

Fairy Tail 641

Chapter 641: The Night Before the Quest (R-18)

"Not bad." Laxus said while looking up at the villa on the beach. "I should get a vacation home for Saya and Chico, too."

"Yeah, it's a nice place to relax every now and then." Marin said as Alfonzo helped her out of the back seat of the Escalade.

"It looks even prettier when its not raining." Shizuka said from the back seat, waiting for Alfonzo to help her out of the vehicle, as well.

As Shizuka said, Akane Beach was not seeing particularly good weather today. Nor would it be seeing the sun for the next few days. Unfortunately, Alfonzo, Laxus, Marin, and Shizuka would not be able to wait out the inclement weather, as they were scheduled to meet with the representative from the rebels of the Village Hidden in the Mist the next day.

As for the reason Marin and Shizuka waited for Alfonzo to help them out of the Escalade, it was because he was holding a parasol made from his [Metal Magic]. Laxus, on the other hand, was standing under the rain engulfed in his lightning, evaporating the rain before it could touch him.

"Anyway, let's head inside." Alfonzo said while shaking his head. "I only finished the adjustments to the barrier in Magnolia early this morning. So, I'm kinda tired."

Although it was true that Alfonzo had only finished the barrier this morning, the workload for that was not particularly intense. Instead, it was the underground's security measures that took up most of his time and effort.

In the end, Alfonzo saturated the area under Magnolia with his [Metal Magic]. And he made it so that the metal would attempt to restrain anything with enough magic power that tried to pass through the area. And if he was lucky, he would be able to find Zetsu trapped under the ground when he returned from this quest.

"Then open the door." Laxus said sharply. "It's not like we can go in without you."

Glancing in Laxus' direction, Alfonzo rolled his eyes when he saw the grin on Laxus' face. Then, after deciding to ignore his longtime rival, Alfonzo, with Marin and Shizuka in tow, made his way to the villa's front door.

"I need to build a garage." Alfonzo muttered. "It would be better than having to trek through the rain."

"That would be a waste." Marin said as she wrapped her arms around Alfonzo's free arm. "I mean this is the first time I've ever seen it rain on Akane Beach."

Engaging in small talk for the rest of the walk to the house, Alfonzo eventually opened the front door. Marin and Shizuka immediately headed upstairs to the master bedroom while Alfonzo showed Laxus to a guest room.

"*Sigh* For all the years we've known each other, this is the first time we've ever been on a quest together." Laxus said while shaking his head as he threw his luggage on the bed in the guest room.

"Well, there never was a reason to." Alfonzo replied with a shrug while leaning on the door frame. "I mean, at first we didn't get along. And when we finally got over that shit, you had the Thunder God Tribe. Plus, there were no quests difficult enough to make us work together. Otherwise, it would have just been overkill."

"That's true." Laxus replied. "Besides, if we had back then, I think Gramps would have had a heart attack. I mean, how much collateral damage could the two of us do if we worked together."

"Who knows." Alfonzo replied with another shrug. "I've never left any collateral damage in my wake. That's why I was gramps favorite."

"Whatever, fuck off." Laxus replied snappily.

"But if we took a quest together back then, I probably would have been just as bad as the rest of you." Alfonzo said while grinning. "It wouldn't have been while trying to complete the quest objective, though. Instead, it would have happened because you fucked around and I had to let you find out."

"Hmph!" Laxus snorted. Though, he did not retort. "Anyway, I'm not looking forward to fighting ninja's on this quest. I mean, knowing [Magic Power Detection] will make things a lot easier. But I'm not a fan of fighting enemies in the dark."

"I get what you're saying." Alfonzo replied while smiling awkwardly. "But it's not gonna be like what you're thinking."

Hearing that, Laxus raised an eyebrow as he decided to finally take a seat on the bed. And Alfonzo, who was still standing at the door, took the raised eyebrow as a sign that he should continue.

"It's true that most shinobi are pretty sneaky." Alfonzo said. "But most of them are just battle wizards who fight at both close and mid or long-range."

"So, they're like any other wizard, then?" Laxus asked.

"Basically." Alfonzo replied. "Just throw in some hand signs that make casting more complicated. But Mist shinobi are a bit different, as they tend to use a Jutsu called [Hiding in Mist Jutsu], or something like that. Anyway, they flood the area with dense mist, lowering the visibility of the area."

"But that won't be a problem for us, will it?" Laxus asked. "[Magic Power Detection] will see right through that."

"Right." Alfonzo replied with a nod. Then, he pointed at Laxus. "And with your senses as a Dragon Slayer, you should have an even easier time finding anyone hiding in mist."

"I see." Laxus replied. "Then, I guess I have nothing to worry about."

Reaching that point, Laxus reached over to his bag and start to unzip it.

"Well, I'll see you tomorrow." Lexus said. "I'm gonna take a shower then get some sleep. Long car rides like that really take it out of me."

Hearing that, Alfonzo raised an eyebrow. Then, he shrugged his shoulders once again as he turned around to leave.

"Fine by me." Alfonzo said. As he stepped out of the room. "Just means I'll need to cook for one less person."

Lexus completely froze when he heard that. Then, he looked at Alfonzo with his eyes widened in disbelief. Not disbelief that Alfonzo suggested that he would not cook for him, but disbelief at the fact that he had forgotten about Alfonzo's cooking.

No, to say that Lexus had forgotten about Alfonzo's cooking was an overstatement. Rather, because he had already heard Alfonzo mention how tired he was, he expected that Alfonzo would forego cooking tonight.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo smiled, as he could feel all the movement in the room stop after he made his statement.

"Don't worry, I'll cook something for you, too." Alfonzo said in a sing-song tone. "And because we're on this quest together, I won't even charge you. You should thank your lucky stars."

"Yeah, I guess so." Lexus replied as he visibly relaxed. However, he frowned a moment later. "Wait... You were gonna charge me?"

Instead of replying verbally, Alfonzo just waved his hand backwards as he continued to walk away.

Two hours later, everyone was satisfied with the dinner Alfonzo made. And since he was the one who cooked dinner, the dishes would be left to everyone else. Unfortunately, he had not spent enough time in this house to outfit it with all the latest appliances. So, the dishwashing had to be done by hand.

Even so, Marin and Shizuka stopped Laxus when he tried to help with the dishes, stating that he was a guest. Meanwhile, Alfonzo was up in his room taking a shower, washing off the fatigue from driving for most of the day.

"Damn it, I really don't wanna sail while its raining." Alfonzo grumbled while walking out of the master bathroom in a robe while drying his hair with a towel. "But since there's nothing I can do about it, I guess... I won't... complain."

As Alfonzo spoke his last sentence, his words trailed off when he raised his head and could see past the towel. Currently, Marin was standing in front of a dresser, the dresser where all the ladies kept their underwear, and picking out a set of lingerie to wear after her shower.

That in itself was not enough to affect Alfonzo. However, she was wearing only a set of bra and panties. Add the fact that she was bending forward slightly, making her butt stand out, and Alfonzo's eyes were drawn directly to it. His complaints about sailing in the rain blown straight out of his head.

"Oh, Fonzie, you're out already?" Marin, who heard Alfonzo's grumbling, asked as she looked back over her shoulder.

However, when Marin saw the mesmerized expression on Alfonzo's face, she smiled happily.

In fact, Marin was hoping for just this reaction. Currently, Shizuka was downstairs on the phone with Rika. Meaning, she would have Alfonzo all to herself for a while. So, while keeping track of him with her [Magic Power Detection], Marin made it a point to strip down to her undies and pose in a way that would emphasize her butt while pretending to look through the drawer as soon as she felt Alfonzo approaching the bathroom door.

"Uh huh." Alfonzo replied in the most intelligent way he could, barely registering what Marin asked.

Even so, Alfonzo walked forward, throwing his towel to the side along the way. Then, when he arrived behind Marin, who was still watching him from over her shoulder, he wrapped his arms around her waist and pulled her against his chest.

"Fonzie, you okay?" Marin asked while smiling up at Alfonzo.

"I'm fine." Alfonzo replied, lust clearly leaking into his tone. "By the way, where's Shizuka. I thought you two did the dishes together."

"Oh, she's talking to Rika." Marin replied.

"I see." Alfonzo said simply as his hands started to move.

===R-18 Start===

Raising his left hand, Alfonzo pinched Marin's chin before leaning down to kiss her. At first, the kiss was soft and sensual. The two gently pressing their lips against each other's while softly sucking on the other's bottom lip. However, as time passed, the kiss became more intense as Alfonzo slipped his tongue into Marin's mouth while she reached back with her left hand and grabbed a handful of his dreads.

While this was going on, Alfonzo's right hand had moved downwards, the tip of his index finger gently rubbing against the skin below Marin's belly button yet above her panties. However, as the kiss intensified, Alfonzo's stimulation did, as well. On top of that, he moved his hand lower and lower, eventually slipping his fingers into Marin's panties, brushing his fingers over her lower lips as he did so.

"Mmm~~!" Marin moaned into the kiss as she tightened her fingers around Alfonzo's hair.

Then, while continuing to stimulate Marin's pussy, Alfonzo broke the kiss. After doing so, he flung her hair over her right shoulder, so that it would hang down over her chest, before slowly turning her head to the front. As he did so, he trailed kisses across her cheek until he reached her earlobe. Then, he softly sucked and nibbled, causing her to shiver.

"*Gasp!*" Marin sucked in a shuddering breath as Alfonzo's lips moved down from her earlobe to her neck.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo continued to lightly stimulate At the same time pussy. Meanwhile, As Alfonzo lowered himself behind her, Marin was forced to let go of his hair.

With his freedom of movement returned, Alfonzo continued kissing down Marin's neck. Then, he kissed down her back until he reached her shoulder blade. After that, he moved towards the center of her back, kissing down her spine.

"Ah~! Fonzie, stop teasing me." Marin said as she reached down, trying to guide Alfonzo's fingers into her pussy.

Despite Marin's efforts, Alfonzo's arm did not move in the slightest, as he continued to gently stimulate her pussy while leaving her clit completely untouched. And what made it even worse was the fact that Alfonzo positioned his hand in a way that prevented Marin from stimulating her clit on her own.

"Come on, Marin." Alfonzo said between kisses on Marin's back. "Can't you be a little patient? We've got all night."

"Whatever, I never get you to myself." Marin said while rolling her eyes as she continued to try moving Alfonzo's right hand and arm. "And I wanna get to the good stuff before Shizuka gets back."

"Oh, I'm sure she'll wait her turn." Alfonzo said with a smile as he reached up with his left hand and unhooked Marin's bra. "She's a good girl, after all."

After that, Alfonzo used his left hand to slip the bra straps down Marin's arms, causing her to stop trying to move his other arm for a moment, in order to let the bra fall to the floor.

Alfonzo continued trailing kisses down the center of Marin's back, making her shiver and fidget every time his lips pressed onto her skin. And when he reached the small of her back, the shivering intensified. Even so, he refused to pleasure her pussy anymore than he had been doing since the start.

Eventually, Alfonzo reached the waistband of Marin's panties. When he did, he stopped rubbing her pussy lips and pulled his hand out of her panties. At the same time, he used his left hand to put slight pressure on her back, causing her to lean forward and rest her hands on the dresser.

Then, with his right hand, Alfonzo pulled Marin's panties down her hips,, making sure to keep the back flush against her skin so that he could see her ass ripple as the waistband scraped past it. Finally, when the panties were low enough that they would fall to the floor on their own, Alfonzo simply let go.

Now, crouching on one knee behind Marin, Alfonzo enjoyed the view of her ass and clean-shaven pussy, with lips that were puffy from the arousal and stimulation.

"Beautiful." Alfonzo muttered after licking his lips.

Although Marin's pretty, pink pussy was definitely a sight to behold, what brought that reaction out of Alfonzo was the fact that Marin's ass was shaking right in front of his face. On top of that, she had subconsciously spread her legs just a little to give Alfonzo easier access to her pussy.

After admiring the view in front of him, Alfonzo took his hand off Marin's back. Then, he put both hands on her ass cheeks and spread them slightly before planting a kiss on Marin's lower lips.

"Ah~!" Marin moaned, though it sounded more like a whine, inviting Alfonzo to do more.

And Alfonzo did just that.

Letting his tongue poke out from his lips, Alfonzo dragged his tongue up and down Marin's slit, only slightly parting her pussy lips as he did. He also made sure to not stimulate her clit, as well. Though, he could not help the hair on his chin from brushing against it occasionally.

"Ah~, more." Marin said after a few seconds of light stimulation. "Stop teasing me, Fonzie."

With his tongue still extended, Alfonzo grinned playfully. However, he did what Marin asked. Instead of just dragging the tip of his tongue up and down her slit, he started flicking his tongue as fast as he could while continuing the motion.

"Mmm~~~! Yes!" Marin moaned, basically purring, as Alfonzo licked her. Then, her pitch spiked as Alfonzo's flicking tongue caught her clit a few times. "OH~ God~! Don't stop!"

After hearing that moan, Alfonzo figured that he had teased Marin enough. So, he pushed his flicking tongue onto her clit. At the same time, he pushed the index and middle fingers of his right hand into her pussy and started pumping slowly while tapping his left heel on the floor to put up a silencing barrier. Though, the sounds would still leak out for a moment when Shizuka came back.

"O! M! G! Fonzie! Keep going!" Marin moaned as she lowered her upper body onto the dresser.

Doing as Marin asked, Alfonzo continued flicking his tongue on her clit as he slowly sped up his hand movements. Then, as his right hand's index and middle fingers were pumping in and out of her sopping wet pussy, he wrapped his lips around her swollen clit and started to suck while continuing to flick his tongue on it.

"Ah~~~~~!" Marin screamed as her back arched, her eyes rolled back slightly, and she raised up onto her toes because of her first orgasm of the evening.

Allowing Marin to ride out her orgasm, Alfonzo slowly pulled his fingers out of her pussy while releasing her clit from between his lips. Then, he slowly stood up behind her and untied the belt of his robe, allowing his chiseled abs, pecks, and erect dick to be seen. Though, Marin was enjoying the reverberations of her orgasm a little too much to notice.

Taking a step forward, Alfonzo used the juices on his right hand to lubricate his hard dick as he lined it up with Marin's pussy.

"I hope you're ready." Alfonzo said as he leaned forward to whisper into Marin's ear while gripping her waist with his left hand.

Hearing Alfonzo's deep voice from so close, Marin shivered once again. Then, she turned her head to give him a quick kiss and let him know that she was ready. However...

Clap!

"Ahn~~~~~!" Marin moaned loudly as she came for the second time from the fast, sharp, and deep penetration.

"Because I'm not gonna wait if you're not." Alfonzo continued.

Alfonzo was not informing her to let her know that she should get ready to be fucked. Rather, he was just informing her before he started fucking her. Because like he said, whether she was ready or not, this was going to happen either way.

At the same time, along with her scream, Marin once again arched her back while her eyes rolled into the back of her head. However, unlike last time, Alfonzo had no intention of stopping to let her catch her breath, as he pulled his waist back until only the head of his dick was still inside of her.

"Smack!*

Then, he slammed his dick inside her again, making her ass cheeks ripple from the force of his thrust.

"Oh my god! Yes~~~~!" Marin shouted at the top of her lungs while Alfonzo slammed into her from behind repeatedly. "More! Fuck me... Ahn~~~~! More, Fonzie!"

For the next ten minutes, the only sounds in the room were those of labored breathing, Marin's moans of pleasure, flesh slapping flesh, and gushy, wet noises. The sound of the dresser rattling against the wall would have been audible, as well. Yet, Marin's moans were so loud and continuous that they were completely overshadowed.

Alfonzo, reaching his limit after making Marin cum four times in a ten minute timeframe, pulled out of her. At the same time, he pulled her up from the dresser and spun her around. However, Marin's legs were still too wobbly from her last orgasm to carry her weight. So, she flopped down onto the floor, her head now level with Alfonzo's dick.

And although she had not yet completely regained her senses, Marin had been in this situation enough times to know what would happen next. So, she closed her eyes, tilted her head back slightly, opened her mouth, and stuck out her tongue as Alfonzo started to furiously stroke his dick in front of her.

"Hmph!" Alfonzo grunted.

At the same time, Alfonzo sprayed a load of semen all over Marin's face, neck, and chest. Meanwhile, he used his [Metal Magic] to create a small shield to keep his cum out of Marin's hair. Because despite the fact how much she enjoys being cummed on, she still complains about getting it out of her hair afterwards.

Once Alfonzo finished shooting his cum, Marin took his dick out of his hand. Then, she began suckling on the tip to get the last drops out of it.

Click!

At the same time, the sound of the door opening could be heard and Shizuka walked in.

Looking around briefly, Shizuka smiled before she skipped over to Alfonzo and Marin, her breasts bouncing with every step. Then, she stood on her tip toes, supporting herself with her hands on his back, as she pecked Alfonzo on the cheek.

"Looks like you two are having fun." Shizuka said with a wide smile. "I'll join you in a minute. I just wanna take off my makeup first, okay?"

"Sure." Alfonzo replied with a smile of his own.

Marin, on the other hand, could only nod her head, as her mouth was still filled with the head of Alfonzo's dick.

"Okay." Shizuka said cheerfully as she pecked Alfonzo on the cheek again. Then, she reached down and swept a bit of Alfonzo's cum off Marin's face with an index finger as she continued. "You two can get back to what you were doing. I'll be right back."

With that, Shizuka turned around. However, before she walked away, she looked back over her shoulder and put the finger covered in cum into her mouth. Then, once it was clean, she showed it to Alfonzo before giggling and skipping away.

Seeing that, Alfonzo smiled as his dick hardened again. Then, he turned back to Marin, picked her up by her arm pits, and sat her on the dresser.

"Well, I wonder how many times I can make you cum before Shizuka's done." Alfonzo growled.

Then, without giving Marin a chance to reply, he slammed balls deep into her before fucking her with reckless abandon while enjoying the sight of her breasts bouncing up and down with every thrust.

On a side note, Alfonzo managed to make Marin cum six more times by the time Shizuka came back from the bathroom with her makeup removed.

Chapter 642: Alfonzo's Magical Prowess

"When are you gonna start participating in the Battle of Fairy Tail Tournament again?" Laxus asked as he, Alfonzo, Marin, and Shizuka stepped into the Akane Resort.

"Who knows." Alfonzo replied with a shrug and a knowing smile.

"Clearly, you do." Laxus replied with a scowl. "Stop playing dumb and just tell me."

"I wanna know, too." Marin added. "It's been a while since we got to fight in the tournament."

"You know you could have joined another team, right?" Alfonzo asked as he looked down at Marin, who was walking while holding onto his right arm.

"Yeah, but that would destroy my undefeated streak." Marin said with a playful smile. "I mean, we've never lost in the tournament as a team, after all."

As she said that, Marin winked playfully at Laxus, who had lost the first two Battle of Fairy Tail tournaments. And with his pride in his strength, he could do nothing but grit his teeth at the reminder.

"Alright, take it easy, Laxus." Alfonzo said, trying his best to hold back a laugh. "You know she's just messing with you. "You're the undefeated champions of the Grand Magic Games, after all. And that trumps a little guild wide tournament any day."

"Whatever." Laxus replied.

"Fonzie! Fonzie! Can we go in there?" Shizuka asked while pointing at a shoe store, Valorous Feet. "I wanna get those shoes in the window. They're so~~~ cute!"

Hearing Shizuka's question, Alfonzo, Laxus, and Marin turned their heads in the direction she was pointing. However, Alfonzo and Laxus lost interest almost immediately. Marin, on the other hand, had her eyes light up at the sight of the shoes Shizuka was pointing at.

"OMG! You're right!" Marin squealed excitedly. "Those shoes would look uber-cute on you, Shizuka."

"I know, right?" Shizuka said happily. Then, she pointed at another pair of shoes on display. "And look at those! Those would be perfect with your new fighting clothes."

What Shizuka pointed to were a pair of knee-high black, high heeled boots. And just as she said, they would look perfect with Marin's new battle attire, which consisted of a black body suit, a metal belt that hung loosely around her waist, and a white, hooded cloak.

"We can go after our meeting." Alfonzo said, while regretting every word as they came out of his mouth. "But we're gonna be late if we go shopping first."

Hearing Alfonzo's response, Laxus nodded his head. Though, he had every intention of leaving immediately after the meeting with the representative from the Village Hidden in the Mist.

'I have to deal with women's shopping sprees enough with Saya and Chico.' Laxus thought to himself. 'There's no way I'm gonna put up with that shit for women that aren't even mine.'

As if Alfonzo could tell what Laxus was thinking, he turned to his longtime rival. And although he wanted to look at him as if he had been betrayed, he just could not bring himself to do so. And the reason was simple, had the roles been reversed, he would do the same thing that he could tell Laxus was thinking.

"Boo!" Shizuka jeered, making her discontent known.

"You promise?" Marin, on the other hand, knew how bad it was to keep the client waiting. So, she asked her question while extending her right hand to Alfonzo with her pinky extended.

"*Sigh* I promise." Alfonzo replied while hooking his own pinky with Marin's.

"Good." Marin said with a bright smile. "If you break your promise, you'll have to eat a thousand needles."

'Hmm... Breaking my promise doesn't seem so bad if that's the case.' Alfonzo thought to himself as he pulled Marin and Shizuka to the restaurant where they were supposed to meet the client. "I mean, I could probably break the needles down to something harmless as soon as I put them in my mouth.'

"Oh, and you can't use magic." Marin added as if she could read Alfonzo's mind.

"*Sigh* Of course not." Alfonzo said, sounding rather dejected.

With that little interlude out of the way, the group made it to the restaurant in question. When they did, Alfonzo mentioned to the hostess that they were meeting someone and gave her the provided information before the group was guided to a private room.

"he's already inside." The hostess said with a professional smile.

Then, the hostess opened the door and gestured for the four to enter.

Upon entering the room, the four immediately saw a middle-aged man with blue hair styled upwards with mousse, an eye-patch covering his right eye, leaving his blue left eye visible standing at approximately 6' tall and wearing a blue kimono that revealed the mesh armor he wore underneath it, black pants, and standard shinobi sandals and a Mist forehead protector.

"Ah, you've arrived." The middle-aged man said once the group of four entered the room. "It would seem Fairy Tail is taking our request quite seriously if they've sent the Master of Metal and the Lightning Dragon to aid us."

"Yeah, something like that." Laxus replied with his arms crossed. "Anyway, who are you?"

"Oh, my apologies." The middle-aged man said. "You can call me Ao. I'm a Jōnin from the Village Hidden in the Mist."

"Just an A-Class, huh?" Laxus asked rhetorically in a dismissive tone.

"Well, I'm guessing we don't have to introduce ourselves, right?" Alfonzo asked as he took a seat at the table Ao was sitting at while changing the subject before Ao could take offense to Laxus' comment. "Instead, I have a question."

"By all means, please ask." Ao replied, deciding to go along with Alfonzo's subject change instead of retorting to Laxus' belittling comment.

"Why did you ask a guild from Fiore instead of one from Caelum?" Alfonzo asked as the others took their seats, as well. "I mean, wouldn't that be more convenient and less expensive."

"If only it were that simple." Ao replied while shaking his head. "Honestly, we tried. But for some reason, no matter who we sent the request to, no one would accept it. And the order to not accept came directly from the guild masters of each guild."

Hearing that, Alfonzo, Laxus, and Marin frowned in surprise. Shizuka, on the other hand, having never taken a proper guild quest, had no idea why something like this was so strange. So, she only tilted her head in confusion after seeing everyone else's reactions.

'I bet Obito put most of them under a [Genjutsu] that suggested they don't accept the quest.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'Unless they were aiding Yagura's side, that is. That way, the destruction of the Mist Village would be a foregone conclusion.'

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Magnolia.

Sneeze!

"Ugh! This is the worst thing about wearing a mask." A man wearing an orange, spiral patterned, full face mask with a Sharingan visible through the only eye hole said in an annoyed tone. "The inside of this damn mask is going to be disgusting until I can get to somewhere where I'm sure no one is watching me."

Reaching that point, the man in the mask, Obito Uchiha, the man Alfonzo had just mentioned in his thoughts, shook his head. A moment later, however, a proverbial light bulb lit up over his head. Then, he ran through a series of hand signs.

"[Fire-Style: Fireball Jutsu]." Obito chanted while channeling his magic power at the lowest possible output.

In the next instant, steam began to rise from the inside of Obito's mask.

"Much better." Obito muttered. "Although I still need to wash the inside, at least there's no more snot dripping down."

After solving his little problem, Obito, who had been standing outside of the town, turned his gaze towards Magnolia.

"Why is Zetsu taking so long to report back about the situation inside?" Obito asked in a confused tone. "Did someone discover him? No... That's impossible. And even if they did, no one is better at running away than he is. Either way, the rebellion in the Mist will start soon. We don't have time to waste here. If he doesn't come back soon, I'll just have to go without him."

Meanwhile, Zetsu, who tried to infiltrate the town from the underground, was currently struggling with all his might to free himself from the viscous, liquid metal that was crawling all over his body.

"What is this?" Zetsu, a clearly non-human being with half black and half white skin and what appeared to be a Venus fly trap growing from its neck and wearing the same kind of cloak that Itachi and Kisame wore when they attacked Elicia and Naruto asked while being unable to free himself.

Unfortunately, Zetsu had no way of exclaiming any further because the metal that was crawling over his body had finally encased his entire body. At the same time, it started moving towards the surface in the direction of the Mansion on the Lake.

"*Sigh* Something must have gotten his attention." Obito muttered from his vantage point outside of the town. "Well, it's not like I need him for the next part of the plan. I'll just come back after the rebellion is over. Hopefully, by the time it's done, the Five Great Shinobi Villages will only have four left."

With that said, the pattern in Obito's Sharingan changed. Then, the space around him began spiraling. And Obito was seemingly drawn into that spiral. Then, when Obito's figure could no longer be seen, the space returned to normal.

Unfortunately, Obito had no way of knowing that he would never see Zetsu again when he left. Otherwise, he probably would not have left without investigating Magnolia, even if it meant he would probably miss the beginning of the rebellion.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Akane Beach.

"Not that we revel in killing, but why would you want us to keep the casualties among your enemies down?" Laxus asked after hearing Ao's explanation of what would be expected of the Fairy Tail wizards during the rebellion.

"Because regardless of if they support us or not, we're all shinobi of the Village Hidden in the Mist." Ao replied. "And the village will still exist after this war. We don't want our military strength completely crippled because of this."

"Yeah, that makes sense now that you mention it." Laxus replied with a nod. "In fact, I don't understand why I couldn't come up with that on my own."

"It's because we've never taken any quests like this before." Alfonzo said, answering Laxus' doubts. "And to be honest, I'm really not looking forward to fighting in a war."

"Me neither." Marin said. "But at least if we fight in this war, we can do our best to lower the casualties, right?"

"That's right." Alfonzo replied with a smile as he started combing his fingers through Marin's hair. He then shifted his gaze to Ao before continuing. "I guess the fighting will take place outside of the village, right?"

"That's correct." Ao replied. "We'd rather not have the civilians getting wrapped up in all the fighting.

"Good." Shizuka said with an approving nod. "Regular people have nothing to do with the fighting between all you ninja people. Besides, we saw enough regular people get hurt back at the other village."

Immediately, Ao connected that statement with the reports the Mist received about the attack on the Hidden Leaf Village a few months ago. And because of that, he was able to confirm some of the information in those reports.

'It looks like Mei was right.' Ao thought to himself. 'Fairy Tail seems to be in some sort of alliance with the Leaf. Perhaps it would be prudent for us to do the same. Maybe even getting into an alliance with Fairy Tail wouldn't be such a bad idea, either.'

"Yeah, I agree with Shizuka." Alfonzo said. "If they were planning to fight around the civilians, I would have probably just gone over and made a few assassinations to bring all this shit to an end."

While Laxus and Marin nodded in agreement with Alfonzo's claim, Ao wanted to dismiss it as hubris brought on by youth and inexperience. Yet, his instincts were strongly warning him against doing so. On top of that, the way Alfonzo had been glancing at his eye-patch and the paper tags he wore in the place of earrings was making him a bit uncomfortable and wary.

"Anyway, we'll meet here tomorrow morning at dawn." Ao said, deciding not to think about the glances he was receiving until he was alone. "We'll board my boat at that time."

"Why don't we take Fonzie's boat?" Shizuka asked while tilting her head in confusion. "It's really nice and comfortable, you know?"

"Because my ship won't draw unneeded attention like his would." Ao replied while gesturing towards Alfonzo with his chin. "A ship made completely out of metal is just too noticeable. And we don't want Yagura's forces, who will undoubtedly be watching the coast to see if we got any allies, to know about our forces."

"Yeah, and I guess the fact that you wouldn't be able to take down the Fairy Tail flag wouldn't help that, either." Alfonzo said with a smile.

"There's that, as well." Ao said while frowning slightly. "But if we take my boat and you keep yourselves hidden, they'll probably think that we found allies, but they'll have no idea of who."

"Actually, I think we can do something about that." Alfonzo said.

"Hmm?" Ao asked curiously.

However, instead of replying, Alfonzo flexed his magic power, causing everyone to disappear from Ao's sight by bending the light around the four Fairy Tail wizards with his [Electromagnetism Magic]. An instant later, Alfonzo warned his companions with the [Telepathy] provided by his [Archive Magic] before attaching magic power concealing cuffs on their wrists and ankles.

Meanwhile, Ao, after seeing the four younger wizards in front of him disappear, opened his visible eye widely. Then, against his better judgement, he activated what was hidden behind his eye-patch, causing the [Seals] drawn on the paper tags hanging from his ears to light up.

"What!?" Ao exclaimed in surprise while standing up from his seat at the table. "How is this possible? Why can't I see them?"

"So, you were hiding a Byakugan behind that patch, huh?" Alfonzo asked as he dispelled the cuffs, allowing Ao's Byakugan to sense them. Then, he continued as he dispelled his [Electromagnetism Magic] as he continued. "I was wondering what you were hiding behind all those [Seals]. I don't think the Hyuga Clan would like this very much."

"So, what if they don't?" Ao shot back on reflex. "They shouldn't have sent a member of their main clan onto the battlefield if they were so afraid of losing any of their precious Byakugan. Anyway, meet me at the port outside the resort by dawn tomorrow morning. We'll set sail then."

With that, Ao quickly left the private room, leaving the four Fairy Tail wizards behind. Undoubtedly, he had every intention of telling his side of the civil war about his encounter with the wizards from Fairy Tail. And Alfonzo had no intention of stopping him. When Mei heard about what had happened, even though it was unlikely, she would have second thoughts about betraying them once she got what she wanted.

Chapter 643: What Happens Twice...

Early the next morning, just as the sun began ascending above the horizon. Ao was standing at Akane Beach's pier for visiting vessels. Behind him, a fairly impressive wooden ship equipped with the latest lacrima engine was docked.

"They should be here soon." Ao muttered while looking towards the pier's entrance. "Then, it will only be a matter of time until the era of the Bloody Mist comes to an end."

"I'm glad you have so much faith in us." Alfonzo, who was carrying Shizuka in a princess carry while Marin held on to his back, said as he descended in front of Ao in a flash of purple light.

"Of course, he does." Laxus, who descended next to Alfonzo as a bolt of yellow lightning, added before glancing at Alfonzo with disbelief. "And just when the hell did you get faster than me? I literally turn into lightning to travel."

"Why does that surprise you so much?" Alfonzo asked with a shrug as he lowered Shizuka to the ground. "I'm better than you at everything else, right? So, it was only a matter of time before speed joined that list."

Hearing that, Laxus narrowed his eyes and placed a hand on the halberd strapped to his back.

"It sounds like you're picking a fight, Kid." Laxus said in a combative tone.

However, instead of rising to the challenge, Alfonzo raised his hands disarmingly as he put on a feigned expression of fear.

"Oh no! Someone help!" Alfonzo said monotonously. "Laxus is returning to his old ways. He wants to beat me up just because I told a truth that he doesn't like."

Seeing and hearing Alfonzo's actions and words, Laxus gritted his teeth. However, a moment later, he only turned his head away and snorted disdainfully.

"You're off the hook this time, Alfonzo." Laxus said. "I know I wouldn't be able to fight you without Elexion. But he doesn't want a fight with you to be his return to the world."

"I knew you already knew his name, but that's the reason you've never used your [First Release] before?" Alfonzo asked curiously. "Well, not that you probably need it to fight anyone on regular quests, though."

"Yeah, Elexion is kinda particular about stuff like that." Laxus replied.

'Well, he might get a decent opponent to how off his might to on this quest.' Alfonzo thought to himself.

Meanwhile, Ao, who had no idea what Alfonzo and Laxus were talking about, could only look on in wonder, hoping to get more information about Fairy Tail for his village. However, with no context to go off of, what they were saying was just a bunch of random words. Still, he decided to remember them all, just in case he gained the needed context in the future.

"Anyway, since you're already here, let's board the vessel." Ao said, addressing the four Fairy Tail wizards. "We talked about this yesterday, but we should arrive near the Village Hidden in the Mist around night fall. Hopefully, that will draw less attention from yagura's forces."

'I seriously doubt that.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'I'd be even more on the lookout for anyone approaching the area at night.'

Despite thinking that, Alfonzo did not voice his thoughts. Instead, he, like the others, followed Ao onto the ship. Then, after a few minutes, the Mist vessel had set sail and was pulling away from the pier.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Open Seas.

A few hours after leaving the pier at Akane Resort, the ship reached a sea area that was not part of Fiore's territorial waters. However, it was not part of Caelum's waters, either. Instead, it was a small strip of ocean that would be considered to be international waters.

"*Sigh* It's been a while since I've been to Caelum." Alfonzo muttered while leaning on the ship's railing and looking out at the water with an iron umbrella floating over him. "Well, I guess I didn't really go to Caelum last time."

While remembering the destruction of the Tower of Heaven, Alfonzo was pulled out of his thoughts when a familiar weight clung to his back, making his back wet because it had just run through the rain.

"You're too young to be reminiscing like an old man." Marin said as she wrapped her arms and legs around Alfonzo's neck and torso. "By the way, why are you out here by yourself, anyway?"

"Just thinking." Alfonzo replied. "Coming to Caelum made me think about the Tower of Heaven, which made me think about my parents and my old village."

Hearing that, Marin tightened her arms around Alfonzo's neck as she nuzzled her head against his. However, before she could say something to comfort him, Alfonzo sighed loudly. And that sigh was filled with exasperation.

"Huh? What's wrong, Fonzie?" Marin asked in a confused tone.

"*Sigh* I really need to stop taking quests that require me to go out to sea." Alfonzo muttered. "I swear, this happens every time."

"What do you---?" Marin began to ask. However, before she could finish, something entered the range of her [Magic Power Detection], which was much smaller than Alfonzo's. "What is that? So much magic power."

"It's a god damn Leviathan." Alfonzo spat out. "Anyway, I'll take care of it. Can you let Ao, the captain, and the others know what's going on."

"Okay." Marin replied as she hopped off Alfonzo's back.

Without delay, Marin started running towards the vessel's wheel house. However, when she noticed that she was not getting drenched by the rain, she looked up, only to see the metal umbrella that had been floating over Alfonzo following her.

Even though, Marin did not slow down. Though, the smile on her face was so sweet that staring at it for too long could give people diabetes.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo, cloaked in violet electricity levitated from the ship's deck. Then, while staring into the water below, he raised his right hand while a conical chunk of metal appeared in front of his outstretched arm.

"I'm seriously getting tired of these things." Alfonzo muttered as he continued to look down into the water. "I mean, aren't these things supposed to be rare? Yet, this is the third one I've come across this decade."

A few minutes later, Laxus, Marin, and Ao rushed out of the cabin onto the ship's deck. And when they saw Alfonzo floating over the side of the ship, they readied themselves for battle, as well.

"Oh, you guys are here already." Alfonzo said without turning back. "Instead of getting ready to fight, you should do your best to make sure the ship doesn't capsize."

"Are you saying you can deal with whatever's coming alone?" Laxus asked with his arms crossed and tracking the Leviathan's magic power signature with his [Magic Power Detection].

"Pretty much." Alfonzo replied. "In fact, if we had been on Sixth Sense, I wouldn't have needed to ask for your help at all. I would have just levitated the ship out of the water, fought the Leviathan, and put it back like nothing happened."

After saying his piece, Alfonzo's eyebrows rose, as the Leviathan had changed course, moving directly below the ship. Then, he quickly spun around and positioned himself over the middle of the ship.

"I don't care how, just move the ship out of the way as fast as possible.!" Alfonzo shouted.

Lexus and Marin knew why he shouted, but they could do nothing to help. Ao, on the other hand, was confused by Alfonzo's shout. However, his decades of experience as a shinobi honed his sense of danger to a razor's edge. So, he dashed towards the side of the ship while quickly running through a series of hand signs.

"[Water-Style: Water Colliding Wave]." Ao shouted as he leapt from the deck.

Turning in midair, Ao coated the bottom of his feet with his magic power. Then, he landed on the water's surface as if it were solid ground and slammed his hands onto the surface, as well.

In the next instant, a large wave of water shot forth from the point of contact. However, instead of crashing over the ship, it gently lifted the ship and pushed it to the side without flipping it.

"[Electromagnetism Magic: Railgun]." Alfonzo chanted.

Boom!

Splash!

As soon as the ship was no longer beneath him, Alfonzo, with laser focus, flicked his index finger at the chunk of metal, sending it down towards the sea's surface. At the same time, the Leviathan, which was charging up at the surface too quickly to change its direction, shot upwards with his mouth open, ready to take a bite out of the ship that was just moved.

Unfortunately, the only thing waiting for it was a superheated chunk of metal traveling downwards at eight times the speed of sound. Unluckily for the Leviathan, it was aimed into its open mouth.

As a result, when the rest of the Leviathan's body flew out of the water, it was already dead, its innards completely destroyed by Alfonzo's [Railgun] with the end of its tail blown off.

Then, as the beast reached the peak of its leap, a raft made from lightweight metal appeared below its carcass, stopping it from crashing into the water and creating another wave.

"*Sigh* What happens twice will always happen three times." Alfonzo muttered as he looked down at the Leviathan floating on the raft he created. Then, he turned his attention to the ship as he continued. "Anyway, let's keep going. I wanna sell this thing to someone in Caelum."

With that, Alfonzo floated over to the ship. Along the way, he created a sturdy chain to connect the raft with the ship so they could tow it along for him.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Magnolia.

"Hmm?" Elicia hummed in confusion while feeding Amar'e. "Some of Fonzie's magic power is lying on the bottom of the lake."

"Wha! Wha!" Amar'e clamored while reaching out for Elicia's hand, that had stopped before putting the spoon in his mouth.

"Oh, sorry Baby." Elicia said with a smile. "I won't make you wait. Heck, sometimes I wanna take your food for myself. So, I know what you mean."

Like Elicia, anyone who feeds Amar'e often had thoughts of eating his food for themselves. Why? Because Alfonzo makes all of Amar'e's food.

Though he usually only makes enough for a week at a time. Because he knew he would be going on a quest that could take a while, Alfonzo made enough for a month before freezing it. And it had all kinds of flavors. And Amar'e love them all. He even gets mad in a really cute way whenever anyone takes a little nibble while feeding him.

Continuing to feed Amar'e, while smiling at the enthusiasm with which Amar'e ate, Elicia pulled out her iPhone and scrolled through her contacts. Then, when she found the name she was looking for, she pressed the button to make the call.

"Hey, Sun." Elicia said.

{"Lici, what's wrong?"} Sun asked in a confused, yet concerned, tone. {"You've never called me while we were both at home. Did something happen?"}

"Sorta." Elicia replied. "I just felt some of Fonzie's magic power burrow up from the bottom of the lake, and I'm curious to know what it is. Do you think you could go down there and take a look for me?"

{"No problem."} Sun replied. {"I'll go out in just a minute. Let me just change into something I don't mind getting wet."}

"Then, I guess any pair of panties will do, huh?" Elicia asked with a giggle.

["I guess?"] Sun replied, Elicia feeling that she was probably tilting her head in confusion. {"But since I'll be transforming into my Mermaid form, I probably won't be wearing any."}

"Sun, please don't ever change." Elicia said, her smile widening as she said so.

{"Okay?"} Sun replied. {"Anyway, I'll talk to you soon."}

"Okay, I'll be waiting." Elicia said.

With that, the call came to an end. Meanwhile, Elicia started scrolling through her contacts again. Then, when she found the name she was looking for, she smiled happily before pressing the button to start a video call.

{"Hey, Lici."} Alfonzo said happily after accepting the call. {"What's up? Miss me already?"}

Hearing the sound of Alfonzo's voice, Amar'e, who had just swallowed a mouthful of baby food, snapped his head in the iPhone's direction. Then, he started doing all he could to get to the iPhone.

"Of course, I do." Elicia replied, her smile widening at the sight of Amar'e's attempt to get to her. "But I think someone else missed you even more than I did."

Reaching that point, Elicia propped up her iPhone on the table in front of her. Then, she reached over to hold Amar'e in her arms before positioning herself and her son in front of the iPhone's camera.

"Look, Mar'e, it's Daddy." Elicia said while smiling gently.

Naturally, Amar'e cooed excitedly at the sight of his father while reaching out for the iPhone.

Then for the next few minutes, Alfonzo focused all his attention on Amar'e, making funny faces while talking to him.

"Although letting you see Mar'e was one of the reasons I called, it wasn't the only one, Fonzie." Elicia said without losing her smile.

{"Oh yeah, what's up?"} Alfonzo asked curiously while still making funny faces at Amar'e.

"I think you caught something underground." Elicia replied. "Sun just went into the lake to pull it up."

Hearing that, Alfonzo's eyes narrowed slightly, though he continued to entertain Amar'e through the screen.

At that moment, Sun, while drying her hair, and Maria, carrying another towel and trying to help Sun dry off, walked into the dining room where Elicia and Amar'e were.

"Hey, Lici, I pulled that chunk of metal out of the water." Sun said as she took a seat next to Elicia on the couch.

Sun then picked up Amar'e while she was still a bit wet and gave him a hug. Meanwhile, Amar'e started to giggle. Luckily, him getting wet wasn't such a big deal since he would be getting a bath after eating anyway.

{"Hey, Sun."} Alfonzo said with a smile. {"Yeah, that was probably one of the guys looking to take Naruto."}

"Thought so." Elicia said with a shrug. "And if it wasn't we'll have some apologies to make. So, where do you want me to put it?"

{"Just throw it in the hangar."} Alfonzo replied. {"I'll take care of it when I get back."}

"Okay, got it." Elicia replied. "Anyway, that was all I wanted. I don't wanna disturb you while you're on your quest. So, I'll talk to you when you get back."

{"Okay, see you three later."} Alfonzo said with a nod. {"I'll see you when I get back. Love you."}

Chapter 644: Mei Terumi

"Lady Terumi, Ao's vessel has been spotted." A Jōnin loyal to the Rebellion said after entering the office of the leader of the Mist Rebellion, Mei Terumi. "From what the scouts can tell, he should be docking in the next twenty minutes."

Hearing her subordinate's report, Mei, a fair skinned woman standing at 5'8" with a slim, yet curvaceous figure, green eyes, and ankle-length auburn hair styled into a herringbone pattern in the back, a topknot tied with a blue ribbon, and bangs that cover her forehead, right eye, and frame her face, hanging down to her chest and crossing just under her chin, looked up and locked eyes with the shinobi.

Mei wore a strapless royal blue dress that hung down to her calves with a slit that revealed her right leg, a cream-colored belt with a white buckle, mesh armor that covered her legs, and silver, open-toed boots. She also wore pink lipstick that made her lips look quite glossy as well as blue nail polish on her fingers and toes.

"Good." Mei replied in a solemn tone. "Although there have been more than a few skirmishes, the real fighting will begin any day now. And is there any word on who he managed to invite from Fiore's guilds?"

"Unfortunately, no." The Jōnin replied while lowering his head. "The best sensors in our scouting team were unable to detect anyone other than those who set sail with him."

"*Sigh* Although I expected as much, that's still quite disappointing." Mei said as she leaned back in her seat, raising her head in thought. A moment later, Mei lowered her head once again, picked up a document on her desk, and started to read as she continued. "I understand. You are dismissed."

After bowing politely, the shinobi turned around and left the office quietly. Then, just as he closed the door, the sound of a sigh echoed around the office.

"Either way, I've made all the preparations I can." Mei uttered to herself without raising her head from the document she was reading. "I can only hope my preparations are enough."

After her utterance, Mei fell into silence as she continued to review and approve or decline proposals from her forces. And like that, time passed quickly. Then, an hour or so later, Mei's attention was pulled away from the documents once again.

Knock! *Knock!* *Knock!*

"Come in." Mei replied without looking up.

Shortly afterwards, the door to Mei's office was opened, revealing the Jōnin from before.

"Lady Terumi, Ao has returned and requests an audience." The Jōnin said politely.

"Send him in." Mei replied, still not looking up from the document in the hands.

"Understood." The Jōnin replied before turning around to inform Ao that he could enter.

Meanwhile, Mei, after she finished reading the document, put it down and raised her arms over her head to stretch her back, emphasizing her curves in the process. A moment after she was comfortable, Ao entered the office.

Despite seeing Ao, her right hand man, Mei narrowed her eyes. Although none of her senses could pick up anything amiss, her instincts honed over the last two plus decades as a shinobi let her know that something was off.

"Lady Terumi." Ao said while bowing politely. "I have returned."

"Yes, welcome back." Mei said with her eyes still narrowed. "How did your search for aid go?"

"Better than expected." Ao replied as he straightened up. "I've managed to acquire quite the considerable forces. Three S-Class wizards from Fiore's strongest guild."

Hearing that, although it was not visible thanks to her hair, Mei raised an eyebrow.

"Are you speaking only to comfort me, Ao?" Mei asked, her eyes narrowing even further. "Or were you perhaps put under a [Genjutsu] by Yagura's forces? No, that shouldn't be possible with that eye you picked up."

The more she spoke, the quieter Mei got as she continued to throw around conjectures. She had heard from the scouting team that Ao had not returned with anyone, after all.

Ao, on the other hand, knew exactly what Mei was thinking. So, he put on an uncharacteristic smile as he tried to put her doubts to rest.

"Please, be at ease, Lady Terumi." Ao said. "Allow me to explain so that you don't jump to conclusions unbecoming your station and experience. In fact, the wizards who accepted the quest are..."

Although Ao continued to speak, Mei started tuning him out.

'My experience? He's talking about my age, right?' Mei thought to herself. 'He's saying I'm getting old, isn't he? Too old to get married. Does Ao think I'm too old to get married? Is he calling me a spinster?'

After talking for a while, Ao realized that Mei had not been listening to him for a while. In fact, she had missed nearly the entire explanation, as well as the names of the wizards who have come to help.

"Um... Lady Terumi?" Ao asked in a concerned tone. "Is everything alright?"

"Ao, do you want me to melt you?" Mei asked in a cold tone.

Naturally, Ao was completely caught off guard by this question. However, he did understand that something he said had completely infuriated Mei.

"I'm sorry, Lady Terumi, if I've done anything to anger you, please forgive me." Ao said while hurriedly bowing his head.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo, Laxus, Marin, and Shizuka, having slipped into the office as Ao entered, watched the whole encounter. While Laxus, Marin, and Shizuka were confused as to why Mei seemed so hostile to Ao, seemingly from out of nowhere, Alfonzo, understanding Mei's personality from his meta-knowledge, was doing his best to hold back his laughter.

At the same time, Mei was doing what she could to calm herself down. Although she was angry because she jumped to the wrong conclusion and had no intention of finding out what Ao actually meant, he was her most loyal and capable subordinate. So, killing him in a fit of rage would be a bad idea no matter how she looked at it.

"Ao, give your report again from the beginning." Mei said in a no nonsense tone.

"Yes, Lady Terumi." Ao replied as he once again bowed his head politely while resisting the urge to wipe away the cold sweat on his forehead. "Like I was saying, the wizards who accepted the quest are actually already in this very room. They are just concealing themselves at my request. I did not want Yagura to know of the forces we were able to gain aid from."

Hearing that, Mei's eye narrowed further still as she scanned the room carefully.

Now, she knew why she felt as though something was off when Ao entered the room. Because he was not alone.

"If you wouldn't mind, please reveal yourselves." Ao said, not wanting Mei to use either of her Kekkei Genkai if she felt threatened.

In the next instant, four unfamiliar figures appeared behind Ao. Although they were unfamiliar, that was only because Mei had never seen them in person before. However, she knew their faces thanks to their entries in the Bingo Book, a list of the most dangerous people on the continent.

In fact, in this world, there are actually two versions of the Bingo Book. And both are created by shinobi. One is strictly for the wizards classified as shinobi. And the other is for all wizards across Ishgar.

That way, if the shinobi accepted a mission, they would know what to expect if the target of said mission had the possibility of being protected by one of those powerful wizards.

"Oh, I was actually looking forward to seeing how she was going to melt you, Ao." Alfonzo said with a smile.

"Yeah, that's a pretty specific threat." Laxus added with a smirk of his own. "Why don't you let us see how your boss would do that. That way, we'll have a better idea of what our allies on this quest are working with."

While Ao was showing clear signs of annoyance at the flippant attitudes of Alfonzo and Laxus while they were in front of his leader, Mei looked at the four Fairy Tail wizards with interest.

'So, Alfonzo Marcus and Laxus Dreyar, huh?' Mei asked herself while examining the two tall men in front of her. 'And that one is Marin Kitagawa. She would be good for any tasks requiring subterfuge. But I don't know the last one.'

Despite her thoughts, Mei's expression turned warm and inviting with a hint of seduction.

"Wizards from Fairy Tail, I'd like to thank you for accepting our request." Mei said as she stepped from behind her desk and circled towards her guests. "I'm Mei Terumi, the leader of this operation to liberate the Village Hidden in the Mist from Yagura Karatachi's despotic rule."

By the time her words ended, she was standing in front of the four Fairy Tail wizards with her hand extended in front of Alfonzo, as from the intel she had collected about the most prominent wizards on the continent, she knew that he was the strongest wizard present. So, she predicted that he was the leader of this team.

"It's nice to meet you, Miss Terumi." Alfonzo replied as he extended his own hand to shake Mei's. "We've heard about the plight you're facing. We've also heard about the barbaric practices the Mizukage has been implementing. To think he would make children fight to the death just to prove that they are ready to be called shinobi."

"Seriously, he's destroying, like, half of the village's potential with that." Marin added. "it's disgusting. Does he even care about his village."

"Huh?" Shizuka, who had not really read the briefing, exclaimed in confusion when she heard what Marin said. "That's not very nice. You should fire him."

Hearing Shizuka's words, Mei and Ao were taken aback. Never in their wildest dreams did they expect to hear something so naïve from someone who came to assist them during a rebellion.

"Don't mind her." Alfonzo said as he reached over and started combing his fingers through Shizuka's hair. He then continued when Shizuka leaned into the gesture and, all but, started purring. "She's here to assist your medics during the time to come. She's never been in a combat situation or had to deal with the ugly side of the world."

"Except that one time." Marin replied. "I mean, living through a zombie apocalypse is kind of a big deal."

"Yeah, I guess there was that." Alfonzo replied with a nod.

"Eww! Don't make me remember that." Shizuka said while pinching her nose. "Those zombies were so stinky."

"But you'd never be able to tell." Alfonzo continued while smiling warmly at Shizuka.

"*Sigh* I'm really glad you took that emergency mission, Alfonzo." Laxus said in a grateful tone. "Otherwise, I would have never met Saya. And I would have continued to ignore Chico's feelings, too."

"Yeah, you probably would have." Alfonzo replied. "Anyway, that's' enough strolling down memory lane. We're here to do a job. So, Miss Terumi, why don't you tell us what we're looking at here?"

Nodding in response, Mei went on to explain the numbers on both sides of the conflict. Then, she explained that all she needed from the three, Alfonzo, Laxus, and Marin, was to fight and defeat the opposing shinobi without killing as much as possible. Meanwhile, Shizuka would be protected while she tended to the wounded in the main camp. Mei, on the other hand, would be responsible for dealing with Yagura.

"Oh, and if possible, we would like you to restrain all the shinobi that you can, as well." Mei said as she took a seat at her desk and linked her fingers under her chin with her elbows resting on the desktop. "I'd rather not leave them to return to yagura's side where they could be healed up as well."

"I expected as much." Alfonzo replied with a nod. "Don't worry, Laxus and I can be anywhere on the battlefield in seconds. So, as long as an enemy gets put down, we can swoop in to pick them up before dropping them in a prison or whatever."

"I just hope there's someone here that can give me a good fight." Laxus said. "But since Fairy Tail wizards don't fail quests, I'll follow your arrangements."

"Good." Mei said with a smile. "Then, I'm sure you must be fatigued after your journey from the mainland. Ao, please show them to where they can rest."

"Yes, Lady Terumi." Ao replied while bowing politely.

"Oh, and please keep yourselves concealed." Mei continued, referring to the Fairy Tail wizards. "It would give us a much bigger advantage if our enemies don't know about your presences until it's too late."

"Understood." Alfonzo said with a nod.

Then, Ao and the Fairy Tail wizards left the office, with Alfonzo putting himself, Laxus, Marin, and Shizuka back under invisibility, leaving Mei in her office alone.

"*Sigh* Finally..." Mei said as she leaned back in her chair and looked up at the ceiling. "Yagura Karatachi, your reign of terror will come to an end."

Reaching that point, Mei turned to a set of [Sealing Tags] that were stacked on the corner of her desk.

"And with these, the fact that you are a Jinchuriki will lose half its meaning." Mei said as she sat up straight again and started reading through the documents on her desk once again.

Chapter 645: The Civil War in the Mist

Swoosh! *Swoosh!* *Swoosh!*

In the forest surrounding the Village Hidden in the Mist, more than a hundred kunai and shuriken came flying from the trees towards a man standing on the forest floor with his hands in his pockets. However, as if he did not even notice the incoming projectiles, the man continued to walk aimlessly.

Yet, before any of the projectile weapons could get within three feet of this man, a tall man, standing at 6'6" tall with light brown skin, grey eyes, and dreadlocks wearing a black tactical body suit, they stopped in place. Then, without warning, they were sent back towards the ones who threw them at more than triple their initial speed.

"Argh!"

"Damn it! Ahh!"

"Ahh! My leg!"

Then, before the ones who threw the weapons, shinobi from the Mist Village who sided with the Mizukage in the civil war, could react, they were pinned to the trees they were hiding in by the same weapons they threw with unerring accuracy.

The lucky ones only had their clothes pierced and pinned to the trees. However, the unlucky ones, or rather those who reacted but weren't fast enough to evade, were pinned to the trees with the kunai piercing through their legs, arms, and other body parts. The only saving grace was that none of them were fast enough that the weapons missed by a significant margin, hitting a vital area by mistake.

"Damn, we've been doing this for three days already." Alfonzo, the man responsible for incapacitating so many shinobi, said in a bored tone. "When is Yagura gonna come out."

Despite his complaints, Alfonzo still did what he was tasked with, capturing the shinobi he defeated. So, after being covered by arcs of violet electricity, courtesy of his [Electromagnetism Magic], he sped around the area knocking out all his assailants and restraining them with anti-magic cuffs.

"Anyway, I wonder how Laxus and Marin are handling themselves." Alfonzo muttered as he used his [Metal Magic] to gather all those restrained by the anti-magic cuffs. "I mean, it's been a few days since I've seen them. *Sigh* Quests like this really suck. I've seen way too many people die for this stupid war."

Meanwhile, in another part of the forest, the battlefield of the civil war, two teams of about a dozen shinobi were battling to the death for their ideals. Luckily, since this skirmish just started, only one shinobi had lost their life thanks to the ambush that started the battle.

"Give up you traitors." A shinobi from the Mizukage's side shouted while running through a series of hand signs. "If you do, Lord Mizukage might show you mercy. [Water-Style: Water Bullet]."

As soon as his words ended, the shinobi took a deep breath. Then, he exhaled a pressurized ball of water at the back of a rebel shinobi that was engaged in battle with one of his comrades.

Sensing the danger, the rebel shinobi intended to disengage with the opponent he was fighting. However, before he could, he felt a thin wire wrap around his wrist, holding him in place. Then, when he looked down to follow the wire back to its source, he saw the enemy he was just fighting smirking at him while holding the wire tightly.

Reacting quickly, the rebel shinobi reached into his weapon pouch and retrieved a kunai. Although this would definitely end his career as a shinobi, he was tired of the way Yagura was running the village and wasting the potential of its younger generation.

The fact that his younger brother was one of the academy students that died in the graduation test when Zabuza Momochi killed all the other shinobi hopefuls adding to his defiance.

However, just before he could swing the kunai down to sever his own wrist, the shinobi felt a hand on his shoulder, making him gently lower his raised arm.

At the same time, the person who stopped the rebel shinobi pointed the blade of a doubled-edge kodachi at the incoming [Water Bullet].

"[Transformation Magic: Extend]." A female voice chanted.

An instant later, the blade of the kodachi did exactly what the spell would suggest, extending towards the [Water bullet] and piercing through its core, causing the [Ninjutsu] to splash to the ground harmlessly.

The interruption caused the entire battlefield to fall silent. No one, other than the two shinobi of the Mizukage's forces that had the rebel shinobi surrounded saw the blonde woman with pink tips and pink eyes, Marin, fall from the trees. Yet, her voice, that was not particularly loud, caused everyone to pay attention to her.

Meanwhile, Marin, after stopping the shinobi from cutting off his own hand, surveyed the battlefield. And when she saw the corpse of the shinobi who lost his life during the ambush, she could not help but feel a tinge of sadness.

"I hate this quest." Marin muttered as she lowered her blade while simultaneously [Transforming] the bracelet on her other hand into an identical blade. "I just want it to end so I can go home and cuddle with Fonzie. [Bend All Creation to My Will, Nova]."

As soon as Marin finished her release chant, her blades began glowing in a seven colored light. However, before anyone could get a good look at them, Marin thrust them down in to the ground.

"[Bloom]." Marin chanted.

In the next instant, thin spikes shot out from the ground. However, these spikes only targeted the Mizukage's forces, leaving the others completely unharmed.

Despite the sneak attack from underground, the most experienced of the shinobi were able to dodge the attack, leaving blocks of wood to be impaled in their place. However, those who were too slow to dodge, were skewered through their legs and arms, completely incapable of fighting anymore thanks to the injuries they sustained.

Meanwhile, the rebel shinobi, after hearing the "Poof" sound generated by the shinobi who used the [Substitution Jutsu] to escape Marin's attack, snapped back to their senses, quickly subduing the rest of the enemy forces.

"*Sigh* I really hate this." Marin muttered once again. "I wanna go home."

Clap!

Shaking her head to push those thoughts to the back of her mind for now, Marin then clapped her cheeks to get her head back in the game.

"Alright, let's hurry up!" Marin shouted, getting all the rebel shinobi's attention. "Let's get these guys secured and back to the prison. We don't want them dying on us."

With that, all the rebel shinobi nodded their heads while Marin resealed her [Soul Armament]. Then, they all took out anti-magic cuffs to restrain the shinobi before dragging them back to their base so everyone's injuries could be taken care of.

At the same time, Laxus, standing in the center of a clearing in the forest, was surrounded by a group of nearly thirty shinobi on the Mizukage's side. Yet, instead of Laxus looking intimidated by the situation, it was the shinobi who looked as if they did not know what to do.

"Well, are we just going to stand here all day?" Laxus asked while looking around disdainfully. "Or are we going to fight?"

"Why the hell is he here?" The captain of this shinobi squad asked in an apprehensive tone. "The reports said that traitor Ao was unable to get anyone from the mainland to come back with him. How did the Anbu drop the ball so bad on this one?"

"Captain, what are we waiting for?" A Jōnin wearing a mask asked as he started running through hand signs. "As long as he can't see us, he'll be easy pickings. [Ninja Art: Hiding in Mist Jutsu]."

As soon as he finished, a thick mist, emanating from below the shinobi began to spread all over the area, lowering visibility for all those engulfed in the mist.

"You idiot! I didn't give the order to attack!" The captain shouted.

"Finally, we're getting started." Laxus said with a savage grin as the mist washed over him.

A moment after Laxus' words ended, the entire area was washed over by the mist. And the Mist Shinobi who were not familiar with Laxus' capabilities, felt much safer, as they were all masters of the Mist Village's silent killing technique.

Unfortunately, low visibility or not, Laxus did not care.

"[Lightning Dragon's Iron Hammer]." Laxus chanted as he raised his right fist over his head.

Zap!

A moment later, with a large amount of lightning concentrated in his fist, Laxus punched downwards, slamming his fist into the ground.

Boom!

Upon impact, the entire clearing, which was covered in mist, lit up as the ground cracked and bolts of lightning shot out from the cracks.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Many of the shinobi screamed in unison after being electrocuted.

As for those who did not scream, their bodies simply could not handle the current, as they all fainted instantaneously. Meanwhile, as the one who cast the [Hiding in Mist Jutsu] was one of those who fainted, the mist began to clear rather quickly.

A few seconds later, when the mist cleared, the clearing was devastated. Even some of the trees surrounding the clearing had been scorched or were lit ablaze by Laxus' powerful spell.

"Uh... I think I went overboard." Laxus muttered while surveying the twitching bodies, cracked ground, and burning trees in his surroundings. "I should probably let someone know that there are a few trees on fire. Wouldn't want a forest fire to start here."

["They should be happy I did not deem this battle worthy of my presence."] Elexion, the Lightning Dragon King, said from Laxus' inner world. ["Because, had you tapped into my enormous power, this entire forest would have been little more than a smoldering crater crackling with remnant electricity."]

"Yeah, yeah, I know you're great, Elexion." Laxus said while rolling his eyes. "For now, I need to make sure that as many of these weaklings survive as possible."

With that said, Laxus took on his [Lightning Form]. Then, he started carrying the enemy shinobi, two at a time, back to the Rebel Base.

"What is the meaning of this?" Obito asked while overlooking the entire battlefield from a hill outside of the forest surrounding the Mist Village. "Yagura told me that there were no guilds who came to help the Rebels. To make it even worse, they aren't killing the Mist shinobi. Instead, they're just incapacitating them. Meaning, even when this war ends, most of the village's forces will still be intact, no matter which side wins."

While speaking, Obito, wearing his spiral patterned mask and black cloak with red cloud patterns signifying that he was a member of the Akatsuki, paced back and forth in frustration.

"And where is Zetsu?" Obito asked emotionlessly. "There's no way those Fairy Tail wizards would have stayed hidden so long if he were here to scout Mei Terumi's forces. Hell, Yagura doesn't even know who has been taking down all his forces so cleanly yet."

Reaching that point, Obito stopped his pacing and turned his attention to the Village Hidden in the Mist.

"I'll have to use yagura." Obito said in a tone filled with conviction. "Otherwise, the losses won't be enough to remove the mist from the Five Great Shinobi Villages."

As soon as he finished speaking, the space around Obito began to distort into a spiral pattern. Then, before long, he vanished from where he stood, sucked into the spiral space.

A few moments later, a similar spiral spatial distortion appeared in the Mizukage's office. However, the only person in the office, Yagura, a man of small stature, standing at 4'6", with short grey hair, bangs

that covered the right side of his face while the hair on the left side was spiked upwards and pupilless pink eyes wearing the blue and white robes of the Mizukage, did not even react to the sudden change.

"Yagura, it's time for you to act." Obito said after stepping out of the spiral.

Without hesitation and with emptiness in his eyes, Yagura, who had been going over battle reports, stood up from his desk. Then, he flung his Kage robe off and started making his way to his office's door. Meanwhile, Obito simply disappeared into another spiral space distortion before the door could be opened.

"Guards!" Yagura shouted as soon as the door was open. "Follow me to battle, I've had enough of this farce. I'll make that Terumi traitor pay for her insolence."

Without questioning Yagura's orders, a group of the most elite Anbu of the village appeared around him before falling in step to follow their Mizukage to the battlefield.

At the same time, back at the Rebel camp, Alfonzo, who was about to head out to take down another group of Mist shinobi, froze. Then, he smiled while pulling out a device that was packed in the item pouch he wore on his waist.

"Looks like the items I placed around the village worked." Alfonzo said to himself while looking down at the sister device to the ones he mentioned. "They just picked up a disturbance in space. Meaning, Obito just went to visit Yagura. And based on what I can sense with [MPD], Yagura is about to take the field."

Reaching that point, Alfonzo turned his head in a certain direction. More specifically, towards the hill that Obito had been watching the civil war from.

"And look what we have here." Alfonzo said while his smile widened. "The particles those items spread must have stuck to his clothes, as I'm picking up his location after he left, too. I guess that means I can leave the Three-Tails fight to Laxus while I go fuck with Obito for a while."

Chapter 646: Alfonzo Vs. Obito Uchiha

Just before Alfonzo could leave to deal with Obito, Mei, who had also received the news about Yagura taking the field, stepped out of the rebel's base.

"Alfonzo." Mei said, her tone sounding rather seductive. "It seems this battle is about to reach its climax. According to our spies, Yagura is about to take the field."

"Yeah, I can sense him moving." Alfonzo replied. "But it looks like I won't be able to participate in the upcoming battle."

Hearing that, Mei's eyebrows furrowed slightly. She was paying good money for this quest. And the fact that the strongest of the reinforcements she was able to procure would not be participating in the most important battle of the entire rebellion was not making her happy.

"Don't look at me like that, Mei." Alfonzo said, subconsciously reaching up to comb his fingers through Mei's long hair. "But there's a reason for this. I can sense someone watching all the fighting from that hill over there."

Reaching that point, Alfonzo pointed towards the tall hill that Obito was watching the conflict from. However, Mei did not even seem to hear what he had to say. Instead, she was staring at his arm, the arm connected to the hand that was combing through her hair, with confusion.

"Ah... Sorry..." Alfonzo said as he pulled his hand away. "I have a bad habit of doing that when I'm trying to comfort women... My wives all love it so much that I don't even think when I do it anymore."

"*Cough* I see..." Mei said as she looked away with her cheeks colored pink. She then continued while continuing to look away. "Anyway... Please don't do things like that again. Now is neither the time nor the place for such affectionate gestures. Now, could you please explain to me again why you won't be participating in the battle with Yagura?"

Seeing the expression on Mei's face and the words she said, Alfonzo was surprised at first. From what he could remember of her personality from the source material, Mei was not so easily flustered. Even so, he eventually smiled.

"Like I said... There's someone watching us from that hill over there." Alfonzo replied while once again pointing to the tall hill in the distance. "And I just sensed their magic power signature in the Mizukage's office just before Yagura started to move. So, I wanna see who it is that met up with Yagura before he decided to enter the war."

"I see." Mei replied, turning to look Alfonzo in the eye now that she had her blushing under control.

Hearing that, Mei frowned deeply while thinking about the implications of what Alfonzo just reported. Meanwhile, Alfonzo was communicating with Laxus and Marin via [Telepathy].

{"Laxus, can you feel that?"} Alfonzo asked.

{"Yeah, the big guy in the village is starting to move."} Laxus replied.

{"Right, I'm gonna leave him to you."} Alfonzo continued.

{"What will you be doing, Fonzie?"} Marin asked curiously.

{"Someone stopped by the Mizukage's office just before Yagura started to move."} Alfonzo replied.
{"And I've got a lock on them. So, I'm gonna see who they are and why they're here."}

{"At least you're not hogging the best fight for yourself."} Laxus said. {"Cause I'm getting really bored with these small fries."}

{"*Sigh* We should have brought Saya or Chico with us."} Marin said in a playful tone. {"Laxus is so much nicer to talk to whenever they're around."}

{"Shut up!"} Laxus grumbled, a hint of embarrassment making its way into his tone. {"This is too dangerous for them... For now."}

{"Whatever you say."} Marin replied, still in that playful tone. Her tone then turned more serious as she continued. {"Anyway, what should I do, Fonzie?"}

{"I'll be counting on you to keep Shizuka safe."} Alfonzo replied. {"The battle between Yagura and Laxus is probably gonna get really dangerous. Like 'when Natsu takes quests' dangerous. So, there's a chance

that the collateral damage could reach the base where she's treating the injured with Mei's medical ninjas."}

{"Got it."} Marin replied. {"I was just on my way there with the latest batch I took down. So, I'll stay with her after I get done handing them off."}

{"Good."} Alfonzo said. {"Then, let's go and bring this civil war to an end."}

With that, the three Fairy Tail wizards headed off to their respective destinations.

Meanwhile, Obito continued watching the war from the aforementioned hilltop. More specifically, he was waiting for Yagura to make his appearance on the battlefield.

"Other than the Terumi girl, no one from the rebels can stand a chance against Yagura." Obito said while letting his Sharingan roam over the entrance to the Village Hidden in the Mist. "The only issue is Fairy Tail. I've already Identified Laxus Dreyar and Alfonzo Marcus. And both of them should be able to handle Yagura as he is now. There's even a chance that the Master of Metal could put up a decent fight against Yagura when he releases the Three-Tails."

"Oh, I promise you, I could do more than just put up a good fight against the Three-Tailed Etherious." A deep male voice said from an uncomfortably close distance behind Obito. "But I'm sure you only said that to keep your precious little pride intact, right?"

Upon hearing the voice from so close behind him, Obito immediately leapt forward, putting some distance between himself and the one behind him. However, he did not panic, as he was confident in his abilities. More specifically, the additional ability of his Mangekyō Sharingan.

A moment later, Obito turned around. When he did, his eyes fell on exactly who he was expecting to see after hearing what the man said.

"Alfonzo Marcus..." Obito said in a grim tone. "I would ask how you knew I was here, but it's probably from some absurd magic item you created."

"Not bad... You got it on the first try." Alfonzo replied while smiling casually. "Anyway, judging from that cloak, you're a member of the Akatsuki. The organization that tried to kill my first wife because she was protecting a kid we know. So, mind introducing yourself?"

"I am Madara Uchiha." Obito replied. "Now, answer my question. Why do you medal in the matters of a kingdom that is not your own, Master of Metals?"

"Because the price was right." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "I'm a wizard, that's kind of the reason we do anything."

Reaching that point, Alfonzo lowered his voice as he continued.

"I'd rather be sitting at home playing with Amar'e, though." Alfonzo grumbled. "Damn that Ur and the fact that she was right about me being the best option for this quest."

"I see." Obito replied while ignoring Alfonzo's discontent grumbling.

"Anyway, I know that Madara is an alias." Alfonzo said after pulling himself out of his inner thoughts. "I mean, he was supposed to be on par with Hashirama Senju, who I fought a few months ago, though he was nowhere near his peak. But from the glimpse I got of his power I could tell..."

Alfonzo then glared directly into Obito's eyes.

"You're way too weak." Alfonzo said in a matter of fact tone. "In fact, I have an idea who you really are. But Kakashi said you were supposed to be dead... Crushed by a boulder. But your magic power signature and the one in Kakashi's left eye are---"

Swoosh! *Swoosh!* *Swoosh!*

Before Alfonzo could finish voicing his thoughts, the sound of three projectiles cutting through the air could be heard. However, before they could pierce through Alfonzo's head, throat, and heart, they stopped less than an inch away from his skin.

"Dude, that was rude as shit." Alfonzo said with a feigned tone of disappointment. "I know Minato Namikaze taught you to be a better person than that, didn't he, Obito Uchiha?"

After speaking his piece, Alfonzo tapped the tips of the three projectile weapons, kunai, with an electrical current flowing over his hand in quick succession.

Boom! *Boom!* *Boom!*

As a result, the three kunai, after turning around with their tips pointed at Obito, shot off at five times the speed of sound, breaking the sound barrier several times over. And just as Alfonzo expected, Obito did not have the time to react.

Boom! *Boom!* *Boom!*

Even so, despite the three kunai passing through Obito's body and decimating a portion of the landscape behind him thanks to the tremendous force, Obito stood there completely unharmed.

"It looks like getting rid of you has jumped to the top of my list of priorities, Alfonzo Marcus." Obito said as he walked away from the spot where he stood, circling around Alfonzo in a seemingly calm manner. "You know more than you should. Such a pity, the world is going to lose one of its brightest inventive minds today."

Although Obito seemed calm, he knew that no matter how good his reflexes were, if Alfonzo caught him off guard with those sound barrier breaking attacks, he would be hard pressed to defend himself. Luckily, he had activated his Mangekyō Sharingan ability, [Kamui], as soon as he saw Alfonzo raise his hand to tap the tips of his kunai.

[Kamui], an ability that allows Obito, and Kakashi, to send items to another dimension. While the eye Obito gave Kakashi on his supposed death bed gave Kakashi the ability to do so from a distance, Obito's remaining eye did the opposite, allowing him to move himself and those he was in contact with into the same dimension. And when trained to the extreme, Obito gained a form of intangibility by partially moving parts of his body into the dimension.

"Oh, please miss me with that shit." Alfonzo said while rolling his eyes. "Still, I think the world would like to know why Obito Uchiha, one of the Fourth Hokage's students would fall so far. Is it because you lost your other team mate? What was her name again?"

"Be silent!" Obito ordered angrily.

A moment later, Obito launched himself forward. This time, however, he chose to not use a kunai, as it would just be subjected to Alfonzo's [Metal Magic]. Instead, he threw a right straight aimed at Alfonzo's nose.

In response, Alfonzo tilted his head to his left to evade. Yet, before he could counterattack, he was forced to raise his right hand to block a left hook. Then, as he tried to wrap his arm around Obito's to start his counter attack, it slipped right through, as if Obito's arm were only an illusion, leaving him open to a left hook to the ribs.

Bang!

Despite taking the punch without being able to defend himself, Alfonzo did not move at all, and his expression made it look as if he had not even been attacked.

"Like I said, you're too weak to be calling yourself Madara." Alfonzo said while looking down at Obito, who was a full seven inches shorter than he was.

Making eye contact with Alfonzo, Obito, while gritting his teeth at being called weak, used as much magic power as he could to cast a [Genjutsu] through his Sharingan. Despite that, he quickly covered his eye as he could feel blood leaking from it and down his face under his mask.

"Seriously, dude." Alfonzo said while shaking his head. "What part of you are too weak didn't you understand? Anyway, Let's see what it will take to get through that intangibility of yours.
[Electromagnetism Magic: Lightning Enhancement]."

In the next instant, Obito saw Alfonzo's fist heading straight for the center of his mask. And it was much faster than any punch he had ever witnessed before. Even so, he did not panic, turning on his intangibility and letting it pass through him harmlessly.

Having expected as much, Alfonzo did not slow down his assault, following up with a low kick aimed at the nerve cluster just above the knee. Then, a left hook to the ribs, a right uppercut, a left elbow strike to the jaw, a right knee strike to the chest, and a spinning left heel kick aimed at Obito's temple.

Even so, Obito did not even try to dodge any of these incoming strikes, having faith in his intangibility. However, that was not the end of Alfonzo's onslaught, as no matter how long Obito waited, it never seemed to end.

Three seconds...

Five seconds...

Ten seconds....

Even after ten seconds, Alfonzo's combination of punches, kicks, elbow strikes, and knee strikes did not slow down. Despite that, Obito never even attempted to dodge or retaliate, as he was still confident in his intangibility.

Twenty seconds...

Thirty Seconds...

One minute...

Despite continuing to stand confidently without retaliating, Obito was starting to wonder just how one person could attack so many times at such a relentless pace without stopping to take a break.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo was silently counting the time as he threw strike after strike at his immobile foe.

'[Kamui] has a five-minute time limit.... I think.' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'At least, that's what Konan said in the canon. The problem is that if I go for the kill... Or rather, if he senses any killing intent from me, He'll just use [Izanagi] to rewrite his death. Sure, it would leave him with a useless eye, but I'd still have more work to do. And I'm sure he can fight without his sight. I mean, what good shinobi can't, right?'

["Maybe not an Uchiha."] Bedlam chimed in from Alfonzo's inner world. ["I mean, what kind of Uchiha would ever fight without using their eyes."]

'Fair enough.' Alfonzo replied as he continued to attack.

Two minutes...

Three minutes...

Four minutes...

And just as Alfonzo's memory suggested, Obito's intangibility could only last for five minutes. So, when the countdown reached only one minute remaining, Alfonzo could see the desperation in Obito's visible eye.

"Oh, what's wrong?" Alfonzo asked while smiling mockingly. "Looks like someone's getting nervous. I wonder why? Are you getting close to a time limit, or something?"

Instead of replying, Obito only gritted his teeth. Yet, instead of simply standing in place, letting Alfonzo's attacks simply faze through him, Obito started trying his best to dodge.

Seeing that, Alfonzo's smile widened. Then, he increased the power of his [Lightning Enhancement], raising it to the level he used back when he cut Laxus' [Roaring Bolt] in half during the first Battle of Fairy Tail Tournament. Yet, because of his vastly increased strength, an enhancement like that barely put any strain on his body at all.

However, the increase in Alfonzo's speed and attack speed frustrated Obito to a whole new level. Because now, despite trying to dodge and make some distance so that he could reset his intangibility, Alfonzo never gave him the chance to do so.

After another thirty seconds, Obito really started feeling desperation. So, instead of just trying to dodge away, he started attacking, trying to make Alfonzo think that he was willing to trade blows. Despite that, Alfonzo was relentless. Every time Obito threw an attack, Alfonzo's incoming attack would be coated in a current of electricity that would be strong enough to incapacitate even the strongest shinobi were it to land.

So, despite the fact that Obito was ready to take a hit to reset his intangibility, a hit like that was not worth it in his opinion.

'Damn it!' Obito roared internally. 'How can he keep going like this? And where the hell is Zetsu? If he were here this wouldn't be happening. Whatever, I'll just have to make him make a choice. Even if this might make it impossible to capture the Three-Tails after the war.'

Roar!

In the next instant, Alfonzo could sense a massive surge of magic power just outside of the village. Following that, a large cloud of smoke obscured the area. Then, a roar shook the area. Finally, when the smoke cleared, a large beast that looked like a three hundred plus feet tall turtle with a crab-like shell, spikes all over its blue skin, two front legs that end in claws, back legs that are replaced by flippers, and three shrimp-like tails revealed itself.

'Now what will you do, wizard?' Obito thought to himself after the order he sent to the Three-Tailed Beast that dwelled inside of Yagura was carried out. 'Even if I've lost control of Yagura, who is most likely

dead after such a forceful transformation, the fact that he should choose to save all those on the battlefield will buy me enough time to escape.'

"Oh, looks like Laxus is gonna get the fight he wants." Alfonzo said while continuing to attack Obito just as relentlessly. "I bet Mei is pissed, though. She wanted to stop Yagura from transforming at all. Or at least stop him at his Stage 2 transformation. Oh well, Laxus should be able to handle this. And if he can't, I'll just bail his ass out after I finish up here."

Hearing Alfonzo's monologue and seeing that his attacks had not slowed down at all, Obito was losing his mind inside. However, when he felt a second surge of magic power, Obito understood.

'Even if it's not quite as strong as the Three-Tails, it's close.' Obito thought. 'And that's why he doesn't seem worried. Damn it! Isn't the Master of Metal supposed to be the strongest wizard on this battlefield? Where did this one come from?'

Bang!

Zap!

"Argh~~~~~!" Obito screamed in pain before losing consciousness shortly afterwards.

While he was complaining internally, Obito lost track of how long he had been intangible. Unfortunately, that meant that when Alfonzo landed an uppercut to his abdomen, he was not expecting it, which made it hurt so much worse than it would have normally. Add to that the fact that Alfonzo's fist was sparking with violet electricity, Obito's pain receptors were so overwhelmed that he fell unconscious quite quickly.

"*Sigh* That took too long." Alfonzo said while looking down at Obito, who was unconscious and twitching thanks to the electrical current running through his body. "If it weren't for the fact that I told Laxus he could have Yagura, I would have just put up a [Space Locking Barrier] before letting him know I was here."

Saying that, Alfonzo bent down and slapped Obito on the chest, which formed an anti-metal restraint around his arms and torso. Then, he picked him up before throwing him over his shoulder like a sack of potatoes and made his way back to the rebel base to put Obito in prison. Though, he had every intention of not leaving him with the Mist, as he thought he should give the rogue Leaf shinobi back to his village of origin.

Chapter 647: Bow Down to the Majesty of the King of Lightning

Not long after receiving the order to join the battle from Obito, Yagura, accompanied by his guard unit of Anbu, stepped through the gates of the Village Hidden in the mist. When he did, he looked around, as if he could see all the ongoing battles through the forest surrounding the village.

"This has gone on for long enough." Yagura said as he unrolled a storage scroll that he took from his shinobi backpack.

Yagura then channeled his magic power into the scroll. A moment later, a cloud of smoke appeared above the scroll.

When the cloud dissipated, the scroll was nowhere to be seen, already rolled up and placed in Yagura's shinobi backpack. However, now there was a long, metallic staff with different tips in Yagura's hand.

Swoosh!

"Let's go." Yagura said after flourishing his staff. "It's time to make those rebels regret their decision to defy the village."

"Well, I don't know about making anyone regret..." A deep, male voice said from the tree line. "But I do agree that it's time to end this. I've grown bored with fighting all these weaklings."

As soon as the voice sounded, the Anbu assigned as Yagura's guards jumped into action, taking up defensive positions around their Mizukage. Yagura, on the other hand, only looked in the direction from which the voice originated.

"Oh, they're pretty well trained." The voice said as a tall, blond man walked out of the forest, stepping into the clearing just outside of the village entrance. "Not that being well trained will make much of a difference."

"For such disrespect, you deserve death." The captain of the Anbu unit said in a menacing tone.

At the same time, all four of the Anbu guards tensed their muscles in preparation for a coordinated attack. However, before they could make their move, Yagura raised a hand, indicating they not make a move just yet.

"You're not a shinobi." Yagura said calmly, his voice sounding just as young as his appearance would suggest. "Then, why do you interfere in the Mist's internal affairs?"

"Don't ask stupid questions." the blond man, Laxus, said disdainfully. "It's because I was hired to do so."

"Then it seems you will be losing your life for quite the pitiful reason." Yagura said coldly. "Dying in the pursuit of wealth... You will neither be the first nor the last to do so.... But the reason is pitiful all the same."

Then, Yagura vanished from where he stood in a burst of speed.

Boom!

An instant later, Yagura reappeared in front of Laxus while thrusting his staff at Laxus' throat, clearly intending to crush the Dragon Slayer's wind pipe.

Despite Yagura's impressive speed, it was nothing compared to the speed Laxus could reach. Therefore, Laxus was rather relaxed when he raised his left hand to catch the tip of the staff. Yet, Yagura, who was used to being the strongest shinobi in his domain, slightly widened his eyes when his attack was so easily stopped.

"Please tell me that's not all you got." Laxus said while looking down at the much shorter man. "Alfonzo told me that I'd be able to enjoy myself if I fought you. But this is rather disappointing."

In response, Yagura did not speak. Instead, he pulled his staff back, which Laxus allowed with a bored expression on his face, and jumped back to where he stood at the beginning of this encounter.

"Tch!" Laxus clicked his tongue in annoyance. "You should have just stayed back and enjoyed the show. At least you would have been able to stay conscious that way. [Lightning Magic: Discharge]."

Zap!

As soon as Laxus finished his chant, the four Anbu guards appeared around him with their weapons aimed at vital points, head, heart, kidney, and throat. Yet, before they could complete their sneak attacks, Laxus body was covered by golden currents of lightning before the lightning was discharged in all directions, electrocuting the four Anbu before they could react.

Laxus retracted the lightning a moment later. When he did, the four Anbu, while violently twitching, fell to the ground with their eyes rolled back, foaming at the mouth, and releasing the scent of burning flesh. Luckily, they were all strong enough to survive.

"[Water-Style: Water Dragon Jutsu]." Yagura, who had been running through hand signs since the moment he leapt away from Laxus, chanted once he was finished.

Then, Yagura inhaled a large breath of air. A moment later, he exhaled. However, instead of air, Yagura spat out a large mass of water that formed into the shape of an eastern dragon with glowing yellow eyes.

"You really wanna use a dragon against me, a Dragon Slayer?" Laxus asked while shaking his head. He then raised his hands to his mouth, forming them into a trumpet shape. "Fine. Let's see who's better, then. [Lightning Dragon's Roar]."

Before chanting his spell, Laxus, like Yagura, took a deep breath. Then, he exhaled a condensed beam of golden lightning that collided with Yagura's [Water Dragon].

Boom~~~~~!

Unfortunately for Yagura, the power behind the two spells could not be compared, as Yagura's [Water Dragon] was destroyed on impact. On top of that, the lightning was being conducted through the water leading back to Yagura.

The silver lining in this bad situation was the fact that Yagura was a seasoned shinobi. Meaning, as soon as he realized the situation he was in, he cut off his magic power flow to the [Water Dragon Jutsu]. Then, he leapt away from where he stood.

In the next instant, the village gates, which had been closed as soon as Yagura and his Anbu guards left the village, were destroyed by the [Lightning Dragon's Roar], debris from the gates flying in all directions.

"Ah... Damn!" Laxus groaned in irritation. "That's gonna cost me some points."

Despite saying that, Laxus did not take his eyes off Yagura, who was staring back without fear.

"How 'bout we take this a little further away from the village?" Laxus asked. "I'm not really interested in hurting the civilians in the village."

Instead of replying, Yagura dashed forward, his staff primed to strike once again.

"*Sigh* Now I see why your own people are rebelling." Laxus said as he sidestepped the incoming swing. "You don't even care about their lives, do you? Well, of course you don't. I mean, I heard about that graduation exam of yours, and that's just barbaric."

Instead of replying, Yagura only continued to swing his staff at high-speed. Meanwhile, Laxus, although he could handle the onslaught easily, he intentionally allowed himself to be pushed back. Unfortunately, before getting too far away from the village, Yagura stopped and started running through another series of hand signs.

"Damn... He's not falling for it." Laxus muttered. "He's basically using the village as a hostage. Oh well, I guess I'll just have to do it the hard way. Subtlety isn't really my strong suit, anyway."

"[Water-Style: Severing Water Wire]." Yagura chanted as he once again took a deep breath.

And once again, Yagura exhaled water instead of air. However, instead of a large mass of water that took the form of a dragon, he spat out a thin, highly compressed stream of water while turning his head from left to right.

Boom! *Boom!* *Boom!*

As a result, several trees were cleanly cut through before they fell to the forest floor, kicking up mud and debris. Despite that, Yagura's Jutsu was unable to even touch Laxus' clothes, as he transformed into his [Lightning Form] and dodged at high speed.

"[Lightning Dragon's Iron Fist]." Laxus chanted as he rematerialized behind Yagura with his right fist cocked back and sparking with lightning.

In the next instant, all the lightning arcing on Laxus fist was absorbed into it. At the same time, Laxus threw his fist forward, landing a devastating punch on Yagura's back.

"Argh!" Yagura groaned due to the impact that was increased thanks to Laxus' spell.

Boom! *Boom!* *Boom!*

Laxus' punch sent Yagura flying towards the forest. Along the way, Yagura crashed through any trees that were in his way, causing more trees to be scattered along the forest floor.

Bang!

Eventually, Yagura was stopped when he left a crater in an especially large tree. The only good thing to come out of all that, however, was the fact that Yagura was able to turn his body around. So, instead of slamming face first into the trees along his path, he crashed through them with his back.

"*Cough* *Cough*"

After a moment to reorient himself, Yagura coughed out a mouthful of blood while picking himself up from the crater he, himself produced.

"You're a tough little guy." Laxus said as he descended from above in his [Lighting Form]. He then continued after rematerializing. "I was expecting you to be unconscious when I got here. But look at you, you're already standing."

In response, Yagura did not say a word. Instead, he only tightened his grip on his staff. Laxus, on the other hand, was not even really paying attention to Yagura. Instead, he was estimating how far he sent Yagura flying from the village.

'This is probably good enough.' Laxus muttered to himself. 'There's not much chance that I'll accidentally destroy more of the village from this far away. Still, I'd rather get him a little bit further away... Just in case.'

While Laxus was thinking, he noticed that Yagura's magic power was beginning to circulate for his next attack through his [Magic Power Detection]. However, just before Yagura launched himself forward to reengage, he stopped.

"Hmm?" Laxus hummed in confusion while turning to see what Yagura was planning.

However, when he looked into Yagura's eyes, Laxus saw the Mizukage's irises change from their pink, pupilless form to red with black patterns.

"What the hell is that?" Laxus asked.

Unfortunately, there was no one to answer Laxus' question. On top of that, something a little more important than getting an answer to his question happened not long after Yagura's eyes changed.

First, Yagura was coated in an ominous red magic power. Then, that magic power darkened in color as the density increased. All the while, the power Laxus could feel rolling off of Yagura was increasing with every passing second.

Then, one by one, three tails of the same dark red magic power grew from behind Yagura, lashing about violently and destroying any, and everything they came in contact with.

"Based on the color of the magic power, this should be the Stage 2 Transformation Alfonzo was talking about, right?" Laxus asked, his gaze growing more excited as time passed. "Good, he might finally be able to give me a challenge now."

Unfortunately, Yagura's transformation did not stop there. Instead, the magic power cloak began to expand, quickly growing to a point that Laxus had to crane his neck to see its three hundred plus feet size.

Roar!

Once the transformation was complete, the gigantic blue-skinned turtle with only two legs and three tails let out an ear-shattering roar while standing atop the many toppled trees caused by its transformation.

"That's more than I expected." Laxus said, the sound of his voice losing to the volume of the roar.

["Gwahahahahaha!"] Elexion laughed uproariously while he looked at the Three-Tailed Beast through Laxus' senses. ["I thought I would never find a worthy opponent to serve as this Dragon King's debut opponent. But finally, the day has come. Now, Laxus, call upon my power. Let the world know that the Lightning Dragon King has returned."]

"*Sigh* Finally." Laxus grumbled. "It's been more than three years since I learned your name. And this is the first time you're actually going to let me use your power."

With that said, Laxus reached behind him and grabbed the golden halberd strapped to his back. Then, with a challenging smile on his face, he pointed the halberd's tip at the Three-Tailed Beast.

"[Bow Down to the Majesty of the King of Lightning, Elexion]." Laxus chanted.

Swoosh!

As soon as the chant finished, Laxus magic power surged to the sky, distorting the surrounding air as it crackled with sparks of lightning. At the same time, the halberd, which was coated in the glow of Laxus Magic power, seemed to break into two parts. Then, those two parts formed around Laxus hands, taking the form of a pair of gauntlets.

However, unlike normal gauntlets, there was an axe blade and a hooked blade extending from the sides of each gauntlet, giving Laxus the appearance of having a halberd on each hand.

"What the hell is this?" Laxus asked while looking down at his hands. "I spent years training with a halberd. But now I'm back to fighting with my fists?"

["You're a Dragon Slayer."] Elexion replied disdainfully. ["Why would you expect anything different?"]

Instead of replying, Laxus only shook his head in disappointment. However, he did not have much time to wallow in that disappointment, as he could feel the Three-Tailed Beast gathering magic power in its mouth.

When Laxus looked up, he could see a large ball of water forming between the beast's jaws.

"Hey, Elexion..." Laxus said while condensing his magic power onto his right fist. "What new spells do I get now that I've partially released your seal?"

["None."] Elexion replied.

Hearing that, Laxus furrowed his eyebrows. Still, he did not stop gathering magic power.

["Instead of new spells, what I offer is more power."] Elexion continued. ["The power of all your Dragon Slayer Magic will come another step closer to the power I wielded in my prime."]

Hearing that, Laxus' eyebrows relaxed while a smile simultaneously curled his lips.

"I see." Laxus replied, his smile turning more and more excited as his magic power was ready to be used.
"Well then, let's put that theory to the test. [Lightning Dragon's Breakdown Fist]."

With his chant, Laxus punched up at the Three-Tail's open jaw. Then, as soon as his arm was completely extended, a lightning construct in the shape of Laxus' fist wearing the gauntlet formed by his released [Soul Armament], magnified several times over, flew towards its target.

Boom!

Zap!

Then, upon impact, the Three-Tail's mouth was snapped shut, causing water to go cascading in all directions. On top of that, the [Breakdown Fist] exploded grandly, covering the beast's entire head in a large number of lightning bolts.

Roar!

Because of the pain of having its [Jutsu] explode in its mouth and being hit with so much lightning, the Three-Tails raised its head and roared in agony.

"Seriously!" Laxus shouted as he appeared above the Three-Tail's head. "You're way too loud. [Lightning Dragon's Jaw]!"

As soon as his chant ended, Laxus raised his hands over his head and locked his fingers together while once again gathering as much lightning as he could. Then, with the help of gravity, he swung his arms down, slamming the axe blade portions of his gauntlets into the top of the Three-Tail's head.

Boom!

The force behind Laxus axe handle smash slammed the Three-Tail's head into the ground. However, that was not the end of it, as upon contact with the ground, not only was a crater created below the beast's head, but a shockwave charged with lightning spread out from the point of impact while destroying all the trees unlucky enough to be in its path.

Even with all that destruction, the Three-Tails was still stirring beneath Laxus.

"Seriously, how is this thing still conscious?" Laxus asked.

["It matters not."] Elexion replied. ["Just keep attacking until it is conscious no more."]

Agreeing with Elexion's plan of attack, Laxus bent his knees. Then, with everything he had, he leapt straight upwards, causing the crater below the beast's head to expand. Then, when Laxus reached the peak of his jump, he raised his hands to his mouth for the second time during the battle.

"[Lightning Dragon's Roar]." Laxus chanted.

With that, another, more concentrated, beam of lightning was expelled from Laxus' mouth. However, even though it was more concentrated, the area of effect was greatly increased, covering all of the Three-Tail's head and part of its shell.

Boom~~~~~!

The impact of Laxus' [Roar] kicked up a cloud of debris comparable to a nuclear bomb, the mushroom cloud reaching high above the tree line of the forest.

"*Pant* *Pant* I think I *Pant* overdid it." Laxus muttered after landing outside of the dust cloud. "I just hope nothing else in the village got damaged. I wanna be able to eat Alfonzo's cooking at least once before the year ends."

["Ha! This was truly a battle worthy of my return."] Elexion said proudly from Laxus' inner world. ["Dominating such a powerful opponent is exactly how someone of my stature should return to the public's eye."]

While Elexion was basking his sense of majesty, A violet flash appeared next to Laxus. When the flash dimmed, Alfonzo, carrying a restrained Obito over his shoulder, was revealed. He then took in the devastation Laxus caused with only three attacks. He then looked down into the dust cloud after swinging his free arm to clear it away.

At the bottom of the crater, Yagura, looking as if he were sleeping peacefully, lay there.

"Well, looks like the Mizukage is dead." Alfonzo muttered. "**Sigh* I mean, that's how he would have ended up anyway, but I really wanted it to be for a different reason. Like after I extracted the Three-Tails from him. It would have probably gone really well with Juvia, you know."

"Huh?" Laxus, who had noticed that Yagura was dead, as well, exclaimed in confusion.

"**Sigh* I'll tell you later." Alfonzo said. "For now, let's find Mei and tell her that Yagura was taken care of. Plus, I'm pretty sure this guy is responsible for all the shit Yagura put the village through."

"What do you mean?" Laxus asked curiously.

"Just pick up his body." Alfonzo said as he turned in the direction where he sensed Mei's magic power signature. "I'll explain it in front of everyone. I'm not really feeling like explaining this more than once."

"If you say so." Laxus replied as his gauntlets returned to the form of a halberd. He then strapped the halberd to his back as he continued. "Not that I care all that much."

With that, Laxus jumped into the crater and picked up Yagura's corpse. Then, he and Alfonzo vanished from the battle field in flashes of golden and violet light, respectively.

Chapter 648: The Akatsuki's Complacency

As soon as Alfonzo left to take care of the person watching the war from the hill outside of the forest, namely Obito, Mei rushed towards the village entrance in hopes of intercepting Yagura before he could transform into the Three-Tails.

Unfortunately, she ended up being late. And that was after the fight was brought closer to her thanks to Laxus' powerful punch.

Standing at the crown of a tree, Mei looked on in despair with a set of [Sealing Tags] in her hands.

"No... I'm too late." Mei said as she watched Yagura grow into the Three-Tailed Beast. However, when she saw its eyes, she narrowed her own. "Is that... a Sharingan? But how? I know for a fact that Yagura never got a Sharingan implanted."

Roar!

Unfortunately, Mei did not have too much time to think about what she was seeing. Because a surge of magic power drew her attention away from the Jinchuriki.

Looking in the direction of the magic power surge, Mei's eyes widened to a comical degree when she saw the effect Laxus' surging magic power had on the air around him.

"How... Is this... Possible?" Mei asked herself in a shaky voice. "His magic power... It's on par with... Yagura's right now..."

Even though she was witnessing it for herself, Mei found it hard to believe what she just said. Yet, no matter how she looked at the two, there was no other way she could describe what she was seeing.

However, just like before, Mei did not have much time to mull over what she was seeing. Because the amount of magic power that was gathering in Yagura's mouth was staggering. More than enough to wipe the Village Hidden in the Mist off the face of Earth Land.

However, Mei was able to relax slightly when she realized that the magic power was just [Water Magic], and not the Tailed Beasts' most destructive attack, a [Tailed Beast Bomb].

"Even if it's not a [Tailed Beast Bomb], that much magic power could still destroy most of the village with relative ease." Mei muttered to herself.

In the next instant, however, all her worries were put to rest when Laxus landed three spells that ended with an explosion bigger than anything she had seen in recent years.

"Did he kill him?" Mei asked while looking down at the crater made from Laxus' last two attacks. "*Sigh* If we could have captured him alive, removing the Three-Tails before [Sealing] it in a container, would have meant the Mist would have still had a Jinchuriki. But with Utakata defecting from the village under Yagura, we're going to be at a huge disadvantage until we can get at least one Jinchuriki under our control again."

While Mei was thinking aloud, she noticed a flash of violet light appear next to Laxus, revealing Alfonzo once the light dimmed.

"Hmm... That must be the one he said was watching the war." Mei muttered while watching Alfonzo clear the smoke. She then seemed to realize something as her eyes shot wide open once again. "Wait... Although it's imperative to get a Jinchuriki of our own again, there's at least one person here who can fight, and win, against a trained Jinchuriki. I definitely need to find a way to ally with Fairy Tail."

Mei's eyes then zeroed in on Alfonzo while she subconsciously began combing her fingers through her hair, rubbing her fingertips against her scalp, imitating Alfonzo's earlier subconscious response.

"Looks like I'll have to make a trip to Magnolia in Fiore to discuss things with the Fairy Tail guild master." Mei continued, her face growing redder and redder with every word. "And if I'm lucky, maybe I'll be able to get to know a certain young man more intimately... *Giggle*"

By the time Mei's thoughts reached their end, she was giggling uncontrollably, like a schoolgirl thinking about her crush. Unfortunately, because of her... plans... Mei was not fully aware of her surroundings. Not to say that she would have missed any killing intent that was directed at her, though.

"Uh... Is she okay?" Laxus, who had just landed on the branch where Mei was standing, asked while looking at Mei with caution.

"I'm not sure." Alfonzo replied while scratching the side of his head. "I don't think she's under a [Genjutsu], or anything. But for some reason, I'm feeling really uneasy."

"Should we just leave her be, then?" Laxus asked while looking away from the giggling Mei. "Because I really don't wanna be the one to interrupt whatever it is she's thinking about that could make her laugh like that."

"Yeah. Let's tell Ao about this." Alfonzo replied with a nod. "He should know what to do."

After Alfonzo gave his suggestion, he and Laxus made eye contact for a moment before nodding in agreement. Then, they both flashed away from the tree branch, leaving Mei to sink further into her delusions... Until an enemy shinobi, who thought she must have been caught in a [Genjutsu] tried to attack her.

Unfortunately, that shinobi did not live to regret that decision. Instead, the flesh was melted off his skeleton when Mei snapped back to her senses and exhaled a cloud of acidic mist at him, courtesy of her [Boil-Style] Kekkei Genkai.

The next few days passed quickly. The war ended not long after Yagura's death. However, the most strenuous part of the Mist Village's Civil War, at least in Mei's opinion, followed. And it was still ongoing. Namely, negotiations with the King of Caelum for her to be recognized as the Fifth Mizukage.

However, that had nothing to do with Alfonzo, Laxus, Marin, and Shizuka. Though, Shizuka did still find herself with a lot of work to do, as there were many injured during the war. And Marin volunteered to guard her while she worked.

As for Laxus, he spent most of his time on his iPhone talking with Chico and/or Saya planning their wedding, which had been put off until Alfonzo was done with his work at the Village Hidden in the Leaves, since Laxus' longtime rival had agreed to be his best man.

Last but not least, Alfonzo was going around the Kingdom of Caelum inspecting all the Sixth Sense Holdings' branches that had been set up in the island country. And from what he could tell, Marin's father, Masumi, had been doing a good job as CEO.

"I wonder if I should give Lucy's dad a chance, too." Alfonzo muttered as he returned to the room he was assigned in the Mist Village's best inn. "I mean, if he's gotten over his irrational hatred of Lici, I don't mind giving him a job. But he didn't even come to Lucy's wedding. So, I'm not holding my breath."

Not only had Jude Heartfilia not come to the wedding. However, despite having an iPhone and Lucy's contact information, he had yet to contact her at all since the day he was caught stalking her.

Opening the door, Alfonzo stepped into the room he shared with Marin and Shizuka. Seeing that the room was empty, Alfonzo was not surprised, as he could sense his two wives at the village's hospital.

"Well, maybe I'll take a trip to Acalypha with Lucy one of these days." Alfonzo thought aloud. "Maybe there are circumstances that are keeping him from contacting her."

Reaching that point, Alfonzo walked over to the couch in the room, kicked off his shoes, and flopped down.

"Or... Maybe he's just an irredeemable piece of shit." Alfonzo continued as he threw his arms over the back of the couch and kicked his feet up on the coffee table. "But he did recognize his mistakes in the canon. So, that's unlikely. Maybe he's just ashamed of the way he acted... Who knows?"

With nothing left to do, it did not take Alfonzo long to fall asleep.

Earth Land, Ishgar, Undisclosed Location.

"It's been nearly a week since we heard from Zetsu." The projection of a man with orange hair and purple eyes with concentric circles said while standing atop one of the fingers of the Gedo Mazo. "This is highly unusual."

"Perhaps he was captured." The projection of a man with blond hair that covered his left eye replied. "I mean, it's not like he was all that strong, right."

"Even if that's true, no one among us is better at fleeing." The projection of a man with green pupils and red sclerae said in a disdainful tone. "This is why I don't like working with idiots."

"What was that?" The blond man growled. "It looks like someone is looking forward to an up close and personal display of my art."

"Just remind me to kill you when you try, and fail, to show off that useless art of yours." The green-eyed man said, almost nonchalantly. "If I remember correctly, your bounty is pretty high. Should be worth the effort."

Ignoring the bickering, Itachi, who was also present for this meeting, turned towards the man with the purple eyes.

"It's been a while since Toby disappeared, as well." Itachi said. "For as long as I've been a member of the Akatsuki, we've never been out of contact with both members of a particular team for this long."

"I am aware." The purple-eyed man replied. "However, I doubt we need to worry about either of them. Perhaps their mission is just more complicated than expected. They are gathering information about the members of Fairy Tail, after all."

Though Itachi nodded in response, he had a bad feeling about the entire situation. Or rather, he had a hunch that they would never see either Toby, or rather Obito, and Zetsu ever again. Especially when he considered just how talented Alfonzo was when it came to creating magic items. Yet, he would never say anything about that to his so-called colleagues.

Especially since he was nothing but a spy in the end. A spy who was destined to die at his younger brother's hands for the crimes he committed against their clan.

'Well, at least I don't have to worry about Orochimaru or Danzo getting their hands on Sasuke after I'm gone.' Itachi thought to himself. 'Even though Danzo gave me his word that he would not harm Sasuke after I took his mission to kill off my clan, I don't trust him. Not at all. As for Orochimaru, he had once tried to steal my body for whatever twisted experiments he was conducting. And even though he was not strong enough to subdue me, there's no guarantee he wouldn't try the same with Sasuke. *Sigh* I really need to find a way to thank Alfonzo Marcus for everything he's done.'

"For now, none of you need to worry about Toby or Zetsu." The purple-eyed man said with little inflection in his tone. "Just continue to prepare. We will begin hunting for the Tailed-Beasts in earnest in the next few years."

The purple-eyed man's words managed to pull Itachi out of his thoughts while simultaneously putting an end to the exchange of death threats between the blond man and the green-eyed man.

"As for the Nine-Tails, if he's still in the care of Fairy Tail once we've captured the rest of the beasts, I'll handle them personally." The purple-eyed man said once he was sure everyone's attention was on him.

"Though they may be the strongest guild in Fiore, and possibly the whole of Ishgar, what is a guild... to a god?"

Used to their leader's divine delusions of grandeur, the other members of Akatsuki did not comment. Though, the projection of a blue-haired woman with amber eyes did sigh quietly.

"Now, go and prepare." The purple-eyed man commanded before his projection flickered and disappeared.

Not long after the leader disconnected from the meeting, all but one of the projections vanished, as well.

"*Sigh* It looks like I'll have to up his dosage again." The blue-haired woman said once her projection was the only one left. "Losing Yahiko all those years ago has really... *Sigh* Perhaps I'll take a trip to Magnolia to ask for a stronger dose of Nagato's medicine from Miss Porlyusica in the near future. But I'll have to be careful. According to reports, Sensei has joined Fairy Tail, as well."

With that said, the blue-haired woman shook her head. Then, she, too, dispelled her projection.

Chapter 649: Helping Shizuka Unwind (R-18)

Bang!

"Ugh! I'm so tired." Shizuka, after pushing the door open forcefully, groaned after helping heal the shinobi who were seriously injured during the short civil war. "My feet hurt so much!"

"Yeah, you've really been working hard, Shizuka." Marin, who was acting as Shizuka's guard for today, said with a sympathetic smile while following Shizuka into the hotel room.

"I can give you a massage, if you want." Alfonzo said groggily from his spot on the couch, having been woken up when the door was slammed open.

Hearing Alfonzo's voice, both Marin and Shizuka turned in his direction. When they did, they were just in time to see him use a hand to cover his mouth while yawning..

"Oh God, yes!" Shizuka squealed as she skipped over to the couch like there was nothing wrong with her feet.

Seeing that, both Alfonzo and Marin could not help smiling wryly. Even so, Alfonzo scooted to the right, leaving Shizuka space to stretch her legs across the couch.

And Shizuka took advantage of the space, as she flopped down on the left most side of the couch and kicked off her shoes. She then raised her legs, turned her body, and rested her heels on Alfonzo's left thigh.

"Okay~! I'm ready~!" Shizuka said happily.

Shaking his head with a smile on his face, Alfonzo shifted his position slightly. At the same time, he took hold of Shizuka's left foot, which was wrapped in black sheer stockings, into his hands. Then, he began to firmly, yet gently, apply pressure to the sole of Shizuka's foot.

"Ahn~~~! Oh, yes~~~!" Shizuka moaned in pleasure as she threw her head back.

With Shizuka's moan, Alfonzo, while continuing to massage her feet, let his gaze wander up her body. First, the sheer stockings that went up her legs, stopping halfway up her thighs. Next was the beige skirt that rode up after she shifted her legs onto Alfonzo's lap. Moving up even further, the long-sleeved, white blouse she wore to cover her upper body and large breasts. Lastly, the sleepy expression that conveyed all the pleasure she was feeling from having her feet rubbed.

"Well, you two have fun." Marin said as she closed the door behind her. "I'm gonna go take a shower. I smell like hospital... And I don't like it."

"Okay." Alfonzo replied with a nod while continuing his massage. "Take your time. I can give you a massage, too, when you get out."

"I think I'll take you up on that offer." Marin replied with a smile.

Marin then skipped over to the right side of the couch, bent down, and pecked Alfonzo on the cheek. She then turned around, walked over to her luggage, and pulled out a change of clothes before heading to the bathroom.

With Marin in the bathroom, the only sounds that could be heard in the room were Shizuka's unrestrained moans of pleasure and relaxation.

'*Sigh* Why does everything this slightly airheaded woman does have to be so damn sexy?' Alfonzo thought to himself while he watched Shizuka melt. 'I mean seriously, I'm only rubbing her feet and I'm getting hard over here. Fuck, if they couldn't hear her, people would think I have a foot fetish.'

"So, how does that feel?" Alfonzo asked, starting a conversation to get his mind off lewding his magic nurse. "Am I using enough pressure?"

"Mmm~~~~! Yes~~~~." Shizuka replied, her tone unintentionally sultry. "It feels~~~~ great."

Shaking his head once again, Alfonzo let Shizuka's left foot rest on his thigh again. Then, he repeated the process with her left foot. And just like with her other foot, Shizuka moaned unrestrainedly as her sore foot was massaged.

"Ahn~~~! My ankles and calves... *Sigh*" Shizuka muttered while unbuttoning the top two buttons of her blouse. "They hurt... Mmm~~~, too. Can you rub them, please?"

Instead of replying verbally, when Alfonzo felt the muscles in Shizuka's sole relaxed, he simply moved his massage up Shizuka's leg, making sure to switch between her legs, giving them an equal amount of love.

First, her ankles, followed by her calves. By the time Alfonzo's hand reached Shizuka's thighs, she was basically a shivering mess. Plus, Alfonzo had scooted back to the center of the couch, with Shizuka's thighs resting across his lap. On top of that, Alfonzo could smell the scent of female arousal he had gotten so accustomed to over the years.

And that scent decided what Alfonzo's next course of action would be.

===R-18===

While Alfonzo's right hand continued to rub Shizuka's right thigh, he moved it to her inner thigh. And instead of pinching and kneading, like he had been, to work out the tension in her muscles, his movements were much more gentle. Akin to sliding his fingertips across her skin, making Shizuka shiver from the contact.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo slid his left hand to the outside of the same thigh. However, instead of focusing on the thigh, he let it move up her leg, to her hip, and finally to her waist.

Shizuka, on the other hand, who had been enjoying the massage with her eyes closed while moaning in pleasure, cracked an eye to peak at Alfonzo. She then let a small smile grace her lips, before she was forced to moan again from the stimulation.

'That's right, give me a baby, Fonzie.' Shizuka thought to herself. 'You don't have to hold back.'

And Alfonzo had no intention of holding back.

When his right hand reached the base of Shizuka's thigh, Alfonzo's left hand also reached the underside of her right breast. However, instead of touching either of her most intimate spots, Alfonzo used his right hand to skip over her crotch and run his fingertips all over her left inner thigh. Meanwhile, his left hand reached up to the buttons of her blouse and started to skillfully unbutton them.

Then, when Shizuka's blouse could not be unbuttoned any further thanks to it being tucked into her skirt, Alfonzo reached his left hand towards her head, slipping it under her right arm, before wrapping his hand around the back of her head and leaning in for a kiss.

This kiss started off soft and gentle at first. However, as time went by, the two started sucking on each other's lips before eventually introducing their tongues into each other's mouth's and swapping saliva.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo finally let his right hand move to Shizuka's crotch, softly brushing his fingers over her pussy while it were still covered by her panties.

"Mmm~~~~!" Shizuka moaned into the kiss as she raised her left hand to pull Alfonzo even deeper into the kiss.

The muffled moans continued while Alfonzo rubbed Shizuka's pussy over her panties. And as time went by, Shizuka's left leg started to shake. At first, the shaking was light. However, as time went by and her moans grew more intense, so too did the shaking of her left leg.

"Ahn~~~~~!" Shizuka moaned, breaking the kiss with Alfonzo while her legs straightened, all the muscles tensing as her back arched, as well.

While Shizuka rode out the reverberations of her orgasm, Alfonzo gently kissed down to Shizuka's chin. Then, he moved his kisses down her throat and collar bone, eventually reaching her upper chest. At the same time, he finally stopped rubbing Shizuka's soaking wet panties, raising his right hand to instead help her take her arms out of her blouse.

By the time Shizuka came back to her senses, Alfonzo had buried his face in her cleavage, softly licking the tender flesh of her breasts.

"Mmm~~!" Shizuka moaned softly as she reached up and pulled Alfonzo deeper into her bosom.

When he felt her hands in his hair, Alfonzo pulled the cups of Shizuka's bra down, exposing her massive, soft breasts to the air. Then, he ran his tongue from Shizuka's cleavage to her left nipple and swirled his tongue around it, teasing its tip every so often.

Meanwhile, Shizuka shivered continuously because of the sensation. Then, she tensed the muscles in her back when she felt Alfonzo suck just to the left of her rather large areola.

When Alfonzo pulled his lips away from her skin, Shizuka looked down to see a hickey. However, she was forced to tense in pleasure seven more times when Alfonzo left hickeys to the right, top, and bottom of her areola before repeating the same on her other breast.

At that moment, the sound of the bathroom door opening could be heard. Unsurprisingly, Marin, who had been in the shower to clean up walked out in a bathrobe.

"Something told me I would see this when I came out of the bathroom." Marin said with a smile as she walked across the room barefooted. "Good thing I didn't take too long. I don't wanna be left out of the fun, you know."

Without raising his head, Alfonzo began kissing down Shizuka's belly from below her bra. However, he did raise his right arm in Marin's direction, showing a thumbs up to acknowledge her presence. He then raised Shizuka's legs before slipping off her panties.

Meanwhile, Marin, after approaching the couch, climbed up on to the armrest near Shizuka's head, sitting down and facing the action. She then watched as Alfonzo repositioned himself, kneeling behind Shizuka's legs.

Shizuka, on the other hand, reached down and hooked her hands behind her knees, ready to go to the next stage.

"Come, Fonzie." Shizuka said in a sultry tone.

Smiling back in return, Alfonzo placed Shizuka's calves on his shoulders while letting his right leg hang off the couch, the tips of his toes pressed against the floor. Then, he reached down and grabbed Shizuka's hips.

"Kya!" Shizuka yelped as her whole body was pulled towards Alfonzo.

Shizuka looked up at Alfonzo in confusion from her knew position with her legs spread, her back pulled up, and her shoulders, neck, and the back of her head being the only parts of her body in contact with the couch cushions.

"Oh~, nice!" Marin said while lightly clapping her hands.

"Huh?" Shizuka, still processing the situation she was in thanks to still being a little sluggish from her orgasm, intoned. "Ahn~~~~!"

Shizuka was forced to stop thinking about what was going on when a moan slipped from between her lips after Alfonzo strongly sucked on her clit. And her moans only grew in intensity as he ground his tongue against her clit while continuing to suck strongly.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Shizuka screamed only a few minutes later as Alfonzo's relentless attack on her clit led to her second orgasm.

Feeling Shizuka's orgasm, Alfonzo returned her to her previous position while she sucked in breaths of air to refill her lungs. Meanwhile, he looked up at Marin, who was still seated on the armrest. And he could not help grinning lecherously when he did.

Currently, Marin was fondling her breasts over her robe with her left hand while the middle and ring fingers of her right hand plunged in and out of her wet pussy.

"Oh, don't mind... Mmm~... me." Marin moaned when she noticed Alfonzo's gaze. "I'll just wait my turn."

His grin widening into a smile, Alfonzo stood up and took off his clothes, giving Marin, and eventually Shizuka, a show. Then, when he was completely naked, he got back on the couch, spread Shizuka's legs, and pressed his hard dick against her slit.

Then, before pushing himself inside of her, Alfonzo leaned down and kissed Shizuka.

In response, Shizuka held his face and responded to the kiss, gasping as she felt the head of Alfonzo's dick spreading her pussy lips and scraping against her vaginal walls.

Shizuka eventually broke the kiss when she gasped sharply as Alfonzo pressed against her cervix.

Free to raise his head after the kiss was broken, Alfonzo looked up, his face now even with Marin's hand that was plunging her fingers in and out of her pussy. He then grinned once again as he reached up with his left hand and stopped Marin.

"Fonzie?" Marin asked in a confused tone when she was stopped.

Instead of replying, Alfonzo started thrusting in and out of Shizuka, causing her to moan softly as he slowly stroked her pussy. At the same time, he pulled Marin's fingers out of her pussy before putting them in his mouth and tasting her juices.

"*Pop* Yummy." Alfonzo said with a smile after pulling Marin's fingers out of his mouth with a pop.

Then, as Alfonzo sped up the pace of his strokes, he leaned forward and licked Marin's pussy from the bottom of her slit up to her clit. He then continued to do so, speeding up as he stroked Shizuka faster and faster.

"Oh God, Yes!" Marin squealed as she reached down and held on to Alfonzo's hair to stop herself from toppling backwards off the armrest.

"Harder, Fonzie!" Shizuka shouted as she wrapped her legs around Alfonzo's waist while she ran her hands up and down his chiseled pecs and abs.

And Alfonzo did just that, pounding Shizuka harder and deeper with every stroke while flicking his tongue faster and faster on Marin's pussy and clit. And he would continue for the next fifteen minutes, or so, making Shizuka orgasm three more times while Marin came four times herself.

"Ah! Fuck!" Alfonzo grunted into Marin's pussy. "I'm gonna cum."

With no sympathy, Marin, still with a couple of handfuls of Alfonzo's hair, pulled Alfonzo deeper into her pussy while he pounded Shizuka with everything he had.

Hmph!" Alfonzo grunted once again as he emptied his load into Shizuka.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Shizuka screamed as the warmth of Alfonzo's cum spread inside of her.

"Ahn~~~~~!" Marin also moaned loudly as she leaned back, holding onto Alfonzo's hair for dear life so that she would not fall off the armrest.

About twenty seconds later, Alfonzo, the first to recover, reached up and took hold of Marin's wrists to support her from falling backwards. Then, she gently released his hair from her grip. After that, he grabbed her by her waist and...

"Kya!" Marin, though still reeling from her orgasm, yelped in surprise.

... flipped her around so that she was laying face to face with Shizuka, their breasts changing shape as they were pressed together.

"Mmm~~~~." Shizuka moaned as Alfonzo slowly pulled his dick from inside of her.

"Ahn~~~~!" Marin moaned while arching her back as Alfonzo quickly thrust into her.

Marin's moans continued as Alfonzo pounded her from behind. The added stimulation as her breasts and nipples rubbed against Shizuka's making the sensation even more intense.

"Oh~~~! Yes!" Marin moaned while her body was rocked with each thrust. "Fuck me, Fonzie! Fuck me!"

Smack!

"That's something you don't have to ask." Alfonzo said as he slapped Marin's ass. "I'm gonna fill you up then leave you covered in my love."

After saying that, Alfonzo almost came inside of Marin immediately because of how hard her pussy clenched around his dick.

"Shit.." Alfonzo grumbled as he struggled to hold back.

Around that time, Shizuka finally came back to her senses, as well. It took her a moment to understand the situation she was in. But when she did, she immediately reached up to Marin's face and pulled her into a kiss.

Marin, on the other hand, was suddenly reminded that Shizuka was still there when she was kissed. She then reached down and plunged two fingers into Shizuka's pussy, letting the rocking from Alfonzo's pounding take care of the rhythm that she used to finger Shizuka.

Like that, the next twelve minutes, or so were filled with the sound of the couch creaking, muffled moans and grunts of pleasure, wet gushy sounds, and the sound of flesh smacking flesh until Alfonzo emptied his second load of the evening inside Marin.

Meanwhile, Mei, who had come by to invite Alfonzo and the other Fairy Tail wizards to join her for dinner, was standing outside of the hotel room with a deep blush on her face, not knowing if she should knock on the door to get their attention, wait until they were finished, or just go back to her office and try to invite them another day.

What she did know, however, was the fact that, after hearing the sounds of the trio's love making, regardless of what she chose to do, she would need to change her panties when she got back home.

Chapter 650: A Surprise After Dinner

"We're finally home." Marin said as she stepped out of the elevator in the Mansion on the Lake. "This isn't the longest I've ever been away from home, but it sure is the farthest I've ever gone."

"Well, it's not every day you get quests in other countries." Alfonzo replied. "Hell, this is even my first one."

"Master Alfonzo, Madam Marin, welcome back." Grayfia, who on a rare occasion was not there to open the door when the owner of the house returned due to cleaning another part of the mansion, said, extending her greeting to her employer. "I trust the quest went smoothly."

"Hey, Grayfia." Alfonzo said casually while holding his luggage forward to Grayfia, who was waiting to take care of it. "Yeah, it went fine. I'm not a fan of war, though."

"Understandable." Grayfia replied while accepting Alfonzo and Marin's luggage.

"Oh, Shizuka's luggage is in the car." Alfonzo said, pointing over his shoulder.

Though they all returned to Magnolia together, the quartet of Alfonzo, Laxus, Marin, and Shizuka first stopped at the guild to give their report to Ur. Then, after staying to chat with their guild mates for a while, Alfonzo and Marin decided to return home.

Laxus, on the other hand, left with Chico and Saya to make up for the time when Laxus was away on the quest while Shizuka stayed to chat with Ren, Rika, and her other friends at the guild.

As for Alfonzo and Marin, they decided to return to the mansion on their own. While Marin wanted to get back quickly to read her newest novel, something that Erza picked up for her, Alfonzo wanted to get back to work on his airship.

"*Yawn* Anyway, I'm gonna take a quick nap." Alfonzo said as he pulled Marin into a hug. "I wanted to work on the airship, but I'm more tired than I expected."

"Well, you did stay up the whole way back from Caelum." Marin said as she wrapped her arms around Alfonzo in return. "So, it makes sense that you're, like, uber-tired."

"I guess." Alfonzo replied.

As Marin said, after leaving the Village Hidden in the Mist on Ao's ship, Alfonzo stayed awake for the entire voyage. And there were a couple of reasons for that. Firstly, he was wary of running into another Leviathan, even though the chances of that were astronomically low. And second, he did not want to be ambushed by any of Yagura's forces who wanted revenge.

Luckily, those worries were for nothing. Even so, Alfonzo stayed on alert for the entire voyage.

Then when the ship docked at Akane Beach, Alfonzo decided that he just wanted to go home right away. So, he forced everyone into the S 600 as soon as they returned to the villa and hurried back to Magnolia.

"Anyway, I'll come with you." Marin said with a smile. "Just let me get my new book. I'll sit with you while you take your nap."

"If you want to." Alfonzo said with a shrug before kissing Marin on the top of her head. "I'll see you in my room, then."

Hopping up to return the kiss, pecking Alfonzo on the cheek, Marin then pulled him into the elevator before pressing the button for their floor. Then, once they stepped off the elevator, Marin sprinted away to her room

"Hmm... Should I start creating computers and video game consoles to introduce eroges for Marin?" Alfonzo asked himself while he walked leisurely towards his bedroom. "I can think about that after I finish the airship."

By the time Alfonzo walked past Marin's bedroom, she was just stepping out of it with a new novel in her hands and a big, excited smile on her face.

"Alright, let's go." Marin said cheerfully while grabbing Alfonzo's hand as if she were expecting him to be passing her door when she came out. She then started dragging him to his bedroom as she continued. "You need your nap, young man."

Chuckling to himself, Alfonzo shook his head while allowing himself to be dragged along.

A few moments later, Alfonzo and Marin were standing in front of the bed in Alfonzo's bedroom. Then, before Alfonzo could climb into bed, Marin climbed into the bed, positioned all the pillows and cushions on one side of the bed, and leaned against them with her legs spread across the head of the bed.

Clap *Clap*

"Okay, you can lay down here." Marin said while patting her thighs. "Your living pillow with human body temperature is ready for use."

Smiling at his wife's antics, Alfonzo stripped out of his shirt and pants, leaving only a tank top and boxers on his body. Then, he climbed into the bed and laid his head on Marin's thighs.

"If it gets uncomfortable, wake me up, okay?" Alfonzo asked while looking up at Marin.

"don't worry, I think I can handle it." Marin said as she opened her book. "Just go to sleep."

Knowing that Marin probably would not wake him up even if her legs fell asleep, Alfonzo decided to just let her have her way. So, he closed his eyes and made himself as comfortable as he could.

Meanwhile, Marin turned the pages of her book until she reached the beginning of the novel. Then, with the book in one hand, she lowered her other hand and started combing her fingers through Alfonzo's dread, gently rubbing his scalp as she did so, only stopping long enough to change pages before going back to it.

Thanks to Marin's gentle caresses, Alfonzo fell asleep quickly.

"Clap* *Clap*

Two hours later, Alfonzo was awoken when he felt a light impact on his cheeks. On top of that, he felt a very familiar weight pressing on his chest. Add to that, the joyful laughter of a toddler, and he knew exactly who was responsible for waking him up.

"Well... Well... Well... Look whose finally home." Alfonzo said, his voice a little more hoarse than usual thanks to just waking up. "I missed you, Kid."

Speaking the last word, Alfonzo reached up, catching Amar'e, the culprit behind the end of his nap, under his arms and lifted him off his chest. Then he sat up, raising his son over his head.

Meanwhile, Amar'e laughed happily while reaching his little arms up high in excitement.

"We're here, too, Fonzie." Cana said, her head also resting on Marin's thigh.

"Indeed." Erza added while reading Marin's book with her from over Marin's shoulder.

"I know." Alfonzo said while making funny faces at Amar'e. "I missed you three, too."

"Give him a break, Cana." Elicia, who was sitting next to Alfonzo and watching him play with Amar'e with a smile on her face, said. "He did just get woken up from a nap. And we all know how you get when someone wakes you up."

"Whatever, I'm not that bad." Cana said while turning her head away.

"As long as you weren't drinking before you went to bed." Marin said as she turned a page.

"So, basically all the time." Erza added while continuing to read along with Marin. She then pointed over Marin's shoulder before continuing. "Oh, this is my favorite part so far."

"Oh, I can see why." Marin replied. "Something you wanna try with Fonzie, perhaps."

"Perhaps." Erza replied without shame.

"*Sigh* You two and your dirty books." Cana said, a little indignant that no one was taking her side in the argument. "Just don't corrupt Mare' or the one Mira has on the way... Especially the one Mira has on the way.... I don't even wanna think about the hell the She-Devil will bring down on you for that."

Erza, who was around when Mirajane was at her worst, which would be amplified when she was worried about Elfman and Lisanna, shivered. Marin, on the other hand, had been around long enough to know how scary Mirajane could be, though not to the same extent, stopped reading for a moment to imagine what Mirajane would do if they corrupted her child with their culture.

"Yeah, no thank you." Marin said before returning to read the page she was on. "Although I wouldn't call it corruption, I don't wanna deal with Mira if she were to find out her child was indulging this kind of art before they were old enough."

"Anyway, where were you three?" Alfonzo asked as he sat Amar'e back on his chest.

"We went to bring some supplies to the orphanage in Hargeon." Elicia replied. "And since the ladies at the orphanage love Mar'e almost as much as they loved you all those years ago, we brought him with us."

"They'd probably love him even more if he could cook, too." Cana teased.

"Probably." Alfonzo replied with a smile. "I mean, they met him before he could talk. They had to deal with me after I already learned how to talk and be a smart a--- *Cough* *Cough* smart mouth."

"Wow!" Elicia exclaimed in shock. "You stopped yourself before I could even glare at you. Fonzie, are you feeling, okay?"

With that, Elicia reached over and put her hand on Alfonzo's forehead to check if he had a fever.

"I only stopped because I didn't want you to glare at me." Alfonzo said while sweeping Elicia's hand off his forehead. "I don't even mind if Amar'e swears like me. Mom didn't have a problem with it, either."

"Yeah, but your dad looked like he was gonna have a heart attack every time you said a cuss word in front of other people." Elicia said with a giggle. "And my mom was just happy that I didn't pick up the same habit."

Growl!

Before the conversation could continue, the sound of a hungry tummy interrupted.

"My tummy is telling me that it's time to eat." Marin said while patting her belly.

Looking up at the clock on the wall, Alfonzo realized it was around the time that he or the maids would usually start cooking dinner.

"Well then, I guess I'll start dinner." Alfonzo said as he sat up while making sure that Amar'e did not fall.
"Any requests for dinner?"

The course of dinner requests, that were all different, followed immediately after Alfonzo's question.

"Well, I'll do my best to meet all your demands." Alfonzo said while shaking his head and passing Amar'e to Elicia. "Why don't you go get the others. We'll have a family dinner tonight."

"Sure." Cana said as she pulled a card from her deck.

Poof!

"Luckily, no one is out on a quest today." Cana continued while taking a bottle of liquor out of her [Storage Card]. "*Gulp* *Gulp* *Gulp* *Burp* Ah! That hit the spot."

"Good, then I'll get started." Alfonzo said with a smile.

With that, everyone started to move. While Alfonzo made his way downstairs to the kitchen to take over the cooking duties from Grayfia and Maria, Elicia, with Amar'e in her arms, Cana, Erza, and Marin followed along, the latter three on their iPhones to let the other ladies to come to the mansion for dinner.

After receiving the word that Alfonzo would be cooking dinner, everyone hurried back. There were even some uninvited guests who followed the people they were hanging out with back to the mansion. For example, Brandish came with Lucy. Heine and Juliet came with Irene, Sun was followed by Gozaburo, Ren, and masa and Mirajane brought Evergreen, Natsu, Elfman and Lisanna with her.

"Good thing I was expecting something like this." Alfonzo said when he noticed how many extra people followed everyone home. "There should be more than enough for everyone."

"Even if there isn't, Grayfia and I can always make more, Master Alfonzo." Maria said with a sweet smile. "Unfortunately, it won't be as good as your cooking, though."

"In fact, you should probably get started on making more." Alfonzo said while turning off the heat on the stove. "Oh, and make sure to put aside some of what I cooked for you and the other four."

"Thank you, Master Alfonzo, you're too kind." Grayfia said as she picked up a salad bowl to bring out to the table. "I'll make sure to do so."

When she and the others were first hired, due to her professionalism, Grayfia would have declined an offer like the one Alfonzo just made. However, after tasting his cooking over the last two years, or so, her professional attitude has weakened considerably when it comes to getting Alfonzo's cooking, something that Ikaruga, Mey-Rin, Maria, Ai, and Miyuki have been very pleased about.

About two hours later, dinner ended with everyone pleased. And while the maids cleaned up, almost everyone else took the chance to enjoy the entertainment facilities in the mansion. Alfonzo, on the other hand, went down to the hangar to start working on his airship.

However, when he turned on the lights in the hangar, he was shocked to see a chunk of metal sitting in the middle of the hangar.

"*Sigh* Looks like they forgot to tell me about this." Alfonzo said while shaking his head. "I'm almost certain who's in there. But if it's not them, I'm gonna have a body to quietly dispose of. Actually, now that I think about it, I need to get Obito out of the trunk, too. I hope he didn't scare Grayfia when she went to get Shizuka's luggage."