

Fairy Tail 521

Chapter 521: Danzo's Underestimation

By the time Danzo arrived in Hiruzen's office, the other two advisors, Koharu and Homura had already arrived. Currently, Hiruzen was discussing the two attacks that took place not long ago. And it was obvious to see that Hiruzen was somewhat distraught about what they would mean to the alliance Tsunade worked so hard to foster with Fairy Tail.

Listening to the conversation between Hiruzen, Koharu, and Homura, Danzo understood that his Root shinobi had been defeated. That was enough to surprise him greatly, as he had seriously underestimated the three Fairy Tail wizards and their maid.

Danzo's underestimation was not completely his fault, however. Elicia's power was completely unknown to anyone outside of the Fairy Tail guild. So, he never would have guessed that she alone would be able to detain the ten shinobi he sent to capture her.

On top of that, Irene's breakthrough happened earlier that morning and Alfonzo was not exactly forthcoming with the information, classifying it as a Fairy Tail guild secret when he was questioned before he left to start his work on the training ground. So, he never had any idea that on the off chance Elicia was not able to subdue the attackers, Irene would have been able to do so.

"What are you going to do about this, Hiruzen?" Koharu asked in a slightly worried tone. "Twenty shinobi with unknown affiliations attacked our guests. And I'm sure they will want an explanation when they arrive."

Instead of responding immediately to Koharu's question, Hiruzen took a toke from his lit pipe. Then, he held the smoke in his lungs for a moment before releasing it along with a sigh.

"*Sigh* And compensate them, we shall." Hiruzen said in a tired tone. "But there are more important things to think about in this case. For example, who are these shinobi that infiltrated our village..."

As Hiruzen reached that point, he shot a discreet glance at Danzo. Though he had no proof, he had a sneaking suspicion that Danzo was the culprit behind the attacks that took place not long ago.

'Danzo, oh Danzo, I pray that there was a hole in the village's security... for your sake my old friend.' Hiruzen thought to himself as he returned his attention to Koharu. 'And if there isn't, I pray that you covered your tracks as well as you always do. Because I don't think I can save you this time.'

"... And how did they get into the village without anyone knowing?" Hiruzen continued. "More importantly than that, how did they know our guests were here? Their presence was supposed to be top secret."

Hearing that, Koharu and Homura exchanged glances. Meanwhile, Danzo stared at Hiruzen with an impassive expression that did not give away his thoughts on the matter.

'Hiruzen, you truly have grown soft.' Danzo thought to himself while watching his old friend. 'I know you suspect me... No, I know you're sure I'm behind this incident. And we both know the correct thing to do in this situation is to have me arrested and interrogated before handing me over as compensation. Instead, I can see you giving away one of the village's secrets as compensation so that this incident does not spark a war with Fairy Tail. Just like you did with the Hyuga and the Cloud.'

And Danzo's thoughts were correct on the matter. Hiruzen was indeed thinking of compensating Alfonzo and Elicia with something that would be considered a village secret. Unfortunately, Danzo did not know that half of his shinobi were captured alive. Even if he did, though, he would only be minimally worried,

as the [Seals] he put on all his subordinates meant that no one would be able to get any information out of them.

Once again, however, Danzo had underestimated Alfonzo due to having incomplete information. However, he would come to find out the consequences of his actions sooner rather than later.

"That's not something we can figure out right away, Hiruzen." Homura said as he adjusted his glasses. "Those wizards from Fairy Tail are going to want an explanation. And right now, we don't have anything to tell them."

"*Sigh* We'll just have to tell them the truth." Hiruzen replied while massaging his temples. "Until we have any information about the attacks, we can't give them an explanation."

"Then, there was no point in calling us here." Danzo said in his usual tone.

"Of course there was, Danzo." Hiruzen said while turning his attention to Danzo. "I want you to lead the investigation into the infiltrators entry point. I'll assign you a squad of Anbu as support."

'Hopefully this will keep you busy enough that you won't be able to cause any more trouble.' Hiruzen thought to himself.

At the same time, Danzo was smirking internally.

'I knew it.' Danzo thought to himself. 'You really did act just as I thought you would, Hiruzen. The only thing you're doing is giving me a chance to falsify a weak point in the barrier surrounding the village. And with that, I'll have everything I need to put another one of my plans in motion.'

"Understood." Danzo said. "Then, I'll go and make preparations for the investigation."

In the next instant, Danzo turned away from Hiruzen's desk. Then, at his usual pace, he started walking towards the door.

Knock! *Knock!* *Knock!*

Before he could get too far, however, the sound of someone knocking on the door from the other side echoed throughout the office.

"Lord Hokage, Kakashi Hatake, Alfonzo Marcus, and an Anbu Captain are here to see you." Hiruzen's secretary said from the other side of the door.

"Allow them to enter." Hiruzen replied.

A moment later, the door to Hiruzen's office was opened before Alfonzo, Kakashi, and the captain of the Anbu squad that was assigned to watch Alfonzo while he was in the village entered the office. Meanwhile, Danzo continued walking towards the door with no intention to greet the new arrivals.

While Kakashi and the Anbu Captain did not pay much attention to Danzo, used to the way he carried himself, Alfonzo watched Danzo pass them from the corner of his eye. And had anyone familiar with him been present, they would have known that Danzo was not going to have a good time in the short term.

'You know, had you just targeted me, I would have definitely kicked your ass.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he let his gaze leave Danzo. 'In fact, you probably would have ended up dead because of what you tried. But trying to kidnap Lici, as ineffective as that plan was, was a really fucking bad idea, Danzo. And for that, just dying isn't enough.'

Alfonzo then let his gaze rest on Hiruzen.

'And for your sake, Old Man, I hope you weren't in on Danzo's schemes.' Alfonzo continued his thoughts. 'Because if you were, the village is gonna need a new Hokage even earlier than the canon.'

In Alfonzo's past life, there were many debates whether Hiruzen and Danzō were working together to cause all the atrocities that Danzo perpetrated. Some said that Hiruzen was in on it, letting Danzo do all the dirty work. Then, there were some that thought Hiruzen just let Danzo do what he wanted while remaining ignorant and cleaning up any fallout as necessary. Then, there were all sorts of theories that fell between those two extremes.

"Alfonzo, allow me to extend my apologies for what happened today." Hiruzen said as he stood up from behind his desk. "I'm not sure how those shinobi got into the village to attack you and your companions, but I assure you we will be doing everything in our power to find out how this happened."

"I'm sure you will, Lord Hokage. Alfonzo said in a steely tone. "It's just a good thing that nothing happened to Lici and our child. Otherwise, I don't know what I would have done."

At the same time as those words left Alfonzo's mouth, his magic power began leaking, putting pressure on everyone in the room. And while Hiruzen and Kakashi seemed to be fine, more or less, the pressure almost caused Koharu, Homura, and the Anbu Captain to fall to their knees.

Meanwhile, Hiruzen could not help opening his eyes wide.

'This young man's magic power is almost as strong as my own.' Hiruzen thought to himself. 'And considering my age and the fact that my body is far from its peak, I'm under no illusion that I could stop him if he were to go on a rampage. Luckily, nothing happened to his wife. Otherwise, I don't know what would happen. Still, I'd better have Jiraiya return just in case.'

"Calm down, Alfonzo." Kakashi said, patting Alfonzo on the back as he spoke. "Since you were able to bring in those captives alive, the T&I Department will be able to get something out of them. Then, we'll be able to find the people responsible for those attacks."

Taking a deep breath, Alfonzo reeled in his magic power, allowing Koharu, Homura, and the Anbu Captain to breathe a sigh of relief. And although Alfonzo was only exerting his pressure as an intimidation tactic, the anger he showed at the thought of anything happening to Elicia or their unborn child was real.

"*Sigh* I know, Kakashi, I know." Alfonzo replied.

"You were able to bring in the attackers alive?" Hiruzen asked in a surprised tone. "Excellent."

'Even if they were brought in alive, there isn't much we'll be able to do with those captives.' Hiruzen thought to himself without changing his expression. 'If they are Danzo's men as I suspect, they probably have [Seals] on them that will not allow them to speak or have their minds read. And if the T&I Department tries to do so forcefully, they'll only end up dead.'

Alfonzo's next words, however, would flip that notion on its head.

"Yeah, and hopefully getting information out of them won't be too hard." Alfonzo replied with a nod. "While checking them for any identifying features, I noticed they all had some kind of sigils on their tongues that would keep them from speaking about their superiors. So, I took the time to dispel them."

Had Danzo been present to hear that, he would have definitely begun to panic. Never in his wildest dreams would he have thought that an outsider to the village would ever be able to remove the [Seals] on his Root shinobi. Unfortunately for him, he thought there were more important things to deal with than this situation.

Hiruzen, on the other hand, opened his eyes even wider. However, he was not the only one who was surprised, as Koharu, Homura, Kakashi, and the Anbu Captain could not help but look at Alfonzo with surprise, as well.

"You know the [Art of Sealing]?" Hiruzen asked in dumbfounded amazement. "But how is that possible? There aren't many who practice it. And the number that practice it outside of the Hidden Villages is even fewer."

As he spoke, Hiruzen's body tensed in the case that he would have to attack. Hearing that Alfonzo was able to remove [Seals] made him consider that Alfonzo had stolen some classified information from the village during his stay.

"Calm down, Lord Hokage." Alfonzo said after noticing Hiruzen's change in demeanor. "I know exactly what you're thinking. But I didn't steal anything from the village."

Hearing that, everyone, other than Hiruzen, wore confused expressions. Then, they turned their attention to Hiruzen and noticed that he was in a battle ready state.

"The [Seals] your village uses are a type of [Word Magic]." Alfonzo continued. "And I'm pretty damn good when it comes to [Word Magic], you know. I mean, I'd have to be to be so good when it comes to magic item creation. And although its different than the sigils I'm used to, it wasn't that hard to figure out."

Just then, Hiruzen remembered Alfonzo's proficiency with magic item creation. And when he did, he realized that what Alfonzo said was most likely true. And Alfonzo's next words made him relax even further.

"And if you're still having trouble believing me, you can check the prisoners." Alfonzo said with a shrug. "The sigils I used to dispel the [Seals] on the prisoners' tongues are there for everyone to see. I had to carve them into their tongues, though. So, it won't be too pretty to look at."

As Alfonzo said, he used the sigils he was familiar with to dispel the [Seals] on the Root shinobi rather than removing them. So, the original [Seals] were still present on the backs of the Root Shinobi's tongues. Those [Seals] were just surrounded by the dispelling sigils he carved.

"I see." Hiruzen replied. "Then, I suppose I should thank you for making the job easier for the T&I Department."

'Still, I think I'll make a trip down to the T&I Department to make sure for myself.' Hiruzen thought to himself.

"Still, the village owes you compensation for what happened today." Hiruzen continued. "And if what you said was true, then we owe you even more."

'Danzo, for your sake, I pray this was done by a village who found out about our guests.' Hiruzen said while shaking his head internally. 'I've been able to look the other way for all the things you've done in the past because there was no evidence. But if you were the one behind this and what this young man said is true, I can't and won't save you.'

At the same time, Danzo had just returned to the Root Headquarters. And just as he was making the preparations to fabricate a weakness in the barrier surrounding the village while leading the investigation, another one of his Root Shinobi appeared in front of him. And just like the last time, the shinobi appeared down on one knee with his head bowed respectfully.

"Lord Danzo, I have something to report." The shinobi said in an emotionless tone.

"Speak." Danzo ordered without stopping his footsteps.

"Our agent in the T&I Department just reported that the shinobi sent to capture Alfonso Marcus were brought in to be interrogated." The Shinobi said.

Hearing that, Danzo froze for an instant.

"It is of no consequence." Danzo replied. "With the [Seals] I applied, it will be impossible to get anything of worth out of them."

With that said, Danzo casually dismissed the shinobi and continued with what he was planning to do. Unfortunately, the agent Danzo planted in the T&I Department was not high enough in rank to know that the [Seals] Danzo spoke of had been dispelled. Especially when you consider that Alfonzo, Kakashi, and the Anbu Captain brought the prisoners directly to Ibiki Morino, the Head of the T&I Department, and Inoichi Yamanaka, the Hidden Leaf Village's foremost expert in mind-related arts.

Chapter 522: A Wanted Man

After discussing the incident with Hiruzen, Alfonzo decided to tag along when Hiruzen went to the T&I Department to check his work. And he had to say that he immensely enjoyed the surprised expression on Hiruzen's face when he saw the interrogators getting information from the prisoners as if it were nothing.

And when all ten of the shinobi Alfonzo captured revealed that Danzo was the culprit behind the two attacks, Alfonzo smiled. However, this smile was enough to make all the hardened shinobi in the room take a step back in apprehension.

"Hey, Lord Hokage, do you mind if I bring Danzo in to receive his punishment?" Alfonzo asked in an eerily calm tone. "And I promise that he'll still be alive when I do. I won't be able to make any promises about the condition he'll be in, though."

Hiruzen's first instinct was to deny Alfonzo's request. However, when he saw the unadulterated fury in his eyes, he felt like that would be a bad idea. So, he put on a stern expression and nodded his head.

"Usually, I would refuse your request." Hiruzen said. "However, I know what it's like to have someone target your loved ones. So, I'll make an exception. But please, bring him in alive. He needs to be tried for his crimes."

"Got it." Alfonso replied, his blood thirsty smile widening as he did so. "Oh, and you should probably announce that there is a warrant, or whatever you use here, for Danzo's arrest. That way, he'll probably run away and I won't have to worry about damaging anything in the village when I take him down."

Hearing that, Hiruzen paled immediately. Alfonso's statement made him remember that Alfonso was a member of fairy Tail, a guild that tended to cause a lot of collateral damage, even if that amount had dropped significantly over the past five years, or so.

'After feeling his power in my office, I have no doubt that he could destroy a significant part of the village if he were to fight with Danzo.' Hiruzen thought to himself. 'At least he's aware enough to make a reason to have the battle outside of the village.'

Little did Hiruzen know, Alfonso is fully capable enough to keep the property damage to a minimum while fighting Danzo. However, because Danzo targeted Elicia, Alfonso intended to let himself go quite a bit.

"Of course." Hiruzen replied. "Just give us the time to spread the word. And a little more time after that for Danzo to escape, something I'm sure he's capable of without getting caught."

"Sounds good." Alfonso replied. "Until then, I'll head home and see how Lici is doing. And when I feel that enough time has passed, I'll start the hunt."

Although Hiruzen was unsure how Alfonzo would track Danzo, he did the sensible thing and nodded his head. Truth be told, Hiruzen did not think any of his Anbu would be able to track Danzo if he really wanted to escape unseen. But he had no intention of mentioning that, considering this the last mercy he would give his old friend.

Alfonzo, on the other hand, left the T&I Department after getting Hiruzen's confirmation before making his way back to the temporary residence.

When Alfonzo arrived, he found Elicia and Irene sitting in the living room and chatting about parenting while Ikaruga waited on them. And after hearing the conversation, he could not help but smile a genuine smile.

"Hey Fonzie." Elicia said with a smile after noticing Alfonzo. "How did it go?"

"They found out who the culprit was." Alfonzo replied. "However, if they had attacked anyone else, it would have probably remained a mystery."

As he spoke, Alfonzo shrugged his shoulders before making his way over to Elicia's side, sitting down next to her, and pulling her into a hug. Meanwhile, Elicia smiled brightly as she leaned into the hug.

"What do you mean?" Irene asked curiously.

"Oh, all the guys that attacked had what the shinobi call [Seals], a kind of [Word Magic], on their tongues that would not allow them to talk about their superior." Alfonzo explained, drawing both Ikaruga and Irene's full attention. "But I carved sigils into their tongues that negated the effects of the [Seals]. I'm sure Irene could have done something similar with her [Enchantments], though."

"Yeah, if I could have brought the ones who tried to break into the house in alive, she could have." Elicia said, sounding a bit downcast.

In response, Alfonzo hugged Elicia a little bit tighter before kissing her on the top of her head.

"Don't worry about it, Lici." Alfonzo said with a loving smile. "We all know you could have done that with no problem if you pushed yourself. But shit heads like that aren't worth putting any strain on your body while you're carrying our child."

"*Sigh* I know." Elicia replied while snuggling into Alfonzo's embrace. "Still, it would have made that Danzo guy look even worse than he does now."

With that, Alfonzo continued comforting Elicia. Meanwhile, Irene, who was watching the sugary sweet moment, could not help but feel a bit of envy.

'*Sigh* that poor excuse of a man that I used to call my husband was never that gentle with me.' Irene thought to herself while watching Alfonzo and Elicia. 'I guess that's what happens when you marry someone for political reasons.'

["Perhaps you could find yourself another husband, now that you are human again, Irene."] Belserion replied from Irene's inner world. ["And this time, you can find someone you truly love."]

'*Sigh* Although that sounds nice, Belserion, I'm definitely not ready for that step.' Irene said. 'Besides, I already have enough emotional baggage to deal with.'

As she had that thought, Irene could not help but smile fondly when an image of Erza popped up in her head.

'I have to deal with my other emotional entanglements before I think about anything like that.' Irene continued.

["I understand."] Belserion replied.

Meanwhile, a number of Shinobi were running around the village putting up wanted posters of Danzo, greatly surprising all the civilians and shinobi who were not in the know. That also included all the kids from the academy, who were currently on their way to Alfonzo and Elicia's temporary residence to continue their training.

"Hey, guys, look at that." Naruto said loudly after seeing an Anbu paste a wanted poster just outside of Ramen Ichiraku.

"Geez, Naruto, stop trying to trick us into getting Ramen before we train with Ikaruga." Sakura said in an exasperated tone. "It's not gonna work this time."

"No, Sakura, this time I'm not trying to go to Boss Teuchi's place, I promise." Naruto said, defending himself.

"This time Naruto is telling the truth." Shikamaru said while pointing at the wanted poster. "It looks like something big happened."

Hearing that, all the kids turned in the direction Shikamaru was pointing. And when they saw the wanted poster, they were all shocked.

"Danzo Shimura, isn't that one of the village's elders?" Choji asked while reaching into a bag of potato chips. "Is this some kind of mistake?"

"I don't think so." A boy with black hair wearing a large grey coat with a high collar that covered the lower half of his face and sunglasses said while pointing to an identical wanted poster on the opposite side of the street.

The boy in the grey coat was Shino Aburame, another one of Naruto's classmates. After seeing that he was the only one of the kids in his class with any potential that had been left out of whatever was making the others stronger, he eventually asked one of them, Hinata, what the secret to their fast growth was.

And Hinata, being the kind-hearted girl that she was told Shino what everyone had been doing after school. However, she also mentioned that he should speak to Naruto about it. Since Naruto was the reason that they were getting the extra training.

Hearing that, Shino, having already made up his mind, directly walked up to Naruto and asked if he could join them. And to Shino's surprise, Naruto agreed immediately. And the reason was simple, Apparently Elicia had secretly observed their class one day. And she told Naruto to let Shino join if he wanted to because she saw his potential.

Naturally, the bit about potential was completely made up. Although Elicia had indeed observed Naruto's class at the academy and saw that all the Rookie 9 were head and shoulders above the rest of their class, the reason Elicia extended the invitation was simply because of the fact that Shino was a member of the Rookie 9, and nothing else.

"Wow! Now that I look around, those posters are everywhere." Ino said while looking around in wonder. "I wonder what happened?"

"It doesn't matter." Sasuke said in his usual grumpy tone. "We're not strong enough for it to matter anyway."

With that, Sasuke stopped paying attention to the rest of the group and continued making his way towards Alfonzo and Elicia's house.

"*Bark!*" The puppy who always accompanies Kiba, Akamaru, barked after Sasuke.

"Hey, I'm not letting you get ahead of me!" Kiba shouted as he, too, started moving again.

"*Sigh* What a drag." Shikamaru said in a lethargic tone. "Sasuke's right, though. This isn't something we need to be concerned with---"

"Hey, you two wait for me!" Naruto shouted, cutting off Shikamaru. "I'm not gonna let you guys get better than me! I'm gonna be the Hokage one day, you know!"

"*Sigh* What a drag..." Shikamaru repeated in an even more lethargic tone.

With that, the rest of the group followed Naruto, Kiba, and Sasuke.

Meanwhile, back at the temporary residence, Alfonzo stood up from his spot next to Elicia. Then, he stretched as he prepared to leave the house.

"Anyway, I guess I need to get going." Alfonzo said with a smile. "I need to break into Danzo's base. I bet there's all sorts of juicy information and incriminating evidence in there. And I wanna present it all to the Hokage."

"Remind me to never become your enemy, Alfonzo." Irene said while shaking her head with a smile on her face. "You don't just want him dead, you wanna ruin his entire legacy, don't you?"

"Uh... Irene, you've already been Fonzie's enemy before, remember?" Elicia pointed out.

Irene only shrugged casually in response.

"Remind me to never do it again, then." Irene said.

"You know, being my enemy isn't that bad." Alfonzo replied. "But if you're trying to hurt the people I care about is when you should be worried."

"Yeah, I can see that." Irene replied.

"Anyway, Lici, can you cast [Hiding in Plain Sight] on me?" Alfonzo asked. ["I can tell that Danzo is still in his hideout. And I'll need it to steal everything right out from under him."

"Of course. Elicia replied as she looped a thin thread around Alfonzo's wrist. "there ya go."

"Thanks, Sweetheart." Alfonzo replied with a smile. A moment later, his smile turned blood thirsty.
"Now, let's start the hunt."

"Oh, if you're going to steal some data, you should take this." Irene said as she took off her hat before pulling a satchel out of it and tossing it at Alfonzo. "I [Enchanted] that bag so that it can hold enough items to fill up this room completely. You won't feel the weight, either."

Hearing that, Elicia's eyes lit up like torch lights.

"A bag like that would come in real handy for shopping." Elicia said excitedly. "Irene, if I give you one of the bags I made, could you [Enchant] it for me, too? And of course I'll pay you for it. Just let me know how much."

"Sure, and you don't have to worry about payment." Irene replied. "considering how much Alfonzo has done for me, I could never think of taking payment for such a trifle."

"Absolutely not!" Elicia replied strongly. "A wizard should always be compensated for their efforts. And you're no exception to that rule. So, just tell me how much it will cost."

Like that, Elicia and Irene began to bicker over the price for one of Irene's [Enchantments]. Meanwhile, Alfonzo, with the bag Irene gave him in hand, started making his way to the entrance of the residence.

"Well, I better get going." Alfonzo muttered. "Naruto and the others should be here soon. And I don't wanna hear any questions about where I'm going."

About an hour later in the Root base, Danzo had just finished his preparations to make some changes to the barrier surrounding the village when he was interrupted for a third time by one of his shinobi.

"Lord Danzo, I have two things to report." The shinobi said, his tone just as emotionless as every other Root shinobi.

"Speak." Danzo ordered.

"Yes, Lord Danzo." The shinobi replied. "First, a large amount of the documents in the storage have gone missing."

Hearing that, Danzo scowled at the shinobi giving the report.

"by a large amount, what do you mean, exactly?" Danzo asked.

"Nearly all of it." The shinobi replied.

Immediately, Danzo's magic power flared, putting pressure on everything in the room.

"How is that possible?" Danzo asked angrily.

"Unsure." The shinobi replied. "I came here to receive orders."

Though the correct course of action should have been obvious, Danzo trained his Root shinobi to follow orders so strictly that unless they are given permission to, they will not act at all without orders. Thus the shinobi coming to ask for direction when it was found that all the records in the record room were missing.

"*Sigh* Search the base from top to bottom." Danzo replied after exhaling his anger and irritation in that sigh. "Find any clue you can. Summon all the sensors available for the search."

"Understood, Lord Danzō." The shinobi replied. However, he did not stand to carry out his orders.

"What's the matter?" Danzo asked, his irritation rising at the sight of the still kneeling shinobi in front of him. "Why have you not left to carry out my orders?"

"I have another matter to report." The shinobi replied.

"Out with it, then.!" Danzo ordered.

"Yes, sir." The Shinobi replied. "The Anbu have been hurrying around the village pasting these on every wall and light post."

As the shinobi spoke, he reached into his clothes and pulled out a copy of Danzo's wanted poster. Then, he handed the poster to Danzo.

Immediately, Danzo snatched the poster out of the shinobi's hand. Then, he looked down and began to read it. However, after seeing its contents, he froze. Seeing his face on a wanted poster, he did not know how to react for a few moments. Never in a million years did he ever think Hiruzen would put out a warrant for his arrest.

"What is the meaning of this!?" Danzo asked angrily, his magic power flaring once again.

"Unsure." The shinobi replied while trying to resist the pressure from Danzo's magic power. "Would you like us to investigate?"

"No, we can worry about that later." Danzo replied as he stood from his seat while reeling in his magic power. "For now, gather as much as you can in the storage scrolls. We need to leave the village as quickly as possible."

"Understood." The shinobi replied, understanding that the new order superseded the one.

With that, both Danzo and the Root began to move in preparation to escape the village.

Meanwhile, unbeknownst to Danzo, there was a third person in the room while the shinobi reported to him. Though, this person, Alfonzo, was still under the effects of Elicia's [Hiding in Plain Sight] spell. And for the entire time Alfonzo was in the room with Danzo and the Root shinobi, he was patting the bag that was hanging off his left shoulder.

"That's right, Danzo, run." Alfonzo said quietly as he watched Danzo leave the room in a hurry. "As soon as you're far enough away from the village is when the real fun begins."

Chapter 523: Danzo's Last Mistake

It took about three hours for Danzo and his Root shinobi to gather everything that Alfonzo could not take away in their base. All the while, Alfonzo watched them. At the same time, he was reading through all the reports he stole, copying them into his [Archive Magic] database. And what he found made him positively giddy.

"Damn, I almost wanna pull Danzo into a hug and give him a big kiss." Alfonzo muttered to himself gleefully. "To think, he kept a copy of every Jutsu scroll the village has ever owned. Even if no one in his organization could use them due to the nature of their magic power or magic power cost. Even the stuff from the Scroll of Seals is in here."

That's right, now in Alfonzo's [Archive Magic], he had a copy of every Jutsu that had been submitted to the village library. He even had a full copy of every Jutsu in the Scroll of Seals, a compilation of all the Jutsu that were deemed too dangerous to be learned by the shinobi in the village.

["This seems like a God send to me." Bedlam said with a cheshire grin. ["With your magic power control and amount, you should have no problem learning the [Shadow Clone Jutsu]."]

"Yeah, but I think that will complement Lici's style even more than mine." Alfonzo replied. "Just imagine all the stuff she could do with her stealth and multiple copies of herself."

["Yeah, Lici will become even more awesome than she already is."] Riot said in a lovestruck tone.

["Simp."] Bedlam said while rolling his eyes. Then, after Riot started glaring at him , he smiled before continuing. ["Although that's true, I was talking about after the baby is born. You could just make a [Shadow Clone] whenever it starts crying at night. Then, you'll be able to go back to sleep."]

"Nope, not doing that." Alfonzo replied, sounding as if he was offended. "I know you saw how much trouble that caused for Naruto in Boruto. As long as I can help it, all my interactions with my children will be the real me. [Shadow Clones] can take care of whatever I was working on when they want or need my attention."

Although Bedlam made that suggestion, when he heard Alfonzo's response to it, he smiled brightly. In fact, he would have actually been disappointed had Alfonzo agreed with his suggestion.

["Hey, they're leaving."] Riot said, pointing out the movements of Danzo and his subordinate shinobi.

Hearing that, Alfonzo put away the scroll he was reading. Then, he looked at Danzo and the rest of Root. And when he confirmed that they were indeed ready to leave the base, he quietly followed them.

"Damn, there are a lot more of these mother fuckers than I thought there were." Alfonzo grumbled to himself. "At first glance, I can count at least a hundred of them."

["What's it matter?"] Riot asked. ["When they get far enough from the village, just shoot a [Linear Cannon] at them and wipe them all off the map."]

"Yeah, that's not gonna happen." Alfonzo replied while smiling awkwardly. "I mean, if I did that, I would change the entire landscape in this region. Plus, I promised to bring Danzo in alive."

["Besides, there are probably some people in there who never wanted to be part of Danzo's root."] Bedlam added. ["Not to mention the ones who could actually be rehabilitated. Besides, we're too good at what we do to have to resort to large scale destruction to take down a bunch of grunts like these."]

Although he did not respond, Alfonzo agreed with the last point Bedlam made. So, he followed Danzo and the Root as they left the base. Then, as the very last member of Root walked through the secret exit that led out of the village, Alfonzo flashed behind him, wrapped an arm around his neck, slapped a few sigils for silencing over his mask, and pulled him back into the base.

Meanwhile, Danzo was walking near the front of the group. However, he was surrounded by his most powerful and skilled subordinates. All the while, he was muttering to himself, unable to understand why Hiruzen would finally put his foot down now.

"This isn't like Hiruzen." Danzo muttered to himself. "Without any proof, he would never order my arrest. And with the seals I put on my Root ninja, there's no way he got anything out of the ones that were captured. IN fact, I need to make time to break them out of prison when I get a chance. It's not like that fool Hiruzen will make any changes to the barrier after my escape. He didn't change anything after Orochimaru left, either."

Unfortunately, Danzo never got the report about Alfonzo negating his [Seals]. Because after they could get the Root shinobi talking.. Or rather, after Inoichi, Ino's father, got into their heads, they found out about the moles in all the village's most important departments rather quickly before subduing them just as fast.

"No, that's not important right now." Danzo continued while touching a particular storage scroll that was tucked away in his clothes. "For now, I need to find Orochimaru. I'm certain he would be willing to help me return to the village. And if I let him study that boy's magic item, he'll definitely jump at the chance to work with me. And when we do, we can kill Hiruzen. Then, with Hiruzen dead, getting my wanted status revoked will take no effort at all. On top of that, there will be no one left to get in the way of me taking my rightful place as Hokage."

So caught up in plotting his revenge and eventual rise to power, Danzo did not notice the fact that the number of Root shinobi he was leading were reducing in number rather quickly. And although the members of Root did noticed, they were ordered to escape as quickly as possible. So, they did not report the disappearance of their comrades.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Valley of the End.

About forty-five minutes later, the group Danzo led reached the Valley of the End. Knowing that he was close to the hideout Orochimaru and the other Rogue Scientist, Mayuri Kurotsuchi used a few years ago,

he decided that would be the first place he stopped. And with the use of [Earth Style Ninjutsu], he would be able to fortify it into a new base.

"The shadows are the darkest just under the light." Danzo muttered to himself when he realized that he had reached the Valley of the End. "Hiruzen would never think that I would hide so close to the village."

With that, Danzo turned around to give his shinobi orders on what to do when they arrived at their new base. However, when he did, he could not help but notice that their numbers had been thinned significantly.

"What is this?" Danzo asked with a scowl as he noticed that his nearly one hundred Root shinobi had been reduced to just over thirty. "Where are the others?"

In response, none of the remaining shinobi said a word. They knew that their companions had been disappearing. However, none of them knew where they were. So, they could not answer Danzo's question.

After a few moments of silence, Danzo's frustration was mounting. Nothing had been going right for him ever since he gave the order to capture Alfonzo and Elicia. Still, as a seasoned shinobi, he was able to regain his calm rather quickly. Then, just as he was about to open his mouth to speak once again, a different voice rang out over the area.

"Well, that took a lot longer than I expected it to." A voice Danzo remembered from almost six months ago said. "I mean, you're supposed to be one of the strongest shinobi in your village. But it took you this long to realize that more than half of your forces were missing. I gotta say, I'm seriously disappointed."

Hearing that voice, Danzo's visible eye widened. Then, his expression of surprise turned into one filled with fury.

"Alfonzo Marcus!" Danzo shouted angrily. "Show yourself. I know everything that's happening is because of you!"

"Yeah, I just admitted that." Alfonzo said, the fact that he was rolling his eyes evident in his tone.

"I don't know what you've done to Hiruzen, but I'll make you pay for your crimes against the Hidden Leaf." Danzo continued, willfully ignoring Alfonzo's retort.

"Oh, you mean other than giving him proof that you were behind the attacks on me and Lici?" Alfonzo asked, making his voice sound as innocent as he possibly could. "I mean, negating the seal you put on your little group of nobodies probably helped with that."

Hearing that, Danzo froze. And it took a little while for him to process what Alfonzo said. But when he did, everything finally clicked for him. Like Hiruzen, he just realized exactly how skilled Alfonzo must be to have the title of the best magic item crafter on Ishgar. In fact, that was the whole reason he wanted to capture Alfonzo in the first place.

However, Danzo, who had never had his [Seals] broken in the past had grown over confident, thinking that his [Seals] were unbreakable. So, he never even considered an outcome where Alfonzo could negate them if his shinobi had been captured alive. Then, again, he never even considered the possibility of his shinobi being captured alive in the first place.

Once he connected the dots, Danzo was able to calm himself quickly. Then, he discreetly signaled one of the remaining Root shinobi, a member of the Hyuga clan he kidnapped years ago, to use his clan's Kekkei Genkai, the Byakugan, to find Alfonzo.

The Byakugan, otherwise known as the All Seeing White Eye, is the clan trait of the Hyuga clan, and is what makes them such a formidable clan. With the ability to see everything around them within a certain area or extend their vision over vast distances in a straight line, not to mention the ability to see magic power, the Byakugan makes them unrivalled when it comes to scouting or sensing those around them.

Unfortunately for Alfonzo, that meant the Hyuga under Danzo's command would be able to see through Elicia's [Hiding in Plain Sight] spell. Luckily, Alfonzo was expecting something like this. So, when he sensed magic power gathering in one of the shinobi's eyes, Alfonzo finally made his real move.

"[Electromagnetism Magic: Thunderclap and flash]." Alfonzo chanted.

Bang! *Flash!*

In the next instant, the entire area was lit up with a bright flash, temporarily blinding everyone. However, the effect was amplified for the Hyuga, as he was looking in all directions. Meaning, he was hit by quite a bit of sensory overload. At the same time, an equally loud sound of explosion rang out over the clearing, leaving all the shinobi with their ears ringing.

"Argh~~~~~!"

Despite the ringing in their ears, the entire group of Root shinobi heard the sound of someone screaming in pain. And they all knew who that scream belonged to, Danzo. So, using their well-trained senses, they closed the circle around Danzo and prepared for battle.

A few moments later, the effects of Alfonzo's spell faded. And when they did, the first thing the Root Shinobi noticed was Danzo cradling his face. Unlike Danzo's usual appearance, however, the bandages covering the right side of his face had been ripped away. On top of that, there was a large amount of blood streaming down his face from beneath the hand he was using to cover his injured eye.

The next thing they noticed, after scanning the area, was Alfonzo standing a short distance away from the group and depositing an eye with a red iris and three black tomoe surrounding a black pupil into a small bottle filled with a solution meant to preserve organic material.

"Alright, that takes care of the most troublesome part of all this." Alfonzo said as he capped the bottle before putting it away with all the documents he stole from the Root base. "Now, I can begin the hunt for real."

"Damn you!" Danzo roared angrily while glaring at Alfonzo with untold amounts of malice. "Do you have any idea what you've done?"

"Yeah, I took away something that doesn't belong to you." Alfonzo replied nonchalantly. "And I plan to do the same with that arm of yours, too."

That only seemed to make Danzo even angrier.

"Kill him! Kill him and recover that eye!" Danzo shouted. "No, don't kill him. Bring him to me alive. Then, I'll use the Kotoamatsukami and make him my obedient puppet. And the first thing I'll do is have him kill his wife and unborn child."

Immediately, the atmosphere in the Valley of the End froze. Then, Alfonzo's magic power exploded out of his body, putting pressure on all the shinobi in the area. In fact, the pressure was so strong that some of the weaker shinobi, meaning those at the rank of Special Jonin and lower, were slammed into the ground before losing consciousness. The stronger shinobi, on the other hand, were forced to their knees, unable to stand, no matter how hard they tried.

Then, there was Danzo, and although he was not forced to his knees, he could feel his knees shaking, seeming as if they would give out at any moment. And when he looked into Alfonzo's eyes, he felt something that he had not felt since the First Great Shinobi war...

Fear... Primal, unadulterated fear that seeped directly into his soul.

"You know, you really shouldn't have said that, Danzo." Alfonzo said in an eerily calm tone. "There are few things that can make me this angry. And unfortunately, targeting my family is one of them. And you've made the mistake of doing it twice, in one day, no less."

As he spoke the last sentence, Alfonzo began walking towards the group of immobilized shinobi. And his steps were slow and deliberate.

Meanwhile, another person, also under the effects of Elicia's [Hiding in Plain Sight] spell stood atop one of the trees at the entrance to the Valley of the End. And that person was Irene, who followed Alfonzo and Danzo as they left the village, just in case Alfonzo needed help. There were a hundred grunts to deal with, after all.

However, after seeing Alfonzo take them out as they traveled, Irene felt that her presence was unnecessary. However, since she had come this far, she decided to watch it to the end.

"I'm glad I never put that plan of taking Elicia and the others hostage into motion." Irene muttered to herself. "His strong spike in emotion just caused his magic power to surpass Gildarts, by a fair amount, I might add. And that's without releasing Riot and Bedlam. There's a chance he might have been able to kill me back then if I wasn't careful. OH well, let's just enjoy the torture. This should be fun."

As she spoke the last part, Irene took off her hat, reached inside, and pulled out a bottle of wine and a glass to enjoy the show with a drink.

Chapter 524: Taking What Doesn't Belong to You

Seeing the smile on Alfonzo's face, Danzo knew that he would not be coming out of whatever Alfonzo had planned unscathed. He already lost the eye that he had stolen from a member of the Uchiha clan. And that eye was quite possibly Danzo's greatest weapon.

In fact, that eye was a lot like the Byakugan of the Hyuga clan. And it was called the Sharingan, the Kekkei Genkai of the Uchiha clan, a clan that had been destroyed several years ago, by a member of its own, no less.

And what made the Sharingan special was its ability to read the movements of an opponent, allowing the wielder to predict an opponent's movements. On top of that, it had the ability to read the magic power flow of whoever it looked at, making it possible to copy almost any Jutsu it sees. It even made using Genjutsu, the illusionary ninja arts, much easier, as well.

It even worked on the spells of regular wizards. However, without the prerequisite knowledge of the magic the wizard was using, the wielder would not be able to perform the magic. Still, having a

Sharingan was an undeniable advantage in battle. And that was why Danzo had one plugged into his right eye socket.

But that was not the only thing about the Sharingan. Every Sharingan had the ability to evolve even further and gain abilities unique to the wielder. However, that usually came at the cost of someone the wielder held dear. And the eye Alfonzo took from Danzo was one of these evolved Sharingan, also known as the Mangekyō Sharingan. Though, these unique abilities came at a cost. Namely, the wielder's eye sight.

And the ability of the eye Danzo just lost was called [Kotoamatsukami]. [Kotoamatsukami] was a powerful Genjutsu, most likely the most powerful Genjutsu in existence. The ability of this powerful Genjutsu was to weave an illusion so strong that the wielder would be able to manipulate the target's thoughts. And the worst part was that the target would not even have an inkling that they were being manipulated, as the illusion would mask their memories perfectly.

But none of that mattered at this point, considering that Danzo had lost the eye containing that power. So, the only thing he could do right now was watch Alfonzo approach with a terrifying smile that was filled with, what he described as, all the world's malice.

"Now~, now~, now~." Alfonzo said in a sing-song tone. "What do you think I should do with you, Danzo~?"

By the time Alfonzo started speaking, he had already reached Danzo. And as he continued to speak, he slowly circled around the former Elder of the Village Hidden in the Leaves.

"First, let's deal with the rest of the men you cultivated to be your loyal puppets." Alfonzo continued, unconcerned that Danzo was unable to respond to his question. "I want you to see that everything you built has absolutely no meaning to me."

With that, Alfonzo began walking around all the incapacitated shinobi. Then, one by one he removed each of their masks. After that, he pried their mouths open and carved the sigils that would negate Danzo's [Seal] onto their tongue. And for a majority of them, he did it in front of Danzo, just to let him know how outclassed he was.

"You know what, this is taking too long." Alfonzo replied after he got through about half of the Root shinobi's [Seals]. Then, he pulled Riot and Bedlam off the strap on his lower back, spread his arms to his sides, and lowered his stance slightly before continuing. "I don't wanna keep Lici waiting for me for too long. [Run Wild with Destruction on Your fingertips. Usher in Pandemonium with Creation in Your Hands, Riot, Bedlam]."

In the next instant, the tonfa in Alfonzo's hands liquified before they covered Alfonzo's hands and forearms in liquid metal. However, the change in appearance was the less significant part of Alfonzo's decision to release his [Soul Armament]. Instead, it was the other part of what happened when the seal was released.

Standing directly in front of Danzo, Alfonzo's magic power, which was even higher than Gildarts' at this point, spiked by five times its base amount. And Danzo felt it. He felt it with every fiber of his being. And the power was so overwhelming that he truly regretted the decision he made to make Alfonzo his enemy. As a result, Danzo's legs could no longer support him and he fell to his knees.

Unfortunately, that would not be enough to save him from the young man's wrath.

Alfonzo, with his powers amplified by his [Soul armaments], willed all the shinobi he had taken down stealthily to come to him. And the reason he could do that was simple, he had restrained all of them with metal restraints after taking them all down.

Not even a minute later, almost seventy restrained shinobi, each wearing a featureless white mask, floated out of the forest separating the Valley of the End and the Village Hidden in the Leaves. Then, once they were all laid down on the ground, Alfonzo's fingers elongated before splitting into the number tendrils equaling the shinobi who still had Danzo's [Seals] in effect.

After that, each tendril did a few things, all in unison. First, they removed the shinobi's mask, slithered into their mouths, and carved the sigils needed to negate the [Seal]. Then, all the tendrils were retracted and Alfonzo's hands returned to their normal shape.

"There." Alfonzo said while shaking off any lingering saliva on his hands. "All done. The insects living in the Aburame clansmen were a bit annoying though. Especially the ones in that guy that were really poisonous. Good thing they couldn't bite me for real, though."

Realizing that Alfonzo had disabled every member of his Root and removed their seals in less than an hour and a half almost made Danzo have a mental breakdown. Luckily, or unluckily, for him, however, Alfonzo was not done yet. Not by a long shot.

"Now, it's your turn, Danzo." Alfonzo said, beginning to approach Danzo once again. "And I'm not gonna be nearly as gentle with you as I was with them."

Snap!

With that said, Alfonzo snapped his fingers. And thanks to the metal coating his hands, the snap had a distinctly metallic sound to it. A sound that slightly grated on Danzo's sanity. But the thin metal bands that appeared on his wrists and ankles are what really made him panic.

Each of the metal bands was packed with anti-magic sigils, completely cutting off his flow of magic power. They even stopped the Jutsu he had prepared to get out of the predicament he was in.

"Impossible! You cancelled [Izanagi]..." Danzo muttered in a tone filled with disbelief. "How is this possible? How did you even know about that?"

"Oh, you mean that Sharingan Jutsu that allows you to rewrite reality for the next minute?" Alfonzo asked while tilting his head like Sun usually does. "It's thanks to all the meticulous notes you kept on the Sharingan. They really helped a lot. So, I guess I should thank you for that, right?"

"But how?" Danzo asked, shuddering at the thought. "How could you have possibly entered my base without setting off any of the [Alarm Seals]? That's impossible! And how did you even know where it was? Tell me!"

By the end, Danzo was roaring. He just could not understand how everything went so wrong so quickly. And he was in desperate need of answers.

"Wouldn't you like to know?" Alfonzo replied while smiling mischievously. "I saw all those [Alarm Seals] you mentioned, too. Man, I can only imagine how none of your subordinates tripped them whenever they entered or left the base. You must have really trained them well."

"How did you do it? Tell me!" Danzo roared again.

Bang!

"Watch your fucking tone, mother fucker." Alfonzo said coldly after kicking Danzo in the mouth and knocking out several teeth. Then, he crouched down in front of Danzo and grabbed him by the jaw before continuing. "I really don't like the way you're talking to me right now."

When Alfonzo looked Danzo in the eye after kicking him, Danzo could not help but flinch back at the overwhelming hatred he could see swirling in the depth of Alfonzo's eyes.

"As for how I got in without triggering any of your [Seals], I don't think I'll tell you." Alfonzo said as he released Danzo's jaw, satisfied with the fear he could see in the old man's eye. "But I will tell you this, I didn't tamper with them at all. As for how I found you... Did you really think you could steal something I created and I wouldn't be able to find it? Now after doing something so stupid, why don't you stew in your incompetence until you're sent to meet Ankhseram?"

When Alfonzo released Danzo's jaw, the older man, in a state of shock and terror, fell to the side and ended up laying on the ground like the rest of his subordinates. However, he was unable to take his eyes off Alfonzo. So, he saw when Alfonzo raised his right arm. And when he heard the spell he was going to cast, he began to shudder in terror.

"[Metal Magic: Circular Cutter]." Alfonzo chanted, making sure it was loud enough for Danzo to hear.

In the next instant, a circular saw blade grew from the back of Alfonzo's right hand. However, it did not begin spinning yet. Still, Alfonzo took a step forward and kicked Danzo over onto his back. Then, he ripped away the upper part of Danzo's kimono as well as the bandages covering his right arm.

When Danzo's right arm was revealed, it was immediately obvious that it did not originally belong to him. Instead of a normal flesh color, the arm was a dull grey color. On top of that, there were ten more Sharingan embedded in the arm, the sight of which was enough to make Irene come out of hiding and appear next to Alfonzo.

"Oh, I thought you were gonna keep watching from the V.I.P. seats." Alfonzo said as soon as Irene broke her stealth.

"And I probably would have if I didn't see that." Irene replied while pointing at Danzo's arm with her left hand and swirling her glass of wine with her right. "What in the world did this man do to himself? I can tell that thing is slowly killing him."

"It's too much to explain." Alfonzo replied. "I'll send you the information."

With that, an [Archive Magic] screen popped into existence in front of Alfonzo. At the same time, he established a [Telepathic Link] with Irene. Then, he transferred the data on Danzo's arm to her.

"Quite disgusting." Irene said while furrowing her eyebrow. "Desecrating a man's grave for something like that? He might even be worse than my former husband."

"Yeah, he's a real piece of shit." Alfonzo replied. "And if you saw the other shit he's been behind for the, so-called, greater good, you'd think your old husband was a saint by comparison."

Hearing that, Irene looked at Alfonzo skeptically. However, when she saw the seriously disgusted expression he was wearing, she was inclined to believe him.

"Maybe later." Irene said while shaking her head. "More importantly, what else are you going to do with him?"

"I'm gonna take the rest of the shit that doesn't belong to him." Alfonzo replied. Then, he bent over and slapped his left hand on Danzo's chest as he continued. "And I'm gonna make sure it hurts like a mother fucker."

In the next instant, the liquid metal on Alfonzo's hand spread over Danzo's chest.

"Argh~~~~~!" Danzo screamed in pain as the liquid metal carved sigils into his skin.

A moment later, the liquid metal returned to Alfonzo's palm. And when Danzo's chest was revealed again, all the sigils that were carved into it were filled with metal. And all the pieces of metal were filled with Alfonzo's magic power, which powered the sigils he inscribed into Danzo's body.

"What are those sigils for?" Irene asked, too lazy to inspect their meaning with Alfonzo standing next to her.

Naturally, Danzo also wanted to know the answer to that question. However, he was in too much pain to verbalize his thoughts at the moment.

"Well, I think I told you about this before, but I've done a lot of research on giving people their senses through my Automail, right?" Alfonzo asked casually while looking down at the sigils he carved into

Danzo. Then, after receiving a nod of acknowledgement from Irene, he continued. "Well, I applied a bit of that to this piece of shit. So, his sense of feel has been super-charged. Oh, and I added a little something so that he won't pass out from the pain, too."

"Oh... I guess he won't be enjoying himself very much, will he?" Irene asked with a sadistic smile on her face.

"No, he won't." Alfonzo replied in the coldest tone of the night.

Meanwhile, Danzo looked on in horror as Alfonzo stepped onto his right wrist with his left foot and stepped down onto his chest with his right. Then, Alfonzo made the saw blade on his right hand start spinning at high speed, the sound it produced making Danzo panic even more.

Then, under Danzo's terrified gaze, Alfonzo slowly lowered the spinning saw blade towards the old shinobi's shoulder. And every second was agonizing for Danzo's mental health. However, just before the saw could start cutting into his shoulder, Alfonzo stopped. Then, he stood up and stopped the spinning blade.

"What's wrong?" Irene asked, having been expecting Alfonzo to cut off Danzo's transplanted arm.

"I almost forgot something." Alfonzo replied as he dispelled the saw blade. A moment later, he reached into the bag he was carrying and pulled out ten small bottles filled with the fluid used to preserve organic material. "I gotta take those out first."

As he spoke the last part, Alfonzo created a metal tray, that he made levitate next to him, and arranged the bottles on top of it. Then, he picked up one of the bottles. An instant later, his right hand shot down and plucked out one of the Sharingan imbedded in Danzo's arm.

"Argh~~~~~!" Danzo screamed at the excruciating pain having an eye ripped out of his arm produced.

After that, Alfonzo dropped the eye in the bottle he was holding, capped the bottle, placed it back on the tray, and repeated the process nine more times. And every time Alfonzo plucked an eye out of Danzo's arm, his screams would echo over the Valley of the End, getting louder each time.

"Oh, I forgot to mention, your sensitivity increases the longer the sigils are active." Alfonzo said off-handedly after he stored the ten Sharingan in his bag and dispelled the metal tray. Then, he shrugged his shoulders as he continued. "Do with that information what you will."

A moment later, Alfonzo poked each of the holes the eyes left in Danzo's arm. And when he did, he left a bit of Techno Organic Metal in each to heal the wounds. And this naturally caused Danzo even more pain.

By this point, tears were flowing from Danzo's eyes while foam was oozing from his mouth. However, neither Alfonzo nor Irene seemed to care.

"Now that I'm done with that, I can get back to what I was about to do." Alfonzo said. "[Metal Magic: Circular Cutter]."

Once again, a circular saw blade grew from the back of Alfonzo's hand. And once it was completely formed, it began spinning at high speed. Then, Alfonzo once again stepped on Danzo's wrist and chest as he lowered the saw blade towards Danzo's shoulder.

A moment later, Danzo's screams, much louder than before, rang out over the Valley of the end. And considering how long he screamed, it was obvious that Alfonzo was taking his time removing Danzo's implanted right arm.

Five hours later, with all the Root shinobi floating behind them, Alfonzo and Irene approached the gates of the village. Then, they handed all the prisoners over to the proper authorities after they arrived.

Naturally, Hiruzen was notified of Danzo's capture. However, he was completely confused when he saw the state Danzo was in. Other than his missing right arm and eye, Hiruzen could not see any visible injuries on his old friend. There weren't even any blood stains, other than the few drops on his face that were left over from when his eye was ripped out. But when he saw the lifeless look in Danzo's remaining eye, he could only wonder what Alfonzo put him through once he was caught.

Chapter 525: After a Long Night

After delivering Danzo to the T&I Department, Alfonzo decided to wait for Hiruzen to arrive. Meanwhile, Irene, not wanting to deal with the old man, decided to head back home.

Then, after Hiruzen took the time to examine Danzo's condition, he invited Alfonzo back to his office to talk about Danzo's case.

Not long later, Hiruzen was seated at his desk across from Alfonzo. Both of them had a cup of tea in front of them and seemed as if they were going to have a chat between friends rather than a debriefing.

"So, exactly what did you do to Danzo?" Hiruzen asked, and it was clear he was still concerned about his friend.

"For your mental health, it's better if I keep that to myself." Alfonzo replied with a shrug.

In fact, Alfonzo was not afraid that Hiruzen was unable to stomach the level of torture he put Danzo through. Rather, he could tell just how much Hiruzen cared for Danzo. So, he really did not want to make another enemy if he did not have to.

"*Sigh* Fine..." Hiruzen replied, clearly not satisfied with that answer. But since Alfonzo was not one of his shinobi, he knew he had no right to demand that Alfonzo answer him. Instead, he decided to move on to something else. "So, while we were at the T&I Department, you said you had something you wanted to show me. Can you show me now?"

"Of course." Alfonzo replied.

In the next instant, Alfonzo reached into the bag Irene gave him before he left to hunt down Danzo. Then, he pulled out a large stack of documents and dropped them on top of Hiruzen's desk.

Hiruzen, on the other hand, felt his left eyebrow twitch when he saw the large stack of documents. He already had enough paperwork to deal with on a daily basis. So, the thought of having even more to read through annoyed him greatly.

Unfortunately, Alfonzo was nowhere close to being done.. For the next eighteen minutes, Alfonzo continuously pulled stack after stack of paperwork out of his bag. And by the time he was finished, all of

Hiruzen's desk and most of the floor in the office was covered in piles of paperwork as tall as Hiruzen's waist.

"Well, that's all of it." Alfonzo said with one of the brightest smiles Hiruzen had ever seen plastered all over his face. "I found all this when I went to infiltrate Danzo's base. He said it was the base for his Root if I remember correctly. Anyway, I also found a bunch of Sharingan down there, too. And before you ask, no I'm not giving them to you. These should belong to Sasuke."

Hiruzen's immediate reaction to Alfonzo's actions was to start cursing about all the paperwork. However, when he heard what Danzo called his base, all the curses were caught in his throat.

Hiruzen had ordered Danzo to disband the Root shortly after the Third Great Ninja War. And Danzo had promised him that he had done so. But apparently, Danzo had not kept his word.

Actually, Hiruzen's assumptions were untrue. And he would find out about that after reading through all the paperwork Alfonzo just offloaded on him. In fact, Danzo did disband his original Root organization. And when he saw how easily his former subordinates returned to the village's forces, he could not stand it. So, he recreated the Root and took much more drastic measures to ensure their loyalty, to him. And him alone.

After hearing Alfonzo mention Root, Hiruzen wanted to say something else. However, when Alfonzo mentioned all the Sharingan, that thought flew out of the window. Instead, he was about to ask him to return all the Sharingan to the village.

Alfonzo quickly put an end to that train of thought, as well. And when he stated that all the Sharingan should belong to Sasuke, he could not argue. However, he did start thinking of a way to get Sasuke to let the village take care of them.

After having that thought, however, Hiruzen immediately shook it out of his head. Doing something like that would go against the Will of Fire he had been preaching about for decades. On top of that, he already felt that the village owed Sasuke far too much. Especially after Danzo tricked Sasuke's older brother, Itachi into massacring their entire clan.

'*Sigh* That incident was the whole reason I raised the minimum age to become a Genin to eleven.' Hiruzen thought to himself. 'Hopefully, no more impressionable children will be tricked into doing something so heinous again.'

The fact Hiruzen thought like that was the reason why Alfonzo was not plotting to have him removed from his position as Hokage. According to the records Alfonzo found in Danzo's base, Hiruzen was not involved in any of the things Danzo did to weaken the village. Though Hiruzen was definitely aware of all of it. He had no proof. And without evidence, Hiruzen was too soft to prosecute his best friend.

At the same time, had Danzo slipped up even once in the past, Hiruzen would have come down on him with everything at his disposal, as proved by the incident that started the day before.

"Anyway, the sun is already up." Alfonzo said with a smile. I've been out all night and I'm sure Lici wants to see me, you know, to make sure I'm okay. So, I'm gonna head back home and spend some time with her before I have to start working again. We can discuss any compensation for the shit that asshole Danzo did later."

"*Sigh* I understand." Hiruzen replied in a tired tone. "And I guess I'll start reading through all this. Damn it, I'm gonna end up pulling all-nighters for a week because of all this god damn paperwork."

Alfonzo was certain that Hiruzen meant to speak that last sentence to himself. So, he did not comment on it. Instead, he stood up from his seat, finished his cup of tea, put the teacup back on the desk, and started walking towards the door to the office.

However, just as Alfonzo placed his hand on the doorknob, he turned around with an expression that would suggest he just remembered something.

"Oh, that's right." Alfonzo said, drawing Hiruzen's attention, who was trying to find the stack of documents with the oldest date on it. "Around the end of the month, on the twenty-eighth or twenty-ninth, I'll be taking Lici, Irene, and Ikaruga and leaving the village."

Hearing that, Hiruzen wore a surprised expression.

"There's no way you'll be done with all the training grounds by then, will you?" Hiruzen asked in a tone filled with disbelief.

"Nah, no way in hell." Alfonzo replied while waving dismissively at Hiruzen's question. "but the Grand Magic Games are coming up. And they start on the first of July. And I'll be damned if I'm not there to root for the team representing my guild."

"I see." Hiruzen replied, allowing himself to relax a bit. "And I assume that means you'll be coming back after the Grand Magic Games conclude, correct?"

"That's right." Alfonzo replied with a nod. "It won't be right away, though. Lici's due to have our baby in August. So, I'll be staying in Magnolia for a while. Probably till the Harvest Festival. Oh, I'll be getting

married again while I'm gone, too. You're welcome to attend if you can, by the way. After that, I'll be coming back. And I'll probably have a different group of companions, if that's okay with you."

"I see." Hiruzen replied, repeating his words from earlier. "I suppose that won't be a problem, as long as they are willing to follow the same rules as before."

"Yeah, that won't be a problem." Alfonzo replied. "I'm even planning to bring someone to help train one of your academy students. Her magic power control is really good. So, I wanna see if she's suitable for Tsunade's [Medical Ninjutsu]."

"Oh, are you referring to the Dragon Slayer girl Tsunade mentioned?" Hiruzen asked, brightening at the thought.

"Yeah, that's her." Alfonzo replied.

"Well then, if it's not too much trouble, do you think she would be interested in working at the village's hospital while she's here?" Hiruzen asked expectantly.

"I'll have to ask her." Alfonzo said. "but considering her nature, I'm sure she'd agree to that. Anyway, I'm gonna get outta here. I miss my wife."

With that, Hiruzen nodded his head, bid Alfonzo goodbye, and started looking through the stacks of documents again. Alfonzo, on the other hand, left Hiruzen's office before leaving the Hokage Tower and making his way back to the residence he shared with Elicia, Ikaruga, and Irene.

"Damn, that took way too fucking long." Alfonzo said as soon as he stepped out of the Hokage Tower. "It's already morning. Fuck... And right after I have breakfast with Lici and Irene, Kakashi's gonna show up and I'll have to go to work. Never mind, he's already here."

"Hey, good morning, Alfonzo." Kakashi said as he appeared next to Alfonzo in a swirl of leaves while reading a small book with an orange cover. "I hear you had a long night. You must be exhausted."

"*Sigh* Not really." Alfonzo replied. "I just miss cuddling with my Lici, that's all. Anyway, you stoppin' by for breakfast?"

Snap!

"Since you so generously offered." Kakashi said after snapping his book shut. "And since you've been out all night, we should get going. I'm sure Elicia misses you."

With that, Kakashi quickly put his book away. Then, he threw an arm over Alfonzo's shoulders, which looked quite comical considering that Alfonzo was 6'5" and Kakashi was 5'11", and started dragging him towards his residence.

Along the way, while Alfonzo and Kakashi were chatting, Alfonzo noticed one of the kids that train at his house after their day at the academy ends.

"Yo, Sasuke!" Alfonzo shouted, getting the younger boy's attention.

"Oh, Alfonzo." Sasuke said in a neutral tone after noticing who called his name. "Good morning."

With that, Sasuke approached Alfonzo and Kakashi. However, since he did not know Kakashi, he chose not to greet him. And Kakashi did not seem to mind. Instead, he pulled out his book again and started reading while waiting for Alfonzo to finish.

"You coming to the house tonight after school?" Alfonzo asked.

"Yeah, I'll be there." Sasuke said while clenching his fist. "I have to get stronger, otherwise I'll never be able to get revenge for my clan."

Hearing that, Kakashi stopped reading long enough to glance at Sasuke. Then, he shook his head before returning his attention to his book. Alfonzo, on the other hand, could only smile wryly.

"Well, I've got some stuff to give you when you come by." Alfonzo said. "And when you see them, you probably won't feel like training. But I'm sure you'll wanna see this, trust me."

In response, Sasuke furrowed his eyebrows in confusion. However, he could tell that Alfonzo had no intention of telling him anything about it until this afternoon. So, he simply nodded his head.

"Alright then, I'll see you later, Kid." Alfonzo said with a smile. "And don't let what I'm gonna show you later distract you at the academy. Because if I find out it did, I'll put you through a training regimen that will make Ikaruga's look like you were playing house."

Instead of recoiling, Sasuke's eyes lit up. It was clear he was willing to do anything to get stronger, including harsh training. Still, he nodded in understanding before bidding Alfonzo goodbye and continuing on his way to the academy.

"Ten thousand jewels says he lets himself be distracted on purpose." Kakashi said as he put his book away once again.

"I'll take that bet." Alfonzo replied with a smile.

Hearing that, Kakashi raised an eyebrow.

"Because if he gets distracted, there's a good chance someone in his class might surpass him." Alfonzo said, answering Kakashi's unasked question. "And he's way too prideful to let that happen. Anyway, let's get going, I'm getting hungry."

Remembering the breakfast invitation, Kakashi once again started dragging Alfonzo back to his house. And along the way, they continued to chat. And as they saw the other kids that trained at his house, Alfonzo would greet them with a smile.

Chapter 526: Relating to Sasuke

After arriving at the residence he shared with Elicia, Ikaruga, and Irene, Alfonzo immediately went into the kitchen to make breakfast. Meanwhile, Kakashi sat down in the living room and chatted with Elicia and Irene while Ikaruga served them all a cup of tea.

Not long later, Alfonzo, with breakfast for everyone floating behind him, left the kitchen. Then, everyone made their way to the dining room to have breakfast. During breakfast, Alfonzo could tell that Elicia wanted to hear his version of what happened last night. However, with Kakashi there, she held back on asking.

On a side note, Elicia had already grilled Irene about the events from last night. So, she did know what happened after Danzo left the village. However, she had no idea what Alfonzo did before that.

Eventually breakfast ended. Then, Alfonzo and Kakashi left so that Alfonzo could continue working on the training grounds. At the same time, Elicia started working on the Fall Collection for the Taylor Shop with Ikaruga and Irene keeping her company and making sure she did not overdo it while she was pregnant.

Like that, the day passed peacefully. Around mid-afternoon, Alfonzo returned to the residence. Then, after another hour or so, Naruto, Sasuke, and the others arrived. And as soon as they did, Sasuke approached Alfonzo, confusing the other kids.

"Can you show me what you were talking about this morning, now?" Sasuke asked bluntly.

"Sure, come with me." Alfonzo replied with a nod.

While Naruto and the other kids were thoroughly confused and a few of them wanted to follow Alfonzo and Sasuke, they were eventually dragged into the backyard by Ikaruga to start their training.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo brought Sasuke to the spare bedroom he was using as a workshop while in the village. Then, after having Sasuke sit down, he started speaking.

"Alright, Sasuke, what I'm about to show you is probably gonna piss you way the hell off." Alfonzo said, prefacing his next statement. "But I need you to stay calm. And when you feel yourself getting angry and sad, try your best to channel those emotions into your eyes."

Hearing that, Sasuke frowned in confusion. However, he did not speak, waiting for Alfonzo to continue.

"I'm sure you saw all the wanted posters yesterday, right?" Alfonzo asked.

In response, Sasuke nodded his head.

"Well, the Hokage asked me to be the one to bring in the fugitive, Danzo Shimura." Alfonzo continued.

"What was that about, anyway?" Sasuke asked, curiosity brimming in his tone.

"I'm not sure if I'm allowed to tell you that." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "The Hokage asked me to keep it secret."

Though he was unsatisfied, Sasuke nodded in understanding.

"Anyway, while tracking him down, I found his hideout." Alfonzo said, continuing his story. "And while I was searching the place, I found these."

As he reached that point, Alfonzo walked over to the makeshift workbench in the room and picked up the bag Irene gave him. Then, he started pulling out glass bottles. And each bottle contained either one or a pair of Sharingan.

Seeing all the Sharingan, Sasuke first opened his eyes wide in shock. Then his eyes narrowed, his fists clenched, and he gritted his teeth in anger.

"What is the meaning of this?" Sasuke asked, barely holding back the rage he was feeling.

"*Sigh* I heard about the Uchiha massacre, so I know why you want to be strong so badly." Alfonzo said, not answering Sasuke's question directly. Then, when he saw that Sasuke was close to losing control, he continued with what Sasuke wanted to know. "After that tragedy happened, Danzo, with his organization called 'Root', swept in before the Anbu could arrive and took as many Sharingan as they could from your deceased clansmen."

With that, Alfonzo could hear the sound of Sasuke's teeth grinding together.

"Control it Sasuke." Alfonzo said, knowing that Sasuke was about to lose control. "If you want your revenge, you'll never be able to get it if you fly off the handle. To fight someone as strong as your brother, you'll need to be in control. Otherwise, he'll just pick you apart."

Hearing Alfonzo's reminder, Sasuke closed his eyes. Then, using all his anger and sadness, he circulated his magic power before sending it to his eyes. And although he could feel pain from the influx of magic

power in his eyes, he continued to do so. Eventually, he could feel something warm flowing down his cheeks.

Seeing the blood flowing down Sasuke's face from his eyes, Alfonzo knew that Sasuke had taken his advice. So, until the process finished and Sasuke calmed down, the only thing he could do is watch things play out.

Eventually, Sasuke's magic power flow returned to normal. Then, he slowly opened his eyes. And when he did, replacing his normally black irises were a pair of red ones, each with two tomoe surrounding the pupils.

"congratulations." Alfonzo said as he conjured a polished piece of silver. "You've awakened your Sharingan. And it looks like their more than just the basic pair right off the break."

Hearing that, Sasuke snapped back to his senses. Then, he wiped the blood off his face before he looked at Alfonzo. However, instead of seeing Alfonzo's face, he saw his reflection, as Alfonzo made the piece of silver float in front of him. And when Sasuke saw his Sharingan, he could not help but stare in wonder.

"I finally awakened it..." Sasuke muttered in disbelief. Then, he clenched his fists once again. "I'm a step closer to getting my revenge."

"Yeah, but remember, you can't lose yourself to your anger and grief." Alfonzo said, drawing Sasuke's attention back onto himself. "You have to keep a cool head at all times."

In response, Sasuke lowered his head. Honestly, he did not know if he would be able to keep that promise. Every time he thought about his brother and what he did to the rest of his clan, he was overwhelmed by his negative emotions.

Seeing the way Sasuke reacted to his advice, Alfonzo took a step forward. Then, he raised a hand before resting it on top of the young shinobi's head.

"Look, I know what it's like to have everything taken away from you, Sasuke." Alfonzo said in a soothing tone. "Both Lici and I had our parents killed when we were five. And there was nothing we could do about it. So, I get what you're going through."

Sasuke once again looked up at Alfonzo when he heard his words.

"And until only a few years ago, we longed for revenge, just like you." Alfonzo continued.

"Until a few years ago?" Sasuke asked.

"Yeah, we managed to get that revenge." Alfonzo replied with a nod.

'We weren't the ones who killed the ones that killed our parents, though. Alfonzo thought to himself.
'But he doesn't need to know that.'

"But the one thing we did not do was let the thoughts of revenge consume us." Alfonzo replied.
"Instead, we used them to push ourselves forward."

"But you and Elicia had each other." Sasuke said as he lowered his head again. "But me... I'm all alone."

Hearing that, Alfonzo forcefully ruffled Sasuke's hair, making the young shinobi struggle to remove his hand.

"*Sigh* for such a smart kid, why are you so dumb?" Alfonzo asked as he removed his hand from Sasuke's head.

Hearing that, Sasuke frowned. Before he could argue, however, Alfonzo continued speaking.

"You have a group of friends that would be willing to help you, if you'd let them." Alfonzo continued.
"Hell, one of them, who has always been treated like an outcast, would probably be willing to go to hell and back for you if you'd give him a chance to be your friend."

Those words caused Sasuke to see an image of eight young people that he was familiar with in his head. And the one standing in the center of the group was a boy with spiky blond hair and blue eyes.

"Look, I'm not telling you to give up your revenge." Alfonzo continued. "Hell, I really don't have the right to. I mean, I've gone after and taken revenge more than a few times in my life. All I'm saying is, just don't let revenge be the only thing you live for. And opening up to friends makes that a lot easier. It makes this journey we call life a whole lot more interesting, too. Plus, they'll be able to push you forward with your training. A good rival can do that, you know."

To Alfonzo's surprise, Sasuke actually seemed to be contemplating his advice. In the canon, Sasuke never even stopped to listen when the other characters tried to tell him the same thing.

'I guess it's because I went through something similar, if not exactly the same.' Alfonzo mused. 'So, it doesn't sound like people just trying to tell him how to live his life.'

["It probably helps that you didn't try to get him to give up on his revenge, either."] Bedlam added.

'Maybe.' Alfonzo replied internally.

"I'll consider it." Sasuke said, breaking Alfonzo out of his thoughts. "Anyway, I need to get to the training. I still need to get stronger. But having a few rivals to push me forward might not be so bad."

With that, Sasuke turned around intending to leave and train with the others. Meanwhile, Alfonzo smiled at Sasuke's response. Then, just as Sasuke started walking, Alfonzo spoke once again.

"So, you plan to leave without these?" Alfonzo asked as he gestured towards the Sharingan on the workbench.

Bang!

In response, Sasuke tripped over his own feet before falling to the floor, face first. After hearing Alfonzo speak about living for something other than revenge, Sasuke had completely forgotten about his clansmen's eyes.

"I'll come back to get them after training." Sasuke said, his cheeks dusted in a pink hue do to embarrassment.

"Sure." Alfonzo replied with a chuckle. "Tell you what. When you leave, I'll come with you. I'm sure there are more than a few people who would like to get their hands on these. So, I'll set up a barrier at your house so you can store them without worry."

When Sasuke heard Alfonzo chuckle, his blush deepened. However, he also scowled harder than usual. But when he heard Alfonzo's suggestion, he nodded his head quickly. Then, he scrambled to his feet and ran out of the room without another word. However, his blush deepened even further when he heard Alfonzo start laughing at him.

Not long later, after putting away all the Sharingan he showed to Sasuke, Alfonzo stepped back into the living room. And when he did, he found Elicia chattering animatedly while Irene listened with a smile on her face and a glass of wine in her hand.

"Hey ladies, whatcha talking about?" Alfonzo asked as he took a seat next to Elicia.

"Oh, we were talking about the baby's sex." Elicia replied happily as she snuggled into Alfonzo's side. "Like, what we would do if it was a boy or a girl. And how raising boys and girls is different. And..."

Like that, Elicia continued to chatter excitedly, not letting Alfonzo get a word in. Meanwhile, Alfonzo could only glance at Irene awkwardly. In response, Irene only raised her glass in Alfonzo's direction, having just went through what Alfonzo was going through now.

"By the way, what you said to Sasuke was really sweet, Fonzie." Elicia said as she finally ran out of things to say.

"Yes, it really was." Irene added with a nod. "I guess you'll be a fairly good father."

"Well, I'm damn sure gonna try." Alfonzo replied. "I even have a few examples of what not to be if we have a girl."

Hearing that, Elicia and Irene could not help but giggle.

"Yeah, you better not end up like Gildarts or Gozaburo." Elicia said as she started shaking her fist in Alfonzo's direction. "If you do, I'm taking the baby and leaving until you get your stuff together or the baby grows up, whichever happens first."

"Oh, so you would come back?" Irene asked in a curious tone.

"*Sigh* The truth is, I probably wouldn't even be able to leave." Elicia replied while lowering her head. "I can't imagine not being with Fonzie."

"Yeah, that's what I thought." Irene replied. "Besides, with his cooking, something tells me that any girl he has will put up with him just because of that."

"I'm actually concerned with that, too." Elicia said as she placed the back of her left hand on her forehead. "I mean, with Fonzie's cooking, we might never be able to get any of the kids to leave."

That caused both Alfonzo and Irene to burst into laughter. A moment later, Elicia dropped her woe is me act and joined them.

"But in all seriousness." Alfonzo said after getting his laughter in control. "I have no idea of running off all the boys that are interested in any daughters I have in the future. But I will be teaching my girls everything I know about men and how they think. That way, no man will be able to trick them."

In the next instant, Alfonzo's aura grew slightly dark.

"And if there are any punks out there with the balls to hurt any of my little girls, well... They won't have them for very long." Alfonzo said in a cold tone.

"I'm actually more concerned with what the girls will do to any boy with that much audacity." Irene said, completely unfazed by Alfonzo's aura. "I mean, I know you'll do what you promise, but they all have much meaner streaks than you. And I get the feeling they'll make them think castration is a much better punishment."

"Oh, you better believe it." Elicia replied, her aura even darker than Alfonzo's.

With that, the trio continued to chat. Eventually, Alfonzo got up to prepare dinner. And when Ikaruga's training ended, he invited all the kids to join them. Then, after dinner was over, Alfonzo accompanied Sasuke back to the Uchiha compound and set up the barrier for all the recovered Sharingan before heading back home to tell Elicia his version of what happened the night before.

Chapter 527: Gimme the Loot! Gimme the Loot!

After helping Sasuke set up the barrier to keep the eyes of his deceased clansmen safe, Alfonzo returned to the temporary residence. When he arrived, he noticed that everyone seemed to be in their rooms. So, he went straight to the master bedroom. And just as expected, he found Elicia lying in the bed. Though, she was not asleep yet.

"Hey, Lici." Alfonzo said after entering the bedroom. "I knew you'd still be awake."

"Of course I am." Elicia said with a smile. "I wanna know what happened after you left to get Danzo."

Smiling in response, Alfonzo started taking off his clothes.

"Alright, I'll tell you all about it after I take a shower." Alfonzo replied.

"Okay~." Elicia said, the anticipation evident in her tone.

With that, Alfonzo finished getting undressed. Then, he made his way into the master bedroom and jumped in the shower. And after about fifteen minutes, he came out dressed for bed before turning off the lights.

Climbing into bed, Alfonzo snuggled up behind Elicia, who was lying on her side, and wrapped his arms around her waist, very gently.

"Now, hurry up!" Elicia exclaimed excitedly. "Tell me what happened."

Once again smiling at his wife's enthusiasm, Alfonzo told Elicia everything that happened after he left the house. How he basically robbed Danzo of everything in the base's records room. How he stalked Danzo after that. And especially, how he enjoyed the look on Danzo's face when he found out he had become a wanted man.

"I wish I could have seen that." Elicia muttered with a pout. "I bet it was hilarious."

"*Sigh* Yeah, it was glorious." Alfonzo said with a fond smile on his face. "And guess what, you can see it."

"Huh?" Elicia exclaimed in confusion as she turned her head back towards Alfonzo.

A moment later, Elicia saw an [Archive Magic] screen pop into existence. Then, she felt the image of Danzo's shocked face appear in her mind. And as soon as it did, she could not help but burst into a fit of giggles.

"Hehehe. I'm so glad you learned [Archive Magic]." Elicia said while trying to get her giggling fit under control. "Even if you didn't make cell phones with it, this picture makes it all worth it."

Once again smiling at Elicia's enthusiasm, Alfonzo was about to get back to the story. However, Elicia brought up another topic before he could.

"Speaking of the cell phones... I mean iPhones, they'll be going on sale soon, right?" Elicia asked.

"Yeah, Marin's dad will be making the announcement during the first day of the Grand Magic Games." Alfonzo replied. "He'll actually be a guest commentator for part of the day's events."

"Really?" Elicia asked in a surprised tone. "Does Marin know?"

"Nope." Alfonz replied while smiling mischievously. "I thought it would be a nice surprise for her."

"Hehe... I can hear her now." Elicia said while giggling. Then, she did her best impression of Marin. "Tch! Look at him trying to be cool in front of all these people. He's way too plain for that."

Hearing that, Alfonzo could not help but laugh along. Then, after his laughter died down, he got back to telling his story. And from that point on, the story was the same as the one she heard from Irene. The difference was that it was from Alfonzo's perspective. Alfonzo also added his conversation with Hiruzen after getting back to the village.

"Then, when I walked out of the Hokage Tower," Alfonzo said, wrapping up his story. "Kakashi showed up. Along the way, we ran into Sasuke and I told him I had something to show him. Then, we came back and I made breakfast."

"Yeah, you definitely had a long night." Elicia said as she reached back over her shoulder and touched Alfonzo's cheek. "Aren't you tired? I mean, you didn't even get a nap since you woke up yesterday."

"A little." Alfonzo replied. "But you know me, I'll be fine. I don't really need all that much sleep."

"Good." Elicia said. "Then, you can be the one to get up on late night diaper duty."

"I don't have a problem with that." Alfonzo said with a smile. "You'll still have to get up to feed them, though. Then, again, maybe this will help you wake up on your own, though."

"*Sigh* Don't remind me." Elicia said in a distraught tone. "I already made my peace with the fact that I won't get to sleep so peacefully when I told you I wanted a baby. But you don't have to say it out loud."

Alfonzo chuckled as he hugged Elicia a little tighter.

"Anyway, you haven't told me about the most important part of last night's adventure." Elicia said as she turned around in Alfonzo's arms. Then, when she was looking into his eyes, she continued. "The loot! What kind of goodies did you find in Danzo's base? And I'm not talking about all the Sharingan you gave to Sasuke. And I don't care about all the evidence you gave to Hiruzen. Tell me about the good stuff!"

"I was wondering how long it would take you to ask about that." Alfonzo said while smiling brightly. "And I gotta say, you took much longer than I expected."

"Whatever~." Elicia replied while rolling her eyes. "Just tell me."

"Alright, alright, take it easy." Alfonzo said with a smile. Then, after taking a deep breath, he continued. "I got a copy of every Jutsu present in the Village Hidden in the Leaves."

Hearing that, Elicia's eyes widened in surprise. Then, they began to sparkle like stars.

"ON top of that, I got all the magic power training methods from the academy level, all the way to the stuff the elite members of the Anbu use. In other words..."

"Wall walking and water walking!" Elicia exclaimed excitedly. "Nature transformation training, too!"

"Yeah, pretty much." Alfonzo replied. "And although those things don't really mean much to me since I can fly and control more than just an element, I thought you'd really like them."

In fact, with Elicia's magic power control, both tree walking and water walking from Naruto should be within her grasp. However, because of the fact that she still identifies this world as a Fairy Tail world, she never considered trying it out for herself. And when she does, she'll end up wanting to kick herself after realizing how easy it was.

Instead of responding verbally, Elicia pulled Alfonzo into a kiss. Then, after kissing him on the lips, she repeatedly kissed him all over his face.

"Even better than that..." Alfonzo said while Elicia continued to kiss him. "... you'll be able to learn how to use [Shadow Clones], too. So, you'll never fall behind on your tailor work, ever again."

Hearing that, Elicia froze for a moment. Then, she pulled Alfonzo into another kiss, the happiness she showed with this kiss was clear for anyone to see.

"Hurry up and teach me." Elicia demanded excitedly.

"Nope, we're gonna start with the basics." Alfonzo replied. "I'm pretty sure our magic power control is precise enough. Still, the first thing I'm gonna teach you is their magic power control and the hand signs."

Elicia pouted in response. However, she knew that was the best move. Still, she wanted to do all kinds of cool Ninjutsu just like she saw in the Naruto manga and anime.

"But we don't need to learn the hand signs. Alfonzo added. "Instead, we just need to memorize how they make our magic power move in our bodies. That way, we can perform any Jutsu we want without using the hand signs."

"Oh, I get it." Elicia said in a tone of realization. "and that way, no one will know we're even using Ninjutsu or Genjutsu, right?"

"That's right." Alfonzo replied. "And no one will know we have the information that we're not supposed to have. Especially since I gave all the scrolls with all this stuff in it back to Hiruzen."

"Haha! [Archive Magic] for the win." Elicia said happily.

"Damn right." Alfonzo said with a smile. "Anyway, let's go to sleep. I'll transfer all the training methods to you tomorrow morning. Then, you can experiment with them... No, never mind."

"Huh? What do you mean?" Elicia asked in a confused tone.

"I'm not transferring this information to you until the baby is born." Alfonzo said sternly.

"What? Why~~~~~?" Elicia asked in a whiny tone.

"Because you'll definitely overdo it in your excitement." Alfonzo explained. "And Ikaruga definitely won't be able to stop you. And Irene, instead of stopping you, would ask you what you're training. Then, she would ask you to teach her too so she could analyze it."

Elicia wanted to argue. But Alfonzo's predictions were so accurate that she did not even know where to start. So, instead of starting an argument she knew she could not win, she chose to pout at Alfonzo as hard as she could to make her dissatisfaction known.

Ignoring Elicia's pouting, Riot trying to convince him to give Elicia what she wanted, Bedlam calling Riot a simp, and the fight that resulted from Bedlam's comment, Alfonzo closed his eyes. Then before long, he drifted off into the land of dreams. And when Elicia realized he was sleep, she, too, closed her eyes and fell asleep.

The next day started like any other day. Alfonzo woke up shortly after sunrise. Then, he got out of bed and went to the backyard to train until it was time to get cleaned up and make breakfast. Around that time, Elicia woke up thanks to the smell of the food.

After breakfast, Alfonzo met Kakashi outside his door. And went to work on the training grounds. However, after the work day ended is when Alfonzo's usual routine changed. Instead of going back to his residence, he went to see Hiruzen in his office. He needed to discuss how he, Elicia, Ikaruga, and Irene would be compensated for the attacks, after all.

When Alfonzo was allowed into Hiruzen's office, the only thing he could see were stacks of paper all over the office. In fact, Hiruzen could not even be seen behind his desk thanks to all the paper that was piled up on it.

"Damn, what happened in here?" Alfonzo asked in a cheeky tone. "Looks like you've really fallen behind on your paperwork."

Though he could not see him, Alfonzo was certain that Hiruzen was glaring at him with all his might. And the intensity was so strong that if he was not careful, Hiruzen might burn holes in the stacks of paperwork on his desk.

"Alright, I'm sorry." Alfonzo said while raising his hands disarmingly. "I just couldn't help myself."

"*Sigh* The worst thing is, even if you were one of my shinobi, I wouldn't be able to punish you for your rudeness." Hiruzen said after a moment, his words accompanied by a cloud of smoke rising from behind all the paperwork. "You're so good at what you do, I wouldn't wanna annoy you over something so

trivial. I mean seriously, you tracked down Danzo, who I'm not even sure my best Anbu would be able to find if he didn't want to be, in one night. Then, you defeated him and his hundred subordinates single-handedly. *Sigh* I'm just glad you're not the Leaf's enemy."

"What can I say." Alfonzo said with a smile while shrugging his shoulders. "I was trained by some of the best."

In the next instant, Alfonzo's prideful attitude disappeared completely as he continued.

"Anyway, that's enough with the small talk." Alfonzo continued in a solemn tone. "Now, I wanna know, how are you gonna compensate us for what happened the other day."

"*Sigh* I was expecting this today." Hiruzen replied as he stood up. Then, he walked over to another table in his office. "Honestly, I don't really think there is much the village can give you. On top of that, you deserve a reward for bringing in one of our village's missing nin."

Reaching that point, Hiruzen arrived in front of the table. And on top of that table was a storage scroll that he picked up. Then, he made his way to Alfonzo. And once he was in front of the younger man, Hiruzen spread out the scroll before pushing some of his magic power into it.

In the next moment, from a cloud of smoke, a metal ingot and two other scrolls appeared that Hiruzen caught before they fell to the floor.

Looking at the items in Hiruzen's hands, Alfonzo was naturally attracted to the ingot. And from what he could tell, it was a metal he had never seen before.

"This is an ingot of Chakra Metal." Hiruzen said after noticing Alfonzo's focus on the metal ingot. "It's actually one of the village's strategic resources. It's just as magically conductive as mithril and as durable as black steel."

Hearing that, Alfonzo could not keep his eyes from lighting up. Black steel is one of the more durable metals Alfonzo has ever had the pleasure of working with. In fact, it's durability was the whole reason Gajeel got his epitaph, since he's so hard to bring down. But when you add mithril's conductivity on top of that, you get one of the best metals in the world.

As it turns out, mithril, despite its conductivity, is a quite weak metal. That's why, other than weapons that are meant to solely act as foci, mithril is almost always alloyed when crafting magic weapons.

"As for these scrolls, they are an introduction to hand signs and an advanced magic power training manual." Hiruzen continued. "And when you leave, Kakashi will provide you with four pieces of Chakra Paper for you and your companions to check your elemental affinities. And once that is done, you, your wife, Miss Belserion, and Miss Ikaruga will each be allowed to learn one A-ranked Jutsu or lower from the village's Jutsu Library."

Hearing that, Alfonzo opened his eyes wide in surprise before quickly accepting Hiruzen's compensation.

'Good, now when Elicia inevitably starts using [Shadow Clones] we'll have an excuse.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'On top of that, I should be able to start learning [Seals]. And when I come back, I might even start teaching Naruto. I mean, he's n Uzumaki. There's no way he doesn't have a talent for them.'

After that, Alfonzo bid Hiruzen farewell. Then, he quickly made his way out of the Hokage Tower, where he met Kakashi, and headed back to his residence.

Chapter 528: Fairy Tail Arrives in Crocus

After receiving his and the other's compensation from Hiruzen, Alfonzo left the Hokage Tower. Then, he returned to his residence with Kakashi. Along the way, he mentioned the chakra papers and Kakashi handed them to him without hesitation and explained how they worked.

Then, after arriving at the house, Alfonzo told Elicia, Irene, and Ikaruga about the compensation they received. And they were all curious to find out what their elemental affinities were according to the style of magic used by the shinobi on the continent.

So, after each of them received a piece of chakra paper, they all pushed a sliver into them. Then, they watched as each of their slips of paper reacted in different ways.

It should be known that the shinobi generally possess one or more of seven different affinities, Earth, Fire, Water, Wind, Lightning, Yin, and Yang are the seven affinities. This does not include any advanced affinities that may come about thanks to bloodline Kekkei Genkai, which come about due to a fusion of two of the seven base affinities.

First was Ikaruga, whose piece of chakra paper split in half before one side was shredded to bits and the other was burned to ashes. This signified that she had wind and fire as her elemental affinities.

Next was Irene, whose paper had three different reactions. The first third of the paper turned a pure white color. The next third turned pitch black. And the last section burned to ashes, much like Ikaruga's, signifying Irene had Yin, Yang, and Fire affinities.

After that was Elicia, whose chakra paper only showed two variations. The two halves of her paper turned pure white and pitch black, signifying that she had affinities for Yin and Yang.

And finally, Alfonzo's paper also showed three different reactions like Irene's. A third of his paper turned pure white. Another third turned into dust. And the final third began to crinkle. These reactions showed that Alfonzo had affinities for Yang, Earth, and Lightning.

Before the four could discuss the changes in their chakra papers, however, Naruto and the others arrived. And different from usual, Alfonzo decided to take their training into his own hands, letting Ikaruga spend time with the other ladies.

And thanks to Alfonzo's haul from Danzo's base, he had a much better idea of how they should be trained. And that would lead to the group of nine youngsters improving even faster than with Ikaruga's training. Unfortunately for the children, Alfonzo was also a much harsher trainer than Ikaruga, as well. As a result, some of the kids, mainly Shikamaru, who was the laziest of the nine, would have preferred to continue training with Ikaruga.

And for the rest of the month, each day followed the same schedule. And eventually, the day Alfonzo, Elicia, Irene, and Ikaruga would leave the Village Hidden in the Leaves arrived. Luckily, there were no tearful or overly emotional goodbyes. Well, for the most part. Guy, in his youthful way, almost seemed heartbroken when he found out his friends from Fairy Tail were leaving, as a result, he cried loudly as they left. And his disciple, Rock Lee followed his teacher in his youthful display.

Everyone else could only roll their eyes at the green spandex wearing duo's antics. Especially since at least Alfonzo would be back before the end of the year. On top of that, Hiruzen, Kakashi, Guy, and all the twelve youngsters were invited to Alfonzo's wedding with Erza and Sun.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Crocus.

June 30, x787.

Currently, the wizards of Fairy Tail were packed into the three military style vehicles they used when they stormed Phantom Lord's guild building three years ago. And they just parked outside of a hotel in the middle of Crocus.

"They are coming, right?" Marin asked as she hopped out of the back of one of the trucks. "I mean, I thought they would come back to Magnolia so they could ride with the rest of us. You know, to, like, show a united front."

"They'll definitely be here." Erza replied, hopping out of the truck behind Marin. "They would not miss the opportunity to root for the guild in a situation like this."

"Erza's right, Marin." Mirajane said with a smile as she approached, having just gotten out of a different truck. "There's really no need to worry."

Before Marin could respond, Natsu, who had been flying with Happy, landed next to the group. And he had overheard the conversation.

"Oh man, they had better be here!" Natsu shouted loudly. "I can't wait to show them how strong I've gotten since they left. I'm definitely gonna beat Alfonzo next time we fight!"

"Dream on, Flame Brain." Gray said as he approached the group as well. "You're just gonna get your ass kicked like you always do."

"Oh yeah?" Natsu asked in a challenging tone. "Then, why don't I show you how strong I am first?"

"Any time!" Gray shouted back.

Bang! x 2

"That's enough, you two." Erza said sternly after punching Gray and Natsu in the head. "How many times do I have to tell you two not to fight."

In response, Gray and Natsu could only fall silent while holding their aching heads. However, they continued to glare at each other with the will to fight swirling in their eyes.

"Did I not make myself clear?" Erza asked, her tone growing even sterner.

"Aye!" Gray and Natsu replied simultaneously after feeling Erza's oppressive aura.

"Those two will never change." Cana said before she started chugging a bottle of ale as she and Ultear approached from the last truck.

"Like you're one to talk." Lucy said as she, too, hopped out of the first truck. "But seriously, I'm kinda worried for Crocus. I mean, when this many members of the guild are gathered in one place, things don't tend to stay in one piece for very long."

"You don't need to worry about that, Lucy." Sun, who just climbed out of a smaller magic vehicle with her parents and Masa, replied with a smile. "Everyone knows how far they are allowed to take things."

"Sun's right." Ultear added. "besides, if they take things too far, Mom will get angry, and no one wants that."

Hearing that, everyone, even someone as thick headed as Natsu, nodded their heads in agreement. And Ur's punishments when she was angered have only gotten worse ever since she managed to break the first seal on her [Soul Armament], Yuki-onna.

"Alright, is everyone here?" Ur asked loudly, her voice cutting through all the noise of her guild. Then, after spreading her [Magic Power Detection] and feeling the magic power signatures of all her wizards, she nodded her head before continuing. "Good. Well then, after we get checked in to the hotel, you all are free to do what you want for the rest of the day. But the team competing in the tournament must be back at the hotel by midnight. That's one of the rules of the Grand Magic Games. So, I don't wanna hear any complaints."

"Yeah, we understand." Laxus replied from his place among the rest of his team.

Naturally, the rest of Laxus' team consisted of the Thunder God Tribe. However, that would only make a total of four members and the Grand Magic Games were for teams of five. However, to the rest of the guild's surprise, the fifth member of the team was not someone considered to be very strong. In fact, they had not even been training their magic for two years. And that person was Saya Takagi.

In fact, ever since Alfonzo left for the Village Hidden in the Leaves, Laxus decided that he would try to get Saya's attention. And at first, all his attempts were a complete and utter failure. However, when he started showing that he was more than just a muscle head, he manage to gain Saya's attention. And although it took him a few months, he eventually got her to join the Thunder god Tribe.

There were even hints of romance in Laxus' and Saya's interactions. However, their relationship had not become official yet. And that was mostly thanks to Saya's tsundere nature. The thing that surprised everyone the most about this relationship, however, was just how patient Laxus was being with Saya. Especially those who knew just how overbearing he could be.

"Good." Ur replied. "Now, let's go inside and get our rooms. The entire city is gonna be like a festival while the Grand Magic Games is going on, and like you , I wanna enjoy myself."

"Yeah~~~~~!" The wizards of Fairy Tail shouted excitedly at Ur's declaration.

The, the entire guild began moving towards the hotel, which was owned by Sixth sense Holdings. Meaning, the entire guild could stay for free since Fairy Tail was a shareholder of the company.

Eventually, Ur, with Gildarts by her side, reached the front doors of the hotel. But before she pulled them open, she turned back to speak to her guild one more time.

"Oh, and I'd suggest you guys try your damndest not to break anything in the hotel." Ur said in a warning tone. "I'm sure none of you want to pay for anything you break. And you will pay for it if you break anything, trust me. Sixth Sense Holdings has a way of getting their money. And if you don't believe

me, you can ask Gildarts about when he destroyed the entrance to the Sixth Sense Restaurant and Lounge and ran away."

As soon as Ur brought up that incident, Gildarts began to shudder. And none of the wizards present missed it. So, they decided to keep Ur's warning in mind. Though that probably would not make much of a difference in the long run.

After giving her warning, Ur finally pulled the hotel's doors open. And when she did, the entire guild froze with surprise written on their faces when they saw what lay beyond the doors.

Past the doors was possibly the most luxurious lobby anyone from the guild had ever seen. However, that was not what surprised the group of wizards, as most of them could care less about luxury. Instead, what surprised them were the four people standing in the middle of the lobby and smiling at them cheerfully.

"Hey, what took you guys so long?" Alfonzo, flank by Elicia and Irene with Ikaruga standing behind the trio at a respectful distance, asked while smiling happily at his guild mates. "I almost thought you guys weren't coming."

"Hey everyone, it's been a while." Elicia said while smiling brightly and waving at her guild mates. "Did you miss us?"

Irene, on the other hand, remained silent while smiling. Though, her gaze mostly lingered on Erza. Ikaruga, on the other hand, carried herself in a manner befitting her role as a maid.

Eventually, the guild snapped out of their dazes and started moving forward to greet the guild mates they had not seen in months. However, just as they all started to move, a blonde-haired blur shot past all of them. Then, she latched onto Alfonzo, hugging him with both her arms and legs.

"Fonzie, I missed you!" Shizuka shouted happily while hugging Alfonzo tightly.

Then, surprising everyone, Shizuka leaned forward and kissed Alfonzo passionately, even though she did not use her tongue. And after about a minute, Shizuka separated her lips from Alfonzo's and smiled.

"This means we're boyfriend and girlfriend now, right?" Shizuka asked while tilting her head cutely.

And for the first time, even though he had been kissed out of the blue plenty of times in both his lives, The wizards of Fairy Tail saw Alfonzo at a total loss. He knew that Shizuka had feelings for him before he left Magnolia for his job. However, he knew they weren't so strong that Shizuka would do something like this.

"*Sigh* I guess the saying is true." Alfonzo said after rebooting his brain. "Absence really does make the heart grow fonder, huh?"

"Uh... I guess?" Shizuka replied, her tone making it clear she was not familiar with that proverb.

In response, Alfonzo could only smile. Then, he leaned closer and pecked Shizuka on the lips.

"Sure, this means we're boyfriend and girlfriend now." Alfonzo replied to Shizuka's earlier question.

That answer caused Shizuka to smile brightly.

"Yay~! Now I can ask you to stroke my hair and cook for me, and sing for me." Shizuka said, listing all the things she'd like Alfonzo to do. "Oh, and now I can live in the big mansion on the lake, too, right?"

"Sure, if you want to." Elicia said, cutting into the conversation. "It will be great to have you, Shizuka."

Hearing that, Shizuka finally seemed to register that Alfonzo was not alone. And when she looked in Elicia's direction, her eyes lit up. Then, she let go of Alfonzo and hopped over to pull Elicia into a hug. Though, she made sure to be much gentler when she did so.

"Wow, Lici, I'm so glad to see you again!" Shizuka squealed excitedly. "I really missed you! Oh, and look at you, it's almost time to have the baby huh?"

Then, before Elicia could answer any of Shizuka's questions, Shizuka started dragging Elicia towards the hotel's interior.

"Come on, let me give you a checkup. Since I'm Alfonzo's girlfriend now, I'm gonna be an auntie when you have the baby. I wanna make sure my little niece or nephew is okay." Shizuka said excitedly.

And just like that, Elicia and Shizuka, with Ikaruga following them, moved into the hotel's interior with Elicia eventually leading Shizuka to the suite that was booked for Alfonzo and his harem.

"*Sigh* And there goes Hurricane Shizuka moving at her own pace." Rika said with a smile.

That statement was enough to get everyone out of their dazes. Then, the rest of the guild entered the hotel and greeted the guild mates they had not seen for months and booked their rooms. After a while, the guild split into groups and went out to explore Crocus and enjoy the festival-like atmosphere.

Chapter 529: The First Grand Magic Games

After taking the time to talk to Alfonzo and Irene for a little while, the members of Fairy Tail eventually went off on their own to enjoy the festival atmosphere that covered Crocus. However, seeing so many members of Fairy Tail out and about managed to scare a lot of people who were familiar with their reputation.

Luckily, the threat of Ur's anger was enough to keep most of the Fairy Tail wizards in line. Naturally, the only exceptions to that rule, since Alfonzo, Elicia, Irene, and Ikaruga were back, most of them were kept under strict surveillance. Meaning, Cana and Erza were touring around the city with Alfonzo, along with the rest of his girlfriends.

Natsu, on the other hand, was too concerned with going around to every food stall he could find with Lisanna and Happy. And instead of causing trouble, for the most part, they were happy stuffing their faces. On top of that, whenever Natsu got out of hand, Lisanna was there to reel him in.

Meanwhile, the other member of the guild prone to causing collateral damage, Gray, was actually on a date through the city with Juvia. So, he did not have the time to destroy anything, either.

Just like that, the day went by peacefully with the members of the guild occasionally running into members of other guilds and Grand Magic Games hopefuls. But eventually, the day wound down to a close. And just as Ur said when they arrived at the hotel, all the members of Fairy Tail were back at the hotel before midnight.

In fact, the teams who intended to participate in the Grand Magic Games actually went back to rest even earlier. Wanting to be at their best when the Games started, they went to bed early.

Unfortunately, they were not destined to get the rest they were looking forward to.

July 1, x787.

Buzz~~~~~!

While everyone was getting the rest they needed before the Grand Magic Games started, a loud buzzer rang out over the city just as the clock struck midnight.

{"Hello! Hello! Everybody wake up!"} A high pitched male voice rang out over the city of Crocus.
{"There's no time to sleep! We have to begin the preliminaries for the Grand Magic Games! There are just too many of you here to participate!"}

Accompanying that loud noise and the announcement, when people looked around, there was a gigantic projection of a small person wearing a pumpkin head mask and wearing the attire of a jester with a green, wide brimmed hat in the sky that could be seen from anywhere in Crocus.

Naturally, most people were confused to see this weirdly dressed person in the sky. And the pumpkin-headed person seemed to realize that, as well.

{"Oh, how rude of me!"} The pumpkin-headed little man said in a theatrical tone. {"I forgot to introduce myself. You can call me Matto. And I'm the host of the Grand Magic Games!"}

"Ugh! Does he have to be so loud?" Cana, who was awakened when the loud buzzer sounded throughout the city complained as she covered her ears with her pillow. "Couldn't this wait till morning?"

"*Sigh* At times like this, I really envy Lici." Ultear muttered while trying to cover her ears, as well.

Just as Ultear said, while everyone else was awake and annoyed from being woken up so abruptly at midnight, Elicia, while smiling happily, was sleeping while hugging onto Alfonzo.

Surprisingly, however, she was not the only one in that state, though. Shizuka, who after officially joining Alfonzo's harem, decided that she wanted to sleep in Alfonzo's bed, too. And just like Elicia, she was hugging onto Alfonzo in her sleep while smiling happily.

Before any more complaints could be made, a bright light rose from the central plaza of the city. Then, Matto continued to speak.

{"Now, I'm sure you all can see that bright light, right?"} Matto asked in a jovial tone. {"Well, that is a magic circle that will teleport any team who wants to participate in the Grand Magic Games to the

preliminary competition where we will cut down the participating teams to the eight who will compete in the main event. So, each guild should send their representatives into the circle. And remember, they have to have their guild's mark to be a valid competitor!"}

With that, teams of five could be seen exiting hotels from all over the city. And it did not take long for them to reach the magic circle in the central plaza. Then, as soon as the first team stepped into the magic circle, the projection of Matto changed to a view of an obstacle course. And as time went by, the viewers could see the teams flashing into existence in front of the starting line.

Eventually, when all the participating teams were on the starting line, Matto's voice rang out once again.

{"Okay, folks, the rules are simple."} Matto said happily. {"When I say go, all teams will start running. Then, the first eight teams with all their members to cross the finish line will move on to the main event that starts in the morning. Use of magic is allowed to make yourself faster or hinder your opponents, too. See, just like I said, simple, right? Alright then, if there are no questions, you can start in... three... two... one... go!"}

As soon as the signal was given, all the teams took off, trying their very best to be one of the eight teams to move on to the main event. Unfortunately, most of the teams were doomed to fail. There were so many guilds in Fiore, yet only eight could move on, after all.

In the end, five of the eight teams were the ones everyone expected to move on. Namely, in the order they finished, Fairy Tail, Lamia Scale, Blue Pegasus, Mermaid Heel, and Quatro Cerberus. The other three teams that qualified for the next round were also fairly strong, as well. However, they were much less renowned.

{"Alright, the eight teams have been decided.!"} Matto shouted once the race was over and his projection replaced that of the obstacle course. {"So, I'll see you all tomorrow morning in the newly built coliseum, the Domus Flau! Until then, sleep tight and sweet dreams!"}

With that, Matto's projection blinked out. Then, the whole city began discussing the preliminaries and who they thought would end up winning the entire Grand Magic Games.

"Alright, now that the shows over, let's go back to sleep." Cana said after chugging down a bottle of wine. "We gotta get up early tomorrow so we can get good seats."

"*Sigh* Sometimes I wonder how you ever get up at all with how much you drink." Lucy said as she lay back down in bed."

"I'm just built different." Cana said in a cheeky tone, making Lucy roll her eyes.

"It would seem that Laxus' control of his magic power has improved rather substantially since the Battle of Fairy Tail tournament." Erza said, deciding she wanted to talk about what she saw during the race. "He was able to move so quickly while holding Saya in his arms like that."

"Yeah, and considering that her body is nowhere near as strong as his, he would have had to wrap her with his magic power so she wouldn't get hurt." Ultear added.

"Plus, they looked, like, uber-cute together." Marin added, more interested in gossiping than talking about how fine Laxus' magic power control was.

"Yeah, and Saya blushed from the moment Laxus picked her up till the projection cut out." Sun said, sounding just as excited as Marin. "It was really cute."

With that, all the ladies who were awake started gossiping about Laxus and Saya. And that would have probably continued for much longer if Alfonzo had not said anything.

"Laxus is just lucky Yoruichi hasn't come back yet." Alfonzo said. "She would have been able to take all of her teammates across the finish line, one at a time, in the time it took Laxus to complete the obstacle course."

That statement immediately put a damper on the girl's enthusiasm. And everyone, other than Erza, pouted as they turned their attention to Alfonzo.

"Why did you have to bring up that bitch?" Cana asked in a disgruntled tone. "I mean, why do you even have anything nice to say about her after what she did back then?"

"*Sigh* What I said was the truth, Cana." Alfonzo replied. "No matter what, Yoruichi was the fastest wizard on Ishgar while she was here. And just because you don't like her, that fact won't change."

"Yeah, but no one wants to think about her, Fonzie." Marin said with a pout. "Punching her in the face was kinda nice, though."

"*sigh* I know." Alfonzo said while shaking his head. "but something tells me she's gonna come back sooner rather than later. And when she does, she's gonna make Mermaid Heel a real problem in the Grand Magic Games."

Although none of the ladies wanted to admit it, they all agreed with Alfonzo. And it was not just because of Yoruichi. They knew that if Yoruichi came back, Sui-Feng would probably be right behind her, too. So, Mermaid Heel would get two more strong wizards added to the Grand Magic Games team.

"Anyway, Cana was right." Alfonzo said. "We gotta get up early. So, we should get back to sleep."

"*Sigh* It's too bad Shizuka is here." Cana said in a disappointed tone. "If she wasn't, I could think of a way for you to help me get to sleep. But she's definitely not ready for that, yet."

Not only Cana, but everyone else in the room who was awake was more or less thinking the same thing, even Alfonzo. None of the ladies have had sex in over half a year. And it had been a few months for Alfonzo, as well. So, they were all a little pent up. But with Shizuka present, they could not do what they wanted to do.

"It'll probably be fun to see her face when she first gets some, though." Ultear said as her lips curled into a grin. "Just the thought of it makes me somewhat understand why Lici likes watching so much."

"*Sigh* Lici is a bad influence." Lucy said as she rolled over to find a comfortable position. "You've all been corrupted."

"Stop complaining, Lucy." Marin said as she poked Lucy in the back. "You know you love it. Especially considering how much you like being watched."

Instead of replying, Lucy pulled the covers up over her head to hide her blush. Unfortunately, that only made the other, more mischievous, ladies join in on the teasing. Alfonzo, on the other hand, could only shake his head. Then, he decided he would just go to sleep and let them deal with the consequences of playing around until late in the night.

The next morning, most of the girls were exhausted. Naturally, the exceptions were Elicia and Shizuka, who slept right through the preliminary round of the Grand Magic Games. Despite that, they all woke up early enough to have breakfast with the rest of the guild and get to the Domus Flau early enough that they could find seats so their whole guild could sit together.

And from that point, the Grand Magic Games seemed to just fly by. With play-by-play done by a thin, short, pale skinned man with black eyes, a large square face with comparatively small facial features, and wearing a wig that covered his bald head by the name of Lola Chapatti and color commentary by the ex-Magic Councilmen, Yajima, every event and battle was kept interesting.

There were even a number of guest commentators sprinkled over the seven days of the Games. And just as Alfonzo said, Marin's father was the guest on the first day. And he announced that Sixth Sense shops would be selling iPhones as soon as the Grand Magic Games' first day came to an end.

Naturally, that sent the crowd into an uproar. Although Masumi Kitagawa, Marin's father and CEO of Sixth Sense Holdings, only gave the crowd the bare minimum when it comes to the iPhone's capabilities, just having a way to easily communicate with people over vast distances was more than enough to get the public all riled up.

Like that, the festival brought by the Grand Magic Games went on for a week. However, like all good things do, it eventually came to an end. And when it did, Fairy Tail stood above all the other guilds in Fiore and claimed the title of Fiore's strongest guild, a title they had held unofficially for years.

Then, after a banquet held by the Royal Family to honor all the guilds and the effort they showed during the Grand Magic Games, everyone headed home the following day, bringing a full close to the first of many Grand Magic Games to come.

Chapter 530: There's No Place Like Home

"finally, we're back home." Alfonzo said as he stepped out of the elevator after parking the Escalade in the garage under the mansion. "Ugh... It feels like forever since I slept in my own bed. I really just wanna dive in and not wake up for the next three months."

"Yeah, I can see that." Elicia replied as she hugged Alfonzo's left arm. "I mean, you've been going pretty much nonstop ever since we left back in January. I think you deserve a break."

"*Sigh* Unfortunately, that's not possible." Alfonzo said. "There's still so much to do. I mean, we need to hire that squad of maids, and that needs to happen before you have the baby. I have research to do on some of the goodies I took from Danzo's base, not to mention Shisui's eye and Shin's arm, I have to help prepare for the Fantasia Parade, and most importantly, I have to get things ready for Sun and Erza's wedding."

"Yeah, you've really got a lot on your plate, huh?" Elicia said, not realizing just how busy Alfonzo would be until he mentioned everything that was going on in his life. "Still, you need some time to rest, too."

As she reached that point, Elicia, who had been walking through the mansion with Alfonzo while Ikaruga followed them, took Alfonzo's luggage from him and handed it to Ikaruga, who accepted it diligently before stepping away to put it away.

Then, once Ikaruga left to put away Alfonzo and Elicia's luggage, Elicia pulled Alfonzo along to the living room. Wasting no time, she sat down on a couch. A moment later, she pulled Alfonzo down to sit next to her. Then, she forced him to lay his head on her lap before she started combing her fingers through his hair and brushing her fingers against his scalp, the way he often does to her.

"Even if it's just for today, let yourself rest, Fonzie." Elicia said in a soothing tone.

Knowing Elicia was right about him, Alfonzo allowed all the tension to leave his muscles. Then, he just enjoyed the feeling of Elicia's fingertips brushing against his scalp. And although he did not fall asleep, for the first time in a while, he found himself truly relaxed.

"Thanks, Lici." Alfonzo said with his eyes closed. Then, he turned his head to the side and kissed Elicia's belly over her clothes before he spoke quietly. "Your mommy is the best."

Hearing that, Elicia smiled brightly as she continued running her fingers between Alfonzo's dreads. And like that, the two enjoyed their time together in comfortable silence. Even when the other girls returned home, none of them had the heart to disturb their tranquility... For a while at least.

Eventually, the girls got hungry. And considering the fact that they had not had Alfonzo's cooking in almost half a year, they were impatient to get their fix. So, Alfonzo was eventually forced to get up and cook for all the mansion's residents.

July 10, x787.

The next day, everyone living in the mansion, other than Alfonzo, Elicia, and Ikaruga, went to the guild hall for training. Meanwhile, Elicia stayed at home to continue working on the Fall Collection for the Taylor Shop. Alfonzo, on the other hand, went into the forest east of Magnolia to see Porlyusica.

Knock! *Knock!* *Knock!*

Eventually, Alfonzo reached Porlyusica's tree house. And when he did, he knocked politely. Not long after that, the door was pulled open with force. And when it was, Porlyusica, with her ever present scowl, was revealed.

"Oh, you're back." Porlyusica said, clearly surprised to see Alfonzo standing in her doorway. "Well, what do you want? I'm a busy woman."

'Sure you are.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'AS busy as someone who never leaves their house can---.'

Before Alfonzo could finish his thought, he was forced to stop when Porlyusica's trusty broom materialized in her hand. Instead, Alfonzo reached into the pouch hanging on his hip and pulled out a small bottle with a red eye floating in it, hoping to divert Porlyusica's attention away from hitting him with the broom.

Inside the bottle Alfonzo was holding, the Sharingan he plucked out of Danzo's head floated. Although he gave most of the Sharingan to Sasuke, he did keep a few for himself. Namely, all the ones he plucked out of Danzo, with an emphasis on the one with the Kotoamatsukami. Alfonzo did not trust anyone enough to let it fall into anyone else's hands. So, he never planned to give it to Sasuke in the first place.

As for showing it to Porlyusica, there's no better person Alfonzo could think of to help him research it. And with her medical expertise and his proficiency with sigils, they just might find a way to give the power of the Sharingan to someone without a transplant.

Seeing the eye floating in the bottle, Porlyusica's eyes immediately zeroed in on it.

"What is that eye?" Porlyusica asked, unable to disguise her interest. "And where did you get it from?"

"This is what is called a Sharingan." Alfonzo replied. "As for where I got it... Well, I ripped it out this old mother fucker's head after he tried to kidnap Lici and use her as a hostage to make me an obedient puppet."

Hearing that, Porlyusica glanced away from the eye in the bottle for a moment, glaring at Alfonzo for his use of such colorful language. However, she did not reprimand him. She, like everyone else in the guild, is aware of the bond Alfonzo and Elicia share. So, she could understand his choice of words and the actions he took to get the eye.

"However, the guy I took it from..." Alfonzo added, having calmed down after receiving Porlyusica's glare. "... stole it from a member of the Village Hidden in the Leaves' Uchiha clan before having the rest of the clan wiped out."

"Things like that are why I hate humans." Porlyusica said in an angry tone while shaking her head. "Anyway, what do you want me to do with this eye? Did you want me to implant it in your head?"

"Nope." Alfonzo replied. "from what I know, if not used by an Uchiha, these Sharingan use up too much magic power. On top of that, they can't be turned off."

"Then, what do you want?" Porlyusica asked, her tone making it clear that she was getting irritated.
"Hurry up and spit it out. I don't have all day."

With that, Alfonzo let know Porlyusica what he wanted to do with the eye, which was to find a way to give someone the base abilities of the Sharingan. He didn't think it was worth it to try for the Mangekyō. Especially with its draw backs.

After hearing what Alfonzo wanted, Porlyusica, faster than Alfonz's eyes could follow, snatched the bottle out of his hand.

"I'll contact you after I've finished researching this eye." Porlyusica said as she prepared to slam the door in Alfonzo's face.

Bang!

However, before the door could close, Alfonzo slipped his foot between the door and the frame. And when she noticed that the door was not closed, Porlyusica's broom once again appeared in her hand. Then, she raised it to hit Alfonzo.

"Hold on, hold on!" Alfonzo shouted as he raised his hands to defend himself from the descending broom. "I've got more than just the eye to show you."

As soon as Alfonzo's words fell, Porlyusica's broom stopped only an inch away from Alfonzo's crossed arms. Then, before Porlyusica could rethink hitting him, Alfonzo once again reached into his bag. This time, however, he pulled out a case. And when he opened the case, what was revealed was Danzo's severed arm.

However, instead of an arm made of flesh and blood, the arm seemed to be made out of wood.

"What do you want me to do with this?" Porlyusica asked, sounding rather irritated.

"Wait, let me explain!" Alfonzo exclaimed before Porlyusica could start swinging her broom again. "This arm used to belong to the guy I was talking about earlier. And although it looks like a piece of wood right now, it used to be a fully flesh and blood arm... Even if it had rings all over it like the cross section of a tree."

Once again, Porlyusica's interest was piqued. So, Alfonzo continued his explanation.

"Apparently, it was made from the DNA of the village's first leader, Hashirama Senju." Alfonzo continued as he reached into the bag once again and pulled out a stack of research notes. "And for some reason, if successfully implanted, the cells of this Hashirama Senju can help control the magic power drain of those eyes, among other things. Here, it should all be in here.'

As Alfonzo reached out his hand to pass over Danzo's research on the Sharingan and Hashirama cells, Porlyusica snatched away the case and the notes, once again faster than Alfonzo could follow with his eyes.

"If that's everything, you can leave now." Porlyusica said, the annoyance in her tone much more evident at this point. "I'll contact you when I have results. Now leave."

This time, instead of trying to stop the door when Porlyusica slammed it, Alfonzo chose to leap backwards.

Bang! *Bang!*

And that turned out to be the right decision. Somehow, in the short time the door took to slam shut, Porlyusica managed to swing her broom through the gap and retrieve it before the door closed.

"*Sigh* I love that old woman to death..." Alfonzo muttered while blankly staring at the closed door of the tree house. "But I could seriously do without that damn broom."

A moment later, Alfonzo shook his head. Then, he turned around and started returning to the town. Though, he could not decide if he would go to the guild hall and join the others in training or head back home to spend time with Elicia.

Eventually, he decided to head to the guild. However, he would not be joining the rest of the guild in training. Instead, he decided to do something he had not done in years, ever since the guild's point system was put into place. Today, Alfonzo decided he would take a shift in the kitchen.

Before heading to the guild, however, he decided he would head back home first to pick up Elicia. With her being pregnant, he was certain she would not take it well if he took a shift in the guilds kitchen and did not tell her. Especially with her increased food consumption thanks to the pregnancy.

So, he did exactly that. Meaning, after he arrived at the house, he told Elicia what he was planning. Then, he waited for her to get ready to go out, which did not take long. Elicia always managed to move at superhuman speeds when his cooking was involved, after all.

And after Elicia was ready, she, Alfonzo, and Ikaruga hopped into the S 600 and made their way to the guild hall.

Eventually, Alfonzo parked in the guild's underground parking garage. Then, after getting out of the magic vehicle, the trio made their way into the elevator and pressed the button for the first floor, Alfonzo and Elicia chatting all the while.

"So, what made you wanna take a shift in the kitchen, Fonzie?" Elicia asked curiously while leaning her back against Alfonzo's chest.

"Honestly, it's because I missed all those barbarians while we were gone." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "Although most of them annoy the fuck out of me most of the time, I still love them."

"Yeah, I know what you mean." Elicia said with a smile of her own. "The whole time we were gone, even the time when we were at Quatro Cerberus, it just didn't feel right. I mean, the brawls that always happen have really grown on me over the years."

"Yeah, without seeing people throwing punches and getting thrown all over the place, it feels like something is missing from my day." Alfonzo added with a chuckle. "When they call our guild a bunch of ruffians, they really aren't exaggerating. But you know what? I wouldn't trade any of those ruffians for the world."

In response, Elicia's smile widened as she leaned into Alfonzo even more. Even Ikaruga, seeing how happy the two were, could not help but smile happily as well. She even considered joining Fairy Tail, as well. It's not like she would not be able to serve Elicia if she were a member of the guild, after all.

That happy atmosphere lasted until the elevator doors opened. However, it was broken completely by the angry shout of a young woman.

"I've had enough! I'm tired of you two getting in the way! Who I date is my decision. And the two of you have no right to keep getting in between us!"

That voice was quite familiar to the trio in the elevator. Especially to Alfonzo and Elicia, who had heard it for over ten years by now. However, the tone it spoke in was completely foreign to them.

"Oh shit, it sounds like Levy is pissed." Alfonzo muttered as he gently nudged Elicia through the elevator doors.

When the trio eventually stepped out of the elevator, the first floor of the guild hall was quiet. Though, there weren't very many people there, since most of them were on the higher floors training. However, there were a few. Mainly, the older members of the guild, who trained at different times from the current generation.

However, everyone who was on the first floor was currently staring at a group of four, Jet, Droy, Levy, and Gajeel. And Levy was currently standing in front of Gajeel with an angry expression on her face while confronting Jet and Droy.

"But why does it have to be him?" Jet shouted back while pointing at Gajeel, who only stood with his arms crossed with an impassive expression on his face.

"Seriously, he's always so rude and combative." Droy added while also pointing at Gajeel angrily. "What do you see in him? How is he better than either of us."

"Because he doesn't treat me like a damsel in distress whenever we go on quests together." Levy said while glaring at her childhood friends. "He trusts me to handle myself. He treats me like a wizard, an equal. But the two of you, despite the fact that I'm an S-Class wizard, think that I need your protection. ON top of that, he's not so jealous that every time I so much as greet another male, he has to insert himself into the conversation, trying to keep me from speaking."

To that, Jet and Droy had nothing to say. They know how much Levy hates being coddled when they take quests together. In fact, she had told them as much while they were hospitalized after the first time they fought Gajeel. Unfortunately, old habits die hard.

Seeing Jet and Droy lower their heads after her outburst, Levy calmed down significantly. Then, she continued in a much gentler tone.

"Look, guys, I love you two. You're like family to me." Levy said. "But we're not kids anymore. I can protect myself. And I have the right to decide who I give my heart to. I know the two of you love me as more than a member of your family. But I'm sorry, I just don't see you that way. So, please, instead of trying to sabotage my love life, I ask that you just be happy for me."

Hearing Levy's heartfelt words, Jet and Droy could do nothing but exhale a sigh. Then, in unison, they raised their heads.

"Sorry Levy." Jet and Droy said in unison.

"It's just hard to see you with someone else when we've liked you for so long." Droy said.

"Yeah, and it's even harder when we see you with someone who beat us up so bad." Jet added. "But if you're truly happy, then I'll give you two my blessing."

"*Sigh* Me, too." Droy said. Then, he turned his attention towards Gajeel. "But if you ever hurt her, no matter what it takes, I'll make you pay."

"Hmph! You don't have to worry about that." Gajeel said in a solemn tone. "I like seeing her smile too much for that."

That statement caused Levy to blush. It's not often that Gajeel is so blunt with his affection, after all.

"I'll hold you to that." Jet said in just as solemn a tone. "Still, I really wanna punch you in the face right now."

"Hmph! You're welcome to try." Gajeel said, his solemn expression turning into a battle thirsty grin. "But I punch back, you know."

Hearing that, Levy could only shake her head. Then, she walked from between the three men and headed towards the table she and the others usually sit at. Meanwhile, Jet and Droy exchanged glances. Then, they both rushed Gajeel with their fists reeled back.

Naturally, shortly after the fight between the three started, one of them was knocked into a table where some other members were sitting. As a result, the fight between the three turned into a brawl that involved almost everyone on the first floor.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo, Elicia, and Ikaruga had been watching the entire event from in front of the elevator doors. And as soon as the brawl started, they could not help but smile brightly.

"*Sigh* There's no place like home." Alfonzo and Elicia said in unison while smiling happily.