

## Fairy Tail 791

### Chapter 791: A Third Reincarnater

"Does it always take so long for rich people to eat?" Brandish, tired and annoyed from serving Princess Hisui, Duchess Katarina and the rest of their entourage for a little more than an hour, asked as she and Lucy passed each other in the hallway of 8-Island's second floor. "And moving around in this outfit is so much effort. This quest is so tiresome."

"Oh, Brandish, such a tragic life you lead." Lucy said with an exasperated smile while rolling her eyes in amusement. "It's not that bad. Besides, this has got to be the easiest S-Class quest you've ever been on, right? I know it is for me. I mean, I definitely don't have to worry about stuff getting destroyed and having my pay docked, after all."

"Hmph!" Brandish only snorted in annoyance as she continued to walk, heading down to get a few more bottles of wine. "Either way, it's a good thing Cana's not here. She would never shut up about the low-alcohol content wine these noble ladies are drinking."

"Now that.... Is something we can both agree on." Lucy replied as she made her way towards the private room where the nobles were dining. "She would probably drink nearly half of their wine... If not all of it."

Smiling at the last words Lucy muttered, Brandish continued down to the first floor. Eventually, she passed by the kitchen. When she did, she poked her head inside, the sight of Alfonzo and Yajima, one short and one tall, working together to create culinary magic without the use of magic power, a sight to behold.

A moment later, however, she remembered why she looked inside. She then cleared her throat, gaining the two chef's attention.

"Princess Hisui informed me that she's ready for the main course." Brandish said in her usual bored tone. "Also, do we have any more of the sparkling wine they've been drinking all night?"

"We do." Yajima replied with a nod. "If it's not in the fridge, it will be in the large fridge in the store room. I made sure to stock up on quite a bit of it when I was informed that Princess Hisui would be coming."

"Got it." Brandish replied as she stepped inside to check the refrigerator.

"Meanwhile, Alfonzo passed the ingredients he was prepping to Yajima, who was ready to start the actual cooking process.

"Well then, I guess I'd better head up with the duck." Alfonzo said as he created a trolley with his [Metal Magic]. "I'm sure they've never had a dish like this before."

"Nor have I." Yajima said, sounding a bit jealous. "Although I can cook it, and I've tasted it while testing the recipe, I've never made one for myself. The ingredients are just too expensive for me to justify doing so."

"Yeah, because you need the money." Alfonzo scoffed while rolling his eyes. "Are the memories of always paying repair fees after quests with Gramps still haunting you, Old Man?"

Seeing the way Yajima looked away and focused whole-heartedly on his cooking, Alfonzo could not help but laugh. It would seem that his generation was not the only one willed with troublemakers, after all.

Though he enjoyed laughing at Yajima, Alfonzo did not slow down at all. Before taking the duck out of the oven, he placed several empty plates onto the trolley. Then, he cut up a few other ingredients, namely cucumbers and green onions. He then put the plates with those ingredients on to the trolley, as well. After that, he added a few bowls filled with a specially prepared sauce before taking the duck out of the oven and checking its completeness.

"Alright, looks good to go." Alfonzo said with a nod. He then turned to look at Yajima. "Well then, I'll head upstairs."

"Alright." Yajima replied while cooking the next course. "Put on a good show."

"Naturally." Alfonzo replied as he covered the duck and placed it on the trolley.

With that, Alfonzo pushed the trolley out of the kitchen, closely followed by Brandish, who found the wine she was looking for in the kitchen's refrigerator.

"Hey, how come you don't usually cook duck at home?" Brandish asked while walking alongside Alfonzo. "Do you not like duck, or something?"

"No, that's not it at all." Alfonzo replied with a grin. "Other than chocolate, there really isn't anything that I won't eat. Oh, I won't eat okra, either, unless it's in gumbo."

"Mmm... I remember that one time you made the soup-like dish you called gumbo." Brandish said while licking her lips. "That was quite delicious."

"Yeah, that was Dad's specialty." Alfonzo said while smiling sadly. "Even now, I feel like I'm not doing it justice. His was just so much better."

Shaking her head to get the thoughts of Alfonzo's gumbo out of her head, Brandish turned her head to look at his profile. Then, she looked back to the front with a slightly melancholic expression on her face.

'I knew he lost his parents early, too.' Brandish thought to herself. 'But until I heard him talk about his father like that, it didn't really sink in. He always seems so cheerful and confident. Maybe we're more alike than I thought. And it's not just him. So many of the girls have lost their families early.'

While continuing to ponder her similarities with Alfonzo, Elicia, and the others in Alfonzo's harem, Brandish and Alfonzo eventually reached the stairs leading up to the second floor while engulfed in a comfortable silence.

Alfonzo then used his magic to float the trolley up the stairs while he and

Brandish climbed them. Then, before long they arrived in front of the door of the private room.

\*Knock!\* \*Knock!\* \*Knock!\*

"Princess Hisui, we've arrived with tonight's main course." Alfonzo said, loud enough to be heard through the door.

"Please enter." Princess Hisui replied, her voice sounding a bit annoyed.

Smiling wryly, Alfonzo nodded at Brandish, who quickly opened the door. She then stepped inside with the bottles of wine. Alfonzo, while pushing the trolley, followed shortly afterwards. And when he did, he saw Hisui, sitting at the head of the table, frowning at him.

"Good evening, Princess Hisui." Alfonzo said while bowing politely.

"Alfonzo." Hisui replied, her frown making her look rather cute. "I've been friends with Elicia for years ever since she made that first custom dress for me. I even send Amar'e presents on his birthday. You've even had tea with me several times in the past. Yet, no matter how many times I ask you, you still refuse to drop the formalities with me."

Hearing Hisui immediately launch into a tirade upon seeing Fiore's most powerful wizard, the other noble ladies, excluding Katarina, were shocked. Katarina, on the other hand, looked at Alfonzo with a curious gaze. However, that was not to say that she found herself attracted to him. Rather, it was because...

"I've been hearing about this Alfonzo for years." Katarina thought to herself. 'Yet, I can't remember him from when I read Fairy Tail in the past. And he's not the only one, either. Youichi Shihouin, Sun Seto, Marin Kitagawa, and so many more. But all of them, I can remember. They were from other anime and manga series I read before. But this Alfonzo Marcus and his wife, Elicia Taylor, I've never heard of them before. So, just who are they really? Could they be reincarnators like me? I mean, I don't belong in this world, either. But at least I showed up as a character I recognized. Could they be like Self-Inserts? Interesting.'

However, that was not the end of Katarina's thoughts on the matter, as inside her mind, there was a council of Katarinas discussing the issue, as well. Unfortunately, that made her miss most of the conversation between Alfonzo and Hisui.

"\*Sigh\* Come on, Princess..." Alfonzo said in an exasperated tone.

\*Stare!\*

"... We had this conversation before, didn't we?" Alfonzo asked, ignoring the kicked puppy stare Hisui was giving him. "When I'm on a quest, I keep things professional. And as it just so happens, I'm on a quest right now."

\*Stare!\*

Yet, despite Alfonzo's explanation, Hisui seemed as though she was unwilling to budge on the matter. Unfortunately for her, Alfonzo had no intention of budging, either. It was a principal of his to keep business and his private life separate, and that would not change for Hisui, even if she ascended to become Fiore's queen one day.

"Anyway, I've come to serve your main course." Alfonzo said in a tired tone as he rolled the trolley to the foot of the table. "PK Duck and all the fixings that go with it."

With that, Alfonzo took the top off the tray holding the duck.

\*Gasp!\* x 11

As soon as he did, the sent wafting off the duck immediately saturated the room, causing everyone present to take in a deep breath as the scent hit them. It even caused the meeting between the Council of Katarinas to be halted temporarily. Then, after everyone took a deep breath to fully enjoy the scent, they all looked down at the golden brown roasted duck with crispy skin sitting on top of the trolley.

"I'm so jealous right now." Someone, one of either the knights, Lucy, or Brandish said. Though, it was quiet enough that no one could distinguish the voice's owner.

Smiling at everyone's reaction, Alfonzo, with the use of his [metal magic] created a pair of knives that he grabbed out of the air. He then controlled the metal stake that was driven through the center of the duck and made to inject the fowl with flavor during the cooking process, to cause the duck to float.

At first, when the knights, other than Darkness, the one who was most familiar with Alfonzo, saw the knives appear, they all rested their hands on their weapons. However, after seeing the duck begin to float, they released the hilts of their swords. Though, they did not completely drop their guards with weapons so close to the princess.

Meanwhile, Lucy and Brandish moved to either side of Alfonzo, each holding a number of empty plates. And when the others in the room saw that, they were curious to know what they would do.

And that was when the show started. Swinging his arms fast enough that the only thing that could be seen were flashes of light, Alfonzo quickly disassembled the duck, cutting it into strips of meat and skin. As he did so, different cuts were sent flying to either side. Meanwhile, Lucy and Brandish, with the

empty plates in their hands, caught the cuts of meat, making sure that each plate held cuts from different parts of the duck.

\*Applause!\*

By the time Alfonzo was done, all the plates in Lucy's and Bandish's hands were filled with slices of duck meat or crispy skin and set at the foot of the table. Alfonzo then dispelled the knives and began placing the other plates with the cucumbers, green onions, sauce, and thin pancakes on the table as well.

Then, once the trolley was empty, Alfonzo spread his arms to either side before curling his right arm in front of his abdomen and taking a deep bow.

"Thank you." Alfonzo said, grateful for the applause. "I'm glad you enjoyed the show, and I hope you enjoy your meal."

"Yes, that was truly impressive." Hisui said, speaking for her entourage. "But how exactly is one meant to eat such a dish?"

'That's Peking Duck, isn't it?' Katarina asked herself. 'Yeah, he's definitely a reincarnator. I've been to all the best restaurants in Crocus, yet I've never seen anywhere that serves something like that. Plus, the name he gave it, PK duck was a dead giveaway.'

At the same time, the Council of Katarinas restarted their debate. And the conclusion they came to was the same as the main Katarina.

Unfortunately, the source material for Katarina, "My Next Life as a Villainess: All Routes Lead to Doom!" had not been released by the time Alfonzo and Elicia died in the car accident. So, he had no way of knowing that he had run into a third reincarnate during this quest.

"Well, I'm honestly not sure if Your Highness would find this meal appropriate." Alfonzo replied, smiling wryly once again as Hisui pouted at him.

"We were all aware that this dish is to be eaten by hand." Hisui said huffily. "But we have no idea of the proper way to do it."

"Oh, that's what you meant." Alfonzo said. He then muttered under his breath in slight exasperation. "Damn it, Yajima. You told me everything else about the evening but never mentioned that Hisui was aware that a fork and knife were not suitable for this dish. And even when I asked, something always distracted you right before you answered my damn question."

Hearing Alfonzo grumbling to himself, Hisui felt vindicated, as she felt that Alfonzo was calling her by her title just to get under her skin. And when the only word from his grumblings she heard was her own name without anything that sounded like princess coming before it, that thought was solidified.

"This is how it is done, Princess." Alfonzo said, slipping back into his professional persona. "First, you take one of these pancakes. Then, you decide whether you would like to have some of the crispy skin, or succulent meat."

As he spoke, Alfonzo created a pair of tongs. He then picked up one of the pancakes and placed it on an empty plate. Then, when he reached the end of his speech, he looked up to Hisui to get her answer.

"Um..." Hisui said while her gaze shifted between the meat and the skin. She then nodded in the direction of her choice before continuing. "I'll try the skin."

"Understood." Alfonzo replied. "Well then, if you're going with the skin, you pick up a slice and place it on the pancake, crispy side down. Then, you add the sauce, your green onions, and your cucumbers. I would suggest not loading it too much, though. You don't want the flavors from the sauce and the vegetables to overpower the main ingredient, after all."

"Why do you place it crispy side down?" Katarina asked curiously. Because although she knew of Peking Duck from her past life, she never had the pleasure of tasting it before.

"Because if you put it on crispy side up, the sauce and vegetables will cause the skin to lose its texture." Alfonzo explained patiently as he folded the pancake to complete the plate."

Hisui, Katarina, and the rest of their entourage were not the only ones paying attention to the way Alfonzo prepared the piece of skin. Lucy and Brandish were also paying close attention, as well. Because they would be the ones creating the rolled pancakes for the nobles after Alfonzo left.

Meanwhile, once the pancake was rolled, Alfonzo handed the plate to Lucy, who brought it to Hisui for her to taste. All the while, the rest of Hisui's entourage and the knights followed the plate with laser focus. And when Hisui eventually received the plate and picked up the pancake to take a bite, the room was filled with a chorus of gulping.

"Ahn~~~~~!" Hisui moaned loudly and sensually after taking the first bite, surprising the other's in the room immensely. Then, while completely forgetting her manners, she spoke with her mouth still full. "Oh my, this is incredible."

While Alfonzo, Lucy, and Brandish were expecting such a reaction, Katarina and the other noble ladies blushed at the sensual moan Hisui let out. As for the knights, three of them were fidgeting awkwardly as the sight of Hisui was a bit too much stimulation for them.

'Oh my, to moan like that in public in front of her friends.' Darkness, the only woman among the knights in the room, thought to herself as her cheeks reddened, though for a different reason than the noble ladies. 'It must be so embarrassing. Luckily, she's the princess. If it were me, perhaps my friends would abandon me. Then, they would spread rumors of how depraved I was in public, causing my family to disown me. Then, like a common harlot, I would have to sell myself for food in the streets...'

As Darkness' thoughts spiraled further and further into depravity, Alfonzo demonstrated the proper way to make one of the pancakes had the meat been chosen as the main ingredient. However, just as he handed the plate to Brandish to be taken to Katarina, he sighed in annoyance.

"\*Sigh\* Of course the job couldn't be simple, could it?" Alfonzo asked as he tapped his heel on the floor. "[metal Magic: Vibranium Silo Defense]."

Hearing that and feeling Alfonzo flare his magic power, everyone was startled while the knights, even Darkness, drew their weapons, not that it would do her any good. Meanwhile, Brandish quickly set the plate in her hands down in front of Katarina before she joined Lucy in getting ready for combat.

"Alfonzo, what's wrong?" Lucy asked as she could sense the tall cylinder of Alfonzo's magic power surrounding most of the buildings on the street with her [Magic Power Detection].

"Those damned demons are here." Alfonzo replied as he slowly began unbuttoning his chef uniform.  
"But I have no idea why. I mean, I've been trying to find them for years with no success. But now they're coming to me. But like I said, the question is, why?"

\*Boom~~~~~!\*

"Oh, and it looks like that Jackal guy is back again, too." Alfonzo added as he finally took off his uniform.  
"He wasn't the one who attacked, though. I don't know who the attacker or the other two are, though.  
But I guess the easiest way to find out is to ask them, right?"

"I'll come with you." Brandish said, eager to get away from the tiresome job of waiting on these ladies.

"Sure." Alfonzo replied. He then turned to look at Lucy. "The two of us should be more than enough for this. Lucy, you stay here and continue attending to our guests. We should be back before long."

"Understood." Lucy said in a solemn tone. She then shifted her expression back into her professional smile. "Now, how would you like your pancake made, Lady Viscount?"

With that, Alfonzo and Brandish quickly left the room and headed towards the restaurant's entrance to engage the attackers.

#### Chapter 792: Disarming the Bomb Curse

Going back a few minutes, Around the time Alfonzo and Brandish entered the private room, a group of four slowly entered the town of Hargeon from the port. Though, there was no boat visible at the port that could have transported them.

Leading this group was a humanoid woman, Kyôka, of Tartaros' Nine Demon Gates. Accompanying her was a man who Alfonzo and Elicia clashed with several years ago, Jackal, and two other previously unseen Etherious.

The first of which was a muscular man of imposing height with most of his face concealed by a hood. However, his chin, covered by a beard could be seen from under the shadows of the hood. On top of that, some of his long, blond hair hung down to his chest. And when the hood shifted, it would be possible to see his pair of dark green, oval-shaped eyes and some of the thick hair that covered his forehead.

The last of the four was a short, round, yellowish-green-skinned humanoid creature with only one eye wearing a helmet and a cheerful, grinning expression holding a rod that he used to walk.

"Finally, I'll have the chance to get my revenge." Jackal said in a manic tone. "I'll blow up everything in this town and turn them all to ashes. And when that man is dead, I'll be able to see the look of despair on that woman's face when I show her his burned remains."

"As long as the targets are dead, anything you do is fine." Kyôka replied coldly. "But if we fail... Lord Mard Geer's punishment will not be anything that any of us want to face."

Hearing that, the other three demons, Jackal, the tall, blond one, and the short green-skinned one shuddered. Even so, they did not slow their steps.

"So, do we know where they are?" The tall Etherious, named Tempester, asked in a cold tone.

"According to our spies in the Council, which are not nearly as effective as they used to be, Alfonzo Marcus should be cooking at a restaurant at this moment." Kyôka replied. "And the one he is cooking for is the Princess of Fiore, Hisui E. Fiore. If possible, I'd like to bring her back alive. Mmm... Turning her into a demon would be wonderful. She's quite the beautiful girl from what I hear. \*sigh\* it's a shame that fool Jiemma was unable to bring his daughter when he defected. I'd been looking forward to seeing her as a demon for quite some time."

"I don't see why we can't just go get her later." The short, round Etherious, Franmalth, said cheerfully. "There shouldn't be anyone strong enough to make that an issue, right?"

"I suppose." Kyôka said. "I'll think about that later. For now, we must focus on completing Lord Mard Geer's assignment."

Jackal, Tempester, and Franmalth nodded in response as the four continued to move towards 8-Island. And as they drew near, they found a crowd of people, both civilians and knights surrounding the restaurant.

"Oh, this must be the place." Jackal said in an excited tone. "And look, there are so many humans to get rid of. Those Fairy Tail wizards are so kind to give us so many humans to eliminate."

"Don't be a fool, jackal." Kyôka said coldly. "Have you forgotten how easily you were defeated in the past?"

"What did you say!?" Jackal roared indignantly.

"I'll handle this." Tempester said, not paying attention to the angry jackal as his demonic power began to stir. "[Calamity curse: Cyclone]."

With his chant, wind began to swirl around Tempester's arms. And as each second ticked by, those winds turned into gales before spinning with the force of a tornado.

\*Boom!\*

A moment later, Tempester controlled the winds whirling around his arms to blast himself into the air. Then, when he was above the 8-Island Restaurant, he brought his hands together and focused the gale-force winds around his arms into one, larger, cyclone before pointing it down at the restaurant.

Yet, before Tempester could even attack, a large, metal cylinder shot up from the ground, covering the entire district of the town where 8-Island was located. On top of that, there was even a top on the cylinder, making it impossible to attack the area from all directions above ground.

\*Boom~~~~~!\*

Just as the cylinder was finished forming, Tempester's curse slammed into it. As a result, gusts of wind were sent in all directions. Luckily, the cylinder was high enough from the rest of the town that not much damage was sustained. Though, many windows were shattered thanks to the shockwave.

On top of that, the sound of people panicking could be heard from both inside and outside of the cylinder. However, that was to be expected. Especially since the area suddenly went completely dark before a loud explosion made the entire area rattle.

Meanwhile, Alfonzo and Brandish casually walked down the stairs from 8-Island's second floor. When they reached the bottom of the stairs, they found Yajima waiting for them.

"I knew it could never be a simple chef quest." Alfonzo said in a teasing tone. "S-Class quests are just never that easy."

"Do you have any idea what's happening?" Yajima, in contrast to Alfonzo's easygoing tone, asked in a solemn tone.

"\*Sigh\* Unfortunately." Alfonzo replied, his teasing tone dropping for something just as solemn as Yajima's. "I was hoping to find them before they came to find us after the mess at Crawford Seam's and Org's execution. But finding those damned demons was a lot harder than I expected."

"Demons?" Yajima asked, a frown crossing his face as he contemplated Alfonzo's words.

"Tartaros." Brandish said, answering the question before Yajima could come to a conclusion on his own. "Zeref's Bookshelf some might call them."

"Ah!" Yajima exclaimed in realization. "But how can you be sure it's them? Couldn't it just be some random dark wizard trying to take advantage of the Princess being out of the capital?"

"I'm sure Gramps has told you about the way we detect people, right?" Alfonzo asked a question of his own instead of answering Yajima's directly. After receiving a nod from Yajima, he then continued. "Well,

I've been using that ever since we left Magnolia. And although I'm not exactly sure how they got into Hargeon without me noticing it first, I recognize one of them. It's the demon that blew shit up back when he tried to save Crawford Seam during the execution a few years ago."

"I see." Yajima replied, an expression of understanding on his face. "That makes sense. "Then, that explosion was him trying to..."

"No, he didn't act this time." Alfonzo replied. "It was another one. Even worse than that, there are two more with that one. So, I don't think they're here for the princess."

"Then, why are they here?" Yajima asked in a confused tone.

Brandish looked at Alfonzo with curiosity, as well.

"\*Sigh\* They're probably here for me." Alfonzo admitted in a tired tone. "Hell, I wouldn't be surprised if they sent another team to deal with Lici, too. I mean, we did kinda ruin whatever they were planning when they tried to save Crawford Seam from his execution."

"I see..." Yajima drawled in understanding.

"Anyway, we better get going." Alfonzo said as he started walking towards the door, Brandish trailing closely behind him. "I wanna take care of this before the citizens panic too much. I did put them in a big ass metal can to protect the town from whatever that demon did."

"Then, I won't keep you." Yajima said as he turned to watch Alfonzo and Brandish leave. "Be careful, you two. Tartaros is a member of the Balam Alliance for a reason."

"Yeah, and we don't just tell people that Fairy Tail is the strongest to toot our own horns, you know." Alfonzo replied while waving at Yajima without turning around.

Shortly afterwards, Alfonzo and Brandish stepped out into the streets of Hargeon where the knights were trying to calm the civilians trapped inside the defensive barrier Alfonzo created.

"It's the Master of Metal!" A civilian man shouted after seeing Alfonzo and Brandish step outside.

"Hey! Get us out of here!" Another man shouted in panic.

"What's going on?" A woman asked, almost in tears. "I need to get back home to my husband and children. Please, let us out of here."

'Why the hell are these people acting like this?' Alfonzo thought to himself. 'I mean, if they were able to get here to see Hisui's procession, their houses are probably inside, too. Actually, why the hell are they even still out here? Shouldn't they have gone home after they went inside? \*Sigh\* Braindead fans.'

"Alfonzo, should we tell the people about what's going on?" Brandish asked, snapping Alfonzo out of his thoughts.

Taking a moment to think, Alfonzo eventually shook his head.

"No, I don't think that's a good idea." Alfonzo replied. "If we tell them, the normal civilians will panic even worse than they are now. And that won't end well for anyone."

After speaking his piece, Alfonzo created a sheet of metal in front of him before stepping onto it. Meanwhile, Brandish nodded in agreement with what Alfonzo had to say before stepping onto the metal sheet after him.

A moment later, using his [Metal Magic], Alfonzo manipulated the metal sheet to float upwards, drawing the attention of the civilians, who pointed in wonder. Eventually, the floating sheet reached the top of the cylinder, where Alfonzo created a trap door. The trap door then opened, Alfonzo and Brandish rising through it.

"Oh, they got up here fast." Alfonzo said after he and Brandish were standing on the top of the cylinder. "Honestly, I thought they'd spend more time trying to destroy it before coming up."

As Alfonzo said, Kyôka, Jackal, and Franmalth had already joined Tempester on the top of the cylinder by the time he and Brandish arrived. Not only that, but they were glaring at the two Fairy Tail wizards before Alfonzo even opened his mouth to speak.

"We finally found you." Kyôka said calmly after examining Alfonzo and Brandish. "You Fairy Tail insects have disrupted our plans for long enough."

"Huh?" Alfonzo, slightly confused by Kyôka's accusation, tilted his head in confusion. "I know I stopped you from taking Crawford Seam back then, but when else have I ever gotten in your way?"

Usually, when Alfonzo acted like this, he would be mocking his opponent, trying to anger them before the battle to gain a psychological advantage. But this time, he was genuinely confused. Other than the run in with Jackal back at the execution, he has never run into any members of Tartaros.

Little did Alfonzo know, Junko Enoshima was carrying out a task for Tartaros when he and Elicia stormed her base of operations. And because of their interference, Junko was never able to get the information they wanted.

"At this point, that no longer matters." Kyôka replied coldly. "There's no point explaining to a dead man."

"Man, if I had five jewels for every villain that's threatened me like that." Alfonzo replied with a shrug.

"Would it really make a difference?" Brandish replied in a bored tone. "You're already the richest man on Ishgar."

"Hmm... Now that you mention it..." Alfonzo said, feigning contemplation.

"Enough!" Jackal shouted as he launched himself at Alfonzo and Brandish. "None of that will matter once you're blown to smithereens!"

"Huh? You look familiar." Alfonzo said, this time tilting his head in mockery rather than confusion. "Who are you again?"

"Bastard!" Jackal shouted as he threw himself forward, hands outstretched. "I'll kill you!"

"Yeah, still as easy to rile up as ever." Alfonzo muttered before he vanished from where he stood in a flash of violet light. When he reappeared, he was hovering above Jackal with one of his tonfa drawn and poised to be thrust down into jackal's back. "That shit didn't work all those years ago, dumbass. So, why do you think it will work now. [Metal Magic: Giga Drill Break]."

With Alfonzo's chant, the tip of the tonfa, Riot, stretched before morphing into the head of a drill that began to spin violently. Then, before Jackal could react, his eyes wide open in surprise, Alfonzo thrusted the drill down into the center of his torso.

\*Splatter!\*

As a result, Jackal's torso was torn apart, blood, flesh, and bone fragments thrown in all directions. Yet, not a drop of blood landed on Alfonzo, thanks to the cloak of electricity surrounding him. Brandish also protected herself from being splashed by bits of minced Etherious by using [Command T] to enlarge a lint ball she plucked from the edge of her skirt and throwing it in front of her to act as a gore shield.

At the same time, Kyôka, Tempester, and Franmalth looked on, their expressions showing that they had started to take this encounter more seriously. Though, it was clear that they had no fear of losing. Because even if they did lose, they would be resurrected on the Cube. The punishment they would have to face from Mard Geer might be an issue, though.

Alfonzo, on the other hand, was smiling widely. Unfortunately, with his back to the Etherious, they had no way of knowing that. Brandish was able to see that smile, though. And when she saw it, she

immediately knew that Tartaros was not going to have a good time in the future. Though, she had no way of knowing exactly what Alfonzo had planned.

'Riot, did it work?' Alfonzo asked internally.

["It did."] Riot replied with a scoff. ["But this is the most disgusting thing I've ever experienced. Connecting to a soul as distorted as that guy's is fucking nauseating."]

["Quit your bitchin'"] Bedlam said nonchalantly.

["What the fuck did you say?"] Riot asked angrily.

["Just look at it this way."] Bedlam continued, completely unbothered by Riot's outburst. ["Just imagine what Lici and Scylla will think when Alfonzo tells them about what happened."]

As if he were never angry, Riot quieted down and the scowl on his face was quickly replaced by a goofy smile.

"Simp..." Bedlam muttered quietly enough that he would not break Riot out of his fantasy.

'Yeah, now we should be able to find the Cube without a problem.' Alfonzo said internally as he wiped the smile off his face and turned to look at the three remaining Etherious. 'With Riot latching onto that guy's soul as it headed back home, I'll have the coordinates in no time. The only thing left to do here is

to get rid of these nuisances and finish Yajima's quest. Then, I'll get a few of the guys from the guild and we'll go on a demon hunt aboard the Blackbird.'

### Chapter 793: A Gift for Mira

"He defeated Jackal so easily." Franmalth said while staring at Alfonzo, who just returned Riot's tonfa to its original form. "Jackal said that the only reason he lost last time he ran into this man was because he was caught off guard by the other woman who was with him."

"I don't even know why you took that at face value." Tempester replied coldly. "Do you really think Jackal would admit to his own incompetence?"

"I suppose that makes sense." Franmalth said, his usual cheerful grin stretching across his face. "I guess that means Jackal was just a fool. Jumping into a fight like that with no chance of winning is just like him."

While Tempester and Franmalth were discussing what just happened, Kyôka was thinking something completely different.

'It seems we've underestimated our opponents this time.' Kyôka thought to herself. 'I had spies present during Jackal's fight with Alfonzo Marcus and Elicia Taylor. And it was just as he said. Although they defeated him without much issue, neither of them would have been able to defeat him with one spell. But now, things are different. This man has grown so much. But how? Humans don't usually gain so much strength after they finish growing.'

After having that thought, Kyôka's eyes landed on the tonfa in Alfonzo's hand.

'Could that have something to do with it?' Kyôka asked herself. 'There's another one on his back, too. And what about her? We don't have much information on that green-haired woman. Other than the fact that she uses [Command T], she's basically an unknown. It looks like we will more than likely fail to kill either of them tonight. I'll report this to Lord Mard Geer when we return. He's probably the only one who can contest with this man.'

As her thoughts continued, Kyôka turned her attention to Brandish. And the amount of magic power she could feel flowing through her gave Kyôka pause, as well. Deciding that a new plan was in order, she resigned herself to the loss that would most definitely come at the end of this battle. Luckily, with the facilities on the Cube, she would not truly die when she was inevitably defeated, meaning she could report to Mard Geer and plan for another attack.

Unfortunately for Kyôka, she had no way of knowing that jackal's soul had been marked when Alfonzo defeated him. Meaning, before she could even start coming up with countermeasures to Alfonzo's new level of strength, the Cube would be receiving a group of visitors intent on ridding Earth Land of their presence forever.

"Well, that was fun." Alfonzo said as he turned to face the three Etherious once again with a smile. "So, who's next?"

Hearing that question and seeing the smile on Alfonzo's face, Kyôka, Tempester, and Franmalth exchanged glances, having a conversation with their eyes for a moment. Then, with wrathful expressions on their faces, they simultaneously looked back at Alfonzo and Brandish.

"Looks like their gonna come at us together." Alfonzo said as he glanced over his shoulder at Brandish.

"Yeah." Brandish said boredly while trimming her nails with Hecatoncheires.

Then, before the two wizards could exchange anymore words, the three Etherious burst into action.

"[Strength Enhancement], [Speed Enhancement]." Kyôka said, using her Curse to amplify the parameters mentioned as she placed a hand on both Franmalth's and Tempester's backs. She then named another curse after removing her hands from her companions, [Enhancng herself, as well. "[Per-Second Enhance]."

Then, Franmalth threw a punch from a distance. Yet, instead of sending out some kind of energy or projectile magic, his arm stretched, covering the distance between himself and Alfonzo in the blink of an eye.

\*Smack!\*

To his surprise, however, Alfonzo casually raised his left hand. And without even looking in Franmalth's direction, caught the Etherious' hand with ease.

"That was rude." Alfonzo said casually, still not looking at Franmalth. "Can't you see we were talking?"

At the same time, Tempester flash past Alfonzo, arriving in front of Brandish with his left hand extended.

"[Inferno]." Tempester said coldly as his palm began to ignite with flames at its center.

"[Command T: Reduction]. Brandish said in that same bored tone as she held the hand not holding Hecatoncheires towards the quickly intensifying flames.

To Tempester's complete and utter shock, the flames that were growing in front of his outstretched palm began to compress... No, shrink in front of Brandish's hand. At the same time, they did not surge forward as he was expecting.

Meanwhile, with Alfonzo and Brandish distracted, Kyôka flashed to the other side of Brandish. When she did, her hands were stretched out towards the green-haired wizard's neck.

"I'd rather you didn't touch me." Brandish said in her usual tone as she flung her outstretched hand back towards Kyôka. "[Command T: Expansion]."

"Ahh~~~~~!"

AS Brandish's arm swung, the ember of fire that was once Tempester's [Inferno], followed it. Then, as the ember faced Kyôka, it expanded violently, engulfing the female Etherious in searing hot flames before her hands could come in contact with Brandish.

As a result, the sky over Hargeon was lit up with the red and orange glow of an inferno while Kyôka's pain-filled screams echoed over the entire town, startling the people both inside and outside of the barrier Alfonzo set up over the battlefield.

"\*Whistle\* Not bad, Brandish.' Alfonzo said with a smile while batting Franmath's punches to the side with ease. "I hope you didn't kill her, though. I was kinda hoping to bring her back for Mira."

"Oh..." Brandish said, completely uncaring of Kyôka's fate. "Well, we'll find out when she stops burning."

A moment later, Brandish wrinkled her nose at the smell of burning flesh.

\*Swish!\*

\*Splatter!\*

"But based on that smell, it's not looking good for her." Brandish added as she swung Hecatoncheires at Tempester's other hand, which was reaching out to touch her abdomen. "She then continued as she watched the demon's hand go spinning through the air while leaking a bloody trail. "Didn't I just say that I'd rather you all didn't touch me?"

"You damned human." Tempester growled. Then, without even cradling his amputated arm, he raised his left arm as if he was about to throw something while naming his next curse. "[Thunderbolt]."

In the next instant, Brandish was engulfed in a spherical barrier of static. At the same time, dark clouds quickly gathered overhead.

\*Boom!\*

"Ahh~~~~~!"

A moment later, a massive bolt of lightning fell from the clouds. However, it never reached Brandish, who was surrounded by static with an opposite pole from the lightning. Instead, it was drawn to a tall metal spike that shot up from the surface of the barrier, through Kyôka's abdomen, and high above the top of the barrier.

Unfortunately for Kyôka, however, as the lightning traveled down the improvised lightning rod and down to the ground through the barrier, it fried her even worse along the way, another scream tearing from her throat and echoing over the town of Hargeon.

"Oops..." Alfonzo muttered as he closed the distance with Franmalth while weaving between his stretchy punches. "I guess that was too much for her. Oh well, since it doesn't seem like you folks stay dead for long, I'm sure I'll get another opportunity to find a gift for Mira."

Although Franmalth was obviously furious at the words coming out of Alfonzo's mouth and the fact that he had yet to be able to harm the cocky wizard in front of him, the cheerful grin never left Franmalth's face. And to be honest, that made him seem even more eerie than if he had been scowling or shouting in rage.

Even so, that did not seem to bother Alfonzo all that much. Instead, he drew Bedlam from the strap on his back and held his arms out to either side.

"[Metal Magic: Circular Cutter]." Alfonzo chanted as a pair of spinning saws manifested at the tips of his tonfa. An instant later, Alfonzo's arms began to spark with violet electricity as he made another chant. "[Electromagnetism Magic: Supersonic Dismemberment]."

\*Boom!\*

In the next instant, the sound barrier was broken several times over as the two circular saws, sparking with violet lightning, left trails of superheated air in their wake as they flew off into the distance. At the same time, Franmalth did not even seem to register the fact that he had just lost both arms until he saw them lying on the top of the metal barrier, still stretched out.

Though, the way Franmalth's body was still partially turning as if he were still throwing punches without any arms was quite comical in Alfonzo's opinion.

"Ahh~~~~~!"

Yet, when Franmalth did register his missing arms, just like Kyôka, a pain-filled scream tore out of his mouth as his single eye turned bloodshot and he looked at Alfonzo with rage.

"Oh, good." Alfonzo said casually as he created a small metallic cube in his left hand before tossing it over his shoulder. "That creepy grin is finally gone. Honestly, you looked more like some kind of creepy uncle than a powerful demon while grinning like that."

"This isn't over, human." Franmalth hissed with venom. "We will be back. And we will have our revenge. And we'll relish the expression on your face when you see that everything you held dear has already been destroyed."

"So, you sent someone to Magnolia, too, huh?" Alfonzo asked, seeming to not care. "Well then, I guess there will be more demons dying tonight. Especially if they somehow managed to disturb her..."

That actually made Franmalth pause for a moment. He had no idea who the "her" Alfonzo was referring to could be. Especially since it was confirmed on several occasions that no one in Fairy Tail was stronger than Alfonzo.

"Oh well, whatever." Alfonzo said with a shrug. "We'll see you on that floating island of yours in a few days. So, I'll send you off now. [Electromagnetism Magic: Railgun]."

"What?" Franmalth exclaimed loudly.

\*Boom!\*

Yet, before Franmalth could get out any other words, the sound barrier was once again broken several times over as a small, conical metal piece was sent flying through his eye, finishing him off in an instant.

"Alright, we're all done here." Alfonzo said as he turned around to look at Brandish, who was holding the metal cube he created a moment ago.

"Yeah." Brandish replied with a nod. "And it looks like we'll have a gift to take home for Mira, after all.'

"I still can't believe he was so shook by seeing his lightning bolt get redirected and used to kill his teammate that he completely froze." Alfonzo said while looking at the box in Brandish's hand. "Either way, it seemed like he could control natural disasters or some shit. So, I bet Mira would love to make him into a [Take Over]."

As Alfonzo said, when he created the lightning rod that resulted in Kyôka's defeat, Tempester was completely surprised. So surprised, in fact, that he did not react to Brandish shrinking him with [Command T] until it was too late. And by the time he realized what was going on, he was already trapped in the metallic cube Alfonzo made. And the anti-magic sigils engraved on the inside of the box would keep him from being able to break out, as well.

"Probably." Brandish replied nonchalantly as she tossed the box to Alfonzo. "Anyway, we've still got a quest to complete. So, let's go back inside."

"Sure." Alfonzo replied with a shrug as he pulled Brandish over to his side, created a metal plate under their feet, and dispelled the barrier.

The two then floated back to the ground, reassured the citizens and knights that the threat was dealt with, and went back inside 8-Island to finish their work for the evening.

"\*sigh\* I should have waited until we got downstairs to take off my uniform." Alfonzo grumbled as he and Brandish headed up the stairs to Princess Hisui's private room. "Now, I have to go back up there to get it before I go back downstairs to the kitchen."

"Yeah, but I bet those noble ladies will leave a pretty good tip." Brandish said, a slight teasing smile curling her lips. "I mean, did you see the way they were looking at your muscles? I bet some of them will have a hard time sleeping tonight."

"And you would know, huh?" Alfonzo asked, firing back immediately. "Because everyone knows just how much you use your sleep aid."

As he spoke his last sentence, Alfonzo pointed at Brandish's right hand, causing her to blush immediately as she tried to hide her hand behind her back.

With Alfonzo laughing at Brandish's embarrassment, the two eventually reached the private room. However, they were surprised to hear a commotion going on inside of the room before they opened the door.

Exchanging confused glances with Brandish, Alfonzo eventually opened the door. And what they saw left both of them dumbfounded.

"No! Let me go!" Darkness shouted as she struggled against the three other knights in the room. "I have to help them. I'm a knight, that's my duty. \*Pant\* \*Pant\* And if things were to get dangerous, they could use my body as a shield. \*Pant\* \*Pant\* Things might even get too dangerous for them to handle, and they might have to escape. Unfortunately, that would probably end with me being sacrifice to save my comrades. \*Pant\* \*Pant\* And the torture I would have to endure... \*Pant\* \*Pant\*"

"That's right, my best friend." Virgo, who had summoned herself at some point, cheered for Darkness. "I'm sure the punishments you would receive if you were captured would be incredible."

Meanwhile, Hisui, Katarina, and the other noble ladies were looking on with confused and disgusted expressions, which were driving Darkness even crazier.

Then, there was Lucy, who was sitting in the corner of the room with despair written all over her face.

"Why does stuff like this always happen to me?" Lucy asked in a forlorn tone.

Chapter 794: Visitors, Demons, and Unexpected Reunions; Part 1

\*Vroom~~~~~!\*

Around the time Alfonzo and Brandish left 8-Island to engage Kyōka, Jackal, Tempester, and Franmalth, Magnolia was about to welcome two guests, the loud engine sounds of a two-wheel magic vehicle letting everyone know they were approaching.

Atop the magic vehicle sat two, relatively, short women. The first, the taller of the two, standing at about 5'2" tall with fair skin wearing a black kimono with a white haori, her black hair bundled under her helmet, and the occasional flaps of her kimono's collar revealing a scar on her upper chest.

As for the second, she was an even shorter brown-skinned woman, standing at about 5'1", with long purple hair flowing out of the back of her helmet and wearing a tight, black body suit with an orange long-sleeved shirt over top, with her arms wrapped around the first woman's waist.

These two were the acting guild master of the Mermaid Heel guild, Retsu Unohana and the guild's ace, Yoruichi Shihouin. And they were currently on a personal trip to visit a certain man from Fairy Tail.

"Are you sure you really want to do this?" Retsu asked, her voice carrying clearly over the sounds of the wind and her motorcycle's engine. "Even if you manage to get the other ladies to forgive you, there's no guarantee that he'll accept you."

"I know." Yoruichi replied. "But even if things don't work out, I can at least move on. Honestly, it's not even like me to hang on to something like this for this long. So, I just want to put an end to it, one way or another."

"I understand." Retsu replied in her usual gentle tone. A moment later, however, her tone changed completely as she continued. "Well, this might be a good chance to earn some brownie points."

"I should have known you already noticed." Yoruichi said, her tone sounding less vulnerable and more battle-ready than before. "I can practically feel the hostility from here. But who would be dumb enough to attack Magnolia? Or rather, Fairy Tail?"

"Creatures who see themselves as above wizards." Retsu replied, more than just a hint of bloodlust leaking into her tone. "Demons."

\*Vroom~~~~~!\*

At that, Yoruichi fell silent. She had never faced a demon while out on a quest before. Even so, she had read about them from both her clan's and the guild's archives. So, she had an idea of what to expect. On top of that, as an S-Class wizard, she had to keep up to date about the most dangerous dark guilds. So, she knew a thing or two about Tartaros.

Meanwhile, Retsu, without another word, cranked the accelerator, speeding up towards Magnolia. However, instead of entering the town directly, she circled it, heading straight towards the five demonic presences she could feel near the Fairy Tail guild hall and Lake Sciliora.

"I'll take the guild hall." Retsu said. "You help those living at the mansion."

"With Alfonzo there, do they even need our help?" Yoruichi asked, though she had no intention of not going to lend a hand.

"And who's to say he's even here?" Retsu asked. "He's a wizard, too. He may be off on a quest."

And Retsu was right. At the moment, Alfonzo was off in Hargeon dealing with another batch of demons. So, he would not be around to help deal with the attack on Magnolia.

"Got it." Yoruichi said as she unwrapped her arms from around Retsu's waist and placed her hands on the former guild master's shoulders. She then hopped up, landing with both feet on the motorcycle's seat, before [Flash Stepping] away.

Retsu, on the other hand, continued driving her motorcycle towards the Fairy Tail guild hall. And when she arrived, she was just in time to see a flying energy slash slam into the side of the Fairy Tail guild hall.

"Foolish." Retsu muttered to herself while gently shaking her head. "Have they done no research about their targets? Then again, I suppose that makes sense, seeing as demons see themselves as superior to humans."

\*Boom!\*

And just as Retsu expected, especially after knowing some of the features of the Fairy Tail guild hall's defense, the energy slash was rebounded, flying back in the direction from which it came. Unfortunately, that meant that if it were not stopped, it would eventually cut through the town of magnolia.

"I guess I should do something about that." Retsu muttered as she hit the clutch, the emergency break, and spun the handle break on her motorcycle and sent it into a skid.

Then, just as the motorcycle skidded to a stop, Retsu put down the kick stand and vanished from a top the motorcycle with her sword, Minazuki, in hand. A moment later, she reappeared between the town and the energy slash with Minazuki drawn and a cold expression on her face.

\*Swish!\*

Then, with one swing of her sword, Retsu cleaved the energy slash in two, her delicate blade work completely dispersing the energy contained in the slash.

"Who goes there?" A male voice shouted from the distance.

Deciding that answering the question was unnecessary, Retsu looked in the direction from which it came. When she did, she was able to see two figures standing near the Fairy Tail guild hall, turning back to look at her, as well.

The first figure was a large, muscular male figure. Though, it could not be called humanoid, as it had two pairs of arms and no legs. Instead, its lower body was made from six, tentacle like, segmented limbs that grew thinner towards the tips. On top of that, it had pale blue skin, and where its hair and ears should

be were replaced with spiky protrusions. But since she knew she would be facing a group of demons, its appearance did not really surprise her.

The second figure, however, surprised her completely. Though, it did not surprise her to the point she would be caught off guard. And the reason for that was simple. No matter how Retsu looked at it, the second figure was that of a human, a tall, well-built man with short, spiky black hair, black eyes, thin sideburns that ran down to connect with the stubble that covered his chin and jawline, light wrinkles around his eyes, and a scar running from his hairline to just below his left ear.

"How peculiar." Retsu said, completely ignoring the tall, muscular Etherious' question. "I never expected to see a human working with Tartaros so openly. No..."

Reaching that point, Retsu scrutinized the man more closely.

"I asked you a question, human." The four-armed demon said coldly, angry that it was being ignored.

"You're not a demon." Retsu said while continuing to ignore the demon. "I can feel demonic energy inside of you. But it's not yours... I see... It's just keeping your body animated... It's tethering your soul to the body, as well. Quite the nasty Curse."

"You're pretty perceptive, Ma'am." The man said while shrugging his shoulders. "Unfortunately, there's nothing I can do about it. Because of another demon's curse, I have no choice but to work with them. The only upside is that I am free to roam the land and slay demons not associated with Tartaros in my free time."

"Silence, silver." The four-armed demon barked. "I will never understand why Keyes allowed a worthless human like you to retain his self-awareness. It would have been better to destroy your consciousness and use you as the weapon you are."

"You know, I kind of agree with that." The tall man, Silver, said while scratching his head. "I mean, do you really think I like going along with all the atrocities you and the others commit?"

"I would imagine the demon controlling you gains some sort of sick sense of satisfaction seeing humans kill each other against their will." Retsu suggested. "Quite the nasty hobby."

"Probably." Silver replied with another shrug. "But since there's nothing I can do about it, I stopped stressing about it a while ago. I already failed to protect the people who meant the most to me back when Deliora destroyed my village. So, it's not like he could break my spirit any worse than it already is."

"You fought Deliora?" A male voice asked from the entrance to the Fairy Tail guild hall.

Looking in that direction, Retsu, Silver, and the four-armed demon, Ezel saw a man and a woman stepping out of the guild hall. And when the man saw Silver turn around, he froze in surprise.

"Dad?" The young man, Gray asked, his voice shaking. "No... That's impossible. I saw you die with my own eyes."

"Gray, my love, what did you say?" Juvia asked, her eyes widening in surprise, as well.

Meanwhile, Silver, after hearing the way Gray referred to him, also widened his eyes in surprise.

"Dad? Did you just call me dad?" Silver asked, his tone filled with disbelief. "Then, does that mean you're Gray? You actually survived Deliora's attack?

As he asked his questions, happiness shined in Silvers eyes. However, before he could bask in that happiness for too long, Silver's expression turned into a scowl. Then, he roared in the direction of Lake Sciliora.

"Damn it!" Silver shouted angrily. "You can't do this to me! You can't make me fight my son!"

"Ahahahaha!" Ezel immediately started to laugh upon hearing Silver's roar. "Okay, now I get it. If I were Keeys, I would have let you keep your awareness for just such an occasion, too."

\*Swish!\*

\*Splatter!\*

As Ezel laughed so hardily, he was interrupted when Retsu appeared in front of him, her back facing him with Minazuki drawn and blood running down the length of its blade. On top of that, Ezel was missing one of his arms, while said arm spun through the air spraying blood.

"Ahh~~~~~!" Ezel bellowed in pain and anger. "How dare you!"

"Laughing at a time like this is rather unbecoming." Retsu said, completely unbothered by Ezel's shouting. "And for that, you needed to be put in your place."

As she spoke the last sentence, Retsu looked over her shoulder and made eye contact with Ezel. However, when she did, the usual, gentle light in her eyes was completely replaced by a light of ruthless bloodthirst.

After holding eye contact with Ezel for a moment, Retsu turned her head and looked up towards the roof of the Fairy Tail guild hall. There, she saw a woman with long red hair styled into four braids wearing a modified witch's outfit with a fur-brimmed pointy hat, sitting with her legs dangling off the edge of the building while sipping from a glass of wine.

"Scarlet Despair, would you mind sending us to a more fitting battlefield?" Retsu asked, her usual gentle tone nowhere to be heard. "I'd rather not end up damaging your guild hall while I teach this demon proper manners."

Despite not speaking particularly loudly, the woman on the roof of the guild hall, Irene, heard her perfectly.

"I won't even ask how you know I can do that." Irene replied, speaking at the same volume while shrugging her shoulders. "But sure, I don't mind sending you somewhere else. Not that it would matter... At least for the guild hall. You're not strong enough to damage it, anyway. Alfonzo's upgraded the barrier by quite a bit since the last time you were here."

\*Thud!\*

A moment later, Irene materialized Belserion in her free hand before tapping its butt end against the roof. Then, from the point of contact, a magic circle spread, climbing down the sides of the Fairy Tail guild hall before encircling the entire building and the five people standing on the ground outside the front entrance.

"[Universe One]." Irene chanted once the magic circle was finished expanding.

\*Flash!\*

A moment later, Gray, Juvia, Retsu, Silver, and Ezel all vanished from where they stood.

"Hmm... This is the first time I've actually used that spell since I unsealed you, Belserion." Irene said while looking down at the ground. "With your help, I can control it much better now. Before now, everything in the circle, whether people or buildings, would be teleported to random places. But this time, I was able to split them up and send them to where I wanted to with no issue."

[ "Actually, I think that's more due to your increase in strength than my unsealing, Your Majesty." ]  
Belserion replied respectfully from Irene's inner world.

"Perhaps." Irne replied before taking another sip from her glass. "Well, now that everything is taken care of over here, I guess I should go see how the girls are doing at the mansion. Not that I'm actually all that worried. They're all strong enough to handle this threat... Oh, never mind, Rika is coming back with her team. I'll bring her up here, instead."

With that, Irene took a last sip from her glass, set the glass down on the roof, and once again tapped her staff on the rooftop.

\*Flash!\*

A moment later, Rika, who was walking back to the guild hall from the train station with Alzack and Kohta, found herself standing next to Irene on the edge of the roof. Meanwhile, Alzack and Kohta froze in confusion when their teammate just vanished in a flash of light.

"What the hell, Irene?" Rika asked as she reached into her bag to pull out her iPhone. "You could have called first. Just teleporting me like that is kinda rude."

"\*Sigh\* Those iPhones have really made you kids..." Irene began to say. Yet, before she finished, she shook her head with an amused smile on her face. "I still have no idea what a boomer is, but I hate hearing Alfonzo and Elicia call me that."

Meanwhile, Rika called Alzack and Kohta to tell them that she had been abducted by Irene and not to worry. She then hung up the call and looked back to Irene.

"So, why did you bring me up here?" Rika asked, her tone serious as she knew that Irene would not do something like this without a good reason... or a prank...

"Assemble your rifle and look towards the mansion." Irene replied. "You'll understand everything once you do."

And with that, Rika wasted no time assembling her sniper rifle and looking through the scope towards the Mansion on the Lake.

### Chapter 795: Visitors, Demons, and Unexpected Reunions; Part 2

When Yoruichi arrived at the bridge connecting the Mansion on the Lake to the shore of Lake Sciliora, she could only stand there with her eyes and mouth wide open in surprise.

"What the hell?" Yoruichi asked in a dumbfounded tone.

The reason for Yoruichi's surprise was easy to see, however. Because the first thing she saw upon arrival was the sight of the entire artificial island surrounded by a dome-shaped barrier. Next was the magnificent mansion sitting on the artificial island.

"Seeing that mansion lets me know just how long it's been since the last time I was here." Yoruichi muttered to herself.

Yet, that was not the most surprising thing Yoruichi was seeing at the moment. Instead, it was the hundreds of bodies, bodies she could tell were corpses, flying through the air, in all directions, away from the barrier. And with her eyesight, strengthened by her magic power, she could see some of the faces of those corpses.

"Those are all dark wizards." Yoruichi said while mentally comparing the faces of the corpses to the bounty posters that were periodically delivered to the Mermaid Heel guild hall. "Damn... And it looks like they were all killed by Tartaros and reanimated by one of them. This is insane."

And just as Yoruichi said, all the corpses flying away from the barrier after attacking it were members of Dark Guilds under the control of Tartaros. Before this operation, Tartaros called them all to a specific location before they were killed and reanimated by Keyes, one of the Nine Demon Gates, the strongest demons in Tartaros.

The reason for all of that? Simply to wear down their true target, Elicia, who was present for both Crawford Seam's execution and Junko's downfall along with Alfonzo. Unfortunately, Tartaros had no information on the defensive measures set up around the Mansion on the Lake. Meaning, the deaths of so many dark wizards only had one result.

Despite their intentions, Tartaros was the reason for a drastic drop in the number of dark wizards and Dark Guilds in the Kingdom of Fiore, making it safer for all the humans they despise so much.

\*Ring!\*

While continuing to watch Tartaros' attack on the mansion, Yoruichi was distracted by the sound of her iPhone ringing. Pulling it out of a small pouch attached to her waist, Yoruichi was only slightly surprised when she saw the name on the caller ID.

"Lici? I guess you felt my presence, huh?" Yoruichi said with the iPhone raised to her ear.

{"Yup!"} Elicia said energetically. {"But that's only part of the reason why I called. As you can probably see, we're under attack from Tartaros. Erza, Mira, and I are about to do something big to thin the numbers. So, it won't be safe to be standing where you are right now."}

"Then, should I head back to the guild hall?" Yoruichi asked, curious to know exactly what the three women were about to do."

{"That would work, too."} Elicia replied with a giggle. {"But I bet you'd rather be present for the surprise, right? So, how about this? We'll open a small hole in the barrier in... let's say... fifteen seconds. It will only be open for a tenth of a second. You can get through it during that window, right?"}

"Of course I can." Yoruichi said proudly. "I'm still the third fastest wizard on Ishgar... I'm still not sure how the hell you and Alfonzo got faster than me, though."

{"Lots of tough training."} Elicia replied as if it were the most natural thing in the world. {"Anyway, you should just circle the barrier at high speed. Marin will be standing at the spot where the breech will appear."}

Hearing that Marin would be the one meeting her, Yoruichi subconsciously reached up and started rubbing the left side of her face, the same place where Marin hit her about six years ago.

"She's not gonna try to hit me again, is she?" Yoruichi asked.

{"She might."} Elicia replied. {"But if you wanna see what's gonna happen next, you'll just have to deal with it."}

"Fair enough." Yoruichi replied. "Well then, I'll start moving. Talk to you after your attack."}

{"See ya later~."} Elicia replied in a sing-song tone before ending the call.

With that, Yoruichi put her iPhone away before taking a deep breath. Then, when she exhaled, her orange, long-sleeved shirt exploded as her back and arms were covered with arcs of white [Lightning Magic].

"[Shunko]." Yoruichi chanted before she vanished from where she stood in a burst of speed.

"What is that?" Keyes, an Etherious with a bone white face, what appear to be empty eye sockets, and no nose wearing a checker-patterned form-fitting, high-collared robe over a white collared shirt and a black tie with a golden, ornate headpiece that covered his jawline, ears, forehead, and the top of his head and fanned out over his head like some kind of crown, asked in surprise as he saw a white streak beginning to circle the barrier that was thwarting his and the other Demon Gates' attacks.

"Must be another defensive measure." Seilah, a female Etherious with the appearance of a beautiful woman with pale skin, large breasts, long purple hair and eyes, and a pair of golden horns protruding from the sides of her head and pointing upwards wearing a short, revealing, blue leopard-print kimono with a white strap tied around her neck, and black stockings with white lace, replied casually. "Just more futile resistance."

"I'll just go destroy it." Torafuzar, a massive Etherious with an exaggerated muscular physique, the face of a shark and the body of a lizardman with pink skin, fins on his arms, legs, and head, dark pink skin, and red helmet-like scales on his head, said in an aggressive tone. "NO matter what it is, I'll cut through it."

"Go if you want." Seilah said uncaringly.

With that, Torafuzar rushed towards the streak of white light circling the barrier, stopping directly in its path. He then raised his arms, ready to destroy whatever the streak was and bring despair to those inside the barrier.

Torafuzar, with the streak of white light, Yoruichi, barreling towards him, surged his demonic power. However, just before he could invoke his Curse, [Tenchi Kaimei], which would flood the area with a large amount of black water, a small, human-sized hole opened in the barrier nearby. When it did, Keyes, Seilah, and Torafuzar could see a woman with long blonde-hair with pink tips standing on the other side with her right hand cocked back like she was ready to throw a punch.

At the same time, the white streak, instead of continuing towards Torafuzar, made a sharp turn and entered the barrier before it snapped shut behind her only a tenth of a second after it opened.

However, the last thing they saw before the barrier was restored to its complete opaque state, the woman, Marin, threw a punch at the streak of white light, which bent around her before contact.

"So, it wasn't a defensive measure." Seilah said calmly.

"That's how it looks." Keyes replied just as calmly. "It seems it was just another human."

"Damn you!" Torafuzar shouted. "Even if you saved one puny human, will you be able to save all the worthless humans in that town? Let's see how you react when the entire area is flooded with the Black Water of the Underworld, [Tenchi Kaimei]."

A moment after his outburst, Torafuzar began spewing out a large amount of water that was quickly inundating the area. However, before too much of the area could be swallowed by the dark, murky water...

\*Bang!\* \*Bang!\*

... both Keyes' and Torafuzar's heads exploded. Shortly after that, the sound of two, high-caliber gunshots echoed around the area. As a result, all of the moving corpses under Keyes' control stopped moving before they disintegrated into dust, leaving Seilah as the only one standing outside of the barrier.

Surprised by how quickly two of her comrades were taken out, Seilah looked in the direction where the two gunshots came from. In that direction, the only thing she could see was the tower that she and the other Demon Gates identified as the Fairy Tail guild hall.

Directing some of her demonic power into her eyes, Seilah was able to see that there were two figures atop the tower. The first was a red-haired woman sitting on the edge with a glass of wine in hand. That woman, Irene, even waved at her after noticing her gaze. The second figure was that of a tan-skinned woman with purple hair tied into a ponytail, Rika, packing up a long-barreled sniper rifle while chatting with the first woman.

Meanwhile, up on the roof of the Fairy Tail guild hall, Irene and Rika were chatting casually.

"Damn... I took a quest with Alzack and Kohta to eliminate Crawling Chaos." Rika said as she stretched after putting away her rifle. "But when we got to the quest location, it was like everyone up and left. And because we were unable to find them, we came back... Completely unpaid. But as soon as I get back, you call me up here and what do I see? Corpses of all the members of Crawling Chaos attacking my

house. Even worse, they're being led by three members of Tartaros. And I'm guessing Tartaros were the ones who wiped them out before we got there."

"More than likely." Irene replied before taking another sip from her wine glass.

"Damn it." Rika hissed in annoyance. "Why couldn't they wait for like five--- No, three days. We would have been able to get paid for the job and they still would have had their undead army."

Irene chuckled in response.

"Do you really think those demons care if you got paid for your effort or not?" Irene asked in a tone filled with mirth.

"Yeah, yeah, I know." Rika replied as she turned around and stepped onto the edge of the building while pulling out a small pistol-shaped item from one of the holsters on her hips. "Still, the extra money would have been nice. Especially for Alzack, Bisca's baby is due in a couple of months. And they'll need all sorts of stuff to take care of it."

"That's true." Irene replied with a nod. "But you don't need to worry about that. Alzack is an S-Class wizard. He'll be fine. Plus..."

Reaching that point, Irene looked up and made eye contact with Rika with a smile on her face.

"... his best friend is the richest man in Ishgar." Irene continued. "Do you really think Alfonzo will let him go through anything he can't handle."

"\*Sigh\* I guess you're right." Rika replied as she held the pistol-shaped item up to the sky. "Still, I doubt Alzack's pride will like that."

With that said, Rika stepped off the edge of the building, free-falling towards the ground in front of the guild's front doors.

\*Whizz!\*

\*Clink!\*

However, just as she was about halfway down the building, Rika pulled the trigger on the item, firing a grappling line towards the edge of the roof. And when the grappling hook caught the edge, her falling speed slowed dramatically, eventually letting her land gently before she released the mechanism holding the hook in place and reeled in the line.

After that, Rika waved to Irene before walking into the guild hall to find Shizuka and tell her about her trip and play with Calvin, who was in the infirmary with his mother.

Meanwhile, as Rika spoke with Irene, Yoruichi had just dodged out of the way of Marin's punch.

"Wasn't one enough?" Yoruichi asked as she cancelled [Shunko]. "I mean, you got me real good back at the Mermaid Heel HQ."

"Yeah, I know." Marin replied casually. "But after seeing the replay of when Cana hit you during the GMG, my hands got itchy."

Yoruichi could only roll her eyes at that.

"But seriously, I didn't think you would come here any time soon." Marin said with a grin. "Even if Cana did let things go."

"Honestly, neither did I." Yoruichi replied while shrugging her shoulders. "I intended to wait until after the new year. But Master Unohana said that she was taking a trip to see Alfonzo. So, I just decided to tag along. The real issue was making Sui-Feng stay."

"Yeah, how did you manage that, anyway?" Marin asked, full of curiosity.

"Well, after the Grand Magic Games ended, Master Unohana started training Sui-Feng..." Yoruichi said, shuddering slightly at the memory. "And let's just say, I wouldn't wish that kind of training on even my worst enemy. Honestly, I'm not even sure how many times Sui-Feng died during her training. And it hasn't even been a whole month yet."

Hearing that, Marin widened her eyes in shock. But when she remembered that Retsu was one of the best healers on the continent, she could somewhat imagine what Sui-Feng went through. And when she did, like Yoruichi, she began to shudder, as well.

"Anyway, when I said I was going with Master Unohana to visit Fairy Tail, Sui-Feng naturally invited herself, as well." Yoruichi continued. "And I naturally told her no. But she refused to let me come alone. So, to make her give up, I just said I'd have training sessions with Master Unohana turned into a weekly thing. And that was enough to make her shut up about it."

"You're ruthless." Marin muttered while looking at Yoruichi with awe.

"But effective." Yoruichi replied with another shrug. "Anyway, what kind of big move are Lici, Erza, and Mirajane gonna do to take out all those zombies? I can't really see anything on the outside from in here."

"Actually, that's not really necessary anymore." Erza, making her way out from the mansion, said calmly. "Rika just took down the one controlling all the corpses. And with his downfall, all the corpses fell, as well."

"I see." Yoruichi replied with a nod of understanding. "That makes sense. Kinda disappointing, though. I wanted to see the three of you in action again."

"There's no need to be too disappointed." Erza said as she arrived within arm's reach of Yoruichi. "Mira intends to face the remaining demon. She wants to add it to her arsenal of [Take Over: Satan Souls]."

"Oh, that might be fun to watch." Yoruichi said, her interest clear for everyone to see.

"By the way, it's nice to see you again, Yoruichi." Erza, the only one who did not hold a grudge over the incident between Alfonzo, Elicia, and Yoruichi for too long, said as she extended her hand towards Yoruichi.

"You, too, Erza." Yoruichi replied as she accepted Erza's handshake. A moment later, the barrier surrounding the mansion fell. Then, Yoruichi turned her head when a flaming figure shot out from the mansion towards Seilah. "Oh, it looks like she's about to get started."

#### Chapter 796: Fairy Tail Gains Another Slayer Wizard

"Oh, this is a good place for a duel to the death, is it not?" Retsu asked while looking around at her new surroundings after being teleported by Irene's [Universe One] spell. "I won't have to worry about collateral damage if I were to go all out."

As Retsu said, she and her opponent, Ezel, had been teleported several miles outside of Magnolia. In fact, they were teleported far enough that Mount Hakobe could be seen in the distance. Though, having been teleported so far away would make getting back a bit of a hike, it was not too much for Retsu to handle with her [Flash Step].

"Where are we?" Ezel asked while cradling the stump of the arm Retsu cut off not too long ago. "How did we get here?"

"Were you not paying attention?" Retsu asked, tilting her head in mock innocence. "The red-haired woman teleported us here."

Hearing Retsu's seemingly innocent, yet subtly mocking, tone, Ezel snapped his head in her direction, ready to lash out in anger. However, when he saw the amount of bloodlust swirling in the depths of her eyes, he was brought up short.

"Oh, you must be a higher level of demon than all the ones I've slayed in my long life." Retsu said, after noticing the way Ezel balked. "You can actually feel fear, can you? How very interesting."

"Fear? Me?" Ezel asked, letting go of his missing arm while puffing out his chest in both pride and anger. "I am one of the Nine Demon Gates! One of the most powerful demons ever created by Lord Zeref, an Etherious! And you think that I would ever fear you?"

\*Swish!\*

As soon as Ezel's words ended, Retsu's figure seemed to flicker for a moment. At the same time, one of the spikes jutting out from the top of Ezel's head slid off and fell to the ground.

\*Thump!\*

The sound of the spike imbedding itself into the ground thanks to gravity stopped Ezel's tirade, causing him to look down at what caused the sound. However, when he saw the something that look suspiciously similar to the spikes that grew from his head and neck, he was dumbfounded. He then subconsciously raised one of his hands and touched all over his head to make sure that all his spikes were still there, just to make sure.

"There's no need to look." Retsu said calmly, the unsheathed Minazuki still gripped in her right hand. "I cut it off. It's quite disappointing that you did not notice until it fell to the ground, though. Perhaps only your leader, Mard Geer Tartaros would be a suitable challenge. \*Sigh\* I should have just left you to one of the youngsters at Fairy Tail. But when I saw your ability, I allowed my expectations to rise. But now, it seems I will be disappointed."

Hearing that, Ezel's eyes started to shake in both bewilderment and fear. At the same time, he subconsciously took a step back. However, when he realized what he just did, his expression turned into one filled with rage.

"You damned human!" Ezel roared angrily. "Know your place!"

Immediately, Retsu's eyes narrowed, the bloodlust swirling in their depths surging wildly.

"I see." Retsu said, her voice eerily calm. She then raised her sword and placed the blade in her left palm. Then, she pulled the blade back, letting it cut into her hand. "I suppose I'll make this quick, then. [Bankai... Minazuki]."

A moment later, the blood from Retsu's palm slid down the blade of her sword and down to the ground. However, no matter how Ezel looked at it, there was entirely too much blood. In fact, there was so much blood that it covered a large part of the surroundings, and that include the spot where he was standing.

"What is this?" Ezel asked while swiveling his head left and right to see what was going on.

"There's no need for you to worry about that." Retsu replied with cold calmness. "Just know, this is where you will meet your end."

With that, the blood surrounding the area formed a dome that obscured the sights and sounds coming from its interior. However, just before it enclosed Retsu and Ezel completely, the sound of a demon's horrified screams could be heard from miles around.

Meanwhile, in a field on the opposite side of Magnolia, Gray and Juvia were facing off against Silver, Gray's father. And while Gray was thoroughly confused by what was going on, Silver, who did not want to even take on this fight, was attacking with relentless persistence. At the same time, however, he was trying to give his son advice on how to defeat him while telling him about what he had been through since the day Deliora destroyed their village.

However, things did not go the way he expected. In fact, things were the complete opposite of what he expected.

When the fight started, Silver was surprised by how quickly Gray cast his first [Ice-Make] spell. But as an [Ice Devil Slayer], like any other Slayer-type wizard, he was immune to the element he commanded. It even helped him regain his spent magic power.

"You won't be able to beat me that way." Silver said, hoping to guide the son he had been separated from for more than fifteen years. "You'll have to--- Ugh!"

Yet, as soon as Gray saw the way Silver began devouring his [Ice-Make Magic], his tactics switched immediately.

\*Bang!\* \*Bang!\* \*Bang!\* \*Bang!\* \*Bang!\*

Punches were thrown with power, precision, and speed. And despite the fact that Silver was a powerful wizard, even before he was killed and resurrected, he could not keep up with Gray's onslaught. Luckily, as a reanimated corpse, he did not feel much pain. Otherwise, he would have probably thrown in the towel pretty early in the fight.

And although it was mentioned that both Gray and Juvia were supposed to be fighting Silver, that was a bit of an overstatement.

"Go, Gray, my love!" Juvia, standing off to the side, cheered excitedly as she watched Gray pummel his father, a nearly 8' long banner with the words, "Gray Is the Best," printed on it having appeared in her hands at some point. "You have to help your father find eternal rest. That's the proper thing for you to do as a child."

"You know, if I wasn't already dead, I'd think she wanted you to kill me to get my inheritance, or something." Silver muttered in disbelief.

"Don't pay attention to her." Gray replied while continuing to rain blows on Silver. "She's a little off in the head, but she's a good girl. We're gonna get married at some point, too."

"Really?" Silver asked, much more excited than a man having his face beat in should be, with a wide smile on his face. "Does that mean you've already popped the question? Tell me, how did you do it? Where was it? I can't believe it, my son is gonna--- Urgh!"

\*Bang!\*

"Keep it down!" Gray hissed as he landed an uppercut on Silver's jaw, forcing his mouth shut and his words to a stop. "I have a plan, but I still need to put that plan in motion."

As he spoke, Gray shot a glance in Juvia's direction. When he saw she was still smiling and waving the banner, he exhaled a sigh of relief. At the same time, he threw a punch into Silver's jaw as Silver tried his best to clap a hand over his mouth. But with Gray's punch, he ended up slapping himself in the face when his head snapped to the side.

Unfortunately for Gray, because he was so used to seeing Juvia smile so brightly in his presence, he did not know that Juvia was smiling for a reason other than seeing him have the advantage in his battle with Silver.

'Oh, Gray, my love!' Juvia thought to herself excitedly. 'We're finally going to be one. But Gray wants to keep it a secret from Juvia. Juvia needs to pretend like she heard nothing. But can Juvia really do that? Juvia is so happy! Juvia might accidentally tell everyone as soon as she gets back to the guild hall.'

However, the fight did not last much longer after that point. That's not to say that there was a decisive victor. Rather, it was because the one keeping Silver's corpse animated, Keyes, had his head blown off by Rika's sniper fire. And the instant that happened, Silver, along with all the corpses of the dark wizards stopped moving, immediately.

"Huh? What happened?" Gray asked as he was about to throw another punch.

"Looks like that bastard, Keyes, was defeated." Silver said with a relieved smile on his face. "And that means his control over all the corpses has been disrupted. \*Sigh\* Too bad he won't stay dead for long."

"Huh?" Gray intoned in confusion. "What do you mean?"

"Tartaros has a magic item in their stronghold that allows the souls of the Nine Demon Gates, the strongest members of Tartaros, well, the strongest demons in Tartaros, to be resurrected." Silver explained. "So, just killing them once won't get rid of them. If you want them to stay dead, you have to destroy that magic item, too. Otherwise, they'll keep coming back."

Hearing that, Gray could not help but frown.

"But at least my body is no longer under his control." Silver said happily. "Plus, I finally got to see you again after all these years. I really thought I had lost you when I lost to Deliora back then. But I'm glad to see that you've grown up."

"Dad..." Gray said, emotions of loss starting to leak into his tone.

"Don't look at me like that." Silver said, trying, and failing, to raise his hand to pat Gray on the shoulder.  
"\*Sigh\* I guess my time is almost up."

When Silver failed to raise his hand, he looked down at it. And he knew it was his time to go when he saw it starting to crumble into dust.

"Well, let me give you one last gift before I go." Silver said in a solemn tone. "With this, you'll be much safer and stronger."

"What are you..." Gray began to say. However, his words trailed off when he saw his father was engulfed in dark purple light that gave off an extremely chilling aura.

"Like I told you, I'm an Ice Devil Slayer." Silver said with a smile. "And I'm leaving that power to you. But you have to be careful. If you overuse it, your demeanor will change as you inch closer to becoming a demon yourself."

As Silver's words came to an end, the purple light leapt from his body and headed straight towards Gray. Meanwhile, Gray, caught off guard by what he was seeing, was too late to avoid it. Yet, something neither man expected happened just before the light came in contact with Gray's body.

Instead of entering Gray's body and turning him into an Ice Devil Slayer, the light was pulled towards a short sword hanging on Gray's waist.

"What?" Silver asked.

"Oh, did you want that, Ymir?" Gray asked curiously after snapping back to his senses.

[ "Not really." ] Ymir, Gray's [Armament Spirit], a giant seemingly made of ice with a pair of horns that made him look like a minotaur, replied from Gray's inner world. [ "But it's kind of like how things were when those Dragon Slayers got [Soul Armaments]. In fact, I just noticed an egg that appeared in here. You should still be able to use the Devil Slayer Magic, though." ]

"Oh, that makes sense." Gray replied with an understanding nod.

"What makes sense?" Silver asked in a confused tone. "And who are you talking to?"

"If we had more time, I'd tell you." Gray replied with a shrug. "Well, if we had more time and you joined Fairy Tail, that is. But since we don't, I'll just say this."

Reaching that point, Gray rested his left hand on the hilt of the short sword hanging on his left hip. "You won't have to worry about me turning into a demon if I use your magic, Dad. Not with this. Oh and by the way, what was the name of demon you either defeated or learned Devil Slayer Magic from?"

"Aurgelmir." Silver replied, though it was clear to see that he was still confused.

Unfortunately, Silver did not have the time to ask anymore questions, as his body finished disintegrating, leaving Gray standing there with a feeling of melancholy washing over him.

"Gray, my love." Juvia said as she approached, having put the banner away somewhere in the meantime. "Is it over?"

"Yeah." Gray replied while looking down at the pile of dust that used to be his father's body. "It's all over."

Gray then turned away from the dust pile and took Juvia's hand as he started walking towards Magnolia.

"Let's go back." Gray said in a solemn tone. "I'll have to start training extra hard to master this power that he left me."

"Of course, my love." Juvia replied as she wrapped her free arm around Gray's arm while tightening her grip on his hand. "And Juvia will be there to help as much as Juvia can."

With that, the two started walking back towards Magnolia in comfortable silence.

"Thanks, Juvia." Gray whispered quietly as a single tear slid down his face as thoughts of his father ran through his head. "I'm glad you're here with me."

Chapter 797: A Beatdown so One-Sided that Description Was not Needed

"This seems kinda inhumane." Yoruichi muttered.

"Kinda." Elicia agreed.

"It's just the way it has to be." Cana replied. She then took a long swig from a bottle of alcohol before continuing. "Mira wouldn't do this if she didn't have to, after all."

"Oh, she definitely would." Marin said while shaking her head. "Remember, Bianca is inside."

"Oh, \*Burp\* right." Cana replied.

Currently, while in her [Satan Soul: Sitri Take Over], Mirajane was ruthlessly beating up Seilah using her [Suppression Arts], a form of magical martial arts she performs while wrapping her fists in the [Darkness Magic] her [Take Overs] usually afford her.

And unfortunately for Seilah, although she was one of the Nine Demon Gates, among Tartaros top ten strongest members, Mirajane's rage and training made that fact completely useless, as the Etherious, with nothing to use her Curse, [Macro], on, she was being beaten rather one-sidedly.

To clarify, [Macro] allows Seilah to control both animate and inanimate objects such as people, corpses, and other objects. However, the corpses Keyes once controlled had already crumbled into dust, there were no random objects that would be able to harm Mirajane in her current state, and all the people in range of her Curse were too powerful to be controlled. So, the only thing she could rely on was her demonic physique. Unfortunately, Seilah was not physically strong enough to deal with an enraged Mirajane while she was in her [Satan Soul: Sitri Take Over].

There was one trick Seilah could employ to even the odds, however. And that was turning her Curse on herself. With that, she could command her body to release its limiters. As a result, she would be able to take on her [Etherious Form], which would give her an overall boost in power.

But with Mirajane's relentless assault, there was no way that Seilah had the opportunity to do so.

"Yeah, I would have done the same if I had gotten to her first." Elicia muttered darkly. "This is the second time in a year that people have attacked our house with the kids inside. And to be honest, I'm getting tired of it."

"The second time?" Yoruichi asked.

"Yeah, last year on Mar'e's birthday." Elicia said, sounding uncharacteristically dark. "A bunch of rogue shinobi decided that they wanted to get rid of us because we were getting in their way."

"Isn't that, like, the story of our life?" Marin asked in a faux-dramatic tone. "I mean, that's why Phantom Lord attacked, why Grimoire heart attacked, why the homunculi attacked, why the ninjas attacked, and why the demons attacked. Yeah, we go through this, like, once every other year, don't we?"

"Huh? Homunculi?" Yoruichi asked, sounding even more confused and taken aback than before. "What are those? You're not talking about the artificial humans that Alchemists have been trying to make since forever, right?"

"Indeed." Erza replied with a solemn nod. "In fact, we did not manage to deal with all of them. There should still be one somewhere in the world."

Earth Land, Ishgar, Enca, Roanapur.

On the island nation of Roanapur, with its strange magical phenomenon and isolationist policy that prohibited contact with the Magic Council, there is a rather large city known as Roanapur. In this city, there are a large number of Dark Guilds and dark wizards. Most of these people are into some of the most heinous criminal acts seen on the continent.

However, there are several Dark Guilds with the most say in Roanapur. And one of them I know as Hotel Moscow. Though, this was only a single branch of a much larger guild in charge of human trafficking and drug trade. And the leader of this branch was Balalaika, a blonde-haired, blue-eyed woman with hair done in a ponytail that reaches the base of her spine, fair skin, a slender frame, and a mole under her left eye.

However, thanks to being injured by a [Fire Magic] user in the past, a large part of Balalaika's body, the right side of her face, neck, torso, and upper legs, was covered in burn scars.

Though, at this point, calling Balalaika the leader of Hotel Moscow's Enca branch would be a stretch. Because, although it was not known to the other higher ups of the Dark guild, she had silently been replaced by a man with enormous strength, the strange ability to change his body's carbon content, and seeming immortality.

Naturally, this man was Greed, the homunculus who was created when a Philosopher's Stone was introduced into Orga's blood stream, the only homunculus to survive the purge in Crocus. And the reason for that was simple, when Father sent him out to find intel on the one who killed Lust, he slipped away and decided that he was not going down with that sinking ship.

Instead, he traveled the world, hoping to find a place where news of his survival would not get back to the Magic Council, and eventually Fairy Tail. He eventually ended up in Roanapur. However, as expected of someone named Greed, he could not just live a simple life. Instead, he wanted power, status, money, women, and all the best things life had to offer. So, with his unique assets as a homunculus, he took over Hotel Moscow from Balalaika. Though, he had little to do with its day-to-day operations. Deciding to leave that part of the job to Balalaika.

Instead, he only acted as the last line of defense. Though, that was not to say that he cared about the members of Hotel Moscow. Rather, he only cared about not losing what he deemed as his.

"\*Sneeze\*" Orga, lounging in a luxurious chair in the Hotel Moscow guild master's office, suddenly sneezed while a beautiful woman was feeding him a piece of fruit.

"Oh, I didn't know a monster like you could catch a cold." Balalaika, wearing a wine-red skirt suit and black stockings while sitting at the desk in the room, said sarcastically while reviewing documents.

"Nah." Greed replied casually before opening his mouth wide. A moment later, the woman who was feeding him placed a piece of fruit in his mouth and he started chewing. Then, once he swallowed, he continued while grinning confidently. "I can't get sick like you humans. There must be someone talking about me."

In response, Balalaika only rolled her eyes without dignifying Greed's reply with a response.

"I hate my job." Balalaika muttered as she got back to reading the document in her hands. "Is it too late to find the guy who burned me and ask him to finish the job."

Earth Land, Ishgar, Kingdom of Fiore, Magnolia.

"Oh, I remember him." Elicia said in reply to Erza's statement. "He was the one that was created from Orga. King Bradley did it right before the execution was about to start."

"Seriously?" Yoruichi asked in a dumbfounded tone. "No, what! That's not important right now."

Hearing that, the other ladies, most of which were not wearing particularly friendly expressions, turned to look at Yoruichi, wondering what she thought was so important.

"Then what would you call important?" Saeko asked curiously.

"Why isn't Mira just finishing her off?" Yoruichi asked, while pointing a finger at Mirajane, who was beating Seilah like she stole something. "I mean, the longer you let her live, the bigger the chance that something might go wrong, right?"

"In most cases, that would be true." Sun replied. "But Mira wants to use her magic on her, ya see?"

"Huh?" Yoruichi intoned.

Though Yoruichi was not dumb like many of the members of Fairy Tail, she had little experience with [Take Over Magic]. So, she knew very little about the procedure to gain a new [Take Over] form.

"For a [Take Over] wizard to subdue their target, they must be weakened thoroughly." A familiar voice said from the edge of the group of women on the artificial island. "After that, they must initiate the [Take Over]. Then, they have to win a battle of will with their target after absorbing them into their magic. And although this demon is not particularly powerful by any of our standards, she is still quite strong. So, Mirajane must injure her enough that the [Take Over] may be initiated without killing her. Though, I would imagine that the satisfaction of making her pay for attacking the place where her children are is making that process take longer than necessary."

Hearing that familiar voice, all the ladies present on the Mansion on the Lake's lawn turned in its direction. When they did, they saw Retsu walking towards them with leisurely, yet graceful steps. Though, the scent of blood wafting about her was unmistakable.

"Master Unohana, I take it you took care of the situation at the guild hall?" Yoruichi inquired curiously.  
"So, how was the battle?"

"Disappointing." Retsu replied while shaking her head. "From the way he boasted about his strength, I thought he would be more of a challenge. So, I unleashed my [Bankai]. However, he would have barely even been more than a nuisance had I not done so."

"\*Whistle\* I knew you were strong, Master Unohana, but it sounds like you're even stronger than Gramps." Cana said with a smile. "Maybe even on par with my dad. So, why aren't you a member of the Ten Wizard Saints?"

"Simply because I am not originally from Ishgar." Retsu replied calmly. "Had thee Magic Council appointed me as a member of the Wizard Saints, it would have made the wizards of Ishgar look weak."

"That makes sense." Cana replied before taking a swig from her bottle.

"So, Master Unohana, to what do we owe the pleasure of your visit?" Erza asked, her eyes sparkling while she stared unwaveringly at Retsu's sword, Minazuki.

"Nothing of great importance." Retsu replied. "I've only come to have Alfonzo do a tune-up on my motorcycle. Nothing more."

As she finished speaking, Retsu gripped Mizuki's hilt with her left hand while the light in her eyes changed from serene to something rather bloodthirsty.

"And should time permit, to possibly have a sparring match with him, as well." Retsu added, her gentle tone replaced with a much sharper edge.

"Hey, Sun." Marin whispered into Sun's ear after hearing Retsu's tone.

"Yeah?" Sun replied in a whisper of her own.

"It might be just me... But why does it sound like this spar she's talking about will be much more dangerous than a simple spar?" Marin asked apprehensively.

"Does it?" Sun asked innocently. "But I don't think Master Unohana would do anything to hurt Alfonzo, though."

Hearing that, Marin looked at Sun with Exasperation. A moment later, it was clear to see that she had given up on explaining the situation. She then patted Sun on the shoulder and dropped the topic while Sun tilted her head innocently.

Meanwhile, Retsu flicked a glance in Marin's direction as her smile returned to normal.

"Well, Fonzie is out on a quest in Hargeon with Lucy and Brandish." Elicia said. "I doubt he'll be back tonight."

"That's a pity." Retsu replied. "Then, it looks like I should head back into town and book a room for the evening."

"You're more than welcome to stay here for the night." Elicia offered. "With all the space expansion stuff Fonzie did to the house, we have plenty of rooms."

"I wouldn't want to impose." Retsu said politely.

"Not at all." Elicia answered quickly. She then shot a glance at Erza, who was still staring at Retsu as if she was struggling to hold back her urge to draw one of her many swords and challenge Retsu to a sparring match, before continuing. "Besides it looks like Erza would like it if you stayed, as well."

"Indeed." Erza replied with a nod. "Your experience with a sword is a fount of knowledge. I would love the opportunity to learn from you. And should time permit, even cross blades in a friendly exchange."

Retsu could not help but smile when she heard that. She then took a moment to consider before shooting a glance at Yoruichi.

"Don't worry about me, master Unohana." Yoruichi, having noticed Retsu's glance, said quickly. "I don't mind booking a hotel room until you're ready to leave."

"If you're certain." Retsu replied. She then turned back to Elicia. "Well then, I will accept your kind offer."

"Yoruichi doesn't have to leave, either." Mirajane, now dragging a half-dead Seilah behind her, said as she returned to the group.

"I really thought you had forgotten your purpose." Ultear, who had been watching Mirajane the whole time, just in case she actually made a move to kill Seilah, said. "I really thought I was gonna have to step in. We all know how you get when someone threatens Bianca's safety."

"I was in full control." Mirajane said casually. "I just needed to vent."

"So, why haven't you used your magic yet?" Cana asked curiously.

"Oh, because Lici said she wanted to hit her once, too." Mirajane replied. "I bet even Shizuka, who wouldn't normally hurt a fly would have wanted to hit her, too. But she's still at the guild hall. So, she's just gonna miss out."

"Yup!" Elicia said energetically. Though, her eyes were rather dark. She then skipped towards Mirajane and Seilah. "So, let's just get that out of the way."

\*Bang!\*

And before she even finished speaking, Elicia had already balled her fist, cocked it back, and thrown it forward. Then, just as her words ended, the loud sound of fist meeting face echoed around the area and Seilah, who was still barely conscious, was knocked out, her head slumping to the side as her eyes rolled back into her skull.

"Ah~~~! Now I feel better." Elicia said happily. "Okay, Mira, suck her up and let's go in for a snack. Grayfia and maria should be done by now."

"Poor choice of words." Cana said with a giggle. "I really wish Fonzie had been here to hear that. He would have had a field day."

In response, most of the ladies present rolled their eyes while Yoruichi laughed loudly. Meanwhile, Mirajane cast her [Take Over Magic] and integrated Seilah into her arsenal of [Satan Souls]. Then the group of ladies headed inside to have snacks before a few serious conversations took place between Yoruichi and Alfonzo's wives and lovers.

Chapter 798: After-Mission Relaxation (R-18)

"Ugh! Why does this kind of thing always happen to me?" Lucy asked as she, Alfonzo, and Brandish stepped into the bedroom of a hotel suite the trio booked just in case the quest to serve Princess Hisui and her friends lasted too long. "Why does Virgo have to always show up on her own whenever Darkness is nearby?"

After dealing with the Darkness and Virgo situation in the private room at 8-Island, Princess Hisui's dinner continued peacefully. Though, it was clear to see that Lucy was mentally exhausted thanks to Virgo's sudden appearance, which caused the most psychological damage. Darkness' outburst about being a human shield coming in a close second.

Then, after the meal was complete and Yajima signed off on the completed quest, the trio headed to the hotel they booked to get some rest before they would head back to magnolia in the morning.

"Are you mad that your Celestial Spirit wants to spend time with her friend?" Brandish asked in her usual bored tone. "You're heartless. I really thought better of you, Lucy."

"Don't give me that." Lucy shot back, though the heat in her tone was noticeably cooler than usual. "Just once, I want a quest to go easy. But ever since I joined the guild, something has gone wrong on almost every quest I've taken. \*Sigh\* But at least I'm gonna get the full quest reward this time."

"Hey." Alfonzo said with a smile. "That first quest you took with me and Lici didn't have any issues, remember? IN fact, you even got more than you bargained for out of it. That's where you got Virgo's Key, after all."

Lucy looked rather conflicted after hearing that. On one hand, Alfonzo was right. She got Virgo's Key, and Virgo has been a great addition. But on the other hand, Virgo has been the reason for some of her frustrations on quests, as well. Thus, the complicated feeling.

"You know what?" Lucy asked rhetorically. "I'm too tired to think about it. I just wanna lay down and relax."

"Maybe I can help you with that." Alfonzo said with a smile as he raised his hands and started wiggling his fingers. "Although I'm not the best when it comes to giving massages, a little electro-therapy might do you some good."

"Are you seriously telling me that you think shocking me with electricity will help me relax?" Lucy asked, a skeptical edge creeping into her tone.

"If you don't want it, I'll take it." Brandish cut in bluntly. "I had to fight on top of serving those nobles all evening. So, a massage, no matter what, would be great."

To emphasize her point, Brandish started stripping out of her overcoat, the 8-Island uniform having been left behind at the restaurant. Seeing that, Lucy was a bit flustered.

"Hold on!" Lucy exclaimed in a fluster. "I never said I didn't want the massage. I just haven't heard of using electricity to help someone relax before. But if Alfonzo says it will help, I trust him."

With that, Lucy quickly tugged at her skirt, shimmying her hips to slide it down. She then reached for the hem of her sleeveless shirt and pulled it up and over her head, leaving herself in a set of light blue lingerie with white accents, her heels having already been kicked off.

Then, once she was undressed, Lucy rushed to dive into bed, her body bouncing with the mattress.

"Nice Jiggle." Alfonzo said as he followed Lucy to the bed. He then reached down and cupped her right butt cheek. "I approve."

Lucy only rolled her eyes before laying her head on her crossed arms.

"Less talking, more massaging." Lucy said playfully. "Hurry, put those hands to use in the right way. I'm not here just to get groped."

"Just to get groped..." Brandish muttered just loud enough for Alfonzo and Lucy to hear. "So, that's part of it, huh?"

"Sh-shut up, Brandish!" Lucy squealed in a slightly embarrassed tone. "Go do something else, already. Why don't you read one of your smutty novels and leave us alone?"

Brandish only shrugged her shoulders with a mischievous grin on her face in response. She then started rummaging through her luggage before pulling out one of the "smutty novels" Lucy was talking about. Then, at a leisurely pace, she walked over to the bed and took a seat with her back against the headboard and started reading.

Meanwhile, Lucy, who was lying in the center of the bed, only shot a withering gaze at her friend before rolling her eyes and waiting for Alfonzo to get started on the massage.

\*Snap!\*

"Hey, what are you doing?" Lucy asked after she felt her bra strap being undone.

"Getting this out of the way so I can give you a proper massage." Alfonzo replied in the most innocent tone he could muster.

Then, before Lucy could reply, Alfonzo's hands lit up with arcs of low-intensity electricity before he placed them on her back.

"Ah!" Lucy gasped, a strange expression of comfort washing over her face as she did so.

====R-18====

Contrary to what Lucy was expecting after Alfonzo offered to give her a massage, Alfonzo did not get frisky. Instead, he massaged her back, shoulders, and legs quite diligently. However, after about twenty minutes, the other person in the room, Brandish, got a little excited after hearing Lucy's pleasure-filled moans for so long.

So, while Lucy lay there with her eyes closed and a blissed out expression on her face, Brandish climbed off the bed, careful not to make the mattress shake too much as to not alert Lucy. She then carefully walked around to the side where Alfonzo was kneeling as he performed the massage.

Seeing Brandish's movements, Alfonzo raised an eyebrow, curious to know what the green-haired beauty was up to. Even so, he did not stop his hands, intending to finish massaging Lucy's back as he promised.

And when Brandish finally climbed onto the bed again, she leaned against Alfonzo's back, her weight not even causing him to flinch. She then reached around and undid Alfonzo's pants before pulling them, and his boxers, down to the middle of his thighs

Immediately afterwards, Alfonzo's dick, which had grown erect from touching Lucy's body for so long, popped up and Brandish grabbed it immediately. She then started stroking it with her right hand while she played with his balls in her left.

"Seriously?" Alfonzo asked with his gaze as he looked at Brandish from over his shoulder.

The only response Alfonzo received was a smile.

Time passed quickly after that. During that time, Brandish continued to stroke Alfonzo's dick while he neared the end of Lucy's massage. Meanwhile, Lucy, having felt the wonders of such light electrical stimulation, was so relaxed that she could barely move. On top of that, Alfonzo was reaching his limit, his dick twitching continuously in Brandish's hands.

"Oh... shit..." Alfonzo groaned as his body jerked, and his hands stopped moving.

In the next instant, Alfonzo finally climaxed, shooting several ropes of cum over Lucy's ass.

"Ahh! What was that?" Lucy, though she was unable to move freely, yelped when she felt the warm cum land on her ass and lower back. A moment later, she noticed that Brandish was no longer sitting at the head of the bed. She then struggled to turn her head towards Alfonzo, and when she saw Brandish's head poking out over Alfonzo's shoulder and the pair of arms reaching around from Alfonzo, she continued in an exasperated tone. "Seriously, Brandish?"

"It's not like you're the only one who needs to relax, Lucy. Don't be so selfish. Both Alfonzo and I had to fight tonight. And I'm just helping him relax. I'm sure he'll help me later, too."

"\*Sigh\* I knew this would happen." Lucy replied in a resigned tone.

"Anyway, you should move on to the front, Alfonzo." Brandish said as she used her fingertips to wipe up the drops of cum dripping from the tip of Alfonzo's dick. "But before that..."

Reaching that point, Brandish unwrapped her arms from around Alfonzo. She then brought her fingers to her lips and licked the remaining cum off of them. Then, she circled around Alfonzo, who had removed his hands from Lucy's back and started to scoop up the cum from her back, gathering as much as she could on her fingers.

"Okay... Go ahead." Brandish said as she stretched the cum into strings between her fingers.

Shaking his head at the back and forth between Lucy and Brandish, Alfonzo reached down to turn Lucy over, knowing that she was incapable of turning over on her own thanks to his magical massage. However, before he could lay Lucy down on her back, Brandish stopped him.

"No, you lay down, too." Brandish said while smiling seductively. "Lay her on top of you and do the massage like that. Trust me, you'll like it."

Shrugging his shoulders, Alfonzo followed Brandish's instructions. Although he had no idea what she was up to, he was curious. In fact, so was Lucy. So, she did not protest either. Instead, she just waited to see what Brandish was up to.

A moment later, Alfonzo was laying on his back with Lucy lying face-up on his chest with her bra removed completely. Then, with electricity arcing weakly on his hands, he started massaging the front of Lucy's body.

Meanwhile, Brandish licked all the cum off her fingers and hands. She then crawled over to Lucy, and with the cum still in her mouth, she gave her a deep kiss, causing Lucy's eyes to widen in surprise. However, when Brandish pushed her tongue, coated in cum into Lucy's mouth, it did not take long until Lucy melted into the kiss while enjoying the feeling of Alfonzo's hands running all over her breasts, abdomen, and collar bones.

Eventually, Brandish ended the kiss, leaving Lucy with a dazed expression on her face. And when she saw the look on Lucy's face, Brandish licked her lips before moving her gaze to Alfonzo. She then licked her lips once more and moved back, positioning herself between his legs.

"Now, let me help you relax a little more." Brandish said as she pulled Alfonzo's pants and boxers down and slipped them off his legs. "Just make sure to return the favor, okay?"

While continuing to stimulate Lucy with his hands and electricity, Alfonzo only nodded his head while looking down at Brandish over Lucy's shoulder. And when he saw Brandish take hold of his dick once again and open her mouth wide, he could not help but inhale a breath of air.

'This will be the first time Brandish has given me head since we got together.' Alfonzo mused. 'I wonder if all those books she likes to read with Erza and Marin gave her any good ideas.'

Meanwhile, Brandish slowly lowered her head towards Alfonzo's dick. She then stuck out her tongue and teased the tip while continuing to lower herself, her tongue and the head of Alfonzo's dick disappearing into her mouth as she did so.

"Fuck..." Alfonzo groaned as the feeling of Brandish's tongue, lips, and mouth engulfed his dick.

Once Brandish took half of Alfonzo's dick into her mouth, she removed her hand. Then, she started bobbing her head up and down, slowly deepthroating him over and over as saliva slipped out of her mouth and coated the rest of his dick. At the same time, she stripped out of her black and gold bikini, ending up nude as she pulled herself off of Alfonzo's dick, now dripping with her saliva.

"Okay, it's nice and wet." Brandish muttered as she looked down at Alfonzo's dick. "Now, let's all relax together."

After saying that, Brandish reached towards Lucy's legs. She then raised them and put them together before grabbing the sides of her panties and pulling them up her legs before tossing them to the side once they had been removed.

Next, Brandish pulled Lucy's body down Alfonzo's while leaning Alfonzo's dick on her pussy. After that, Brandish spread Lucy's legs while squatting over her crotch and Alfonzo's dick.

In that position, Brandish lowered her own pussy on to Alfonzo's dick, sandwiching it between herself and Lucy. Then, she started grinding against it,

"Ahh!" Alfonzo groaned in pleasure as the feeling of two warm, wet pussies rubbing against his dick overwhelmed his senses.

"Mmm~~~~!" Lucy's moan rang out at almost the same time.

Meanwhile, Brandish leaned forward, laying on top of Lucy, their breasts and hard nipples pressing against each other as their bodies writhed in pleasure.

"God fucking damn it." Alfonzo said in a wispy tone. "Just what kind of shit do you read to come up with shit like this?"

Brandish only smiled in response as she picked up the pace, rubbing her pussy more vigorously against Alfonzo's dick, which caused it to rub just as vigorously against Lucy's pussy.

"Oh~ my~ God~~~~~!" Lucy shouted as she quickly reached her limit. "I'm cumming! I'm cumming! I'm cumming! Ahh~~~~~!"

\*Spurt!\* \*Splash!\*

As always, when Lucy came, she squirted all over the place, soaking Alfonzo's dick and Brandish's crotch. At the same time, her back arched, her eyes widened, and her legs stiffened while her arms flew up and wrapped around Brandish, holding her tightly.

Meanwhile, as Lucy convulsed from her orgasm, it did not take too long for Alfonzo to reach his second orgasm of the night, either. As a result, he shot his load, splashing between Lucy's and Brandish's abdomens, most of which ended up on Lucy, as she was laying beneath Brandish.

Meanwhile, as Lucy continued to convulse and Alfonzo was enjoying his moment of post-nut clarity, Brandish calmly sat up, Alfonzo's dick still pressed against her pussy lips and clit. She then, with deliberate calmness, wiped off the cum on her stomach with her fingers, licked them clean, then used the same hand to take hold of Alfonzo's dick, which had started to soften slightly after cumming.

Brandish then began stroking it with a firm, yet gentle, grip. And before long, it was hard once again and pulled Alfonzo out of his moment of bliss. She then, with the same deliberate calmness, though, that calmness was only skin-deep, raised her hips and lined the tip of Alfonzo's dick up with her dripping wet pussy.

"Ahn~~~~~!"

Then, in one swift motion, she lowered herself, taking Alfonzo to the base, letting out a moan filled with pleasure as she threw her head back in ecstasy. Yet, she did not stop to enjoy the pleasure. Instead, she raised her hips once again and slammed them down as hard and fast as she could... Over and over again.

\*Clap!\* \*Clap!\* \*Clap!\* \*Clap!\* \*Clap!\*

The sound of flesh clapping echoed around the room. Meanwhile, Alfonzo, having just regained his senses after his last orgasm, found himself gripping Lucy's breasts and pinching her nipples subconsciously, eliciting tender moans from the blonde laying on his chest.

Then, while watching Brandish bounce up and down on his dick, her breasts bouncing with the same rhythm, he slid his right hand down Lucy's body, ignoring the cum that was still splattered on her stomach before he found the leaking wet crevasse between her legs.

"Oh, God~~~~~!" Lucy screamed as Alfonzo plunged his middle and ring fingers into her pussy and started pumping them in and out at the same rate as Brandish's bouncing. "I'm cumming again!"

"Ahn~~~~~!" Brandish moaned loudly shortly afterwards as she, too, reached an orgasm and began shuddering on top of Alfonzo.

After that, before Brandish could recover, Alfonzo pulled his fingers out of Lucy and released her breast. Then, he reached down and held Brandish by her waist before pulling her off of him with ease and laying her next to him on the bed as she shuddered from her orgasm.

Then, Alfonzo wrapped his arms around Lucy, who was just recovering from her orgasm and rolled them over so that Lucy was lying face down on the bed while Alfonzo propped himself up behind her.

"Huh?" Lucy, in a moment of clarity, exclaimed in confusion. At the same time, she felt her hips being raised slightly as her legs were spread. "Ahn~~~!"

And just as Lucy understood the situation she was in, she felt Alfonzo's dick, still wet with Brandish's love juices, part her pussy lips and drive deep into her.

"Oh~~~~~! My God~~~~~!" Lucy screamed as Alfonzo, having been passive since this little exercise began, started pounding her from behind like a beast in heat. "Yes~~~~~! Harder! Ahn~~~~~! Harder!"

After that, four hours passed. In that time, Alfonzo, Lucy, and Brandish all ended up thoroughly satisfied. Unfortunately, because Alfonzo was too preoccupied with the massage and Brandish's sneak attack, he completely forgot about putting up a sound proof barrier. As a result, while Alfonzo, Lucy, and Brandish slept very well after they were finished, the other guests at the hotel were not so lucky. And that was made quite apparent when all the guests who were still at the hotel in the early afternoon when the trio decided it was time to go home, shot some of the most venomous and envious glares the three had ever received.

The staff who was responsible for cleaning up the room were also quite pissed off when they opened the room to see the state of the room. Because of how much Lucy squirted during her orgasms, there were wet patches all over the bed, floor, and furniture. Plus, the room smelled like a three day long orgy.

However, when they saw the stack of Jewels Alfonzo left on the nightstand as a tip, their complaints completely disappeared, and they cleaned the room with fervor. Then, once they were done, they walked up to the hotel manager and submitted their resignation before running to another town, buying some land, and starting a business as a Sixth Sense Holdings franchise store.

#### Chapter 799: Retsu's Expected Reaction

"It's like she doesn't get tired." Cana said before taking a sip of water, to everyone's surprise, as she was not drinking alcohol at the moment.

Currently, all of the women living in the Mansion on the Lake, Yoruichi, and Retsu were in the training room on the lowest basement floor. While most of them were only watching, Yoruichi and Mirajane were flashing around at high-speed exchanging blows.

"Seriously." Marin said while shaking her head. "First, she fought Ultear. And that lasted for nearly an hour. And now, she's been fighting Mira for almost as long. How is she not out of magic power by now? Doesn't that [Shunko] spell use up a lot of magic power?"

"I kinda wanna fight her now." Sun said with her hand resting on her soul Armament, Kanade's hilt. "I'm not sure if I would be able to keep up, but the challenge would be great, ya see?"

"As would I." Saeko added. "I would like to see if her speed, or my speed when using the Flying Heaven's Sword-Style] is faster."

Hearing that, Retsu turned to look at Saeko with an interested gaze. And the reason for that was simple to anyone who knew about Retsu's past. Before she joined the Court Guard Squads of the Soul Continent's capital city, Seireitei, Retsu was one of its most heinous criminals. On top of that, she was

arguably its greatest sword wielder, said to have learned and mastered all eight thousand swords styles used on the continent.

However, after hearing the mention of Saeko's sword-style, the [Flying Heaven's Sword-Style], Retsu found herself rather interested in seeing just what it was capable of. She was even tempted to challenge Saeko to a spar. A moment later, however, she refrained from doing so, afraid that her other, more bloodthirsty, personality might rear its head if she got too excited.

"Actually, I'm more surprised that she lost to Ultear and got right back to fighting." Elicia said. "I mean, if any of us fought like that, losing would make us at least take a break for an hour or so, right?"

"Well, that's because no one else would challenge us right after we lost." Rika pointed out.

"Plus, none of you would be able to last that long against Lici." Shizuka said absent-mindedly. "And if you fought each other, you'd both be too injured to keep going. Instead, I'd be healing you."

All of Alfonzo's lovers, other than Elicia, felt a stab to the heart when they heard Shizuka's innocent statement. Elicia, on the other hand, puffed out her chest with a bit of pride. As for Irene, she never spars with the others, so she did not care all that much.

"Either way, she's more tenacious than I expected." Irene said casually. "Maybe she's really not as bad as you girls say."

"Stop playing devil's advocate, Irene." Ultear said, still sounding a bit exhausted after her fight with Yoruichi. "We've all realized that over the years, with Cana being the last to do so. Still, we need to be able to hit her at least once before we can seriously put away the grudge."

"If it were me, I would have just killed her back then and got it over with." Irene replied with a shrug.  
"But I guess that's just me."

"If it were up to Cana, she would have done the same." Elicia said. "But back then, she wasn't strong enough. Even Erza lost to her back then."

"Indeed." Erza added. "Had it not been for Alfonzo, I would have ended up seriously injured at the end of that battle."

\*Bang!\*

Before anyone could comment any further, they all saw Yoruichi get sent flying and smash into the barrier surrounding the fighting area in the training ground. Meanwhile, Mirajane stood on the opposite end of the area with her right fist extended and covered in [Darkness magic] while the flames that engulfed her legs in her [Satan Soul: Sitri Take Over] were red with black tint and she wore a tiara on her head.

"Well, it looks like Mira won." Cana muttered with a shrug. "Does that mean that both Tear and Mira are stronger than Laxus now? I mean, he did lose to her in that one Grand Magic Game, right?"

"Not necessarily." Retsu replied in a serene tone. "Had she fought Laxus alone back then, Yoruichi would have lost, as well. But with Sui-Feng's help, she was able to claim the victory."

The other onlookers nodded in understanding after hearing Retsu's analysis.

"Okay... \*Pant\* \*Pant\* Who's next?" Yoruichi, after struggling to her feet, asked as she turned to look towards the spectators. "I know there are more of you that wanna beat me up, right? Well, come on."

Hearing that, the group of spectators fell silent while exchanging glances. Eventually, all the eyes fell on Cana, who finally made this whole situation possible by putting her own anger aside.

"Why me?" Cana asked.

"Because you're the one who had the biggest character development in this arc." Elicia said with a giggle. "So, let's keep the momentum going. I mean, you're not even drinking right now."

"Um... Actually..." Sun said while scratching her head. "That's only because she's out of booze. I saw her trying to sneak into--- Mmph!"

"Okay, that's enough, Sun." Cana said in a nervous tone while clamping a hand over Sun's mouth while her eyes swam around avoiding eye contact with the others.

Unfortunately, because she was not looking at anyone in particular, Cana missed the fact that no one was actually looking at her. Instead, they were all looking behind her, towards the entrance to the training room, where three people had just entered.

"What were you trying to break into this morning, Cana?" A male voice asked in a serious tone, though there was a playful undertone to it.

Immediately, Cana's entire body froze, allowing Sun to slip away from her grasp. A moment later, Cana slowly, very slowly, turned around. When she did, she saw Alfonzo standing there with his arms wrapped around Lucy's and Brandish's waists.

"Oh... Hey, Fonzie." Cana said, a bead of cold sweat dripping down her forehead. "Welcome home. How was the quest? Actually, I didn't expect you to be back already. I thought you would have stopped at the guild hall to report to the Master first."

"Oh, the quest was fine." Alfonzo said with a bright smile. "Fought and killed some demons, captured another, cooked for a princess and her noble friends... You know, the usual."

"They attacked you, too, huh?" Marin asked, though based on her tone, it was clear that she expected as much.

"Yeah, four of them appeared out of nowhere." Alfonzo replied with a shrug.

"Oh, there were five of them here." Irene said with a smile. "But the guild only had to fight four of them. That brute who fakes being gentle and caring took care of the last one."

"Pardon me?" Retsu asked, her gentle smile still on her face. Though, the pressure she was exuding was enough to make it hard for most of the people in the room to breathe.

"Oh my, did I say that out loud?" Irene asked while covering her mouth in faux-embarrassment. "My apologies. That was terribly rude of me."

"I see." Retsu replied, still maintaining her smile. "Well, it's fine, I suppose. Understandable, even. Someone who was little more than a beast for so long wouldn't have much in the way of etiquette or class, would they?"

"\*Sigh\* Every time they exchange words, I feel like we're gonna end up homeless until Fonzie builds a new house." Elicia said while shaking her head at the two older women in the room. She then turned to Alfonzo and narrowed her eyes playfully. "By the way, looks like the three of you had some fun last night."

Hearing that, both Lucy and Brandish showed hints of embarrassment. At the same time, the rest of the ladies turned their attentions towards them. And when they did, they realized that both women's legs were shaking. On top of that, Alfonzo was holding them tighter than necessary, making it clear that he was helping them walk rather than just holding them close.

"Hmm? Did the two of you get mouthy last night and challenge him, or something?" Ultear asked with a grin.

"Not everyone is like you, Tear." Cana said while rolling her eyes. "If they wanted it that way, they would just ask for it."

"Shut up, Cana." Ultear said in an exasperated tone. "I stopped that already."

In response, Cana laughed at Ultear. Though, it was clear that not all her attention was focused on the conversation. Instead, she kept stealing glances at Alfonzo. And with the nervous glint in her eyes, it was also clear that she was hoping that he would forget about what Sun was saying before he entered the room.

"Anyway, looks like we've got guests." Alfonzo said after noticing that Retsu and Yoruichi were both in the training room, as well. "So, to what do we owe the pleasure?"

Though he asked the question, Alfonzo had an idea why Yoruichi was here. As for Retsu's reason, he actually had no idea.

"Oh, I just came with Master Unohana." Yoruichi replied with a shrug while she sat against a wall as Shizuka healed her. "But since I was here, I took the chance to talk to the girls about... Well... You know."

As Yoruichi said, after the fighting finished the night before and she was allowed to stay at the mansion, she spent most of the night talking to the women who were present for her incident with Alfonzo and Elicia. And to her surprise, most of them were willing to forgive her. Though, they were not willing to do so without being allowed to hit her at least once.

Luckily, she only had to endure punches from two of them, Marin, who wanted to hit her again, and Sun, who after hitting her, pulled her into a hug and told her how bad she felt that things could not have been resolved sooner.

As for the others, Elicia had already let go of all the negative feelings she held from that incident. Especially because she had been an accomplice. Then, there was Cana, who had been the most bothered by the incident. But after defeating Yoruichi in the Grand Magic Games last month, she had let her grudge go. Erza let her grudge go years ago after fighting Yoruichi in the training grounds of the old mansion, as well.

That only left Ultear and Mirajane who had yet to vent their emotions on the event from six years ago. And in classic Fairy Tail fashion, they both challenged Yoruichi to a fight. However, because of the Fairy Tail culture, they wanted to have their fights on different days. But Yoruichi, looking at it as some kind of punishment for her mistakes, decided that both fights would be held back to back, rather she won or lost the first one.

"I see. Then, I guess that means you're gonna want to talk to Lucy, too." Alfonzo replied with a nod of understanding. "Well, I don't know how long the two of you plan to stay, but you should probably give her some time to rest. We might have overdone it a little last night."

"Oh, my God, Alfonzo." Lucy squealed in embarrassment. "You don't have to say all that."

"I know." Alfonzo replied with a roguish smile on his face. "But you're really cute when you're embarrassed."

"I hate you sometimes." Lucy grumbled as she hugged Alfonzo and hid her face in his chest.

Seeing that, Alfonzo could not help but laugh. He then turned towards Retsu. However, before he could ask her what brought her to his home, he recoiled in surprise.

'What the hell?' Alfonzo asked himself dumbfoundedly. 'I didn't even notice the way she was looking at me like she wanted to cut me into a million pieces until I actually looked at her. And how the hell is there so much bloodlust leaking from that crazy woman, yet I don't feel any killing intent or sense of danger coming from her?'

["Do you really need someone else to answer that question?"] Bedlam asked with a smirk from Alfonzo's inner world. ["I thought it was obvious. She wants to fight you to the death. But she doesn't really care about killing you. Just so long as one of you dies."]

'Yeah, I kinda figured that.' Alfonzo muttered internally. 'Still, I didn't even notice any of that roiling bloodlust until I looked in her direction.'

["Stop being a pussy!"] Riot growled. ["It's obvious that you don't feel any danger because she's not strong enough to hurt you anymore. Especially if you completely release us."]

'I guess that's true.' Alfonzo thought. 'I guess she figured out that I reached that level during the GMG. But just coming to fight me isn't really her style. So, I guess I should ask what her surface reason for coming here was.'

"And Master Unohana, what brought you here this time?" Alfonzo asked.

It should be noted that Alfonzo was not the only one who noticed Retsu's strange behavior... Or rather, the bloodthirsty aura surrounding her. However, because most of them were aware of the reason Retsu came to visit, they did not really pay any attention to her, thinking it was just one of her quirks, as most powerful wizards have a loose screw or two.

Meanwhile, Retsu, after seeing the way Alfonzo recoiled in surprise, finally realized that she was letting her bloodlust leak. She then tried her best to reel it in. Though, thanks to her excitement at the prospect of having a good fight to the death, she did so very poorly.

"Oh, please excuse me." Retsu said as she raised her hand to cover the somewhat deranged smile on her face. "I was just so excited to see you. Now that you're back, I can finally get that maintenance on my motorcycle taken care of. And perhaps, if time permits, we could have a spar, as well."

'Why does it feel like she's actually more interested in the spar than the maintenance?' Cana, Ultear, Erza, Mirajane, Marin, Sun, Lucy, Saeko, Shizuka, Rika, Brandish, and Yoruichi thought to themselves at the same time.

As for Alfonzo, Elicia, and Irene, they were expecting an answer like that. So, they all just rolled their eyes. Though, they were all at least a little impressed that Retsu came up with a legitimate reason to come visit other than just fighting to the death.

"No problem." Alfonzo replied with a shrug. "Alfonzo said nonchalantly. "I'll take a look at your boke tomorrow. For now, let me help these two get up to their rooms."

With that, Alfonzo nodded at the others in the training room. The, he turned around while guiding Lucy and Brandish to the door. However, before the trio left, he looked back over his shoulder with a playful smile on his face.

"But when I get back, I'm really curious to know just what Cana and Sun were talking about when I got here." Alfonzo continued while looking directly into Cana's eyes.

After that, Alfonzo left without giving Cana a chance to respond. Then, when he was finally gone, Cana turned towards Sun while pulling several [Magic Cards] from the pouch on her hip.

"Damn it, Sun." Cana growled. "Now I'm gonna get punished because of you."

Completely unintimidated by Cana, sun smiled excitedly as she once again gripped Kanade's hilt. She had already been wanting to fight with Yoruichi. But since she looked so tired, facing Cana would be just fine.

### Chapter 800: Terrifying Makarov

The morning after Alfonzo, Lucy, and Brandish returned from their quest in Hargeon, all the women living in the Mansion on the Lake, Alfonzo's wives and lovers, were gathered in the mansion's dining room to join Alfonzo, the children, and the guests, Retsu and Yoruichi, for breakfast served by the maids. For more chapters visit [N0v3l.Fire.net](http://N0v3l.Fire.net)

"Don't take this the wrong way, but wouldn't it have made more sense for you to wait until next week to come for vehicle maintenance?" Alfonzo asked while cutting a piece of the steak and cheese omelet on his plate. Then, with the piece of food speared on the end of his fork, he brought it to Bianca's mouth. "I mean, you're gonna be back for Amar'e's birthday party, right?"

"Of course, I will." Retsu replied after swallowing a piece of her own breakfast and wiping her mouth gracefully. "However, I have to take a trip to Era before then. And I wanted to make sure that there would be no issue on the trip."

"Huh?" Yoruichi, sitting next to Retsu, exclaimed in confusion. "I thought the trip to Era was next month-- Ow!"

Before Yoruichi could finish, she winced in pain when an elbow slammed into her ribs at a speed that she would have barely been able to perceive even while using [Shunko].

"Hey! What was that---" Yoruichi began to say, complaining about the sudden elbow to the ribs she just took.

However, before Yoruichi could finish her question, she made eye contact with Retsu, who was smiling in her usual, gentle, way. Yet, when Yoruichi looked into Retsu's eyes, her words came to a complete, and sudden, halt. Because the message she could read in Retsu's eyes terrified her.

"Oh, right... Ha... Ha... Ha..." Yoruichi said before she let out a hollow laugh. "I forgot, you told us that the Council meeting had been rescheduled. Sorry, I forgot. You know, I already memorized the schedule... So, I'm still getting used to the changes. Ha... Ha... Ha..."

Hearing that, the threat of intense, probably fatal, training in Retsu's eyes vanished and her aura settled down as she returned to her breakfast. Meanwhile, everyone else at the table, with the exception of the three children, rolled their eyes so hard that the maids thought they would pop out of their heads.

"So, when do you think you'll have time to get to my motorcycle, Alfonzo?" Retsu asked as if the little interlude with Yoruichi never happened.

"Well, I still have to report to Master Mavis on the quest we finished a couple of days ago." Alfonzo replied while shaking his head with a wry smile on his face. "After that, I should have time."

"I see." Retsu replied with a nod. "Well then, after that, would you mind going on a ride with me through the surroundings of Magnolia. No one else in Mermaid Heel has a motorcycle, you see. And I would like to ride with another person, for once."

{"I'll put the entire magic vehicle division of Sixth Sense Holdings on the fact that as soon as we're far enough away from the town, she'll challenge me to a duel to the death."} Alfonzo said, using the

telepathy afforded to him by [Archive Magic] to speak to everyone at the table other than Retsu and the children.

{"And who the hell would take that bet?"} Cana asked, once again rolling her eyes. {"I'm sure that even Sasuke's brother, Itachi, could see the glint of murderous intent in her eyes."}

As previously mentioned, Itachi Uchiha, Sasuke's elder brother, had, like Sasuke, evolved his Clan's special eyes, the Sharingan, into a higher form known as the Mangekyō Sharingan. However, this evolution came with a downside. And that was blindness after overuse. And unfortunately, by the time he fought Sasuke last year, he was nearly blind from his Mangekyō's overuse.

{"Yeah, none of us are dumb enough to take that bet."} Ultear added with a grin.

{"Besides, who has anything that could even compare to that?"} Yoruichi asked, a gaze filled with nervousness directed at Alfonzo. {"Even so, you should be careful. Master Unohana is one of the most powerful wizards from the Soul Continent."}

{"I figured."} Alfonzo replied. {"Ever since the first time Lici fought Sui-Feng, I felt it. And that battle intent and bloodthirst is something else. Even so, I get the feeling that if I decline, things will get even worse."}

All the ladies nodded in agreement with that statement. Meanwhile, Retsu continued to eat her breakfast elegantly. Though, the glint of amusement in her eyes after noticing the telepathic conversation that she was not a part of could not be hidden.

"Sure." Alfonzo said, finally replying to Retsu's question. "It's been a while since the last time I rode my bike. It should be fun."

Hearing that, Retsu's amused smile widened into one filled with genuine happiness, excitement, and a touch of madness. She then wiped her mouth with her napkin once again before nodding at Alfonzo.

After that, breakfast continued in a harmonious manner. Then, after it was finished, all the Fairy Tail wizards left the table and started getting ready for morning training at the guild. Meanwhile, Grayfia, Maria, and the other maids took the children to get cleaned up. As for Yoruichi and Retsu, they decided they would relax in the mansion and enjoy their time away from their responsibilities at the guild.

About an hour later, after a short walk, all the Fairy Tail wizards living at the Mansion on the Lake arrived at the guild hall. While the ladies headed up to their favorite training room to start their training, Alfonzo headed up to Mavis' office to report on the quest at Yajima's restaurant.

However, when the elevator opened, Alfonzo was surprised to see that Mavis was not alone. That's not to say that it was uncommon to see someone else in Mavis' office. Rather, the people who were with her were what surprised him.

The first of the people in the office other than Mavis was Irene, not all that surprising, as Irene spent most of her time with Mavis whenever she was at the guild hall. Rather, it was the second person in the office that surprised Alfonzo.

"Um... Did I come at a bad time?" Alfonzo asked while scratching his head awkwardly as he tried not to laugh.

"Stop standing there and smiling like an idiot, Brat!" Makarov, laying on the floor in front of the couch where Irene sat and sipped a glass of wine first thing in the morning, shouted, his face red from what Alfonzo hoped was embarrassment.

The fact that Makarov was lying in front of Irene was strange enough. Unfortunately, that was not the entire reason that made Alfonzo feel so awkward.

As previously mentioned, Makarov's face was red. On top of that, he was tied up in turtle bondage. Add to that the fact that Irene was using him as a footrest. Yet, instead of responding to Makarov immediately, Alfonzo turned to Irene with an eyebrow raised.

"Irene, I know you're really into being sadistic." Alfonzo said, his tone completely flat, though there was an amused undertone in his words. "But is there something you want to tell me? Are you keeping this shameless old pervert behind my back?"

"What!?" Makarov exclaimed indignantly. "Stop joking around, Brat! Get me away from this crazy woman! Urgh!"

"That was quite rude, Makarov." Irene said after jabbing one of her heels into Makarov's back. "Don't you know the right way to address a lady?"

"Of course, I do." Makarov shot back. "Just show me one and I'll speak to her properly."

Seeing the playful, yet sadistic, smile on Irene's face, Alfonzo decided he would not get involved in this conversation. Besides, if Makarov was tied up like that, there was a good chance he deserved it. At least,

that was what Alfonzo thought. So, instead of giving the scene any more of his attention, he walked towards Mavis' who was sitting behind her desk with an eyebrow twitching to give his report.

"So, you were also attacked by the demons of Tartaros." Mavis said after Alfonzo finished retelling the events from two nights ago. "Well, I guess I should have expected as much. There was no way they would leave the guild's strongest, publicly known, wizard to his own devices."

"Yeah, after finding out that Magnolia was attacked, too, I'm not that surprised that we were attacked in Hargeon." Alfonzo replied. "The real issue was the fact that the one we fought back at Org's and Crawford Seam's execution was there, too."

Hearing that, Mavis lowered her head to think. Even Makarov and Irene stopped their back and forth, both wearing serious expressions.

"Does that mean they have the ability to resurrect their fallen?" Makarov asked in a deep tone. "Just what kind of forbidden magic must they be using?"

"I don't think it's that simple, actually." Irene said as she took her feet off of Makarov. "I remember Zeref mentioning something off-handedly about this. But he never went into detail about it."

That sentence was enough to snap Mavis out of her thoughts. At the same time, Alfonzo and Makarov turned their attention towards Irene. Though, Makarov did look rather comical trying to change the direction he was looking while so thoroughly tied up on the floor.

"Apparently, whenever the Nine Demon Gates are defeated, their souls are pulled towards a magic device in their headquarters." Irene continued in a solemn tone. "From there, they wait until the device

rebuids a body for them. But I never really cared enough to get into the details. So, I can't give you any more information than that."

"That's more than enough." Mavis said while shaking her head gently. "Now, we know that until we can find their HQ, we haven't seen the last of them. And when we do find it, that device will be our first objective."

"As expected of the first Master." Makarov said with admiration in his eyes. A moment later, however, his gaze filled with admiration turned into one filled with annoyance as he looked at Irene and Alfonzo in an alternating manner. "But seriously, would one of you just untie me already?"

"Actually, finding their headquarters is pretty much a forgone conclusion at this point." Alfonzo said while grinning... and conveniently ignoring Makarov's request.

"What do you mean?" Mavis asked curiously.

"Well, Riot, while I took down that one called jackal for the second time, marked his soul." Alfonzo said, his grin widening into a smile. "Right now, I'm just waiting for Riot to let me know when his soul stops moving. And when it does, I'm gonna load up as many weapons as I can on the Blackbird and turn their HQ, and everything in it, into dust."

Makarov, Mavis, and Irene found themselves surprised when they heard that. Alfonzo never mentioned that the [Soul Armaments] had the ability to do something like that before. Even Irene, the only one of the three who had a [Soul Armament], never considered doing something like that with her [Soul Armament]. Then again, since she rarely fought in close quarters, and never faced anyone who could be revived repeatedly, there was no reason for her to consider doing something like that.

A moment later, Mavis' surprised expression changed into a pout as she glared at Alfonzo.

"Huh? What's wrong, Master Mavis?" Alfonzo asked in a confused tone.

"Didn't you say you were gonna make a [Soul Armament] for me, Alfonzo?" Mavis asked as she forced out a couple of tears. "Were you lying to me?"

Having lived with so many women, for so many years, Alfonzo could recognize Mavis' crocodile tears immediately. Even so, seeing her on the verge of tears, no matter how fake they were, was like a critical hit to his heart. So, instead of teasing her, he reached into his pocket and quickly pulled out a thin, silver chain with a Fairy Tail emblem hanging from it.

"I didn't forget about you, Master." Alfonzo said with a smile while holding out the [soul Armament Embryo] to mavis. "Things have just been a little hectic since the end of the Grand Magic Games. You know, since Amar'e's birthday party is only a few days away. Even so, I made some time to finish one for you."

\*Swish!\*

Before Alfonzo even finished what he was saying, Mavis' image blurred for a moment. When she was completely solid again, the pendant was no longer in Alfonzo's hand. Instead, it was in mavis'. On top of that, she was holding it up in front of her with a wide smile on her face.

"Thank you, Alfonzo." Mavis said cheerfully. "I never doubted that you'd keep your promise. Add that to the fact that you never cause excessive property damage, that's why you're my favorite child in the guild."

Alfonzo's only response to that was to roll his eyes. He then turned around and started walking towards the elevator to make his way back down to the ground floor.

"What will you do for the rest of the day, Alfonzo?" Irene asked with a giggle after seeing how quickly Mavis' expression changed. "Perhaps you would like to come to my place for dinner this evening."

"I'd love to." Alfonzo said with a smile. "I'll bring Amar'e, Bianca, and Calvin around, too. They like hanging out at your house, after all. And they kinda mis Heine and Juliet, too."

"Those two miss them, as well." Irene said with a smile. "I'm sure they will be pleased."

"As for the rest of the day, I'm going to be doing maintenance on Master Unohana's motorcycle..."

"Wait! That woman is here, too?" Makarov asked, his body starting to shudder in fear. He then started to struggle violently. "Hey! Untie me right this instant. I need to get out of here!"

"\*\*Sigh\* What did you do this time? I mean, you're so scared of her? Even more than usual, from what I can tell." Alfonzo asked in an exasperated tone. "I thought you two, although not on the best terms, were at least cordial."

"Of course, he either said or did something perverted." Irene said with a shrug. "What else could it have been?"

"It's not my fault!" Makarov said indignantly. "All I did was say that she was still as beautiful as she was back when we were young. Then I asked her what her secret to such a youthful appearance was even though she was so old."

\*Sigh!\* x 3

"Looks like I was wrong." Irene said after exhaling an exasperated sigh in unison with Alfonzo and mavis. "Instead of something perverted, you said something stupid."

Alfonzo nodded in agreement with Irene. Meanwhile, Mavis shook her head in disappointment. She then hung the [Soul Armament Embryo] around her neck and stood up from her seat behind her desk.

"Let's go, Irene." Mavis said as she walked around her desk towards the elevator. "Looks like Maki needs time to think about what he's done wrong."

"Indeed." Irene said as she stood up from the couch. "And if he's lucky, he'll have figured out how to get out of those ropes before we get back."

Reaching that point, Irene smiled with a sadistic glint in her eyes as she looked into Makarov's eyes.

"If not, I'll just deliver him to that unpleasant woman myself." Irene continued. "Maybe that will be enough for the two of us to bury the hatchet."

Makarov paled immediately upon hearing that. Meanwhile, Mavis and Irene joined Alfonzo in the elevator. The three then made their way down to the main hall where Mavis and Irene sat at the bar to continue chatting and Alfonzo left the guild hall to return to the mansion on the lake to do the maintenance on Retsu's motorcycle.