excited?" Alfonzo asked curiously.

"You sing so pretty, Alfonzo!" The little Elicia shouted excitedly. "Can you teach me how to sing, too?"

Hearing that, Alfonzo smiled wryly. In fact, in his past life, he had never been trained to sing. Needless to say, that had not changed in this life, either. He just happened to have a good ear for music. Something that improved after he had his accident in his past life. So, he had no idea how to teach someone how to sing.

Noticing that Alfonzo was at a loss, Elicia stepped in, pinching the little Elicia on her right cheek.

"Fonzie really isn't a good teacher when it comes to this kind of thing, Elicia." Elicia said with a smile. Then, she pointed towards Lucy, more specifically at Lyra. "But one of Lucy's spirits, Lyra is a good teacher. She might be willing to teach you if you ask nicely."

At first, when little Elicia heard that Alfonzo was not a good teacher, she deflated. However, when she heard the rest of Elicia's words, her eyes began to sparkle once again. Then, she looked at Lyra before excitedly jumping out of Alfonzo's arms and rushing towards the Celestial Spirit.

By that time, all the cheering had died down, accompanied by Maes yelping in pain after Gracia pulled his ear, no doubt because he was about to do something stupid after seeing Alfonzo holding his daughter in his arms.

Then, Alfonzo slowly made a turn, looking at all those present with a smile.

"Alright, now that the first dance is out of the way, we have one more thing to do before we can really get this party started." Alfonzo said with a smile.

In the next instant, Alfonzo held his arm out towards the main table. A moment later, a thin metal band appeared around Elicia's bouquet. Then, it slowly floated towards Alfonzo's outstretched hand.

At the same time, many of the single ladies in the crowd's eyes sharpened while a dangerous atmosphere began to permeate the area.

'Man, I've seen this part of a reception get pretty intense in my past life.' Alfonzo thought as he felt the change in atmosphere. 'I can only imagine what it will be like with all these superpowered women vying for the bouquet.'

That's right, the part of the reception Alfonzo was referring to was the bride throwing the bouquet. And as he was expecting things to get out of hand, once the bouquet was in Elicia's hands, Alfonzo led her to another part of the yard. He didn't want the place where they would party the rest of the day and the night away to be ruined, after all.

At the same time, the guests followed, interested to see who would end up with the bouquet in the end. Especially with so many powerful women vying for it.

Eventually, the crowd arrived on the other side of the front yard, the part of the yard on the other side of the driveway. Then, all the single women interested in being the next to get married stood in front of Alfonzo and Elicia while the spectators stood behind them to watch the show.

'Let's see.' Elicia thought to herself as she looked over all the gathered single ladies. 'Cana, Tear, and the others are there, just like I expected. So are Laki, Levy, Bisca, Lisanna, Meredy, and Ever. Oh, I wasn't expecting to see Ur in there. I guess she's starting to get lonely. Gildarts is a lucky guy... I think. Yup, Winry is there, too. I feel like she's at a severe disadvantage, though, considering she's not a wizard. Hmm... I expected to see Sherry in there, too. Well, she's always been all about "love." Sorano's there, too. Surprisingly, so is Karen. Wait, is that Tsunade? Shizune, too? Oh, and it looks like Anko is in there to have fun, too...'

"Alright, I'm gonna lay down some ground rules." Alfonzo said while Elicia was thinking. "First, I'll be putting up a barrier to keep you all from destroying my new house."

Hearing that, everyone nodded in understanding.

"Second, the use of magic power is allowed." Alfonzo added. "As for those of you who can't do that, you can only blame yourselves for entering an arena full of wizards. Third, the use of offensive spells is

allowed, too. However, they can only be used to distract. If I see anyone attacking anyone else directly, I'll pull you out faster than you can react. Got it?"

In response, all the ladies competing for the bouquet nodded solemnly.

"Good." Alfonzo said with a smile. Then, he turned towards Elicia. "You ready, Lici?"

"Not yet." Elicia replied with a smile. A moment later, however, her smile was completely wiped off her face. Then, strong pressure fell on all the competitors. "Almost all of you are wearing dresses I created for today by request. So, you'd better be careful. Because I'm sure you all know how I feel about seeing my creations damaged, right?"

With that, all the ladies wearing dresses Elicia created shivered involuntarily, especially Ur and Karen.

"And if anyone not wearing one of my dresses thinks trying to damage one of them to gain an advantage is a good idea, you can ask Sorano, Gray, and Meredy how that went for them." Elicia said as a sinister smile sprouted on her face.

At the same time, Gray, Sorano, and Meredy shuddered in fear.

"Alright, that's all I have to say." Elicia said, her smile turning bright and cheerful in an instant. "Now, let's do this. Good luck, everyone!"

Chapter 402: The Reception; Part 3: The Real Party Begins

"Alright, that's all I have to say." Elicia said, her smile turning bright and cheerful in an instant. "Now, let's do this. Good luck, everyone!"

With that, Elicia turned her back on the gathered women and flared her magic power. At the same time, Alfonzo tapped his heel on the lawn, activating the sigils that were carved on the layer of metal under the grass. After that, a translucent barrier sprung up from the ground between the spectators and the participants.

Then, just as the barrier was fully erected, Elicia flung the bouquet in her hands upwards with great force.

"Sorry, girls, but I'll be taking the bouquet, this time." Mirajane said with a smile as she leapt into the air.

Like Mirajane, those with greater physical strength also leapt. However, before Mirajane reached the peak of her jump, she was covered in the light of her [Take Over Magic].

"[Take Over Magic: Satan Soul: Sitri]," Mirajane chanted.

In the next instant, after her transformation was complete, Mirajane used the flames on her legs as boosters to propel herself upwards even faster.

"Wow, Mira's going all out from the very beginning." Alfonzo said as he watched the airborne women.

"Yeah, but if she thinks it's gonna be that easy, she's thinking too lightly of the others." Elicia replied with a smile as she wrapped her arms around Alfonzo's right arm.

"Sorry, Mira, but that bouquet is mine." Lucy shouted as she pulled her [Soul Armament], which took the form of a whip, from under her dress, revealing everything underneath in the process.

In the next instant, with a high level of control, Lucy swung her whip, causing it to pass between all the others vying for the bouquet, without touching any of them. Then, just before Mirajane could leave the whip's range, it curled around her flaming left ankle.

"Huh?" Mirajane exclaimed in surprise as she looked down. "Kya~~~~!"

Before Mirajane could fully register what was happening, however, Lucy used all her strength to yank her out of the air, resulting in Mirajane yelping in surprise.

Meanwhile, Tsunade, most likely the woman among the participants with the best bodily control, used the other participants, Anko, Shizune, Ultear, and Sun, to name a few, as footholds to rise even faster.

"Haha! Looks like I'm the winner, girls." Tsunade shouted smugly as she reached out for the bouquet.

Just before Tsunade's fingertips could come in contact with the bouquet, however, a wrench came flying from below and knocked the bouquet out of her grasp.

Then, with an astonished expression on her face, Tsunade let her eyes trail back along the wrench's flight path. And at the end of her sight was Winry, still in the posture of having just thrown something.

"Damn it..." Tsunade muttered. "She's not even a wizard. I completely overlooked her. Master Ritsu is gonna make me pay for this in training."

"Maybe I didn't think this through when I joined." Winry muttered. "I mean, I should have expected that they'd be allowed to use magic. Even so, although I'm probably not gonna win, I'm not gonna make this easy for whoever does."

"Where the hell did she even get that wrench from?" Edward, who was watching with the rest of the spectators, asked while shuddering. "Still, I know her wrench throw is strong enough to hurt even the strongest wizard."

"Hmm.... Getting hit in the head by Winry's wrenches one too many times is probably why you're still so short, Ed." Pinako, after taking a puff from her pipe, said while watching the ongoing competition.

"Shut up, Micro Hag!" Edward shouted in return.

Bang!

Meanwhile, like Mirajane, Erza had also decided to use her magic to gain an advantage over the others. Before she could do so, however, she was blown away while simultaneously being wrapped in a net.

"What is this?" Erza asked in a confused tone as she fell from the air. "A net? But why can't I use my magic?"

Bang! *Bang!* *Bang!* *Bang!* *Bang!* *Bang!*

Not only Erza, but many of the other women aiming for the bouquet also found themselves being blown away before having their magic power sealed.

"Wow! Bisca really looks determined." Elicia said with a shocked expression on her face.

"Yeah, and I didn't expect her to test the new bullets I developed in a situation like this." Alfonzo added.
"But I guess it makes sense."

A moment later, Alfonzo turned towards Alzack with a playful grin on his face.

"I think she's trying to send you a message, Alzack." Alfonzo said while waggling his eyebrows.

In response, Alzack could not help but blush. However, he was more interested in hearing about the new bullets, if only to avoid the embarrassment from Alfonzo's teasing.

"What are these new bullets?" Alzack asked with his face completely red.

"Oh, they're..." Alfonzo began to say.

"[Guns Magic: Magic Restraining Net Shot]." Bisca said after firing on all the other participants.

With his explanation interrupted, Alfonzo looked back towards the battleground, so to speak. And when he did, the only thing he saw was Bisca, with a pair of magic revolvers in hand, standing in the middle of all the other participants, who were wrapped up in metallic nets, with an absurd number of minuscule sigils carved into them, and laying on the ground.

A moment later, Bisca used [Requip] to store her revolvers. Then, she adjusted her cowboy hat as she looked up into the sky. Locating the bouquet, which had yet to come down, she calmly walked towards its landing point before catching it effortlessly.

"Looks like Bisca will be the next to get married." Elicia said happily after the competition for the bouquet was over. Then, like Alfonzo had done before, she turned towards Alzack with a playful grin. "I wonder who the lucky guy is."

Once again, Alzack blushed in embarrassment. Then, in order to avoid all the teasing, for a little while, at least, he walked away, returning to his seat in the banquet area.

"Damn!" Cana shouted in protest. "How is this fair? I mean, she has bullets like that, now? How is anyone supposed to fight against that?"

"Stop complaining, Cana." Ultear said while struggling to free herself from the net. "This only worked because none of us knew she had bullets like that."

"Tear's right." Ur said, not seeming to mind the fact that she lost too much. "She chose the perfect time to reveal them. I guess she's been planning for this ever since Alfonzo and Lici sent out invitations."

"Still, this is totally unfair!" Cana shouted. "Ugh.! I really need a drink!"

Meanwhile, Gildarts and Gozaburo, who were still overly doting parents, gave Bisca stealthy thumbs ups as she walked away from the battleground. At the same time, Alfonzo used his magic to unwrap all the women who Bisca left lying on the ground.

"I know she wanted to go see Alzack, but she could have at least set them free first." Alfonzo said with a wry smile.

"Yeah, but that's what makes those two adorable." Elicia replied. "I mean, look at them. Even though they're sitting so close to each other, they can't even look each other in the eyes while they talk."

Following Elicia's line of sight, Alfonzo saw that what she said was true. Although it was clear that Alzack and Bisca were speaking to each other, they were looking away from each other with reddened cheeks while doing so.

"Anyway, I guess it's time to get the last little thing out of the way before the party can begin properly." Alfonzo said with a smile while watching his two awkward friends. Then, he turned back to the people gathered to watch the bouquet competition. "Now, for the last of these little events, could I get all the single guys to change places with the single ladies over there?"

By now, all the single women had been freed from Bisca's nets and were standing on their feet again. Then, after hearing Alfonzo's request, all the remaining single men in the crowd stepped forward onto the battleground while the women joined the crowd of onlookers.

Then, once everyone was in place, Alfonzo dropped to one knee in front of the smiling Elicia and slowly raised her dress. Eventually, the dress was raised high enough that the garters holding up Elicia's stockings could be seen.

A moment later, Alfonzo removed a garter from Elicia's left leg, which was perfectly concealing a second one, before letting Elicia's dress fall again.

"Alright, like with the bouquet, I'm gonna throw this into the crowd." Alfonzo said, holding up the garter as he spoke. "And the lucky man who catches it will be the next one to get married."

Hearing that, most of the men's eyes sharpened. However, not for the same reason as the women. Instead, they were thinking they would do all they could to avoid it. There was one exception, though.

"Now, I don't think things will be as intense as with the ladies." Alfonzo said with a wry smile, though there was a bit of mischief swirling in his eyes. "So, I won't raise the barrier again. But I will put my foot up the ass of anyone who damage's my house."

With an understanding nod, most of the single men readied themselves to move once Alfonzo threw the garter.

"And here we go." Alfonzo said as he, almost lazily, tossed the garter into the group of men.

As soon as the garter left Alfonzo's hand, as if they had been practicing for years, all the men gathered stepped away from the garter's landing point in unison. However, as previously mentioned, there was one man who lunged towards the garter.

And to everyone's surprise, that man was Gajeel. Though, the reason was different than wanting to get married. Instead, it was because this whole part of the event was meant to be a prank that Alfonzo and Elicia discussed beforehand.

As previously mentioned, Alfonzo removed a garter that concealed a second underneath. And while they both looked identical, the one Alfonzo removed was made of a lightweight, flexible metal. So, when he threw it, Gajeel was attracted to it by instinct.

"Well, there you have it." Alfonzo said with a smile.

"It looks like Gajeel will be the next groom." Elicia continued. "I wonder who the lucky lady is?"

With that, Alfonzo and Elicia both turned towards Levy simultaneously with mischievous smiles on their faces.

Meanwhile, Levy could only stare blankly with a furious blush covering her face, ears, and neck. At the same time, Gajeel, who had immediately started eating the metal garter, turned his head in Alfonzo and Elicia's direction with a confused expression.

"Damn it!" Gajeel bellowed a moment later. "You tricked me into catching it, didn't you?"

With that, the entire group burst into loud, uncontrolled laughter. At the same time, Levy and Gajeel made eye contact briefly before turning their heads away just as quickly.

"Alright, let's go back to the other side of the yard." Alfonzo said as he took Elicia by the hand. "It's time to party the rest of the day away!"

Like that, the entire group shifted back to the other side of the yard. At the same time, Alfonzo started the music. Then, those who wanted to dance, danced. Those who wanted to chat, chatted. And those who wanted to drink, drank. And there were no small number of people who ended up doing all three.

"Come on, Natsu, dance with me!" Lisanna said while dragging Natsu onto the dance floor.

"But I already told you, Lisanna, I don't know how to dance." Natsu protested weakly.

"And like I already told you, I'll teach you." Lisanna said, not hearing any of Natsu's protests.

"For some reason I don't think this is gonna end well." Alfonzo muttered while he danced with Cana.

"What do you mean' Cana asked while holding Alfonzo's hands.

"Just watch and you'll understand." Alfonzo replied while smiling wryly.

{BGM: Chris Brown – "Gimme That"}

While continuing to move in rhythm with the music, Alfonzo and Cana focused their gazes on Lisanna and Natsu. At the same time, the song changed to a rather upbeat one. Then, Lisanna, with Natsu's hands in her own, began rocking and bouncing with the rhythm. And after seeing what Lisanna was doing, Natsu did his best to copy her.

"I still don't understand why you seemed so worried, Fonzie." Cana said as she drew nearer to Alfonzo. "She's only teaching him how to dance."

Instead of responding, Alfonzo only continued to watch. Then, just as Alfonzo expected, once Natsu started getting comfortable with those movements, Lisanna began to speed up her movements. On top of that, she started swinging Natsu around with her. By the end, the two were spinning around like a cyclone. Though, to Alfonzo's surprise, Lisanna's movements were still perfectly in tune with the beat.

"Holy shit..." Cana muttered after seeing Lisanna step on the gas, so to speak.

Eventually, around the time the song ended, Lisanna finally let Natsu go. Unfortunately, after that, there was a pretty good chance that Natsu would never dance with her again. Especially since all the spinning had triggered Natsu's motion sickness, and he currently looked like he would throw up at any second.

{BGM: Full Force – "Ain't My Type Of Hype"}

A moment later, the next song began to play. And while Alfonzo was on the dance floor with Cana, Elicia was sitting with the other girls and chatting animatedly, they both froze when they recognized the song. Then, they both slowly turned their heads and made eye contact with each other.

"Fonzie, is everything okay?" Cana asked after noticing Alfonzo's strange behavior.

"Everything's fine." Alfonzo replied without averting his gaze from Elicia. "But right now, Lici and I need to settle something, once and for all."

Naturally, Cana was utterly confused by what Alfonzo said. Yet, Alfonzo paid her no mind.

At the same time, a similar conversation was happening between Elicia and the other girls. And just like Cana, the other girls were left thoroughly confused when Elicia stood up and started walking towards the dance floor without a proper explanation.

Eventually, more and more of those attending the reception noticed the strange atmosphere and turned their attention towards the newlyweds. And when Alfonzo and Elicia finally stood in front of each other, no more than five feet apart, the tension in the air was palpable.

"It's time for us to end this feud, Fonzie." Elicia said in a serious tone.

"Yeah, let's put this to bed." Alfonzo replied. Then, he gestured to Elicia. "After you. I wouldn't want you to lose your will if I went first."

"You'll regret those words, Fonzie." Elicia said with her eyes narrowed.

Everyone who heard this conversation was even more confused than before. What kind of disagreement could those two have that would result in an atmosphere like this. However, they would not have to wait long to find out.

In the next instant, Elicia took a deep breath. Then, she started moving to the music. And as she did, her dance moves became more and more flashy, drawing oohs and awes from the crowd. At some point, she even danced out of her high heels while simultaneously creating a slit in her dress to make it easier to dance.

Close to a minute and a half later, Elicia had finally come to a stop in a B-Boy stance while glaring at Alfonzo smugly while the crowd cheered enthusiastically.

Alfonzo, on the other hand, looked impressed, but not overly so. Then, when the cheering died down, he started to move. Though he moved slowly at first, he did keep the rhythm. And like Elicia, he also danced out of his leather shoes. On top of that, he took off the jacket to his tuxedo as well. Then, he created a clothes hanger before hanging the jacket on it and proceeding to dance with it like it were another person.

Eventually, Alfonzo sent his jacket away over the crowd. Then, once his jacket was gone, Alfonzo spun himself until he was spinning on his back, breakdancing. And like Elicia, he came to a stop about a minute and a half after he started while sprawled out on the floor and looking at his new wife smugly.

Once again, the crowd burst into enthusiastic cheers. However, instead of helping to decide a winner in this dance battle, they all started dancing, caught up in the atmosphere Alfonzo and Elicia created.

However, because this was a Fairy Tail event, the night did not end until there was a brawl over the outcome of another dance battle. A brawl that Alfonzo eventually ended because someone got dangerously close to damaging his new home.

Either way, after partying for nearly ten hours, the reception came to an end. And while most people went home at the end, there were a few people, namely Alfonzo and Elicia's closest friends, that stayed the night in the new mansion.

Chapter 403: The Morning After

The next morning, Alfonzo, lying in his bed in the new mansion's master bedroom, slowly opened his eyes. And like he had, so many times before, he felt a soft body snuggled up to him.

Looking down, Alfonzo saw exactly who he expected to see.

"We finally did it." Alfonzo muttered as he began combing his fingers through his new wife's hair. "We're finally married. And this time, there was no freak accident to prevent it."

Eventually, Alfonzo took a look around his new bedroom. Like the master bedroom in the old mansion, there was a bed large enough for him and all his girls to sleep comfortably. However, unlike in the old mansion, it was positioned on the wall opposite the door.

Then, to his right, there were two doors, one leading to the master bathroom while the other led to his closet.

And on the opposite wall, there was a third door. Not making the same mistake as last time, this one led to Alfonzo's workshop.

The biggest thing to take note of, however, was the fact that there were no extra closets for Elicia's clothes and shoes. There was also no workstation for Elicia in the room, either. And the reason for that was quite simple. This was not a room he would share with Elicia.

Although Alfonzo had forgiven Elicia for the incident with Yoruichi, there were still some lingering effects. On top of that, as the other girls were succeeding in leaving larger marks in his heart, he decided that all the girls would have their own bedrooms.

But since last night was his and Elicia's wedding night, she naturally spent the night in his room.

"What time is it, anyway?" Alfonzo muttered after taking in the sight of his new bedroom. Then, he looked up at the clock hanging over his workshop's door. "Damn, it's only 7 a.m. It's like a normal day."

Although the reception after the wedding lasted for more than ten hours, since it started so early, it was around 10 p.m. when it ended. Therefore, everyone got to bed, more or less, around the same time they usually would.

"Well, I guess it's time to get up." Alfonzo muttered as he gently pulled his arm away from Elicia. "I'm kinda hungry, too. I guess I'll make something for breakfast."

As soon as those words left his mouth, Alfonzo felt Elicia begin to stir. Then, not even a second later, her eyes opened slightly.

"I want pancakes..." Elicia muttered groggily. "Strawberries and whipped cream, too."

"I know." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "So, let's take a shower so we can start the day."

"Kay..." Elicia replied sleepily as she rubbed her eyes.

With that, Alfonzo climbed out of the bed and made his way towards the bathroom while Elicia slowly followed a few moments later.

Meanwhile, the other residents of the mansion, namely, Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Sun, and Lucy, had all woken up as well. And like Alfonzo and Elicia, they started getting ready for the day. Then, one by one, they all made their way down to the kitchen.

"Holy hell!" Cana exclaimed after seeing the kitchen. "And I thought the kitchen in the old mansion was huge."

"Yeah, this place is massive." Marin added. "And look, are those grills? Fonzie actually put grills inside the house."

"But isn't that dangerous?" Sun asked curiously while tilting her head.

"Normally, it would be." Erza replied. Then, she pointed at the ceiling above the grills. "But there look to be exhaust pipes that hang over the grills. So, it should be fine."

"Yeah, I doubt Alfonzo would ever overlook something like that." Ultear added. "Still, it makes you wonder what else is in this house."

In response, the other girls nodded their heads.

"Well, since I'm not planning on taking a quest today, I guess I'll explore after we finish training." Lucy said with an anticipatory smile.

"That's probably a good idea." Ultear replied with a nod. "But more importantly, have any of you heard where Alfonzo and Lici are going for their honeymoon?"

The other girls all shook their heads in response.

"Actually, I don't think they've decided yet, either." Mirajane said while placing her right index finger on her lower lip. "I mean, the Harvest Festival is less than a month away, right? I don't think they wanna miss the Phantasia Parade."

"Ooh, or the Miss Fairy Tail Pageant." Sun said excitedly.

With that, Cana, Erza, Marin, Sun, and Lucy all looked at Ultear with competitive glints in their eyes.

"Why are you guys looking at me like that?" Ultear asked with a wry smile. "I didn't think I would win last year, either."

"Indeed." Erza replied with a nod. "But the fact of the matter is that you did win. And I, for one, don't plan to let that happen a second time."

Once again, all the other girls who lost to Ultear in last year's Miss Fairy Tail pageant nodded their heads, the competitive glints in their eyes shining a little brighter as they did so.

"I don't think you all need to worry about that." Mirajane said with her usual pleasant smile. However, if one were to look closely, they would notice the sparkle of superiority shining in her eyes. "I'll be participating in the pageant this year, too. And since I'm already the most popular model in Sorcerer Weekly, I think this will be my win."

Immediately, all the girls snapped their heads in Mirajane's direction.

"Those are some pretty big words, Mira." Cana said with her eyes narrowed. "Why don't you put your money where your mouth is."

Hearing that, not only Mirajane, but the other girls looked at Cana with interest.

"What did you have in mind?" Mirajane asked, the interest leaking into her tone.

Instead of cutting in, the rest of the girls focused their whole attentions on Cana.

"If one of us wins the Miss Fairy Tail Pageant..." Cana said, pausing for dramatic effect.

"Stop wasting time, Cana." Ultear said impatiently. "Just get to the point."

Holding her hands up disarmingly, Cana could only smile wryly at the intensity of the gazes she was receiving.

"Alright." Cana said, her expression turning serious as she did so. "If one of us wins the pageant this year, then, that girl gets to be the next one to marry Fonzie."

In response, the other six other girls all opened their eyes wide in surprise. A moment later, however, absurd amounts of battle intent flooded the kitchen.

"Whoa! What's going on in here?" Alzack, who was one of the people who spent the night in the mansion, asked after finding his way to the kitchen.

"Yeah, it feels like there's gonna be a fight." Natsu, another one of the guests who spent the night, asked excitedly. "You guys are gonna let me join, right?"

As Natsu asked his question, he flared his magic power, engulfing himself in a cloak of flames.

Smack!

"Not in the house." Alfonzo, who arrived only a moment after all the guests, said as he slapped Natsu upside the head with magic power covering his hand. "If you guys wanna fight, you can take it down to the basement or out to the back yard."

Immediately upon hearing the slap, Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Sun, and Lucy turned their heads towards Alfonzo. Not only the seven of them, either. But Laki, Alzack, Gray, Elfman, Lisanna, Happy and Bisca also turned their heads in Alfonzo's direction. And when they did, they saw Alfonzo, with Elicia clinging to his arm and wearing a wide smile, standing behind Natsu with his hand raised with magic power dissipating from it.

"Come on, Alfonzo, you didn't have to hit me, did you?" Natsu asked while rubbing the back of his head.

"Yeah, I think I did." Alfonzo replied as he walked past Natsu. "Words alone never seem to get through to you, after all."

With that, Alfonzo and Elicia walked past the rest of the crowd, greeting each person as they did so. Then, when they reached the other seven residents of the mansion, Alfonzo and Elicia separated.

"Anyway, I guess everyone's here." Alfonzo said after giving each of his girlfriends/fiancées a hug. "So, any requests for breakfast?"

By now, the battle intent from Cana and the others had been retracted. Then, they all requested their favorite breakfast foods. Not to be left out, the group Alzack led into the kitchen did the same.

"Alright, I guess I'll get started." Alfonzo said as he grabbed an apron hanging on the wall. "Lisanna, wanna give me a hand?"

"Sure." Lisanna said cheerfully. "The last time I helped you cook, I feel like I improved a lot."

Smiling in return, Alfonzo put on his apron while Lisanna bounced over and grabbed another apron for herself.

"I kinda wish I knew how to cook." Sun muttered. "Cooking with Alfonzo would be nice. Maybe I should ask Mom to teach me."

"I can help, too." Mirajane said as she began to approach.

"Me, too." Erza added.

Before Erza and Mirajane could get too far, Cana, Ultear, Marin, Sun, and Lucy grabbed Mirajane, stopping her in her tracks. Meanwhile, Alfonzo, who had started washing his hands, quickly turned around while pointing his, still, wet right hand at Erza.

"Mira, are you trying to kill us?" Marin asked frantically.

"Absolutely not!" Alfonzo refuted strongly while pointing at Erza.

In response, Erza froze before hanging her head in disappointment. Meanwhile, Mirajane struggled against everyone who was trying to stop her.

"Let me go!" Mirajane shouted while struggling violently. "I'm not that bad, anymore."

"And who can prove that?" Ultear asked in a deadly serious tone.

"Elfman can!" Mirajane shouted. Then, she turned her head to look at her younger brother. "Tell them, Elfman!"

Instead of agreeing to what Mirajane said, Elfman shuddered just as violently as Mirajane was struggling as he paled rapidly while sweating profusely. Then, after making eye contact with his sister, he looked away, unable to agree with what she said.

"A real man doesn't tell lies, Big Sis..." Elfman muttered. "Even if you've improved, you still shouldn't serve your cooking to anyone."

Hearing that, Mirajane froze in shock. At first, she wanted to scold Elfman for betraying her. However, when she saw the tears in his eyes, she could not bring herself to do so.

In fact, the reason Mirajane thought that her cooking had improved was simple. Last time she tried, she asked Elfman to taste test for her. And when he did, he did not pass out, despite the fact that he finished everything on his plate. Unfortunately, because Mirajane was so happy, she missed the fact that he ran to the bathroom right afterwards.

On top of that, Mirajane had also slipped back into her habit of not tasting her food. So, she still has no clue how dangerous her cooking is. But after seeing Lisanna cooking with Alfonzo for the second time, she vowed to herself that she would do everything in her power to improve.

With that, Alfonzo and Lisanna started cooking breakfast while the others relocated to the kitchen table.

At the same time, in Ur's house, Ur was also just waking up.

Although she would usually wake up earlier, making sure that she was the first person to arrive at the guild hall each day, she decided that she could sleep in for a bit after the wedding. On top of that, she woke up in a good mood. Because despite how much she drank, she did not have a hangover.

"Damn, that kid went all out on the booze yesterday, huh?" Ur muttered to herself. "I drank so much last night. But I feel fresh as a daisy."

With that, Ur slowly opened her eyes, feeling that today would be a great day. However, once her vision came into focus, she froze with a terrified expression on her face.

"Why the fuck are you in my bed?" Ur shouted at the top of her lungs while flaring her magic power to its limit.

Smack!

At the same time, Ur, with all her strength, slapped the person she found in her bed while the temperature of the whole town dropped significantly.

Meanwhile, the person who was just slapped, Gildarts, woke up with a start. And when he saw Ur's enraged expression, he almost wet himself in fear.

Chapter 404: Ur's Rampage

"Wait! Wait! Wait!" Gildarts, with an almost glowing red handprint on his left cheek, shouted as he explosively jumped out of Ur's bed. "I don't' know what happened, either. But can't we talk about this?"

"Oh, we can talk." Ur said while smiling maliciously. "If you survive, that is."

'Holy shit...' Gildarts thought while slowly backing away from the enraged Ur. 'But I really don't even know how we ended up like this. I mean, I drank so much with Gozaburo after my princess wasn't the one to catch the bouquet that most of yesterday afternoon and last night is little more than a blur.'

'What did he do to me?' Ur thought to herself while she slowly took her casting posture. 'I know I have a crush on him. Hell, everyone else in the guild seems to know, too. Everyone except for this damn womanizer in front of me. But how did he convince me to sleep with him after the wedding? I drank so much that I can't remember anything after I left the Kid's new place.'

Just as Gildarts and Ur were thinking, they both drank quite a bit at the reception yesterday. However, thanks to panicking at the situation they found themselves in, neither of them realized that they were both fully dressed.

While Ur was still wearing the dress she wore to the wedding, though it was completely wrinkled after sleeping in it, Gildarts was still wearing his pants, shirt, with a few buttons undone, and vest. So, if either of them had taken a breath and calmed down, they would have immediately known that nothing like what they were thinking had happened.

"Come on, Ur, there's no reason to take it that far, is there?" Gildarts asked as he finally backed into a wall.

Crash!

Unfortunately, thanks to the passive amount of magic power he releases, Gildarts ended up backing straight through the wall. As a result, Ur's anger rose because of the damage to her house.

"[Ice-Make: Rozen Krona]." Ur chanted as she pushed her hands forward.

In the next instant, three ice roses burst through the floor, from the first floor, under Gildarts in an attempt to immobilize him.

Fortunately for Gildarts, his years as a wizard honed his instincts to a razor's edge. So, before he could be entangled, he dashed backwards explosively. Unfortunately, that caused him to smash through another two walls.

"Stop destroying my house!" Ur shouted as she dashed through the holes Gildarts created.

"Stop trying to kill me, then!" Gildarts shouted back as he landed on the ground outside Ur's house.

Before Ur could exit her house as well, Gildarts shot off in the direction of Alfonzo's new mansion, thinking that Ultear would be able to calm her mother down.

"Get back here, you son of a bitch!" Ur shouted.

As Ur's anger grew out of control, she lost control of her magic power. As a result, her entire house, and everything inside was frozen solid. However, she did still have the presence of mind to protect all her clothing from the fate of being frozen. And that would turn out to be a good thing, as the entire house broke into shards of ice when Ur shot through the holes Gildarts created when he escaped.

Hearing Ur's angry roar, Gildarts, surprisingly, did not run straight towards the new mansion, destroying everything on his path. Instead, he zigged and zagged through the streets of Magnolia, hoping to break Ur's line of sight.

Unfortunately for Gildarts, Ur had activated [Magic Power Detection] as soon as Gildarts left her line of sight the first time. So, no matter where he went, Ur could find him with no issue.

Not long later, Alfonzo, Elicia, and all the wizards who spent the night at their house after the wedding left the mansion to head for the guild hall. Even though they were a little later than usual, they still needed to train.

However, as soon as they stepped outside, they all, without exception, noticed that it was much colder than it should have been.

"What's going on?" Lisanna asked curiously. "Why is it so cold?"

"I don't know..." Bisca replied. "A cold front, maybe?"

"At this time of year?" Alzack asked. "Even if that were possible, would it really be this cold?"

"No, *Sigh* it's not a cold front." Ultear said in an exasperated tone. "But I wonder what set my mom off so early in the morning."

"Wait!" Gray exclaimed in surprise. "Master's the reason for this cold weather?"

"That's right." Ultear replied. "But I'm surprised you can't tell, Gray. I mean, I can feel her magic power from here. And I'm not even using [MPD]."

Gray was not the only one who could not feel Ur's magic power. In fact, there were only a few people who could. Namely, Alfonzo, Elicia, Ultear, Erza, and Mirajane. Even though Cana was an S-Class wizard, and Gray, Natsu, and Sun were as strong as any average S-Class wizard, they simply did not have enough magic power to passively sense Ur's magic power from that far away.

Well, that was a bit inaccurate. Cana would have probably been able to sense Ur, too. Unfortunately, she had drank quite a bit during breakfast, despite the fact that breakfast did not last all that long.

"Still, I wonder what made your mom so mad, Tear." Elicia asked with a mischievous smile. "But I'm sure we'll find out in about a minute."

"*Sigh* I guess they did it last night while under the influence, huh?" Ultear said in exasperation. "But does mom have to go overboard like this?"

"Well, they're running in our direction." Alfonzo said with a smile. "So, I guess we'll find out soon."

"What are you guys talking about?" Natsu asked. A moment later, however, he began sniffing the air. "Huh? Gildarts and Ur are coming this way... fast."

"*Sigh* I wonder what my dad did to piss off Ur so bad." Cana said before taking a sip from her flask. "Either way, he probably deserves it."

With Gildarts and Ur racing towards the mansion, the group decided that they could wait a few minutes before leaving for the guild hall. Then, after no more than a minute, the group saw Gildarts racing towards Lake Sciliora.

"Wow! Dad really looks scared." Cana said. "Now I'm really curious to know what he did."

"Don't you wanna help him?" Bisca asked curiously.

"Not really." Cana replied. "Like I said, my dad probably deserves it."

"Hey! Old Man, what did you do to piss off Ur like that?" Alfonzo shouted, asking his question in a tone filled with schadenfreude.

"Now's not the time for that, Kid." Gildarts shouted as he dodged away from a pair of ice roses that tried to entangle his legs. "If you don't do something, she's never going to stop chasing me. And I'll eventually have to fight back!"

Hearing that, Alfonzo narrowed his eyes. However, he did not move to save Gildarts immediately. However, when Ur launched a volley of [Ice-Make: Lances], that Gildarts avoided, towards his new mansion, he thought that it was time to put an end to this.

In the next instant, Alfonzo disappeared from between Elicia and Mirajane. At the same time, all of Ur's [Lances] were shattered by an equal number of kunai created with [Metal Magic]. Then, in a flash of violet lightning, he appeared in front of Ur with his hands gripping hers.

"Stay out of this, Kid." Ur growled angrily. "Don't make me put you down, too."

"Chill out, Ur." Alfonzo said sternly. "If you hadn't aimed that spell towards my house, I would still be letting you hunt down Gildarts. Hell, I probably would have made some popcorn and enjoyed the show."

"That's what you should have done, then." Ur said as she shook off Alfonzo's hands, completely blinded by anger at this point. "[Ice-Make: Rose Whips]."

In the next instant, A pair of thorny ice whips manifested in Ur's hands. Then, she swung them at Alfonzo.

"*Sigh* I always wanted to fight you, Ur." Alfonzo said, his expression turning into a battle hungry grin. "But I never thought it would happen like this."

As he spoke, Alfonzo dodged Ur's [Rose Whips]. Then, as he stepped forward, the metal wrapped around his right arm began to move, twisting into a drill shape.

"[Metal Magic: Giga Drill Break]." Alfonzo chanted as Ur swung her left whip once again.

This time, instead of evading Ur's incoming attack, Alfonzo thrust his right arm forward. As a result, his drill burrowed straight through Ur's whip.

Undeterred, Ur swung her other whip. This time, however, the trajectory was much trickier.

Forced to dodge instead of defending by the angle of the attack, Alfonzo flared his magic power. Then, instead of trying to hit the whip, he gathered a ball of electricity on his left palm. Then, he pointed at Ur.

"[Electromagnetism Magic: Spark Cannon]." Alfonzo chanted.

Feeling the amount of magic power Alfonzo gathered for his spell, Ur quickly abandoned the [Rose Whips], letting them disperse into motes of magic power. Then, she once again took her casting posture.

"[Ice-Make: Rho Aias]." Ur chanted.

In the next instant, a rose bud made of ice appeared in front of Ur. Then, it quickly bloomed into a rose shaped shield. And just as the rose began to bloom, a second rose bud appeared behind the first. This action went on, repeating until there were seven rose shields to defend against Alfonzo's [Spark Cannon].

At the same time, just as the third shield had bloomed, Alfonzo released his spell in Ur's direction. Then, when it made contact with the first shield, the shield shattered on impact. Meanwhile, the [Spark Cannon] was barely slowed at all.

Like the first shield, the next three also shattered on impact. The fifth, however, was able to slow the attack by little. It still shattered in the end, though. The sixth shield was able to slow the sparking ball of violet electricity even more. However, just like the previous five, it eventually shattered, as well.

Meanwhile, Gildarts finally reached the rest of the younger wizards at about the same time the sixth shield shattered.

"Damn, that woman is crazy." Gildarts said while wiping a bead of sweat off his forehead.

"Dad, just how did you manage to piss her off so bad?" Cana asked with equal parts curiosity and exasperation in her tone.

"*Sigh* I know exactly what pissed her off." Gildarts replied in an exasperated tone. "But I sure as hell have no idea how it happened.."

"Well, what was it that made her so angry?" Ultear asked, her eyes narrowed dangerously.

Before Gildarts could answer, however, Alfonzo's attack finally shattered the sixth of Ur's rose shields before slamming into the seventh. However, after using up so much energy destroying the other six, it was unable to destroy the seventh. It did manage to heavily crack it, though.

"Ha! Now, it's my turn!" Ur shouted, interrupting the conversation Gildarts was having with the others.

A moment later, the rose shield wrapped around Alfonzo's [Spark Cannon]. Then, Ur placed her hands on its back and sent it flying in Alfonzo's direction.

"Damn, I can't control my electricity." Alfonzo muttered. "I guess Ur's magic power in the ice is interfering with my control."

While Alfonzo muttered to himself, he drew his right arm across his body. Then, his hand started sparking with electricity. A moment later, he swung his arm towards the incoming projectile.

"[Electromagnetism Magic: Chidori Senbon]." Alfonzo chanted as he threw a dozen needles made of electricity at the rose bud flying towards him.

Unsurprisingly, the volley of lightning needles was able to pierce through the heavily damaged chunk of ice with little effort, allowing Alfonzo to once again take charge of his spell. Then instead of sending it up into the sky where it would eventually dissipate harmlessly, Alfonzo sent it, along with the ice surrounding it, into Lake Sciliora.

"[Ice-Make: Volcano]." Ur chanted, taking advantage of Alfonzo's inattention.

A moment later, Alfonzo felt the temperature around him dropping. Then, before he could evade, an ice mountain sprouted from the ground below him. After another moment, once the mountain was fully formed, it erupted with a large number of sharp ice fragments.

Seeing the [Volcano] that just engulfed Alfonzo, all the onlookers seemed worried with Ultear showing the largest reaction. She had been trained in the use of [Ice-Make Magic] since she was nine, after all. So, she knew exactly what that spell was capable of.

"There's nothing to worry about, Tear." Elicia said as she wrapped her arms around Ultear while speaking in a soothing tone. "Fonzie is fine."

As if to prove the correctness of Elicia's words, Alfonzo appeared behind Ur in a flash of purple electricity.

"He's even faster than before." Natsu shouted after seeing Alfonzo reappear.

Not only Natsu, but everyone present was surprised by Alfonzo's speed. Meanwhile, Alfonzo was smiling proudly on the inside.

"Combining what I know about [Shave]... or [Soru], as Lici would call it, from One Piece with my own lightning enhanced speed was tough. But after seeing all the dumbfounded looks on everyone's faces made it worth it.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he reached around Ur and grasped her wrists. Then, as he pulled her arms around her back, he continued his thought. 'Getting the rhythm for those ten kicks was the tricky part. But after getting it down, I've been able to get up to twelve steps since then. Not bad for only three months of training.'

[Shave]... Or [Soru], a technique from the One Piece franchise that allows for super-human feats of speed. By kicking off the ground at least ten times in the blink of an eye, one is able to propel themselves faster than the human eye can follow. Then, when you add Alfonzo's speed with the use of his [Electromagnetism Magic on top of that, he should be able to surpass Laxus in speed.

The desire to move faster actually came from the time when he saw Yoruichi leave Mermaid Heel's guild hall without making a sound. And all though Alfonzo is not anywhere near Yoruichi's level of quiet movement, he should have closed the gap in their raw speed by quite a bit.

Meanwhile, as Alfonzo thought back over the reason why he trained to use [Shave], he did not forget to create a pair of shackles around Ur's wrists. ON top of that, just as they were created, he etched anti-magic sigils into them, bringing this fight to an end.

"Damn, this would have been much harder if she wasn't in raging bitch mode." Alfonzo muttered.

"Damn it, Alfonzo, let me go!" Ur shouted angrily as she struggled.

Ignoring the rampaging Ur, Alfonzo looked in the direction of the onlookers.

"Alright, now you can tell us what the hell is going on, right, Old Man?" Alfonzo asked, a little annoyed that his new mansion almost ended up in the line of fire.

Chapter 405: Explaining the Misunderstanding

Seated in the living room of Alfonzo's new mansion, Alfonzo, Elicia, Cana, Laki, Alzack, Gray, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Elfman, Lisanna, Natsu, Happy, and Bisca had just taken seats to hear Gildarts talk about what happened and why Ur was going on a rampage.

Meanwhile, Ur, who had been struggling ever since Alfonzo managed to put the anti-magic restraints on her, had a gag added to her restraints and was sitting next to Ultear, who was trying, and failing, to calm her down.

"So, can you tell us what set her off, now?" Lucy asked while stealing glances at Ur. "She's really scary when she's like this."

"*Sigh* Yeah..." Gildarts replied. Then, he slumped his shoulders and let his head hang. "It's because we woke up in bed together."

Hearing that, everyone in the room was thoroughly surprised. On top of that, having it mentioned again, Ur seemed to get even angrier. So angry, in fact, that Ultear, the one sitting closest to her, thought she could hear the anti-magic shackles starting to creak.

"You should have let him get beat up, Fonzie." Elicia said coldly.

"Yeah." Cana added. Then, in a thoroughly disappointed tone, she continued. "I knew you were kind of a man-whore, Dad. But I didn't think you'd take advantage of a drunk woman."

Not only Elicia and Cana, but all the women in the room looked at Gildarts with blatant hostility. And just like her mother, Ultear was lowering the temperature of the room with the release of her magic power.

"Take it down a notch, Tear." Alfonzo said casually, seeming unbothered by all the hostility the women were leaking into the room. "Please, don't freeze over my house."

Glancing at Alfonzo, Ultear eventually followed his request and reeled in her magic power. However, her hostility did not diminish in the slightest.

"Anyway, I think there is a bit of a misunderstanding at play here." Alfonzo said, causing all the hostile glares in the room to switch to him.

"Are you defending that asshole?" Ultear growled. "Alfonzo, I thought you were better than that."

"Yeah, especially after... that... happened." Erza added, sounding disappointed.

Although it was most likely unintentional, Elicia was hit with the splash-damage from Erza's statement. On top of that, most of the mansion's guests were unclear of what she was talking about. Even so, the women in the room continued heaping harsh words on Alfonzo for seemingly sympathizing with Gildarts.

"Are you all done yet?" Alfonzo asked calmly.

Immediately, though he did not flare his magic power or pressure them with his aura, Alfonzo's words caused everyone to fall silent.

"Good." Alfonzo said, still having not changed his expression. "Now, why don't you all look at what Ur and Gildarts are wearing."

Following Alfonzo's instructions, everyone in the room, including Gildarts and Ur, looked at what the older wizards were wearing. However, they did not notice anything strange about it.

"They're wearing the same stuff they wore yesterday." Natsu said with a confused expression on his face. "So, what's weird about that."

"Well, I didn't expect you to get it, anyway." Alfonzo replied casually.

"Are you calling me dumb?" Natsu shot back.

"No, not this time, Natsu." Alfonzo replied. "You're just inexperienced with this kind of thing."

"What kind of thing?" Natsu asked, sounding even more confused than before.

"Well, if you really wanna know, you should ask Lisanna." Alfonzo replied with a mischievous grin. "I think she would be happy to teach you."

Just as fast as Alfonzo's words ended, Lisanna's face lit up in a scarlet red hue. Meanwhile, Natsu began to shudder violently. When it comes to Lisanna teaching him anything, the only point of reference was when she taught him how to dance the night before.

"Would you stop teasing my little sister and get to the point?" Mirajane asked in an aggressive tone.
"Because it sounds like you're trying to divert our attention."

"*Sigh* You all really are letting your anger cloud your judgement." Alfonzo said in an exasperated tone.

"Quit stalling and just tell us!" Ultear shouted.

"Fine..." Alfonzo replied exasperatedly. "*Sigh* It's too early in the morning for this shit."

Hearing that, the women in the room were about to start raging again. However, Alfonzo continued before they could.

"If Gildarts did what you all are thinking he did, then why are both he and Ur dressed?" Alfonzo asked.

"That's obvious, because they put on clothes before they came out here." Marin said. "Why else would they be dressed."

"And with Ur like that..." Alfonzo said as he pointed at Ur. "Do you really think there was time for either of them to put on clothes?"

Then, before anyone could respond, Alfonzo turned his attention to Ultear.

"And have you forgotten what your mother gets like when she's pissed off, Tear?" Alfonzo asked, sounding more tired as he went on. "Would she stop to put on clothes if she was mad enough to start

attacking with her magic? Or did you forget about that one time we showed up at her house unannounced?"

When Alfonzo asked his first question, Ultear wanted to retort. However, he continued without giving her a chance to. But when Alfonzo brought up his next point, she froze completely. Then, she could not help but start giggling as she thought about Alfonzo's panicked expression while he ran away from her completely nude mother as she tried to freeze his dick off.

Not only Ultear, but Elicia, Cana, and Erza also could not help but start to giggle as they remembered the story Ultear told them on their way back from Akane Beach.

Meanwhile, everyone else in the room, who did not know the story, could only look on in confusion. However, after remembering what happened to Ultear after Ur found out that she told the story, no one intended to explain in any greater detail.

"Good, at least some of you understand." Alfonzo said with a nod. "Now, I ask you again, look at what those two are wearing. Then, tell me if what you think happened could have happened."

Once again, Elicia, Cana, Ultear, and Erza looked at what Gildarts and Ur were wearing. Then, after thinking back on that story again, they all shook their heads.

"It's not possible." Cana said.

"Indeed." Erza nodded in agreement. "It seems Alfonzo was right. We allowed our anger over the perceived situation to cloud our judgement."

"I think we owe Fonzie an apology, too." Elicia said as she looked at Alfonzo apologetically.

"But if he didn't take advantage of my mom, then what happened?" Ultear asked. "I mean, why else would they wake up in bed together."

With Elicia, Cana, Ultear, and Erza getting their anger under control, the other women in the room also calmed down. However, they were still confused. Especially since Gildarts reputation as a womanizer was widespread.

"Well, why don't we ask the man himself." Alfonzo replied, switching the focus of the conversation back to Gildarts. "So, what happened last night, Old Man?"

"*Sigh* Honestly, I'm not even sure." Gildarts replied while shaking his head. "After Cana wasn't the last to fight for the bouquet, Me and Gozaburo started throwing back drinks happily."

"Seriously, Dad?" Cana asked exasperatedly.

Meanwhile, Sun reddened in embarrassment.

"Anyway, by the time everyone went home, I had drank a lot." Gildarts continued. "A whole lot. And after leaving, I remember walking with Gozaburo, Ren, and Ur until the Setos reached their mansion. Then, after saying goodbye to them, everything is blank."

"Seriously?" Alzack muttered. "For someone like Gildarts to get blackout drunk, just how much does he have to drink."

"Hmph! Featherweight." Cana snorted in disdain. "I'm pretty sure I drank more than you last night, Dad. And I didn't black out."

"I don't think that's the point, Cana." Marin said while smiling wryly.

"Anyway, the next thing I knew, I got slapped and woke up in Ur's bed. And the first thing I saw was her super-pissed off face." Gildarts said, ignoring his daughter's jab. "At first, I just tried to back away from her. But when I did, I accidentally backed into a wall... And walked right through it... Then, she completely lost it and started to attack. On top of that, I think she completely froze over the house when I got away."

"Wait, seriously?" Ultear asked in a horrified tone. "But what about Wendy? She still lives with Mom?"

After hearing that, most of those present paled immediately.

"You all don't have to worry about that." Elicia said with a smile. "I saw her leave with that girl, Beth, from Mermaid Heel last night. So, I bet she spent the night with her."

"Still, we should keep an eye on her." Alfonzo said. "Master Tsunade really took a liking to Wendy when she was studying under her. So, I'm sure she's made a few poaching attempts since the reception started yesterday."

After that, Alfonzo turned his attention to Ur.

"So, like I said, unless you two are weirdos who have a thing for getting it in with all your clothes on, there's probably been a misunderstanding." Alfonzo said before turning his attention to the crowd as a whole. "Because it sure as hell doesn't sound like the two of them had time to get dressed before Ur lost her shit. At the very least, Gildarts didn't."

Hearing Alfonzo's explanation, everyone finally started putting two and two together. On top of that, both Ur and Gildarts were now sporting embarrassed expressions.

A moment later, after seeing Gildarts and Ur's expressions, Alfonzo shrugged his shoulders while smiling mischievously as he continued.

"Then again, I have no idea what kind of weird kinky shit you two are into." Alfonzo said with a grin. "So, I could be totally wrong."

With that, Gildarts and Ur's embarrassed expressions turned into glares.

"My mom's weird kinks aside, can you let her go now?" Ultear asked while trying to stifle her giggles. "I don't think she's gonna go on a rampage anymore."

Shrugging his shoulders in response, Alfonzo dispelled the metal restraining Ur.

Then, as soon as she was free, Ur looked at Gildarts with a complicated gaze. Then, she glared at her daughter. And finally, she looked at Alfonzo apologetically.

"Sorry, Kid." Ur said awkwardly. "I'm sorry for causing trouble and almost hitting your new house... with... my... Ahh~~~~~! My house! It fell apart after I froze it over!"

Hearing that, everyone in the room had to do everything they could to not laugh at Ur's misfortune. Meanwhile, Gildarts looked at Ur in disbelief.

"Shouldn't I get an apology, too?" Gildarts said. "I mean, I got hunted down unjustly, right?"

"Well, you were in Ur's bed when she woke up this morning, Dad." Cana said as she patted her father on his shoulder. "And with your reputation, it makes perfect sense why she'd act like that. But for what it's worth, I'm sorry I doubted you."

Hearing that, Gildarts started to tear up. Then, he lunged towards Cana to hug her tightly. Unfortunately, she dodged away quickly.

"Cana, why." Gildarts asked in a forlorn tone.

"Because you're over reacting." Cana replied before taking a sip from her flask.

Meanwhile, Wendy, who had spent the night with Beth as Elicia said, was walking with Carla and Beth through the streets of Magnolia. Just like she promised before leaving Mermaid Heel's headquarters, she was showing her around the town.

"Master is really persistent, huh?" Beth asked with a wry smile while taking in Magnolia's sights. "She's been trying to get you to leave Fairy Tail since the moment we arrived at your guildhall the day before yesterday."

"Yeah..." Wendy replied with a wry smile. "I mean, I'm flattered, but I don't wanna leave Fairy Tail."

"Besides, I don't want you to pick up that woman's bad habits." Carla said with her arms crossed.

"Carla! Stop treating me like a little kid." Wendy protested.

With that, Wendy and Carla started to bicker. Meanwhile, Beth watched them with a smile. Like that, Wendy and Carla continued showing Beth around the town.

"By the way, why was it so cold earlier?" Beth asked as the trio rounded a corner.

"It's probably because Master Ur got mad about something." Wendy replied. "I mean, that happens every time someone spills her wine. Anyway, this is where... I... live... with..."

Before Wendy could finish introducing the next landmark, Ur's house, her words trailed off. Instead of the two story, three bedroom house she was used to seeing, there was only a pile of ice fragments. And for some weird reason, all the clothes Elicia had made for her, Carla, and Ur were completely undamaged, encased in protective blocks of ice.

"Master Ur... what happened to our house?" Wendy asked as she fell to her knees in disbelief. "And where are we gonna live now?"

In response, Beth could only pat Wendy on the shoulder consolingly. Meanwhile, Carla looked just as lost as Wendy.

Chapter 406: Selling More Training Chambers

"So, what are you gonna do about your house?" Ultear asked as she and the residents from the mansion walked with Ur to where her house used to be.

"*Sigh* I'll either have to get it rebuilt or buy a new one." Ur replied in a downcast tone. "And the worst part is that I couldn't get it insured. Damn that Gildarts Clause!"

"Well, can you really blame the insurance companies on that one?" Elicia asked with a wry smile. "I mean, he destroys everything."

"Yeah, I know." Ur replied, sounding even more depressed. "Damn that Gildarts!"

"Well, maybe it's not as bad as you remember, Ur." Alfonzo said consolingly. "I mean, you were pretty pissed off. So, you might have remembered it wrong."

As those words left Alfonzo's mouth, the group rounded the corner nearest Ur's house. And when they saw the pile of ice shards, the two little girls, and the cat, all their mouths fell open in surprise.

"Or not..." Alfonzo muttered in a disbelieving tone.

Hearing the approaching group, Beth, who had been trying to console Wendy and Carla, turned her head back towards the corner.

"Oh, it's Master Ur." Beth Said with an awkward smile on her face.

Hearing Ur's name, Wendy slowly turned to look up at Beth. Then, when she saw that Beth was looking behind her, she also turned to look in that direction. And as soon as she caught sight of Ur, while seemingly not even registering the other nine people's presences, Wendy's eyes were filled with tears.

"Master, what happened to our house?" Wendy asked in a tearful tone.

Seeing the tears in Wendy's eyes and hearing her tone, the nine young adults looked at Ur reproachfully.

"She made the loli cry." Alfonzo said in a tone filled with disappointment.

"*Sigh* Just what kind of monster raised me?" Ultear asked, looking as if she were mortified.

In response, Elicia and Marin wrapped Ultear in a hug.

"Don't worry, Tear." Elicia said in a soothing tone. "You're not your mother."

"Yeah, you would never make a little girl cry like that." Marin added.

While Cana, Mirajane, Sun, and Lucy tried not to laugh aloud, Erza looked at Wendy and Carla with concern. Ur, on the other hand, felt her left eyebrow twitching violently. However, she managed to push down her agitation. She had already gone on a rampage once today. And she didn't want to make a repeat of that over a little prank.

Ignoring all the teasing, Ur stepped forward until she was standing directly in front of Wendy and Carla. Then, she crouched down and drew them into a hug.

"I'm sorry, girls." Ur said gently. "I lost control, and this is what happened. But I promise to find the two of you a place to live until I can have the house rebuilt. On top of that, I'll take care of any rent you have to pay for the duration."

Hearing that, although they were still sad that their home was destroyed, Wendy and Carla nodded in agreement with Ur's consolation. Before they could comment on it, however, Alfonzo cut in.

"I think there's a quicker solution to that problem." Alfonzo said, cutting in on the conversation. "I mean, there's a pretty good lake side property that I know of whose owners just recently upgraded."

While Wendy and Carla's eyes lit up at the insinuation, Ur shuddered. Although the thought of living in Alfonzo and Elicia's old mansion was tempting, she could only imagine how much she would be charged for it.

"If you're interested, me, you, and Lici can talk about price later." Alfonzo continued with a wide smile after seeing Ur, Wendy, and Carla's reactions. "For now, we should probably rush to the guild. I bet there are a lot of people there already."

'If judging by the looks in Wendy and Carla's eyes, there's no way Ur will be able to refuse.' Alfonzo thought as he took in the expressions of the three. 'But I guess we'll throw her a bone, this time. I'm sure Lici will agree to selling the old spot at the price we paid for it... If only for Wendy and Carla's sake.'

"Yeah, we should get going." Ur said while smiling wryly. "I'm sure all the guests are wondering where we are. Plus, you need to talk to the representatives from Blue Pegasus, Lamia Scale, Quattro Cerberus, and the Village Hidden in the Leaves about those training chambers."

"Damn it, I completely forgot about that." Alfonzo muttered.

"Yeah, but what about training?" Lucy asked.

"He probably won't have time for that." Ur replied with a shrug while smiling at Alfonzo with a sense of schadenfreude. "If it's anything like when he negotiated with Lady Tsunade, it will probably take a while."

"You know this is your fault, right, Ur?" Alfonzo asked while deadpanning.

"Sorry, what do you mean?" Ur asked while trying to look as innocent as possible.

"*Sigh* I guess she's still sour from losing our fight earlier this morning, huh?" Alfonzo said as he turned around.

Immediately upon hearing what Alfonzo had to say, Ur froze. Meanwhile, Wendy, Carla, and Beth looked at Ur with curiosity.

"Master, did you fight with Alfonzo today?" Wendy asked with curiosity shining in her eyes.

"*Sigh* We can talk about that later." Ur said after sighing resignedly. "For now, we need to hurry to the guild hall, it's already past time for you and Little Elicia's training."

"Okay." Wendy replied with a nod. Though, it was obvious she was interested to know the details of Alfonzo and Ur's fight.

With that, the entire group returned to the guild hall. And just like Ur suggested, Alfonzo was called away from everyone else as soon as they entered. So, while he went to talk to the guild masters and representatives who wanted him to install training facilities, Elicia led the other girls up to their preferred training rooms on the sixth floor to start today's training.

"Alfonzo, my boy." Makarov said as Alfonzo approached the bar. "These old guys want to talk to you about getting some new training facilities."

"*Sigh* I can't even get a day away from work after my wedding, huh?" Alfonzo grumbled as he took a seat at the bar with Makarov, Bob, goldmine, and Ooba. "Anyway, it's nice to see all of you again. Oh, and Gramps, how is it being on the magic council?"

"Damn brat." Makarov muttered after seeing Alfonzo's cheeky smile.

"It's good to see you, too." Bob said while batting his eyes at Alfonzo. "So, have you given any thought to my proposal about switching guilds? You and your ladies would fit in a whole lot better with the beautiful people in my guild, after all."

"Bob, can you please stop trying to poach Fairy Tail's most talented wizard?" Makarov asked in an annoyed tone.

"Oh, calm down, Maki." Bob said while smiling playfully. "I was thirty percent joking."

"That means you were mostly serious!" Makarov shouted back.

"As much as I appreciate the offer, Master Bob." Alfonzo said politely, though he was reeling internally from Bob's flirtatious behavior. "But Fairy Tail has done so much for me. And I would never be able to forgive myself if I turned my back on it."

Hearing that, Bob pouted visibly while biting his left thumbnail. Meanwhile, Makarov was almost brought to tears.

"I think it's time to stop, Bob." Goldmine said, a hint of amusement in his tone. "If you keep going, Alfonzo will keep heaping praise on Fairy Tail, and Makarov looks like he's about to cry because of it. And no one wants to see that."

"Fine~~~." Bob whined in response.

"Anyway, I heard that you three would like to purchase some training facilities, right?" Alfonzo asked, pretending he did not see Bob's reaction.

"That's right." Ooba replied with a nod.

"Exactly." Goldmine said.

"Yes." Bob replied, his expression turning into one that would be expected of the master of a prestigious guild.

"Then, let's get down to business." Alfonzo said as he placed his elbows on the bar top and interlocked his fingers together. "Master Ooba Babasama, how many training chambers were you looking to purchase? And do you have a preference about size?"

With Alfonzo's change in atmosphere, the three guild masters exchanged glances, realizing they would not be getting any concessions for having a prior relationship with Makarov. Then, in a last-ditch effort, they all turned their heads in Makarov's direction, hoping to get him to speak on their behalf.

Unfortunately for the three guild masters, Makarov had somehow gotten so drunk that he was incapable of proper speech in the short time that they had taken to exchange glances.

Realizing things would not be as easy as they thought, and because she was the first one Alfonzo named, Ooba stood from her seat at the bar while sighing resignedly.

"Why don't we go and discuss this somewhere more private." Ooba said in a solemn tone.

"Sure." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "I was actually only trying to get a feel for the work's expected time frame with those questions. But if you want to go into the details right now, I'm okay with that, too. Let's go to Ur's office, she should be up there training Wendy and Elicia. Then, when she's done, we can talk there."

Nodding in response, Ooba followed Alfonzo to the elevator.

Meanwhile, Tsunade, who was watching Alfonzo negotiate with the other guild masters, could not help but feel a sense of schadenfreude when she saw the expressions on their faces.

"Ha! It feels good to see him rip off someone else." Tsunade said with a brilliant smile.

"Tsuna, did he really rip off Mermaid Heel?" Ritsu asked after taking a sip of sake.

"Of course he did." Tsunade replied, not losing her smile. "Because of him, I'm in debt again."

"It would seem you've forgotten exactly why you're in debt, Tsuna." Ritsu replied as she smiled gently at Mermaid Heel's fifth guild master.

Immediately after seeing Ritsu's smile, Tsunade began to pale.

"No, of course not, Master Ritsu." Tsunade replied with an ugly smile. "I was only kidding. I know it's my fault that I'm in debt. Ha ha ha... I guess my joke fell a little flat, huh?"

Instead of replying immediately, Ritsu continued to smile gently at Tsunade. In turn, Tsunade grew more pale over time. Meanwhile, the other ladies from Mermaid Heel shook their heads in unison.

"Besides, don't you have to negotiate with him again, Lady Tsunade?" Anko asked with a mischievous grin. "Didn't Lord Third appoint you the representative for the village in this manner?"

Once again, Tsunade froze. Then, she picked up her bottle of sake and started chugging.

"Lady Tsunade, what are you doing?" Shizune asked in a panicked tone.

At the same time, the other wizards of Mermaid Heel could only shake their heads once again. Meanwhile, Anko wore an expression that said: "Maybe I shouldn't have said that." Ritsu, on the other hand, decided that she would not bother, this time. Tsunade would not be representing Mermaid Heel, after all.

During the time Alfonzo and Ooba were up in Ur's office discussing their deal, the wizards from Fairy Tail ended their training. Then, about an hour after that, the elevator doors opened again and Ooba returned to the main hall on the guild hall's first floor. And when she did, the first thing Makarov, Bob, and Goldmine noticed was the frustrated expression on her face.

"So, how did it go?" Goldmine asked casually once Ooba returned to the bar.

"That boy is unyielding." Ooba replied in a huff. "Plus, he's strong enough to shrug off my [Spinning Magic] with very little effort."

"Really, Ooba?" Makarov asked in a disbelieving tone. "You tried to make him [Spin] because you were unhappy with the price?"

"No, the price was completely fair." Ooba replied while shaking her head as she took her seat. "I wanted to make him spin it for me because of when he said he would do the job."

"What do you mean?" Bob asked curiously.

"I wanted him to start the job this year." Ooba said after ordering a glass of wine. "But he said he would have to wait until after the new year. He said he did not want to miss the Harvest Festival or the S-Class exam."

"Well, those are pretty big deals for Fairy Tail." Goldmine replied with a shrug.

"I know that." Ooba said. "But missing just one person won't kill them."

"Well, since the Battle of Fairy Tail tournament will be happening again before the Phantasia Parade, it makes sense, doesn't it?" Makarov asked before taking a swig from his mug of ale. "He and his team are the returning champions, after all. So, he needs to defend that title."

"You think I don't know that?" Ooba shot back. "Do you wanna [Spin It] for me, Makarov?"

While she spoke, Ooba twirled her right index finger in the air threateningly.

"I'd rather not." Makarov replied while looking away. "I've had way too much to drink to not puke."

Snorting at Makarov in reply, Ooba turned her attention to Goldmine.

"Anyway, how long will the job take?" Bob asked curiously.

"Two months." Ooba replied, picking up the glass of wine she ordered. "He said he would start the work in January. I guess that will give me enough time to get the space under the guild hall expanded, at least. Oh, and he asked me to tell you to come up next, Goldmine."

"*Sigh* Although I really want those training chambers, especially after seeing them for myself, I almost want to give up on them." Goldmine said in a tone of lament as he stood from his seat at the bar. Then, he picked up his drink and finished it in one go before he continued. "I have to figure out what to do with Bacchus while Alfonzo is at our guild hall. But it's not like I can tell him not to come to the guild for the duration."

"Well, as long as you can keep him away from Alfonzo, there shouldn't be a problem, right?" Makarov asked.

"If only it were that simple." Goldmine replied as he started walking towards the elevator. "Anyway, I'll see you all later."

Chapter 407: The Negotiations Continue

Around two minutes after leaving his old friends at the bar, Goldmine arrived in Ur's office. And as soon as he did, he saw Ur sitting behind her desk and Alfonzo sitting on one of the couches with a notepad in his hands.

"Master Goldmine, how are you enjoying your stay in Magnolia?" Ur asked while smiling pleasantly.

"It's been great." Goldmine replied, returning the small talk. "Just being back has a sense of nostalgia, as well."

"I can imagine." Ur replied. "As one of the old man's teammates, I would assume you spent quite a bit of time in this town."

Like that, Ur and Goldmine exchanged pleasantries for the next few minutes. However, the conversation eventually ended, and Goldmine focused his attention on Alfonzo. And just like with Ooba Babasama, the negotiations did not take all that long. Around two hours in total. Because like Ooba, Goldmine also thought the price Alfonzo offered was fair. So, there was not much in the way of back and forth.

"So, for twelve training chambers, I estimate the work to take about two months." Alfonzo said as the negotiations drew to a close.

"Considering the time frame Ooba mentioned, I was expecting as much." Goldmine replied with a nod.
"So, when do you think you'll be able to get started?"

"That depends." Alfonzo said as he laid his notepad on the coffee table. "Do you want yours installed next year, too?"

"That would be preferable." Goldmine replied with a nod.

"*Sigh* I'm gonna be really busy next year, huh?" Alfonzo asked himself while smiling wryly. "I bet Master Bob will request the same thing."

"Good Guess." Goldmine replied with a shrug.

"*Sigh*" Alfonzo could only sigh tiredly. "And I can only imagine what kind of facilities my last client will want."

'That will probably be a big fucking job.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'I mean, it's one thing to install these training chambers in a guild hall. But to install them in and around an entire village will be a shit ton of work.'

"Anyway, we have something just as, if not more, important to talk about, Master Goldmine." Alfonzo said, his lethargic aura being replaced by one that was much sharper.

"*Sigh* I know what you're about to say." Goldmine said, raising his sun glasses to rub the bridge of his nose. "But honestly, I don't know what to do about Bacchus during your trip to our guild. It's not like I---"

"Yeah, I get it." Alfonzo said, cutting off Goldmine's words. "There's no way you can tell him to not show up at the guild while I'm there. But I actually want the opposite, for now."

"What do you mean?" Goldmine asked with his eyebrows furrowing slightly.

Even Ur, after hearing Alfonzo's tone, could not help but frown slightly.

"*Sigh* As much as I think this is a bad idea, Lici said she wanted to come with me on my trip to Quatro Cerberus." Alfonzo said, his sharp aura being replaced with a tired one. "And she won't take no for an answer."

"Absolutely not!" Ur shouted, inserting herself into the conversation. "Does she have any idea what kind of trouble this could cause if things get out of hand?"

"Yeah, that's what I told her, too." Alfonzo replied. "Especially after Guy told me that Bacchus was back on his old dumb shit at the reception yesterday."

"Then, that's even more of a reason for her to not go." Ur said as she stood up explosively from behind her desk. "I guess I need to go have a talk with her."

"Hold on a second, Master Ur." Goldmine said while adjusting his sunglasses. "And why does she want to come with you, Alfonzo?"

"*Sigh* She said she wants to put an end to this shit with Bacchus once and for all." Alfonzo replied, sounding even more tired than before. "And although I agree with her, I get the feeling Bacchus is gonna make me kill him if they talk."

"*Sigh* I can see where you're coming from." Goldmine said, sounding just as tired as Alfonzo. "But this really does need to end... Without the death of my ace, of course."

"Either way, I still think I should have a talk with her." Ur said while shaking her head gently. "At the very least, I need to make sure that she can stop Alfonzo if things get too out of hand."

In response, Alfonzo could only smile wryly since he could not, in good faith, say that he would not let things go that far. Especially if Bacchus started spouting stuff about his wife loving another man. But at least with Elicia there, the chance of Alfonzo stopping before things went too far was higher than if she were not there... Or so he told himself.

"Anyway... back to the matter at hand." Alfonzo said, shaking his head to rid himself of the negativity.
"We can schedule the job to start in April, if that's okay with you."

"That's fine with me." goldmine replied.

"Good, that will give me around a month to relax, and maybe even take a quest or two, after I finish at Lamia Scale." Alfonzo said with a smile.

"Great." Goldmine said as he smiled as well. "That means we should expect you to be done around June."

"That's right." Alfonzo replied with a nod.

"Well then, I think we have a deal." Goldmine said, reaching his hand across the coffee table for a handshake as he did so.

With a smile, Alfonzo reached out and shook Goldmine's hand firmly. Then, once the handshake was done, Goldmine stood up.

"Well, since you need to negotiate with Bob, too, I'll head back downstairs." Goldmine said. "I'm sure you'd rather not have to be stuck in here any longer than necessary."

"Thanks." Alfonzo replied as he stood up as well. Then, alongside Goldmine, he walked towards the elevator.

Like that, Alfonzo pressed the elevator's call button. Then, once Goldmine was in the elevator, he reached inside and pressed the button for the ground floor.

"Now I'm really worried about your trip to Quattro Cerberus." Ur said once she was alone with Alfonzo.

"Actually, I didn't tell Goldmine the whole truth." Alfonzo said with a wry smile.

"What do you mean?" Ur asked curiously.

"Well, this time, it's not me he needs to worry about." Alfonzo said as he returned to his spot on the couch. "Lici's probably more dangerous than I am for Bacchus this time."

"Why would you say that?" Ur asked, standing from her desk as she did so. Then, she made her way over to the liquor cabinet in the corner and took two glasses off the shelf next to it. "Doesn't Lici usually just ignore that moron?"

"Yeah, that's usually the case." Alfonzo replied while watching Ur take a bottle of bourbon out of her liquor cabinet. "But she hasn't met him since that whole mess with Yoruichi. And since then, she's been really afraid of me not trusting her, so..."

"So, she's trying to squash anything that could be an element of mistrust, huh?" Ur asked as she uncorked the bottle.

"Yeah..." Alfonzo replied while smiling wryly. "And even though I take the time to consider her actions after all that shit. I've never questioned her love for me. And I'll be damned if I think she would leave me for some jack ass like Bacchus."

"Yeah, I'll admit that would be a real step down." Ur replied as she filled the two glasses. "Anyway, I get what you mean. Either way, I'm gonna have a talk with her. I really don't want that moron to end up dead."

"Yeah." Alfonzo replied.

After that, Ur gestured for Alfonzo to come over and take one of the glasses of bourbon, which he did. Then, when they both had a glass in hand, Ur raised her glass.

"I know I told you congratulations yesterday, Kid." Ur said. "But I raise this glass to you and Lici. I pray for your happiness together. And I know Bianca and Orlando are smiling down at you from heaven."

Raising his glass as well, Alfonzo gently clinked glasses with Ur before they both took a sip of their drinks.

"Thanks, Aunt Ur." Alfonzo said quietly while starting to tear up. "I really wish they could have been here to see how much we've grown up."

Instead of getting upset that Alfonzo referred to her as "Aunt," Ur set her glass down on her desk before walking around and pulling him into a hug.

Meanwhile, as Alfonzo and Ur shared an emotional moment, an alert appeared on the tablet on Ur's desk. However, neither Alfonzo nor Ur paid it any attention. Instead, they continued to talk about Bianca and Orlando, and how they would have reacted to all the things that happened this year.

"I can only imagine how Bianca would have punished Elicia and Yoruichi for the stunt they pulled back in March." Ur said with a nostalgic smile.

Instead of smiling along with Ur, Alfonzo shuddered violently. He actually imagined Bianca beating up both Elicia and Yoruichi after what they pulled, and his imagination was not pretty.

Meanwhile, down on the first floor, Bob was standing in front of the elevator with a confused expression on his face.

"Did they forget about me?" Bob muttered to himself while waiting for the elevator doors to open.

Eventually, Alfonzo and Ur ended their moment. Then, Ur operated the elevator for Bob. And just like Ooba and Goldmine, the negotiations did not last long.

To Alfonzo's surprise, Bob did not try to poach him... again. But when he glanced at Ur from the corner of his eye, he understood why rather quickly. The promise to freeze Bob solid that was present in Ur's eyes was enough to even make Alfonzo feel sorry for the Blue Pegasus guild master.

"Well, that should be everything, Master Bob." Alfonzo said as he put his notepad on the coffee table.
"I'll be there in July to install your training chambers."

"I'll make sure that everything is ready for you to get started when you arrive." Bob replied. Then, he stood up and reached across the coffee table for a hand shake. "A pleasure doing business with you."

Standing up as well, Alfonzo took Bob's hand. However, he slightly recoiled when Bob started rubbing the back of his hand with his thumb.

"Anyway... When you get back downstairs, could you ask Master Tsunade to come up?" Alfonzo asked as he quickly released Bob's hand. "I still have one more negotiation for today. *Sigh* And I'm sure this one won't go as smoothly as my negotiations with you, Master Goldmine, or Master Ooba Babasama."

"Alright." bob said with a smile. "I look forward to your visit."

As he finished his sentence, Bob winked at Alfonzo, causing him to shudder internally. Then, he turned towards the elevators, and while switching his hips, Bob walked into the elevator that Ur had opened remotely.

Then, once Bob was gone, Alfonzo and Ur exchanged glances.

"You know, I genuinely like Master Bob as a guild master." Alfonzo said, breaking the awkward silence.
"But he's a little too... eager to have me join his guild."

"Yeah, I know what you mean.' Ur replied with a wry smile.

At that moment, the tablet sounded with an alert.

"Well, it's almost over." Ur said as she operated the tablet to open the elevator door on the ground floor.

"Is it really, though?" Alfonzo asked while smiling wryly. "I bet Master Tsunade will haggle for every Jewel."

"Well, if it's anything like the last time, she probably will." Ur replied.

Less than a minute later, the elevator doors opened. However, instead of Tsunade, Alfonzo and Ur were surprised to see Ritsu and Shizune standing in the elevator.

"Don't take this the wrong way, Master Unohana, Shizune, but I wasn't expecting to see the two of you." Ur said in a confused tone. "Not that your visit is unwelcomed."

"*Sigh*" Ritsu replied, sighing in exasperation in place of words.

"I'm terribly sorry, Master Ur, Mr. Marcus..." Shizune said with her head lowered after she and Ritsu stepped out of the elevator.

"You can just call me Alfonzo." Alfonzo said, interrupting Shizune mid-speech. "And if it's alright with you, I'll just call you Shizune."

"Uh... Sure. That's fine with me." Shizune replied.

"So, what do you need to apologize for, Shizune?" Ur asked. "Though, for some reason I think I know what it is."

"*Sigh* Unfortunately while waiting to be called, Lady Tsunade... drank too much..." Shizune replied, her voice growing quieter with every word. "And if possible, I'd like to ask if we can reschedule the negotiations for tomorrow?"

Sigh x 2

Instead of responding immediately, Alfonzo and Ur could only sigh, having expected something like that.

"If that's a problem, I can make Tsuna sober up and have the negotiations now." Ritsu said with a pleasant smile that leaked so much pressure that both Alfonzo and Ur went on guard.

"If you could, I'd appreciate it." Alfonzo replied with a wry smile. "I've been out of my mind busy since May. And I'd really like the opportunity to relax as soon as possible."

"Understandable." Ritsu said before she spun on her heels. "I'll return with Tsuna momentarily."

At the same time, Ur, not wanting to delay Ritsu after feeling the pressure her gentle smile radiated, quickly opened the elevator doors.

"Lady Tsunade, I want to feel sorry for you." Shizune muttered. "Unfortunately, you brought the coming punishment upon yourself."

Chapter 408: An Invitation from the Village Hidden in the Leaves

Not even five minutes after Ritsu left Ur's office, the elevator doors opened again. And just like she promised, Ritsu had returned accompanied by Tsunade. However, if the tears at the corners of Tsunade's eyes were any indication, she did not have a nice trip up to the top floor of the Fairy Tail guild hall.

On top of that, Tsunade's hands were covered in the green glow of her [Mystical Palm Jutsu] while rubbing her head and stomach. So, Alfonzo, Ur, and Shizune had no doubt that she would be sober enough to discuss business shortly.

"Would it have killed you to wait until tomorrow, Kid?" Tsunade grumbled as she walked towards the couch opposite Alfonzo.

Rolling his eyes in response, Alfonzo ignored Tsunade's discontent. Instead, he turned his head towards Ritsu.

"Thank you, Master Unohana." Alfonzo said as he bowed his head politely. "I really appreciate your help."

"Think nothing of it." Ritsu replied with her usual gentle smile. "But if you truly insist on thanking me, perhaps you could treat me to a home cooked meal."

'Wow, she didn't even wait until I insisted.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he raised his head.

"Sure, I think I can manage that." Alfonzo replied. "When do you and the members of Mermaid Heel plan on returning home?"

"The plan was to leave tomorrow after lunch." Ritsu replied with her smile broadening.

"Then, you should come have lunch with us at the mansion." Alfonzo replied with a smile of his own. Then, he turned his attention to Shizune. "In fact, you and all the girls downstairs should join us, too."

"Are you sure?" Shizune asked while stealing glances at Tsunade.

"Of course, I am." Alfonzo replied with a smile, consciously ignoring Tsunade.

"Great, we'll all get to eat the kid's cooking again." Tsunade, who was focused more on healing her intoxication said happily.

"Tsuna, I don't believe he mentioned you when he gave the invitations." Ritsu said in a gentle tone.

Immediately upon hearing what Ritsu had to say, Tsunade completely froze. Then, her eyes opened wide in disbelief. A moment later, she shot a scolding glare in Alfonzo's direction.

"Don't look at me like that, Master Tsunade." Alfonzo said with a neutral expression. "If it weren't for Master Unohana, you would have unilaterally rescheduled our appointment. So, why should I invite you to my home after you did something like that?"

Tsunade wanted to rage. However, no words came out of her mouth. She knew what Alfonzo said was right. And because she had sobered up quite a bit, she could not bring herself to say anything. Not to mention the punishment she would have more than likely received from Ritsu had she done so, as well.

"You should take this as another lesson about the value of discipline, Tsuna." Ritsu chided quietly.
"Perhaps you'll think of the consequences next time you decide to do something like this."

To that, Tsunade could only hang her head in frustration.

'Damn it, those girls are going to be insufferable after getting to eat his cooking while I'm stuck eating regular food.' Tsunade thought to herself. 'And I know they're not going to shut up about it until we get back to the guild, at least.'

"Anyway, now that I've brought Tsuna, I'll head back downstairs." Ritsu said with a smile. "I'm sure the girls will be thrilled to hear the good news."

Then, without waiting for a reply, Ritsu, with her usual gentle smile on her face, turned towards the elevator and started walking. And just like the last time she left Ur's office, the doors opened for her without her having to wait.

"You should go back, too, Shizune." Tsunade said after hearing the elevator doors close. "Unfortunately, your status is not high enough to participate in these negotiations."

"I understand, Lady Tsunade." Shizune said while bowing her head politely.

Then, like with Ritsu, Ur opened the elevator door for Shizune before sending it down to the ground floor.

As soon as Alfonzo, Ur, and Tsunade were alone in Ur's office, Tsunade's expression changed.

"Before we get started, let me confirm that the price for six training chambers the same size as the ones you installed in the Mermaid Heel guild hall will cost the same amount, correct?"

"That's right." Alfonzo replied with a nod, his expression turning solemn as well.

Hearing the expected response, Tsunade nodded her head.

"Then, there should be no issue with the indoor training areas." Tsunade said. "But most of the training grounds in the village are outdoors. On top of that, they are quite vast."

"Not to sound rude, but what do you want me to do with that information." Alfonzo asked with his eyes narrowed.

'The village isn't thinking of asking me to upgrade all the training grounds around the village in some way, are they?' Alfonzo asked himself. 'I mean, there are at least forty-five training grounds in the canon version of the village. And they're all fucking massive.'

"The village would like you to modify the outdoor training grounds as well." Tsunade replied, exactly the way Alfonzo thought she would.

"And what kind of terrain do these outdoor training grounds have?" Alfonzo asked, his brows furrowing as he spoke.

"All kinds." Tsunade replied. "Forests, plains, mountains, rivers, any kinda of terrain you would expect to see in Fiore." Tsunade replied.

"I bet you all don't have anything like Mt. Hakobe." Ur said, cutting into the conversation.

"That's right." Tsunade replied with a nod, not bothered in the slightest by Ur's interruption.

Alfonzo, on the other hand, had a bad feeling after seeing how calm Tsunade was when Ur pointed that out.

"But, if possible, we would like you to change that, Alfonzo." Tsunade continued.

'Yup, I saw that coming.' Alfonzo thought while not allowing his thoughts to show up on his face.

"*Sigh* And I know I'm gonna regret asking this, but how many training grounds are there in the village?" Alfonzo asked, almost dreading to hear the answer.

"There is a total of forty-seven." Tsunade replied.

"Damn..." Ur muttered.

"And do you have a map and a list of all the modifications you'd like for each training ground?" Alfonzo asked, expecting to receive a negative response.

"Unfortunately, I don't." Tsunade replied while shaking her head. "While I could tell you exactly what kind of modifications the village would like implemented, showing you a map is impossible. Because on the off chance that it was lost, it could be disastrous for us."

'I guess that's why Orochimaru was so high profile.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'The Village Hidden in the Leaves probably did not want information about the village to get out. That reminds me, I never heard about what happened to Orochimaru after Bradley took him away. I should ask Gramps about that later.'

"And how do you expect me to quote a price with no information?" Alfonzo asked.

Then, as if she were waiting for Alfonzo to say that, Tsunade smiled brightly.

"Allow me to invite you to visit the Village Hidden in the Leaves." Tsunade replied. "Though, we'll need you to take an oath of secrecy. We can't have you divulging the location, after all."

"Yeah, because everyone who went on that joint quest doesn't have at least some idea where the village is already." Alfonzo muttered while rolling his eyes.

Pretending she did not hear that, Tsunade took a mental note to have a long conversation with Guy about staying calm in all situations later.

"Well, I have a couple of questions about that." Alfonzo said. "First, will I be allowed to bring anyone with me? I mean, even without seeing the landscape, I know it would take at least a year to modify forty-seven training grounds. Not to mention, I'd still have to build all the indoor training chambers. And there's no way I'd want to be alone for that long."

"I would have to discuss that with the Hokage." Tsunade replied. "But I'm sure that could be arranged."

'Now that I think about it, who is the Hokage right now?' Alfonzo asked himself. 'Do the Tailed Beasts exist? If so, did Minato die during its attack? There's a lot I don't know about this world's version of the Naruto franchise. But if they do exist, could I become a Jinchuriki? No, on second thought, that sounds like a horrible idea. I already have two voices in my head that I can't get to shut the fuck up. Lord knows I don't need another one.'

["Fuck you!"] Riot and Bedlam shouted simultaneously.

"It would probably be best to discuss that with the Hokage yourself when you come to scout your work sights, though." Tsunade continued, completely unaware of Alfonzo's thoughts.

"Yeah, you're probably right." Alfonzo replied with a nod. "And when would be a good time to meet with your... Hokage? I said that right, right?"

"Yes, that's right." Tsunade replied.

"Cool." Alfonzo replied. "Then, when would be a good time to meet with the Hokage and survey the work zones?"

"I assume that means you intend to take the job?" Tsunade asked.

"Not necessarily." Alfonzo replied while shaking his head. "Until I see the scope of the work, I can't say so either way. But as long as what you want me to install and the time frame you want it completed by are reasonable, I don't think there will be a problem."

"I see." Tsunade said with an understanding nod. "I suppose I can't expect any more than that."

With that, Tsunade stood from her seat on the couch. Then, she extended her right hand across the coffee table for a handshake.

"I'll relay this conversation to the Hokage." Tsunade said. "And I'll get back to you with his response as soon as possible."

"Sounds good." Alfonzo replied as he also stood from the opposite couch. "I'll be waiting to hear from you, then."

With that, the surprisingly short meeting ended. However, Tsunade was still gripping Alfonzo's hand tightly with a rather pronounced pout on his face.

"Um... Master Tsunade, you can let go now." Alfonzo said while smiling wryly.

Instead of responding, Tsunade continued to hold Alfonzo's hand while staring up at him with a pout. On top of that, she was looking at him with upturned eyes, as well. Meanwhile, both Alfonzo and Ur knew exactly why she was acting this way.

'She really wants to come to lunch tomorrow with the other ladies from her guild, huh?' Alfonzo and Ur thought simultaneously.

"Unless you plan on giving her what she wants, you'll have to use force to get away." Ur said in an amused tone. "So, what are you gonna do, Kid?"

In response, Alfonzo turned his eyes away from Tsunade to glare at Ur. Even so, he still did not speak in the end.

"Don't look at me like that, Kid." Ur said with a wide smile on her face. "I didn't do anything."

Rolling his eyes, Alfonzo shifted his attention back to Tsunade.

'That expression should be criminal.' Alfonzo thought as he looked at Tsunade's upturned eyes and pouting face. 'She's way cuter than any woman her age has the right to be.'

Although Alfonzo did not say a word and only held eye contact with her, Tsunade could feel herself getting annoyed for some reason. So, without knowing why, she began tightening her grip on Alfonzo's hand.

Zap!

"Kya!" Tsunade yelped in surprise as she quickly released Alfonzo's hand.

Before she could squeeze too tightly, however, Tsunade was forced to let go when a low intensity arc of electricity ran across the surface of Alfonzo's hand.

"Anyway, since the negotiations are over for now, we should head downstairs." Alfonzo said with a smile. "I really wanna take some time to relax at some point today."

With that, Alfonzo turned and started walking towards the elevator. Meanwhile, Tsunade could only glare at him with discontent. Ur, on the other hand, was thoroughly flabbergasted that Alfonzo would use his magic to get out of such an insignificant situation.

Eventually, Tsunade, after bidding Ur good evening, followed Alfonzo into the elevator. Then, Alfonzo pressed the button for the ground floor. And all though the trip down was short, it was spent in awkward silence, with Alfonzo smiling brightly and Tsunade glaring at him with a rather pronounced pout.

When the elevator eventually reached the ground floor, both Alfonzo and Tsunade were surprised at what they saw after the doors opened. And the people standing outside the elevator, Elicia, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Sun, Wendy, Carla, Millianna, Kagura, Ritsu, Araña, Risley, and Beth were just as surprised to see Alfonzo and Tsunade standing behind the open elevator doors.

"Looks like you girls are about to do something interesting." Alfonzo said while scanning the faces of the people standing outside of the elevator.

"Yeah, Sun and Kagura are gonna have a little spar." Elicia replied energetically.

Hearing that, Alfonzo turned his gaze towards Kagura.

"I thought you wanted to fight either Mira or Marin." Alfonzo said.

"I was not the one who initiated this challenge." Kagura replied.

"Yup, it was me." Sun said happily as she raised her hand. "Millianna said that Kagura was a really strong swordswoman. So, I wanted to compare notes."

"I see." Alfonzo said with a nod. "And it looks like Kagura accepted. Well, mind if I watch, too?"

"Not at all." Sun replied happily.

"I don't mind either." Kagura added.

"Cool, then let's take it up to the tenth floor, then." Alfonzo said as he pressed the open button.

"I think I'd like to see this, too." Tsunade said as she stepped back and crossed her arms under her breasts."

With that, the group of fifteen broke into two groups before boarding the elevator in turns to head up to the tenth floor for the sparring match.

Chapter 409: Sing

Standing in the middle of the large training room on the tenth floor of the Fairy Tail guild hall were Sun and Kagura, both in their combat stances.

"I assume no one will object to me taking the role of referee for this match, correct?" Ritsu, standing against a wall at the center line between Sun and Kagura asked.

In response, the other twelve wizards in the room, Alfonzo, Elicia, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Wendy, Carla, Milliana, Tsunade, Araña, Risley, and Beth shook their heads.

"Very well then." Ritsu said with a nod. Then, she turned her attention back to Sun and Kagura. "Then, allow me to explain the rules... There are no rules. Anything goes. The loser will be decided when I have to intervene to save one of you from death or serious injury."

Hearing that, most of the Fairy Tail wizards wore surprised expressions, Alfonzo and Elicia being exceptions. Meanwhile, the ladies of Mermaid Heel seemed completely unbothered.

"Those are the same rules as when I had that duel with Sui-Feng." Elicia said.

At the same time, though Sun seemed taken aback by the rules, she nodded in agreement after seeing Kagura doing the same.

"Then..." Ritsu said after receiving nods from the fighters as she raised her right arm. Then, as she swung her arm down, Ritsu continued. "Begin!"

Immediately, Kagura, with her blade still sheathed, charged forward. Meanwhile, Sun, with her [Soul Armament] shirasaya held on her left hip, dropped into an iaido stance.

"Strong Form]." Kagura said, speaking the name of her technique as she thrust her sword forward.

'She practices the [Style of the Undrawn Long Sword], huh?' Sun said to herself while watching Kagura closely. 'Masa told me about it once. But this will be the first time I've ever seen it.'

In response, Sun stepped back with her left foot, allowing Kagura's thrust to miss her left shoulder by inches. Then, after stepping forward with her right foot, Sun unsheathed her sword... Or tried to.

"Water/Sword Compound Magic: First For---] huh?" Sun began to chant. Before she could complete her chant and draw her sword, however, she was forced to stop.

"Gravity Magic: Jupiter]." Kagura chanted as she reached out with her left hand and placed her palm on the pommel of Sun's shirasaya.

As a result of Kagura's actions, Sun was unable to draw her sword. Taking advantage of Sun's confusion, Kagura drew back her sword with her right hand and raised it over head.

"[Voice Magic: Howling Voice]." Sun chanted, snapping out of her surprised state before Kagura could swing her sword down.

Cancelling her attack, Kagura released her hand from Sun's hilt. Then, she grabbed her sheath with her left hand while placing Archenemy in a defensive position in front of her as she flowed as much magic power as she could into the sword.

In the next instant, Kagura was hit by Sun's spell, causing her to be blown back to the edge of the ring. However, thanks to her quick reaction, she took very little damage. Though, she was slightly disoriented from the loud sound.

"When we saw her use that spell on that joint quest, she could only raise the gravity by ten times." Marin said in a surprised tone.

"Yeah, but from what I can tell, that was at least sixty times normal gravity." Mirajane said.

"On top of that, she focused all the increased gravity on the thing she touched." Alfonzo said, narrowing his eyes in interest as he spoke.

Before the wizards could discuss Kagura's magic for too long, however, Sun drew her sword and dashed forward.

'I can't let her get close enough to touch my sword again.' Sun thought to herself as she ran forward. 'I don't know how she did it, but she only made my sword heavier.'

["Yeah, she's got really good control of her magic."] A cheerful voice said from Sun's inner world. ["This is gonna be really fun. I wonder if she'll be your friend after this."]

'I don't' know, but I hope so.' Sun thought as she reached the best position for her next attack.

Like most of the girls who had received their [Soul Armaments] from Alfonzo back in March, Sun could hear the voice of her [Armament Spirit]. Unfortunately, even to this day, Marin was the only one who had been able to release the first seal.

"[Water/Sword Compound Magic: Seventh Form: Drop Ripple Thrust]." Sun chanted as her movement speed increased dramatically.

Surprised by Sun's increase in speed, Kagura opened her eyes a little wider. However, that was not enough to throw her off completely. So, just as Sun's blade entered her range, Kagura made an upward diagonal slash to parry Sun's blade and set up her next attack.

Clang!

"Water/Sword Compound Magic: Third Form: Flowing Dance]." Sun chanted as soon as her sword was parried.

"[Slashing Form]." Kagura said simultaneously, naming her next attack once Sun's blade had been cleared.

In the next instant, Kagura swung her blade down with a return slash. However, Sun avoided the slash with dance like footsteps as she returned a slash of her own.

Just like that, Sun and Kagura exchanged sword strikes with neither being able to land a blow on the other. While Sun elegantly weaved around all of Kagura's attacks, Kagura meticulously parried all of Sun's incoming slashes while delivering counterattacks whenever the opportunity presented itself.

"That girl is really good." Risley said in an impressed tone.

"Yeah, I've never seen anyone other than Master Unohana who could keep up with Kagura in a sword fight before." Araña added.

In response, the other ladies from Mermaid Heel nodded their heads in agreement.

Meanwhile, Ritsu watched the ongoing spar with keen interest.

'That girl from the Seto family is quite impressive.' Ritsu thought to herself as she watched Sun and Kagura move around the ring. 'Yet another one I'd like to train properly. Though, it's clear that she has quite the excellent foundation. I would like to talk to the one who trained her, as well.'

As that thought finished, Ritsu glanced away from the match for a moment, her eyes falling on Erza, who was watching with rapt attention.

'Then there's that one.' Ritsu thought to herself. 'She looks like she wants to jump in and fight, too. Plus, I can see that sword on her hip. And it looks different from the one I saw half a year ago. Did she already release its first seal? I would like to see that.'

Looking back to the ring, Ritsu was just in time to see Kagura make her move.

"Gravity Magic: Moon]." Kagura chanted as she swung her sword upward to defend from Sun's overhead strike.

Clang!

To Sun's surprise, once her sword made contact with Archenemy's sheath, it became six times lighter, completely throwing off her balance.

'Uh-oh! This is bad.' Sun thought to herself. 'She doesn't need to use just her hands to change an object's gravity.'

["Do something fast, Sun!"] The [Armament Spirit] shouted. ["If you don't, you're gonna lose."]

'I know.' Sun replied internally.

"[Slashing Form]." Kagura said as she once again brought her sword down with a return thrust.

Reacting quickly, Sun was able to dodge Kagura's slash by spinning with the momentum of her sword. Then, some of her long hair was cut. A moment later, the decreased gravity effecting her sword wore off. Then, she continued her spin as her sword was coated in [Water Magic].

"Water/Sword Compound Magic: Second Form: Lateral Water Wheel]." Sun chanted as she slashed horizontally.

"[Crawler Style]." Kagura said as she quickly dropped down below Sun's slash.

As soon as Sun's blade had cleared Kagura's head, Kagura, who had planned to perform a rising thrust was forced to jump backwards to avoid the heel kick Sun had thrown. Otherwise, with a merfolk's physical strength, Kagura might have found herself unconscious with a concussion.

"Wow! I thought Kagura had her." Beth said excitedly with her hands clenched in front of her chest .

"No way! Sun is strong." Wendy countered. "She won't lose so easily."

Meanwhile, both Sun and Kagura had retaken their stances.

"It looks like we will be here all night at this rate." Kagura said stoically.

"Yeah, but this is really fun." Sun said with a bright smile.

"It is." Kagura replied with a slight smile gracing her lips. "But this can't go on forever."

With that, Kagura flared her magic power to the limit. Then, she slowly drew her sword from its sheath, revealing the shiny, unblemished, silvery blade of a nodachi.

"[Take Revenge, Archenemy]." Kagura chanted.

In the next instant, Kagura's magic power exploded to five times its normal amount. At the same time, her sword, Archenemy, was covered in a swirling mass of black and purple magic power.

"Are you fucking serious?" Alfonzo asked as he leaned forward with his eyes open wide. "It was a Zanpakuto?"

'Then again, I guess it makes sense.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he briefly glanced at the gently smiling Ritsu. 'At first I thought Kagura only called Master Unohana Master because she was the former guild master. But if she's actually her disciple, being gifted an Asauchi isn't so far outside the realm of possibility.'

Not only Alfonzo was completely flabbergasted, but all the other wizards, other than Ritsu and Tsunade were just as confused.

'I never expected her to reveal that.' Tsunade thought to herself. 'I guess that girl, Sun, is better than I thought.'

'It would seem my disciple is unwilling to end things in a stalemate.' Ritsu said to herself as she watched Kagura. 'I'd expect nothing less from such a proud swordswoman. Now, the only question is can she push Sun far enough to break her own sea?'

'Whoa! That's so cool!' Sun exclaimed internally.

["Yeah, it really is!"] Sun's [Armament Spirit] exclaimed. ["Now I really want her to be your friend. I wonder what her [Spirit] is like. We have to ask Alfonzo or Maybe Master Unohana if there's a way for us to talk to other [Spirits]!"]

Though Sun and her [Armament Spirit] were both excited to see Kagura's Zanpakuto, neither of them dropped their guard. So, they both saw the moment when the magic power surrounding Kagura's blade dissipated.

Now, instead of holding a nodachi with a silver blade and black hilt, both Kagura's blade and hilt were black. On top of that, the blade's color was so dark that it was not even reflecting light.

"This is the first time I've been forced to use my Shikai outside of sparring with Master." Kagura said as she took her stance, Archenemy's tip pointed between Sun's eyebrows. "You are truly an incredible magic swordswoman. But now, I think it's time to end this. [Singularity]."

A moment later, a small orb of the same swirling black and purple magic power from before gathered on the tip of Kagura's blade.

'I have a guess what that is.' Sun thought to herself as she pulled her sword back into posture suitable for thrusting. 'And if that's what I think it is, letting her finish would definitely be bad.'

"[Water/Sword Compound Magic: Seventh Form: Drop Ripple Thrust]." Sun chanted as she launched herself forward.

Once again, when Sun was in range, she thrust her sword coated in pressurized [Water Magic] at Kagura's right shoulder. However, before it could reach its target, the tip of Sun's shirasaya was drawn towards Kagura's blade. More specifically, the small orb of [Gravity Magic] on its tip.

Ting!

Then, once the tips of the two blades connected, Sun's sword came to a complete stop.

"And now, let's bring this match to an end." Kagura said as she slowly raised her sword.

Unfortunately, because Sun's Sword was drawn to the [Singularity] at the tip of Kagura's blade, she was also forced to raise her sword, as well. And being around five inches shorter than Kagura, who stood at 5'9", she was also forced to over extend.

'I can't pull my sword away!' Sun exclaimed worriedly. 'If I can't find a way to back up, I'm gonna lose!'

["Yeah, there's only one way out of this."] Sun's [Armament Spirit] said quietly.

In Sun's inner world, a sea that stretched as far as the eye could see, a beautiful, well-endowed girl with salmon-pink hair tied into a ponytail, violet eyes, and a bright blue fish tail in place of legs was floating on the sea's surface and staring into the blue sky.

"If you can hear my name this time, Sun." The girl, Sun's [Armament Spirit] said softly. "I can't guarantee you'll win, but I know you'll still be in this fight. Now, say it! Say my name..."

Back in the real world, Kagura had raised Archenemy to its apex. However, before she could swing it down, Sun flared her magic power to its limit.

"[Sing, Kanade]." Sun changed in a melodic tone.

In the next instant, Sun's magic power exploded, much like Kagura's had before. Also, like Kagura, Sun's sword was covered in magic power, which was strong enough to force Kagura backwards and break the gravitational pull holding their swords together.

Chapter 410: New Home Exploration

Shortly after Sun chanted her release command, the light surrounding her shirasaya faded. However, instead of a shirasaya, Sun held something resembling a traditional katana.

Like most katana, the sword had a hilt covered in a bright blue wrapping and a handguard. However, instead of a single blade, it had a pair of blades extending parallel to each other from the handguard.

"That kinda looks like a tuning fork, doesn't it?" Elicia asked while looking at Sun's [Soul Armament] with curiosity.

"Yeah, but I think it makes sense." Mirajane said. "You heard her release command, right? Sing."

"Yeah, but now I wanna know what it can do." Marin said excitedly.

"Well, I think we're about to find out." Alfonzo said as he pointed at Sun, who was currently taking a deep breath.

"[Voice Magic: Howling Voice]."^{*} Sun chanted quietly.

In the next instant, Sun unleashed a scream. However, the sound did not spread. Instead, it seemed as if it were sucked into her [Soul Armament], Kanade. Then, once the last of the soundwaves were absorbed, she raised her sword over her head.

Scream!

In the next instant, Sun swung her sword at Kagura, releasing the entirety of her [Howling Voice] spell in a compressed slash.

Though she was surprised by the new form of attack, Kagura was quick to swing Archenemy in retaliation. As a result, a wave of black and purple magic power was fired from Kagura's blade.

A moment later, the two attacks met in the center of the two swordswomen's positions. And to everyone's surprise, there was no sound of collision. And the reason for that was simple. While the two attacks cancelled each other out, the gravity from Kagura's attack drew in Sun's soundwaves before it was dispersed.

However, before anyone could comment on the phenomenon, Kagura was forced to raise her sword in a defensive posture.

"[Water/Sword Compound Magic: Eighth Form: Waterfall Basin]." Sun chanted as she fell from near the ceiling of the training room.

As soon as Sun released her sound attack, she had already followed up by jumping high into the air, bypassing the two clashing attacks. Then while falling towards Kagura, she coated her double-bladed sword in a dense layer of [Water Magic].

Sun's next action was able to surprise Kagura once again, however.

Instead of simply allowing their blades to clash, Sun forced the water coating her sword to expand, attempting to engulf Kagura with a sphere of water.

'This isn't good.' Kagura thought.

"[Repulse]." Kagura chanted as she was covered in a film of [Gravity Magic] originating from Archenemy.

Clang~~~~~!

In the next instant, the two swords collided. As a result, the sound the collision created echoed around the training room. And had it not been for the barrier that kept the attacks in the ring, everyone, without exception, would have had to defend against the soundwaves.

"Damn, that's brutal." Alfonzo muttered as he watched the sphere of [Water Magic] engulfing Kagura ripple violently.

"What do you mean?" Risley asked curiously.

"Well, sound travels five times faster through water." Alfonzo explained. "On top of that, Sun uses sound as an attack. Meaning, that amplifies the power of her attacks, usually. However, it seems like her [Soul Armament], Kanade, can amplify the power of soundwaves even further. Though, until I hear about it from Sun, that's only a guess."

"Then, will Kagura be okay, meow?" Millianna asked in a worried tone.

"Yeah, she'll be fine." Tsunade replied. "She got up some kind of defensive barrier before their swords collided."

Just as Tsunade's words fell, the sphere of [Water Magic] exploded outwards. On top of that, Sun was forced backwards, as well.

Then, just as Sun landed on the floor, Kagura was already in front of her with Archenemy reeled back and ready to thrust.

"[Strong Form]." Kagura chanted as she thrust her sword forward.

Reacting quickly, Sun turned her sword upwards. Then, she raised it quickly.

Screech~~~~~!

Once again, the sound of the collision between the two weapons was amplified greatly. However, instead of parrying Kagura's attack, Sun caught Kagura's blade between the two blades of her sword and forced it upwards, causing Kagura's blade to just miss piercing her left shoulder. On top of that, Kagura was slightly disoriented by the close-range sound explosion.

"Damn it..." Kagura muttered as she saw Sun taking another deep breath.

"[Voice Magic: Howling Voice]." Sun chanted.

At the same time, Kagura released Archenemy's hilt with her right hand. Then, she coated it with a layer of [Gravity Magic] as she threw a punch at Sun's abdomen.

"[Gravity Magic: Saturn]." Kagura chanted.

"I think that's enough." Ritsu said, appearing next to Sun and Kagura with the use of the [Flash Step]. Then, in one motion, she thrust her Zanpakuto, Minazuki, in front of Sun's [Howling Voice] spell while catching Kagura's [Gravity Magic] enhanced punch with her left hand.

Clang!

Smack!

At the same time, both Alfonzo and Elicia also released the tension in their bodies. Like Ritsu, they had also determined that both Sun and Kagura would have ended up seriously injured had that exchange not been interrupted. So, while Alfonzo was planning to intervene in a manner similar to Ritsu, Elicia was ready to pull Kagura away with her threads before either attack could land.

"I guess we can call this one a draw." Alfonzo said as he deactivated the barrier around the sparring ring.

"Yes." Ritsu replied with a nod and a smile. "You both fought very well."

With that, Sun and Kagura reverted their swords back to their sealed states before sheathing them.

"Thank you Master." Kagura said while bowing politely.

"That was so fun!" Sun exclaimed happily. Then, she stepped forward with her eyes shining. "I would have never thought your sword was like mine. What was it called again? Um..."

"It's a Zanpakuto." Kagura replied. "Master gave me an asauchi after she accepted me as a disciple."

Meanwhile, the rest of the spectators approached the three standing in the ring.

"I guess I should find a way to hide the aura of the [Soul Armaments], too." Alfonzo muttered once he was standing next to Sun and Kagura. "I mean, it's not hard to feel the aura from our [Soul Armaments]. But I can't feel anything other than a normal sword when your Zanpakuto is sealed."

"I doubt that would be necessary." Ritsu replied. "The only ones who would be able to sense the power hidden in those weapons would be people who own similar weapons."

"I guess that makes sense." Alfonzo muttered.

With that, the group continued to chat about the match and the weapons. Then, while continuing to chat, they all made their way out of the training room before heading back downstairs.

Eventually, Alfonzo and the residents of the mansion decided it was time to go back home. And as soon as Alfonzo arrived, he said good night to all the ladies before heading up to his room and going to sleep.

Meanwhile, the ladies, Elicia, Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Sun, and Lucy decided to explore the new mansion, as they had not had time to do so, yet. And to make a long story short, they liked what they saw.

As previously mentioned, each of the ladies had their own bedroom. Surprisingly, however, they all only had one closet. Something that Elicia and Erza, the two with the most clothing, found disappointing.

However, when they stepped into the closets, all the complaints that were on the tips of their tongues disappeared at once. Considering Elicia and Erza's love for clothing, all the closets were packed with space expansion seals. Meaning, all the girls would be able to store an enormous amount of whatever they wanted to in their closets.

There was even a work station in Elicia's closet. Meanwhile, Cana's closet had a whole wine cellar. Then there were Erza and Marin's closets which had huge bookshelves for them to store all their reading material.

There were also six more bedrooms, which would be used as guest rooms. However, unlike the rest of the bedrooms, these rooms did not have any space expansion in the closets. There were even two halls of rooms that were specifically set aside for any future children Alfonzo may have with his future wives.

Then, there were the expected rooms. For example, the kitchen, living room, and bathrooms. There was also a large room that could be used as both a basketball court and a tennis court, with a magic device that could set up and take down the net from the tennis court.

And the last thing of note for the above ground floors was the grotto, an indoor/outdoor pool area with a retractable roof, an artificial waterfall, and a pool of varying depths that acted as the basin to the waterfall.

"How did he even come up with an idea like this mansion?" Cana, with a bottle of tequila in hand, asked while she and the other ladies piled into the elevator to explore the floors below ground.

"I don't know, but now I can see why he wanted to keep it a surprise." Ultear said with a sweet smile.
"This place is incredible."

"Yeah, but I still don't like the fact that he kept secrets from us." Marin said with a pout.

"You're just mad that he ignored your seduction attempt, Marin." Lucy said in a teasing tone.

"Shut up, Lucy!" Marin shouted while her cheeks reddened. "You couldn't seduce him into telling you, either."

"Yeah, but I'm not salty about it, though." Lucy shot back.

With that, all the girls laughed happily. Everyone except for Elicia, that is.

'At first I thought Fonzie came up with an amazing plan for a mansion on his own.' Elicia thought to herself. 'But after seeing the grotto, I know exactly where he got the idea from.'

["Yeah, that was kind of a dead giveaway."] Scylla replied.

'And that makes me wonder, why was he looking at Playboy?' Elicia asked.

["Maybe it was just a coincidence."] Scylla replied. ["I mean, we both know he didn't have any of their magazines in your apartment."]

'Yeah, I know.' Elicia replied. 'But still, I wanna know why he was looking at it in the first place.'

["He probably wasn't."] Scylla replied. ["I mean, there were shows about the most beautiful mansions in the world on TV all the time, right? And the Playboy Mansion was always on it. So, that's probably where he got the idea."]

'Yeah, you're probably right.' Elicia said, internally nodding in agreement.

In actuality, Alfonzo had looked up quite a few mansion's floor plans. They were all in preparation for the house he and Elicia had commissioned in their past life. Honestly, he just wanted some inspiration for when they discussed their new house with the builders and architects. Though, he never thought it necessary to discuss his research with Elicia.

Before her conversation with Scylla could continue any further, however, Elicia was pulled out of her thoughts when a hand landed on her shoulder.

"Elicia, is something wrong?" Erza asked in a concerned tone.

"Yeah, you look like you don't like something about our new house." Sun added.

"No, that's not it." Elicia said while smiling wryly. Then, after shaking her head to get rid of her thoughts, she told a partial truth. "I'm just a little sad I didn't have a part in designing our new house, that's all."

"I guess that makes sense." Ultear said. "You and Alfonzo designed the first mansion together, right?"

"Yeah." Elicia said with a nod. "And it was a lot of fun. But this time, I didn't get to help."

To that, no one knew how to console Elicia. On one hand, they could understand how she felt. But on the other hand, they thought she should just be happy about what she got.

A moment later, the elevator opened for the second underground floor. The ladies decided to skip the first underground floor because they already knew it was the underground parking garage.

"That reminds me, we need to move all our stuff over to the... new..." Marinn, the first to step through the elevator doors said, though she trailed off not long after seeing the room. "What the...? There's nothing here."

Hearing that exclamation, the other ladies hurried out of the elevator as well.

"Wow! there really is nothing here." Cana said in an amazed tone.

"I wonder what Alfonzo added this room for." Erza asked as she scanned the room. Then, she pointed towards the part of the room opposite the elevator. "And why does that part of the room slope upward?"

With that, the other ladies focused their gazes in the direction Erza was pointing. And like Erza, they also noticed the slope on the opposite end of the room.

"You all remember that Fonzie wanted to build his own airship after taking Grimoire Heart's, right?" Elicia said after thinking for a few seconds.

In response, all the others nodded.

"Well, I think this might be the hangar." Elicia said, continuing after seeing everyone's nods. "And if I'm not mistaken, that slope leads to the surface."

"Really?" Lucy asked curiously. "But this room is huge. Just how big will his airship be?"

'Well, it's huge in comparison to Grimoire Heart's airship.' Elicia thought. 'But it's not that big when compared to Christina, Blue Pegasus' airship. Still, I wonder what Fonzie's airship will look like when he's done with it.'

"Anyway, there really isn't much to see here." Cana said with a shrug. "There are still two more floors to check out. So, why don't we check them out."

With that, the ladies filed back into the elevator once again. Then, they went down another floor. And what they found was a short corridor. On one side of the corridor was a training room like those in the guild. And on the other side was a large bath with many shower heads lining the walls.

"Damn, I don't think I'm ever gonna train at the guild hall ever again." Cana said happily after seeing the bath.

"I know what you mean." Mirajane added. "And look, there are [Water Magic Jets], too. This is a giant hot tub."

"Does that mean we're not gonna train with everyone else anymore?" Sun asked while tilting her head cutely. "But I like training with everyone."

"No, we'll definitely still train at the guild." Erza said sternly. "If not, some of us would never leave the house."

"Yeah, Cana would just go upstairs and start drinking after she got out of the bath." Marin said playfully.

"Is that any different than what she does now?" Ultear asked with a smile. "I mean, she starts drinking as soon as she gets cleaned up after training anyway, right?"

"Hmm... Now that you mention it..." Marin muttered while cupping her chin in contemplation.

"Are you two done yet?" Cana asked as she rested her left hand on her hip.

"No, there would be a difference." Elicia chimed in.

"You, too, Lici?" Cana asked while rolling her eyes before taking a sip from her flask.

"She'd start drinking in the bath before heading upstairs." Elicia continued, completely ignoring Cana's question.

"That's true." x 6

Once again, Cana rolled her eyes in response, causing the others to laugh.

"Anyway, let's check out the last floor." Mirajane suggested.

Not long later, the ladies finished exploring the last underground level. And they were somewhat expecting what they saw. There were two large empty rooms. Rooms they expected to be storage rooms. However, they were only half right. Alfonzo just had not created the magic items he wanted to put in one of the rooms.

"Well, after seeing all this, it's no wonder Alfonzo is exhausted." Ultear said.

"Yeah, and he built it in, like, four months." Marin added. "Still, I wonder where he could have built something like this without anyone ever finding out."

"That's a good question." Mirajane said.

"Indeed." Erza chipped in. "I would like to know the answer, as well."

"Well, now that it's no longer a surprise, I bet Fonzie will tell us." Elicia said with a smile. "All we have to do is ask."

In response, the other seven ladies nodded their heads.

"Anyway, I think I'm gonna go back upstairs and get some rest." Sun said. "I'm a little tired after sparring with Kagura."

"Yeah, we should probably all get some sleep." Lucy said. "We need to move all our stuff over soon, anyway. And it sounded like Alfonzo wanted to sell the old mansion to Master Ur. So, we should probably do it sooner rather than later."

Once again, all the ladies nodded. Then, with their exploration complete, the girls decided to head upstairs. However, instead of splitting up and heading to their own bedrooms, they all headed for Alfonzo's to sleep with him,